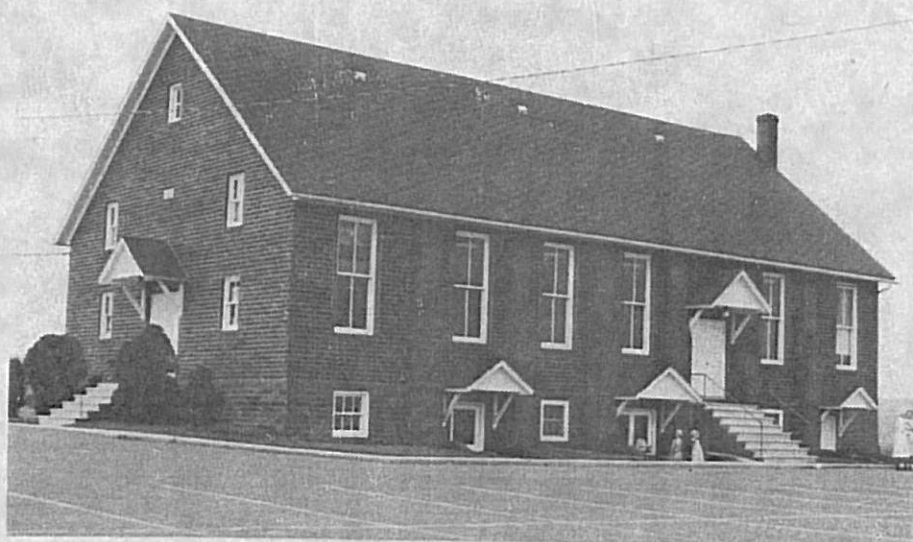
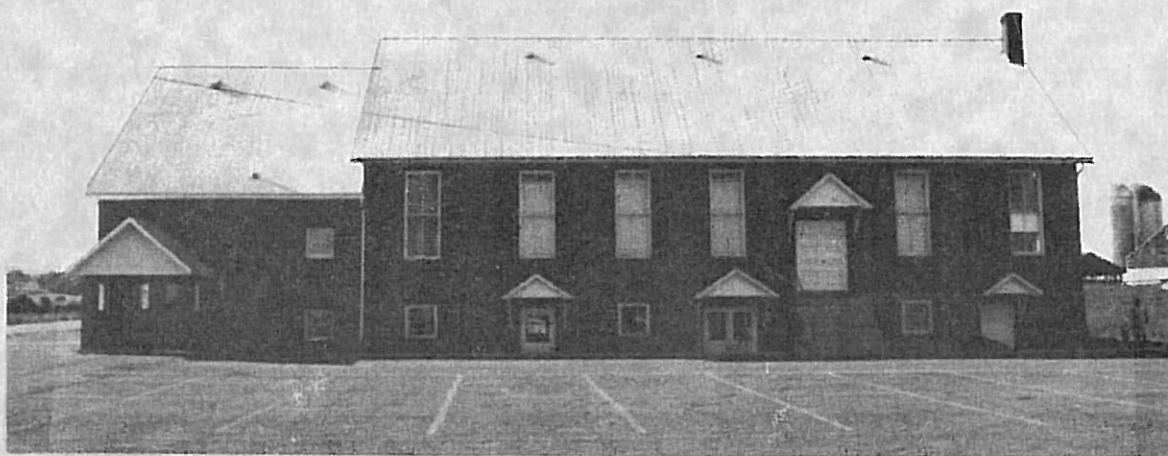


*Mountain View Mennonite Church
Salisbury, Pa*

50th Anniversary



1953 — 1978



1978 - 2003

MOUNTAIN VIEW 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

PROGRAM

October 26, 2003, 7:00 PM

Place: Mountain View Mennonite Church

Moderator: Menno Beachy

Welcome

Congregational Song: Oh God Our Help in Ages Past

Devotions: Menno J. Yoder

Special Singing: To be announced

Speaker: Simon N. Schrock

Continue with the theme of the 1953 dedication:

Investments We Need To Make:

- 1. In Our Ministry**
- 2. In Our Worship Services**
- 3. In The Souls Of Men**

Dwell on how have we done these fifty years?

Special Singing: To be announced

Testimonies: Lewis Tice, Henry Tice, and Jerry Yoder

Open Testimonies: From the floor

Special Singing: Mountain Anthems if time permits

Dismissal: Prayer

REFRESHMENT SERVED IN THE BASEMENT

OFFICIATING MINISTERS OF MOUNTAIN VIEW CHURCH

1953 – 2003

Norman Beachy:

Ordained: April 28, 1929

Deceased: October 3, 1975

Eli Tice:

Ordained: May 31, 1936

Ordained to office of Bishop: October 20, 1946

Deceased: January 17, 1986

Noah E. Yoder:

Ordained: November 10, 1940

Deceased: June 2, 1996

Ervin Hershberger:

Ordained to the office of Deacon / Minister: October 11, 1964

Deceased: September 3, 2003

Lewis Tice: *

Ordained: November 22, 1970

Ordained to office of Bishop: June 13, 1976

Henry Tice: *

Ordained June 9, 1974

Jerry Yoder: *

Ordained to the office of Deacon / Minister: November 13, 1983

Ordained to office of Bishop: November 12, 1995

Menno J. Yoder: *

Ordained: October 31, 1993

*** OFFICIATING MINISTERS AT PRESENT**

In Memory of
ERVIN N. HERSHBERGER

April 17, 1914 - September 3, 2003

Ervin was born "the youngest of the three sons of Noah," as he would sometimes introduce himself. That was Noah Hershberger, of course, and his brothers were Simon and Elmer instead of Shem and Japheth. He also had four sisters. He was raised near Grantsville, MD in the house where Olen and Miriam Schrock now live.

He attended the former Yoder School, located in the building now occupied by the Dale Curtis family and Curtis Chimney Service. He attended school through grade seven which was all that was offered at that time. The school was known as "Dutch College," and Ervin enjoyed telling people that he graduated from college at age 14. Although his formal education was completed with grade seven, he was an excellent example of a self-educated, lifelong learner.

Ervin's baptism as a teenager was one of the most meaningful experiences of his life. He commented on several occasions how he sensed the presence of God after returning home from church that day. When his mother called for dinner, he would have preferred to stay in his room and continue his fellowship with the Lord. He was faithful to that commitment until his death. He faithfully attended all services at Mountain View whenever possible, but communion services were a priority and especially meaningful to him, not because he thought it gained him merit, but because in observing communion we "proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." He would frequently speak with great emotion about the sufferings of Christ.

As a young man, Ervin worked for his brother-in-law, Elmer Schrock. During the winter months, he and Elmer would sell potatoes on a regular route in Cumberland. Ervin remembered that "the best crop of potatoes Elmer ever had were planted on June 1. They yielded 40 bushels to the acre." Later he worked for Wengerd Roofing for several years. One barn he helped to roof still had the original steel 60 years later. He frequently mentioned a trip to Iowa in the late 1930s where he also worked for a time.

On May 12, 1940, Ervin married Barbara Beachy, daughter of minister Norman D. Beachy. They lived in the same house with Barbara's parents for "more years than I lived with my own parents." They lived on the farm in Saint Paul by the S curve, now owned by Peter L. Yoder. After Norman retired from farming, Ervin operated the dairy farm. Ervin knew his cows; at one time he knew the birth date of every animal in the herd. He became convicted that he was too engrossed with his cows and devoted his energies to memorizing scripture.

Ervin and Barbara's first child, Mildred, was born in 1943. Then, in 1947 they experienced the birth of a still-born daughter. Possibly their inability to have more children, either biologically or by adoption, influenced Ervin's frequent prayers for unborn children and his fervent intercession for childless couples. He loved children and young people and knew the first and middle name of every child at Mountain View.

In the 1950s Ervin and Barbara felt that the Lord was calling them to some special work, but they had no idea what it might be. Some time later Ervin was asked to serve as

editor of the English section of the German-English church paper, *Herald der Wahrheit*. He held that position until 1970 when *Calvary Messenger* was begun, and then served as editor of *Calvary Messenger* until 1997. In 1956 Ervin wrote a series of eleven articles on Christian Courtship which were printed in *Herald der Wahrheit*. By request, these articles were printed in booklet form in 1961. The booklet is still in print and has been used of God to challenge many young people to a higher standard of conduct during their courtship.

Ervin and Barbara received another call to service in 1964 when Ervin was ordained to the office of deacon at Mountain View Church. He served faithfully in that capacity until he was 80. Ervin had told Barbara that there were two responsibilities he would not want--those of editor and deacon--yet God in His wisdom called him to both. Ervin accepted both calls and served to the best of his ability in each. To younger generations Ervin sometimes appeared to be bound by tradition, but when he was among the candidates for deacon some feared he was too liberal because he advocated such progressive ideas as prayer meeting, evangelism, and mission outreach.

With his responsibilities of editor and deacon, as well as teaching part-time at several Bible schools, Ervin felt that he should be free of his farming responsibilities. So, in the fall of 1966, they sold the cows, and a year later they sold the farm to Alton Yoder. As the cows were being sold, Ervin would make sure that an honest report was given about each cow. His integrity would not allow him to hide any of their faults. The auctioneer was heard to say that he could get a better price if he wouldn't tell all the bad traits about each cow.

Ervin believed in Christian education. He was instrumental in establishing a Christian school at Crossroads and was a strong supporter of Mountain View Christian School. For many years he frequently attended board meetings simply because he was interested in what was happening at the school. Ervin was also one of the men who had a vision for a Bible School sponsored by the "Beachy" constituency. This vision gave birth to Calvary Bible School in 1970, where Ervin served for 26 years in the positions of teacher, academic dean, and principal. He will be remembered by all who attended CBS for his teaching of the Old Testament Tabernacle and Old Testament Types and Shadows.

After retiring from CBS in 1995, Ervin wrote four books--*Seeing Christ in the Tabernacle*; *Seeing Christ in the Old Testament*; *God at Work in Saints of Old*; *God's Wake-up Call*--and taught "Tabernacle" in various churches. He developed heart problems and had several major blockages. The doctor advised bypass surgery, but Ervin refused. He told the doctor, "I don't believe God would be pleased if, at my age, I would spend that much money just to stay out of heaven for a few more years." In his living will, Ervin stated that he "would rather die in the harness than in the hospital."

On the evening of September 3, 2003, God granted his wish. While helping to clean the Mountain View Church, he rested for a few moments. Soon he was back at his vacuuming job. Suddenly, before anyone realized what was happening, Ervin was lying on his back, and his spirit had fled. The words of this poem speak eloquently.

No farewell words were spoken,
no time to say good-bye,
You were gone before we knew it,
and only God knows why.

Mountain View Mennonite Church 50th Anniversary
And
FROM HOUSE CHURCHES TO CHURCH HOUSES, 1850 to 1881

In 1850 the Old Order Amish settlement, scattered from Meyersdale PA, to beyond Bittinger MD, was one congregation. **Joel Beachy** (son of Peter Bitsche III and Barbara J. Hershberger) was **ordained** deacon in 1851, minister in 1853, and Bishop in 1854. Then in 1877 they organized as two districts, in full fellowship with each other, with the **state line** as the dividing line. In 1879 Joel Beachy **ordained Manassas Beachy** (apparently) as bishop of the Pennsylvania district, and in 1887 he **ordained Joel J. Miller** of the Maryland district. These two congregations **built four church houses in 1881: Summit Mills and Flag Run** (or Niverton) for the Pennsylvania district, and **Maple Glenn, and Cherry Glade** for the Maryland district. Each district alternated services between their two church houses for the sake of those who needed to walk to church. We know of no other Old Order Amish church houses in the USA except among people who originated from this area. So that makes **Casselman River Valley** the seedbed of Old Order Amish church houses.

First Church Division, June 5, 1895

Bishop **Joel Beachy** died on June 5, 1894. Bishop **Manassas Beachy** died June 5, 1895, after months of mental impairment (apparently from a stroke) so that he knew nothing of the division that took place on the day of his death. At this time deacon **Elias D. Hershberger** transferred to Maple Glenn, and minister **Moses D. Yoder** to Flag Run, where he was ordained bishop November 17, 1895. This division laid the ground work for the **second division** in 1927.

Second Church Division, June 26, 1927

By 1916 Moses Yoder's failing health made it necessary to **ordain another Bishop**, and that lot fell to **Moses M. Beachy**. Moses Beachy and Moses Yoder did not see eye to eye on how to deal with members who were otherwise in good standing, but had transferred their membership to Maple Glenn.

By 1922 minister **Alvin M. Beachy** had moved here from Oregon. The ministerial team then consisted of two Beachy brothers and three Yoders (Moses, his son Noah M., and nephew Joseph J.). The problem of sectarian avoidance (shunning of those who transferred to another fellowship) kept intensifying. The division became very obvious at the communion service at the Flag Run church on April 24, where most of the Yoder sympathizers abstained. But the division was not publicly declared until **Moses Yoder** had obtained verbal permission from **Moses Beachy** to withdraw. On June 26, 1927, the **Yoders** met for the first time at the Summit Mills house, and the **Beachys** at Flag Run.

But instead of dwelling on divisions, we want to capitalize on the brotherly unity that followed this division. When the **Yoder brethren** came to **Moses Beachy** seeking his release, they suggested mutual sharing of both church houses. **Moses Beachy** said he believes if we are children of God we can do that. The agreement was made and worked well. Amish church services are held **bi-weekly**. When the **Beachys** met at Flag Run, the **Yoders** met at Summit Mills. Two weeks later the **Yoders** met at Flag Run, and the **Beachys** at Summit Mills. On the between Sunday, when the **Yoders** had no services, the **Beachys** had Sunday schools at both places. Alternating in that way continued for twenty-six years and five months in brotherly love and harmony. Once or twice a year the **Yoders and Beachys** got together and helped each other to wash the church houses (next best thing to a feet washing service). We never heard of one problem stemming from this joint ownership. It was only when the **Yoders** found it necessary to form a second district, and the **Beachys** wanted lights for evening services, that we sold our half-share of each property to them, and we built Mountain View in 1953.

DATES OF INTERESTING HAPPENINGS

- May 22, 1927: The Beachys met at Flag Run to **organize Sunday school** to be held at Flag Run and Summit Mills.
- June 3, 1927: The Beachys for the **first time had Sunday school** at both houses.
- Nov. 11, 1928: **Simon L. Yoder ordained** to the ministry at Flag Run.
- Dec. 9, 1928: **Automobiles permitted** by unanimous consent in the Beachy Church.
- Apr. 28, 1929: **Norman Beachy ordained** to the ministry at Flag Run.
- May 31, 1936: **Eli Tice ordained** to the ministry at Summit Mills.
- Nov. 15, 1938: **Sewing Circle** was organized at the John Beiler home, and then conducted in various homes. Lydia Beiler was instrumental and became the first president. Those attending were asked to pay dues of "no less than five cents."
- Nov. 10, 1940: **Noah Yoder ordained** to the ministry at Summit Mills.
- July 7, 1946: **Moses M. Beachy died** on a Sunday at approximately 10:00 PM.
- Oct. 20, 1946: **Eli Tice ordained** bishop by Jonas Hershberger and John A. Stoltzfus at Flag Run.
- April 3, 1949: Preaching may be in the *English language* with people present who don't understand the *German*.
- Dec. 14, 1947: Quota for **relief fund** announced to be **\$3.00** per member per year.
- Oct. 3, 1948: **Milton Beachy ordained** deacon at Summit Mills meeting-house. Evening services held at Niverton meetinghouse using **gas lamps** for lighting.
- June 24, 1951: Permission granted by church-consent to begin **singing school**, which had a big impact in forming the Mountain Anthems in later years.
- Sept 16, 1951: Reaffirmed that singing in church and Sunday school was to be in **unison**.
- June 22, 1952: Announced that **fresh air children** may be invited for the summer.
- Jan. 6, 1952: Quota for relief money: was increased to **\$3.06** per member per year.
- Jan. 6, 1952: Menno J. Yoder, announced that a new **assessment of valuation** was to be made. A **census** was to be taken of young men between ages 17 and 25 included.
- May 25, 1952: Quota was given per member for relief money: **\$3.30** per member per year.

IDEA OF NEW CHURCH BUILDING PRESENTED

And

OTHER INTERESTING HAPPENINGS

- OCT. 26, 1952: Ministry asked Brotherhood to consider building a **new church house**.
- Nov. 2, 1952: Decided to meet for the first **Bible Study** on evening of Nov. 16, 1952.
- Nov. 9, 1952: Organized **Bible Study** more fully. Ervin Hershberger was appointed as leader to give first lesson assignment. In two weeks someone else would be appointed.

Nov. 16, 1952: Met for the **first Bible Study** in Niverton Church House.

NOTE: No records found about **lighting** used in Niverton Church house for Bible study. Temporary lighting was hung in the church house in one continuous circuit that was easily installed and removed. Elmer Schrock furnished a **Farmall B tractor** (tricycle type) with a **generator** mounted on the rear pulley drive that supplied the electricity. The tractor was placed in the barn to reduce the noise while meeting was in session.

DEC. 26, 1952: **Members meeting** held at Niverton to discuss building a **new church house:**

- A. Agreed to construct a new building.
- B. After considering various sites it was agreed to build on the Jake Yoder farm..
- C. Members agreed to accept Jake's offer of donating his land.
- D. Decided to build 40'X 70' with ante-rooms at front end and balconies at both ends.
- E. Money was to be raised by assessment of 1% on the dollar of each member's value.

1953 Church Trustees: Sam Hershberger, Elmer Schrock, and Menno J. Yoder.

1953 Building Committee: Two were appointed to work with the trustees. Chosen by ballot were Menno Hershberger and John Beiler. John later declined and Jacob Yoder replaced him.

Building Engineer for the Trusses: (No records can be found who it was.)

MARCH and APRIL, 1953: ACTIVITIES RECORDED IN BUILDING NEW CHURCH:

- A. Excavated site with a bulldozer.
- B. Dug drain ditches and footer ditches.
- C. Installed 4-inch drain tile in basement floor.
- D. Mixed the footer concrete with power mixers; poured footers using wheelbarrows.
- E. Otto Brick and Tile Works delivered brick, tile, sand, gravel, and cement.
- F. Installed septic tank.
- G. Dug ditch from building site to the creek with a power ditcher and installed 6-inch tile to accept surface drains and septic tank drain.
- H. Surveyed property lines.
- I. First blocks laid on April 28. John Hershberger, Grantsville MD, was the main masonry contractor. Other masons helping were the Niner Brothers, Salisbury PA, and William Killius, Grantsville MD.
- J. Well drilled by Ressler and John Tressler, Springs PA, with a punch-type drill.
- K. Steel beams and posts were cut and welded by Ira Lichty, Salisbury PA. Sam Beachy & Sons cut and welded a few of them.

JUNE 21, 1953: Voted for a **name** for the new church.

RESULTS: MOUNTAIN VIEW AMISH MENNONITE CHURCH.

July 5, 1953: Ministry told the Brotherhood of their intentions of getting the German **hymn books** (with an English appendix) no longer used by Maple Glenn and Oak Dale.

Sept. 1953: Enjoyed **Hammer Tent Revivals**. (Tent set up where Pine Accents now sits.)

OCT. 9, 1953, FRI. EVE. DEDICATION OF MOUNTAIN VIEW CHURCH HOUSE

Devotions: by Norman Beachy: In our personal lives.... Eph. 2

Prayer: by George Beiler

Eli Tice— Investments We Need To Make In Three Areas:

1. In Our Ministry.
2. In Our Worship Services.
3. In the Souls of Men.

Eli read Solomon's Prayer of Dedication.... 2 Chron. 6:12-42

We knelt and had a Prayer of Dedication.

We heard testimonies from the following brethren: George Beiler, Crist Bender, Roy Otto, Ivan Miller, Roy Kinsinger, Walter Otto, Mark Peachey, and Simon Beachy the only survivor. These were all interesting and inspiring. After singing a hymn we were led in a closing prayer by Ivan Miller.

Testimonies and comments as recorded by hand script:

Roy Otto: Talked about how it used to be a field, and now as he drove in he had to think it is no more a field, but "Holy Ground".

Mark Peachey: As he drove past he saw a dirt heap, but now it is different. It is no more a dirt heap, but a lighthouse. So let our light shine.

**INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN THE MOUNTAIN VIEW CHURCH
CONTINUED SINCE THE NEW CHURCH WAS DEDICATED.**

- Oct. 12, 1953: **First funeral:** Mary, widow of Bishop Moses Beachy.
- Oct. 28, 1953: **First birth:** Linda Schrock, daughter of Raymond and Mable.
- Nov. 1, 1953: **First time Sunday School** and evening **Bible Study** held in new church.
- Nov. 24, 1953: **Second birth:** Glen Schrock, son of Herman and Elsie.
- Jan. 10, 1954: **Howard Hammer preached** in our church: Text: 2 Kings 9:3-9
- Feb. 2, 1954: **Second funeral:** Savilla, widow of Noah E. Hershberger
- Feb. 6, 1954: **Third funeral:** Leila, wife of Daniel Brenneman.
- Mar. 24, 1954: **First wedding:** Cloyd and Mable Yoder.
- July 31, 1955: **Prayer meeting** approval given by the voice of the church on special occasions.
- Feb. 26, 1956: **Voice of the church** taken to begin conducting **Singing school**.
- Mar. 28, 1956: **First Singing school** held in Cross Road School house. Menno Beachy director.
- May 16, 1956: **Prayer meeting** in church house for the first time.
- 1960: **Mountain Anthems beginning.** This movement came on gradually and no specific date can be set for their beginning. Since 1970 until now they have been holding concerts semi-weekly from February to November. Menno Beachy was the founder and director.
- Oct. 11, 1964: **Ervin Hershberger ordained** to office of deacon / minister.
- Nov. 28, 1965: **Church and Sunday school** were still being alternated every other week.

- May 1968: **Date when we switched to the English language** for the sake of Guy O'Hara who was released from the Cumberland Jail and was attending our services.
- Oct. 19, 1969: **Friendship Haven** established on this date.
- Nov. 22, 1970: **Lewis Tice ordained** to the ministry.
- July 11, 1972: **Paved** the church parking lot for the first time.
- Feb. 13, 1973: **Test holes** dug on church property to determine possibility of building a school house adjacent to the church house. Soil tests did not pass state requirements.
- Aug. 23, 1973: **First year of school** in Church basement with A.C.E. program. Menno Beachy administrator; Marvin Yoder principal; Alma Beachy supervisor.
- Aug., 1975: **First year of school** in Springs school house.
- Oct. 19, 1974 **First bus** bought for the Mountain Anthems. (Model 4106, GMC)
- June 9, 1974: **Henry Tice ordained** to the ministry.
- June 13, 1976: **Lewis Tice ordained** to the office of Bishop.
- April 19, 1977: **Broke ground** for the Mountain Anthems building.
- June 25, 1978: **Dedication of the Mountain Anthems Building:**
Moderator.....Lewis Tice
Congregational Song.....Marvin Yoder
Devotional Period.....Noah E. Yoder
Singing period.....Mountain Anthems
Dedication of the album "I'm Free".....Simon N. Schrock
Comments: Eli Tice, Henry Tice, Ervin Hershberger, and Menno Beachy.
Tour of the building.....Refreshments Served
- Aug. 18, 1978: **Added to west end** of church building: three Sunday school rooms, a wheelchair ramp, a mothers' room, two rest rooms, and entrance to vestibule on ground level.
- June 15, 1982: **Second bus** bought for the Mountain Anthems. (Model MC7, MIC)
- Nov. 13, 1983: **Jerry Yoder ordained** to the office of deacon / minister.
- Dec. 1985 to Dec. 1987: **Edward Petersheim commissioned** for jail ministry.
- Dec. 1991: **Third bus** bought for the Mountain Anthems. (Model 96A, MCI)
- Oct. 31, 1993: **Menno J. Yoder ordained** to the ministry.
- Aug. 1994: **Friendship Haven** withdrew from Mountain View.
- Nov. 12, 1995: **Jerry Yoder ordained** to the office of Bishop.
- Aug. 1, 1999: **Bill Yoder family** flew to Mongolia to begin their mission project.
- July 25, 2001: **Fourth bus** bought for the Mountain Anthems. (Model 102DL3, 1995, MCI)
- June 18, 2002: **Jerry Yoder family** visited Bill Yoder family in Mongolia.
- Mar. 27, 2003: **Bill Yoder family** returned from Mongolia.

STATISTICS

Of

Mountain View Mennonite Church

1953 - 2003

2003 membership	210
Households represented	76
Births	318
Deaths	81
Marriages	82
Baptisms	256
Ordinations	7
Temporary licenses issued	1
Men ordained after leaving Mountain View	17
Women who left MT. View now married to ministers	16

NOTE: (Some of the above figures are approximate)

Excavating



Apr. 24-53 pouring footings concrete



Apr 28-53 Trussing Bridge.



4-28-53 laid first blocks, John H. Hurling & Wm. Kistling



4-29-53 laying blocks North side.



5-2-53 put concrete for north wall up and that of the south wall not done



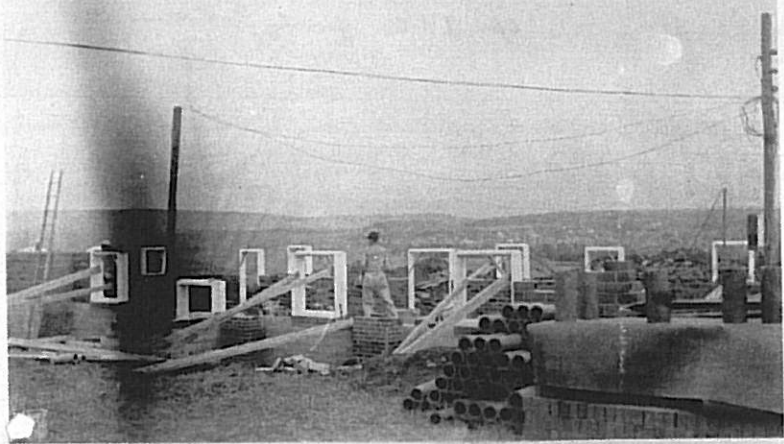
7-2-53 both side walls done frame for wall - not up looking east



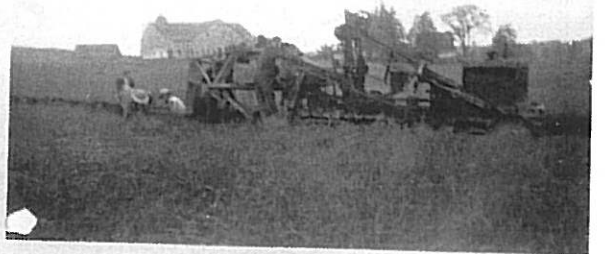
May 6-53 2 looking east



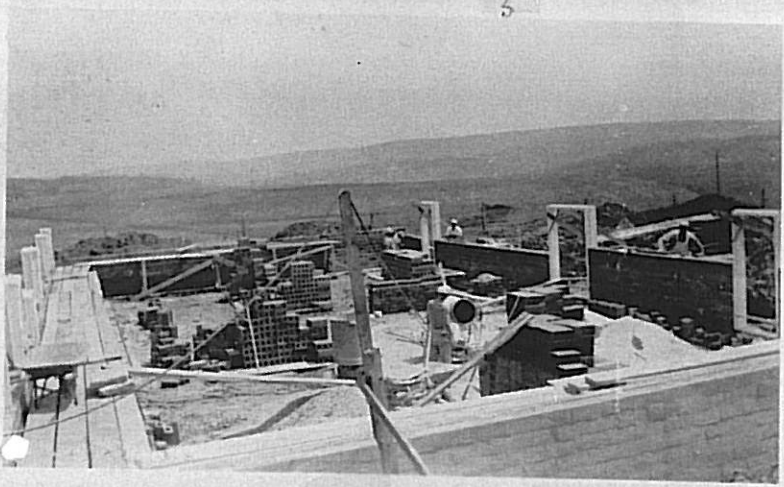
May 1953



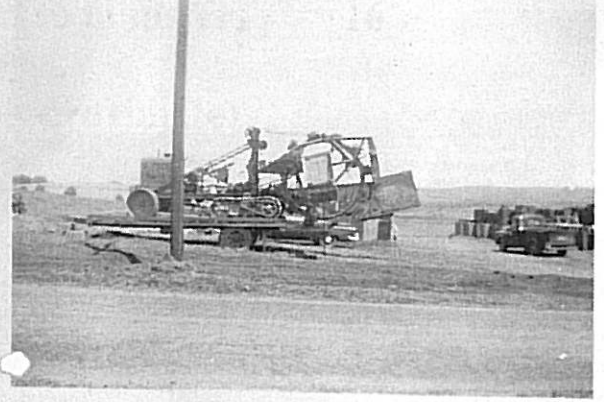
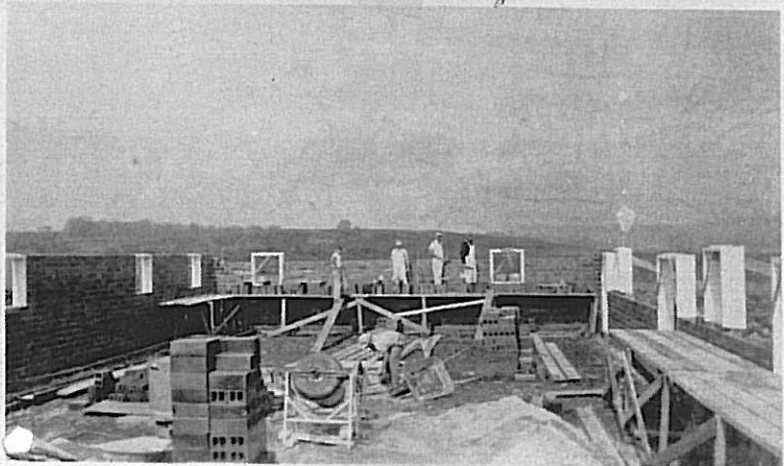
May 26-53 digging ditches



4-25-53 placing girder for welding



5-29-53 ditching machine ready to use



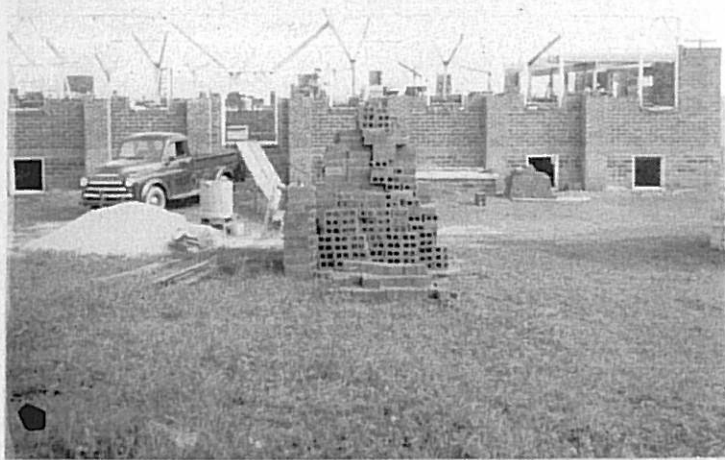
6-4-53



6-6-53



6-7-53



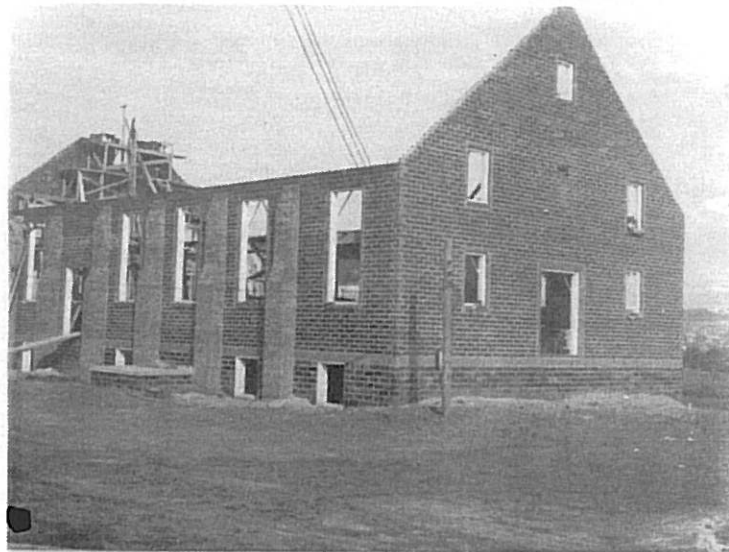
6-10-53



6-12-53



6-13-53



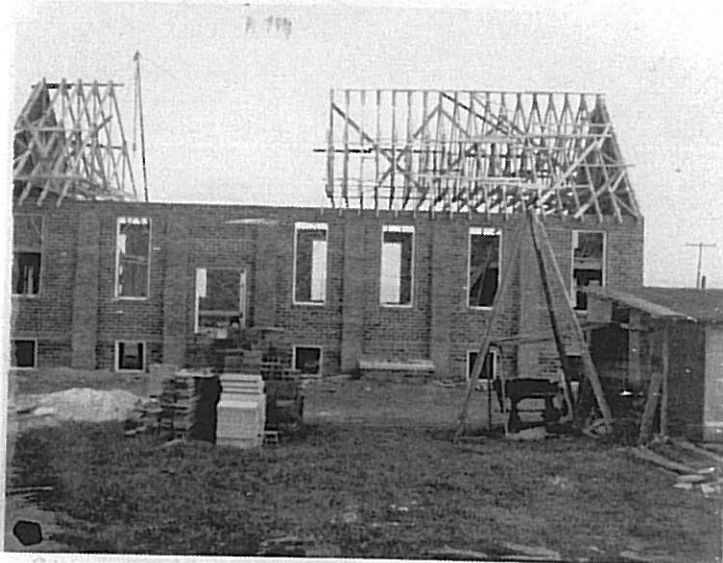
6-18-53



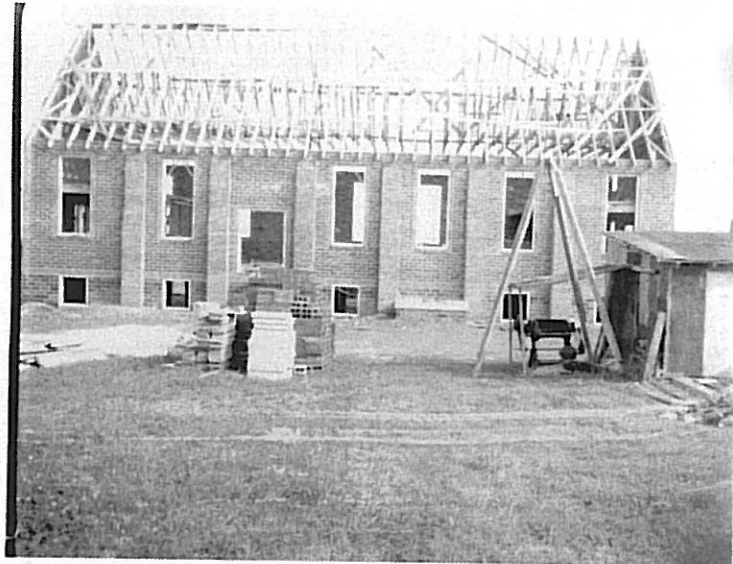
6-18-53



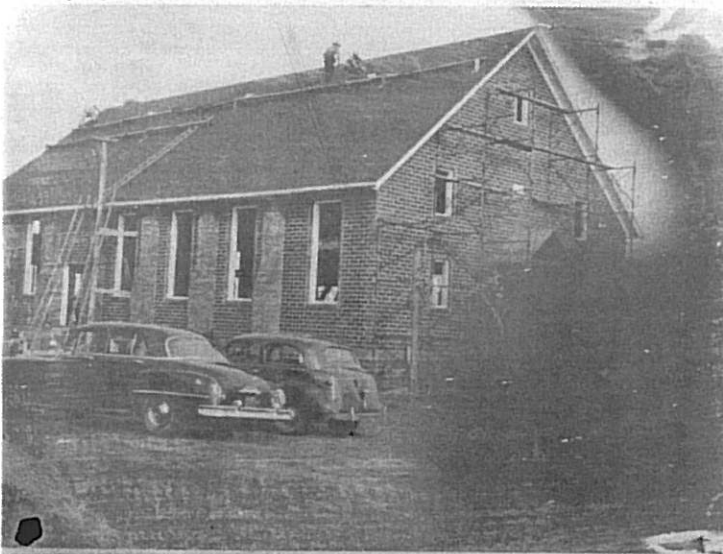
6-19-53



6-20-53



6-30-53



7-4-53



MOUNTAIN ANTHEMS BUILDING

Built 1978

DEDICATED 1979

This building houses a rental apartment on the west end. The presence of this apartment has been a deterrent to vandalism around the church building. Before the apartment was there some one had broken 17 windows in the church building on a Saturday night.

The center part of the building is where the Mountain Anthems meet for rehearsal. Our recordings are stored and shipped from here. Every Sunday it is used for Sunday school classes. During the summer it is used for Bible school. It is also used for social activities.

The east end of the building features a garage for our 55-passenger bus. Every spring the Mountain Anthems are commissioned by the church to proclaim the Gospel in song. They travel every other weekend from February to November to render concerts. They then take a much-needed rest during the winter months, giving The Mountain Anthems the privilege of attending services at the Mountain View church every Sunday.

