

PAST

Houghton Lake Church of Christ

I. The Beginnings:

During the late 40's several members of the Lord's Church either resided or vacationed in this Area. Those early members were: Alice Procter, Leon Luckstead, Jess and Robert Taylor, George and Bill Keepler and all of their families. They traveled to congregations at Gladwin, Shepherd, Midland and Mt. Pleasant to worship and fellowship.

December of 1957 was the beginning of a congregation at Houghton Lake. Area members began meeting in the township Hall. When rent for the Town Hall was not available brethren meet at Sister Procter's or the Luckstead's or the Keepler's. Brother E. P. Hale, Gladwin preacher came often to preach followed by one of his converts, Bro. Larry Fleming. After these came Brothers: Boise Atchley, Asa Keele, J. Roberts, and Allen Parker. Some support from the Midland and Gladwin congregations came in. Others who were faithful in attendance or preaching in the early years were: Stul Paulin, John Cunningham, R. C. Oliver, E.C. and L.S. Maynard, Floyd Witey, Hobart Ashby, C.C. Burnes, Johny Pother, and Joe Kirk.

II. The 1st. located Preacher, The Building.

In 1965 Francis Whiteman came to Houghton Lake as their first located minister. Bro. Whiteman was a Harding College Graduate. He was supported through contributions to the local church by congregations such as Sylvan Lake, Garden City, Gladwin, Lincoln Park: Flint churches at Court Street and Averill Ave. Midland. Detroit Churches at Clawson, Vinwood and Hamilton. As a result of their liberality it was possible to construct a meeting house which was completed in Aug. 1968 under Bro. Whiteman's guidance.

III. The more recent past:

In 1971 Brother Ken Middleton replaced brother Whiteman and in 1972 Gordon French labored with the congregation until 1975 when Brother Woodruff began.

Future Plans. A meeting the later part of June.