

### A Short History of the Court Street Church of Christ

The present Court Street Church of Christ was derived from the old Murray Hill congregation at Mable Avenue. The latter was formed in 1916 with the help of several Detroit congregations. The Thomas brothers, Leslie and Claude, worked with this congregation in the 1920's, and by 1930 the congregation had a membership of 75. By 1940 the membership had reached 200, and the building had to be remodeled in the interim to accommodate the large number of members whose presence spurred the improvements.

In 1940, the present lot at Court Street and Avon was purchased. In 1941 a home was built for the preacher with enough room remaining for the construction of a meeting house. Ground was broken in 1947, and eventually the present building was completed in 1948 for an estimated \$50,000. Because of prohibitive costs, most of the physical labor was done by members of the congregation. Men who participated in this labor of love, who still attend or whose families still attend the Court Street congregation include, <sup>DRP</sup> Moughler, <sup>WELLS</sup> Nail, Newman, Turbeville, <sup>SALEXANDER</sup> Williamson and Wynn. Additional property was purchased in 1959 for an educational building, and in 1965 a new preachers home was purchased on Maxine Avenue. The old preachers home became the home for the church custodians.

The Court Street Congregation has been instrumental in either creating, or helping to create other congregations of the Lord's Church. In Flint, they helped establish the North Central Congregation and the Averill Avenue Congregation. In other areas the congregations at Bay City and Gladwin. We are currently helping in the mission work at Houghton Lake, and the Sunday school classes take up weekly contributions for the Schults-Lewis Childrens Home. In addition, we are printing and sending foreign language tracts to India, Panama and a Spanish speaking congregation at Muskegon. We publish the monthly magazines SWORD AND SHIELD and FAMILY VISITOR, which are sent into homes in the Flint area; and do a great deal of evangelizing with our widely used Bible correspondence courses.

Elders presently serving the Court Street Congregation are Arthur Beauchamp, Bertsel Everson and John Rogers. We are currently in the process of selecting deacons. The present membership is approximately 175. Preachers who have served the congregation since 1940 are; Morton Utley, C.W. Brannam, David Allen, L.S. Maynard, C.C. Burns, L.H. Newell, J.E. Alexander, Dick Roberson, William Mitchell, Bill Goodpasture, and O.D. McKendried. The present minister is William Rogers. He is assisted in the summer months by H.R. Petrich.

May the Lord continue to bless the work and efforts of the saints at the Court Street Church of Christ.