

Compiled and written by Diane Giles with many thanks to Kay Wikel and the Bradford UU staff.

Transcript

Board Meeting Concerning A New Church

[see inside back cover for facsimiles]

...church building, and with the hearty co-operation of the members of the Society, she was willing to remain as minister. Mr. Simmons stated that he should wish the new building to be as beautiful as possible, and would like a large share in determining what sort of church building should be erected. With arrangements that he could make about securing stone and other materials, he thought that a thoroughly pleasing and satisfactory building could be erected for the sum he had named, and that if the Society would raise the sum he had named he would see to its' completion.

On motion of Capt. Frantz, it was voted, that the Board of Trustees, acting for the Society, accepted the very generous offer of Mr. Simmons with grateful thanks to him for making possible this much desired advance in the work of the Society.

Captain Frantz then offered to be one member of a committee of ten, each of whom should seek to raise \$500 to secure the needed amount.

On motion it was voted, that the President of the Society appoint a committee of ten to raise the needed \$5,000, each of whom should endeavor to secure \$500. Taking the matter under consideration, the President appointed: Capt. Frantz, chairman, Miss Buck, C.A. Dewey, Dr. Saunders, Geo. V. Redeker, F.C. Hannahs, P.C. Torrey, and Judge Slosson. He asked further time for consideration before naming the other two members of the committee.

Miss Buck then said she desired to speak of one more matter which was very near her heart. She wished to propose to the Board that the new church be named the Henry M. Simmons Memorial church, for the former greatly loved pastor of the church *[from January, 1871 to February, 1879]* whose recent death in Minneapolis had brought sorrow to all our hearts. The suggestion was received with many expressions of pleasure at the thought.

Mr. Simmons stated that he should be greatly pleased to have the building named for his most loved friend. Dr. Saunders called attention to the fact that the memorial to Mr. Henry M. Simmons would please large numbers of people in the community who are not directly connected with the Society. It was unanimously agreed that the church be so named, and that, at the proper time such steps be taken as might be necessary to confer the new name on the church and Society.

With further expressions of thanks to Mr. Simmons and pleasure at the prospect of increased...

100 Years and Beyond

Tracing the history of Unitarian Universalism in Kenosha and the present day congregation of Bradford Community Church Unitarian Universalist takes us on a winding journey of stops and starts, shining moments of spiritual and humanistic inspiration, and dark days of scandal.

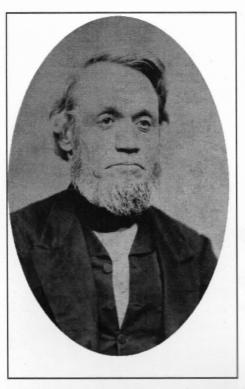
Our church building, The Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church was built one hundred years ago in 1907 with the determination of a strong willed minister, a proud congregation and a benefactor with deep pockets.

But our story really begins more than 60 years before that with some of the county's earliest residents.

Our Heritage

Southport, as Kenosha was first known, was founded by a group of freethinking Yankees from upstate New York in 1835. Others from the area and Vermont soon followed.

The convictions of these men and women on important matters are still echoed in Wisconsin today. Their ideas formed the public school system, helped abolish capital punishment and fought against slavery.



Two Churches

About 1840, a small group of families, including the Sholes brothers, formed the Excelsior Church. At that time there were only six churches in our little town.

The Sholes brothers were newspapermen. Charles C. founded the Southport Telegraph and Christopher L. worked for a while there as the editor before moving on to Milwaukee and final fame as the inventor of the first practical type writing machine.

The Excelsior Church never had its own building, but met in various places including the village hall and Clement's Hall on the east side of Main Street which burned in 1860.

Following in the footsteps of a Universalist society formed in Racine in 1842, a society of Universalists was formed in Kenosha in 1844 by Rev. C.F. LeFever of Milwaukee, who preached to the congregation on

alternate Sabbaths. They too met in Clement's Hall and held Sunday school.

After a few months it was clear that the number of those of this faith was too small to warrant the continuance of LeFever's labors.

In the latter part of 1860, the Universalists again formed themselves into a society, and employed Rev. Slade to preach at their meetings in the courthouse.

They planned to build a church, but the Civil War prevented their efforts.

In September 1864, before the end of the war, Henry Martyn Simmons became the principal of the public school here, but he only stayed for one year – he left to become a Unitarian minister.

The Three Become One

The following year, on September 5, 1865 after much discussion, the First Unitarian Society of Kenosha, Wisconsin was officially organized under the guidance of Rev. Newton M. Mann of Omaha.

In the congregation's Book of Proceedings, it states that the society was formed by the joining of "...The Universalist society; a society called The Excelsiors, corresponding to the liberal religionists of this period and which in turn (was) comprised of the class of people called "Spiritualists"; together with those residents of Unitarian proclivities constituting a majority of the body."

The organizational papers state:

"The declarers, citizens of Kenosha and vicinity, for purposes of religious culture and Christian benevolence, grant that we may worship God more after the dictates of our own consciences, do constitute ourselves a religious organization to be known as the 'First Unitarian Society of Kenosha.""

"And we do declare the objects of the organization to be:

"To cultivate morality and true piety;

"To sustain weekly religious service;

"To maintain the right of private judgment and secure the largest liberty of thought;

"To enjoy Christianity free from creed;

"To illuminate among us humane and Christian enterprises for the relief of suffering and for the general good;

"To support the authority of law and good government;

"To preserve the order and maintain the usages of society against innovation and corruption;

"To cultivate the spirit of Christian brotherhood – a liberal and catholic feeling toward each other, and toward all men;

"We cordially invite to our number all who have these ends in views."

Membership Grows

In late 1868 or early 1869, a family who would become important to the church moved here from the Town of Paris and soon began to attend the Unitarian Church.

Andrew Jackson and Caroline Davison came to the church, not only because of its liberal religious teachings, but because the families of Myron Baker, Courtland A. Dewey, and Obediah P. Hale – all friends of the Davisons — had already found a congenial church home with the Unitarians.



Andrew Jackson and Caroline Davison Parents of Mary D Bradford

Andrew, an invalid, didn't get to church much, but Caroline and her children Ida, Carrie, Hannah and Mary regularly attended.



Rev. Henry Martyn Simmons

The Davison family was only one of a number

of families at the church with children. Courtland A. Dewey, who owned a hardware store, had his son, C.E. Dewey, and, later Dewey's granddaughters Perdita and Persis attending with him and his wife Delina.

Rev. Mann was pastor for three years, replaced by Rev. Zera Master served the church until Jan. 1, 1871 when the now ordained Rev. Henry M. Simmons took over the reins.

Rev. Simmons was a dynamic minister and the tiny congregation began to grow.

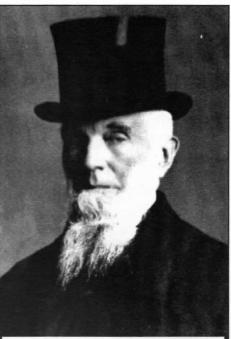
For five of his eight years as pastor of the church Rev. Simmons also served as superintendent of schools in Kenosha.



Among those first trustees of the society were Zalmon G. Simmons, an up and coming entrepreneur and Charles C. Sholes (who died in 1867).

They began meeting at Simmons Hall on Main Street. A lot on Chicago Street (Eighth Avenue) was donated by member Samuel Y. Brande and a wood church was built there for the cost of \$11,000 in 1867, under the direction of the trustees Brande, Simmons and new member, attorney J.B. Jilson, who later served as superintendent of schools here.





Zalmon G. Simmons

The Original Wooden Church Erected on this site in 1867



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First Library

In 1872, Rev. Simmons and Zalmon Simmons collaborated in placing a public library, the very first one in Kenosha, in the Unitarian Church. Zalmon bought the bookcases and Henry selected about 750 books, which Zalmon purchased, to fill them.

Henry's choices were laden with religious publications and later another several hundred books were chosen to fill out the collection.



Mary Davison Bradford

The library was open to the public for an hour at noon on Sundays. In her autobiography, Mary D. Bradford wrote: "It was immediately patronized by all those who did not consider going to a library a desecration of the Sabbath, and let me say, some who did so were willing to risk damaging the soul of another by privately engaging someone to draw the books for them."

When a publicly supported library system in the city was created in 1896, what was left of the books – 927 volumes – was transferred to the rented space. A couple of years later, Zalmon donated a fine library building two blocks from the church and it was named the Gilbert M. Simmons Memorial Library after his son.

Women Enfranchised

At the annual meeting of Feb. 2, 1873, it was: "...deemed advisable to have a representation on the Board of Trustees of females."

Simmons on Darwinism

One who was affected by the guidance of her pastor was the young Mary Davison. In 1873 she attended a series of lectures given by Rev. Simmons on the burning topic of the time: Darwinism.

Years later Mary Davison Bradford wrote in her autobiography, "An untruthful and onus interpretation of the discovery of Darwin as applied to mankind, one that was readily caught up by the ignorant and those willing to let others do their thinking, was being spread by those who feared its damaging effect upon what they regarded as fundamental in religion." By his lectures, Simmons desired to correct this misunderstanding and let people know what Darwinism really meant.

It has been said that (Darwin's book) The Descent of Man shook the world like an earthquake. This is an appropriate simile to express the effect upon Kenosha of H.M. Simmons lectures in the winter of 1873-74 in the Unitarian Church. Every pulpit in the city assailed him and his supporters... Congregations were warned against the dangerous heresy... But how I rejoice now that this came into my experience."

When Davison applied to attend the State Normal School in Oshkosh, where teachers learned their craft, her admission papers were signed by Kenosha's superintendent of schools: Rev. Simmons.

First Telephone

In the late 1860s, Zalmon Simmons became fascinated with the work of Elisha Gray, a scientist who was experimenting with the transmission of musical tones over wire by means of electric current.

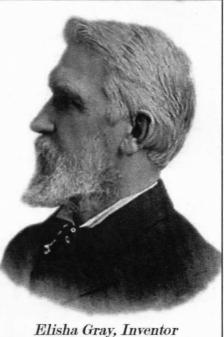
Zalmon had him wire the old wooden church and an audience was brought in to listen to music sent from concerts in Milwaukee and Chicago. Zalmon subsequently had a telephone installed in his home and listened to concerts played at the church.

About the same time, Alexander Graham Bell had begun his experiments in the transmission of the human voice.

But Gray's wiring of our church was more than five years before Alexander Graham Bell invented his telephone.

Gray later sold his patent rights to Bell for a reported million dollars.

Rev. Simmons Departs



Rev. Simmons preached his last sermon at the church on Feb. 23, 1879, when he accepted the call to the First Unitarian Society in Madison.

By then, there were 150 members in the congregation, including H. M. Underwood, J.H. Carlton, and William R. Bradford all served as trustees, along with Z.G. Simmons and C.A. Dewey.

But Rev. Simmons departure negatively impacted the congregation. Rev. Mann later said "I fear his (Rev. Simmons) leaving broke the heart and spirit of the people."

According to Rev. Florence Buck, who took the pulpit years later, when Simmons

left, "...the one thing that had held together his congregation was withdrawn. In the end the attempt resulted in the closing of the church building which, save for occasional services, was not again for 20 year in use as the home of a religious organization."

Rev. Buck Arrives

It was a bold step when the board decided to give the call to a woman minister, Rev. Florence Buck, one of just a handful of ordained woman ministers in the nation in the summer of 1901. She was installed the following October.



Rev. Florence Buck

Along with her came her partner of a decade, Rev. Marion Murdock. The two women took up residence across the street from Zalmon Simmons.

Murdock became the pastor of the Unitarian church in Geneva, Illinois and occasionally preached at the Kenosha church.

Buck liked to call hers a religion of "doing and being" in the community. She believed there was a need for

women to assume leadership roles in their communities and she wasted no time getting involved in Kenosha. She joined a number of local women's organizations, including the prestigious Kenosha

<image>

Woman's Club. She was a founder of the Kenosha Playgrounds Association and appeared regularly at city government meetings pressing for more and better recreational facilities for city youth.

Despite Buck's best efforts, the church was still the smallest of the Protestant congregations in town.

As reported in the minutes of the annual meeting of April 18, 1905:

"We are yet subject to the slanders of the malicious and to the erroneous statements of the ignorant, the bigoted and the superstitious, She (Rev. Buck) urged us to be sure that no careless word on our part made anyone think he had cause to believe that this church is about to close its doors and declared that the one effective retort to those who predict the death of this church is that it should continue to grow."

A New Building

Zalmon Simmons was determined to see his church flourish and knew it would only happen with Buck at the pulpit. He decided that to prosper, the congregation needed a new building. He told Rev. Buck he would give \$15,000 towards the construction, but only if she would continue on as our minister and if the congregation would raise the remaining money needed.

She and the congregation agreed.

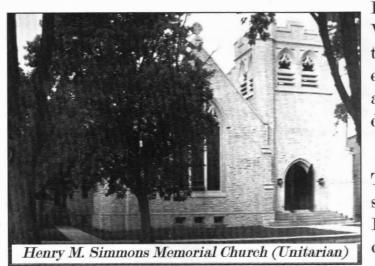
Rev. Buck proposed that the new church be named the Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church, for the former greatly loved pastor who had then recently died *[See inside cover]*. The congregation raised another \$7,400, even though originally Simmons only request his fellow parishioners to raise \$5,000.

The board engaged Chicago architect N. Max Dunning, a Kenosha native, to design the building.

The Easter Sunday service on April 15, 1906, was the last service to be held in the old church. The congregation began to meet in the YMCA auditorium on Main Street (6th Avenue) until the new structure was ready.

Sadly six of the congregation died in the months preceding the dedication of the new church and never got to see the finished product. They included Dan Head, 92, Dr. W. R. Cheever and Caroline Davison, mother of Mary Davison Bradford.

Zalmon directed the building project and in typical Z.G. Simmons fashion, the philanthropist wanted this building to be outstanding in design and construction.



In the end, the church, built of Wisconsin limestone, cost \$40,000, twice as much as originally estimated. Zalmon picked up the tab and the church was free of building debt.

Dedication

The church was dedicated in two services on Sunday, Sept. 22, 1907. In the fist service, Rev. Mann, the congregation's first regular minister, spoke of the great

foundation that had been laid for "liberal religion here" and of the accomplishment

of Rev. Buck: "It would seem that there should be no question further, at least in our ranks, of woman's rightful place in the pulpit."

Jason Lothrop donated the church organ, which was valued at \$2,500, in memory of his daughter Susie Lothrop, who died in 1878 at the age of 19.

The church organ was dedicated in a special service on Sept. 29 of the same year.

In February 1910, the death of Zalmon Simmons dealt a hard blow to the congregation. He had paid Buck's salary for many of the years of her service.

With Murdock's health failing, Buck requested a leave of absence so the couple could move to California, and soon resigned her pastorate.

Another woman minister Rev. Rowena Morse took over the pulpit. She resigned the following year to marry the congregation's first minister, Rev. Mann, who returned to preach here for a time.

Rev. Darnell

In November, 1914 after the church committee heard him preach, the congregation called a brilliant pulpit orator, Rev. James Morrison Darnell. But Darnell was not the man the congregation thought they had hired.

He had a wife and son in Minnesota. Then a woman from Chicago appeared, claiming to be his wife. And later a third woman from Iowa did the same.

On Jan. 10, 1915, Darnell preached what was called the greatest sermon of his career on the subject of "Bread and Bibles" — a moving plea to his flock to lead the "right and spiritual life."

At 3 a.m. the next morning, aware that church trustees had learned of his deceptions, Darnell fled Kenosha on the first train out of town.



Rev. James Morrison Darnell

He was fired and the trustees took steps to ensure he would never re-enter the Unitarian ministry anywhere.

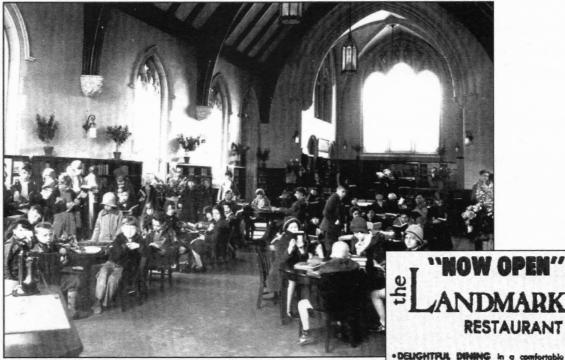
A federal grand jury investigation in Milwaukee on white slavery charges ensued, and the church trustees, including Mary D. Bradford were subpoenaed to testify.

In May, a convicted Darnell arrived at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to begin his threeyear prison term.

It was front page news here for weeks. The scandal rocked the town and irreparably damaged the congregation. It was a slow death for the church: they never called another minister to serve and after a while, services were stopped altogether.

A dwindling membership, lack of strong pastoral leadership, and financial instability took its toll, and the trustees voted unanimously to dissolve the society on Oct. 7, 1926. It was a particularly hard moment for Perdita Dewey Pope, who was a third generation member of the Dewey family to serve on the church board.

From Church to Library



For the next 67 years the Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church building served as the city's Boys & Girls Library, then as a restaurant and a sports bar.

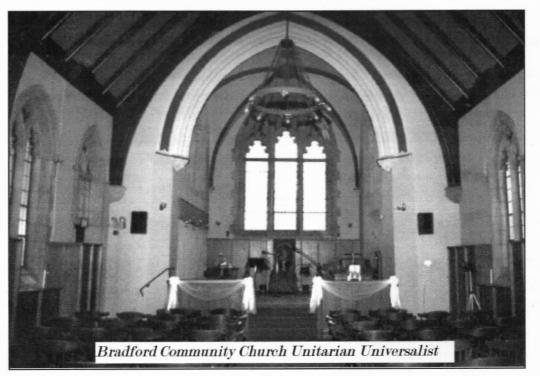
"Come and enjoy a unique dining experience of the restaurant off Kenosha has been waiting for!"

Master Card . Visa . American Exp



The Church Rises Again

Once again a Unitarian Universalist congregation, the Bradford Community Church Unitarian Universalist, a splinter group of mostly Kenosha residents from the Racine U. U. congregation, purchased the building for its use in 1993, returning it to its former use.



Diane Giles Sept. 22,2007



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The First Unitarian Society And Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church Historical Tidbits

Did you know that...

 ${}^{\scriptsize \mbox{\scriptsize \sc one}}$ Between 1865 and 1926, we have had as congregation members:

3 mayors and 1 former mayor

3 former state assemblymen

2 state senators

3 candidates for state assembly and state senate

1 register of deeds

1 judge

3 superintendents of the school system

1 postmaster

2 presidents of local major industries

1 newspaper publisher

1 owner of a brewery

Several officers of local major industries

Several small business owners

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☞ It is very likely that Mary Davison met her future husband, William Rolvin Bradford at the First Unitarian Society church here. Her family began attending the church about 1868, when she was 12 years old. Bradford was married to Persis Torrey and they had a son, Chester T. Bradford. The family had an assigned pew (tradition in old churches) in the old wood church.

Persis developed TB and Bradford moved her to Colorado Springs in hopes of her recovery, but she died in the early 1870s.

Bradford returned to Kenosha and sometime later began to court Mary Davison.

They were married in a simple ceremony officiated by Rev. Henry Simmons in the home of Mary's parents (her father was an invalid and by then never left the house) on Dec. 8, 1878.

But William contracted TB and his health began to fail the following fall. They made a trip to his home town in Maine in Nov., 1879. She returned to Kenosha in April, 1880 as she was pregnant.

William, Jr. was born on June 24, 1880.

Mary, the baby and her mother Caroline traveled to Maine that September, were Caroline remained with them until the holidays.

By now there was no hope for her husband's recovery. He died on March 20, 1881.

The services were at the Universalist Church where he had been reared, but he was buried in Kenosha, with Rev. Simmons conducting the burial rites.

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According to the writings of board secretary Samuel Brande in 1882, the original Book of Proceedings of the church was lost and had to be re-created.

On July 23, 1906, to the rejoicing of Brande, the original Book of Proceedings that was thought to be accidentally destroyed was found in the attic of Courtland Dewey's Hardware store.

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© On March 28, 1883, the funeral of the Postmaster General of the United States, Timothy Otis Howe, was held at the First Unitarian Society of Kenosha. T. O. Howe had been elected to the U. S. Senate seat vacated by Charles Durkee at the beginning of the Civil War.

Howe's nephew, J. H. Howe was a member of the Kenosha church, and the postmaster died in Kenosha, presumably while visiting family.

Delegations from Milwaukee and Madison came by a special train for the funeral, as did one from Chicago, bearing several hundred persons among them four member of the cabinet of President Chester A. Arthur. As he was "closely associated with (him) for many years," as a Milwaukee newspaper said, Rev. Simmons gave the eulogy.

The body was borne from J.H. Howe's home to the church where it lay in state. After the service, the casket was given into the hands of the pall bearers, which included a Chief Justice of the United States, the Governor of Wisconsin, two cabinet members and two senators. It was place aboard a funeral train for T.O. Howe's home in Green Bay.

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F If Unitarian church services had implemented the Joys and Concerns element we use today, the Sunday service on April 24, 1892 would have had plenty of concerns voiced. Just five days earlier on April 19th, a disastrous fire destroyed the Simmons

plant, the Head an utherland Lumber Yards next door, and the Jackson and Hannahs manufacturing firm — and had threatened to burn the rest of the town.

All of th factories and business had family ties to church members.

Only a hift in the wind some three hours after the start of the fire saved us from complete destruction.

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The minutes of the annual meeting of April 18, 1905 tell of a warning Rev. Buck gave to the congregation:

"We are yet subject to the slanders of the malicious and to the erroneous statements of the ignorant, the bigoted and the superstitious, She (Rev. Buck) urged us to be sure that no careless word on our part made anyone think he had cause to believe that this church is about to close its doors and declared that the one effective retort to those who predict the death of this church is that it should continue to grow."

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☞ N. Max Dunning (1874-1946) – architect for the Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church — and his brother and fellow architect Hugh B. **D**unning (1883-1958), were born in Kenosha. There was a Frank Dunning that was a member of the church by 1869, and there is speculation is that they were related.

Max Dunning designed many churches, schools, commercial buildings and homes in the Midwest. Perhaps his most famous building is also one that gets misrepresented the most: the Merchandise Building in Toronto. There are many references to Dunning designing the Merchandise Mart in Chicago, but **D**unning never worked for the architectural firm the that designed it.

Max Dunning was also responsible for the design of several Kenosha structures, including the fine Georgian Revival Eugene Head House, 6348 - Third Avenue, and the very eclectic revival Fred H. Carpenter House, 6318 Third Avenue. He was also the designer of the original Kenosha Hospital building, and the Simmons Co. office building that later became the American Motors – Chrysler office building on 5th Avenue and 55th Street.

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☞ Orrin Sholes, father of C. I. Sholes and C. C. Sholes was a prominent Southport Baptist.

Jason Lothrop, grandfather of the Jason Lothrop who donated the church's organ in 1907, organized the first Baptist Church in Southport in 1838 and built its first church in 1848 – one block from the site of the future Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church. It still stands on the corner of 59th St. and 7th Ave.

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The an event to honor the Woman's Club of Kenosha Anniversary Day (founded in 1891) there was a piano and organ recital at Simmons Memorial Church on Thursday evening April 29, 1909.

Performers were: Mr. Wilhelm Middelschulte, soloist for the Thomas Orchestra, Chicago and Beatrice Ives Welles (mother of Orson Welles)

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Rev. Florence Buck and Rev. Marion Murdock had an influence outside of the church and in many ways. They were befriended by Kenosha's Louis and Elizabeth Thiers and shared their love of nature with them, teaching them bird-watching. Louis writes in his journal on April 18, 1909: "Miss Buck and Miss Murdock came in after dinner and we had a red letter afternoon indeed for birds...all afternoon we had a beautiful exhibition. Ane here are some that came – towhee, hermit thrush, yellow bellied sap sucker, white throated sparrow..."



And on May 10, 1909: "And as the happy farmer (Louis) tells Miss Murdock, if he goes bankrupt as a farmer, it will be her fault as she has taught him to stop and look and listen whenever a bird is seen or heard."

The li late Zalmon Simmons was seen at was the Sunday services at the Unitarian urch. When he got home, he complained of feeling ill and took to his bed. He died the following Friday, Feb. 11, 1910.

His funeral was held at the church on Monday, Feb. 14, Rev. Florence Buck reading the eulogy. His body lay in state for two hours.

The factories and business closed for the day. The Kenosha Electric Railway stopped all of its cars for ten minutes in his honor. The Simmons Company Employee Band marched from the church through the streets to Green Ridge Cemetery carrying a huge floral tribute to Simmons.

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Ton Nov. 5, 1903, the famous founder of the Hull House in Chicago, social activist Jane Addams delivered a lecture at the church on the evil effects of child labor.

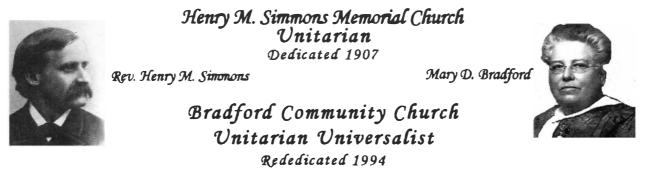
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After the congregation disbanded in 1926, the property was sold to the city of Kenosha for the purpose of housing a children's library.

A considerable amount of work was done to the church, as it had not been used for many years. The amber window panes were replaced with cathedral glass in order to provide more light. Panels installed on the ceiling for insulation , the floors covered with linoleum and an oil heating system installed. The carved panels from the old pulpit were used to enclose the staircase in the front vestibule leading to the basement. The Boys' and Girls' Library was dedicated on April 12, 1929. It was the first specialized library for children in the state and the second or third in the U.S.

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The Henry M. Simmons Memorial Church is listed on the ational Register of Historic Places.



Scrapbook of Historic Pictures

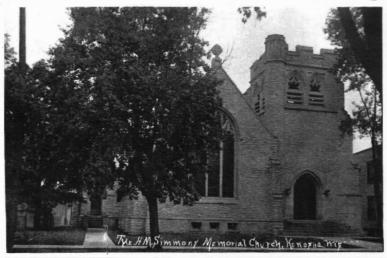
The Building

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Postcard

Ipostmarked Saginaw, Mich

Mar 1, 1908 11:30 am. Addressed to Caroline Herrman.

Dear Caroline,

This is our new Church, it is a beauty, all mission finish inside. How are you and everyone. Will write you this week. Love to all Joe

Photograph

CORRESPONDENCE HERI

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Simmons Memorial Church, ca. 1926

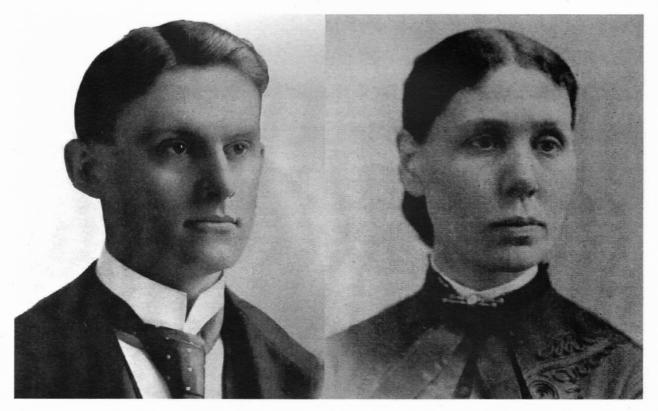




Mary D. Bradford

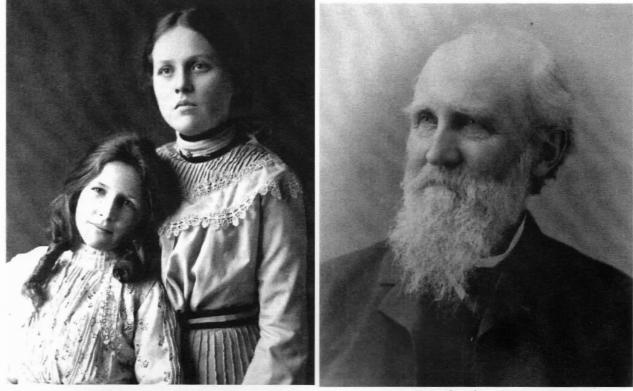


Rev. Florence Buck with her horse, Ned



Dr. W. R. Cheever

Ida Davison



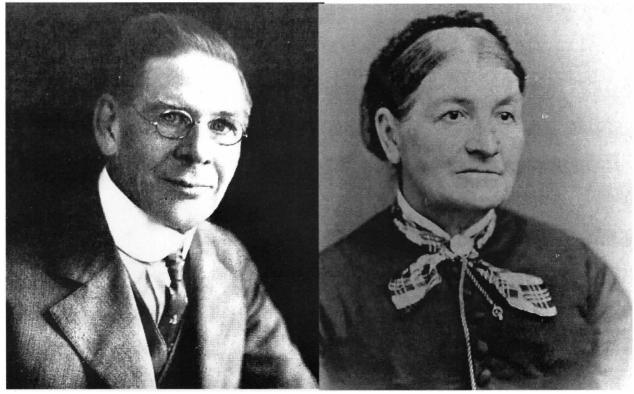
The Dewey Children Persis & Perdita

Courtland A. Dewey Hardware Store Propriator



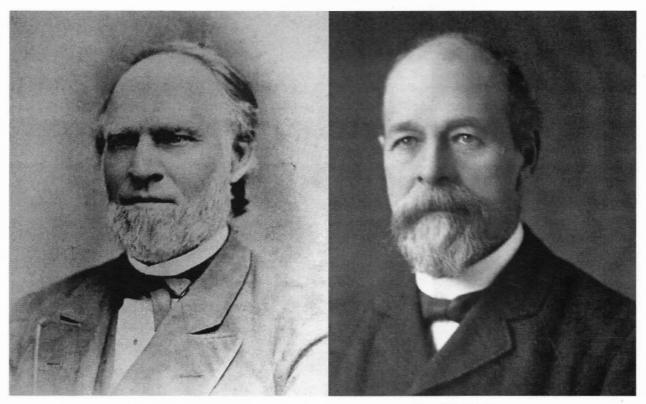
Charles Frantz Kenosha Postmaster

Mattie French



F. C. Hannahs

Mrs. O. P. Hale



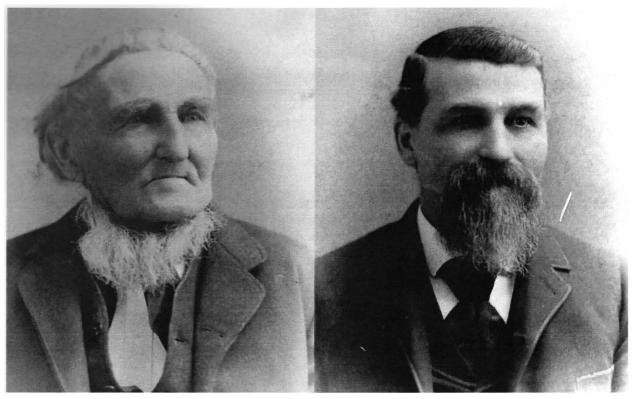
J. B. Jilson

Dr. W. H. Saunders



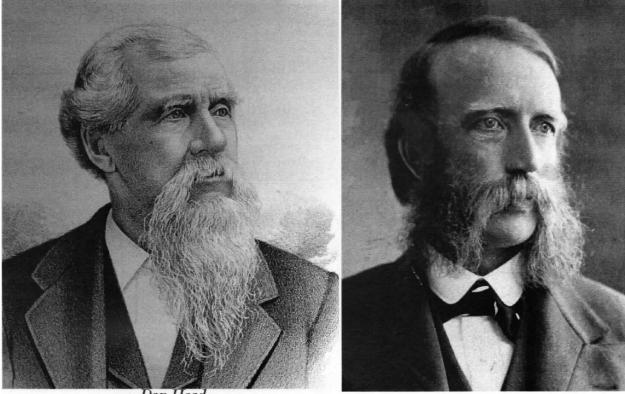
Mrs. Saunders

Emma Simmons Wife of Zalmon Simmons



Oped P. Hale

George Hale



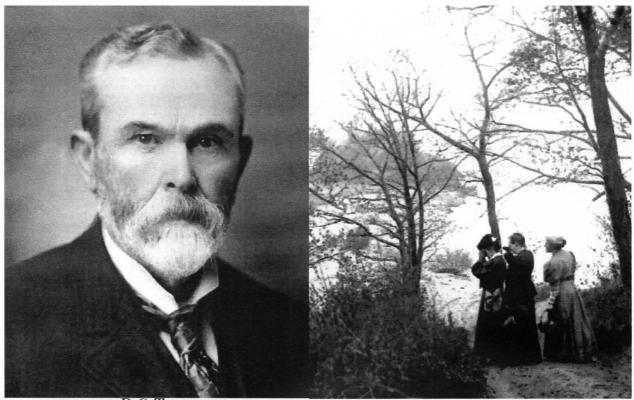
Dan Head

Franklin H. Head



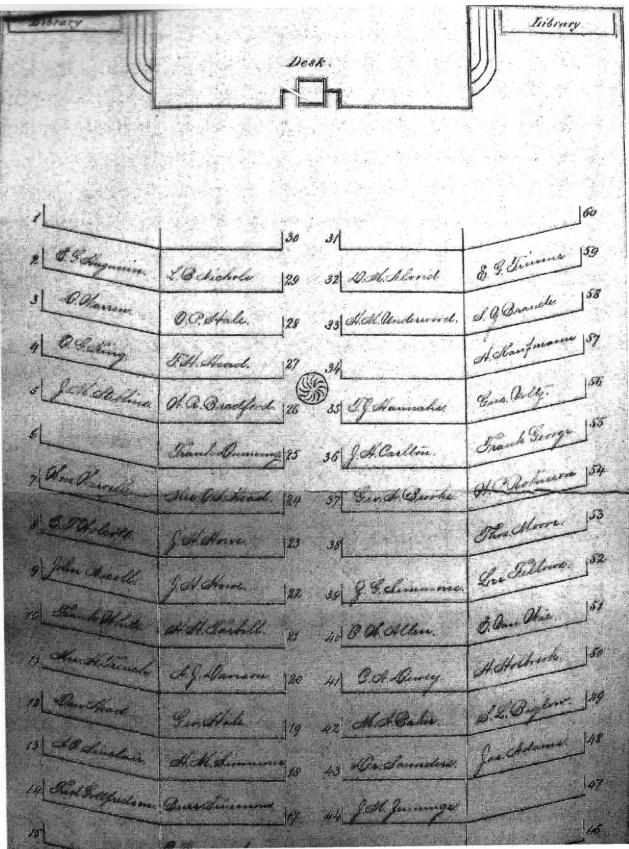
Ernest G. Timme

Mrs. Ernest G. Timme



P. C. Torrey General Store Propriator

Walking in the Woods



A "Pew Sheet"

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Dr. Saunders, Geo. V. Redeker, F.C. Hannahs, P.C. Torrey, and Judge Slosson. He asked further time for consideration before naming the other two members of the committee.

Miss Buck then said she desired to speak of one more matter which was very near her heart. She wished to propose to the Board that the near church here here

Sile wished by properties the first properties of the Board that the new church be named the Henry M. Simmons Memorial church, for the former greatly loved pastor of the church (from January, 1871 to February, 1879) whose recent death in Minneapolis had brought sorrow to all our hearts. The suggestion was received with many expressions of pleasure at the thought Mr. Simmons stated that he should be greatly pleased to have the building named for his most loved friend. Dr. Saunders called attention to the fact that the memorial to Mr. Henry M. Simmons would please and directly connected with the Society. If was unanimously agreed that the church be so named, and that, at the proper time such steps be taken as might be necessary to confer the new name on the church and Society.

With further expressions of thanks to Mr. Simmons and pleasure at the prospect of increased...

...church building, and with the hearty co-operation of the members of the Society, she was willing to remain as minister. Mr. Simmons stated that he should wish the new building to be as beautiful as possible, and would like a large share in determining what sort of church building should be erected. With arrangements that he could make about securing stone and other materials, he thought that a thoroughly pleasing and satisfactory building could be erected for the sum he had named, and that if the Society would raise the sum he had named he would see to its completion. On motion of Cant. Frantz it was voted that the

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On motion of Capt. Frantz, it was volted, that the Board of Trustees, acting for the Society, accepted the very generous offer of the very generous offer of the server generous offer of grateful thanks to him for making possible this much desired advance in the work of the Society.

Captain Frantz then offered to be one member of a committee of ten each of whom should seek to raise \$500 to secure the needed amount.

On motion it was voted, that the President of the Society appoint a committee of ten to raise the needed \$5,000, each of whom should endeavor to secure \$500. Taking the matter under the matter under consideration, the President appointed: Capt. Frantz, chairman, Miss Buck, C.A. Dewey;

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First Unitarian Society of Kenosha – 1907 Officers

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Bradford Community Church Unitarian Universalist - Leadership 2018

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