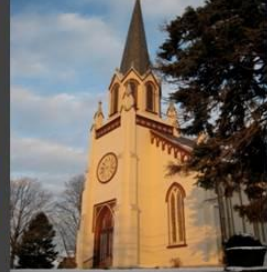
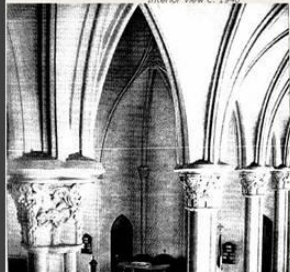


ASBURY IN THE COLONIES

According to his journal, Asbury finally preached in current day Westchester County at New Rochelle on December 10th 1771. Passing through on the Rye, it

About



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Mamaroneck United Methodist Church – An Historical Overview

The Age of Disenchantment

(1960 - 1990)

The late '60's brought decline to this church as it did to many. Youth left the church during this period of disenchantment with organized religion and with authority. One example of that uneasiness with authority occurred when George Bailey was pastor. He writes about "the Young Lords" who took control of the First Spanish Church in East Harlem, New York City.

"On Sunday morning, January 11, 1970, a group of 25 to 30 student supporters entered the worship service at Mamaroneck, scattering throughout the congregation. Toward the close of the service they rose up and attempted to take control, placing posters of smutty words on the columns and a leader gave a negative diatribe from the front of the church. The men of the church stood up for action and some of the other members began to protest."



*However, before things got out of hand, Rev. Bailey caught the eye of a choir member in the balcony with a message for the organist to play the closing hymn. "**Marion Welden** struck up 'Faith of our Fathers' and I've never heard it sung more lustily. During the singing, the group filed out, leaving quietly as police outside watched. There were threats that they would return, but they never did."*

Rev. George R. Bailey (1965-1983) pictured with members on the Administrative Council.

Rev. Bailey also warmly recalls the interfaith Thanksgiving Service, the efforts of MaHaLa Clergy, Lenten Services, Advent pilgrimages, and working with the sister churches of Rye and Port Chester, including the summer services at the Rye Conference Center.

The sixties also brought an increased social consciousness in this church. Mission ministries included securing tools, clothing, and Christmas gifts for the children at the Church of All Nations in New York, and Grace and the Fordham Churches. On the day of Young Lords' takeover, the church women were making a lunch to take to

Anchor House, the drug rehabilitation program in Brooklyn. A Vietnamese Family was adopted in 1975. The experience with this family of five was challenging, but also very rewarding. The United Methodist Women were



strong supporters of this mission outreach, including being a major partner in the Mamaroneck Community Action Program when its building was built. At the celebration of 200 years of Methodism in Mamaroneck in December of 1971, the mortgage for the educational wing had been paid and the papers were burned.

Children always looked forward to the last day of school and the Lollipop Fair on the Methodist grounds.

Boy Scouting, the Lollipop Fair, and the Methodist Men's Steak Cookout are a part of **George Bailey's** remembrances. A dozen scouts were awarded their God and Country Awards on their road to Eagle Scout. The Lollipop Fair was a celebration of the last day of school; the "in" thing to do in the community. Hundreds of children came to participate in the carnival atmosphere. With games, candy, and cookies, rides and **George Langerfeld's** haunted house in the basement of the Church House, this was a wonderful fund-raiser and good community outreach.

After 18 years as pastor of this church, **George Bailey** retired in 1983. He concludes his memoirs for us by writing: "We had many able leaders in those days and a congregation willing to venture into new areas of ministry and caring. The community always looked up to us with high regard and great support. **Mavis** and I are thankful to all of you for our 18 years in your midst."

Recent History

The Rev. Dr. William Reynolds Doughty, Jr. officiates at the 25th Anniversary Renewal of vows of Richard and Barbara Merrell. The Merrell's daughter, Diane and son, John, stand for their parents.



Rev. Dr. William Reynolds

Doughty, Jr. was appointed to the church in July of 1983. Bill's pastoral style brought a sense of enthusiasm to the pulpit. He writes that one of his accomplishments was acting as an interim person between **Rev. Bailey's** long

pastorate, and the introduction of a younger pastor. "Professor Pockets" helped to set the stage for the growth that began to attract younger people to the church and he writes about the spiritual revitalization that took place. The Sunday School grew, **Margaret Kim** was hired as organist and **Don** (her husband) soon directed the choir. The men's breakfast and his involvement in Tres Dias are significant memories. Bible Studies at the parsonage were signs of increasing the ministry of hospitality.

Gladys Picket, trustee, presents Pastor Bill with a new hat for his collection.

The young man whom **Rev. Doughty** envisioned following him as the pastor was chosen in 1988. At age 32, **William S. Shillady** was one of the youngest men ever to assume the pulpit of this church, and he brought with him a rich personal and professional experience, most recently as Associate Pastor at the Asbury Methodist Church in Tuckahoe, as well as enormous energy and enthusiasm.

Young adults continued to enter the church; the voices of babies and young children were heard once again. Attendance at worship services more than doubled.



Through his offices, the outreach of the congregation grew and he has been recognized as a community leader through his establishment of the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Hunger Task Force, his service on the board of the Washingtonville Housing Alliance, a moderator of programs to honor Martin Luther King, and a recipient of the B'nai B'rith Man of the Year award. To no small degree, the success of the Restoration of this church is due to the confidence he has instilled in the congregation and community.