

History of the United Church of Underhill

Compiled to celebrate

THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

of

THE UNDERHILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

and

ITS HISTORICAL ROOTS (1801-2001)



April 8, 2003

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THE FOUNDING OF THE UNDERHILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The settlement of Underhill in the mountainous, inaccessible backwoods of Chittenden County did not get underway until after the Revolutionary War. Although the town was chartered in 1763 it was not officially organized until 1795, four years after Vermont had relinquished its status as an independent republic and had been accepted as the fourteenth state. A small group of homesteaders had earlier established a hamlet just south of the Cambridge line and in 1787 had built the first log schoolhouse. The Hill Road (now called Poker Hill) was officially surveyed and laid out in 1791 and soon became the commercial route to the north. By 1800 a second hamlet had developed along the hilltop midway along the Hill Road. Many of the original settlers were from Connecticut and Congregational in religious persuasion. In 1801 they established the first church in the new community. The first page in the Underhill Congregational record book reads, "Be it remembered that on ye 29th day of December, in ye year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one, a number of believers were formed into a church by ye advice and assistance of ye Reverend Ebenezer Kingsbury of ye First Church of Jericho". (The First Congregational Church in Jericho Center had been established in 1791.) Seven men and seven women subscribed to the Covenant and Articles of Faith and Practice, "thus declaring both their obligations to God and their fellowship and charity for each other, and becoming known as the members first joining in covenant and organized a church of Christ in Underhill."

In those days "church" did not refer to a building, but to a congregation of people who shared a common spiritual commitment and covenanted together to uphold their creed. (Each member signed the covenant, after approval of the congregation, and woe to the member who did not live up to expectations. The early records of the churches are rife with excommunications and details of the causal human frailties.) The congregations often met in the homes of members until a meetinghouse could be built. For the first few years the Underhill Congregationalists held worship in the Birge Tavern (now the Brewer home) where town meetings were also held. The North Underhill Cemetery on Poker Hill Road, still in use today, was deeded to the town in 1807. In 1805 the first meetinghouse was built, under town auspices, close to the road by the cemetery grounds. It served, as was customary in those days of theocratic governance, for town meetings as well as Congregational worship. The first minister was Reverend James Parker. He was pastor until 1812, when his opposition to the war put him at odds with the congregation. For four years the church was without regular preaching. In 1816 Mr Nathaniel B Dodge began preaching and by the end of the year was ordained as minister. He organized a Church School in 1818 which continued in different forms throughout the years. (In the beginning the emphasis was on memorization of the catechism, Bible verses and hymns. At the first annual meeting 88 scholars were reported. One was said to have recited eighteen hundred and eighty seven verses and hymns! The students attended worship services with their parents; Church School training was under the tutelage of several teachers throughout the community who taught under the supervision of a main teacher.)

GROWING PAINS AND CHURCH EXPANSION

In 1820 the Pleasant Valley highway was laid out to the Cambridge border and by 1827 Underhill Center emerged as a village with its own cemetery and meetinghouse, store and sawmill. Many of the new settlers were from New Hampshire and were not Congregational in persuasion. In 1824 a group established a Methodist Episcopal Church in the Center. Meanwhile a new village was growing on the Jericho border in what became known as "The Flatts", with its own school, stores and even a starch mill. The original settlement on the Hill Road in what was now North Underhill was no longer the population center and sentiment grew to move town meetings and Congregational worship to a more accessible

location. In 1827 a small group of worshipers petitioned to be dismissed from the founding church to establish the Second Congregational Church in Underhill Center. For a while they shared a newly-built Union Meetinghouse with members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Shared places of worship were common in those days, enabling small congregations which could not afford a resident pastor, or even to meet every Sabbath, to rotate the use of the meetinghouse among the denominations. The population of Underhill was burgeoning and new families from England and Ireland arrived to establish settlements. In Underhill Center a Freewill Baptist Church was organized in 1836 and a Catholic congregation was growing.

In 1828 the members of the original Church of Christ in Underhill, now the First Congregational Church, erected another meetinghouse, known as the "Lower Meetinghouse" or the "River Church", on the River Road, hoping to draw back the secessionists from the Center. (The exact location of the meetinghouse is not known, but it was close to the intersection of River Road and the present Sand Hill Road, barely a mile from the Union Meetinghouse in Underhill Center.) In 1829 a constitution was adopted to form officially the First Congregational Society. (Congregational Societies were established to tend to the worldly matters of raising funds to pay the ministers and to build and maintain the meetinghouses. Women were very active members of the churches but did not participate in the work of the societies.) The minutes record the names of the 34 men responsible for the preaching at the "River Church" and its maintenance and the 54 men responsible for the affairs of the "Old Meeting House" on the Hill Road. The members met at the "Old Meeting House" and called Reverend Phineas Kingsley to service, then adjourned to the meetinghouse on the river. For a short time services were alternated between the two meetinghouses, as were the Town Meetings.

In 1827 the more level "Creek Road" (now Route 15) had been surveyed and by 1840 it displaced Poker Hill as the County Road. The historic Birge Tavern closed in 1831 and business diverted to the Barney Tavern which opened in a residence in the Flats along the Creek Road. (It is now a private home across the road from the present fire station.) At the March Meeting in 1832 it was voted to convene all Town meetings at William Barney's Tavern, centrally located between the two meetinghouses. The Tavern continued to be used until the late 1840s. Underhill Flats was growing as a commercial center, especially under the leadership of John H Tower and Henry Oakes whose Tower & Oakes store and other enterprises were prospering. The dispersed Congregationalists, alternating worship between meetinghouses and divided by argument, were often not able to meet the salary of the minister without assistance from the Vermont Domestic Missionary Society. Then in 1837 a windstorm tore the steeple from the thirty-year-old meetinghouse in North Underhill rendering the building unusable. On December 31, 1838 twenty four men organized to address the church problems. "We the subscribed inhabitants of Underhill and vicinity do hereby agree to form a society by the name of the Second Congregational Society in Underhill for the purpose of building and repairing a meetinghouse, settling and supporting a minister, according to the first section of an act entitled, 'For the Support of the Gospel', past October 26, 1797." That same day Tower and Oakes leased to the Second Congregational Society, of which they were founding members, a parcel of land which became the site of the present church. It was next to their store (now an apartment house):

"To have and to hold the said leased lot on farm premises for the use of a Congregational Meetinghouse so long as the said ground shall be used for that purpose, but for no other use, they yielding and paying yearly each and every year on the first day of January if demanded one Ear of Indian Corn. Dated at Underhill this 31st of December 1838." John Tower also created a cemetery on part of his farm (now the Underhill Cemetery) and deeded it to the Second Congregational Society.

A few days later, at a meeting of the Second Congregational Society on January 4, 1839, the discussion concerned the advisability of moving a meetinghouse or rebuilding, but there were no funds even for preaching. Later in the year, however, they did move the Lower Meetinghouse from the River Road to the new location on the leased land in The Flatts. The same year a determined group of the founding Congregational members salvaged parts from the wind-damaged original "Old Meetinghouse" and rebuilt it farther up the road, on the corner of what is now Page Road. (Presumably, this meetinghouse was still under the oversight of what was left of The First Congregational Society, but there are no records.) On October 25, 1839 this group requested to be dismissed from the Congregational Church of Christ in Underhill to form a separate church. The petition was at first denied, but then a Council was called to

consider the matter. In spite of the concern that the division would further weaken the church, the separation was allowed. The congregation was later referred to as the North Church.)

Then in January 1840 the Second Congregational Society engaged Rev. Sherman Kellogg, pastor of Montpelier Free Congregational Church, to conduct a three-week gospel meeting at their rebuilt church in Underhill Flats. All the churches in the vicinity were invited to participate. The revival was a great success and many new members joined the church. It led also to a partial reconciliation between the Congregational factions and the return of at least some members of the Second Congregational Church. There is no mention of the Second Congregational Church after this time. (The Second Congregational Society was not affiliated with The Second Congregational Church which had been established in Underhill Center. The latter seems not to have had a corresponding society, for it shared the Union Meetinghouse with the Methodist Episcopal denomination and never had a regular pastor. There are no records of this church and the only information comes from its correspondence with the parent church.)

BUILDING OF THE PRESENT CHURCH

In June 1843 the Reverend Simeon Parmalee began a vigorous pastorate in the First Congregational Church which lasted through 1856. A fire damaged the relocated meetinghouse in Underhill Flats in 1845. Under the strong leadership of Rev Parmalee funds were raised and by 1847 it was replaced by the present building in the fine location directly on the village green. The Congregational Church was now firmly established in Underhill Flats. For 100 years it played a prominent role in the life of the community. (The North Church continued until 1879 when the few remaining members rejoined the parent church. Some years thereafter the relocated North Meetinghouse was destroyed by fire.)

In 1885, through the efforts of The Second Congregational Society, in co-operation with the Ladies' Dime Society, the parlor and kitchen were added on the back of the building. (This addition is the present reception room). In 1889 the church incorporated and at the same time the name of The Second Congregational Society was changed to The Congregational Society. (In 1916, recognizing that the "purpose, object and business" of the church and the society were intimately connected, a new constitution was written to merge the two organizations.) There seem to be no records of the fund-raising Ladies Dime Society. However, in 1894 a women's group from the church purchased an organ, which still graces the sanctuary. Their fund-raising efforts were documented in a booklet entitled, Experiences of the Would-be Poetesses Connected with the Ladies Industrial Society and a Response from one of the Sufferers. Each lady had to raise a dollar for the organ fund and write a poem about how she earned it. (The first charge was the easier; writing the poems was a challenge -- for the ladies and their families.) The organ was dedicated with ceremony and a dinner and the poems were read aloud to the great amusement of all, so much so that they decided to publish the collection. (Such a story it tells about the life of the times and the droll sense of humor for which Vermonters are renowned.)

GROWTH OF THE CHRISTIAN COMMITMENT

The population of Underhill had continued to grow until it reached a peak of 1655 in 1870. The Methodist Episcopal Church and the Freewill Baptists, who had organized in 1836, jointly erected a meeting house in Underhill Center in 1851. (In 1950 the building became the Underhill Town Hall.) Methodism had been introduced in the local area back in 1798 by the circuit preacher, Reverend Lorenzo Dow, who proselytized as far north as Canada. He was followed by the Mitchell brothers, preachers who organized a Methodist circuit of 186 members based in Vergennes. In 1799 the circuit was divided, with Underhill constituents part of the northern Essex Circuit. But it wasn't until 1857 that the Methodist Episcopal Church established a permanent building in Underhill Flats, followed in 1859 by the present church in Jericho Corners. Both churches were served by very busy circuit pastors, who also served other areas, such as Bolton. None stayed the course very long and there was constant turnover.

The original St Thomas Catholic church was built in 1855. (It was destroyed by fire and replaced by the present building in 1891.) The Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church was completed in the Riverside area in 1857, but it was not in continuous use until many years later (1928). There were also in Jericho two Congregational Churches, a Baptist Church and a Universalist Church. There was certainly no lack of Christian commitment in the area.

ACADEMIC AND CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS; GEORGE WASHINGTON HENDERSON



In mid century two short-lived, but outstanding academic institutions were established in Underhill which not only served local students, but attracted boarding scholars: Underhill Academy in Underhill Flats (later, the ID school; now Green Mountain Foam Company) and Green Mountain Academy in Underhill Center (later used as a Town Hall, 1900-1950). The Congregational church occasionally drew upon the well-educated faculty of the academies for service as interim pastors and preachers.

After the end of the Civil War, the Underhill Academy had among its students a most outstanding young man. George Washington Henderson was born a slave in Virginia in 1850. During the war he escaped to the Grand Army of the Republic and was taken on as a servant by Henry Carpenter, adjutant in the Eighth Vermont Regiment. In 1865, then only fifteen years old, he accompanied Carpenter when he returned to his home in Belvidere, Vermont. While working for the family, the young man was helped to "learn his letters". He must have been an apt student, for the Carpenters made an arrangement for him to study at the Underhill Academy, then under the tutelage of Oscar Atwood. His boarding arrangements are not known, but he must have lived in the area, for on April 5, 1872, George Washington Henderson became a formal member of the Underhill Congregational Church. W. Scott Nay, later to become a beloved doctor and leading citizen in Underhill, was his school companion at the Academy and later remembered him in a letter to the UVM Alumni Weekly in 1936: "It was a most satisfactory privilege for me to protect him from the jibes of some discourteous students who, because of his color, thought themselves to be his superiors. It is needless to say that he outranked them all in scholarship as he excelled them in demeanor. His record has shown him to be a second Booker Washington."

After several years in Underhill, the young man went to Barre, graduating from the Spaulding Academy. He still remained a member of the Underhill church. He went on to study at the University of Vermont, where his career from then on has been quite well documented. At the University he was an outstanding student, graduating at the head of his class in 1877, the first member of his race to be elected to the scholastic fraternity, Phi Beta Kappa. He was leader of his class and a member of the Delta Psi fraternity (along with contemporary, John Dewey.) The 1877 commencement at which he received his A.B. degree was held in the College Street Congregational Church. He gave an honorary address at the ceremony, "The Economy of Moral Forces in History". The Burlington Free Press covered the event and commented, "Mr. Henderson's effort, in point of interest and ability, as well as of earnestness and excellence of delivery, asked no odds of any other on the programme. When it is considered that its author was born a slave and twelve years ago had not learned to read, its maturity of thought and good taste in presentation must be considered truly marvelous."

In 1875-76, while he was a student at the University, he served as a teacher in the Jericho Academy. In the summers he worked on a farm in Waitsfield. After receiving his degree, he became a teacher and then the Principal of the Craftsbury Academy, along the way earning an M.A. degree from UVM, reading a paper on "Conservation" . He went on to Yale Divinity School where in 1883 he received a B.D. degree and a Hooker Fellowship for graduate study in Berlin. He was accompanied to Berlin with his new wife, the young Preceptress (teacher of drawing, music, elocution and bookkeeping) at the Craftsbury Academy. When they returned to Vermont, they settled in Newport, where Mr. Henderson held the position of

principal of the elementary school. It was in 1886 that he formally transferred his membership from the Underhill Congregational Church. His time in Newport was short, for tragedy befell, with the untimely death of both his wife and infant. Both are buried in a family grave in Belvidere. At this time, his former mentor at the Underhill Academy, Oscar Atwood (UVM 1864), was president of Straight University (now Dillard) in New Orleans. He may have encouraged the young widower to come South, where he became an ordained Congregational minister in 1888, serving for two years as pastor of the Central Congregational Church. In 1890 he accepted the chair of theology at Straight University and pastorate of the University Church. In 1904, he became Dean of Theology at Fiske University, and in 1909 went on to Wilberforce University in Ohio, where he taught theology and classical languages until his retirement in 1932. Throughout his career he was in demand as a lecturer and editor. He died in 1936 and is buried in Wilberforce, Ohio. He often visited in Vermont with his second wife and kept his relationships with friends in the state. In 1999, he was honored with an historic site marker in Belvidere, as a "Minister, Educator, Champion of his Race".

SPIRITUAL REVIVAL

The opening of the railroad and the location of a depot in Underhill Flats in 1877 had created a thriving commercial center there, while the overall population in Underhill steadily declined following the Civil War, as did the general population of Vermont. In spite of the declining population, however, the many churches thrived and dominated life in the villages of Underhill and Jericho through the end of the century and the turn of the next. The nineteenth century was marked by the spiritual rebirth of the "Second Great Awakening" and fiery revival meetings which resulted in surges of new membership. Thirty-four new members joined the First Congregational Church in 1828, 54 in 1840 (after Rev Kellogg's gospel meeting), 20 in 1855 and 1866, 34 in 1876, 22 in 1883. (There were also a few episodes where "false preachers" caused considerable unrest and temporarily drew off membership.) The Reverend S L Bates, Pastor Emeritus (1863-1871), wrote a discourse for the Centennial celebration of The First Congregational Church in 1901, from which much of the historical information related here has been taken. In his concluding remarks, he paid tribute to the Christian mission, (then and now): "This church like all others, has continually nurtured childhood, molded maturing youth, supported old age, comforted bitter griefs, illumined the darkness of death and carried souls up to a blessed immortality".

THE MANSFIELD CIRCUIT

The Methodist Episcopal Church, which was built on the Jericho side of Underhill Flats in 1857, was called the Underhill church to distinguish it from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Jericho Corners built in 1859. (It was also sometimes described as the Riverside Church.) Both churches had parsonages. The ME Church in Underhill Center did not have a parsonage. The three churches were members of the Underhill Circuit and shared the expenses of a circuit pastor, along with smaller groups of worshipers in North Underhill, Bolton, and Lee River. The History of Jericho (1916) relates a description of the distribution of the labors of the pastor in 1869: "at West Bolton once in two weeks in the morning, Jericho Corners once in two weeks in the afternoon or evening (or five o'clock), the Flats once in two weeks in the afternoon, the Center once in four weeks in the morning, North Underhill, Jericho Center and prayer meeting at the Flats the remaining time." According to the same History of Jericho, during the period from 1858 and 1916 there were 25 different ministers! Few stayed for more than one or two years. The ministers were supplied to the Circuit by the Presiding Elder of the Methodist Episcopal Church organization in Vermont. They resided in one of the various parsonages.

On August 11, 1906 the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Flats and the drug store of Dr. W. S. Nay beside it were destroyed by a fire which threatened the entire village. At this time Underhill had no fire department, so a message was sent to Burlington, where a fire truck was immediately loaded on a flatcar and brought to Underhill on a special train. However, by the time the train arrived the wind had shifted and a light rain began to fall, preventing further destruction of the village. The following year the present structure, which later became the United Methodist Church of Underhill, was erected (at a cost of \$2750, including furnishings and horse sheds).

Through the years the Underhill Circuit consolidated to serve the churches in Underhill Center, The Flats, Jericho and Essex. (Some Methodists remember when their minister also preached at the CCC camp in Underhill during the 1930s.)

From 1911 to 1941, during the vicissitudes of the First World War and the Great Depression, The Congregational Church of Underhill was served by Reverend Dr. William Cashmore, who was both a doctor of divinity and a doctor of veterinary medicine. He not only served his constituents' spiritual needs, he took care of their cows as well. The railroad had closed in 1938, many families had been displaced by the Federal purchase of the Range, and by 1941 the Town of Underhill was in serious economic decline. The population was barely 700. In June 1941 at a special meeting where he announced his need for retirement Dr Cashmore spoke eloquently about the serious situation confronting all the Protestant churches." In this narrow bit of a valley several churches are having a hard time because of the expanding of the Range and people being obliged to move away. Jericho Center Church is in a more serious condition than any others and must cease to exist unless a solution to the problem is found. Officers of the Conference say there are no funds to support it. Six separate churches in this locality are trying to exist." He suggested that the churches consolidate and meet the situation together.

The directors of the Conference suggested that there be two worship centers, one in Underhill and one in Jericho, served by two ministers working together. If such an arrangement could be worked out, Dr. Cashmore agreed to stay on as interim pastor if an associate pastor could be engaged to help. In October 1941 an agreement was made between the First Congregational Church of Jericho and the First Congregational Church of Underhill to form the Jericho - Underhill Larger Parish. Miss Louise Rodgers from Albany, NY was called as associate pastor to Dr. Cashmore. She was not yet ordained, so a special Council of Ordination was called to take care of the problem. After one year she left for Bridport. The Jericho-Underhill Larger Parish was left with one minister and he could no longer carry on. Dr. Cashmore suggested that the Congregational and Methodist churches in both communities should join together for united church services. (The Methodist Episcopal denomination had become the United Methodist Church in 1939.) The idea was explored but no agreement could be found and the matter was dropped. In 1942 in the midst of the war there was a shortage of ministers. There were 25 vacancies just in the Vermont Congregational Churches. In desperation the Larger Parish engaged a Harvard divinity student for the summer of 1943. That November Reverend George Beach came to serve the three churches, living in the Jericho Center parsonage. Dr. William Cashmore finally became Pastor Emeritus, although he continued as an active member of the Underhill congregation. In January 1946 Dr. Beach tendered his resignation. He was worn out and simply needed a rest. He was offered a year's leave of absence, but he reconsidered his resignation, provided that his wife, who was licensed to perform some official church functions, could be engaged as associate pastor.

In the summer of 1946 the Larger Parish and the Methodist Fellowship agreed to hold union services in July and August in alternate churches in Underhill Flats. Then in March 1947 Dr. Beach announced his decision to resign by May first. A meeting was called attended by the Methodist District Superintendent, the Congregational Executive Minister and representatives from area churches of both denominations. There were six churches to be considered, three Congregational churches and three Methodist. The Methodist Churches in Underhill Flats, Jericho, and Essex shared a minister as members of the Mansfield Circuit (formerly the Underhill Circuit). It was under the oversight of the Mansfield Parish Council. The Vermont United Methodist churches are members of the Troy Conference, part of the overarching United Methodist Church organization. Individual Methodist churches receive considerable support and backing from the parent organization which throughout the years has helped to carry parishes through vicissitudes. However, the Methodist congregation in Underhill Center had not survived the difficult times.

Somehow the First and Second Congregational Churches in Jericho managed to consolidate and went their own direction. By the time Dr. Beach left in May, a yoke agreement had been arranged by the Underhill Congregational and Methodist parishes. Under the special relationship the two churches would share the worship services and Sunday School. Each church would be used for six months of the year. The salary of the pastor was to be shared along with the Mansfield Circuit (which then included the Methodist churches in Jericho Corners and Essex). The details of other expenses were worked out. Each church would retain and maintain its own properties and would retain its own cash resources and endowment; each church would continue to pay its own denominational apportionments. New members would join either church, but the union services were to be held under Methodist leadership. Signing for the Congregationals were Eugene Metcalf, Elwood Clark, Edna Pollard, Marion Mead and Lillian Cross; for the Methodists, Charles Thompson, J.E. Foster, P.J.Kinsley, W.A.Wetherbee and H.W. Austin. The original agreement, dated May 1, 1947, was for one year. The trial arrangement lasted almost twenty five years. The First Congregational Church of Underhill became a member of The Mansfield Circuit.

In 1960 Pastor LeFevre served four congregations and was responsible for 700 souls. After preaching for the combined worship in Essex, where he resided in the parsonage, he preached in Jericho Corners and then in Underhill. It was a formidable task to minister effectively to three communities, with separate churches, officers and programs. Pastor LeFevre suggested that the two Underhill churches would be better served by a pastor living in the community, ministering to the two congregations. In 1962 a serious study of the Underhill Church situation was initiated. In 1964 the Mansfield Parish Council decided to dissolve the three point charge within three years. In 1966 the Reverend John Peterson reported, "There is no more important mission for our church than to present a united witness in the community. The progress the Congregational and Methodist people have made toward reaching a united church is encouraging. The United Church Study Committee has met four times since May and drawn up a tentative constitution. It is searching to find a way to support a resident minister and plans to undertake a canvas of the community to ascertain the Protestant potential."

UNDERHILL-JERICO JOINT WORSHIP

In 1967 the Underhill Women's Guild and the Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service agreed to form the United Women's Fellowship, a pillar of the church today. By the late 60's the population decline in Chittenden County had been reversed to such an extent that in 1968 the Essex Methodist Church was able to offer a full-time position to Reverend James Clark, who was then serving the entire Mansfield Circuit. The pressure was on for the other churches to find a resident minister of their own. The congregations rose to the challenge and in June 1968 engaged United Methodist minister, Reverend Marcheta Pebbles (later, District Superintendent), to serve the joint congregation in Underhill and the Methodist congregation in Jericho Corners. She took up residence in the Methodist parsonage in Underhill Flats and began a ministry which nurtured the spirit of growth toward a more lasting union.

During the years of joint worship, it came to be customary to use the Congregational Church in the cold months because it had a better furnace. It also had a kitchen, but since there was no basement, the water could not be used in the winter. The Methodist building was used in the summer. When the time came to change churches, the congregation would carry the hymnals from one building to the other, singing together "Blessed Be The Tie That Binds". It was a project for some of the men to move the small, but heavy, organ back and forth for the seasons. There was a need in the town for a building to serve as a meeting house for the Senior Citizens. The small parish house next to the Methodist Church was available and with the help of some of the tradesmen in the community and the church youth group, the building was modified to include a kitchen, meeting room and toilet facilities, heated to be useful throughout the year.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF UNDERHILL

Formal discussions leading to the formation of the United Church of Underhill began early in 1973 and were held on a weekly schedule to formulate the Articles of Agreement which are the basis of the union. The Rev Donald Brushett, United Methodist District Superintendent and Rev Edward Treat, Executive Minister of the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ, were the denominational representatives in the process. (Nationally, the Congregational Christian Churches had merged with the Evangelical and Reformed Church to form the United Church of Christ (UCC) in 1957.) The United Church committee consisted of Marion Fay, Edwin Moore, Harold Moss, Tom Woodward, and Marianne Worden for the Congregationalists; Doug Keith, Leroy Keith, Ken Mitchell, Peter Mitchell, Mable Priest, Harold Sargent, and Glenn Towle for the Methodists. The Articles of Agreement were adopted by vote of the congregations on July 25, 1973. They were signed for the Underhill United Methodist Church on September 28, 1973 and for the First Congregational Church of Underhill on December 10, 1973. On September 30, 1973 the Reverend Richard B. Crocker from the United Church of Christ ministry was called to serve the United Church of Underhill and a new era was launched.

CONSOLIDATION OF PROPERTIES

At the beginning of the union the church owned two "meetinghouses", two parsonages and the small Senior Center. One of the difficult points of agreement had been the disposition of the properties. While the Congregational Church owned its buildings, the Methodist buildings were actually the property of the United Methodist Church Troy Conference with headquarters in Saratoga Springs, NY. It took much negotiation and much good faith on all parts to persuade the Conference to deed the Methodist buildings to the new United Church. In 1974, in a formal ceremony at the annual Troy conference in Poultney, Vermont, the Methodist property deeds were delivered to Edwin Moore as representative of the United Church of Underhill. It was a momentous occasion.

The church members had decided to use the Congregational church building for the United Church and to sell the Methodist Church and both parsonages. In 1973 David Gallop, who owned the land behind the church with a large house thereon, was in a convalescent home; his property was for sale. Church members recognized that the house would be a fine parsonage and that the ell could be modified for Sunday School rooms, very much needed. In addition, the extra acreage would provide driveway and parking space and expansion potential. Marion Fay, Leroy Keith, and Edwin Moore visited Mr. Gallop to discuss the possible purchase of his property by the church. (It was an act of faith, for the Articles of Agreement had not yet been voted on, but the Congregational parsonage was available for immediate sale.) Mr Gallop was pleased to make the arrangement. Shortly thereafter he died. The deed was transferred on June 20, 1974. The former Congregational parsonage was sold in June of that year and the Methodist parsonage in December. The United Methodist Church building was sold to the United Christian Assembly in 1982, fulfilling a hope that the building could be maintained as a place of worship. Leroy Keith handled all the real estate transactions for the church.

PROPERTY RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

As soon as the church received the deed for the Gallop property, work began to renovate the house to provide a parsonage, conference room and church school classrooms. Church members worked diligently for five months to complete the project and it was ready to receive the Crocker family in early December 1974. On New Year's Day 1975 the open house was attended by more than 100 visitors.

On October 15, 1978 the church membership voted to borrow \$10,000 from the United Church of Christ Board for Homeland Ministries for energy conservation and building improvement. In 1847 the Congregational building had been erected without a foundation and the facilities were primitive. There was no basement under the building; the huge sills were set on stones laid on the ground, which fortunately was well-drained sand. In all the 130 years the wooden structure had maintained its integrity. A hole excavated under the sanctuary held a hot air furnace with one grill for heating the church. The kitchen facility could not be used in the cold weather because the water lines were above ground and the only sanitary facility was a "privy" (truly, in 1979!) off of the front vestibule.

At the annual meeting on January 18, 1979 the members voted to undertake a project to excavate a basement under the church, build a proper foundation, install toilet facilities, create a kitchen and classrooms and to put in a full heating system. Groundbreaking for the project took place after the Easter service. With experts to raise the building and excavate the earth beneath it, the project proceeded. It was a queasy summer with the church perched high on huge timbers. On September 16, 1979 the cornerstone was symbolically dedicated by members of the Masonic Lodge and celebrated by the church membership. The church building now had a fully-weatherized basement with windows, a large kitchen facility, meeting room and classrooms. There were toilet facilities front and back, each with its own septic system, and the entire church was heated with a comfortable hot water system. In addition, new walks, a driveway and parking area were created. In 1988 the steeple was repaired and covered with copper. Later the church roof was replaced, a reception room was created behind the sanctuary, a wheelchair ramp was added. Members helped with painting projects on the buildings. For the first time the church property was surveyed and an onerous dispute regarding the line adjacent to the former Tower and Oaks Store was resolved. It took nearly ten years, with hard work and dedication by all the membership, those who gave of their time and effort and those who helped to raise the necessary funds, but the church properties were ready to serve the challenges to which the United Church was called to respond.

CONTINUING PROGRESS

In the succeeding years, the United Church of Underhill has become a major influence in the communities of Underhill and Jericho. Like the meetinghouse of yesteryear, the church building has become a center for citizens to meet, both for worship and for other important functions of the community. In addition to Sunday Worship, the Church welcomes people from throughout the community to many events and activities.

Primary among the events is the fall Underhill Harvest Market, held on the last weekend in September, with crafts, a country store, cider, a soup kitchen run by the United Women's Fellowship, a cookie factory, a book nook, antiques and collectibles in the "clutter barn", a flea market and entertainment all weekend long. Truly a community event, other church and community groups have joined in the Harvest Market with fund-raising sales, dinners and other activities stretching along Route 15 from the firehouse to the lumberyard and down Park Street to the Underhill Cemetery. Indeed, the Harvest Market has become a noteworthy event in the state and it has been estimated that 10,000 people have attended in some years, from near and far.

Other annual events of the Church have included a Men's Roast Beef Dinner on the eve of Mother's Day, the One Great Hour of Sharing Breakfast in the spring, and the Ice Cream Parlor run each summer by the youth group. Community groups that meet in the Church on a regular basis have included the Senior Citizens, the Lions Club, the Cub Scouts, Alcoholics Anonymous, and the Jericho-Underhill Water Board. With Church activities several times a week, it is hard to find any evening when the Church is not used.

Throughout the years, mission outreach, worship, music, and Christian education have been enriched. The United Church has supported both the United Methodist and United Church of Christ denominations in extending their work beyond the Underhill and Jericho communities and has given generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing and other causes. Church members have given of their talents in building houses in the Habitat for Humanity project, given blood in the Red Cross Drives sponsored by the Lions Club, and participated in Crop Walk, The Heifer Project, Meals on Wheels, and the area Food Shelf programs. The United Women's Fellowship has been actively involved in service projects for the church and outreach, especially ABC Quilts for babies.

MINISTRIES IN THE UNITED CHURCH

CHURCH MUSIC

Throughout the years music has filled the United Church with a talented Choir, first under the directorship of the outstanding organist, Howard Wilson. Lois Nassau directed the choir and managed the music for the service for over 10 years, with Janet Gallagher as organist. When Lois retired, Janet became music director as well as organist. In 2000 a special vocal choir anthem, A Place in the Valley, by Nancy Price and Don Besig, was commissioned to celebrate the long-standing music ministry of the church and Janet's dedicated service. An active Children's Choir has also been providing music and joy for many years. Two handbell choirs have added special musical contributions and make holiday times particularly festive in the life of the church.

The Mason and Hamlin reed organ, purchased in 1894 by the dedicated ladies of the church who each had earned a dollar toward the cost (and memorialized their efforts in the 'Dollar Poems') languished for many years during the periods of church renovation. Then in 1999, through the generosity of the family of MaryLou Herr, the instrument was completely rebuilt and dedicated to her memory. The dedication concert paid tribute to the ladies of the 'Women's Industrial Society' and their book of 'Dollar Poems' was reprinted for all to enjoy.

NEW MINISTRIES/ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

It was with profound regret that in 1988 the United Church bid farewell to Reverend Richard Crocker, who had served the congregation for 15+ years of exciting growth. In keeping with the Articles of Agreement, the ministry called a Methodist pastor, Cheryl Heater, to serve. Her pastorate saw much growth in Christian Education. Then in 1996 she was called to serve in White River Junction. The United Church established a search committee for a new pastor, served in the interim by Diana Scholl. The Congregational minister, Reverend Alden Launer, was called in 1997. After a short ministry he moved on to service in the Waterbury Church in 1999 and another search committee was formed. Retired minister, Reverend Clifford Field served with distinction as interim pastor. The church welcomed Methodist minister, Reverend Dr. Rich Cooper, in the year of the millennium 2000 to serve an ever-growing congregation.

Christian education has been continually growing throughout the years with larger Sunday School classes, adult Bible study, and the development of a coordinated program. Rev. Kirk Thompson became Christian Education Director in 1992 and among his contributions was the organization of youth fellowship activities, which continued after he moved on to a new career.

ECUMENICAL COMMITMENTS

From the beginning The United Church has supported ecumenical programs. There has been a commitment to unity in whatever means it has been possible to share in worship or mission. The All Faiths Thanksgiving Service, special Lenten worship services, Holy Week early morning worship, ecumenical Maundy Thursday worship, a Good Friday walk, early morning Easter Service -- are among some of the activities. In 1983 an Underhill-Jericho Ecumenical Ministry was founded which includes St. Thomas Catholic Church, along with most of the Protestant churches in the two communities. Among other activities, the Ministry sponsors a food shelf and clothing distribution center and cares for local families in need.

EVOLVING DIRECTIONS

Revisions of the Articles of Agreement were made in 1974, 1976, 1982, 1993, and 2001. Throughout the years the United Church has been guided by a Statement of Purpose which was formally adopted in 1983:

"The purpose of the United Church of Underhill is to be a Christian community that offers spiritual growth to all and responds to the needs of people according to the teachings of Christ."

In the year 2000 the church adopted a Vision Statement: Welcoming, Worshiping, Working for God. A first-time-ever World Wide Website was established for communication by electronic mail: www.ForMinistry.com/05489UCU, with an approximate weekly "hit" rate of 25-35.

In 1998, the United Church voted to buy the adjacent building, originally a Grange Hall, but serving as the Gifford Funeral Home for many years. In 2001, it was made useable for public functions and its first application was to house the Clutter Barn for the Harvest Market. The same year the church office was moved from the parsonage annex to new quarters in the basement of the church. The parsonage annex was renovated and acquired new life as a study for the pastor. Dr. Cooper now has regular visiting hours for parishioners in an inviting environment.

In 1998 a Peace Pole was erected in front of the church, reading, "May Peace Prevail on Earth." After the devastating tragedy of September 11, 2001, when peace was so drastically threatened, the Peace Pole took on a new significance. Among the changes that these events have wrought on everyday life, a new addition was also made to the liturgy. The worship service incorporates the lighting of a 'Peace Candle', the "passing of the peace" among those attending, silent prayer, and the hymn 'Let There Be Peace on Earth'.

THE FUTURE

One hundred years ago in his dissertation for the centennial celebration of the founding of the first church of Christ in Underhill on December 29, 1801, the Reverend S L Bates challenged the congregation. As we enter the dawn of a new century, his charge could address us all today. " As we turn from the past we must face the present and look down through the future. Our backward look today suggests important lessons for you. Remember you are acting in the line of those who have gone before and for the welfare of those who shall come after. You stand in a goodly line. Others have labored and you are entered into their labor. The work committed to you is the Lord's work, and the Lord is your Leader. Dare you, then, in view of your responsibility to him and to generations to come, hesitate for a moment in doubt and discouragement, or expect anything less than success and victory? Your trust is surely a sacred one. It is yours to carry forward towards completion the work the fathers begun, to give greater vigor and efficiency through your lives to the truth upon which they builded, and, in your measure, to hasten the coming of our Lord's kingdom here and throughout the world."

REFERENCES & APPENDICES

REFERENCES

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APPENDICES

1. List of Congregational ministers and time of service
2. List of Methodist ministers and time of service
3. List of Congregational members by year
4. List of Methodist members by year

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS

The following are ministers who have served the Congregational Church in Underhill Flats or the United Church of Underhill. The dates denote the tenure of each pastor. Thanks to Pat Richmond for compiling this list from church records.

John D. Emerson	Nov. 1876 - 1893
John K. Williams	Sept. 1884 - June 1889
Henry T. Barnard	June 1890 - Apr 1891
Clarence Pike	Sept. 1891 - Sept. 1895
Ralph White	Sept. 1895 - Sept. 1899
George M. Rees	Jan. 1900 - Sept. 1901
Montie J.B. Fuller	July 1902 - Jan. 1903
Wilbur Rand	July 1903 - July 1906
Charles B. Atwood	Sept. 1906 - July 1909
William Cashmore	Jan. 1912 - Oct. 1943
Louise Rodgers	Sept. 1941 - Dec. 1942
George Beach	Oct. 1943 - May 1947
Ruth Beach	?
Leland D. Smith	May 1947 - May 1948
Charles Latimer	May 1948 - April 1951
Andrew Currier	June 1951 - April 1957
Paul LeFevre	July 1957 - Sept. 1960
Donald E. Ouelette	Oct. 1960 - May 1961
Jesse B. McNeil	June 1961 - June 1962
Keith Snow	July 1962 - May 1965
John Peterson	May 1965 - May 1967
James D. Clark	May 1967 - June 1968
Richard Crocker	Oct. 1973 - Feb. 1989
Alden Launer	Aug. 1997 - Sept. 1999

APPENDIX 2: LIST OF METHODIST MINISTERS

The following are ministers who have served the Methodist Church in Underhill Flats or the United Church of Underhill. The dates denote the year they began serving. Thanks to Gary Irish for compiling this list from Volumes I & II of the History of Jericho, Vermont. Note that present church records do not contain much of this information due to the fire that destroyed the church in 1906. In addition, note that duplicate names among the Methodist and Congregational lists indicate shared ministry.

Benjamin Cox	1858. Born in Monkton in 1817
A.H. Honsinger beloved preacher.	1859. Died at Troy, N.Y. in 1899, age 78. An enthusiastic and well
Albert B. Truax	1861. Died 1897, aged 62. Preached the last Sabbath of his life.
Elisha B. Haff	1863
C.F. Garvin	1865
D. Austin	1867
John Lawrence	1868
J.E. Kimball	1869
A.S. Cooper	1869. Died 1884, age 76. Had frequent revivals.
James H. Hale preach on the Sabbath.	1870. Died 1880. Though an asthmatic, he was invariably able to
S. Chartier	1871
J. Halpenny	1872
D.P. Bragg	1874
Seymour C. Vail	1877. Born 1844, later went to Corinth, N.Y.
Joseph W. Guernsey	1880. Died 1894, age 73.
C.E. Scott	1883. Left to go to South America as a missionary.
A.B. Riggs	1885.
Lucien E. Taylor	1888
Charles M. Stebbins	1891
H.F. Reynolds	1893
Sidney S. Brigham	1895. Born in 1836, later went to Fairfax. A captain in the Civil War.
D.C. Thatcher	1898
Caleb P. Taplin	1900. Died at Montpelier in 1908, age 75, 44 years in the ministry.
O.L. Barnard	1903
A.H. Sturges	1908
John Robinson	May, 1922
Ernest Abott	1922
Henry Sweet	1922
Ernest Sturtevant	1925
Wesley Hodges	1927
John Lunderville	1928
Roger Fitzgerald	1929
Robert Mercer	1931
Allan Schoff	1933
L.C. Dibble	1935
Richard Leonard	1936
J.A. Dunlop	1937
Arza Dean	1939
A.B. Squires	1940
Leland D. Smith	1942
Charles Latimer	1948
Andrew B. Currier	1952
Paul LeFevre	1957
Donald Oulette	1960
J.B. McNeal	1961
Keith Snow	1962
Marcheta Townsend	1968

Susan Hager-Smith	1/89 – 6/89
Cheryl Heater	1989
Diana Scholl	1996
Clifford Field	1999
Richard Cooper	2000

APPENDIX 3: LIST OF CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS

According to a vote of the Church, recorded in the Old Book, June 3, 1853, a church roll was to be kept of the names of persons who were, at that time, members of the Church, residents and non-resident. A list of names can be found in the Church history compiled for the centennial celebration. The last name is Sadie Helen Curry--1889.

The following is the roll of the First Congregational Church from 1889 to the present. Some of these members may have changed their membership to another church or to our own Underhill United Methodist Church. The membership number is followed by the year of membership and the person's name. Thanks to Jane Andrews for compiling this list from church records.

1889

302 Theron H. Porter
303 Mrs. Phoebe L. Porter
304 Mrs. Bertha E. Wells
305 Rev. H. Barnard
306 Sophronia Rogers Hale
307 Mrs. Hattie Palmer

1892

308 Mrs. Harriet Herrick
309 Luella Clark
310 Mrs. Estelle Thompson
311 H. L. Thompson
312 Olia Pitman 313 Mrs. Dora A. Knight
314 Mrs. Cora Wiley-Chaphin
315 Mr. D. L. Terrill

1894

316 Mrs. Cyrus Mead Prior
317 Lettie Prior-Hutchinson
318 Hubert Moran
319 Mrs. Hubert Moran
320 Mrs. Ruth Sinclair

1895

321 Mr. Wm. Cady
322 Mrs. Wm. Cady
323 Olive Cady
324 Maud I. Johnson

1896

325 Miss I. Marsh
326 Mrs. Clara D. Lyman
327 Mrs. Ella M. Lee

1897

328 Mr. Ebenezer White
329 Mrs. Cora E. Carperter

1898

330 Mrs. George Prior
331 Mrs. Julia Powell
332 Miss Mary Powell
333 Miss Phoebe Powell
334 Mrs. Emma Etta Kinney
335 Mrs. Clark-formerly Mrs. Lewis Wills
336 Mrs. Ella May Lord
337 Mrs. Lucia M. Houghton

1900

338 Rev. Geo. M. Rees
339 Mrs. Maggie E. Rees
340 Miss Theo Rees
341 Mrs. D. O. Evans
342 Mrs. Mary Orr Douglass
343 C. H. Hayden
344 Mrs. C.H Hayden
345 Miss Julia Scott
346 Charles E. Ayer
347 Mrs. Ella Ayer

1901

348 Abbie A. Dexter
349 H. Carl Mead

1902

350 Alice Ayer-Cashmore
351 Hazel Knight-Van Bluckirk
352 Florence Terrill
353 Olive Hayden-Janes
354 Marjorie Hayden
355 Bertha Hatch
356 Martha E. Church
357 Arthur Myette
358 Scott Terrill
359 Harold Hayden

1905

360 Mrs. Edith Colegrove-Terrill
361 Taylor Withey Mead
362 Rollie Donald Blodgett
363 Willie Leslie Blaisdell
364 Mrs. Jennie Marie David
365 Howard Paine David
366 Milo Pearl Davis
367 Fern Marguerite Davis-Hunt
368 Bastwick Ludwic Green
369 Julia Ann Green
370 Merton Erastus Green
371 Lillian Isabel Green
372 Effie Mabel Whitaker
373 Wendell James Hayden
374 Mrs. Ruby Diadery Burrows
375 Jessie Jane Russin
376 Emma May Brow-Haylette
377 Perley Arthur Russin
378 Ella Lorida Melendy-Alexander
379 Luna Elva Gleason
380 Lillian May Cross
381 Ethel Blakey-Colegrove
382 Henry Chas. Ayer
383 Florence MacGibbon-Mead
384 Mrs. Nellie Marion Blaisdell
385 Iva Odessa Gleason

1906

386 Rev. Charles Atwood
387 Mrs. Julia C. Atwood
388 Carroll E. Atwood

1907

389 Reuben Dickinson
390 Delilah Dickinson
391 Mrs. Rennie O. Chase-Bates
392 George H. Prior

1908

393 Charles E. Scribner
394 Ursula A. Scribner
395 Reuben Lee Howe
396 Nina Hurlburt Howe

1910

397 F. Albin Rowlands
398 Mrs. F. Albin Rowlands
1911
399 Miss Gladys Small-Ellis

1913

400 Mrs. Ethel Yalusha-Hawley
401 Mrs. Clara Brown-Nay
402 Mrs. Martha Rich-Irish
403 Iona Viola Irish-Tomlinson
404 Harriet Dimick Chase
405 Elbridge G. Nealy
406 Jennie Booth Small-Nealy

1914

407 Myrthe L. McGinnis
408 Seth Thomas Bruce
409 Irene Amanda Bruce
410 Mrs. Wilbur- Lincoln
411 Maud Esther Blaisdell-Dimick
412 Wesley Gile Ayer
413 Buel Gurney Irish
414 Luna Belle Irish-Hobart
415 Mrs. John Cushing
416 Dr. D. L. Burnette
417 Wm. B. Cady
418 Mrs. Flora M. Cady
419 Miss Eva S. Cady-Metcalf
420 Mr. Lynn D. Moulton
421 Mrs. Lynn D. Moulton
422 Carl D. Moulton
423 Estella Moulton-Jackson
424 Emma Moulton-Rice

1915

425 Alma Hope Scribner- Chapman
426 Eva Maude Terrill-Woodruff
427 Mr. H. L. Murdock
428 Mrs. H. L. Murdock

1917

429 Mr. Henry Ayer
430 Mrs. Agnes Rice
431 Mrs. Lois Rogers
432 Ralph Corliss
433 Miss Doris Hawley
434 Miss Ethel Nealy-Walbridge
435 Ralph Nealy
436 Miss Doris Small Gile

1922

437 Miss Edna Bartlett-McGibbon
438 Miss Grace E. Foster
439 Mrs. Anna L. Mead
440 Miss Helen Nealy-Selby
441 Miss Glayds Porter-Rogers
442 Miss Marian Rice
443 Miss Genevieve Scribner

1923

444 Charles Chapman
445 Mrs. Leora Kirby
446 Charles Mason
447 Mrs. Irene Mason
448 Mrs. Effie Reynolds
449 Delbert Rice
450 Mrs. Fanny Spaulding
451 Mrs. Clara Bartlett
452 Earl Bartlett
453 Mrs. Elnor Clark
454 Elwood Clark
455 Mrs. Lillian M. Cross
456 Kenneth MacGibbon
467 Harold Pollard
458 Mrs. Elizabeth Parker
582 Parker H. Rice

1925

459 Miss Irma Burns-Pettit
460 Miss Jennie Chandler- Schellenger
461 Henry Howe

1926

462 Mrs. Ella Parker
463 Mrs. Emma Cook-Bailey
464 Clifford Pettit

1929

465 Mrs. Lizzie Burns
466 Chauncey Burns
467 Frank E. Simpson
467 Frank E. Simpson
468 Mildred Simpson
469 William Beebe
470 Mrs. William Beebe

1933

471 Mrs. Ada Boyce
472 Joel Boyce
473 Mrs. Mae Kirby
474 Archie T. Kirby
475 Clifford Kirby
476 Eugene Metcalf
477 Miss Addie Nichols-Burbank
478 Mrs. Lois MacGibbon
479 Donald MacGibbon
480 Miss Inez Skinner
481 Mrs. A. E. Skinner
482 A. E. Skinner

1935

483 Mrs. Ella Tillison

1936

484 Miss Gwendolyn White- Frayer
485 Miss Rosemary Brewster
486 Mrs. Mary B. Rounds

1937

487 Mrs. Jennie Harvey
488 Mrs. Angenette Winchell
489 Miss Ruth Alice Haylett
490 Miss Hellen B. Kirby Kinney
491 Miss Genevieve Alice King
492 Miss Marian Ethel Mead-Fay
493 Miss Mary Elizabeth Mead-Anderson
494 Miss Kathleen Agnes White
495 Robert Thomas King
496 Allen Robert Metcalf
497 Fred Paine
498 Richard Simpson

1939

499 Mrs. Betsy Boardman
500 Howard Boardman
501 Mrs. Virginia Gagnon
502 John Gagnon
503 Donald Boardman

1940

504 Mrs. Lois B. Davis
505 Watson Rogers
506 Mrs. Watson Rogers

1941

507 Mrs. Laura Warner

1943

508 Mrs. Emma Kinney
509 Mrs. Gladys Markle

1944

510 Walter Godfrey
511 Mrs. Shirley Ingalls Godfrey- Morrill
512 Mrs. Aretta Wrisley
513 Orville Wrisley
514 Mrs. Edna Pollard
515 Wayne Pollard
516 Bernard Simpson
517 Mrs. Nettie Jackson

1945

518 Mrs. Emma Hurlburt
519 Mr. George Hurlburt
520 Mrs. Muriel Davis Gover
521 Mr. Alanson Foster Gover
522 Mrs. Clarinda Viola Irish
523 Mr. Hugh Elmer Irish
524 Mrs. Mabel Lottie Irish
525 Mrs. Wilma Blanche Clark
526 Mrs. Jessie Pearl Bartlett
527 Mrs. Ida Pearl Irish
528 Mr. Harold Edwin Irish
529 Mrs. Bessie Metcalf
530 Miss Mary Neilene Metcalf Severence
531 Lawrence Allen Wright

1946

532 Mrs. Elizabeth Reed-Howard
533 Montague Howard Jr.
534 Mrs. Harriet Duffy
535 George Duffy
536 Miss Marian Kelley Haylette
537 Herbert Haylette
538 Mrs. Louise McClellan
539 Carl McClellan
540 Mrs. Clara Marie Walker
541 Christian Ludwig Walker
542 Miss June Ward Thomas
543 Ray Edward Gleason

1947

544 Mrs. Nelda Arnold
545 Russell Arnold
546 Mrs. Nellie Blaisdell
547 Mrs. Elnor Boardman
548 Gilman Boardman
549 Mrs. Dorothy Comstock
550 Sherman T. Comstock
551 Miss Ann Comstock
552 Benjamin Marble
553 Mrs. Martha Konz-Russell
554 Mrs. Edna Warner
555 Mrs. Bertha A. Gleason
556 Miss Rena Gleason

1949

557 Mrs. W.T. Mead [Aurill-MacGibbon]
558 Mrs. Vivien Shattuck-Wright
559 Mrs. Ruth Burgess
560 Lawrence Burgess

1950

561 Mrs. Olive E. Wright
562 Daniel H. Wright
563 Richard Wisley
564 Donald Howard
565 Mrs. Grace MacGibbon

1952

566 Henry W. Burbank
567 Lloyd A. Woodward
568 Mrs. Etta S. Woodward
570 Raymond Ricker
571 Mrs. Ruth Ricker
572 Donald Ricker
573 Stephen Howard Eddy
574 Mrs. June Frances Eddy
575 Roger Burr Gleason
576 Mrs. Mara M. Jackson
577 Herbert Fay
578 William Norman Mead
579 Mrs. Georgia Ruth Mead
580 Clinton Alva Davis
581 Irving Albert Bartlett
582 see listing for 1923

1953

583 Mrs. E.G. Robinson
584 Donald J. Balch
585 Mrs. Mary Balch
586 Betsey Jean Bartlett_Drinkwine
587 Richard Parker Irish
588 Mancy Elizabeth Irish-Hemenway
589 Judith Elsa Irish
590 Mrs. Dorothy Davis

1954

591 Mrs. Patricia Stromme
592 Christian Ludwig Walker Jr.
593 Craig Gail Walker

1956

594 Arthur Bartlett
595 Ann Howard
596 Irene Keith

1958

597 Randall Clark
598 Calvin Walker
599 Diane Irish
600 Robert O. Curtis
601 Mrs. Robert [Helen] Curtis
602 Donald Drinkwine
603 Seth Mead

1959

604 Jack Howard
605 Mrs. Melvin [Joanne] Bordeaux
606 Donald Steele
607 Mrs. Donald [Mauna] Steele

1960

608 Edgar H. Day
609 Mrs. Edgar [Elva] Day
610 Susanne Marie Jeler Yorkville
611 Sharon Ann Haylette Bourne

1961

612 Mrs. Vivian Wright
613 Mrs. Ann C. Howard
614 L. Robert Jeter
615 Esther Jeter
616 Robert Jeter Yorkville

1962

617 Clinton Marshall Russell Jr.
618 Brenda Balch Charron
619 Brian Balch
620 Gary Irish
621 William Jeter

1963

622 Mr. Harold Moss
623 Mrs. Harold [Margaret] Moss
624 James W. Moss
625 Helen Elizabeth Moss
626 Margaret Ann Moss
627 Marilyn Lee Moss Powell
628 Gary Spaulding Towne
629 David Anglin

1964

630 Mr. Theodore Hinkley
631 Mrs. Theodore Hinkley
632 Norma Corliss
633 James Corliss

1966

634 Gerald Aldrich
635 Sally Aldrich
636 Judy David
637 Susan Howard Hooper
638 Carrie Towne

1968

639 Mr. Edwin T. Moore
640 Mrs. Elizabeth Moore
641 Mr. Edwin T. Moore III
642 John Moore
643 Wayne O. Bourne

1969

644 Mr. Robert Ling
645 Mrs. Robert Ling
646 Susan Durbrow Abair
647 Mrs. Howard [Eleanor] Wilson
648 Mr. Howard Wilson
649 Mr. Merle Canedy
650 Mrs. Merle Canedy
651 Deborah Mead Ehman
652 Kathleen Mead
653 Roger McLaughlin
654 Edith Rawson McLaughlin

1970

655 George Bradbee
656 Adell Bradbee
657 Mary Ann Worden
658 John Kimball Worden
659 Ludwig Pulaski
660 Doris Pulaski
661 Thomas Woodard Jr.
662 Janice Woodard
663 Thomas Woodard
664 Robin Woodard Hee
665 Carol Haight

1971

666 Mrs. Elizabeth Wood
667 Susan Wood Venus
668 Mrs. Lillian Ward
669 Mr. Edward Ward
670 Mr. Robert New

1973

671 Mrs. Harriet Murray
672 Mr. Lee Murray
673 Mrs. Judy Crocker
674 Rev. Richard Crocker

1974

675 David Ford
676 Nancy Rod
677 Ann Mallory Lopes Brown
678 Deborah Moore
679 Robert Allen Greenia
680 Beverly Greenia
681 Kim Cota
682 Kathy Kelley Moore
683 Ellen Kelley Billado
684 Mr. B. Dave Kelley
685 Mrs. Irene Kelley
686 Mr. George M. Abbott
687 Mrs. Jan Gould
688 Mr. Charles Erickson
689 Mrs. Paulette Erickson

1975

690 Mr. Alan Roy Johnson
691 Mrs. Margaret V. Johnson
692 Mr. Harvey Bagshaw
693 Mrs. Connie Bagshaw
694 Mr. Roland Burroughs
695 Mrs. Rachel Burroughs
696 Miss Robin Burroughs Simard
697 Mr. Donald Canedy
698 Mrs. Gail Canedy
699 Mr. John Andrews
700 Mrs. Jane Andrews
701 Mr. David E. Cedarfield
702 Mrs. Barbara S. Cedarfield
703 Mr. John French
704 Mrs. Christine French

1976

705 Mr. Roger Clark
706 Mrs. Barbara S. Clark
707 Mr. Thomas Hitchcock
708 Mrs. June Hitchcock
709 Mr. Jonathan Stevens
710 Mrs. Margaret Stevens
711 Miss Nancy Eileen Bradbee
712 Miss Carolyn Dow Woodard
713 Mrs. Fay Abbott

1977

714 Dean Powell
715 Mr. Lewis Buchspics
716 Mrs. Grace Buchspics

1978

717 Mr. Gerry Ackley
718 Mrs. Gerry Ackley
719 Coleen Kelley Mjaatvedt
720 Ross Andrews
721 James Nassau
722 Lois Nassau
723 Ralph B. Sargent
724 Barbara Sargent
725 Reginald B. Anair
726 Edna Anair

1980

727 Hugh Pierce
728 Patricia Pierce
1981
729 David Damkot
730 Sharon Damkot
731 Tom Worden
732 Cindy Ballas
733 David Haight
734 Jennifer Bergersen
735 Carol Dearstyne
736 Allen Simard
737 Judy Thompson Scrodin

1982

738 Ethel J. Alexander
739 Willard E. Alexander
740 Muriel Johnson
741 Jason J. Nassau II
742 Laura Nassau
743 David A. O'Bryan
744 Kevin Anair
745 Kenneth D. Ballas
746 Charles Erickson
747 Michael D. Greenia
748 Mary Fell
749 Howard Herr
750 MaryLou Herr

1983

751 Susan Andrews Boardman
752 Carolyn Clark
753 Adrienne Dearstyne
754 Carl Erickson
755 Laurie Worden Fielder
756 Paul Blodgett
757 Kathryn Blodgett
758 Linda Evans
759 Dan Manz
760 Liz Manz
761 Roxanne B. Niles

1984

762 Ruth Haylette
763 Helen Thornton
764 Kevin Cummings
765 Marlene Cummings
766 Peter Pease
767 Barbara Pease

1985

768 Anne Grove Spaulding
769 Dennis Dale Spaulding

1986

770 Suzanne Kusserow
771 Evan Edward Andrews
772 Stephen James Clark
773 Jeffrey Stuart Clark
774 Keith Alan Johnson
775 Erica Avery Dearstyne

1987

776 Michael Henry
777 Deborah Henry
778 Dana Swenson
779 Cheryl Swenson
780 Sally Hobart
781 Winfield Tandy
782 Carolyn Tandy
783 Roberta Courtney
784 Pat Richmond

1988

785 David Edson
786 Harvey Mayo
787 Scott Allen Clark
788 Hugh Denis Francis Pierce
789 Barbara Blokland
790 Bruce Blokland
791 John Fiegel
792 Linda Fiegel

1989

793 John French IV
794 Gloria French
795 Deanna Fiegel
796 Katherine Fiegel
797 Peter Houle

1991

798 Robert W. Earley
799 Arlene W. Earley
800 Margaret A. DeVolt
801 Katherine Amy Richmond Boomhower

1992

802 Phyllis Eldred
803 Bradley James Eldred
804 Gail Richardson
805 Mike Audet
806 Liz Audet
807 Alison Dombroski

1993

808 Michael Audet Jr.
809 Ellen Worden
810 Gia Amorese
811 David Iverson
812 Barbara Iverson

1994

813 Andrea Greeley
814 Brian Greeley
815 Ellen Stiefel
816 Brian Stiefel
817 Dianne Sisson

1995

818 Susan O. Audet
819 Andrea Renee' Courtney
820 Sarah Elizabeth Manz
821 Helen Beardsley Niles
822 Jonathan Edward Simard
823 Jessica Lynn Swenson

1996

824 Howard Scott
825 Karin Scott

1997

826 Audrey Anderson
827 Rev. Alden Launer

1998

828 Dale Billado
829 David Potter
830 Bonnie Potter
831 Violet Hobart

1999

832 Robin Burroughs Simard
833 Rev. Arnold Thomas
834 Kimberly Keszey
835 David Manz

2000

836 James Nickerson
837 Julianne Nickerson
838 David Keszey
839 Carol Keszey

APPENDIX 4: LIST OF METHODIST MEMBERS

The following is a roll of the members of the Methodist Church in Underhill, by year, to the extent that church records exist. Thanks to Pat Richmond for compiling this list.

From previous records

Joseph H. Metcalf
Lucy Rawson
Carrie Kinney Metcalf
Edwin T. Irish

1905

Alice M. Kirby King

1911

Orrilla Rawson

1914

Agnes Gurley
Luella Drinkwine Gallup
Helen Jock

1917

Julia Metcalf

1920

Harold Woodworth
Cassius Woodworth

1923

Wallace Dickenson
Leighton H. Keith
Grace Keith
Solon Rawson, Jr.
Burnett Rawson
Robert Ward

1927

Kenneth Keith
Robert Keith

1928

Marjorie King Lindner

1932

Hazel Wetherbee
Ethelyn Foster

1935

Dorothy Woodworth
Norma Woodworth Cutting

1941

Dorothy Duffy Burno
Kent Rawson
Cedric Wetherbee
Merwyn Wetherbee

1942

John Atchinson
Hattie Atchinson

1943

Henry Cook
Grace Cook
Alton Chamberlin
Olive Chamberlin Nolan
Charles Garrapy
Ruth Garrapy
Arthur Haselton
Grace Haselton
Ruth Green
Lena Jock
Christine Lyons Blade
Lillian Rawson
Roy Sturtevant

1945

John Woolley
Ramona Woolley
John Everett Woolley, Jr.
Jean Mae Woolley Fonda
Perry J. Kinsley
Olive Kinsley
Perry J. Kinsley, Jr.
Kathleen Lamphere
Dulcie Culver
Jessie Luck
Dora Richards
Albert Steinhour
Glenn Towle
Sheila Towle
Daisy Lumbard

1946

Robert Dickenson
Harold Austin
Nellie Austin
Roy Kelley
Della Anna Kelley
Helen Kelley Kinsley
Douglas Kelley
Robert Kelley
Mildred Metcalf Sturtevant
Harry Kinsley

1947

William Wetherbee
Milton Priest
Waldo Cutting
Richard Cutting
Ethel Alexander
Martha Hubbard
Edna Salter Monroe
Mrs. Maurice Niles
Vernie Sturtevant
Grace Seymour
Mabel Priest

1950

Gerald Chamberlin
Betty Garrapy Workman
Charles Garrapy, Jr.

1953

Myrtle Casey
Leona Foster
Craig Foster
Raymond Haselton
William Haselton
Arlene Haselton Degree
Douglas Keith
Winston Rawson
Jane Rawson
Leslie Warner
Evelyn Woolley Drinkwine

1956

Marilyn Keith Rivero
Janice Seymour Greene
Beverly Wrisley Boutin

1958

Janice Wrisley Robinson
Mary Lee Woolley Seymour

1959

Barbara Farr
Kay Farr
Murray Farr
Eunice Tatro
William Cook
Joyce Rawson Bates

1960

Leroy Keith
Lawrence P. Cook
Earl Osgood
Lorraine Osgood

1962

Robert Bagdy
Mrs. Robert Bagdy
Patricia Smith
Freda E. Powers

1966

David P. Rawson
Emilia Shattuck
E. L. Shattuck

1967

Nancy Hill
Clifford Hill, Jr.
Merlene McLaughlin

1968

Carol Warren
Mary Kelley

1969

Erma B. Pettit Sage
Emily Mitchell
Kenneth Mitchell
Elaine Mitchell Aranda
Kenneth Mitchell, Jr.
Martha Skinner
Odell Skinner
Marie Skinner
Brenda Skinner
Joyce Mitchell Blaisdell
Grant Mitchell
Mary Sturtevant Armstrong
Peter Mitchell
Susan Whitcomb

1970

Harold Sargent
Evelyn Sargent
Brian Sargent
William Janicki
Eleanor Janicki

1971

Nancy Craig Whitaker
Brenda Kelley St. Amour

1973

Chester Willey
Arlene Willey
David Willey
Alan Morse
Bonita Morse

1974

Deborah Ann Mitchell
Linette Mitchell Bushey
Charles Streator
Barbara Streator
Rondi Streator
Nancy Willey Miller
Margita Grenfell

1975

Walter Higgins
Elizabeth Higgins
Rebecca F. Canedy
Dave Richardson
Cheryl Richardson

1976

Harry Kinsley
Corrine Kinsley
Thomas St. Amour
Dave Ward
Alice Ward
Virginia W. Perkins

1977

William Douglass
Marjorie Douglass

1978

Harriet Rooney
Stacey Streator
Gloria Keith

1979

Craig Knight
Liz Knight Perrotte
Alan Rogers
Betty Rogers

1980

Anthony Dally
Betsy Dally

1981

Ellie Rice Emerson
Alison Ward
Scott Richardson
Marion Walker

1982

Alison Dombroski
Jeffrey Lamphere
Brenda Lamphere
Michael Streator
Eileen Burnor

1983

Marcia Reese
Blythe Sargent O'Brien
Richard Evans
Nancy Leavy

1984

Robert Knapp
Iona Knapp
James Morris
Stephanie Morris
Marilyn Filak

1985

Nancy Bell Roskam
Dorothy Blodgett

1986

John Logan
Ann Logan
Denise Logan
Jodi Burnor
Melvin Litchfield
Cathryn Litchfield
Roger Miller
Penny Irish

1987

Robert Strang

1988

Jeffrey Alan Rogers

1989

John Fowler
Deborah Fowler
Peggy Dorta
Alynn G. Klaasen

1991

Shawn Willis
Constance Murphy

1992

Devena Fifield
Kathy Williamson
David Williamson
Dale Chamberlin
Brett Norman
Irene Kelley
Lisa Norman
Sallie Provost
Dana Basiliere

1993

Alice Barber
Charles Godfrey
Mary Jane Neale
Gia Amorese
Virginia O'Brien Denham

1994

Cynthia Bruner

1996

Robin Burroughs Simard
Allen Simard

1997

Dave Kelley

1998

Sally Yankee
Beth Racine
Jim Haley
Joan Haley

1999

Mark Stephenson
Mary Stephenson
Lisa Filak
Elizabeth Moore
Patricia Richmond

2000

Elaine Cooper
Jones Deady
Laura Norris
Dale Billado
Ellen Billado

2001

Jennifer Basiliere
Benjamin Courtney
Matthew Manz
David Stephenson
Curtis Belton
Susan Belton
David Edson
Lamphere
Dulcie Culver
Jessie Luck
Dora Richards
Albert Steinhour
Glenn Towle
Sheila Towle
Daisy Lumbard