

March Trivia:

Week 1

A description of the new church was given in an article in the Decatur Daily Democrat on September 30, 1964. It read as follows:

“The main entrance of the new structure will face south on Monroe Street. The entrance will be sheltered by a colonial type porch featuring tall pillars in Early American Architecture. The building will be parallel with Sixth Street and attached to the west end of the chapel and the educational unit on the east side. The sanctuary will have a seating capacity for about 450 people. A balcony will be constructed, but will not be finished at this time. In the full basement under the sanctuary will be a large fellowship hall with a stage and space for a modern kitchen.”

Week 2

Louise Haubold Dailey, was authorized to order an organ for the new sanctuary. It was a Moeller organ made especially for the new building at that company's Maryland plant. There was great anticipation for the new organ, as the old organ had produced so many problems. An organ recital given by John W. Obetz, professor of organ at Albion College, dedicated the new organ on May 22, 1966. The money for the organ was given by Mrs. H. Stoner and her husband and the organ was referred to as “the Niblick Memorial Organ”, as Mr. and Mrs. John Niblick were the parents of Mrs. Stoner.

Week 3

At a committee meeting on February 12, 1964, it was decided that the old steeple would be removed from the 1881 church because much slate had fallen off and it was no longer safe. The bell was to remain where it was until the new sanctuary was built and then it would be moved and later used in the tower of the new sanctuary.

Week 4

The United Methodist Women, which started as the Ladies Mite Society in 1852, has changed names many times over the years. But the purpose has remained the same, “to promote the social activities of the church and to cooperate in raising means to maintain the church.” Their efforts over the years have involved fairs, bazaars, festivals, dinners, rummage sales, personal money pledges, selling goods, self-denial gifts, thank offerings, soup sales, etc. One especially well known activity was the New England Dinner, a carry-over of the earlier church family Thanksgiving Dinner