

A BRIEF HISTORY

OF

THE LAKESIDE CAMP OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, INC.  
KANSAS WEST CONFERENCE

300 E. Scott Lake Drive  
Scott City, Kansas 67871

by

Mrs. Merle (Lelah) Rosel

April 5, 1978

Additions from 1978 to 1997 by H. Lee Walz  
Later additions by Lakeside Staff

## LAKESIDE HISTORY

### PROLOGUE

Writing this brief review has been a labor of love--wearying at times, sometimes amusing--even a bit of pride because I had a small part in the development of a fine institution. There are happy memories of treasured friends, gratitude for the privilege of service, and for the learning experience in working with many great people through the 27 years of my service as secretary of the board.

Entwined with the roses of memory are sprays of cypress--so many of the builders and loyal supporters of Camp Lakeside have answered the call of the silver trumpets so walk with us no more.

Allow me to indulge in a bit of fantasy--I hope there are projects in the Great Beyond that L. C. Baker can work on and say "Hmmm--mm! Mrs. Baker and I will pay for that". "Jake" Selfridge can button-hold someone on the golden street and say "Hey! What are you doing today? Let's go work on the chapel". Where Harold Lewis can have clients who have a concern for young people and he can suggest ways they can serve youth.

Many, many others deserve to be mentioned--I cannot possibly list them all. But, please consider this bit of history as an expression of gratitude from many people to everyone who has ever contributed to Lakeside in any way.

Mrs. Merle (Lelah) Rosel

## CHAIRMAN OF THE CAMP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Elected:

November 10, 1945            Rev. J. S. Ploughe

May 27, 1947                Dr. J. Russell Throckmorton

In 1949, a Board of Trustees was set up by the conference. Dr. Throckmorton served as the first president of the board. Other presidents include:

Nov. 29, 1950            Dr. Nelson S. Gardner

Dec. 4, 1951              Dr. LeRoy F. Arend

Jan. 20, 1955            Rev. E. W. McNeil

Nov. 15, 1957            Rev. Milton Holcomb

June 27, 1958            Rev. Harold Lambert

Nov. 10, 1961            Rev. Richard Bowersox

June 24, 1963            Rev. F.A. O'Kelley

June 16, 1966            Rev. Leonard Fishel

Sept. 19, 1968           Mr. A. J. Selfridge

Oct. 16, 1972            Mr. Harold Lewis

April 26, 1976            Rev. Orson Evans

Oct. 8, 1980              Mr. Max Moomaw

Mar 31, 1982            Rev. Jim Little

Nov. 2, 1989             Mr. Moran Tomson

Nov. 8, 1990            Rev. Thomas Schneider

Feb. 9, 1995             Rev. Charles Winkler

October 24, 1996        Rev. Glenn Fogo

March 5, 2002            Mrs. Kay Schmitt

## THE BEGINNING

For many years, a number of people cherished a dream of a church camp in our own conference. Small groups of youngsters went to Colorado or other of our state camps. This was expensive and time consuming. The more important consideration was that too few of our Methodist youth had the privilege of a church camp experience.

The members and friends of the Scott City United Methodist Church under the leadership of Rev. Bethel Cook, did more than dream. They began to work. In 1944, they raised \$1,200.00 and bought 14 lots from Kathryn Costello. These were located in what is known as the Broadview Cabin Sites, bordering the Scott County State Park. Fifteen more lots in that area were given to the camp project. Dr. H. Preston Palmer gave eight lots, S. W. Filson gave two, G. O. Coker gave four. In 1947, A.T. Menhusen gave one lot. All except the Menhusen lot were held by the Scott City church until an organization was set up to develop a camp.

The Annual Conference session of the Central Kansas Conference in 1945, authorized a "Camp Development Committee". Membership of the committee as set up by the conference:

Board of Education:	Rev. Joe Ploughe Rev. W. E. Shuler
Board of Lay Activities:	L. C. Baker John Engelhardt
Women's Society of Christian Service:	Mrs. Joe T. Rogers Mrs. Merle Rosel
The Cabinet:	Dr. J. Russell Throckmorton Dr. Nelson S. Gardner
Committee of Evangelism:	Rev. Raymond Knowles Mr. Clyde Painter
The Local Community:	Rev. Burton Lovelady Mr. Earl Van Antwerp
Ex-Officio:	Dr. Cautious A. Choate, Ex. Sec. Of Conference, Rev. Alvin Murray

Later two members from the Board of Evangelism were added:  
Rev. Raymond Knowles  
Rev. B. L. Brooks

The first meeting of the Camp Development Committee was held Nov. 16, 1945, in the Methodist Church in Scott City. Officers were elected.

Chairman:	Rev. Joe S. Ploughe
Vice Chairman:	Rev. L. C. Baker
Secretary:	Mrs. Merle Rosel
Treasurer:	Rev. Burton Lovelady

The Committee was charged with the responsibility of investigating and developing a camp. The Committee officially accepted the Camp Bethel site offered by the Scott City Church. Tests were ordered to determine if an adequate supply of water was available. Tentative plans for buildings, location, and size were begun by the Committee.

The Committee met again April 14, 1946. Report on the water supply was that the amount of water available was insufficient for a camp. The Scott City people were

aware of the results of the tests, had secured the present site by trading the first site for it. The first site was about one mile south of the present site, north of the buffalo pens and east of the road which circles the lake. This action was accepted by the committee and tests for water were ordered on the new site. A sufficient supply was located by test holes drilled by Mr. George Weishaar, a well driller from Scott City. He donated his services on both sites.

Then the real struggle began. Dreams had to be translated into actuality, visions had to be changed into wood, concrete, metal and glass forms, and building began to be a reality. By October of 1947, investigations were being made of army surplus materials which might be available. This included blankets, pillows, to plumbing and refrigeration supplies, lumber to beds. Many building supplies were unavailable through the usual retail channels at that time.

In December of 1947, the purchase of the first building was authorized, a quonset hut for storage. There were beds, and numerous other articles from army surplus and we had no place to store them. In the meantime, Mr. H. C. Franklin of Liberal had made a drawing of landscape plans for the grounds, locating buildings, roads, etc. This design with some changes and additions was followed in the development of the site.

A Miss Brown, Camp Consultant from the General Board of Education, met with the committee at this December meeting. Her suggestions were helpful. However, this committee of independent thinkers and more or less free wheeling Kansans, took many of the suggestions with more than the proverbial grain of salt!

A cost estimate was made and published in an attractive brochure which was distributed over the conference. The estimate was \$75,264.55. This was to build and furnish a camp for 150 people. Included were many things: swimming pool to chapel, mirrors to 500 trees, cabins to a light plant, infirmary with three rooms to plumbing, kitchen equipment to an adding machine!

In April of 1948, a contract was signed with architects Buck Lewis from Emporia to design and supervise a building to a limited extent. Meanwhile, Mr. Notestine, a Scott City man who was experienced in working with steel, had been hired to put up the buildings. Some two or three years before this a cyclone had hit a youth camp in the south central part of the state; buildings were destroyed and youth injured. The committee decided on a trans-steel-concrete type of construction for camp buildings, hoping for better protection for people who came to the camp. Therefore, we needed this man who had experience in this type of building. Two bath houses, and the owners house were under construction in addition to water and electrical facilities. A water storage tank with a capacity of 8,200 gallons was being erected.

June, 1948: \$13,000.00 had been raised for camp construction. Most of this came from the Dodge City and Colby (now Hays) districts. The treasurer had \$258.00 after paying for the building materials. A bill for \$767.00 for lumber was not paid. About \$20,000 of additional material was contracted for.

Talk about faith--this committee had more of that commodity than anything else right then! The situation was discouraging and there was considerable discussion of what should be done next. Rev. Ross Thornton moved "to continue work on the project--it would be a tragedy to stop". Motion seconded and carried. This faith was justified--by July of 1948 the two districts had given \$25,643.58. Late in July of 1948, the Executive Committee met to consider stopping construction. Mrs. Rosel brought \$700.00 to the

meeting which Merle Rosel had solicited from members of the Lakin church.. This was enough to meet the payroll for the proceeding week so it was decided to continue with building.

Rev. Lloyd Kellams resigned from the committee about this time. He had driven hundreds of miles, scouting for construction materials at reasonable prices. He gave great service to the camp and saved the camp thousands of dollars in cost of materials also in locating items that were scarce and hard to find. Mr. Don Von Schritlz of Healy replaced Rev. Kellams on the committee as head of Plans, Materials and Construction. Mr. Von Schritlz served in this position until March of 1949 when he resigned and Mr. Earl Van Antwerp was chosen to fill this position.

About this time it was decided to choose a name for the camp. It had been tentatively called "Camp Bethel Cook", honoring a former pastor of the Scott City church who had been an active dreamer and promoter of the project. The matter was referred to a committee.

In May of 1949, the first caretaker, Eugene Woolverton, was hired. Salary was \$50.00 per week. He was to have lodging furnished him and eat in the dining room when camps were in session. A cook and other personnel were hired. Rev. Vern Livengood had been appointed to the Scott City church and was an invaluable addition to the camp committee. He was very active and helpful in planning, scheduling, and managing first camps. His tireless efforts, long hours of work, expertise and dedication to the camping program were responsible for getting the camp off to a good start.

By July 13, 1949, four camps had been held. These were judged successful and that the facilities were workable even though a number of things were still lacking. Rev. Arlon Ebright made a set of slides of the camp. It was voted to have several sets made for the use in promoting the camp in local churches.

Dr. J. Russell Throckmorton, superintendent of the Dodge City district, filed a report with the secretary which dated July 13, 1949, showing that the Dodge City district had given \$31,419.72 to the camp.

The Camp Development Committee met November, 1949. The camp still owed \$15,355.42. Cash on hand was \$553.87. This first season had been successful even though the construction was not complete. The Annual Conference held earlier in the fall created the Board of Trustees to replace the Camp Development Committee. Membership of this board as follows

- Conference Executive Secretary
- Superintendent of the Colby (now Hays) District
- Superintendent of the Dodge City District
- Three ministers from each of the two districts
- Three laymen from each of the two districts
- Lay Leader of each district
- Women's Society of Christian Service President of each district
- Three laymen from Scott City
- Pastor of the Scott City church, making a board of 23 members.

At this meeting, Rev. Livengood moved that "this corporation be named The Lakeside Camp of the Methodist Church". Seconded by Rev. Howard Smothers and the motion

carried. It was agreed that a building at the camp be named for Rev. Bethel Cook in acknowledgment of his great contribution to the beginning of the camp. Another action of the board was to authorize the borrowing of money from the First National Bank in Scott City to meet bills owed on camp construction and to reimburse people who had advanced money on the construction.

The Board of Trustees of the Lakeside Camp of the Methodist Church met March 23, 1950. The corporation charter from the state was presented. Mr. Rudolph Barth, attorney, Salina, had done the necessary legal work to obtain the charter. This was signed by members of the board so the board's legal status was established. At the November meeting of the board, the seal and completed charter were presented to the board. Mr. Selfridge presented a new pick-up truck to camp. Mr. Baker paid a year's insurance on it. A by-laws committee was appointed: Rev. E.W. McNeil, Rev. Arlon Ebright, and Rev. Gardner. A telephone was finally installed in 1950 after lines had been extended in the area.

Several accomplishments were reported at the September 1951 meeting. 2,500 camper days were reported. The bank note was reduced to \$8,500.00. The Camp Management Committee was instructed to meet the specifications required for installation of R.E.A. (Rural Electrification Authority) at the camp. The trailer house was paid for. This had been purchased from W.W. Crownover of Oakley and used as a residence for the camp managers, Mr. and Mrs. Flowers. A very reasonable price had been made by Mr. Crownover. Rev. and Mrs. Flowers indicated willingness to continue as camp caretakers and managers, his health permitting. Rev. Flowers died a few weeks after this meeting. By December 1951, the camp was connected to the R. E. A. lines. This was a much needed and helpful improvement over the temperamental generating plants that had provided an uncertain source of electricity for the camp.

The note to the bank was further reduced to \$7,500.00. \$494.12 had been given to the camp as a memorial to Rev. Flowers.

At the August 1952 meeting, 1,093 campers for a total of 5,858 days were reported. Mr. Wetzel still did much work around the camp. By November of 1952, the kitchen had been remodeled, yard lights had been installed, 75 trees had been set out, roads outlined, some stone retaining walls built, and Rev. Walter Berg had erected a flag pole.

November 14, 1953, was a day for rejoicing. The treasurer, Mr. Baker, reported that the camp was free of debt with a balance of \$358.56 in the general fund!! Mr. Van Antwerp, treasurer of the operative fund, reported a balance of \$2,930.89. In October of 1954, Mr. and Mrs. Purl Harris of Bird City were hired as camp caretakers. The camp operative fund showed a balance of \$4,186.06. Some new equipment had been purchased such as a sweeper, 18 bunk beds, 48 mattresses, butane tank, and other items. The Work Days were continued in 1955 and were in May. The Marion Pearce Memorial Fund was reported--\$473.43. November of that year, blueprints for the chapel were being studied and discussed. The board voted to proceed with the building of the chapel. A year later a loan was authorized by the board for the completion of the chapel.

At the November 1957 meeting of the board, there was considerable discussion of a swimming pool. Tentative plans were presented. A committee was set up to study promotion, financing, and construction of a pool. The committee: Harold Lewis, Chairman F.A. O'Kelley, Lester Templin, Mrs. G.O. Humburg, and Richard Bowersox.

1,446 registered at the camp during the 1957 season.

February 14, 1958, the board made plans for work days again. A concrete slab 40 x 80 feet was planned for recreation. H. C. Franklin of Liberal, paid for evergreen trees to be planted in ravines, around the chapel, and other places as recommended by Gerald Gray, landscape architect of Ulysses, Kansas. The problem of water from the hill above the camp was discussed. Drainage from this land comes across the grounds of the camp and is a problem after heavy rains in particular. Diversion terraces were discussed and considered. Insurance on campers had always been of concern and insistence that camping groups carry adequate insurance was a camp policy. It was decided to carry a liability insurance that would cover groups not otherwise covered under present group plans.

In June of 1958, revised and updated by-laws were presented to the Board for consideration. The gift of the Carpenter Building in Scott City was announced. (See Bequests for details.)

At the March, 1959 meeting, the Board amended and accepted By-Laws. In April, at a called meeting, Board President, Rev. Harold Lambert, announced that a deal had been made with the Santa Fe Council of the Boy Scouts of America to purchase the 40 acre tract of land which lays to the east of the camp site, and the source of our drainage problem. This land was bought for \$700.00. Now the camp could handle the problem in its own way, have more area, and manage the drainage problem. Rev. Robert Fleenor reported that he could buy a used bus at Lakin for \$450.00. Camping groups had wanted a bus for use around the camp, and for sightseeing trips, etc. In March, Mr. Baker had offered to give \$500.00 toward the purchase of a bus. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wells, of Garden City, gave \$475.00 to buy two boats for use by campers. A resolution was passed to "Mortgage the Carpenter Building for money to build a caretaker's house."

The state fire marshal inspected the camp along in the summer, 1959. He insisted on a new stove for the kitchen and a realignment of gas lines in the building. Shingles were donated for the little rock house. Mr. and Mrs. Baker gave \$1,500.00 for camp repairs. Rev. Templin moved that the Board put \$500.00 into a savings account each year, the money to be available if and when there was some damage from storms or something similar to repair the damage. (This policy was continued for a number of years.)

In June of 1960, the treasurer reported that \$2,200.00 had been given over a period of time for a swimming pool. This money was in an interest bearing account at Security Savings and Loan Company in Garden City.

Excerpt from the minutes: "A letter was sent out stating that gifts of metal chairs and mattresses are needed for the camp. Net results to date: One 150 foot extension cord!!" In September, the men from Healy-Manning charge said they would replace the roof on the stone building. A committee was appointed to consider sale of the Carpenter Building. Members: Harold Lewis, L. C. Baker and W. W. Wells.

In October of 1960, members of the Executive Committee were advised by letter from Harold Lewis that Mrs. Sarah Ramsey had died shortly before and left a legacy to the camp. (See bequests for details.) There was a called meeting of the Executive Committee on the 24th to consider the disposal of some personal items in the home.

I have not gone into detail so much after the first twenty years. There has been some change in the emphasis of board responsibility from a building and development

program to one of maintenance and replacement, and care of investments with the thought of developing an endowment program. There is always need for up-keep, replacement, improvements, and care of facilities, all of which require much time and thought on the part of the trustees.

The camp program formats have changed over the years. This has made necessary some changes in equipment and provisions for their needs.

The trustees still face the problems of the day with dedication and careful consideration, and well thought out actions. So, surely the future of Lakeside Methodist Center is in good hands. Everyone who ever served on the board especially appreciated the good work of those who carry on what was so hopefully and prayerfully begun in 1947.

## CAMP ANGELS

Every successful project has some special people who give far above and beyond the call of duty. Lakeside had many such people it would be impossible to name every one. But, four men serve as examples of the devotion and giving of many people.

Mr. L. C. Baker of Scott City had served as director of a Methodist boy's camp at Camp Christy from the beginning of that program. He was vice chairman of the first Development Committee. He was elected treasurer of the Board of Trustees and served in that office until impaired health forced his retirement in 1972. Mr. and Mrs. Baker made many generous gifts to Lakeside ranging from a drinking fountain to a cabin. He gave countless hours to the business of Lakeside.

Mr. Earl Van Antwerp of Scott City also worked with Methodist boys at Camp Christy and was treasurer of that group for some time prior to 1944. He was a member of the Development Committee in 1945. He served as treasurer of the Lakeside Operative Fund beginning about 1950.

Mr. A. J. Selfridge of Dighton became a member of the Board in 1948. His service was outstanding in gifts of interest, advice, time and money. His vision of the future and of the need to build well for that future was invaluable.

These three men often loaned money to the camp to pay bills, to keep a building project going, and so on. None of them ever accepted a cent of interest on the loans to the camp. They co-signed notes at the First National Bank of Scott City when money was needed to complete a building or other project.

Mr. Harold Lewis, attorney in Scott City, gave many hours of time as well as gifts of money to the camp. He did considerable legal work for the camp, refusing any payment for his services. His whole hearted support of the camp and its program attracted people to the camp and encouraged people to contribute to its work through gifts and bequests.

The pastors of the Scott City church have given time and support to the camp along with the district superintendents of the Dodge City and Hays districts. This interest in the camp and participation in its activities have always been a great source of help and encouragement to the lay members of the board.

Quote from Rev. Robert Gordon, October 30, 1969: "I think the trustees of this camp have done a tremendous job. The camp would not have been in the present fine condition without the laymen on the Board. The ministerial membership has been fairly

constant. No institution is better than its trustees. This institution moves because of the people on its board."

## BEQUESTS

Camp Lakeside has been the recipient of several sizable bequests. Mr. Harold Lewis, an attorney and long time member of the Board of Trustees, was responsible for some of these. When people consulted him about wills, they frequently asked for suggestions concerning how and where to place gifts that would be helpful particularly to young people. At various times he included Lakeside in his suggestions. As a result, Lakeside benefited from generous bequests.

Lakeside was included in the will of William Carpenter of Scott City. He bequeathed the Carpenter Building located on the northwest corner of the intersection of highways 83 and 96 in Scott City to the camp. Mr. Carpenter had expressed his hope that this be used in a way that would benefit youth of the area. The building came to the camp exempt from estate and inheritance tax claims.

The building was kept for several years. Two business firms, the Firestone Store, and Zarings, a clothing store, occupied the lower floor. Some offices on the second floor were rented for a few years but the tenants moved to first floor offices as such places became available in the town. The building was sold for \$50,000.00 in 1964. The income from the building had helped build the camp managers house.

Mrs. Sarah E. Ramsey of Scott City died in 1960 and remembered Lakeside generously in her will: \$10,000.00 in cash, three quarters (480 acres) of land, stocks, bonds, etc. The house was a nice brick home across the street south and a bit east of the Scott City United Methodist Church. The house was sold and the other items disposed of. The land was sold in 1966. Mr. A. J. Selfridge of Dighton, member of the board, took charge of the land sale making all arrangements with Scott Auction of Garden City, to handle the sale. Scott Auction charged half their usual fee thus making a nice contribution to the camp. Net proceeds from the land sale: \$96,911.24. Part of this money was loaned to Wesley Towers at Hutchinson, Ks. \$40,000.00 as loaned for ten years and \$10,000.00 for 5 years, all at 6 1/2% interest. The board considered this a good beginning on an endowment for the camp.

Mrs. Mamie E. Schutte of Ness City willed a considerable portfolio of stocks and bonds to Camp Lakeside. A partial settlement of the estate was made in 1966. Included in the bequest was an interest in some land.

Excerpts from Mrs. Schutte's will: "It is my wish that appropriate action be taken to establish this bequest and devise as a memorial to my husband, A. H. Schutte".

A bronze plaque honoring Mr. and Mrs. Schutte was placed in the Central Building. Exact amount of the bequest was not filed in the minutes, but was probably in the neighborhood of \$40,000.00.

In later years, also giving sizable donations were Mr. & Mrs. Dorsey Elliott, Garden City, and Mrs. Thelma Miller, Scott City.

## LAND PURCHASE

A 40 acre tract of land to the east of the camp site had been given to the Santa Fe Trail Council of the Boy Scouts by a Scott City man. The Council had decided not to develop the tract as a camp ground and in 1958 offered the land to Lakeside for \$800.00. Water from this area drained across the camp ground and constituted quite a drainage nuisance.

After several offers, counter offers, and so on, the land was purchased for \$700.00. Mr. Baker prepared the abstract at a cost of \$100.00. Scott City people donated \$200.00 toward the purchase price. Rev. O'Kelley gave \$20.00. The camp paid the remaining \$380.00 and the land was ours, drainage problems and all!

When the state highway was built through Scott County State Park, about 4 acres of the camp's land was condemned for part of the roadway. In August of 1968, the camp was paid \$540.00 for the land they had taken for the highway.

The little stone house was the only building on the site when the land was obtained for camp use. It was subject of many discussions and some controversy, over the years. One group felt it should be completely destroyed. Another group thought it should be preserved so children and young people could see how people lived at an earlier date. At one time it was partially furnished with a wood-burning stove, kerosene lamps and other items of household use. Some older people were surprised that so many youth had no conception of earlier heating and lighting methods.

The first building was a Quonset hut bought late in 1947 to store building supplies, equipment and furnishings that were being purchased for later use in the camp.

During 1948 and 1949, the dining hall and kitchen, six cabins, two bath houses and a pump and light plant house were constructed. Also a water tower was put up.

In 1951, a mobile home was purchased from W. W. Crownover of Oakley for the camp manager's living quarters. Mr. Crownover sold the home at no cost to him. This savings was a big help to the camp.

The Flowers Memorial building was erected in 1952. This building was named to honor Rev. C. R. and Mrs. Rose Flowers, first full time camp managers.

The "L" cabin was built in 1953. A bell tower was constructed to hold the bell which the church at Stafford, Ks. had given the camp.

Carpenter Chapel was the next building project. This was dedicated June 16, 1957. (Details in another article)

Caretakers Home--At the meeting of the trustees in April 1959, Mr. Lewis announced that we could borrow \$12,000.00 on the Carpenter Building at 6% and use the money to build a suitable home for the camp manager. In June of 1959, the board voted to borrow the money and begin construction of a home, the executive committee to serve as the building committee for the new house. Final cost of the house was approximately \$21,000.00. It was built of Silverdale stone, matching the Chapel. When the trustees met June 2, 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Oliver, camp managers, hosted an open house for board members and their guests at the new house. The trustees were happy to have the comfortable home for our resident manager.

The swimming pool and new water system were constructed in 1962. Extensive remodeling on the kitchen and dining hall were done in 1963.

The Baker Cabin, the first winterized cabin, was built in 1964. Mr. and Mrs. Baker gave this cabin to the camp.

The Lodge (Central Building) was completed in 1965, and also the bath house at the swimming pool and a surfaced play area. The Lodge was also winterized. The generous bequests from the Carpenter, Ramsey and Schutte estates made much of this building possible year before it could have been done otherwise. Numerous gifts of money had come in over the preceding year which were designated for the swimming pool. So there were some funds on hand for that project before it was begun.

A service of dedication for the building and improvements at the camp was held in the chapel Aug. 1, 1965. The chapel was the only building that had been dedicated.

Rev. Elmer Rinkel, pastor at Scott City, and vice-chairman of the board, planned and prepared the attractive brochure which listed board members, committees, and a brief history of the camp in addition to the program and names of participants. Bishop W. McFerrin Stowe, Bishop of the Kansas area, gave the address. Other participants were members of the board. The service of dedication for the Camp Manager's dwelling, the swimming pool, and bath house, the water system, the Baker Cabin, and the Lodge was written by Rev. Rinkel. About 200 people attended the service. Refreshments were served in the dining hall after the service and open house was held for the entire camp

#### CARPENTER CHAPEL

At the meeting of the Board Jan. 20, 1955, this action was taken: "Rev. Keller moved that Rev. Arend, Rev. McNeil, and Mrs. Merle Rosel serve as a committee to contact an architect and consider plans for a chapel." At a called meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, Sept. 1955, the chairman of the board, Rev. McNeil, asked Mr. Earl Van Antwerp, to state the purpose of the meeting. Mr. Van Antwerp said Mr. and Mrs. William Carpenter of Scott City wanted to give \$6,000.00 for the erection of a chapel at Lakeside with the stipulation that it be named "Carpenter Chapel". On Sept. 14, Mr. Van Antwerp, Rev. McNeil, Mr. Harold Lewis, Rev. Ralph Jones, Rev. Sam Keller and Mrs. Merle Rosel met at the camp site with Mr. Ted Mason, architect from Wichita, to discuss plans for a chapel.

Mr. Mason, with some suggestions and encouragement from Mrs. Rosel, said he felt the chapel should be build on the slope facing the entrance to the grounds and that it be build of native stone laid in a random pattern with low walls, rather steep roof, a picture window facing toward the hill at the north. The general effect was to fit the chapel into the rustic effect of the camp site.

Rev. McNeil announced that he had obtained a gift of the stone from a quarry on the Briggs Ranch and he could get it hauled to the site by volunteer labor. Mr. Van Antwerp agreed to get sand hauled to the site. (A later decision was for Silverdale stone largely at Mr. Selfridge's insistence.)

Rev. Lyman Johnson moved that Rev. McNeil, Rev. Sam Keller, and Mr. Van Antwerp serve as a building committee.

This action of the Executive committee was approved at a meeting of the full board on Nov. 4, 1955. In due time work began on the actual building. A great deal of labor and materials were donated toward the construction of the building. One notable donation was by Mr. Milton Mollhagen of Scott City, an electrician and a Baptist layman, who wired the chapel as his donation to the project.

June 3, 1957, the Executive Committee met to make plans for consecration of the

chapel. We still owed \$3,000.00 on it. After some discussion, Mr. Baker very quietly said, "Mrs. Baker and I will pay the \$3,000.00 and we can dedicate the chapel". So plans proceeded for the dedication on June 16. Dr. J. Russell Throckmorton gave the address at the dedication. A brief history of the camp was given by Mrs. Rosel, secretary of the Board of Trustees. Special recognition was given to Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Baker and Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Selfridge.

Cost of the chapel was estimated at \$20,000.00. Numerous sizable gifts were given: \$11,000.00 by Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, \$3,000.00 by Mr. and Mrs. Baker, \$1,000.00 by Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hutchinson of Dighton. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Selfridge gave sizable cash gifts along with many gifts of building materials. Mr. Selfridge gave countless hours of labor on the building. The chancel furniture was paid for with money given by many friends for a memorial to Marion Pearce of Garden City, and life long resident of Southwestern Kansas. Many gifts of varying sizes came from individuals, Women's Society of Christian Service groups, Sunday School classes, youth groups, Methodist Men's groups, and business firms in the Dodge City and Hays districts of the Methodist Church, for furnishing the chapel, pews, light fixtures, and other items.

#### ORGAN

At one time a fund to buy an organ for the chapel was started by a woman from Dighton and several local Woman's Society of Christian Service groups. Later it was decided that the seldom heated chapel was not a suitable place for an organ. The donors were consulted and they consented to use the money to buy a piano instead. This was to be used in the Lodge or Central Building.

#### INSURANCE

During the early years of the camp when money was in short supply, consideration was given to an insurance program. Members of the board felt that quoted prices for insurance on concrete construction were too high. So, they voted to put \$500.00 per year into an interest bearing account with Security Savings and Loan Co. of Garden City. If and when losses occurred, repairs were paid for with money from this insurance fund.

Later, vandalism insurance was carried on all the buildings. Still later, a more comprehensive insurance program was developed covering the chapel and camp manager's home. Coverage was later extended to some of the other buildings as well.

#### WINTER CAMPS

With the building of the winterized Baker cabin in 1964, the building of the Lodge (central building), and remodeling of the "L" cabin in 1965, about 60 to 70 people could be accommodated in a winterized camp set up, the first such camp in the conference.

The years have brought drastic changes in the entire camping program, from a youth centered activity to programs for older youth, marriage counseling, family groups, "Keen Agers" groups and other types of group experiences. It is hoped by the many, many people who gave money, work and countless hours of time to the building of Lakeside that the Center will long be of service to the church and other worthwhile (Projects) organizations.

Only God can evaluate the results of the love and labor that went into the building of Lakeside, the results in the lives of people who enjoyed times of fellowship, relaxation and spiritual renewal in its environs. May the future bring opportunities and service of its facilities to many people.

#### KANZA BUILDING (STORM SHELTER/STAFF HOUSE)

For many years the Board of Trustees talked about a new building to house the staff or a new tornado shelter for Camp Lakeside. In the fall meeting of 1981, a motion was finally made by Rev. Jim Little to proceed to build a new building at Camp Lakeside. This building was to serve several purposes: 1) Provide a storm shelter for campers in inclement weather. 2) Provide housing for the summer staff. 3) Provide storage for equipment over the winter. 4) Have a place for small groups to meet when staff was not at the camp.

The staff housing and storm shelter were especially important since Camp Lakeside didn't have any shelter designed to withstand a tornado or especially bad weather or a place for staff to stay. The staff stayed in various places in the camp, none of which were designed for housing originally. The Board of Trustees put \$20,000.00 that was invested in Wesley Towers into the building fund to start the construction of the building.

The building was completed in October 1982. It was then that a Fund Drive Committee was appointed to raise \$70,000.00, the amount needed to finish paying for the building. By making the need known to the local churches, the building was paid off in February, 1986. A credit to the churches of western Kansas! The Storm Shelter/Staff House is a much needed improvement to Camp Lakeside.

In May, 1993, an office space was finished in the west end of the lower level of the staff house. Because of increased numbers of year-around staff, plans were initiated in May of 1997 to expand the rest of the lower level of the Kanza Building into office space. One large room and two smaller offices were added. The existing office space at the west end of the building will be used for the nurse and first aid room and for deans and counselors during the summer. During the second season, it will serve as office space for the Food Service Manager.

#### NEW BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN 1990

In 1986, The Board of Trustees began looking forward to maintenance and capital improvements needed for Camp Lakeside. In 1989, a Facility Development Plan was accepted by the Board. The original new building planned, the east bathhouse, and two new cabins were completed in May, 1990, to accommodate individuals with handicapping conditions. Also, the Lodge has had a physically handicapped bathroom added to it with the entrance hall being enlarged and two bedrooms made wheelchair accessible. The entire East Canyon area was made more accessible with a paved path from the Lodge around through the east canyon to the dining hall. This offers the opportunity of a choice between a rustic setting and having accessibility to the more modern Lodge Building. A hydraulic lift was installed in June of 1990 at the swimming pool for the purpose of better serving and appealing to the handicapped population.

## CAMP CARETAKERS OR MANAGERS

A number of dedicated people served the camp over the years. Mr. Eugene Woolverton was hired in the spring of 1949 to care for the grounds and assist in the camps. Rev. Vern Livengood scheduled camps, helped with the planning and programming. He had been assigned to the Scott City church in 1948. His tireless efforts, long hours of work, expertise, and dedication to the camping program were responsible for getting the camp off to a good start.

Rev. and Mrs. C. R. Flowers served as Camp Managers in 1950 and 1951, doing the administrative work and helping in many other ways.

Mr. Otto Wetzel served as camp caretaker during 1952 and 1953. Rev. E. W. McNeil did much of the administrative work during those two years.

Mr. and Mrs. Purl Harris of Bird City were hired in Oct. 1954. Mr. and Mrs. Harris cared for the grounds, building repairs, scheduling of camps and many other duties.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Oliver were hired in 1958. They were the first to live in the new camp manager's home.

Early in 1964, Mr. and Mrs. John Requa of Wichita were hired as camp managers. The camp saw such growth and many changes under their dedicated guidance and cooperation with both the board and camping grounds.

September of 1977 marked the retirement of the ReQuas and the hiring of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Walz of Washington, Kansas. Although Lee helped with the fund raising campaigns in the past, in 1995, he spent 1/2 of his time as Director of Development. Lee continued in this capacity until Dan Depperschmidt resigned in October of 1996 as Maintenance Director. After that, Lee served as both Executive Director and Maintenance Manager. After spending 20 years at Lakeside, Lee resigned effective December 31, 1997, to become Director of Camping for the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church. Lee was replaced by Keith Schadel who was named Executive Director/Program Director effective January 1, 1998.

## OTHER STAFF PERSONNEL

On January 1, 1990, Annette Zorn began her duties as Associate Director of Christian Education and Camping. Brian Hedgecock, Pratt, replaced Annette in the position of Program Director when she resigned effective March 1, 1994. Brian worked from mid-April to October, 1994. Beginning January 1, 1995, Keith Schadel began work as Program Director, with an emphasis on second season Programming, including Outdoor Education, seminars and retreats.

In June, 1993, the Lakeside Board of Trustees voted to hire Rev. Keith Schadel to fill the newly-established position of Development Director. An office was established in Oakley and a part-time secretary, Sharon Schadel and then Sara Ramsey, was hired. The office was moved from Oakley to Camp Lakeside in June 1994 and Sara resigned due to the distance she would be required to drive.

A full-time Maintenance Director, Dan Depperschmidt from Oakley, was hired in March, 1994, to oversee maintenance and summer staff. Dan served in this capacity until he resigned in November, 1996, and H. Lee Walz took over these responsibilities in the interim. Jeremy Schadel was hired as Maintenance Manager and served from March to

December 31, 1998. Dale Davis was hired May 1, 1999, and continued until Oct. 15, 2000. Reed Rolfs began as Maintenance Manager in November, 2000.

Other year-around staff, not full time, includes Secretary Edith Chadwick, who began in 1985 and worked until the spring of 1988. Barbara Richard was hired as part-time (20 hours/week) Secretary/Bookkeeper in July, 1988, and has served as Office Manager since 1992, working 24 hours/week. In 1995, Barbara's hours increased to 30 hours a week, or 3/4 time. As of January 1, 1997, Barbara was scheduled for 32 hours/week in April-September. She began working full-time as Office Manager January 1, 1998.

D'Ann Markel was hired as part-time Development Secretary on January 1, 1995. Prior to that time, she had been cooking in the kitchen during the summer and doing cleaning and cooking part-time during the second season. On January 1, 1996, D'Ann was hired as full time development secretary. On April 1, 1999, D'Ann began serving as full-time Program Manager.

Janeen Moore became part of the staff in 1993 as Food Service Director and served in this capacity until the summer of 1994 when Kay Percival Depperschmidt became part-time Food Service Director. On January 1, 1995, this position became full-time.

Marc M. Mitchell was hired as a financial consultant on a temporary basis in October, 1994 and continued for one year until October, 1995. In August of 1996, Marc was hired to fill the position of full-time Development Director. Marc resigned effective February 28, 2002.

In April, 1996, Rebecca Murphy was hired as Program Secretary 20 hours per week. As of January 1, 1997, this position increased to 3/4 time or 30 hours/week. Rebecca resigned in October 1997, and the position was not filled.

Cynthia Miller was hired April 1, 2000, as part-time Development Assistant; she resigned in February, 2001.

In March, 2002, due to economic considerations, the Board of Trustees voted to eliminate the positions of Food Service Manager and Program Manager and combine them into one position—Hospitality Manager. Kay Percival and D'Ann Markel, who held those positions, resigned.

Marilyn Fischer became the year-around Food Service Manager effective in May, 2002. Andrea (Andie) Trembley Strong was hired as Hospitality Manager and began work May 25th, 2002. Her title was changed to Program Manager effective 1/1/03. Strong's title and job description changed to Program Director in 2006. In 2008 Strong's job description and title changed once again to Assistant Director reflecting the administrative duties she had assumed.

December of 2008 marked the end of Barb Richard's 20 year career with Camp Lakeside. Richard officially retired December 31<sup>st</sup> of 2008 but returned in January of 2009 to help train new secretary Donna Heath.

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