

Methodist Moments September 2021

Men's Group

We know that the women of the church were busy having auctions, cooking, baking, having rummage sales, all to help the finances of the Methodist Church. So, what were the men doing? After some conversations with long time members, it was discovered that the men did more than pose for the pictures that are in the Fellowship Hall.

Breakfasts were held at Tom Perry's monthly and it was there that the Man of the Year was selected. Eggs, sausage, toast, and pancakes were often on the menu with Marvin Pearce as the head chef. Lots of discussions took place.

The Men's Sunday School Class played a major part in the church life of the men. It was there that discussions helped shape their religious education. Ben Davis was the teacher and he was a great one, from all accounts. Wilbur Sarvis also led classes in later years.

The men were very active in raising needed funds. The first building fund raisers, 1961, for the present church, included Al Coleman, Rev. Avery Butler, Bill Metz, and Ben Davis. The men, including recently deceased member Charles Wolfe, were there for the ground-breaking for the Sanctuary in 1970.

At one time the men held Lenten Fish Dinners, and there were the Sunday Breakfasts here at the church for all to enjoy. Speaking of cooking, the men began cooking the Mother-Daughter banquets. Marvin Pearce was in charge and he made great strides in the menus. The first year included sandwiches and chips but in subsequent years, the dinners became more elegant.

The Father-Son banquet brought many men to church. The men also helped community members with home repairs. Some of the handymen from 1982 included Rev. Stillings, Red Drown, Ralph Staver, and Mike Tonovitz.

The men of the church helped with the youth sidewalk project at Misty Meadows. Ryan Greenslade organized the project, with Butch Cravens, Henry Harrison, Ray Frey, and Cal Mittower among the workers leading the youth. Several men went on mission trips with the youth.

There was a men's softball team where all ages were represented. Many friendships were developed during these rousing events. Bible Studies were held at the local coffee shop in recent years with Bob Michael as leader.

You might have seen the pictures of the bell being moved to its present location in 1980. The men were there! Mike Tonovitz, Lee Nearhood, and others were part of the bell moving crew. Men also helped take down the Hall house on the current church property in 1962. The original log cabin was discovered within the house when it was demolished.

So, just to be clear- the men are, and have always been here!