

Church has anniversary

(Continued from page 1A) became the oldest Methodist church in Michigan when it was destroyed by fire in February 1920. The church's pastor, Rev. Sidney D. Eva worked to raise the \$85,000 necessary to construct a new church at a new site, the corner of Grand River and Warner.

In 1921, ground was broken for the new church which still stands on Warner. Dedicated in

1922, the church features several stained glass windows donated by members of the congregation. The most prominent stained glass window in the church was donated by the family of Governor Fred Warner. The four figures in the window are known affectionately by the congregation as the Four Johns, although the fourth figure seems to depict Paul the Apostle. John the Baptist,

John the Evangelist and John Wesley are shown on the window inside the sanctuary. Across the church is a rose window donated by Charles Pettibone in memory of his first wife, Gladys Hazelton Pettibone. Reddish tints of color or cast rose shadows over the pews.

"She was a titian-haired woman and that's why the window has a titian color," explained

Mrs. Esther Meredith, church historian. Behind the rose window, the original building was designed to incorporate an auditorium.

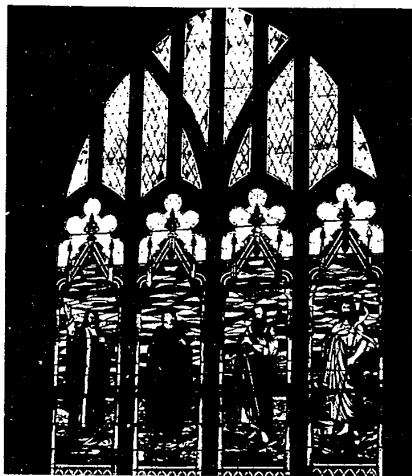
DURING THE EARLY '60s, the sanctuary was expanded and the auditorium space eliminated. But in the early days of film, the auditorium provided a space for Farmington to see the William Desmond serial and hang on their seats as Pauline encountered her latest peril.

"I remember when I was a little girl I wanted to join the Methodist church because they showed movies," said Mrs. Meredith with an impish smile.

A lead-lined booth housed the original carbon arc lamp projector which transmitted the pictures to the screen on the same stage used for the Christmas pageant.

The area was used for a junior high classroom space and during World War I was designated as a bomb shelter.

Today, led by Rev. Charles Boynton, the church has 600 members. The oldest continuing Methodist congregation in Michigan helped to launch two other churches, St. Matthew's Methodist Church in Livonia and Orchard United Methodist Church in Orchard Lake.



Known as the "Four Johns," this stained glass window dominates the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church. The depiction of (left) John Wesley, Paul the Apostle, John the Evangelist and John the Baptist was donated to the church by the family of Gov. Fred Warner, of Farmington in 1921. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Bella Abzug to speak for 'Women are Watching'

Bella Abzug, the former chair of the National Advisory Committee for Women, will speak at a luncheon meeting at noon tomorrow in the Crystal Ballroom of the Radisson Cadillac Hotel in Detroit.

A coalition of concerned women called "Women are Watching" is sponsoring the event. Ms. Dell Warner of Southfield is the chairperson.

Mrs. Abzug, a former New York Congresswoman, was recently fired from the Presidential Committee by Presi-

dent Jimmy Carter. Her dismissal resulted in the resignation of her co-chair and 25 of the 40 commission members in what has been referred to as "the Friday Afternoon Massacre" by feminists.

Representatives of a cross-section of women's groups will attend the informational meeting expected to attract more than 200.

A few tickets are still available by contacting Ms. Small at 559-0697.

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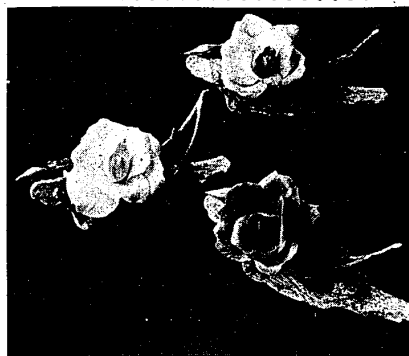
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