
1858

150th
Anniversary

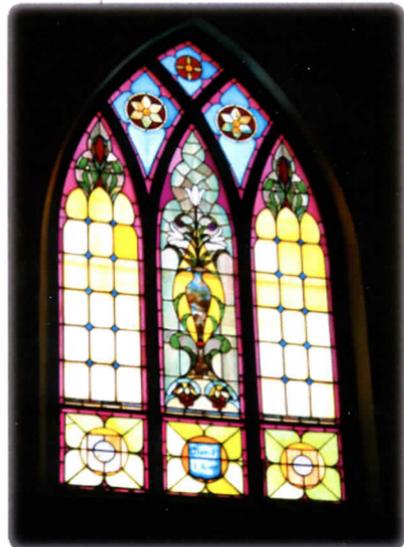
2008



Jones Road Congregational Church

*Commemorating
150 Years of Service
to Jesus Christ and the
Community*

To God Be The Glory!



Pastor – Rev. Peter Parry

8000 Jones Road Cleveland, Ohio



Rev. Peter & Ione Parry

Pastor and Director of Youth
Ministries at Jones Road
Congregational Church

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for joining us in this very special celebration.

You are indeed part of history and we pray that you feel the Lord with you today in this church, just as so many before you have felt His presence.

After the program, please stay and join us for light refreshments (Te Bach) in the Sunday School Room.

Thank you for your support and may God continue to Bless you !

Lord, take our lips and speak through them, take our minds and think through them ... Lord, take our hearts and set them on fire for you.

Amen

Historical Summary

- 1850 – 1855 Coming of Welsh families to Newburgh area
- 1853 Rolling Mill Established by David I. Jones and his brother, John Jones. This mill developed into American Steel & Wire Co.
- 1857 Thomas D. Jones and George M. Jones, lately from Wales to Niles, Ohio, arrived in Newburgh and started a Sunday School with 13 pupils, in home of Robert Edwards, George M. Jones, superintendent, Thomas D. Jones, song leader, Cottage prayer meetings began
- 1858 Interest in having a church led to its organization at the home of William Jones on Harvard Street, with fifteen charter members, as follows in the order of their coming:
- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Thomas D. Jones | David I. Jones | William Jones |
| George M. Jones | Mrs. Methuselah Evans | Mrs. Wm. Jones |
| Evan Jones | Mrs. Elias Bassett | Mrs. Morgan Howells |
| David Llewellyn | Mrs. John Rowland | Mrs. David I. Jones |
| Morgan Howells | Mrs. David Llewellyn | Mrs. David Evans |
- 1860 Erection of first church building on Wales Street. Rapid growth of membership and church influence
- 1858-1864 M. Jones, one of the first deacons, not then ordained, served as spiritual leader, assisted in the pulpit by many visiting ministers.
- 1864 Church calls William Watkins, just graduated from Marietta College, Southern Ohio. He was ordained at Wales St. Church, July 3, 1864.
- 1876 Dedication of present building on Jones Rd.
- 1886 Rev. W.P. Edwards, pastor of the church for seven years, passed away suddenly. The church erected a monument in Harvard Grove Cemetery in his memory, and placed marble slab on church wall in recognition of his life and work.
- 1901 Dedication of memorial windows
- 1909 Unveiling of portrait of Thomas D. Jones, deacon 1858-1909
- 1913 Building of Annex, adding two rooms to church
- 1928 Installation of Lyon & Healy Pipe Organ
- 1958 Purchase of Baldwin Electronic Organ
- 1979-1983 Extensive renovation of church buildings
- 1983-2008 Denomination change to Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (4C's), multiple youth ministries, church building renovation



Where we started . . .

From 1850 to 1855 the records of Old Newburgh take note of the coming of Welsh families into the area. Among these were two brothers, David I. Jones and John Jones. Being men of vision and courage, they set about establishing the American Rolling Mill Co., in 1853, which later developed into the American Steel and Wire Co.

Welsh laborers were recruited for the work in the mills. Bringing with them the rich religious heritage of their native country, they were at once concerned to continue the culture of their faith. Accordingly, they would gather together in their homes to sing the Welsh hymns and hold prayer meetings.

These interests were given impetus with the arrival of Thomas D. Jones and George M. Jones, who had shortly come from Wales to Niles, Ohio and were making their home in Newburgh. These men were leaders in starting a Sunday School in 1857 in the home of Robert Edwards on Broadway with thirteen pupils enrolled. George M. Jones acted as Superintendent and Thomas D. Jones led the singing.

It is felt that the dynamic behind this initial religious effort was the cottage prayer meetings which were deepening in their interest and power. Like the Pilgrims of Plymouth these devout souls were concerned to have a church, and so it came about that in 1858 in the home of William Jones on Harvard St., a Welsh Congregational Church was started with fifteen charter members. The Rev. D. Davies (DewiEmlyn) acted as Moderator, and George M. Jones as scribe. Thomas D. Jones and William Jones were elected the first deacons, and George M. Jones as the first secretary of the new organization. It was unanimously decided to follow the polity of the Congregational Churches. Meetings were held for about two years in the home of Deacon Thomas D. Jones. With more Welsh people coming to the area and with church interest growing, larger quarters were beginning to be necessary. Sensing this, Esquire Hamilton, father of Judge Hamilton, offered a lot on Wales St. where a structure was built and occupied in June 1860, although it has neither door nor window. However, by September 1860, the building was completed and dedicated. This edifice continued to be the church's home until the erection of the present structure in 1876.

During these first six years, Deacon George M. Jones had charge of the services and did much of the preaching, although not ordained until 1863 at Ironton, Ohio. However, many visiting ministers assisted in conducting services, among whom was Rev. R. Richards.



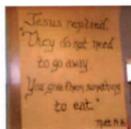
In 1864 a call was extended to William Watkins, who had graduated from Marietta College in Ohio. He accepted the call and ordination services were held in the church in July 1864. Church interest increased, so that in 1866 it was necessary to build an addition to the Wales St. edifice. Two other ministers served the church until the coming of the Rev. John Jones under whose pastorate the church structure of Jones Ave., later called Jones Rd., was built in 1876. Because it was dedicated on the Hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of our country, it was called Centennial Welsh Congregational Church, which is the name cut on the stone tablet on the front of the building at the peak of the cornice of the roof.

The contractor for the construction of the church edifice at 8000 Jones Rd. was Deacon Samuel Evans, the father of Mrs. Evan Mathews, whose grandfather made the pews. The contract was for \$8,700, for which the members had raised \$1,200. The church gratefully remembers that David I. Jones & John J. Jones came forward to pay the balance, so that the building was dedicated free of debt.

Another item of special interest to every worshiper is the fact that the church has always been free from the echo which has harassed some of the largest structures. This problem was solved through the suggestion of one William Hughes, a mason from Wales, who gave the suggestion that a dead air space be left between the inside and outside walls. This was followed and as a result the church has excellent acoustics.

Following the Civil War, the church shared with the community many difficulties, but notwithstanding them, the membership grew and the influence expanded in the religious and social life of the area. Indeed, "it had come to the kingdom for such a time as this." It is worthy of note and reflection that during this span of fifty years, the prayer meeting was a major and vital part of the church's life. The sessions were held on Monday evening, following a full Sunday schedule. And it is said there were scarcely ever any empty seats. Sometimes these meetings would continue for two weeks. So many of the members were prepared and capable that it was not necessary, during even two weeks, to call twice on the same person to lead in prayer. With spiritual power thus generated, one can understand why this period was one of heartening growth and helpfulness.

One pastor, the Rev. W.P. Edwards, died suddenly after having served the church for seven years. The church erected a monument to his memory in Harvard Grove Cemetery, and placed a marble tablet on the south wall of the sanctuary in recognition of his life and work.



With respect to gifts and properties, records show that the Memorial Windows were dedicated in 1901. In 1909 occurred the unveiling of the portrait of Thomas D. Jones, deacon 1858-1909. In 1912, the clock in the sanctuary was presented by J. H. Francis in memory of his mother. About the same time, the offering plates were given by Mrs. Thomas D. Thomas in memory of her husband, Thomas D. Thomas. Later, the choir platform was built by Benjamin Thomas. The church annex, adding two rooms to the building, was constructed in 1913 at a cost of \$1,835, during the pastorate of Dr. J. Vincent Jones, who was active in the project, contributing skill and strength. In 1937, the Glencoe Class gave the Communion Set, and in 1939 the carpet. In 1941, Thomas D. Griffiths and Mrs. William Young gave the Pulpit Chairs in memory of their parents. In 1956, a group from the Frenn Class gave many work hours to the painting of the exterior of the building and much of the interior. The extensive renovation stirred normal pride among the members and lifted their interest and morale.

Before the turn of the century, the church was fortunate to have a small pipe organ. Its operation required not only a pumper, but a superintendent of a corps of persons who could be secured and supervised to perform this service. The late Judge Blythin, later serving as church clerk, was superintendent of pumpers for a period. Near the close of 1928, a used Lyon and Healy Pipe Organ was secured for \$1,550. Early in 1958, the church purchased a completely renewed Baldwin Electronic Organ at a cost of \$2,409. In view of the bequest of the late T.B. Llewellyn, a devout worker with young people earlier in the century, it was voted that the organ be dedicated to his memory.

Among the deacons who carried on during the first fifty years and into the second, three who served exceptional terms were Thomas D. Jones, 1858-1923. During the past half century, three others have established faithful and high records. Their names are William W. Jones, Evan L. Mathews, and Llewelyn Daniels, the latter having served since 1916.

Time would fail to tell of all who have served in the many organizations within the fellowship. Each has its particular place and honor. However, one should not overlook the Chairmen of the Board of Trustees, who have been stewards of the church's material interests. Since 1895, the names are Daniel D. Jones, J.F. Griffiths, W. E. Mathews, Alfred C. Jones, David Owen, Myron R. Lewis, Thomas H. Morgan, and Harold W. Maurer. These with their associates, have given a good account of their stewardship. "Others have labored and we have entered into their labors."



Where are we now ...

Today, celebrating 150 years together in Christ, the members of Jones Road Congregational Church continue the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ to a neighborhood and a world giving way to secularization and materialism. In February 2003, the congregation voted to change our denomination affiliation from the United Church of Christ to the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (4C's) ... a clear signal to reaffirm our commitment to the infallible Word of God, the Trinity, and the redemption of lost and sinful man through the crucifixion and resurrection of our savior, Jesus Christ.

The last members of our congregation with Welsh heritage, who spent the greater part of their lives as members of Jones Road Church, have passed on to Heaven: Ivor Williamson, Ivor Mathias, Margaret Griffiths Thrush, Elizabeth Griffiths Fox, Nancy Huber, Alberta Johns, Eleanor Evans, and Miriam Mathias Bailey. Although there are no longer any Welsh members, save the two who are honored guests this afternoon at our Gymanfa Ganu, Myvanway-Nan Wickett and Elund-Lynne Bise, we continue to honor Welsh tradition and give thanks to God for their witness and service which stands as a lasting testimony. The church building, built in 1876, continues to undergo renovations with a new roof, remodeling of Sunday School rooms, new key board organ, and more planned for the future.

Reverend Parry and his wife Ione are celebrating this year, 30 years of ministry at Jones Road. They see Jones Road Church as a Christian missionary outpost for the Gospel and witness of Jesus Christ in the inner-city of Cleveland where "white-flight", economic decay, and family disintegration have left a once stable and thriving community to meet the challenges of social, economic, and spiritual rebirth.

In 1987, a hunger meal program began with a free lunch offered to any who would come the last Saturday of each month. With member donations and service, the meal continues to be served to many children and adults. To help meet the challenge of ministering to a community where the highest percentage of the population (45%) is single moms with children, much of the outreach mission work of Jones Road is done through programs for young people including Sunday school, children's sermons during worship, Chrysalis flights, New Vision retreats, Lost and Found, Kids for Christ, and more recently, Literacy Through the Arts, a seven week, five-day a week, summer academy that includes tutoring, drama, music, art, recreation, lunch, and field trips centered in the Christian Gospel.

With God's help and continuing to keep our focus on Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior, we look for His coming and until that great day, we pray to remain faithful to the Gospel in word and deed as we follow in the footsteps of all the saints before us who obeyed the command that whatsoever you do, do all to the Glory of God !

CHRONICLE OF PASTORATES

- 1864-1866 - Rev. W. Watkins
- 1867-1870 - Rev. John E. Jones
- 1871-1874 - Rev. Wm. Lewis
- 1875-1878 - Rev. John Jones
- 1879-1886 - Rev. W.P. Edwards
- 1888-1889 - Rev. E.R. Bowen
- 1891-1892 - Rev. J. Vinson Stephens
- 1895-1898 - Rev. T. Henry Jones
- 1900-1908 - Rev. W.O. Jones
- 1909-1914 - Rev. J. Vincent Jones, D.D.
- 1915-1919 - Rev. John Roberts
- 1920-1922 - Rev. Isaac T. Williams
- 1923-1927 - Rev. John Roberts
- 1928-1935 - Rev. J. Glannant Morgan, D.D.
- 1936-1944 - Rev. John Roberts
- 1945-1946 - Rev. James W. Reeder
- 1948-1951 - Rev. Edwin A. Ralph, D.D.
- 1952-1960 - Rev. John C. Blackman
- 1960-1973 - Rev. Kenneth E. Wilt
- 1973-1974 - Rev. Dale A. Withers
- 1975-1976 - Guest Ministers
- 1976-1978 - Rev. Chas. C. Wallick, Ph.D.
- 1978- - Rev. Peter R.L. Parry

Anniversary Program

Sunday Afternoon September 21, 2008 3:00 pm

Gymanfa Ganu

Pastor – Rev. Peter Parry

Conductor – Dr. Jack Lewis

Organists – Mary Ann Bodanza / Irene Sciborowski

Guests of Honor: Myvanway-Nan Wickett and Elund-Lynne Bise

Organ Prelude *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring* Mary Ann Bodanza

Call to Worship Rev. Parry

National Anthem *Star Spangled Banner* Congregation

Introduction of Conductor, Organist & Guests of Honor

Congregational Hymn Singing Dr. Jack Lewis
(Hyfrydol, Llef, Pen Y Bryn)

Choir Selection *Let Us Love & Sing & Wonder* Church Choir

Congregational Hymn Singing *Diadem* *PenPark* *Sanctus*.....

Duet *Give To Our God Immortal Praise* Dorothy Moore & Taylor Poindexter

Congregational Hymn Singing *Ebenezer* *Sandon* *Calon Lan*.....

Offering..... *How Great Thou Art* Erika & Irene Sciborowski

Scripture Reading Psalm 103

Remarks & Reflection on Past History

Congregational Hymn Singing... *Rachie* ...*Aberystwyth* ..*Arglwydd Dyma Fi* ...*Cwm Rhondda*

Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (Land of Our Fathers)

Closing Hymn God Be With You Till We Meet Again

Benediction Rev. Parry

Organ Postlude *Trumpet Tune* *Song of Joy*.....

In MEMORY

From:

Stewart Bailey
Betty Jane Barnes
Eluned Bise & Myvanwy Wickett
Wesley Bise
Bertha Dopson
Jane Heyduk
Joan Kolenc

Debbie & Desiree Kreinbrook
Ruth S. Link
Dorothy Moore
Marjorie L. Owen
Jan Parry
Rev. Peter, Ione, Lee Parry

Taylor Poindexter
Bob ReMalia

Janet Petrick
Peggy Keary Sams
Walter & Anna Mae Schultz
Irene Sciborowski & Jase Hiday
Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Shank

Brad & Joy Thompson & Family

Martha Timbers
Meredydd Williams

In Memory of:

Miriam Bailey
Mr. & Mrs. Ivor Mathias
Leonard Barnes
Margaret & David Owen
David & Margaret Owen
Richard A. Dopson
Evelyn Swartwood
Elmer & Zona Sells
Gertrude McClatchy
Sam & Sue Zerechak
Patrick (Peanut) Kreinbrook
Dr. David L. Mandry
Ivor & Gertrude Williamson
Lewis E. Owen
George T. Parry
William & Lucille Parry
Conrad & Gertrude Stout
William & Annabelle Long
Dee ReMalia
Arden ReMalia
Leona ReMalia
Wesley Bise
Margaret & David Owen
Loved Ones
Stanley Sciborowski
Winifred Schultz
Vernon Shank
Hank Lambert
Beloved Grandparents
Mr. James B. Fife Jr.
Mrs. Donna Fife
Leota Meredith Foulkes
Helen Sue Williams
Buleah Day Williams

PATRONS

W. Stuver Parry and Nancy C. Parry
Portage Home Inspection



THE GUEST CONDUCTOR for today's program is William John (Jack) Lewis, M.D. Dr. Lewis, a Clinical Professor Emeritus at the Wright State University School of Medicine, practiced family medicine in the Dayton area for about forty years. In addition, he was very active in medical, church, and other community activities. Since his retirement from practice, he has increased his Welsh-American Activities. He is a past president of the National Gymanfa Ganu Association, and the National Welsh-American Foundation. He has conducted cymanfoedd in Ohio, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and Wisconsin, to name a few. He resides in the Dayton suburb of Centerville, Ohio with his wife, Ann. They have one son, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Reverend Peter Parry	Pastor
Bernice Hanzel	Moderator
Dorothy Moore	Deaconess
Ione Parry	Director - Youth Ministries
Barb Shank	Treasurer
Joan Kolenc	Financial Secretary
Sue Runt	Church Member

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

"A Higher Calling" by Hudson Taylor

If God called you to be truly like Jesus in all your spirit, He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility. He will put you on such demands of obedience that you will not be allowed to follow other Christians. In numerous ways, He seems to let other good people do things that He will not let you do.

Others who seem to be very religious and useful may push themselves, pull wires, and scheme to carry out their plans, but you cannot. If you attempt it, you will meet with such failure and rebuke from the Lord as to make you sorely penitent.

Others can brag about themselves, their work, their successes, their writings, but the Holy Spirit will not allow you to do any such thing. If you begin to do so, He will lead you into some deep mortification that will make you despise yourself and all your good works.

Others will be allowed to succeed in making great sums of money, or having a legacy left to them or in having luxuries, but God may supply you only on a day to day basis, because He wants you to have something far better than gold, a helpless dependence on Him and His unseen treasury.

The Lord may let others be honored and put forward while keeping you hidden in obscurity because He wants to produce some choice, fragrant fruit for His coming glory, which can only be produced in the shade. God may let others be great, but keep you small. He will let others do a work for Him and get the credit, but He will make you work and toil without knowing how much you are doing. Then, to make your work still more precious, He will let others get the credit for the work you have done; this to teach you the message of the Cross -, humility and something of the value of being cloaked with His nature.

The Holy Spirit will put a strict watch on you, and with a jealous love rebuke you for careless words or feelings, or for wasting your time, which other Christians never seem distressed over. So make up your mind that God is an infinite Sovereign and has a right to do as He pleases with His own, and that He may not explain to you a thousand things which puzzle your reason in His dealings with you.

God will take you at your word; if you absolutely sell yourself to be His slave, He will wrap you up in a jealous love and let other people say and do things that you cannot. Settle it forever; you are to deal directly with the Holy Spirit, He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue or chaining your hands or closing your eyes in ways which others are not dealt with.

However, know this great secret of the Kingdom: When you are so completely possessed with the living God that you are, in your secret heart, pleased and delighted over this peculiar, personal, private, jealous guardianship and management of the Holy Spirit over your life, you will have found the vestibule of heaven, The High Calling of God ...