

# In Our Rearview Mirror ~ by Teresa Weixelman

***“And what have you seen in the years of your time...”***? This quote is from the poem The Old Elm written by L. B. Pruitt who served our pastor from 1920-1926.

To know history is to know life. Wamego UMC is living history filled with humble servants and fascinating events. To commemorate our 150 years of existence, a history wall was unveiled July 2, 2017 and hangs on the west wall of our gathering area. It consists of three panels – one for each of the 50 years our church has been here.

***“And the Hand of God was guiding them, through trials, joys and tears”***. This quote is from the poem The United Methodist Church, written by David Bletscher, who served as associate pastor here 1970-1989.



The color orange represents creativity, joy, passion and warmth – a perfect color to use for the background on the history panels. Our history is full of creativity, joy, passion and warmth. Thus, the background was created from an image of a small section of one of our stained glass windows. Can you figure out which one?

As you examine the History Wall you will discover photos of the church, both exterior and interior, showing the growth from the 1878 small, wooden church, to the stone church built in 1908. Fellowship Hall was added in 1966 and the church expanded again in 2004 to the beautiful building we worship in today.

The panels highlight significant events in the life of our church over 150 years. In 1992, to celebrate 125 years of faithfulness, Inez Owens and her team researched the history and created a booklet full of historic information. Many of the timeline events were lifted from that booklet and the pages are cited on the panels. Reference the booklet to discover more details and other interesting facts. Two copies are on the altar below the panels for your use.

Each minister that has served is listed at the bottom of each panel. There were 31 pastors the first 50 years and only 15 and 14 each in the last 50 years. The History Booklet contains information about each pastor during the first 125 years. We hope to supplement the history booklet with information on the five pastors who have served since 1992.

***“Let us too be true and faithful as our good Forefathers were...”*** is the closing quote from Rev. Bletscher’s poem. An excellent thought, as we look back, gaze forward and live each day as it comes!