



## **Kerr Kronicles Volume XLII**

**November 15, 2020**

*Peek into the Past:* In 1978 a gift from the Estate of Eugene Junker created the Junker Library and a gift from John and Scotty McEwen created the establishment of the Cemetery Care and Maintenance Fund. In 1981 a new musical group called the "Ding-a-Lings" was formed by senior citizens in the Jolly Good-timers. They performed at many churches and community events. In 1981 the Endowment Fund of Philadelphia Presbyterian Church was formed. In setting up this fund, the congregation became a pioneer in this kind of church stewardship in this part of the country. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

*A Musical "Note":* In 1977 Mr. Roberts, the Choir Director, resigned and John E. W. Clark, who had conducted a most successful program from 1959-1964 had agreed to return as Minister of Music. In December of 1977, two programs were added to the celebration of Christmas. The Session planned a Christmas Eve Vespers Service of Lessons and Carols ending in a candle lighting. The second was a different type of Christmas music program. The choir presented a musical play entitled "Once Upon a Christmas". Based on a story by Leo Tolstoy, "Where Love Is, God Is Also." Under the direction of John Clark, producer/Music Director and C.B. Cook, Technical Producer and Drama Director, the production took place in the Fellowship Hall in an outstanding set designed by Mr. Cook and built by volunteers. Seventy-five members of the congregation in addition to members of the choir took part in the presentation. The team, Mr. Clark as music director, and Mr. Cook, a talented and creative drama coach, collaborated in musical productions in the years that followed. With outstanding staging in the chapel, the congregation and friends enjoyed "Amahl and the Night Visitors", "The Gift of the Magi", and "Scrooge" based on Dicken's "Christmas Carol". This 1980 play proved the best received offering and has been repeated several times over the years. As the program grew, more than one hundred people were involved in them each year. The morale building in the congregation was a real blessing. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

*Important National Events:* January 20, 1981 - The inauguration of Ronald Reagan as the 40th president of the United States occurs in Washington, D.C. It was followed by the release of the fifty-two Americans still held hostage in Tehran.