



Kerr Kronicles Volume XXXIII

September 13, 2020

Peek into the Past: In 1948, a special fund was set up for a building addition. In 1951 more room was needed and the front needed repair. It was decided to replace the 1915 front. A handsome building was erected surmounted by a tower which can be seen from a great distance from the church. A large foyer, nine classrooms and a Sunday School office were included in the building along with an electronic tower chime system. (Historical notes circa 1952)

The building was completed in the spring of 1951. A debt of only \$8,000 incurred. Many members had contributed their labor. Mrs. Black recorded a special contribution of Olen Mullis who did the wiring and James McWhirter, Jr. who did the excavation and grading. The large classic columns at the entrance reached to the tower which was completed with an inspiring steeple. The Celtic Cross atop the steeple reminder viewers of the Scottish tradition of the Presbyterian Church. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

A Musical "Note": In the budget for 1949 – 1950 a salary for a part time choir was included. It is not clear just when Pleas Norman took up his duties as the director, however in the fall his salary was increased \$10 per month for car expenses. He continued in this position until 1951 and was followed by Mrs. Kenneth Dooley. Mrs. Dooley was professionally trained at the Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey and brought a new dimension to the program of music and praise. Under her leadership there was an enthusiastic growth in the choir program. A children's choir had been a part of the program in the 1920's. It was revived with the strengthened program. (*The Presbyterian Gathering on Clear Creek*)

Important National Event: The Korean War began on June 25, 1950 when North Korea invaded South Korea following a series of clashes along the border. There were 54,200 American deaths during the period of hostilities (June, 1950-July, 1953).