

**Parcells  
Avenue  
Baptist  
Church**



**Year Book**  
**1909-1910**

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Parsells Avenue, Cor. Oswego Street  
Rochester, New York



**Year Book**

1909=1910

**With Directory of Church**



**Rev. S. Fraser Langford, B. D., Pastor**

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PARSELLS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

PARSELLS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

## Historical facts

BY MRS. C. N. MUNGER

ON ONE cold winter day in the early part of February, 1892, two earnest, faithful Christian women casually met (Mrs. A. N. Rogers and Mrs. F. S. Jenks). They being members of the same church, the conversation soon turned to the need of Christian work in this section of the city, then known as Hayward Terrace. After some discussion with Mr. Rogers, the former's husband, it was decided to start a Sunday School. A Sunday afternoon Bible class was arranged for at the home of Mr. A. N. Rogers, 555 Hayward Avenue, and the services of a Seminary student, Mr. E. L. Kelly, was secured as instructor.

At the appointed time five or six persons met for Bible study, and it was decided to continue it every Sunday. On the third Sunday three children gathered from the street were added to the class. This suggested a wider effort. Why not have a regular Sunday School *now*? Two other denominations the summer before had started similar work on this field and both had been abandoned. Would a Baptist Sunday School be successful?

A Baptist Social—an unique affair in this vicinity—was held at the home of Mr. Rogers, and to this the general public was invited. At the appointed time people came from all directions and filled the house. Many persons who are now members of this church met on that occasion for the first time. At this social the announcement was made that a Sunday School would be organized in the same place the next Sunday. Fifty-five (55) children came and a permanent organization was effected, with Mr. A. N. Rogers as Superintendent, which office he continued to hold for the next eleven years.

The Sunday School soon outgrew the limits of his home, and in the fall the Glen Haven station was rented for the winter, and a Sunday evening preaching service was added.

A better and permanent home was needed. The matter was laid before the Missionary Union, Second Baptist Church and



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private individuals, and aid was sought towards securing such a home. None of these parties felt able to give assistance, doubting that the work would be lasting. The little band, feeling much discouraged, for they must leave the station for the summer at least, sent Mr. Rogers to Dr. Strong of the Seminary for advice, and he said, "Go right on with work."

At this time, just one year from the beginning, ten Christian women, being encouraged by Dr. Strong's advice, determined with God's help to secure five dollars (\$5) each with which to make a first payment on a lot somewhere, upon which at some future time they might build. This was the beginning of the present Ladies' Aid Society. In about a week the fifty dollars (\$50) were raised and the double lot, corner of Parsells avenue and Oswego street, was found. The lot was purchased for \$1,000 and held for them by private parties until such time as they were legally entitled to hold property.

The first Monday evening in April, 1893, the PARSELLS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH SOCIETY was incorporated and three (3) Trustees elected, Mr. Addison A. Stout being made the first President of the Board. The other members were Mr. A. N. Rogers and Mr. Chas. H. Maxom. During this summer Sunday School services were held in a small hall on the south corner of Webster and Grand avenues. The following winter, quarters were again found in the Glen Haven station, then the Sunday evening services were resumed.

In the meantime the Ladies' Aid Society had been busy soliciting funds and about \$500 had been paid on the lot. January 1, 1894, the Trustees received the title to the property and gave a mortgage for the remaining \$500. The work grew rapidly and a house of worship became absolutely essential. Early in April it was decided that a home must be built, but where were the funds? Again the little band had faith to believe that the Lord would provide them.

On May 6th, five weeks later, the west half of the present meeting house was dedicated. The work was hastened on account of the erection within 200 feet, of a building for saloon purposes. The chapel was finished first and no license could be obtained.

In June, through Dr. Strong, an appropriation of \$150 was

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Capital,	\$300,000.00
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Deposits over	6,000,000.00

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Charles H. Palmer, 1st Vice Pres.	Herbert C. Howlett, Secretary
Frederick G. Morse, Asst. Secy.	

secured to help pay a pastor. Mr. W. J. Noble was engaged for the vacation season. Seminary students served again during the fall and winter months until in April, 1895, Mr. H. R. Greaves was called as regular pastoral supply in connection with his Seminary work. Under his leadership the PARSELLS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH was organized as a branch of the Second Baptist Church April 25, 1895. The twenty-nine constituent members, representing twelve different churches, were:

Mrs. Louise Arlidge	Mrs. H. R. Lewis
Mr. Curtis W. Barker	Mrs. C. N. Munger
Mr. Richard I. Barker	Mr. Aaron North
Miss Lizzie Brengardner	Mrs. Mary J. North
Mrs. Cora Buckland	Mrs. Elizabeth A. Owen
Mrs. V. M. De Graff	Mr. A. N. Rogers
Mrs. F. H. Fowler	Mrs. A. N. Rogers
Mrs. Elizabeth Frost	Mr. Robert E. Rogers
Miss Helen E. Hall	Mrs. E. L. Rockefeller
Mr. Milton V. Huey	Mrs. Jennie Smith
Mrs. Henrietta Huey	Mrs. T. H. White
Mr. Herbert Huey	Mr. W. J. Wing
Mr. Chas. R. Ives	Mrs. Esther Wing
Mrs. F. S. Jenks	Mrs. Mary Wood
Mrs. Grace A. Lefferts	

With a house of worship, a pastor, and an earnest band of workers, the work went steadily on. The following spring morning services, with Sunday School at noon, were inaugurated. Heretofore only afternoon Sunday School and evening service had been held.

November 1st, 1896, the pastor resigned and Mr. J. B. Travis, a student in the Junior Class at the Seminary, was called. During the three years of Mr. Travis' student pastorate the church membership was doubled, being nearly one hundred (100), the Sunday School so large it could hardly be accommodated, and the attendance at prayer meeting between fifty and sixty. There was no floating debt and the bonded indebtedness had been reduced to \$1,100. The only financial aid received except on the

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field had been the yearly appropriations of \$150 from the Missionary Union and \$70 from three individuals.

In September, 1899, the church enjoyed the distinction of holding two noteworthy councils in one day. By one of these councils the church, heretofore a branch of the Second Baptist Church, was recognized as an independent Baptist church; by the other council Mr. Joseph B. Travis was ordained to the ministry as pastor of the church.

During the following winter the church again outgrew its home. It seemed imperative that the house of worship be enlarged at once. But this did not become feasible until one year later, the summer of 1901, when about \$1,500 had been received in pledges and a loan of \$2,000 had been secured from the New York Baptist Union for Ministerial Education. This loan was used to pay the bonded indebtedness of \$1,075, thereby reducing the rate of interest, and to begin the addition and improvements to the church building.

While the improvements were in progress services were held as usual, but audiences were small and a floating debt was incurred. To meet this a second mortgage of \$500 was given. The church was burdened with debt and "some days were dark and dreary."

During this financial depression the membership was firmly increasing. Many faithful and earnest workers came to labor in the vineyard. During this time the pastor, Rev. J. B. Travis, suggested that the Board of Trustees invite the Rochester City Missionary Union to hold their next meeting with the Parsells Church and ask the ladies to furnish supper. The invitation was extended and accepted and proved a very costly supper for the Missionary Union.

In view of the fact that the church was paying interest on \$2,500 and the Missionary Union was giving the church \$200 annually to assist in the support of the pastor, it was proposed by Mr. Travis that the Missionary Union give the church \$1,500 by May 1, 1905 (the following year), if the church would raise \$1,000, thereby relieving the church of its bonded indebtedness. Then it would become self supporting.

The Missionary Union, after careful investigation of the prop-

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osition through its committees, became satisfied that the large outlay would produce ample returns from this field, and voted to undertake to raise the amount.

The church then took on new life and determined to do all in its power to be free of debt by its tenth anniversary (April 25, 1905).

Just as the silvery lining to the cloud was seen another cloud became visible. Mr. Travis received an urgent call to return to the Pacific Coast, and on May 15, 1904, after nearly eight years of faithful and devoted service, tendered his resignation to the Parsells Avenue Church, to take effect June 1. There were many misgivings as to the future of a work so well begun. The church, however, was blessed in immediately securing its present pastor, Rev. S. Fraser Langford, who, with Mrs. Langford, had long been known and loved by the Parsells Church people. Under his efficient leadership the work in all departments went forward. Many who had been undecided for some time came out boldly for the Master, and when the time for the tenth anniversary rolled around the church was once more free of debt. With appropriate ceremonies, before a large audience of happy and grateful people, the mortgage, representing a debt of \$2,500. was burned on April 25, 1905.

The church has a membership of 300 and is well organized and active.

Blessings both temporal and spiritual have crowned the efforts of the laborers in this vineyard. May not greater blessings be expected if each one does his part? For we are told, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouses, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."



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## Regular Monthly Meetings

Advisory Committee meets the second Monday preceding the first Sunday of each month.

Building Committee the third Thursday.

Business Meeting of Church the Wednesday following Communion.

Business meeting of Christian Endeavor Societies the second Tuesday at 8:00 P. M.

Covenant meeting Wednesday before the first Sunday.

Communion the first Sunday.

Consecration services of the Christian Endeavor Societies the first Sunday.

Ladies' Aid Society meets the first and third Tuesdays at 3:00 P. M.

Men's Club every Monday at 8:00 P. M.

Mission Circle on the fourth Thursday at 3:00 P. M.

## Quarterly Meetings and Offerings

Offering for Foreign Missions, November—January.

Offering for Home Missions, February—April.

Offering for Ministerial Education, May—July.

Offering for State Convention, August—October.

Quarterly Business Meeting of Church on the Wednesday after the first Sunday in April, July and January.

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## Elections and Annual Events

February, Fourth Thursday—Missionary Circle.

March, First Sunday—Sunday School.

March, First Tuesday—Ladies' Aid Society.

Easter Exercises on Easter Sunday.

June, Second Sunday—Children's Day.

September, Last Wednesday—Roll Call and Church Day.

October, Last Monday—Men's Club.

October, First Monday—Annual meeting of Church and Corporation.

October, First Thursday and Friday—Monroe County Association.

November, Third Sunday—Bible Day.

December, Second Tuesday—Christian Endeavor Societies.

December—Christmas Exercises, Xmas Week.

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## Alphabetical Street List

OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP, MAY 1, 1909

### ANDERSON AVENUE

14 Harris, Mr. A. D.                      14 Harris, Mrs. A. D.

### ALDEN PLACE

5 Tapp, Mr. Grover                      5 Tapp, Mrs. Grover

### AVERILL AVENUE

108 Smith, Mrs. T. D.

### ARCH STREET

68 Lentkoop, Mr. Wm. C.	70 Cropsey, Mr. Wm.
68 Lentkoop, Mrs. Wm. C.	70 Cropsey, Miss Lottie
68 Lentkoop, William	70 Cropsey, Miss Katherine

### BRECK STREET

2 Perkins, Mrs. E.	105 Niggli, Miss Lena
14 Macomber, Mr. J. W.	108 Bartholf, Mrs. S.
14 Macomber, Mrs. J. W.	109 Terry, Mr. Frank
105 Niggli, Mrs. I.	109 Terry, Mrs. Frank
105 Niggli, Miss Ida	

### BALDWIN STREET

9 De Hond, Mr. E.	9 Stever, Miss Edna
9 De Hond, Mrs. E.	9 Stever, Mr. Alger

### BARNUM STREET

63 Rowe, Miss Edith

### BOWMAN STREET

11 La Buff, Miss Sylvia

### CLINTON AVENUE NORTH

153 Moore, Mrs. C.

### CENTRAL PARK

335 Post, Mrs. F. E.

### CHAMBERLAIN STREET

21 Forest, Mr. Vincent	32 Bloom, Mr. Wm. A.
21 Forest, Mrs. Vincent	32 Bloom, Mrs. Wm. A.

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## COPELAND STREET

- |    |                    |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|
| 69 | Ellinwood, Mr. G.  | 89 | Backus, Mr. B. C.  |
| 69 | Ellinwood, Mrs. G. | 89 | Backus, Mrs. B. C. |

## CYPRESS STREET

- 5 Wagar, Miss Anna

## DIAMOND PLACE

- 8 Thornton, Mrs. Frank

## EAST AVENUE

- 113 Sanderson, Mrs. M. C.

## ELLISON STREET

- 87 Schaaf, Mr. E.

## EDITH STREET

- 21 Post, Mr. Geo. E.

## EMMA STREET

- 21 Booth, Mrs. L.

## GARSON AVENUE

- |     |                       |     |                         |
|-----|-----------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 120 | Van Huben, Mr. H. F.  | 397 | Summerville, Mrs. Olive |
| 120 | Van Huben, Mrs. H. F. | 425 | Bailey, Mrs. H. G.      |
| 120 | Van Huben, Lewis      | 437 | Irwin, Mrs. F. E.       |
| 120 | Von Wie, Mrs. A. E.   | 437 | Rupert, Miss Lottie     |
| 311 | Taylor, Mrs. Geo.     | 448 | Tullar, Mr. Roy         |
| 311 | Taylor, Miss Florence | 636 | Goff, Mr. H. J.         |
| 361 | Soules, Mrs. L. B.    | 636 | Goff, Mrs. H. J.        |
| 397 | King, Miss Alice      | 823 | Barker, Mr. R. I.       |

## GRAND AVENUE

- |     |                       |     |                        |
|-----|-----------------------|-----|------------------------|
| 65  | Taylor, Mr. F. A.     | 180 | Terborg, Herman        |
| 65  | Taylor, Mrs. F. A.    | 180 | Terborg, Miss Bertha   |
| 65  | Taylor, Mr. Robert    | 225 | Van Lone, Mr. Chas. P. |
| 65  | Taylor, Arthur        | 225 | Van Lone, Miss Pearl   |
| 65  | Taylor, Marion        | 285 | Lewis, Mrs. H. R.      |
| 87  | Brundedge, Mr. D. H.  | 285 | Lewis, Carlton         |
| 87  | Brundedge, Mrs. D. H. | 285 | Lewis, Miss Louise     |
| 87  | Drake, Miss Florence  | 312 | Lefferts, Mrs. G.      |
| 180 | Terborg, Mr. John     | 464 | Loeffler, Mr. Fred     |

## GREENLEAF STREET

- |    |                     |    |                       |
|----|---------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 13 | Thompson, Mrs. A.   | 25 | Van Buren, Mr. Frank  |
| 13 | Weidrich, Miss Anna | 25 | Van Buren, Mrs. Frank |

## GARDINER PARK

- |    |                 |    |                   |
|----|-----------------|----|-------------------|
| 10 | Rupert, Mrs. V. | 11 | Pease, Mrs. Homer |
|----|-----------------|----|-------------------|



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256 Plain, Mr. James	530 Cook, Fred
256 Plain, Mrs. James	551 Eastwood, Mr. Frank
256 Webster, Miss Anna	551 Eastwood, Mrs. Frank
335 Spear, Miss Margaret	593 Washburn, Mrs. M. J.
432 Frost, Mrs. E.	593 Burns, Mrs. Louis
446 Leonard, Mrs. Clark	597 Wing, Mrs. Chas.
465 Whitbeck, Miss Mabel	597 Wing, Miss Ida
530 Cook, Mr. Leonard	597 Wing, Adelbert
530 Cook, Miss Lena	

## HOLMDEL PLACE

43 Langford, Rev. S. F.	43 Langford, Mrs. S. F.
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## KINGSTON STREET

16 Barker, Mr. Curtis	16 Barker, Mrs. Curtis
-----------------------	------------------------

## LAKE AVENUE

55 Coons, Mrs. A. M.	55 Coons, Miss Luella
----------------------	-----------------------

## LAMONT PLACE

5 Judd, Mr. J.	5 Henderson, Mrs. Libbie
5 Judd, Mrs. J.	

## LAURA STREET

4 Curtice, Miss Mildred	4 Curtice, Ralph
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## MAIN STREET EAST

1072 Glidden, Mr. E.	1396 Burns, Mrs. Geo.
1072 Glidden, Mrs. E.	1396 Burns, Miss Florence
1103 Ward, Mrs. E. J.	1396 Burns, Miss Georgia
1296 Owens, Mrs. E. A.	1396 Burns, Miss Mildred
1301 De Graff, Mr. E. E.	1477 Adsit, Mrs. H. R.
1301 De Graff, Mrs. E. E.	1492 Wicks, Miss Lillian
1396 Burns, Mr. Geo.	

## MONROE AVENUE

114 Brierly, Mrs. M.	395 Jordan, Miss Florence
----------------------	---------------------------

## MELVILLE STREET

95 Allen, Miss Grace	138 Jenks, Miss Lolah
95 Allen, Miss Ruth	143 Beebe, Mrs. Chas.
108 Forest, Mr. W. J.	143 Beebe, Clarence
108 Forest, Mrs. W. J.	143 Beebe, Miss Jennie
108 Forest, Claude	144 Yates, Mr. Carl
108 Forest, Miss Blanche	144 Yates, Mrs. Carl
108 Forest, Earl	194 Harvey, Mr. Wm. J.
138 Jenks, Mrs. F.	237 Patchen, Mrs. H. M.

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## MENG PLACE

58	Gooderidge, Edward	98	Fredericksen, Miss Doris
69	Moody, Mr. Geo.	151	Smith, Mr. John
69	Moody, Mrs. Geo.	151	Smith, Mrs. John
69	Moody, Miss Elizabeth	151	Smith, Mr. Herbert
79	Salisbury, Mr. Frank	151	Smith, Miss Adaline
79	Salisbury, Mrs. Frank	151	Smith, Alfred
98	Comee, Mr. W. S.	201	Irwin, Mr. E.
98	Comee, Mrs. W. S.	201	Irwin, Mrs. E.
98	Comee, James	201	Irwin, Miss Martha

## NORTH GOODMAN STREET

238	Munger, Mrs. C. N.	617	Searing, Mr. S. H.
531	Ward, Mr. Geo.	617	Searing, Mrs. S. H.
531	Ward, Mrs. Geo.		

## NORTH UNION STREET

304 Crandall, Mr. W. J.

## NIAGARA STREET

61 Rice, Mr. L. D.

## NORTON STREET

14 Thorpe, Mrs. Sarah

## OSWEGO STREET

30 James, Miss Elizabeth

## OXFORD STREET

236	Curren, Mr. Geo. A.	236	Curren, Harold
236	Curren, Mrs. Geo. A.		

## PARK AVENUE

424 Weeks, Mr. Hugh

## PARSELLS AVENUE

11	Halbert, Miss Ruth	170	Hammond, Roy
117	Verdine, Mr. A. J.	170	Hammond, Leslie
117	Verdine, Mrs. A. J.	181	Bell, Mr. R. E.
118	Klein, Mr. Edward	195	Ray, Mrs. Caroline
118	Klein, Mrs. Edward	202	Knapp, Mrs. Homer
118	Klein, Miss Mattie	202	Knapp, Miss Emma
122	Diem, Mrs. Geo.	202	Knapp, Miss Mildred
122	Diem, Miss Margaret	236	Wing, Mr. W. J.
152	Carr, Mrs. W. H.	236	Wing, Mrs. W. J.
170	Hammond, Mrs. E.		

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236	Wing, Mr. Alonzo	309	Lewis, James
236	Wing, Miss Lulu	321	Ewell, Mr. Scott
237	Ashley, Mr. A. C.	321	Ewell, Mrs. Scott
237	Ashley, Mrs. A. C.	349	Bettis, Mr. L. D.
237	Ashley, Miss Bertha	349	Bettis, Mrs. L. D.
281	Imrie, Dr. G. T.	349	Boies, Miss Alice
281	Imrie, Mrs. G. T.	381	Moore, Miss Esther
306	Swett, Mrs. J. B.	381	Moore, Miss Mary
306	Swett, Miss Nina	405	Stemp, Mr. Thomas
306	Swett, Mrs. Lawrence	405	Stemp, Mrs. Thomas
309	Lewis, Mrs. C. E.	491	Williams, Mrs. Alfred

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5	Bathrick, Mr. Andrew	5	Bathrick, Mrs. Andrew
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13	Erskine, Mrs. E. F.
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## RICHARD STREET

81	Mann, Miss Florence
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## SANTEE STREET

15	Odell, Miss Geneiveve
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36	Rogers, Mrs. Irvin H.	36	Rogers, Henry M.

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55	Smith, Herald
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## SHEPARD STREET

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## SOUTH FITZHUGH STREET

171	Van Duser, Mrs. R.
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	KIFWA, AFRICA	
Fredericksen, Mr. P.		Fredericksen, Mrs. P.

## ADDENDA

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261 Baker, Mrs. Lloyd	261 Bishop, Mrs. L. H.
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# CONSTITUTION

OF THE

## Parsells Avenue Baptist Church

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

### ARTICLE I.

#### NAME.

This organization shall be called the Parsells Avenue Baptist Church of Rochester, N. Y.

### ARTICLE II.

#### OFFICERS.

#### SECTION 1.—*List of Officers.*

The officers of this church shall be a pastor, not less than four deacons, either six or nine trustees, clerk, financial secretary and treasurer.

#### SECTION 2—*The Pastor.*

1. *Election.* The pastor shall be elected at a special church meeting, called for this particular purpose, previous notice of which shall be twice given at regular services on different Sundays. A three-fourths vote of members present shall be required to elect.

2. *Duties.* It shall be the duty of the pastor to preach steadily to the church; to administer the ordinances of the church; to preside, when present, over all church meetings; to study the life of the church and suggest aims and methods of religious activity for the consideration and approval of the advisory committee; and to perform impartially the general duties belonging to the pastoral office. By virtue of his office he shall act in an advisory capacity at the meetings of the deacons and the trustees, and he shall be *ex officio* a member of all committees, both regular and special.

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SECTION 3—*Board of Deacons.*

1. *Election.* Each deacon shall be elected for a term of three years, and one or more deacons shall be elected at each annual business meeting, according as one or more vacancies occur. A three-fourths vote of members present shall be required to elect.

2. *Duties.* It shall be the duty of the deacons to assist the pastor in the administration of the church ordinances; to receive and hold the alms of the church known as the fellowship fund, and disburse the same for the relief of the poor and needy; to appoint the necessary number of ushers and supervise their work; to visit the sick; and in general to counsel and co-operate with the pastor in promoting the spiritual interests of the church.

3. *Report.* The board of deacons shall make a report at the annual church business meeting of all moneys contributed to the fellowship fund.

4. *Vacancies.* In case a vacancy in the board of deacons shall occur through death, removal, or by any cause other than the ending of his term of office, the church shall elect a successor with as little delay as necessary, at a church meeting called especially for this purpose, previous notice of which shall be twice given at regular services on different Sundays.

SECTION 4—*Board of Trustees.*

1. *Membership and Corporate Name.* The trustees shall be members of the church in good and regular standing, and shall be a body corporate under the name of "The Trustees of the Parsells Avenue Baptist Church of Rochester, N. Y."

2. *Election.* The trustees shall be elected in accordance with the state laws in such cases made and provided.

3. *Officers.* The board of trustees shall elect a president from their own number. The clerk of the church shall be *ex officio* secretary of the board.

4. *Meetings.* The trustees shall hold regular meetings on the Tuesday evening following the last Sunday in every month.

5. *Duties.* The trustees shall have charge of the church property, but shall not sell, mortgage or otherwise encumber the real estate or other property of the church, nor in any way bring indebtedness upon the same, unless empowered to do so by a three-fourths vote of members present at a regular annual busi-



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ness meeting of the church, or one called for that special purpose, of either of which previous notice shall be twice given at regular services on different Sundays. The trustees are directed to exercise the following powers:

(a.) To keep the church property in good repair and fully insured.

(b.) To draw warrants on the treasurer for the expenditure of all church funds, except the fellowship fund and the building fund, as such expenditures shall be authorized by the church.

(c.) To appoint a chorister and a janitor, prescribe and supervise their duties, and determine their salaries.

(d.) To require quarterly and annual reports of the finances, membership and work of each church organization, which reports are to be filed with the church records in the possession of the clerk.

(e.) To prepare, before the close of the church year, an estimate of expenses for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the church for approval.

(f.) To co-operate with the advisory committee in enforcing this constitution, according to the provisions of Article X.

6. *Report.* The trustees shall read the minutes of their meetings whenever called upon by the church to do so, and shall make a detailed report of their proceedings at the annual business meeting of the church, this report to be submitted in writing and filed with the records in the possession of the clerk.

#### SECTION 5—Clerk.

1. *Election.* The clerk shall be elected at the annual church business meeting, and shall hold office for the period of one year, or until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

2. *Duties.* The clerk shall keep a record of all business transacted by the church, to be read and approved at each subsequent business meeting, or earlier if called for; and shall keep a register of all members of the church, make out all letters of dismissal, and conduct all such correspondence as the church may direct. The clerk shall be *ex officio* secretary of the board of trustees, and shall give a written notice to each member thereof of each and every meeting of the board.

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SECTION 6—*Financial Secretary.*

1. *Election.* The financial secretary shall be elected at the annual church business meeting, and shall hold office for a period of one year, or until a successor is duly elected and qualified.

2. *Duties.* The financial secretary shall take charge of, count and without delay turn over to the treasurer, requiring receipts therefor, all moneys paid into the church funds, with the exception of the fellowship and building funds. He shall keep an individual account with each subscriber to the financial support of the church, and shall make a quarterly report to each, in the form of a statement of account, or by posted chart in church.

3. *Bond.* The financial secretary shall be bonded to an amount to be determined by the board of trustees, the cost of the bond to be paid out of the current expense fund of the church.

SECTION 7—*Treasurer.*

1. *Election.* The treasurer shall be elected at the annual church business meeting, and shall hold office for the period of one year, or until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

2. *Duties.* The treasurer shall receive from the financial secretary, giving his receipt therefor, all funds of the church except the fellowship and building funds, and shall disburse the same as the church, through its trustees, shall direct, no payment whatever being made except on receipt of a properly signed voucher. He shall record and summarize the financial reports of the different church organizations, and shall present them to the church in the form of a supplement to his annual report, the latter to be complete and detailed and furnished to the church at the annual business meeting.

3. *Bond.* The treasurer shall be bonded to an amount to be determined by the board of trustees, the cost of the bond to be paid out of the current expense fund of the church.

## ARTICLE III.

## COMMITTEES.

SECTION 1—*List of Committees.*

The standing committees of the church shall be the advisory, baptismal, pulpit and social committees, elected at the annual church business meeting, the staff, the committee on appointments

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and the committee on constitution. The special committees shall be the auditing committee, music committee and nominating committee.

#### SECTION 2—*Advisory Committee.*

1. *Membership and Election.* The advisory committee shall consist of the pastor, deacons, clerk and four church members elected by the church.

2. *Duties.* The duties of the advisory committee shall be as follows:

(a.) To pass upon all matters of a religious nature, or pertaining to the spiritual well being of the church as a body or of any individual in the church, and to pass upon the applications of persons seeking membership or dismissal, before any such matters can be brought before the church.

(b.) To counsel and co-operate with pastor and deacons in promoting the spiritual interests of the church.

(c.) To recommend to the church for reprimand or dismissal such cases as may require discipline.

(d.) To investigate and pass upon the purposes and needs of work proposed for organization and affiliation with the church.

(e.) To co-operate with the board of trustees in enforcing this constitution, according to the provisions of Article X.

3. *Meeting.* The advisory committee shall hold its meetings on the second Monday before the first Sunday of each month, at which time all the regular business to come before the committee shall be transacted. Special meetings may be called by the pastor or deacons, by notifying each member of the committee, to consider business of immediate importance not admitting of delay.

#### SECTION 3. *Baptismal Committee.*

1. *Membership.* The baptismal committee shall consist of three men and three women.

2. *Duties.* This committee shall render all necessary assistance at baptismal services, and have charge of all articles in use at such times.

#### SECTION 4—*Pulpit Committee.*

1. *Membership.* The pulpit committee shall consist of five members.

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2. *Duties.* The duties of this committee shall be to provide supplies during the absence of the pastor and, when there is no pastor, to present candidates to the church until the pastorate is filled.

#### SECTION 5—*Social Committee.*

1. *Membership.* The social committee shall consist of twelve members, six women and six men.

2. *Duties.* Its special duty shall be to make all necessary preparations and arrangements for the social part of the celebration of the annual Church Day and Roll Call. Its regular duty shall be to welcome strangers at the Sunday services and devise all proper ways and means to promote the social life of the church.

#### SECTION 6—*The Staff.*

1. *Membership and Officers.* The following officers shall, by reason of their office or appointment, be held to constitute the membership of the staff: The pastor, who shall be chairman; the clerk, who shall be secretary; and the presidents, vice presidents, assistants, chairmen or heads of all church boards, teachers, church committees and organizations affiliated with the church.

2. *Representation of Organizations.* In case the president or head of any of these boards, committees or organizations is not a member of this church, or is unable to serve, such society or body shall have the power to elect one of its members, who must also be a member of the church, to represent it on the staff.

3. *Suffrage.* Each member of the staff shall possess one vote, whether representing one or more organizations.

4. *Duties.* The duties of the staff shall be to act as a consulting body for the purpose of co-ordinating and advancing the work of the church, through the various church organizations, in such a manner as to advance the kingdom of God.

5. *Responsibility.* In case any action taken by the staff shall be deemed unadvisable, the pastor, clerk, or the representative of either the board of deacons or the board of trustees, may refer the matter to the advisory committee for consideration; and that



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body shall, if it deems such action necessary, place the matter before the church for final settlement.

6. *Meetings.* The regular meetings of the staff shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Sunday of each month.

#### SECTION 7—*Committee on Appointments.*

1. *Membership.* The members of the committee shall be: A deacon elected by the board of deacons, a member of the board of trustees, and the church clerk.

2. *Duties.* The duties of this committee shall be to keep a list of all regular appointments of the church and of affiliated organizations; to determine the propriety and advisability of all special appointments involving the use of the church building; and to fix the date and hour of the same in accordance with the provisions of Article IX of this constitution.

3. *Responsibility.* The consent of at least two of the three members shall be obtained before any special appointments may be made. Any action or decision of the committee may, if any one desires, be referred to the advisory committee for final judgment.

#### SECTION 8—*Committee on Constitution.*

The advisory committee and the board of trustees are hereby authorized and instructed to appoint one member from each body to serve together as a special committee to guarantee to the church the full and proper enforcement of all the provisions of this constitution; and to this end the advisory committee and the board of trustees are jointly empowered to take any action which may seem necessary or advisable.

#### SECTION 9—*Auditing Committee.*

1. *Membership.* The auditing committee shall be a special committee of three members, elected by the church at the annual meeting.

2. *Duties.* The auditing committee shall examine and audit the books of the financial secretary and treasurer, together with all reports, vouchers, receipts and pledges connected with the transactions of these offices, and shall submit a report to the church at the first monthly business meeting following the annual meeting.

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SECTION 10—*Quorum for Committees.*

In all committees a majority of membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECTION 11—*The Nominating Committee.*

The nominating committee shall consist of two members elected at the annual meeting and the pastor, who shall post a list of nominations one month before annual election.

SECTION 12—*Music Committee.*

1. The music committee shall consist of five members.

2. Their duties shall be to nominate a chorister, said nomination to be ratified by the trustees, and to look after the music of the church.

## ARTICLE IV.

## MEETINGS.

SECTION 1—*Moderator.* The pastor, or in his absence any member whom the church may elect, shall act as moderator of all business meetings of the church.

SECTION 2—*Monthly Business Meeting.* The monthly business meeting of the church shall be held on the Wednesday evening following the first Sunday of each month, for the transaction of all regular business, including all recommendations of the advisory committee, with the exception of those relating to applicants for membership or dismissal, and for the transaction of such special business as may be brought before it.

SECTION 3—*Special Business Meetings.* Special business meetings of the church may be called at any time by the pastor, deacons or trustees, to consider business of immediate importance not permitting action to be delayed until the following monthly meeting.

SECTION 4—*Annual Business Meeting.* The annual business meeting of the church shall be held on the first Monday evening in October, and shall take the place of the regular business meeting for that month. Reports covering the entire previous year shall be submitted in writing by the pastor, deacons, trustees, clerk, financial secretary, treasurer, superintendents or presidents of all affiliated organizations, and chairmen of all standing

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and special committees, these reports to be filed with the church records in the possession of the clerk.

SECTION 5—*Quarterly Business Meetings.* The monthly business meetings in January, April and July shall be known as quarterly business meetings. At these meetings reports similar to those required at the annual meeting shall be presented to the church, and shall cover the preceding three months. In these reports shall be included detailed financial statements, which shall be summarized and embodied by the church treasurer in a supplement to his annual report.

SECTION 6—*Covenant Meeting.* The covenant meeting of the church shall be held on the Wednesday evening preceding Communion Sunday, which shall be the first Sunday in each month. The church covenant shall be read at this meeting and each church member present shall be called upon to take part in testimony.

SECTION 7—*Church Day.* The annual Church Day and Roll Call shall be held on the last Wednesday in September and shall be in charge of the board of trustees. At this time each member shall be expected to make a definite pledge to the financial support of the church. The roll will be called by the church clerk and this meeting shall be looked forward to as the yearly home gathering of the church, and each person shall be expected to respond to his name in person or by letter.

SECTION 8—*Elections.* All elections shall be by formal ballot, but all nominations shall be made by informal ballot. Unless otherwise specified in this constitution, a majority vote of members present shall be sufficient to elect.

SECTION 9—*Quorum for Church Meetings.* Fifteen members for the first hundred, and five additional for every additional hundred or major part thereof, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all church business.

## ARTICLE V.

### ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1—*By Baptism.* Any person who gives credible evidence of having been born again, and accepts the doctrines, covenant and discipline of the church, may be received for baptism and membership by a three-fourths vote of members pres-

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ent. But such evidence shall be presented to the church at a regular covenant meeting, in the form of a clear and definite statement of experience and belief. If, for any reason, the statement proves to be vague and not wholly satisfactory, action on the application shall be postponed for one month, at which time the candidate shall have the opportunity of coming before the church again. But no one shall be admitted to membership before reading the constitution and covenant of this church.

SECTION 2—*By Letter*. Any person presenting to the church a letter of honorable dismissal and recommendation from any church of like faith and order, may, by virtue of such letter, become a member of this church, with the consent of three-fourths of the members present.

SECTION 3—*By Experience*. Any person formerly a member of a church of like faith and order, whose membership in such church has ceased for any cause whatsoever, or any immersed believer, who is or has been a member of a church not of like faith and order, may, with the consent of three-fourths of the members present, become a member of this church by relation of his experience and showing satisfactory evidence of repentance and faith.

SECTION 4—*Application*. All applications for admission shall come in the form of recommendations from the advisory committee. The question of their reception shall not be taken in the presence of the applicants.

## ARTICLE VI.

### DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1—*By Letter*. Every member who is in good and regular standing, that is, who is not subject to discipline and whose subscription is paid up or has been remitted by the church, shall be entitled to a letter of dismissal and recommendation to any church of like faith and order, provided always such member shall remain under the watch care and be subject to the discipline of this church until properly united with another. No letter shall be valid for more than six months.

SECTION 2—*By Certificate of Christian Standing*. Any member in good and regular standing shall, upon his request, be granted a certificate of Christian standing.

SECTION 3—*Application*. All applications for dismissal shall come before the church in the form of recommendations from the advisory committee.

## ARTICLE VII.

### DISCIPLINE.

SECTION 1—*Authority and Method*. All cases of discipline, whether of public or private character, shall be conducted accord-



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ing to the instructions of the New Testament Scriptures, and Christ's specific rules in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew shall be accepted as the special standard of appeal as embodying the principles by which all such matters shall be judged.

**SECTION 2—Condition Requiring Discipline.** Any member from whom the church hears nothing, by word or presence, for a period of one year, thereby subjects himself to the discipline of the church.

**SECTION 3—Procedure.** Such cases as may be deemed to require discipline shall be brought to the attention of the church through the recommendations from the advisory committee.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### FINANCES.

Every member of the church shall be expected to contribute regularly to the funds of the church.

## ARTICLE IX.

### AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS.

**SECTION 1—Regular Appointments.** Societies affiliated with the Parsells Avenue Baptist Church on the date of the adoption of this constitution shall be considered regular church organizations, and a schedule of their regular appointments shall be filed at once with the committee on appointments.

**SECTION 2—New Organizations.** New organizations may be formed on recommendation of the advisory committee, their regular appointments to be sanctioned by the committee on appointments.

**SECTION 3—Special Appointments.** Church organizations making special appointments requiring the use of the church building shall previously obtain the consent of the committee on appointments; but such permission shall not be granted in case such special appointments would conflict with the regular appointments of any other church organizations.

## ARTICLE X.

### AMENDMENTS.

Any article, section or paragraph of this constitution may be altered or amended by giving a written notice of such alteration or amendment at least two weeks before action is taken on the same, and by securing a three-fourths vote of members present at a regular business meeting of the church.

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