

It is a concerned Church as evidenced by the institution and continuation of the Prayer List, the Shepherd's Program to keep in contact with the membership, particularly in times of distress. The support of bereaved families with providing food and fellowship for funeral services. For providing food for the homebound through the "Soup" program and traveling communion for those unable to attend worship and communion services provide ongoing evidence of a concerned entity.

Over its history, Village Chapel has been blessed with good leadership. The six pastors have been caring, flexible, supportive, and have encouraged the Church's involvement, community outreach and the internal needs of the Church. Most have been involved not only in Village Chapel activities, but in the Presbytery and in ecumenical activities of area churches. Over the years the continuation of ecumenical services not only among the four "parish" Presbyterian churches, but services with other denominations have been well received. They have engaged in creative planning, particularly with involvement with the arts and the recent activities with the Thriving Congregation initiative.

Music has been a strength of Village Chapel with long-standing and talented leadership. When children were active, the inclusion of children in musical programming was well done. The involvement of area musicians in special services has been a very positive addition to the regular choir and instrumental programming. Members of the congregation have said "they come to Village to enjoy the music"!

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, the preparation of this document, the gathering of "snippets" of the history of the Village Chapel Presbyterian Church from a multitude of sources has been a very interesting and personally rewarding experience. I have relied on those individuals who have noted the history of the Church in their minutes, notes, letters, personal interactions, etc. to gather the information and record it sequentially. Of course, there are a lot of "snippets" missing for a variety of reasons; however, the content and appendixes reflect a great deal of the Church's seventy-five years. It is my hope that this "collection" will serve to be of some value to those who are interested in planning for change in the Church or of the continued evolution of Village Chapel. And, for when the time comes for the celebration of its Centennial, that this document and the filed supportive documents will provide a foundation for writing the 100th Anniversary History!!