

# Stone Valley Church

BY JOHN B. BOYER

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Mr. Elmer Ressler gave a very comprehensive background of the history of the Stone Valley church before our historical society in 1933. Mr. John H. Carter likewise treated us with illuminating treatises of the early history of Himmel Church twice during the past year. Since the latter church has essentially the same historic origin and background as Stone Valley I am thus limited in my choice of subject matter for this talk. I therefore beg your indulgence for some repetitions that seem necessary.

The people of this church were predominantly rural minded and had acquired a reputation to be among the best farmers not only of Germany but of the world. We are told that in many instances the same soil was tilled for more than thirty generations by the same families. It is no wonder therefore that when they came to America they sought, settled and cleared the open country. Thus the rural churches sprang up first and the town churches later among the Lutherans and Reformed denominations to which these new-comers principally belonged.

These new immigrants were known for their indomitable industry, keen wit, independence and high degree of intelligence. They sought three clearly defined objectives, namely—homes, churches and schools.

The principal reason for their immigration to the western world at this time was the invitation of the Penns who personally solicited these Germans to come and settle their new lands, Penn's Woods. This invitation fell on very receptive ears, as they were tired of seeing the politicians overrun their rich harvest fields and vine-clad hills at will in a hunting chase, and experiencing the annoyance by the numerous religious fanatics of the time.

In carrying out their first objective, that of seeking new homes, it appears that they regarded limestone valleys at a premium, doubtless because the Palatinate, from which they came, is largely of that type of soil. I learned a few weeks ago in visiting some of the rich limestone valleys of the eastern counties that it is not an uncommon thing to find some of those lands in the possession of the same family for nearly two hundred years. My great forbear, Peter Boyer, came to this valley from over-landed Berks county, where he had a fine limestone farm near Yellow House, with his family of fourteen children and settled one and one-half miles north from this spot because he found the soil of his choice here.

That the early immigrants were literate may well be inferred from the fact that nearly all of them could sign their names to the oaths of allegiance and adjuration which were required of them upon arriving at Philadelphia, where most of them landed.

The establishment of schools for their numerous children and churches for themselves and their families was not only an objective, but a ruling passion of their lives, as attested to by the early accommodations for these institutions which were made by them in their homes, their barns, or in God's open places, and later in separate buildings.

It is very probable that a number of white settlers found their way into this section from the lower counties, principally Berks, some years before the purchase of 1749, which extended to Line mountain. However, the most rapid influx occurred after that date. That the latter boundary line was respected by these early settlers is shown by the fact that even today the Pennsylvania Dutch tongue is not generally spoken beyond the Line mountain. The latter was really a racial boundary line as well as a line.

Reverend Drumheller, who was the Lutheran pastor of this charge in 1883, recorded some of the leading church facts and traditions of his day. According to him church services were held here and the rites of baptism and confirmation solemnized at an early date, though the first



church, which was a log structure, 20'x30', was not built until about 1775. That the circuit rider served the spiritual needs of these people for fifteen, twenty or more years can hardly be doubted. Intervals of from three to six months elapsed between visits of these primitive shepherds. People buried their dead in the now unknown graves and waited for the next visit of the circuit rider for the holding of the funeral services. The rites of confirmation and baptism, and the marriage services, together with preaching services, made up rather full schedules for these visiting ministers who remained usually for two or three days in the valley.

The first church of log construction which was also used as a school house was built in the lower section of the cemetery, at the spot where a small evergreen tree now stands.

According to the best records and traditions a school was maintained on the church property here continuously from those early days until the establishment of the public school system in Lower Mahanoy township.

Reverend Drumheller says that the church was organized by a Reverend Wolfe, although no definite date is now known. He must have been without any affiliation with either the Reformed Coetus or the Lutheran Synod, as his name does not appear in either of these records. The first preacher of the Lutheran denomination was Catechist J. Michael Enterline, born in Germany, who first came to the Lykens valley in 1773, and organized St. John's and Himmel church. He started baptismal and communicant records at Himmel in 1776 and at Stone Valley in 1777, which exist today. His daughter married John Adam Lenker, whose descendants worship in this church at present. It is significant that these three churches were regularly organized in the 70's just as the beginnings of Trappe and Tulpehocken date from 1743, and New Jerusalem 1747, while Hain's at Wernersville was started in 1735, and Falkner Swamp, Shippack, Whitmarsh, Philadelphia and Germantown came into being in 1734. However, the latter five centers did not have regular church buildings until later. In this connection it is also inter-

esting to note that Reading, a capital of Lutheran and Reformed churches today, had its first organization of these churches together with that of the Friends in 1751, several years after the surrounding rural churches were begun.

The first regularly ordained Reformed pastor who we know positively served this charge was Reverend Samuel Dubendorf. He was born in Germany. His education was of the highest degree, being able to talk and write Latin about as fluently as German. He was official rector in a German university. His records which are preserved at Himmel and Stone Valley churches are characterized by numerous words and phrases in original Latin. He came to America as a chaplain on a Hessian troop ship in 1777. Since he parted company with these soldiers a month after arriving in America, it is possible that he served as chaplain simply as a means of earning his transportation. According to a letter written by his nephew, Mr. Reidermaster, of Philadelphia, to Holland May 18, 1780, his boat sailed from Portsmouth, England. Twenty weeks later he landed at New York, where he was detained for a period of four weeks before he could procure passage from General Howe to come to Germantown, his destination. He served as pastor there three years.

In the minutes of the Reformed Church Coetus of Pennsylvania, for 1781, we find the following: "Reverend Dubendorf left Germantown and accepted a charge in Lykens valley which is far distant. This old gentleman had the misfortune to come over with the Hessian troops and remained quite a time with the British in New York therefore he was suspected as siding with the British and lost the confidence of the people in Germantown." In the records of the Reformed Church Fathers, however, an account is given that the British soldiers took all his property or belongings from him; therefore, he left even though his parishioners remained loyal to him. We are inclined to believe the Coetus account in preference to the latter since the former more likely represents a consensus of opinion than the latter.

Reverend Dubendorf wrote to Coetus complaining of



the poverty of the congregation in the Lykens valley which could not give him necessary support; also of the danger of entirely perishing since his life was in great danger because of Indians. Coetus sent him fifteen pounds. In 1784 the Most Reverend Classes of Amsterdam sent 100 florins to Reverend Dubendorf for the support of himself in his work in this charge. Thus these charges at that time were a foreign mission field and received aid as such, a fact which might well be considered when our attention is called to foreign mission work today.

His only report to Coetus in 1784 showed thirty-six baptisms and forty-one confirmations from Lykens valley and Swaben creek. It must be noted that Stone Valley was for over 100 years a part of the Lykens Valley charge. Owing to the fact that this charge was on what was then regarded as the frontier of the church movement, far distant from Reading, Philadelphia, Lancaster and York, the usual meeting places of Coetus, the expense of travel while on such meager income made his attendance at the annual sessions of that body prohibitive, and he was thus regularly obliged to ask to be excused from attending.

In 1785 Reverend Dubendorf declined to accept a call from the Carlisle Reformed congregation, which fact indicates that he must have had keen passion for sacrificial service in this primitive charge. However, he did accept a second call from Carlisle in 1790, but after serving there for a period of five years he returned to the Lykens valley charge again, as he said he was homesick for the scenery. He doubtless helped to build the second church here at Stone Valley, which was started in 1796, finished in 1802, and was used for 104 years.

He left here in 1800 to live retired with a friend at Selinsgrove, where he died and now rests in an unmarked grave. He was never married. He was a cousin to Reverend Cyriacus Spangenburg Von Reidemeister, whose career was a blot on the Reformed church history.

In the Reformed Church Fathers, Reverend Dubendorf is described as a man of prompt habits, tender and refined in his feelings, grateful toward his benefactors, affectionately attractive to his friends, devoted to his work

of the ministry and meekly submissive in all his tribulations in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ.

Following is a translation from the German of the initial portion of the early Stone Valley Lutheran and Reformed Church record started by Catechist J. Michael Enterline in 1777:

#### Baptisms

- (1) Son, John Nicolaus, born February 16, 1777; baptized April 14, 1777; parents, John Nicolaus Bopp & wife Magdalena; sponsors, Nicolaus Prosius & Elizabeth Schafarin Prosius, single.
- (2) Son, John Michael, born May 9, 1774; baptized June 5, 1774; parents, John Georg Jadel & wife Anna; sponsor, Michael Lenkert.
- (3) Son, John Jacob, born April 11, 1777; baptized April 14, 1777; parents, John Georg Jadel & wife Anna; sponsors, Jacob Krieger & wife Catharina.
- (4) Daughter, Juliana, born July 21, 1774; baptized August 7, 1774; parents, John Nicolaus Bopp & wife Magdalena; sponsor, Juliana Prosius, single.
- (5) Son, David, born December 30, 1775; baptized May 29, 1776; parents, George Kopp and wife Catharina; sponsors, Allaman & wife Catharine.
- (6) Son, John, born June 6, 1777; baptized June 27, 1777; parents, Diedrich & wife Anna; sponsors, Martin Kerstetter & wife Elizabeth.
- (7) Daughter, Christina, born July 13, 1777; baptized September 14, 1777; parents, Robert Waker & wife Jeny; sponsors, John Garman and Marie Margaret Prosius, both single.
- (8) Daughter, Barbara, born September 20, 1777; baptized October 13, 1777; parents, John Kniss & wife Elizabeth; sponsor, Barbara Kniss, single.
- (9) Son, Jonas, born September 18, 1775; baptized May 20, 1777; parents, Peter Allaman & wife; sponsors, Jonas Joachin & wife Elizabeth.
- (10) Son, John Jacob, born October 18, 1776; baptized May 20, 1777; parents, Peter Allaman & wife; sponsors, Sebastian Prosius & wife Margaret.



(11) Daughter, Eva Margaret, born February 28, 1777; baptized April 19, 1778; parents, Jacob Krieger & wife Catharina; sponsors, Margaret and John Georg Prosius, both single.

(12) Son, John Georg, born February 28, 1777; baptized April 19, 1778; parents, Franz Schafer & wife Elizabeth; sponsors, John German & Juliana Prosius, single.

(13) Daughter, Maria Magdalena, born April 5, 1778; baptized April 19, 1778; parents, Michel Schafer & wife Anna; sponsors, Nicolaus Bopp & wife Magdalena.

(14) Son, John Adam, born June 21, 1778; baptized August 31, 1778; parents, John Adam Kopp & wife Esther; sponsors, Jacob Krieger & wife.

(15) Daughter, Maria Sussanna, born June 26, 1778; baptized August 31, 1778; parents, Ludwig Schreyer & wife Johanna; sponsors, Peter Allaman & wife Catharina.

(16) Daughter, Elizabeth, born April 20, 1779; baptized May 18, 1779; sponsor, Elizabeth Lenkert, single.

(17) Daughter, Sussanna, born September 1778; baptized April 18, 1779; parents, Georg Snider & wife; sponsor, Diedrich Heinbrach.

(18) Daughter, Elizabeth, born March 24, 1779; baptized May 29, 1779; parents, Jonas Joachim & wife Elizabeth; sponsors, Georg Lenkert & wife Charlotta.

(19) Son, John Peter, born March 29, 1779; baptized May 29, 1779; parents, Dietrich Kemp & wife Anna; sponsors, Peter Allaman & wife Catharina.

(20) Daughter, Elizabeth, born July 4, 1779; baptized May 29, 1779; parents, Heinbrach & wife Hanna; sponsors, George & wife Anna.

(21) Son, John, born June 17, 1779; baptized, July 21, 1779; parents, Sam Raid & wife; sponsor, Jacob Thomas.

(22) Daughter, Maria Margaret, born June 9, 1779; baptized July 6, 1779; parents, Georg Bender & wife Charlotta; sponsors, Prosius & wife.

(23) Son, Nicolaus, born April 14, 1780; baptized April 17, 1780; parents, Georg Jadel & wife Anna; sponsors, Nicolaus Bopp & wife Magdalena.

(24) Daughter, Catharine Barbara, born January 31, 1780; baptized April 17, 1780; parents, Peter Allaman &

wife Catharine; sponsors, Nicolaus Schafer & wife Juliana.

(25) Son, John Peter, born May 17, 1780; baptized May 30, 1780; parents, John Miller & wife Frances; sponsors, Peter Allaman & wife Catharina.

(26) Son, William, born 25, 1780; baptized June 28, 1780; parents, Peter Walker & wife; sponsors, Peter Allaman & wife Catharina.

(27) Daughter, Anna, born March 7, 1780; baptized June 27, 1780; parents, John Walker & wife; sponsors, Sebastian Kerstetter & wife.

(28) Daughter, Catharina Elizabeth, born June 15, 1780; baptized August 15, 1780; parents, Jacob Krieger & wife Catharine; sponsors, Nicolaus Schafer & wife.

(29) Daughter, Catharina Elizabeth, born June 26, 1780; baptized August 13, 1780; parents, John Nicolaus Bopp & wife Magdalena; sponsors, Jacob Krieger & wife.

(30) Son, John Michael, born June 29, 1780; baptized 17, 1780; parents, Diedrich Kemp & wife Anna; sponsors, Michael (incomplete).

(31) Daughter, Maria Catharina, born June 6, 1780; baptized 17, 1780; parent, George Schafer; sponsors, Michael Lenkert & wife.

(32) Daughter, Maria Elizabeth, born August 10, 1780; baptized 17, 1780; parents, Nicolaus Brosius & wife Anna; sponsors, Nicolaus Bopp & wife.

(33) Daughter, Elizabeth, born October 29, 1780; baptized November 12, 1780; parents, Schroyer & wife Johanna; sponsors, Martin Kerstetter & wife Elizabeth.

(34) Daughter, Cath. Elizabeth, born February 11, 1781; baptized February 25, 1781; parents, Nicolaus Schafer & wife Julian; sponsors, John Jacob Krieger & wife Catharina.

(35) Son, John Diedrich, born April 26, 1781; baptized May 1, 1781; parents, Sebastian Steinbacher & wife; sponsors, Diedrich Steinbacher & wife Cath.

(36) Daughter, Maria Elizabeth, born April 2, 1781; baptized May 20, 1781; parents, & wife Elizabeth; sponsors, Dorathea Kerstetter.

(37) Daughter, Catharina, born February 7, 1781;



baptized, June 4, 1781; parents Casper Bernold and wife Maria; sponsors, the parents.

(38) Son, John Diedrich, born August 6, 1781; baptized, August 19, 1781; parents George Kapp and wife Katherine; sponsors, L. Spate and wife Elizabeth.

(39) Son, David, born October 31, 1781; baptized, December 2, 1781; parents John Walker; sponsors, Sebastian Prosius and wife Margaret.

(40) Daughter, Charlotta, born November 12, 1781; baptized, November 26, 1781; parents Peter Billman and wife Katherine; sponsors, George Bender and wife Margaret.

(41) Daughter, Elizabeth, born July 29, 1782; baptized August 18, 1782; parents B. Kerstetter and wife Catherine; sponsors, John Sihrig and Elizabeth Bender.

(42) Son, John, born May 5, 1782; baptized, July 22, 1782; parents Michael Wilt and wife Margaret; sponsors, John Kaster and Catherine Miltin.

(43) Son, Jacob, born July 20, 1782; baptized August 28, 1782; parents John Miller and wife Francis; sponsors, Jacob Bender and Catherine Kerstetter.

(44) Daughter, Anna, born July 20, 1782; baptized August 28, 1782; parents John Miller and wife Francis; sponsors, Bernard Kerstetter and wife Christina.

(45) Daughter, Anna Catharina, born February 6, 1782; baptized September 6, 1782; parents Nicolous Prosius and wife Anna; sponsors, Jonas Jocum and wife Elizabeth.

(46) Son, Michael, born October 17, 1782; baptized November 16, 1782; parents Nicolous Bop and wife Magdeline; sponsors, Sebastian Prosius and wife.

(47) Son, John Nicolous, born November 16, 1782; baptized January 6, 1783; parents Deidrich Raup and wife Anna; sponsors, Nicolous Bop and wife Magdeline.

(48) Daughter, Anna Magdelina, born December 21, 1782; baptized January 26, 1783; parents Luther Sarn and wife Anna; sponsors, Nicolous Bop and wife Magdeline.

(49) Son, John Jacob, born January 26, 1783; baptized January 26, 1783; parents John Wolf and wife Catherine; sponsors, Jacob Scherab.

(50) Son, Leonard, born February 7, 1783; baptized March 1783; parents L. Kerstetter and wife Christina; sponsors, Jacob Bender and Catherine Kerstetter.

(51) Daughter, Maria, born February 21, 1783; baptized March 20, 1783; parents Nicolous Sihrig and wife Johanna; sponsors, Grandparents, John Sihrig and wife.

(52) Son, John, born January 15, 1783; baptized March 30, 1783; parents Adam Bopp and wife Sophia; sponsors, Elizabeth Witmer.

(53) Son, Adam, born February 15, 1781; baptized March 11, 1783; parents Adam Bopp and wife Sophia; sponsors, Sebastian Steinbrecher and wife.

(54) Daughter, Agnes, born October 28, 1782; baptized March 30, 1783; parents Robert Waker and wife Jane; sponsors, Dan Prosius and Elizabeth Lenker (single persons).

(55) Son, John George, born March 22, 1783; baptized March 27, 1783; parents Sebastian Steinbrecher and wife; sponsors, John Long and wife Elizabeth.

(56) Daughter, Anna Catherine, born May 3, 1783; baptized June 22, 1783; parents J. Selier and wife Elizabeth; sponsors, Casper Lenker and wife Elizabeth.

(57) Son, Peter, born October 4, 1782; baptized November 16, 1783; parents Frantz Schristor and wife Elizabeth; sponsors Sebastian Prosius and wife.

(58) Daughter, Maria, born September 4, 1783; baptized October 24, 1783; parents George Jadel and wife Anna; sponsors, Michael Bender and wife Catharina.

(59) Son, John Michael, born Sept. 28, 1783, baptized November 21, 1783; parents Matthew Winklemann and wife Cath.; sponsors, Martin Kerstetter & wife.

(60) Daughter, Anna Margareta, born Feb. 2, 1784; baptized April 18, 1784; parents John Miller and wife Catharina; sponsors, Michael Gahret & Margaret Kerstetter, single.

(61) Son, John, born Sept. 21, 1784; baptized Nov. 23, 1784 (in same year); parents, Nicolous Bopp and wife Magdelana; sponsors, Frank Schafer & wife Elizabeth.

(62) Infant daughter, Hanna Catharina, born Feb. 13, 1785; baptized Mar. 28, 1785; parents John Wolf and



wife Anna Catharina; sponsors Jacob Schwab, the Mother, Benedic and Mrs. Hanna Schafer.

(63) Daughter, Elizabeth, born Mar. 31, 1786; baptized, Apr. 16, 1786; parents Peter Alemann and wife Catharina; sponsors Michael Lenkert and wife Catharina, *nee* Yeakley.

(64) Daughter, Helena, born Apr. 2, 1785; baptized Apr. 16, 1785; parents Robert Walker and wife Junia; sponsors Johann Peter Kempel and wife Anna Maria Aleman.

(65) Son, Elias, born Feb. 13, 1785; baptized April 18; parents John Walker and wife Maria; sponsors George Daniel Brosius and his wife Elizabeth, *nee* Jury.

(66) Son, John Henrich, born Mar. 18, 1785; baptized April 1, 1785; parents John Heinrich Thomas and wife Anna Elizabeth; sponsors Joh Wolf and wife Anna Catharina.

(67) Daughter, Anna Barbara, born Apr. 10, 1785; baptized May 22, 1785; parents Gabriel Brousius and wife Maria Barbara, *nee* Keyel; sponsors Benjamin Ebereit and wife Christiana, *nee* Keyel.

(68) Daughter, Elizabeth, born April 3, 1785; baptized May 22, 1785; parents, Heinrich Lofer and wife Elizabeth; sponsors, Martin Kerstetter and wife Elizabeth, *nee* Kerstetter.

(69) July 27, 1788 born; baptized Aug. 28, 1785; parents Maximilian Haun and wife Elizabeth, *nee* Lofler; sponsors Daniel Shafer and wife.

(70) Daughter, Catharine Elizabeth, baptized May 22, 1785; parents Gabriel and his wife Maria Barbara; sponsors John Wolf and wife Anna Catharina, *nee* Schwaben.

(71) Daughter, Sophia Charlotta, born July 1, 1785; baptized Aug. 7, 1785; parents, Nicolous Brosius; Anna Catharina; sponsors, George Bender and wife Sophia Charlotta.

(72) Daughter, Catharin, born Aug. 20, 1785; baptized Aug. 28, 1785; parents, Caspar Heckard and wife Catharina; sponsors, Joh Diderich, visitor, and wife Catharina.

(73) Son, Frederich, born Oct. 24, 1785; baptized Jan. 22, 1786; parents, Jost Seiler and wife Elizabeth; sponsors Frederich — Magdelena Tschopp.

(74) Son, Samuel, born Dec. 25, 1785; baptized Jan. 22, 1786; parents Henry Witmer and wife Catherine, *nee* Lasch; sponsors Andrew Lasch and Miss Hanna Shafer.

(75) Son, John Michael, born Dec. 23, 1785; baptized Jan. 22, 1786; parents, Valentin and wife Elizabeth; sponsors Michael Lenkert and wife Catherina Barbara.

(76) Son, George, born Dec. 28, 1785; baptized Feb. 19, 1786; parents Henry Kerstetter and wife Ana Christina, *nee* Lenkert; sponsors, George Lenker and wife Elizabeth.

(77) Son, John, born Oct. 24, 1785; baptized Feb. 19, 1786; parents Peter Kempel and wife Anna Marie, *nee* Aleman; sponsors, John Nicolous Brosius and wife Anna, *see* Wagerin.

(78) Son, John Jacob, born Jan. 6, 1786; baptized May 1786; parents, Samuel Ludwig and Maria Cathar.; sponsors, grandparents John Jacob Spatz and wife Magdalene Sophia, *nee* Moyer.

(79) Son, Adam, born May 11, 1786; baptized June 18, 1786; parents, Jacob Schneider, Anna Maria; sponsors, Sebastian Stenbrecher and wife.

(80) Daughter, Anna Elizabeth, born Apr. 24, 1786; baptized June 18, 1786; parents, Heinrich Hane and Maria Sara; sponsors, Franciscus Schafer and wife Anna Elizabeth.

(81) Daughter, Hanna, born Apr. 11, 1786; baptized June 18, 1786; parents Dieterich Kim and Hanna, *nee* Wittman; sponsors, Henry Hane and wife Maria Sara, *nee* Kim.

(82) Son, John Andrew, born May 6, 1786; baptized June 18, 1786; parents William and Maria Margaret; sponsors, Andrew Emmerich and Eva Catharina Albert.

(83) Son, John Jacob, born June 10, 1786; baptized Aug. 13, 1786; parents John Stephan Lasch and wife Margaret; sponsors, Joh. Christoph. Wittmer and wife Eva Christina, grandparents.

(84) Daughter, Juliana, born July 1, 1786; baptized



Aug. 13, 1786; parents Ludwig Schnerer and wife Johanna; sponsors, Sebastian Steinbrecher and wife Susanna, nee Jeckel.

(85) Son, Benjamin, born Aug. 19, 1786; baptized Sept. 10, 1786; parents Michael Lenker and wife Anna; sponsors, Jacob Schafer, brother Martin.

(86) Son, John George, born Aug. 10, 1786; baptized Sept. 10, 1786; parents Willaim Reuter and wife Elizabeth, nee Latche; sponsors, John George Reuter and wife Magdalena, nee Hill, grandparents of the child.

(87) Son, John Jacob, born Oct. 21, 1786; baptized April 1787; parents Magdalena Schafer; sponsors, John Jacob Lenker, Catharina, nee Valentine.

(88) Son, Samuel, born Dec. 9, 1786; baptized Jan. 25, 1787; parents Michael Emerick; sponsors, Martin Pontius and wife.

(87) Daughter, Anna Cath., born Dec. 9, 1786; baptized Jan. 25, 1787; parents, John Diedrich Steinbrecher; sponsors, Casper Heckert and wife Maria Cath.

(88) Daughter, Elizabeth, born Nov. 2, 1786; baptized Nov. 16, 1786; parents, Nicolous Bopp; sponsor, Elizabeth Kruger.

(89) Son, John Peter, born Aug. 6, 1787; baptized Sept. 3, 1787; parents, John Peter Kempel; sponsor, Peter Aleman and wife Catharina.

(90) Daughter, Juliana, born Sept. 5, 1787; baptized Sept. 30, 1787; parents, John Schaefer; sponsors, Nicolous Bopp and wife Magdalena.

(91) Daughter, Anna Catharine, born Sept. 10, 1787; baptized Sept. 30, 1787; parents, Valentine Sumerlate; sponsor, John Wolf and wife Anna Catharine.

(92) Son, John, born Sept. 3, 1787; baptized Oct. 26, 1787; parents, John George Bender; sponsor, Nicolous Prosius and wife Anna Catharina.

(93) Daughter, Sophia Scharlotta, born Oct. 3, 1787; baptized Oct. 26, 1787; parents Michael Hen.; sponsors, John Georg Bender and wife Sophia Scharlotta.

(94) Daughter, Christiana, born Oct. 20, 1787; baptized Nov. 24, 1787; parents Bastian Steinbrecher; sponsors, John Diet. Steinbracher and wife Christiana.

(95) Son, John George, born Mar. 9, 1788; baptized April 7, 1788; parents, Michael Emerick; sponsors, John George Prosius and wife Susanna.

(96) Daughter, Maria Sara, born Nov. 3, 1788; baptized Apr. 7, 1788; parents Milford Witmer; sponsors, Heinrich Hehn and wife Maria Sara.

(97) John Georg, born Mar. 25, 1788; baptized May 1, 1788; parents, Nicolous Prosius; sponsors, John George Prosius and wife Susanna.

(98) Son, Georg Daniel, born Jan. 15, 1789; baptized Jan. 20, 1789; parents, Peter Aleman; sponsors, Nicolous Bopp and wife Maria Magda.

(99) Son, John Peter, born Jan. 1, 1789; baptized Jan. 20, 1789; parents Conrad Emrich; sponsors, Peter Metz, Anna Ava Aleman.

(100) Son, John Philip, born Sept. 28, 1789; baptized Oct. 18, 1789; parents, Nicolous Boop; sponsors, John Seiler and his wife Barbara.

(101) Son, Henry, born Feb. 9, 1789; baptized Oct. 29, 1789; parents, Henry Leffler; sponsors, John Seil and his wife Barbara.

(102) Son, John Michael, born Sept. 26, 1793; baptized Sept. 29, 1793; parents, Michael Julp; sponsors, Michael Lenker and mother Julien.

(103) Son, Sebastian Stonig, baptized by Rev. M. Miller; born 1797; baptized June 4, 1797; sponsors, Andrew Emrich and wife Elizabeth.

(104) Son, John Wittmer, baptized by Rev. M. Miller; born 1797; baptized June 18, 1797; sponsors, Chester Allman and his wife Catharina.

(105) Daughter, Catharine, born Sept. 19 (no year given); baptized Oct. 21; parents, Christian, Michael Chatherm; sponsors, Chatherin Brosius.

(106) Son, John Jacob, born Oct. 7; baptized Oct. 21; parents, Jacob and Maria Seiler; sponsors, John and Barbara Seiler.

(107) Son, Jacob, born Oct. 19; baptized Oct. 21; parents, Sebastian Magdalena Boydner; sponsors, Andrew Emerich.

(108) Son, Michael, born Sept. 27; baptized Oct. 21;



parents, Philip and Catherina Preiner; sponsor, Michael Poy.

(109) Son, John Nicolous, born Aug. 13; baptized Oct. 21; parents, Nicolous and Chatherina Williams; sponsors, Paul Lahr and wife Elizabeth.

(110) Daughter, Sara, born Oct. 2; baptized Oct. 21; parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Alleman; sponsors, Christian Brosius.

(111) Daughter, Susanna, born Jan. 31, 1806; baptized Nov. 2, 1806; parents, Philip Hooock and wife Scharlotta; sponsors, Susanna Hofmann.

(112) Son, Daniel, born Aug. 3, 1806; baptized Nov. 2, 1806; parents John Weis and wife Elizabeth; sponsors, John Heller and Susanna.

(113) Son, Michael, born Sept. 16, 1806; baptized Nov. 2, 1806; parents, Georg Hollenbach and wife Hanna; sponsors, Jacob Schafer and Christina.

(114) Son, Bastian, born Jan. 8, 1812; baptized Mar. 8, 1812; parents name omitted; sponsors, George Spote.

(115) Daughter, Catharine, born (date not complete); baptized (date not complete); parents, John and Elizabeth Kiel; sponsors, Bachman and wife.

(116) Son, Nicolous, born (not complete); baptized (not complete); parents, Paul Laar and wife; sponsors, Nicolous Boop.

(117) Son, John, born (not complete); baptized (not complete); parents, Paul Laar and wife; sponsors, John Lenker and wife.

(116 and 117) are twins.

Baptisms performed by the following ministers as shown by numbers referring to the foregoing.

John Michael Enterline—1 to 61, 111 to 117.

Samuel Dubendorf—62 to 92.

Rev. Muller—103 to 110.

Ministers of other baptisms not identified.

#### May A. D. 1818—Communicants

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Jacob Michael  | 3 George Kocher |
| 2 Philip Heckert | 4 John Hehn     |

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 5 John Bingeman        | 15 Anamira Witmer   |
| 6 George Bingeman      | 16 Anamira Spate    |
| 7 Phillip Heckert      | 17 Magdalena Witmer |
| 8 Henry Tshopp         | 18 Anamaria Witmer  |
| 9 Samuel Witmer        | 19 Margaret Tshopp  |
| 10 Jonas Heckert       | 20 Inditt Kniss     |
| 11 Calvin Kocher       | 21 Catharina Stepp  |
| 12 Catharina Witmer    | 22 Elizabeth Miller |
| 13 Eva Gerber Bapteist | 23 Anamaria Tshopp  |
| 14 Catharina Michael   | 24 Catharina Tener  |

#### Communicants

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 John Spatz          | 1 Margaret Holebeine |
| 2 Nikolaus Benner     | 2 Susana Blasser     |
| 3 Sebastian Spate     | 3 Catharina Emrich   |
| 4 Casper Spate        | 4 Susana Fink        |
| 5 John Bingeman       | 5 Catharina Seaman   |
| 6 Stofel Witmer       | 6 Juliana Wolff      |
| 7 Henrich Bauer       | 7 Magdalena Kocher   |
| 8 John Lies           | 8 Magdalena Lessman  |
| 9 Adam Spatz          | 9 Christina Smidt    |
| 10 Mather Witmer      | 10 Ana Bingaman      |
| 11 Henry Witmer       | 11 Catharina Boner   |
| 12 Casper Schneider   | 12 Susana Seiler     |
| 13 Michael Hecker     | 13 Christina Heckert |
| 14 Frid Boner         | 14 Christina Tshopp  |
| 15 John Witmer        | 15 Barbara Tshopp    |
| 16 John Witmer        | 16 Elisabeth Heckert |
| 17 John Seiler        | 17 Catharina Spatz   |
| 18 Samuel Kniss       | 18 Catharina Witmer  |
| 19 Jacob Spatz        | 19 Catharina Witmer  |
| 20 Peter Heckert      | 20 Barbara Wert      |
| 21 John Tshopp        | 21 Catharina Brosius |
| 22 John Schott        | 22 Margaret Bener    |
| 23 John Reinhart      | 23 Eva Bingaman      |
| 24 John Witmer        | 24 Elisabeth Shup    |
| 25 George Witmer      | 25 Catharina Lash    |
| 26 Nickalaus Bingeman |                      |
| 27 Jacob Seiler       |                      |
| 28 James R. Rily      |                      |



## Communicants—April 27, 1823

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 John Bingeman     | 19 John Neidlinger   |
| 2 George Bingeman   | 20 Mathias Witmer    |
| 3 Bastian Spate     | 21 Ana Bingeman      |
| 4 Nicolaus Boner    | 22 Margretha Boner   |
| 5 Casper Hecker     | 23 Elisabeth Tschopp |
| 6 John Spatz        | 24 Catharina Emrich  |
| 7 Michael Hecker    | 25 Christina Hecker  |
| 8 Isaac Dreibelbis  | 26 Elisabeth Hecker  |
| 9 Balthaser Bortner | 27 Regina Schneider  |
| 10 Henry Boner      | 28 Margretha Hecker  |
| 11 John Witmer      | 29 Elisabeth Kobel   |
| 12 Jacob Tschopp    | 30 Margretha Bauman  |
| 13 John Witmer      | 31 Sara Schefer      |
| 14 Jacob Spatz      | 32 Barbara Seiler    |
| 15 Friederich Boner | 33 Magdalena Loscher |
| 16 George Seiler    | 34 Catharina Eckel   |
| 17 Jonathan Bortner | 35 Christina Ney     |
| 18 Jacob Seiler     |                      |

## Communicants 1824

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| John Heckert     | Peter Tschopp        |
| George Seiler    | David Woolf          |
| John Spate       | Catharina Schaffer   |
| Peter Witmer     | Catharina Dreibelbis |
| Jacob Witmer     | Elisabeth Dreibelbis |
| Jacob Witmer     | Catharina Schott     |
| Christian Dshopp | Magdalena Spatz      |
| Joseph Seiler    | Susana Smith         |
| Solemon Weaver   | Magdalena Heckard    |
| Phillip Spate    | Margreta Snyder      |

## Communicants 1824

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| John Bingmeman Sr. | Sara Heckart       |
| John Bingeman Jr.  | Catharina Emrich   |
| Adam Bingeman      | Susana Seiler      |
| John Spatz         | Barbara Seiler     |
| Michael Heckard    | Elisabeth Lenker   |
| Sebastian Spate    | Anamaria Bingman   |
| Isaac Dreibelbis   | Magdalena Schroyer |
| George Schmith     | Catharina Borrell  |

- Frid Heckert  
 Jacob Spatz  
 John Seiler  
 Adam Spatz  
 Jacob Seiler Sr.  
 John Witmer  
 Nicolous Bingeman  
 Daniel Witmer  
 Peter Schott  
 Isaac Dony  
 George Smith  
 Job Seiler  
 George Bingeman  
 Jacob Tshopp  
 Frid Hekard  
 Fred Tschopp  
 Balthaser Bortner  
 John Witmer  
 Hana Bingeman

- Christina Zerbe  
 Christina Heckard  
 Margretha Bohner  
 Margretha Lash  
 Sara Schaffer  
 Catharina Eisenhauer  
 Juliana Wolff  
 Catharina Fenstermacher  
 Sara Bower  
 Barbara Zerbe  
 Magdalen Lashenlesher  
 Catharina Daabs  
 Elisabeth Schaffer  
 Sara Schaffer  
 Magdalena Wolff  
 Catharina Brosius  
 Anna M. Dshopp  
 Margretha Bauman

## Communicants May 22, 1825

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 John Spatz         | 19 Cath. Emrich         |
| 2 Sebastian Spate    | 20 Magdalena Lessman    |
| 3 Isaac Dreibelbis   | 21 Margretha Bohner     |
| 4 Geinrich Edel      | 22 Margr. Lasch         |
| 5 Samuel Saeman      | 23 Susana Seiler        |
| 6 Joseph Seiler      | 24 Elisabeth Heckard    |
| 7 David Wolff        | 25 Anamary Bingman      |
| 8 Phillip Spate      | 26 Hana Bingman         |
| 9 Jacob Witmer       | 27 Cath. Messner        |
| 10 John Spate        | 28 Christina Heckard    |
| 11 Nicolaus Bingeman | 29 Margreta Lower       |
| 12 Fred Hackard      | 30 Catarina Brosius     |
| 13 John Tshopp       | 31 Sara Schaffer        |
| 14 Peter Witmer      | 32 Margreta Schnyder    |
| 15 Jonas Heckard     | 33 Magalena Spatz       |
| 16 Isaac Gerhart     | 34 Elisabeth Spate      |
| 17 Peter Heckard     | 35 Catarina Ekel        |
| Jacob Spatz          | 36 Catarina Schott      |
| 18 Barbare Zerbe     | 37 Elisabeth Dreibelbis |



- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 38 Sara Smith         | 43 Anamary Seaman  |
| 39 Catrina Dreibelbis | 44 Sara Heckard    |
| 40 Elisabeth Kipler   | 45 Catarina Tshopp |
| 41 Cristina Kersteter | 46 Regina Snyder   |
| 42 Elizabeth Ekell    |                    |

## November 6, 1825

- | Male Persons      | Women Persons           |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Jacob Tshopp    | 1 Elisabeth Snider      |
| 2 John Heckart    | 2 Catharina Messner     |
| 3 Soloman Weber   | 3 Barbara Seiler        |
| 4 Dridrich Tshopp | 4 Margaret Bahner       |
| 5 John Spotz      | 5 Barbare Zerbe         |
| 6 John Bingaman   | 6 Sara Shafer           |
| 7 Michael Garhart | 7 Elisabeth Moyer       |
| 8 Sebastian Spath | 8 Maria Spatz           |
| 9 Adam Spotz      | 9 Elisabeth Dieter      |
| 10 G Bahner       | 10 Elisabeth Dreibelbis |
|                   | 11 Catharina Spath      |
|                   | 12 Catharina Edel       |
|                   | 13 Elisabeth Tshopp     |
|                   | 14 Margaret Heckart     |
|                   | 15 Anamaria Tshopp      |
|                   | 16 Sara Spath           |

## May 21, 1826

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Jacob Spatz        | 1 Catharina Emrich   |
| 2 Peter Heckart      | 2 Barbara Seiler     |
| 3 John Bingeman      | 3 Elisabeth Wolf     |
| 4 Dridrich Heckert   | 4 Christina Heckert  |
| 5 Adam Spotz         | 5 Susana Seiler      |
| 6 Jacob Schopp       | 6 Elisabeth Lenker   |
| 7 John Seiler        | 7 Elisabeth Tshopp   |
| 8 John Spotz         | 8 Anamaria Bingman   |
| 9 Sebastian Spath    | 9 Sara Hinterleiter  |
| 10 Nicolaus Bingeman | 10 Catharina Messner |
| 11 George Bingeman   | 11 Magdalena Leshner |
| 12 Solomon Weber     | 12 Sara Shaler       |
| 13 Peter Witmer      | 13 Sara Shaler       |
| 14 Casper Heckert    | 14 Hanna Kolbe       |

15 Jacob Witmer

- 15 Elisabeth Knerr  
 16 Elisabeth Dreibelbis  
 17 Catharina Edel  
 Total of 32.

## Communicants Nov. 4, 1826

- | Male Names       | Female Names        |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1 John Bingaman  | 1 Catharina Knerr   |
| 2 John Spatz     | 2 Catharina Tschopp |
| 3 John Knerr     | 3 Catharina Brosius |
| 4 John Tshopp    | 4 Barbara Zerbe     |
| 5 Benjamin Knerr | 5 Sara Spatz        |
|                  | 6 Elisabeth Moyer   |
|                  | 7 Catharina Dubs    |
|                  | 8 Maria M. Michael  |

## Confirmation Class, May 19, 1827

- | Name              | Age | Name               | Age |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| Jonas Heckert     | 19  | Maria Witmer       | 15  |
| Michael Heckert   | 20  | Lidia Heckert      | 17  |
| Joseph Spatz      | 18  | Judit Knerr        | 15  |
| Samuel Witmer     | 18  | Maria Heckert      | 15  |
| Samuel Michael    | 18  | Barbara Lies       | 18  |
| Benjamin Witmer   | 16  | Barbara Tshopp     | 18  |
| Jacob Spatz       | 17  | Susanna Heckert    | 17  |
| Jacob Shmidt      | 18  | Barbara Dreibelbis | 17  |
| Jacob Heckert     | 16  | Susana Bechtel     | 19  |
| Daniel Hahn       | 20  | Ana M. Heckart     | 15  |
| Phillip Heckert   | 21  | Lidia Traudman     | 17  |
| Magdalena Machoel | 17  | Lidia Tshopp       | 17  |
| Lidia Witmer      | 18  | Elisabeth Hahn     | 19  |
| Sara Spatz        | 16  |                    |     |

## Communicants May 19, 1827

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| John Bingeman, old | Peter Shott      |
| Casper Heckert     | Phillip L. Narr  |
| Bastian Spate      | Jacob Gros       |
| Adam Spatz         | Isaac Dreibelbis |
| John Witmer, old   | Jacob Troudman   |
| Baher Bortner      | Jacob Witmer     |
| Henry Bohner       | Jacob Tshopp     |
| Frid Bohner        | Christ Tshopp    |



John Spatz	Peter Witmer
Daniel Witmer	Peter Michael
Christ Michael	George Bagdel
John Heckart	John Spate
Frid Heckart, Sr.	Jacob Witmer
Frid Heckart, Jr.	

## November 4, 1827

Female Persons	Barbara Lees
Catharine Emrich	Lidia Troudman
Ann Maria Bingeman	Elisabeth Heckart
Sara Hinderlighter	Barbara Zerbe
Elisabeth Shupp	Catharine Tsopp
Judidd Knerr	Christeina Heckart
Catharine Bower	Ana Maria Heckart
Susana Bingeman	Lidia Heckart
Sara Smith	Elisabeth Heckart
Catharine Dreibelbis	Margratha Snyder
Barbara Dreibelbis	Susana Heckart
Lidia Witmer	Anamaria Heckart
Magdalina Michael	Barbara Seiler

## November 4, 1827

Male Persons	Peter Heckart
John Knerr, Sen.	Philip Heckart Jr.
Barbara Spate	Michael Heckart
Daniel Witmer	Friederich Heckart
Nicolaus Bingeman	Phillip Heckart, Sr.
John Knerr	Henry Bohner
John Tshopp	Samuel Michael
John Hehn	Joseph Seiler
Jacob Heckart	Jacob Spatz, Jr.

## Ministers—Stone Valley Church, Hickory Corners

Name	Lutheran	From	To
*Rev. Wolf			
Rev. John Michael Enderline		1773	
*Rev. Mathias Guensel			
Rev. J. C. Walter		1805	1809
Rev. Daniel Ulrich		1809	1811

Rev. John P. Shindel	1815	1831
Rev. J. N. Hempling	1831	1850
Rev. C. F. Welden	1850	1851
Rev. Nathan Yeager	1852	1853
Rev. F. Walz	1854	1865
Rev. Jeremiah Shindel	1865	1870
Rev. J. W. Early	1870	1875
Rev. J. M. Ulrich	1875	1882
Rev. C. K. Drumheller	1883	1884
Rev. W. H. Geiger	1884	1906
Rev. D. E. Fetterolf	1907	1917
Rev. Peter B. Fasold	1918	1929
Rev. Walter E. Wagner	1930	

## Reformed

Name	From	To
Rev. Samuel Dubendorf	1780	1790
Rev. Samuel Dubendorf	1795	1800
*John Dietrich Adams	1808	1812
Rev. James Ross Reily	1812	1818
Rev. Isaac Gearhart	1819	1843
Rev. John Adam Leiss	1843	1856
Rev. Ephriam Kieffer	1862	1865
Rev. Jacob Kehm	1865	1871
Rev. Wm. G. Engle	1872	1889
Rev. S. P. Brown	1889	1915
Rev. R. Ira Gass	1915	1920
Rev. Leo D. Horn	1921	1927
Rev. Hesser C. Ruhl	1927	1928
Rev. Roy J. Freeman	1929	1932
Rev. John C. Brumbach	1933	

\*Records incomplete.



John Spatz	Peter Witmer
Daniel Witmer	Peter Michael
Christ Michael	George Bagdel
John Heckart	John Spate
Frid Heckart, Sr.	Jacob Witmer
Frid Heckart, Jr.	

## November 4, 1827

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Catharine Emrich	Lidia Troudman
Ann Maria Bingeman	Elisabeth Heckart
Sara Hinderlighter	Barbara Zerbe
Elisabeth Shupp	Catharine Tsopp
Judidd Knerr	Christeina Heckart
Catharine Bower	Ana Maria Heckart
Susana Bingeman	Lidia Heckart
Sara Smith	Elisabeth Heckart
Catharine Dreibelbis	Margratha Snyder
Barbara Dreibelbis	Susana Heckart
Lidia Witmer	Anamaria Heckart
Magdalina Michael	Barbara Seiler

## November 4, 1827

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Barbara Spate	Michael Heckart
Daniel Witmer	Friederich Heckart
Nicolaus Bingeman	Phillip Heckart, Sr.
John Knerr	Henry Bohner
John Tshopp	Samuel Michael
John Hehn	Joseph Seiler
Jacob Heckart	Jacob Spatz, Jr.

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Rev. J. C. Walter		1805	1809
Rev. Daniel Ulrich		1809	1811

Rev. John P. Shindel	1815	1831
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Rev. C. F. Welden	1850	1851
Rev. Nathan Yeager	1852	1853
Rev. F. Walz	1854	1865
Rev. Jeremiah Shindel	1865	1870
Rev. J. W. Early	1870	1875
Rev. J. M. Ulrich	1875	1882
Rev. C. K. Drumheller	1883	1884
Rev. W. H. Geiger	1884	1906
Rev. D. E. Fetterolf	1907	1917
Rev. Peter B. Fasold	1918	1929
Rev. Walter E. Wagner	1930	

## Reformed

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Rev. James Ross Reily	1812	1818
Rev. Isaac Gearhart	1819	1843
Rev. John Adam Leiss	1843	1856
Rev. Ephriam Kieffer	1862	1865
Rev. Jacob Kehm	1865	1871
Rev. Wm. G. Engle	1872	1889
Rev. S. P. Brown	1889	1915
Rev. R. Ira Gass	1915	1920
Rev. Leo D. Horn	1921	1927
Rev. Hesser C. Ruhl	1927	1928
Rev. Roy J. Freeman	1929	1932
Rev. John C. Brumbach	1933	

\*Records incomplete.