

NEW HOLLAND

Area Historical Society



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New Holland United Brethren Church Building Anniversary

Submitted by Brian Frankhouser

The Church of the United Brethren in Christ was the first denomination to start in the United States, and it is rooted in Lancaster County. One of the earliest congregations was located southeast of New Holland in Green Bank. The first service held in New Holland was at the old school (that was located at what's now the north end of Stauffer's drug store parking lot) in 1803. This first service produced no immediate results in town, but the Green Bank congregation grew and became Ranck's Church. Following is a short pictorial history of the meeting places and church buildings used by the New Holland congregation:



In 1858, Rev. Samuel Seiders, from Ranck's Church, held services at the Western School House (shown above). This building was located at the northwest corner of what is now Shirk Road and Main Street. The evangelism was successful, and a class was organized by Lewis Peters.

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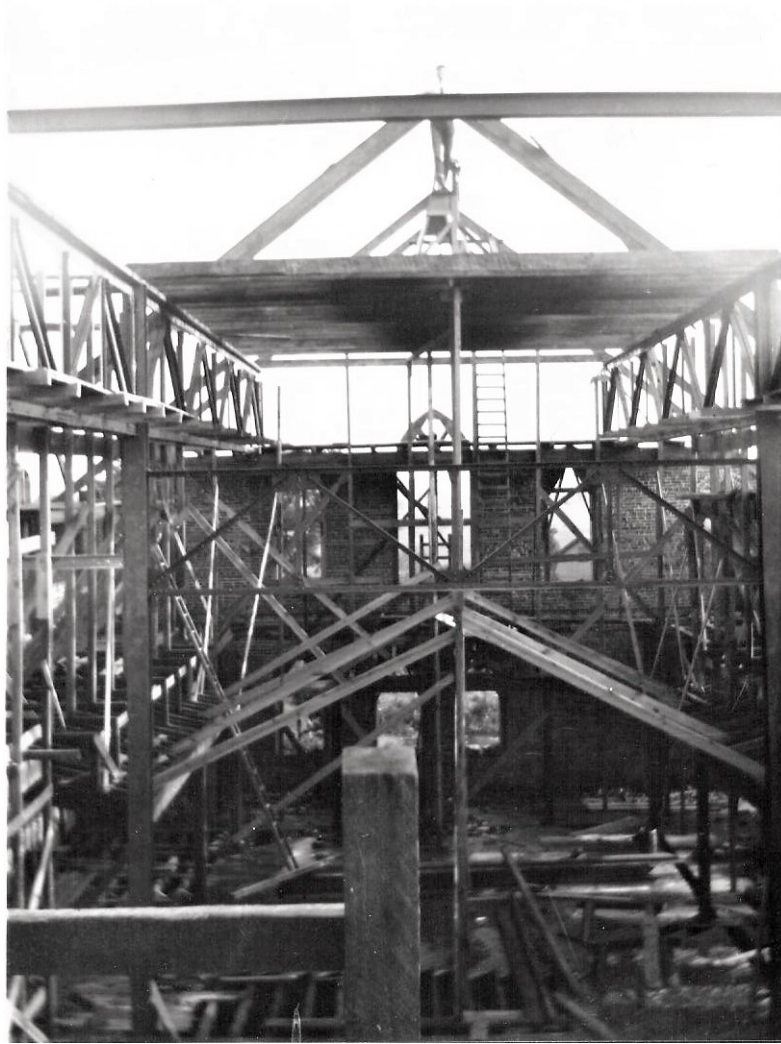
The mission of the New Holland Area Historical Society is to collect, organize, and preserve information and historical materials that give insight to understanding the life and times of the New Holland area and to share these findings with others through Museum exhibits, lectures, and educational outreach programs.



In 1859, the new minister from Ranck's Church, Rev. Jacob Brewer, held a revival meeting at the old school house (mentioned earlier and razed in 1879). The turnout was great enough to organize a permanent congregation in New Holland. Land was purchased on the southeast corner of what's now Diller Avenue and Main Street, and a simple brick church building (shown above) was erected and dedicated on September 9, 1860.

The church building was completely renovated in 1900. A large addition and tower entrance were erected. The photo on the right was taken about 1906.





Ground was broken for a new church building in March of 1922. The cornerstone was laid the end of June. The above photo was taken during construction and shows a view from Main Street, looking towards the south wall.

Another photo taken during construction, looking north towards Main Street. This view provides a perspective from the new building related to the old. Part of 273 West Main Street is visible on the right side.





The final product as shown on a postcard that was published in 1923. Cost of the project was about \$63,000. In 1928, the basement was completed, and the mortgage was paid off. Through mergers, the church became the Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1946, and then the Evangelical United Methodist Church in 1968. The NHAHS wishes to congratulate the congregation as they celebrate the anniversary of worshipping 100 years in the same building!

Bart Delp [Delp Monument] is shown making preparations on September 10 to remove the 1922 cornerstone that was supplied by L. M. Storb. The contents expected to be found behind the stone are church papers, a copy of the New Holland Clarion, Howard Wright's Bible (R. H. Wright was killed in a tragic railroad accident in town in 1919), and a 1922 silver dollar.



EXTRA GIVE NOVEMBER 18, 2022

The New Holland Area Historical Society is joining an exciting fundraising event for the first time -The Lancaster Community Foundation's ExtraGive <https://www.extragive.org/> Proceeds from this event will help the Historical Society's Museum to obtain significant local artifacts, create engaging displays, offer educational programs and fund special projects such as completing the transfer of the New Holland Clarion to a digital format. The New Holland area has a rich and valuable history and our efforts, with your support, will allow us to continue to fulfill our mission of preserving this heritage. Please keep the New Holland Area Historical Society in mind for the ExtraGive and be sure to tell your friends and neighbors to encourage their participation in this wonderful event!

MID-CENTURY MIDWAY

New Holland Area Historical Society joined in the 90th Anniversary celebration of the NEW HOLLAND FARMERS FAIR. On display in the Museum were hundreds of photos from the noted Paul Russell collection. The interest in these photos, from the 40's, 50's, and 60's demonstrated again the affection for this long running event! Congratulations to the leadership and volunteers of this annual tradition who continued to make history for our great New Holland Community!



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Carol Buncie, Head Docent for the NHAHS Museum

We would like to welcome Carol Buncie to her new role as Head Docent for our museum. Carol has lived and worked in the New Holland area since 1974. She was a teacher at the Hinkletown and Union Grove Alternative Schools followed by serving on the faculty at Garden Spot High School in the Family & Consumer Sciences department for a total of 36 years. Retirement gave Carol time to pursue other interests including travel, especially to parks and historical locations throughout the United States. She is an avid quilter and has a passion for raising and training Assistance Dogs for Susquehanna Service Dogs. When a call went out for volunteer help staffing the New Holland Museum, Carol found serving as a docent a perfect fit. “I enjoy learning more about our local history and sharing that with the people I meet who visit our museum. I would encourage others to consider joining me. It only takes a few hours, once a month. My new role as Head Docent includes training new docent volunteers and I would love to talk to anyone who might be interested in learning more about serving in the museum.”

Historical Society meetings 2022 Meetings are held in the chapel at Garden Spot Village on the third Thursday of the month, 7 PM. Programs are free and open to everyone

October 20, 2022 – History of the Weaver Weber Homestead and the coming of the clan to the Weaverland Valley, presented by John Weber and Lamar Weaver

November, December – no program