



A BRIEF HISTORY

OF

CHRIST CHURCH

SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

1880 - 1980

CENTENNIAL SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1980

1832—1865 and 1866—1871	the Anglican settlers in the Sault and surrounding area depended on the missionaries sent to the Ojibway Indians, for spiritual care.	1890—1894	The Rev. E. A. Vesey built up the parish.	1945—1946	The Rev. P. W. O. Hill.
1865—1866	The Rev. John Carry was assigned to the Sault.	1894—1896	The Rev. Robert Renison and his student sons including Robert, who became Archbishop of Moosonee.	1946—1947	The Rev. A. J. Bruce.
1870—	St. Luke's Church was built and consecrated October 18, 1870.	1897—	Bishop Thorneleoe was consecrated.	1947—	The Rev. Charles Noble (later Canon and Archdeacon) and present Rector.
1872—1874	The Rev. John Widdemer Rolphe, M.D. was incumbent of St. Luke's and took services in the West Korah School.	1896—1898	The Rev. J. R. Smitheman was the first resident in incumbent of Korah, Goulais River and Batchewana.	1948—	The Rev. Charles Noble began services in Batchewana as well as St. Peter's, Holy Trinity, Goulais River, and Christ Church.
1873—	Bishop Fauquier was elected first Bishop of Algoma.	1897—	Parsonage built for \$500. with voluntary labour.	1950—	June 25, new memorial pews dedicated.
1874—1876	The Rev. E. Wilson, missionary at Garden River took some services at Korah.	1898—	Brief period looked after by laymen Mr. George Rennison, Mr. Joe Willson, Mr. Spencer.	1951—	Well drilled below the hill.
1876—1881	The Rev. Thomas Henry Appleby, incumbent of St. Luke's took services at Korah assisted by the Rev. Peter Trimble Rowe of Garden River (later Bishop of Alaska).	1899—1941	The Rev. R. H. Hunter (later Canon).	1952—	June 5, the first sod turned for the new parsonage by Archbishop Wright
1880—	"A neat frame church built" on land bought from Robert Newton Ableson. The church was dedicated December 19, 1880.	1902—	Church was raised and brick veneered and a stone basement was built. A corner stone was laid.	1953—	The first parsonage was sold and moved.
1881—1882	The church was closed for parts of these years.	1906—	Christ Church was represented at the first synod of Diocese of Algoma by R. M. Moore.	1955—	The new Rectory, which was already being lived in, was nearing completion. A new driveway was added to the north of the church.
1882—	Bishop Sullivan consecrated.	1920—	A hot air furnace was installed.	1955—	The 75th anniversary. A new memorial Vestory, in memory of the late Canon Hunter, the gift of the Hunter family, was dedicated by the Rev. C. B. Noble.
1882—1884	The Rev. G. B. Cooke began a confirmation course in Korah which increased church attendance. First Vestry meeting was held.	1929—1932	Plans for a new church. The old church was torn down, and the new church was built.	1960—	Renovation of the church began.
1883—	A Sunday School was formed.	1932—	Christ Church Korah was dedicated by Bishop Roxborough Smith.	1964—	New narthex, new church doors, new east window, new communion vessels, and silver credence wafer box, were dedicated at a service at which Dean Nock of the Cathedral, was the guest priest.
1885—1890	Services were taken by the Rev. Francis F. William Greene assisted by a student, Mr. Earl.	1931—	St. Peter's was added to the parish.	1965—	Christ Church became a city church with the amalgamation of the township and the city.
1890—	The Rev. W. Windsor served part of a year.	1938—	June 12, 38th anniversary of Canon Hunter's. It marked the dedication of new Chancel furniture, Pulpit and windows as memorials.	1980—	Renovations in preparation for the 100th anniversary of the church.
		1941—	June 15, Christ Church consecrated by Bishop Kingston.		
		1942—1945	The Rev. F. F. Nock, now Bishop of Algoma, served the Parish.		

# Christ Church celebrates 125th anniversary Sunday

Everyone welcome at 9:30 a.m. service

By Rachel Tyczynski  
SPECIAL TO THE STAR

Christ Church Anglican (Korah) will celebrate its 125th anniversary Sunday with a special service of thanksgiving, officiated by Ronald Ferris, Bishop of Algoma.

Addresses will be given by former priest-in-charge, the Reverend Canon Earl J. Burke, and by the children of the late Archdeacon Charles B. Noble, also a former incumbent.

The history of Christ Church Anglican (Korah) began with the building of the church in 1880. Construction began in 1879, and the first service was held on December 19, 1880.

Prior to this, the Korah Anglican Parish was a mission of St. Luke's in Sault Ste. Marie.

The property on the brow of the hill on Allen's Side Road was established as the "English Church" presence in the former township of Korah on land purchased from a local Presbyterian farmer named Ableson.

Perhaps this connection is the reason for the bond of friendship between Christ Church and Victoria Presbyterian Church, also located in the former Korah Township, which has prevailed for many years and continues to this day.

Throughout its 125-year history, Christ Church has been served by a relatively small number of long-standing clergy.

Only three priests have covered 99 years.

Canon W.H. Hunter served the parish for 43 years during most of the first half of the 20th century.

During Canon Hunter's incumbency, he travelled between four congregations (Christ Church, St. Peter's Church on Douglas Street, Holy Trinity Tarentorus and St. James Goula's River) by horse and buggy or horse and sleigh, depending on the season.

From 1947 to 1980, Archdeacon Charles B. Noble was the incumbent, and he saw the parish become realigned to its current two-congregation configuration (Christ Church and St. Peter's).

From 1981 to 2004 Canon Earl J. Burke was priest-in-charge, and the parish experienced significant growth in numbers and in vitality during that time.

The remaining years saw a number of priests of fairly short duration ministering in and to the parish. These included P.W.O. Hill and F.E. Nock (later Bishop of Algoma), both of whom served in the 1940's, between Canon Hunter and Archdeacon Noble. John E. Swain is the current rector, having been appointed in December 2005.

The original church building was destroyed by fire around 1930, and a new wood-frame structure built in 1932, which serves as the core of the current building.

In 1952, Archbishop William L. Wright presided over a sod-turning ceremony for a new parsonage (or rectory). Records indicate that the original parsonage was built in 1897 with volunteers and at a cost of \$500.

Many modifications and additions to the church building have taken place over the years. The vestry, constructed in 1955, was a 75th anniversary project and a gift from Canon Hunter's family in his memory.

A basement, exterior cladding and a new narthex to provide an enclosed entrance were added in 1960.

In 1964, a stained-glass window representing the risen Christ was donated as a memorial to George Henderson and installed behind the altar.

In 1988-89, two additional stained-glass windows were

installed flanking the risen Christ window. These windows depict the Nativity and the Crucifixion and are memorials to Canon Hunter and to Archdeacon and Mrs. Noble.

Major additions in 1995 included expansion of the sanctuary and nave, construction of an office and meeting room, a new kitchen, nursery and washrooms.

This allowed a reconfiguration of the existing church basement to accommodate a growing Sunday School and other activities.

A digital organ was installed in 1998, and in 2000 a new, larger narthex constructed with ramps to provide wheelchair access to the nave and to the church basement.

A steeple was also generously donated to house the church bell.

In addition to the service of thanksgiving to be held this Sunday (to which the congregation has been encouraged to attend in period costume), a Book of Memories chronicling individual recollections of church life and a recipe book are being compiled. A commemorative mug is also being produced.

Many families in the current congregation are descendants of the first followers to worship in this church building.

Today, the church continues to grow in numbers and energy, a haven to those who call Christ Church their church home, and its members their church family.


Christ Church Anglican (Korah) is located at 585 Allen's Side Road.

All are welcome to join in the service of thanksgiving to be held Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and for a shared lunch following the service.



PHOTO SUPPLIED  
CHRIST CHURCH continues to grow in numbers and energy. Below: This is how the church looked 100 years ago.






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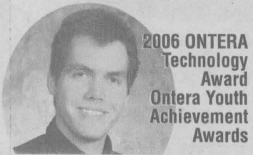
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