



WESLEY UNITED CHURCH

It is over "One Hundred Years" since the seeds of Wesley United Church were sown in Jarvis in 1858. Although this congregation has been a part of the United Church of Canada since 1925, the bulk of its history is inseparable from that of the Methodist tradition in Canada.

For some years before an appointment was established in Jarvis, a Primitive Methodist minister used to preach at intervals in the school house. In 1858 services were held in the Teachers' Hall, then located not far from the present Wesley Church at the corner of now Jarvis and Church Streets.

During the winter of 1867-68 material was placed on the ground by the method known then as "bees". In May, 1868 the cornerstone was laid, while the church, which is the present place of worship, was opened and dedicated in January, 1869.

In 1876 the Jarvis parsonage was built.

In 1898 the church was remodelled with the addition of the tower and Sunday School rooms.

In 1929 re-organization of Wesley United Church took place to conform to the constitution of the United Church of Canada and was now known as Wesley United Church.

The membership of Wesley Church was augmented by the transfer of a large number of members from the Presbyterian faith up to that time.

In 1936 a church kitchen was built, the choir loft was remodelled and a Franklin Legge organ installed.

In 1957 the old Sunday School Rooms were dismantled and a modern Christian Education Centre was built.

In 1958 the One Hundredth Anniversary Rededication Service of Wesley Church was fittingly held.

On June 1975 the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Church of Canada was observed by the congregations of Wesley and Garnet United Churches in the Jarvis Community Centre.