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History of

**The
North
Monmouth**



Full Gospel Church

“Dedication:”

This Book is Lovingly “Dedicated” To 'The 'First Pastor,' of This Assembly, Rev. Rinaldo D. McLeod. Rev. McLeod was the great great Uncle, to The Author, of This Writing. Bro. McLeod was born on May 19th, 1906, at Medway, Maine, and died on March 28, 1962, in Bangor, Maine. He was a Faithful Minister of The Gospel of The Lord Jesus Christ, for **many** years!!

In 1927-28, Elder Arthur L. Fish opened up a Work on Lemist Street, at Bangor. Bro. Fish remained there until 1934, when he died. Bro. Rinaldo was a young man, then, and was **good** Friends with The Fish Family. He even lived with them, for awhile. (Bro. Rinaldo, at that time, played a trumpet.) Now, Elder Fish had a daughter named Myrtle Pearl, who at the time, was married to Bro. Fred Howard. They had two children: Prudence & Gerald Howard. Anyway, when Elder Fish passed away, The Howards, took the helm, on Lemist Street. That Work was called, “The Church of The Pentecost,” which **later** was renamed: The Pentecostal Latter Rain Assembly. (“Ma” Martha “Mattie” Fish, Elder Fishes' widow, continued to live upstairs over The Church, for quite some time, there on Lemist Street, afterwards.)

Elder Fish, held Meetings **usually** on Sundays, Tuesdays & Thursdays. Eventually, when Bro. H. Simeon Adams, was holding Services on Harlow Street, Bro. Fish Merged his **mid-week** Meetings, with the Services, over there. But, of course, Bro. Adams moved on, **and** when Elder Fish passed on, Sis. Myrtle, **and** her husband, Bro. Fred, kept The Church going, (on Lemist Street), but **basically, just** Sunday school & church, in the afternoons.

Bro. & Sis. Howard, continued on, in that capacity, for quite some time. However, eventually, Bro. Fred passed away, and Sis. Myrtle was running The Church alone, for awhile. Finally, on November 4th, 1939, Bro. Rinaldo McLeod and Sis. Myrtle (Fish) Howard, were **united** in Holy Matrimony.

Then, **later**, Bro. & Sis. McLeod, discontinued Services in Bangor, for one reason, or the other, and felt led of The Lord, to go into The Evangelistic Field, of Ministry. That was in the late 1940's. They continued in that capacity, for quite **some** time. Then, Finally, one day they were Preaching in Carmel, and someone approached him. They asked if he would go to Newport, Maine **and** start a Church, for some Jamaican Potato Pickers. He agreed, and opened up The Armory, there, then, The Legion Hall. After that, they were on Mill Street, in Newport, (in a renovated building). Finally, they got the land on Elm St., The Present Church now rests on.

At first, Bro. Rinaldos' Church was held in the basement. (They never was able to complete the top, while he was Pastor, there!) They held Services on Sunday Afternoons, and evenings, and served dinner in between, is what **some** recall. Bro. Rinaldo was **very 'Dedicated,'** To God, and HIS Work!! It was while he was Pastoring in Newport, that he was asked to come and “**help out,**” in N. Monmouth. He agreed, **and** God Blessed!

("Dedication" cont'd) ...

Sis. Ruth Damren, recalled great, Fond Memories, of Bro. Rinaldo!! She would tell of The Conventions that were held, at Newport, Maine. She said the Services were Wonderful! Anyway, she would make **Old-Fashioned, Homemade** doughnuts, and bring them down. Bro. Rinaldo **loved** doughnuts!!! He could eat one half to a dozen, **Per Sitting!!** She said he'd have one on **each** finger! **HE WAS A GREAT Guy!!!!**

Anyway, everyone loved his Ministry!! He never got to see his building in Newport completed **physically**, But he sure did, **SPIRITUALLY!!!!** He **EVEN** had a Bible School, there!, (started in 1946). They called it: "Jubilee Bible Institute." Several people graduated / attended there. Of whom, some include: Charlene (Rowe) Rideout, James Sweet, Rebecca Ellis, Cecil Robbins, Margaret Manks, Betty Carver, Raymond Rawley, Aubrey Houston, Percy Boosha, Emiline Glidden, Willis & Dorothy Glidden, Charlene (Hustus) Howell, Evelyn (Hustus) Heard, Deanne (Sweet) Gibbs, Kenneth Heath, Winnifred (Rafford) Robbins, Eugene & Musa Craig, Paul & Clifton Rideout, Violet Dahneke, Rankine & Lula Nicholson and Prudence Howard.

His Church was named, at first, "The House of Prayer," and **later**, The Jubilee Gospel Association. (Much later, the name was changed to: Newport Full Gospel Church.) Today, it **may** be referred to as, The Jubilee Family Worship Center. Elder Fishs' Work, in Bangor, was incorporated. Bro. Rinaldo used this Corporation, (transferred it), to Newport.

After Sis. Myrtle passed away, Bro. Rinaldo fulfilled his life-long dream, he traveled to Israel. When he returned home, he was "called home," to be with **JESUS**, and he 'laid His Armour down.' He has gone on to his **REWARD**, But with Gods' Help, and By His **ALL-Mighty** Grace, he has left us a great **Legacy!!!!** After Bro. Rinaldos' passing, his daughter, Sis. Prudence, kept on with The Work at Newport, for two or three months, or so. Finally, under the next Pastor, the upstairs was completed. Other Pastors followed.



L to R:

Bobby Dearborn, Prudence Howard, Carl Engstrom,
Rinaldo McLeod, Myrtle McLeod & Gerald Howard.

In the late 1950s, Sis. Gladys Gould purchased an old, brick Schoolhouse, in North Monmouth, Maine, to hold Services in. Along with: Sis. Ruth Damren, **and** Wilbur & Geneva Glidden, She formed an Old-Fashioned Apostolic Church, there.

Rev. Vernon Carver, was previously holding Street Meetings, in that Town. After the Church in North Monmouth was started, Rev. Rinaldo D. McLeod, then of Newport, was asked to come and be the first Pastor. Revival broke out in that little Village!! Gods' Spirit began to move, and other folks started coming in.

Bro. Carver attended the Meetings, and helped out as he could.

Things continued on real good. Then **later**, Rev. Bernard Elliott, then of Auburn, Maine, took the helm, there. He was Pastoring a Pentecostal Church, he had built down there. So, he held the Meetings at N. Monmouth, on Sunday Afternoons. He stayed on, for quite awhile.

Then, Finally, a young man, fresh out of Bible School, (**Faith School of Theology**), was preaching for Bro. Elliott, at Auburn, one Sunday Morning. Bro. Clayton Alward, was full of Fire and Zeal, for God, **and** HIS Work! He had been seeking for Gods' Perfect Will in his Life, and the next step he was to take.

Bro. Alward, had Pastored a small Work, in Boothbay, for two years, and a Baptist Church once, for six months, as well.

So, he Preached for The Lord, & Bro. Elliott, there in Auburn, that day. Now, his Calling & Passion was Pastoring, and God had given him a "Vision"!!!

"WITHOUT A VISION, THE PEOPLE PERISH!!!"

Anyway, he **knew** what God had shewed him!! He'd had a "Vision" of a Building / Church, he'd **never** seen before!! After he delivered his Message that Morning, in Auburn, Bro. Elliott approached him. He said, "How would you like to accompany me somewhere this Afternoon?" He told him that he wanted him to Preach for him again, at North Monmouth. He agreed, like Abraham, "not knowing wither he went."

Finally, they arrived in N. Monmouth, that Afternoon, for Service. When Bro. Alward laid eyes on that place, and was Preaching, it came to him, that that was The VERY Place, he had seen in "The Vision!!" He **knew** that's where God wanted him!

After Preaching in N. Monmouth a few times, Bro. Elliott said: "How would you like to be 'The Pastor' there, **and** take that Work?" Bro. Alward said: "I want a Unanimous Vote!!" HE GOT IT, **and** became the very next Pastor!!

Shortly after he arrived for The Pastorate in 1963, an old place was purchased on Route # 202, (The Main Drag'), after **much** deliberation. They converted an old garage / Barn into their new Church Building, and continued their Services there, under Leadership of The Holy Ghost!!

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Then, **later**, they added on a new Sanctuary / Basement edifice. They remain there, to This Day. Now, in 2008, Bro. Alward is “Celebrating” his 45th year, Pastoring The N. Monmouth Church, in June, at The Annual Convention!!

Rev. John Hess, his life-long Friend, Ministry Companion, **and** Bible School Class-Mate, has Served as his 'Associate Pastor,' ALL these years!!!

Rev. Clayton Alward, has **remained** Faithful, in Ministry, ALL these years!! He, **and** his Dear Wife, Sis. Betty, have touched So **many** Lives, Positively, For The Kingdom of God, **AND** Gods' Glory!!!! Bro. Alward will ALWAYS be remembered For his Humility!!! He always tells folks: “I'm **just** 'The Janitor', here!! And he's just that, too!! NEVER Complaining, But ALWAYS Joyfully Working For The Lord!!!! “For God IS NOT unrighteous, to FORGET Your Work & Labour of Love ...”

Sis. Audrey Regalado, (Sis. Damrens' daughter), has been the Piano Player, Faithfully, for many years there, at The Church, too!!

MANY Special People **and** Ministers of The Gospel, have Graced this little Country Church and Platform, as well!!

So many great People have been Members **and** Helpers here, too, over the years, **like** “Minister” Martin C. Campbell, Sr.

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Bro. Alward has had a 'Ministerial Fellowship,' at N. Monmouth.' It has been called: "The North American Ministerial Association," for years. There are **alot** of Ministers, in this Group, and have been, over the years, as well.

There is So much more, that could be Written about this Remarkable place, But, "ALL the books **could not** contain it!!!

Alot has happened, since that very First Afternoon Service, "out back," in that little old "School-house Church."

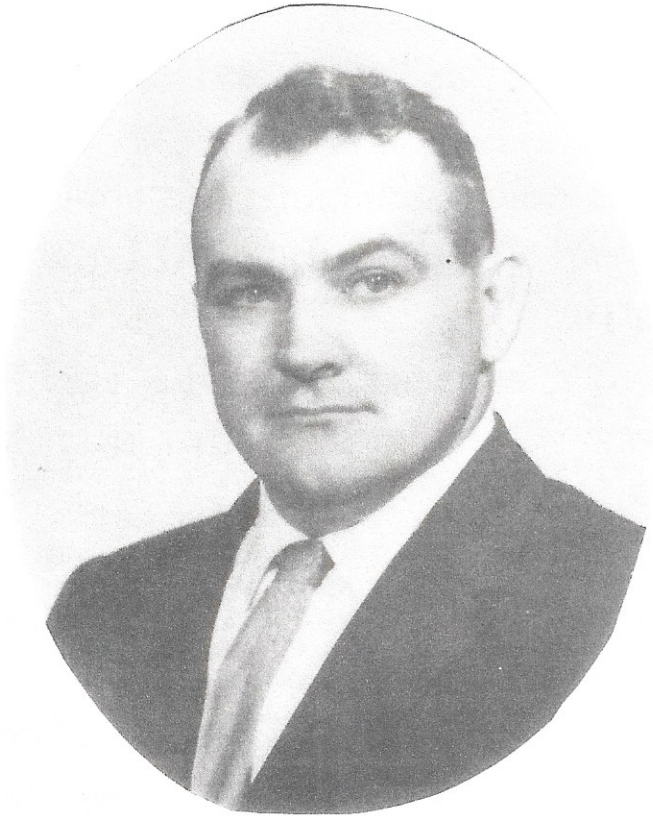
We "tip our hat, to the Memory of Sis. Gould!!!!" Thank-God, For her Faithfulness, **and** opening up that little old "School-house," for Church, way back when!!! **AND, Most-Of-ALL**, of course, WE Thank-You, JESUS, For Your Faithfulness, too!!

"Where would we be, without you??"

We ALL Now **anticipate** with Expectancy, The Future, of This GREAT Place, In God!!!!

Authors' Note: When I think of Bro. Alward Today, I think of him playing his TWO Tambourines, in Church! A Tradition passed to him, By Bro. Eugene Curtis, of Ford Chapel in E. Belfast, Me., while Evangelizing years ago. God **BLESS** Bro. Alward!!

This Book was Written by: Rev. Daniel T. Rideout - 2008.
"My Special Thanks" To: 'Prevailing Westerlies,' & Sis. Audrey Regalado.



Pastor Clayton Alward

Bro. Alward playing the tambourine



Bro. Alward & Fly.



Rev. & Mrs. Vernon Carver Ell. 8th

Vernon Carver—One of the Early Members of PPC-Adie & Ruby

Vernon Carver was the son of Orlando and Bertha and brother of Adie, Bud, Herbie, Laura Mitchell, Dot Myshrall and Charlotte McKenny. He was a young man from Mt. Chase, Maine. He loved the Lord and dedicated his life to sharing the gospel. He was known for his musical ability. He taught his nephew, Donny Carver, how to play musical instruments and Donny taught his own children.

As a young man Vernon played the pump organ in the school house during their church services in Hersey and Happy Corner as well as other locations where they had cottage meetings. After leaving Mt. Chase he went to Bible school. He married in 1933 and moved his family to Newport where he taught at Jubilee Bible Institute. After teaching in Newport, he became a pastor in Waldoboro, Maine and built a church. He resigned his pastorate for a period of time and went to New York to teach at Elim Bible Institute. He later returned to Waldoboro to help strengthen the church after it went through a period of a dry spell.

During his ministry at Waldoboro, he had street meetings on Saturday nights, started a radio ministry and started other churches in Rockland, Boothbay Harbor and Camden. Clayton Alward and Merle Mitchell took over the Boothbay Harbor ministry. During Vernon's pastorate, his nephews, Roger Carver and wife Lynn, and Merle Mitchell and wife Kathy, assisted him in his ministry. After his death in the early 1980s, his wife, an ordained minister, continued the pastorate of the Waldoboro Cole's Hill Pentecostal Church. His grandson, Tom Rawley, is presently the pastor of this church.



**Rev. & Mrs. Vernon Carver at Radio
W.R.K.D.**