

## PART V

*In Memoriam**To The Greater Glory of God*

"Blessed are the dead, who die in the Lord."—Revelations 14, 13.

**F**ROM the earliest days of Christianity it has always been the custom to remember the faithful, who have passed into the life beyond. Memorials in various forms are found in the earliest churches and in the catacombs of ancient Rome. Loving gifts have, therefore, found a place in the fabric of Christ Church. They furnish an historic record and evidence of the piety of the dead and of the faithfulness of the living to the memory of their loved ones. The earliest record of any such memorial gift is found in a note dated July 10th, 1826, as follows:

"Mr. and Mrs. Dunn present their respect to the Vestry of Christ Church and beg that they will accept two Prayer Books for chancel use in Christ Church," in memory of Mrs. Dunn's mother.

The next memorial of which there is a record is the gift of the Chime of Bells in memory of Isaac Eckert, and presented by his children. The letter of presentation was written June 19, 1874. A marble tablet on the wall of the vestibule, at the front of the church, reads as follows:

"To commemorate the name of their revered father, the late Isaac Eckert, senior warden of this church, this Chime of Bells was placed in the tower by his children, A. D. 1875. Henry S. Eckert, Rebecca E. Stetson, George B. Eckert.

### *Memorial Windows in the Nave and Transepts*

From time to time beautiful memorial windows have been installed in place of former colored glass windows, these gifts commemorating former parishioners active in Christ Church history. The following list, in regular order from transept to rear, represents in general a chronological sequence of gift as well:

#### *Pulpit*

The marble and brass pulpit was given by Mrs. William R. McIlvain and Mrs. John C. Illig, in

memory of Edward Davies Smith, a vestryman for 51 years, and a Warden 30 years, who died January 12, 1902, aged 85 years and 10 months; and his wife, Henrietta Stichter Hahs Smith.

#### *Organ*

The organ was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Eckert and Mrs. Hunter Eckert by Mrs. Helena Eckert Meigs, Mary Winslow Eckert and Hunter Eckert.

#### *Chancel Rail*

The Communion Rail and Sanctuary Gates are a memorial to Thomas D. Stichter, Vestryman and Superintendent of the Sunday School.

#### *Sanctuary Floor*

The Sanctuary Floor of richly colored tiling was erected by the Women's Guild in memory of the Rt. Rev. M.A. DeWolfe Howe, first Bishop of the diocese of Central Pennsylvania, of which Christ was the Pro-Cathedral during his incumbency.

*Altar Cross*

A cross on the altar is the gift of Mrs. John B. Brooke in memory of her granddaughter, Katherine Brooke Wittman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Noel B. Wittman.

*Cross on Church Spire*

The cross on top of the spire is the gift of Richmond Legh Jones, a Vestryman for many years.

*Memorial Lighting System*

The present lighting system, both of the nave and chancel, is a memorial to Isaac Hiester, a vestryman and the junior warden for many years.

*Chancel and Reredos*

The Chancel Window is in memory of Lewis Heckroth and Oliver M. Weand. The Reredos was erected by Miss Clara Gries.

*Choir Stalls*

Brass plates on choir stall bear inscription; "Memorial." They are the gift of "A poor wom-

an requesting that after all just debts were paid, remainder be given to the church.'"

Desk in choir given in memory of Miss Harriet M. Warner, 1876.

*Alms Basins*

Large Alms Basin given in memory of George W. Morgan, died Dec. 30th, 1872.

Two Alms Basins given in memory of Mrs. Mary Keim Weidman.

Two Alms Basins given in memory of Dr. W. Murray Weidman.

SILVER PATEN the gift of Samuel Cook Mayer and his wife, Mary Hunter Mayer, in memory of their infant son.

*Wood Chapel Memorial*

The Parish Building and Sunday School is a Memorial to Miss Lucretia Dash Wood, who by her will carried into effect her oft expressed wish for increased facilities for this work.

*North Transept*

Crucifixion Window. Figure of Christ on the Cross and inscription: "By Thy Cross and Passion, Good Lord, deliver us." The Just shall live by faith. 2nd Saml, 1st Chapt., 25th and 26th verses.

In memory of William Gries. Born December 1st, 1796, died April 12th, 1857.

In memory of John M. Gries born March 22nd, 1828, died June 13th, 1862.

*South Transept*

Nativity Window. Christ In the Manger of Bethlehem. Inscription: "'By Thy Holy Nativity, Good Lord, deliver us.'"

George May Keim, Obiit, June 10th, 1861.

Julia M. Keim, Obiit, May 12th, 1857.

Memorial presented by their children:

George de Benneville Keim  
Charles Wetherill Keim  
Henry May Keim  
Julia Mayer Keim Behne  
Susan Douglass Keim Mayer.  
Mary May Keim Weidman.

*North Aisle Windows*

1. In memory of Howard McIlvain, born October 26th, 1839, died November 15th, 1862.

2. In memory of Levi B. Smith, died 1876, and Emily H. Smith, born 1806, died 1882.

Inscription: "Looking Unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith."

3. In memory of Harriet Baird, died January 24th, 1864; Rebecca Baird, died, November 9th, 1857; Martha Rutter Baird, died November 17th, 1864.

Inscription: "These are They which follow the Lamb, wheresoever He goeth." Rev. XIV, iv.

"Blessed are the Dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, saith the Spirit, and their works do follow them." Rev. XIV, xiii.

4. "To the glory of God and in loving memory of George de Benneville Keim, born and baptized in this parish, 1832, died 18 Dec. 1893."

5. In memory of Mary Keim Stauffer, born December 4, 1842, died Aug. 2, 1891.

Inscription: "'Be Thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.'" Rev. II, iv.

6. "Then lay their hands on them and they receive the Holy Ghost. Acts viii, xvii. The gift of Clara P. Harrison, 1903."

### *South Aisle Windows*

1. In memory of John Pringle Jones, 1812-1874; Elizabeth Hiester Jones, 1810-1885, (their niece Ellen F. Sheaf married General David McGregg.)

2. In memory of Ellen C. Knabb, died 1875.

Inscription: "Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister."

3. In memory of J. Glancy Jones, died March 24, 1878; Anna Rodman Jones, died July 14th, 1871.

Inscription: "The memory of the Just is blessed." Prov. X, vii. "Hope thou in God." Ps. XLII, xi.

4. In memoriam James Lorraine McLenegan, died April 27th, 1889. In memoriam, De Benneville Keim, entered Eternal Life, Nov. 22, 1885.

Inscription: "I am the Resurrection and the Life, and he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."

5. In memory of Joseph Lybrand Stichter, died May 21, 1884; Elizabeth Diehl Stichter, died February 25, 1897.

Inscription: "Yea, upon the harp will I praise Thee, O God, my God."

6. "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John to be baptized of him." St. Matthew 3, xii. "The gift of Clara P. Harrison, 1903."

### *Baptistry*

West Side of north transept. Mosaic inscription on north wall:

"This Baptistry is erected by Mary Trexler Eckert to the greater glory of God and in loving memory of George Brown Eckert and their son, Henry Sweyer Eckert. A. D. 1901."

The front is inscribed; "One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism," and stands upon a marble and mosaic floor with oak and bronze railing and panelled oak side wall.

On the west side wall is a memorial panel window of Christ with a staff and lamb, and the inscription: "This window is placed by Mary T. Eckert as part of this memorial Baptistry. A. D. 1901."

Corresponding window in south transept, west side. Inscription: "In loving memory of Annetta K. Lerch, died Jan. 20, 1902."

### *Wall Memorials*

**N**ORTH WALL, adjacent to transept, marble tablet: "In loving memory of *Anna Rodman Jones*, wife of Nathaniel Ferguson, daughter of Richmond L. Jones and Margaret, his wife. Born Nov. 24, 1872. Died Feb. 16th, 1904."

Inscription: "Make her to be numbered with Thy saints in Glory Everlasting."

**S**OUTH WALL, adjacent to transept; bronze tablet: "To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Henry May Keim, for Thirty-five years a vestryman of this church, 1864-1899. Born August 16th, 1842. Entered into rest, February 18, 1899. A faithful friend. An earnest churchman. A sincere Christian."

A Memorial Window in the Sunday School was presented by the teachers and scholars in recognition of the services of Edward Frees, Librarian.

A brass Cross is the gift of Susan Douglass Keim Mayer.

Two steel engravings: "The Presentation," and "The Shepherd" are a memorial to Dora E. Mutchler, March 20th, 1925, presented by Miss Etta Mansfield.

### *Parish Rectory*

The rectory on Windsor Street was a gift to Christ Church under the provisions of the will of Mrs. Oliver M. Weand.

### *Flower Memorials*

In 1901 the custom of having flowers on the altar as a memorial to former parishioners of Christ Church was instituted with the approval of the rector, Dr. William Pendleton Orrick, by Mrs. Helen Brooke Wittman. Shortly afterward she relinquished this responsibility because of moving her residence to Douglassville. Since then the work has been carried on by Miss Marian Douglass Weidman.

The original list of parishioners who had flower days included Mrs. George Morgan, Miss Wharton, Mrs. Jane Addison, Miss Clara Gries, Mrs. Ellen Bacon, Dr. W. P. Orrick, Mrs. Richard Hall Jones, Mrs. Sarah Eckert Potts, Miss Rose Seltzer, Miss Ellen Knabb, The Misses Stauffer, The Broth-

erhood of Saint Andrew, Miss Annie McIlvain, Mrs. John E. Wooten, Mrs. Cyrus G. Derr, Mrs. Wm. R. McIlvain, Mrs. O. M. Weand, The Misses Benade, Mrs. Prince R. Stetson, Mrs. Hunter Eckert, Miss Dalzell, Mrs. Stanley Bright, Mrs. Heber Smith, Mrs. Bessie Seyfert Roland, Mrs. Horace Roland, Mrs. Herman Strecker, Mrs. Henry May Keim, Miss Kathryn Bland, Mrs. Richards, Miss Smith, Miss Emily Clymer.

The 1926 list of altar flowers includes those in memory of Arthur Spayd Brooke, Capt. Richard Hall Jones, Thomas D. Stichter, W. Murray Weidman and Mary May Keim Weidman, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Stichter, Frederic W. Nicolls, Richmond L. Jones and Anna Rodman Jones Ferguson, Dr. Orrick, Mrs. Jane Addison, George B. Eckert, Henry Millholland, Thomas P. Merritt, Julia M. Keim of Philadelphia, Wilhelmina Holmes McKnight, George S. Pomeroy, Sr., Edwin L. Mayer, Isaac Hiester, Mrs. Ellen E. Jones, Mrs. Richard Hall Jones, Dr. James Smith Ford, Mrs. George B. Eckert, Dr. F. McN. E. Howell, George de Benneville Keim and his wife, Bettie T. Keim of Philadelphia.

Among the present donors are Mrs. Wm. Seyfert, Mrs. Edwin A. Quier, Miss Lily D. Stichter, Mrs. Minnie Taylor Nicolls, Mrs. Wm. K. Eckert,

Miss A. A. Bell, Mrs. Graham Johnson, Miss Weidman, Mrs. Isaac Hiester, Miss Florence Anspach, Mrs. Howard Rich, Miss Elizabeth D. Nagle, Mrs. Wm. McLenigan, Mrs. Howard L. Hoff, Miss Mattie Acker, Miss Emily Bard, Mrs. Horton, Mrs. Wm. E. Richardson, Mrs. T. H. Hardcastle, Miss Helen Guthrie Cleaver, Mrs. John Kirst, Mrs. Robert Grey Bushong, Miss Lance, Edward S. Kerper, Mrs. A. H. Rothermel, Mrs. Carrie Derr Archer, Mrs. Mary McIlvain Kutz, Mrs. Howard L. McIlvain, Mrs. Holly E. P. Stewart, Mrs. Frederick A. Roland, Mrs. H. B. Hagy, Mrs. Abercrombie, Mrs. Robert Holmes, Mrs. Wellington M. Bertolet, Mrs. S. S. Hill.

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## In Memoriam

EDWIN L. MAYER

At a special meeting of the vestry of Christ Church held on September 17, 1924, to take action on the death of the Junior Warden, Mr. Edwin L. Mayer, the following minute was unanimously adopted:

In the death of Mr. Mayer, the vestry recognizes that the Parish has suffered a loss that cannot be replaced. He entered the Vestry more than twenty-six years ago and was immediately elected to the office of Treasurer. This position he regarded as a sacred trust and for more than a quarter of a century he discharged its arduous and exacting duties with painstaking care and conscientious fidelity. Never for a moment did he complain about the burdensome pressure of the work. He gladly and cheerfully accepted its full responsibility with a mind to every detail. To him it was a signal opportunity for active and willing service in the cause of the Master.

Mr. Mayer loved the church with a deep and abiding affection and with a genuine spirit of personal consecration he adopted its ideals as the guiding principles of his life. To him it was in a Scriptural and basic sense, the house of the Lord. Its noble liturgy of praise and prayer was the inspiration of his heart and the joy of his soul. He made it a point, in fact he esteemed it a priceless privilege, both in season and out of season, to participate in its services of public worship. His unfailing presence at the devotions of the sanctuary was an eminent example of true religious piety.

Mr. Mayer was personally interested in every good work that brought the light and joy of the Gospel to hearts that were burdened with distress. He could always be counted on to give his time and energy to the advancement and furtherance of every worthy cause.

His personal character was in harmonious accord with the professions of his faith. He was upright and honorable, patient and kind, considerate and sympathetic. He was not given to harsh words, to a domineering manner, to vain and empty speech. He sought a place among the meek and lowly. Courtesy and gentleness formed the fabric of his soul. All his life he was in every situation the earnest Christian, the gracious and unassuming gentleman.

In adopting this minute we are mindful of his sorrowing widow, to whom we extend our heartfelt sympathy in her trying bereavement.

From the minutes.

Attest: H. B. Hagy, Clerk.

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