

Trinity Church in the Pines

Trinity Church in the Pines (a Community Church under Presbyterian jurisdiction) was not established until long after pioneer days, but among its membership are a number of descendants of pioneers. It was dedicated August 30, 1942, after five years of freely offered labor, and money raised in various ways. The ground on which this church was built was given in memory of James Cairns, (a member of the Presbyterian church in his native Canada,) by his widow and daughter.

July 5, 1941 (newspaper article)

Grand Lake Stages Rodeo for Church

Grand Lake's second annual Rodeo will come off with a rip and road today, Saturday, July 5. It will begin at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, on the rodeo flats west of the village, the site of last year's race 'em and rope 'em wild horse and cattle exhibition.

Not an association rodeo, but a Grand Lake product, the show this year will directly benefit Grand Lake. All proceeds will be presented to the Community Church to increase the fund for building a new church next fall.

It is a rodeo staged by Grand Lake for the Church, not a rodeo staged by the Church for the village.

Included in the program are nearly every kind of excitement found in any rodeo – racing, bronco bustin', calf roping, steer riding, trick riding, novelty races, clowning and all Frank Hettinger from Englewood will be on hand with his trick horse to thrill the crown with all manner of fancy riding. Granby, a fast and furious horse will challenge the best of the riders again this year as he did last year.

Tickets are on sale at many village business houses. Prices are 50 cents for adults, 25 cents for children. Tickets must be worn on your lapel or in some way where they will be plainly visible.

No bleachers will be used for the show, but cars will drive up to the railing around the field.

Parade at 2 o'clock down main street. Bareback riding. High School Horse, Judging of Costumes, Calf roping, Trick roping, Novelty races, Steer riding, Bronc riding.

All those wishing to enter contest must sign up Friday night, July 4th between 6 and 8 p.m. at Grand Lake Livery. See Earl Feuerbacher or John Holzwarth.

Gala rodeo July 4

All Proceeds to go toward building new church

Drag out those boots and spurs, those ten gallon hats and chaps, those plaid shirts and gay bandanas. Why? Well, everything and everybody is going western the weekend of July 5. It's all for the big Rodeo which Grand Lake is staging for the benefit and entertainment of Grand Lake.

And when we saw the village is doing it; that means Grand Lake is doing it all. It's not an association rodeo, it is better than that because those hard-riding bronc busters (and they can bust em, too) will be natives. They come from the tall timber and rugged valleys around Grand Lake where men must be men to guide a horse and still stick with him over treacherous mountain paths.

Most important of all – the rodeo will benefit the Community Church. All proceeds will go – not to pay salaries – but toward building a new church for Grand Lake.

Thru the courtesy of merchants and nearby ranchers, who want to boost Grand Lake's stock in vacationer interest, the rodeo is getting active support. Spirited horses and cattle are being furnished by ranches. Riders, busters, ropers, for the most part, will be familiar with and to Grand Lakers.

Thrills! You bet there will be thrills a plenty – bronc busting, steer roping, racing, tricks, clowning – all the excitement anyone could find in any rodeo anywhere.

Coming back to this matter of dragging out all the cow punching duds, it will be wise to look carefully for the best the attic trunk has to offer. Prizes will be awarded for the best cowboy (under 11) and best cowgirl (ditto), the man with the biggest hat and the man with the most bow in legs (Chaps can do a lot toward putting a first class bow in anybody's legs.)

Granby, all but incorrigible stallion who defied all comers until the third day of last year's rodeo, will pound the turf again this July 5. Rodeo managers stoutly declare that Granby is wilder than ever. (Getting spunky with increasing age, no doubt).

Scheduled for Saturday, July 5, the gala affair will begin at 2:30 o'clock on the flats just west of the village. Admission for adults is 50 cents, for children, 25 cents.

Thrill-minded horsemen wishing to test their equine mastery in the rodeo can enter by getting in touch with John Holzwarth, arena director.

August 29, 1942

Dedicatory services will be held at 11 o'clock Sunday morning. August 30, for the Grand Lake Community Church in the new church building. Installation services for the Rev. William J. Hage as the pastor for both the Grand Lake church and the one in Granby will be held at 8 o'clock that evening.

In itself, the Community Church represents hard work, time and effort on the part of the citizens and members of Grand Lake. It is of native pine and is modeled after the general architecture of the village. It is the first church since the Episcopal Chapel built by Dean Hart. Services have been held in the basement of the school house.

In the Summer of 1937, a petition was sent to the Presbyter of Denver. On October 24, 1937, the Church was organized by the Rev. J. S. Dapp of Denver. December 12, 1937 31 charter members were taken into the church.

The Rev. Charles Hulac was the first minister during the summer and Dr. Michel helped him until January of 1939.

The Rev. Mr. Edward Bollinger preached from January of 1939 until May of that same year. After the Rev. Bollinger went to Chicago Dr. S. K. Edmundson came every two weeks thru the winters of 1939 and 1941. In the winter of 1941 to 19452 he came every Sunday.

The Rev. William J. Hage is the first resident pastor for the church.

During impressive services Sunday the Grand Lake Community Church was dedicated and its pastor, the Rev. William J. Hage, installed.

Dr. H. C. Anderson read during the dedication service a greeting from President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In part the message read:

"I trust that the dedication of the little church built in Grand Lake through the sacrifice and devotion of the good people there will be a milestone in the spiritual life of the community.

Now as always, we need the reliance on the Most High and I hope the faith of all those whose labor builded this temple will be quickened by the influence which will emanate from it.

Please extend my hearty greetings to all who participate in the exercises."



Trinity Church in the Pines

Since 1937 when the church was organized, the permanent population and the season visitors have found in it a common bond. Early services were held in the community building.

Construction of the church building was completed in August of 1942. Each year it is visited by several thousand tourists. We hope that each one will take away a pleasant memory of our place of worship along with many fond recollections of the grandeur of Rocky Mountain National Park, the friendliness of our village, and the refreshment of unlimited recreation in our land of lakes and forest.

In a year's time the guest register in the church vestibule usually shows entries representing each of the 50 states and a variety of foreign countries. An interesting cross-section of denominations and faiths also appears. We invite you to add your signature.

In February of 1966 the name of the church was officially changed. It previously was the "Community Presbyterian Church" and is now as you see it "Trinity Church in the Pines".

In doing this we gave our church a more distinctive and unique title. More important, we tried to show by the parentheses that we are eagerly looking forward to the day when Christian unity will be reality so that denominational tags will not be needed.

We are here to serve you. Please let us know of any needs or desires that you may have. We hope you will visit again. If you are planning to stay in Grand Lake for a longer period of time, we invite you to join with us in the extended ministry of the church. We are always gratified when our seasonal guests feel free to use the church library and counseling resources, join with us in week-day meetings and social events, or sing with the choir, which rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

In summary, this is your church in Grand Lake. Please use it, enjoy it, participate in its life, and support it, so that future generations may also find it here with a warm welcome for all. And may the blessings of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be yours.

(Copied from the back of a church bulletin)

Trinity Church in the Pines History

- 10/24/37 An organizational meeting was held.
- 09/08/39 Announcement of a property gift - 100' x 100' given by Mary Lyons Cairns and daughter Patience Cairns Kemp, in memory of her husband, James Cairns.
- 10/09/41 Mary Lyons Cairns makes known her intention to give an additional 50' x 100' of property.
- 08/30/42 Building was dedicated as Grand Lake Community Church under Presbyterian jurisdiction "after five years of freely offered labor and money raised in various ways" (from Grand Lake in the Olden Days).
- 04/15/45 Rev. Shane called to share his ministry between the Grand Lake church and the Granby church (Eternal Hills Presbyterian).
- 01/09/48 Sunday school average attendance 53; "Women's Guild was called "Women's Council".
- 07/10/48 Two church services were held at 9:00 and 11:00 with Sunday school at 10:00
- 10/01/51 "It was agreed that the church be kept locked during the winter and that keys be made for each board member, the minister, the janitor, the choir director, and the SS superintendent."
- 04/18/52 Estimates were sought on changes to the building: "Moving the restrooms, adding a stairway leading down through the choir room, raising the outside entrance and the corner above the present stairwell made into a small room on the same level as the choir room"
- 9/14/52 Trustees were authorized to go ahead with the building plans putting the restrooms in the north end of the basement.
- 10/18/54 Session recommended "that the Grand Lake church withdraw from the Parish (the Granby, Grand Lake, and Fraser churches) to institute its own church unit for the Grand Lake area"
- 12/01/55 An organ fund was established.
- 06/03/56 Purchase of Baldwin organ approved.
- 11/08/59 Voted to withdraw from the parish - no longer tied to the Granby and Fraser churches as the "Parish of the Eternal Hills".
- 02/14/66 Name changed to "Trinity Church in the Pines"
- 02/17/80 Congregation votes to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church USA.
- 02/26/80 Presbytery appoints an administrative commission.
- 06/06/80 Attempt by presbytery to meet with church leaders rebuffed.
- 11/25/80 Presbytery votes to supersede TCP session and dissolve the church's pastoral relationship with Rev. Polhemus.
- Early '81 The Denver Presbytery purchases the church facility and manse for the establishment of a Presbyterian presence in the area.
- 08/28/81 Rev. Dr. Warren Remple installed as temporary supply pastor.
- 09/15/82 Formal separation of congregations and assets of TCP and Living Word church.
- 06/00/93 Patience Cairns Kemp deeds pasture to church with viewing easement.
- 01/20/95 Congregation votes to enlarge building to make it more "user friendly", with construction to begin once funds were in hand.
- 12/22/96 Dedication held for enlarged building.
- 01/19/99 Contract signed for remodeling the fellowship hall.
- 9/26/99 Rev. Remple retires.

Pastoral Succession, Trinity Church in the Pines

October 1937
October 1937-August 1942

August 1942-May 1943
June 1945-April 1951
June 1951-February 1955
May 1956-August 1959
December 1960-April 1962
May 1964-December 1967
May 1968-November 1973
October 1974-August 1977
October 1978-November 1980
November 1980-November 1981
November 1981-September 1999
March 2000-November 2002
November 2002-December 2007

Organized under Rev. H. Ray Anderson
Supply Pastors:

Rev. Charles Hulac
Rev. Edward Bellinger
Rev. George Edmundson
Rev. William Hage
Rev. Stephen J. Shane
Rev. John M. Orr
Rev. Sterling Alam
Rev. Charles Brightwell
Rev. Donald D. Shoemaker
Rev. James C. Kenney
Rev. R. Stanley Wallace
Rev. J.R. Polhemus
Rev. Roe Johnston, appointed by Presbytery
Rev. Dr. Warren Rempel, temporary supply
CLP Revel Loedy, interim pastor
Rev. Robert J.A. Harrison
Rev. Stan Jewell, interim pastor
Rev. Dr. David Heil



2011

