

# Highland church welcomes area residents to join celebration

Music will share the spotlight with history on Saturday and Sunday, October 16 and 17, when the United Methodist Presbyterian Church of Highland, Kansas celebrates its Sesqui-Centennial Anniversary--a heritage that includes the founding of the church, as well as the town of Highland and the Highland Presbyterian Academy, now known as Highland Community College.

The celebration begins on Sunday with a coffee hour at 9:00 a.m. in the church's Fellowship Hall where extensive historical displays will be set up for viewing, as well as two beautiful commemorative quilts made by women of the church.

At 10:30 a.m. the public is invited to join with the congregation in singing hymns taken from a Presbyterian Hymnal dated 1843, as a prelude to the worship and communion service.

Festival Worship Services will begin at 10:45 a.m. at the church. Jane Parker Huber, great-granddaughter of the Reverend John A. McAfee, who established the university program at Highland College in 1870 and regularly preached for the early church, will be the special guest speaker for the celebrations.

Huber, an ordained elder in the

Presbyterian Church, has written several books of hymns, "Fresh Words to Familiar Tunes," "Joy of Singing," and "A Singing Faith" and was part of the team who published a new Presbyterian Hymnal in 1989 which includes a number of her hymns.

Other special guests scheduled to



**REVEREND SUSAN  
WESLEY HARTLEY**

speak at Sunday's celebration include the Reverend Janet DeVries, General Presbyter of the Presbytery of Northeast Kansas, Louis Dale, Robert Osborne, Frank Reichart, John McCabe, Loretta Ross-Gotta, as well as the former pastor of the Hiawatha church, Don Close.

Special music will be given at the celebration by Marilyn Bingman Eshom of St. Mary's, and her mother, Ruth Bingman, who sang at the 100-year celebration. Mary Minier will accompany the first hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy," which she played at the town centennial in 1947, and again at the 125th anniversary. Mary's father, Fred, played at the 100-year celebration, as well. Mary is the great-granddaughter of town founder, John Bayless. Special vocalists include Carol Smith, and Carol and Anita Neibling, all accompanied by organist Janet Jeffers, and pianist Janette Neibling.

The celebration continues with a potluck luncheon to be held in the Highland Community College cafeteria at 12:15 p.m. Local persons may bring their potluck food items to the cafeteria any time after 9:00 a.m. and they will be kept hot or cold, as needed.

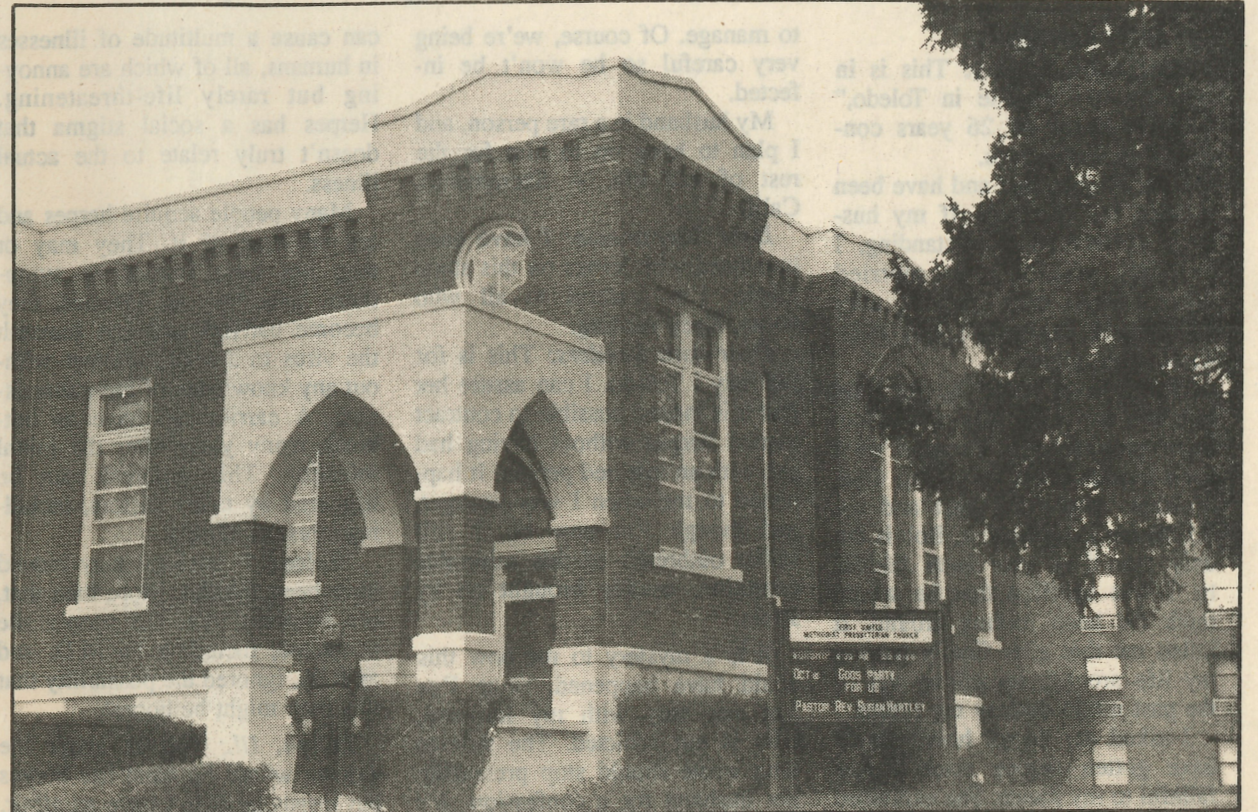
The dinner will be followed by

the afternoon program which will begin with the singing of four or five hymns taken from book written by Reverend William Hamilton and printed by Samuel Irvin at the Mission. The program will also include many former pastors, members, relatives of missionary families, Native Amer-

ican scholars at the Mission, and pioneer families. A historical program will feature the perspectives of the children of historical figures, who will share their stories.

The celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of the church is an opportunity for all who live in the area to come to know the

history of the settlement and growth of Kansas, and the Highland area in particular. It is of special importance that we recognize the role of the early Presbyterian church in the establishment of our own community college, and the founding of the town of Highland itself.



The Highland Methodist Presbyterian Church as it appears today. Reverend Susan Wesley Hartley extends an invitation to all area residents to join with the Highland congregation in the celebration of the church's 150-year history in the area this weekend.