



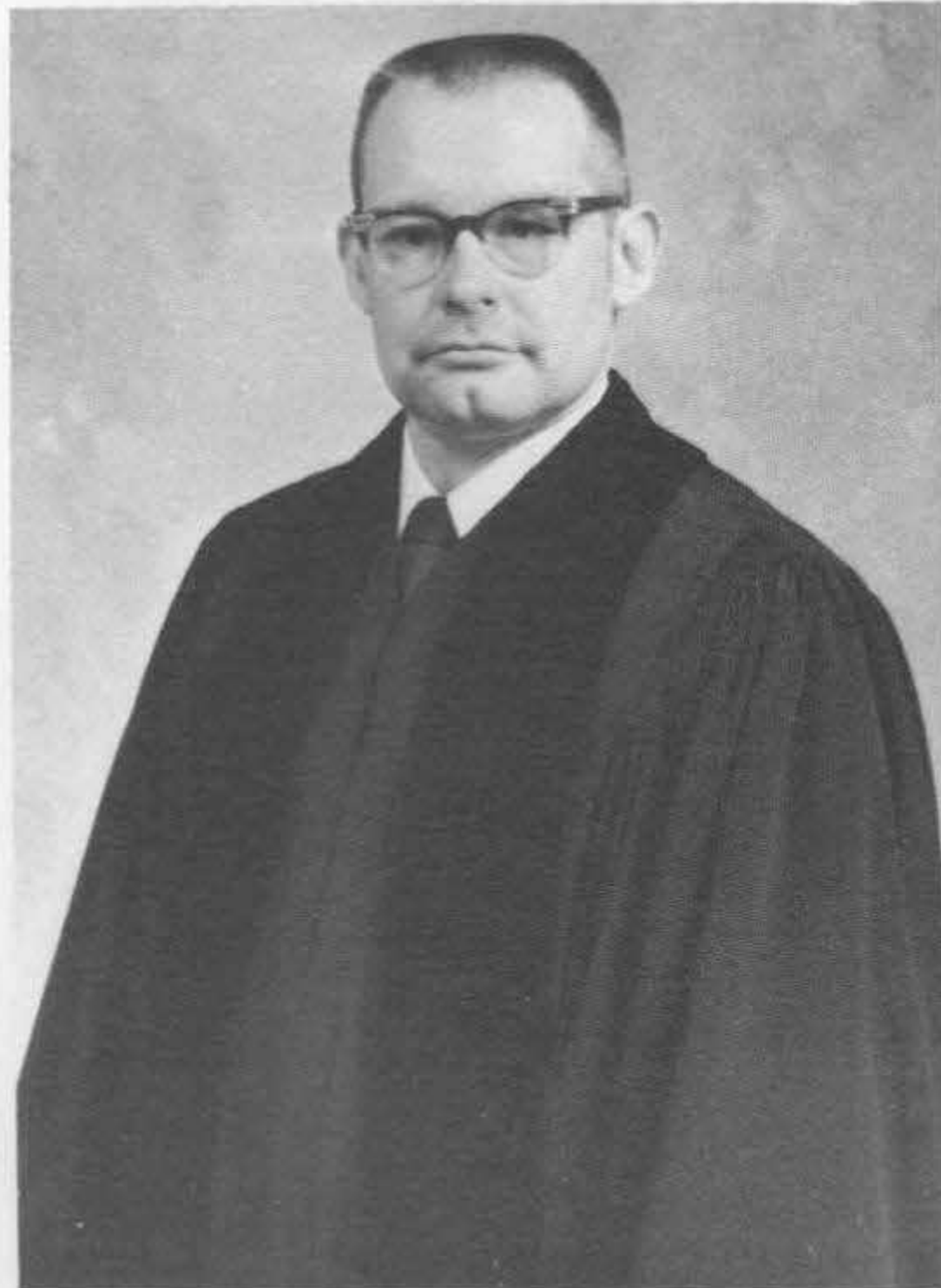
WARWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Wheeling, West Virginia

1970

Warwood Presbyterian Church

Warwood Avenue and North 23rd Street
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003



ROGER A. SMITH
Pastor

This Pictorial Directory is dedicated to the people whose pictures and names are listed within these pages. A church is not a building, though we have a very beautiful and functional edifice. It is not, strictly speaking, the Sanctuary, with all its symbolism and services of worship. The church is the people - a people dedicated, in the daily traffic of life, to bringing Glory to God. Part of that glory is displayed in the fellowship that we have cultivated through the years, in the good times and in the seasoning of the harder and more difficult. It is hoped that our bonds may be tightened as we come to know and love those with whom we join to serve the Lord and Master of us all. This is why we are here This is why WE ARE THE CHURCH.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE WARWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Having developed from twenty-two people meeting in a rural schoolhouse to a modern suburban church of five hundred and eighteen members, the Warwood Presbyterian Church mirrors the urbanization of Wheeling during the past half-century. In the late 1880's a Sunday School to serve the surrounding rural community was organized at the Glenn's Run School. Early efforts to start a church met with failure, but in 1905 eighteen people successfully petitioned Wheeling Presbytery for authorization of a Presbyterian Church. Harry J. Lucas is the only surviving signer of the petition. A month later, on January 8, 1906, the organization meeting was held. After a sermon by the Reverend J. P. Stoops, twenty-two persons indicated their desire to become members. Mrs. L. B. McNickle is the only remaining charter member. It was decided to name the church The Richland Presbyterian Church after the district in which it was located. Reverend Stoops accepted the call to be its first minister.

Immediately the members turned their attention to providing a church building. By October 4, 1908, their dream had been realized with the dedication of an \$8,000.00 brick building located on what is now North Twenty-First Street.

Princeton Seminary student, Edgar W. Giles, later to die a hero's death in attempting to save a drowning boy, supplied the church in 1909, followed for a brief period by John C. Ely. In 1910 the Reverend Edgar W. Day began a pastorate of four years. The rural nature of the church at this time is demonstrated by a decision to dispense with morning services and meet on the church lawn for evening services during July and August of 1914.

During the pastorate of the Reverend E. P. Carson (1915-1921), the church became completely self-supporting. The Reverend J. Alex Brown, D.D., was called to the church in 1922, but his ministry was cut short by his sudden death the following year. He was followed by the Reverend John D. Keith and the Reverend Charles E. Mummey, Ph.D. In 1924 the church's name was changed to The Warwood Presbyterian Church, for the once-struggling rural church now found itself in the heart of the town of Warwood, a fast-growing suburb of Wheeling.

The church's longest pastorate to date was that of the Reverend Lyman N. Lemmon from 1930 for elderships adopted.

For many years it had been apparent that the congregation was outgrowing its modest building and facilities. It was not until the pastorate of the Reverend Arthur C. Prichard (1947-1960) that plans for a new church became concrete. In November, 1956 the members celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the church's founding by simultaneously dedicating a beautiful modern church building on the corner of Warwood Avenue and North Twenty-Third Street.

August 1, 1961 marked the installation of the Reverend John E. Shettel as pastor of the church. During his pastorate the church continued to grow, especially in the area of world-wide stewardship. In October, 1965 the first commissioned church worker from this congregation was set apart in a special service conducted by Wheeling Presbytery. Mrs. Robert Gracey (Pat Zapka) went from our membership into the ministry of Christian Education.

On September 17, 1967 the Reverend Roger A. Smith was installed as pastor. The Warwood Presbyterian Church continues its steady growth both in membership and stewardship, reflecting an ever-increasing interest in and support of the world-wide mission of Christ's Church.



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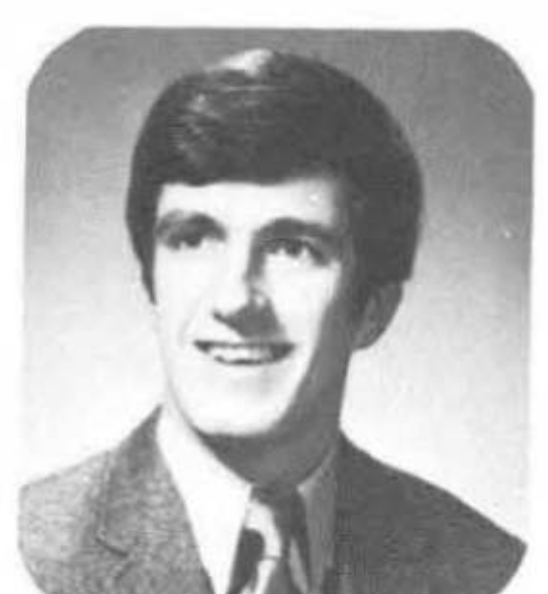
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