

## ***The Calvary Presbyterian Church Building*** ***Basic Facts***

**Site** – The building is at the southeast corner of Seventh and Church streets in a block of land set aside by the family of Declaration of Independence signer George Clymer for the town's churches.

**Previous Buildings** – This is the third structure on the same site. A small, plain brick church, erected in 1827, was removed in 1858 for the construction of a larger brick church graced by tall Doric columns and a tall steeple. This building was razed in 1904 to make way for the current one.

**Dedication** – May 1906.

**Architect** – J. Charles Fulton of Uniontown

**General Contractor** – John S. Hastings of Indiana.

**Style** – The exterior is predominately Victorian Gothic, although the tall corner tower borrows from the Romanesque. The sanctuary's dome and Corinthian columns show a strong influence of Beaux Arts classicism.

**Material** – The building is constructed of Hummelstown brownstone, admired for its distinctive reddish-brown hue. The quarry, near Harrisburg, kept its own stone carvers capable of crafting intricate decorative features.

**Seating Capacity** – The sanctuary originally seated 1000, but this number has been reduced over the years as the chancel and pulpit area were extended forward to accommodate a larger choir, and as pews were removed from the rear to allow greater accessibility. Additionally, some seating capacity was lost in the 1980s when the space between pews was widened for the comfort of today's taller worshippers. Depending on how compactly people choose to sit, the sanctuary now can seat between 450 and 600.

**Sanctuary Redecoration** – The sanctuary was refurbished with new color schemes in 1935, 1968, and 1985. IUP Professor Christine Kesner was the design consultant for the 1985 redecoration, which returned the walls to a neutral shade, refinished the pews and pulpit furnishings in a natural oak hue, and respaced the pews on new beige carpeting.

**The Art Glass Windows** – The 'David and Jonathan Window' is by Tiffany-trained designer Robert Dodge of New York City; all the other windows are by J. Horace Rudy and Company of Pittsburgh.

**The Great Celtic Cross** – Designed by church member and IUP art professor Orval Kipp, the cross was dedicated during Holy Week, 1971.

**The Pulpit** – Given to the church in 1906 by Margaret Loughry, at the time the congregation's oldest member and one who could claim the distinction of worshipping in all three buildings, the pulpit was restored in 2001 by members Richard and Leslie Crownover.

**The Bell** – The tower holds a 34-inch, 800-pound bronze bell, cast in 1858 by Jones and Company in Troy, New York; the bell originally was in the steeple of the 1858 building.

**The Organ** – First installed by M. P. Möller of Hagerstown Maryland in 1977, the organ was substantially redesigned and enlarged in 1998 and 2012 by the H. J. Ebert Organ Company of Pittsburgh. Now equipped with a three-manual console with 32 memory levels, the 40-rank, 42-stop instrument has 2191 pipes and 32 digital notes.

**The Christian Education Wing** – The addition, completed in 1955, incorporates stone from the college's Old Leonard Hall, which had recently been destroyed by fire. The wing now provides space for church offices, library, nursery, classrooms, and meeting rooms. Since 1986, the third floor has been occupied by Keys Montessori School.

**The Tower Restoration Project** – Completed in 2007 by steeplejack contractor John Shaw with the oversight of structural engineer Charles Wilson, Jr., and consulting architect Thomas Harley, the project is part of ongoing preservation work to maintain the congregation's landmark building as a vital center of ministry in the Indiana community.