

THE HISTORY OF CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR 1936–2018

This booklet was first written in celebration to the Lord for the first twenty-five years of Church of the Open Door. It was then updated for the fiftieth anniversary celebration and again for the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration. We are now updating it each year to keep this current and in recognition of all that the Lord has done for our church.

The First Twenty-five Years (1936–1961)

In 1936, the Church of the Open Door, often referred to as COD, came into existence. Today we look back over this time and marvel at how God has led us step by step. Step by step? Yes, it was just that way. Let's pause a moment and take a backward glance to see how God enabled us to come to the place of rejoicing that is ours today.

The roots of our congregation began in 1865, when we were organized as a Sunday school class in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1868 the class was formally recognized as the Central North Broad Street Presbyterian Church. The church building at that time was located on the corner of Broad and Green Streets in Philadelphia. In 1930 Dr. Merrill T. MacPherson and his wife Ruth came to pastor the church. Then there came a crisis that demanded taking a clear-cut stand for the things of Jesus Christ. This Dr. MacPherson did without hesitation, but doing so cost him something, as it does everyone who desires to go all out for Christ. Thus, when Dr. MacPherson and some of his congregation met at the church for prayer meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 1936, they found the church locked against them. The church had chosen to bar its doors against a faithful people who placed God's holy Word above the counsels of men, who loved Jesus Christ enough to "go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach" (Heb. 13:13). Prayer meeting that night was held in a nearby home.

The following Sunday, services were held in Lu Lu Temple at Broad and Spring Garden Streets. Over 800 people, including nearly all the former members of Central North Broad Church, attended the morning service, and over 1,000 persons attended the evening service. A contract was also signed at this time with radio station WIP so that the Sunday evening broadcast could be continued directly from Lu Lu Temple.

Several outstanding Christian men united with Dr. MacPherson and acted as an advisory board in the formation of an independent church. These men were E. Schuyler English, Philip E. Howard, Harry J. Jaeger, Frederic M. Paist and Charles G. Trumbull. Later the following men were added to form the first official board of the church: Russell T. Barr, Nimrod Dibeler and Clifford S. Hartzell.

Thus a new church was formed, but it needed a name. On Sunday, June 14, both in the church services and over the air, Dr. MacPherson asked that suggestions be sent in at once for a name for this new church. The following Wednesday evening, God led the pastor to give an exposition on Revelation 3:7–13. It was discovered that this same passage had been brought to the attention of a great many other people, and on Friday, June 19, when the advisory board met to consider the many names suggested for this new independent church, an overwhelming majority had suggested "The Church of the Open Door" so that became the official name.

The doctrinal statement, constitution and by-laws were prayerfully and carefully prepared, and at a congregational meeting called for the purpose on October 6, 1936, the proposed constitution was read and enthusiastically and unanimously adopted. On November 6, the Court of Common Pleas of Pennsylvania granted the Church of the Open Door its charter. On November 22 the first communion service was celebrated, and the first members were publicly received into the church. At this service a special offering of \$1,600 was given to begin a building fund, and by the end of the year, it had grown to \$2,200. On December 20, 1936, the first missionary offering was received, amounting to \$1,500. On December 30 a list of all those who had joined the church during the latter part of 1936 was compiled, and the people were designated “charter members.” These totaled 320.

For 35 years or more, COD had the privilege of seeking to combat juvenile delinquency in the heart of South Philadelphia. It came about this way: In the fall of 1936, a member of the church, Carmel Anthony Kline wanted to prove she could be a foreign missionary by using her talents in soul winning here at home. She went down to South Street, where she found a lot of gypsies in the store fronts, and she soon had a work going. She and others in our church family visited the homes of the gypsies, and then they rented a store-front house on 785 South Second Street. This work became known as Light of the World Chapel.

Carmel later felt called to overseas missions. She was accepted by the African Inland Mission for service in the Congo, and she left for Africa on September 1, 1937. She was able to give back her borrowed furnishings and terminate the lease on her store-front house, and went on her way to serve the Lord in Africa. However, Iva Yarnall, Idwal Thomas and the others who worked with the gypsies wanted to continue Light of the World Chapel. Iva (well established in the Lord and older than the others) met with COD’s official board and told them of the need for a continuance of the work there. They offered to pay the rent on another store front (749 South Second Street) if she would be responsible for the work, to which she assented. After Iva obtained chairs and a potbelly stove, a Saturday class to help the children read the Word came into being. Iva asked Gladys Bryson and Lilly Olson if they could help her, which they did. They taught a Bible lesson (of course) and also read Christian stories with morals.

It was not long before a Sunday school was formed (kindergarten–adult). God always provided the needed personnel – and the ladies were able to advertise “trained personnel” as teachers. Pioneer Girls and Boy’s Brigade were also instituted. This work in the city moved three times as attendance increased. When COD bought 809 South Second Street, Dr. MacPherson gave the dedicatory prayer at the dedication service, and Pastor Murray gave the message.

There came a day (in the early 1940s) when Iva Yarnall heard the voice of the Lord directing her to go to Kentucky to help Miss Faust, our missionary there. She, being in charge of the chapel, went to the official board again and told them of her call, and asked that the work of the chapel continue. They wondered who would be able to take care of this work, and Iva told them about how Gladys Bryson and Lilly Olson had been helping at the chapel. So the responsibility passed to Gladys and Lilly. Nevertheless, Iva did not make it to Kentucky. She became ill, and the day she was to have arrived in Kentucky, she arrived instead in glory. The Lord knew there were dear ones in south Philadelphia who needed to hear the clear Word of God—so He kept Light of the World Chapel in existence as we sought to reach the children by Sunday school, summer camps, vacation Bible school, Pioneer Girls, Boy’s Brigade, etc. During the late 1960s, the ruling elders of COD with the church’s chairman, Rev. Coons, tried to find someone to take over responsibility for the chapel. Finally, in 1969, Pastor Tom Ridley and others from the chapel came up to an evening service at COD and were presented with the deed to the Light of the World Chapel building at 318 Bainbridge

Street—free and clear. That building has since been sold, and the chapel is now in a more residential area at 31st and Wharton Streets, where it operates as a self-sustaining entity with a missionary heart.

It was in the summer of 1939 that Dr. MacPherson drove past the property at 5455 Old York Road. Here he saw an apartment building plus much ground, which to him was indeed “beautiful for situation.” Yes, it was here that Dr. MacPherson was convinced God would have COD constructed. However, there were many problems to be solved before this land could be obtained. But Dr. MacPherson was a man of prayer and knew that “nothing was too hard for God.” His congregation also knew what it was to pray and to “pray through.” Thus was born the slogan for the crisis hour: “We will advance on our knees.”

Dr. MacPherson contacted the real estate agent for the property and found that the land could be purchased for a down payment of \$28,000. The total in the building fund at that time was \$8,000. This, plus the fact that St. Mary’s Academy had offered \$29,000 in cash for the property, seemed an insurmountable barrier to obtaining this ground for COD. St. Mary’s Academy was particularly interested in buying the ground because they had heard a rumor that a mission was to be built on it. When Dr. MacPherson talked to the Mother Superior and told her it was to be used for a church building, she said she was sorry for the misunderstanding, but that there was nothing she could do as the offer had already been made and accepted by the realtor. The congregation was called to prayer, and the next morning the real estate agent called Dr. MacPherson and told him that St. Mary’s Academy had withdrawn their offer, and if COD would offer \$30,000, the property would be theirs. In faith Dr. MacPherson went ahead, and a contract was drawn up. The first step toward securing the property at 5455 Old York Road had been taken.

In order to raise the needed money, building bonds were issued in denominations of \$500 and \$1,000 at 4 percent interest, to mature in 1960. So great was the response for these bonds that Dr. MacPherson had to announce over the air that all the money needed for bonds was in and that therefore, people should not to send any further funds for this purpose.

The next step was to secure an architect and builder for the work. Charles W. Bolten & Son was selected as the architectural firm and Stewart Pascall as the builder.

The apartment was soon renovated to provide a chapel for midweek services, a pastor’s study, church offices and apartments for the pastor and custodian.

On Wednesday, November 8, 1939, at 8:00 p.m., a special service dedicating the property to the Lord was held, and on Sunday afternoon, March 24, 1940, ground was broken for the new church. On April 22, 1940, work was actually begun on the construction of the church building.

It was a cold and windy Thanksgiving Day in the year of our Lord, 1940, but a great crowd gathered in the lower auditorium of the new church and later gathered on the outside for the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone. The pastor placed in the cornerstone a number of items of great interest to all present. These included an old study Bible of Dr. MacPherson’s, a new Scofield Bible, a COD hymnal, a list of 1,800 names of donors to the building fund, a charter membership certificate and a list of charter members, a number of the pastor’s printed messages, copies of the *Open Door News*, a copy of the church’s constitution and by-laws, and a copy of the Scripture reading by Mr. Jaeger. Then the stone was placed in position, and Dr. MacPherson took a trowel to complete the ceremony.

Just approximately one year later, the day long awaited by pastor and congregation finally arrived. For on February 9, 1941, the auditorium of COD was opened with an evangelistic campaign of two weeks by Rev. Anthony Zeoli, known as the "Walking Bible." This gave our friends an opportunity not only to hear this well-known evangelist but also to see the beautiful new auditorium, which accommodated about 1,000 worshipers. The beautiful stained glass windows were given in memory of loved ones. On the closing night of this campaign, sufficient funds were received to purchase the lovely chimes (which were later moved to the new sanctuary in Ft. Washington). On this memorable occasion Dr. MacPherson's words to the congregation were these: "Only God knows what these days of waiting have meant to us. Only God knows how very grateful we are to Him for every friend who has prayed and given and purchased building bonds to help make this great testimony possible. We have been laborers together with Him."

By the time the sixth anniversary of the church came around in June, 1942, the church building was entirely complete and ready for dedication. The evening message given by the Pastor was entitled "What Mean Ye By These Stones?" and the following Scripture portions were brought to the attention of the congregation: "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman worketh but in vain" (Ps. 127:1); "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Ps. 122:1) and "How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God" (Ps. 84:1-2).

The Lord blessed us in providing a beautiful mural for the front of the church. This was a work representing long hours and tedious labor, but by the fall of 1942 it was finally completed. Thus, on Sunday, October 4, the formal dedication of the shepherd Psalm mural took place. A masterpiece of religious art, the work is by the renowned artist, Mr. Lawrence Saint. The mural expressed, with as much of the Palestinian atmosphere as possible, the spirit of the twenty-third psalm.

During the seventh anniversary year, 1943, the Lord laid upon the hearts of the congregation to ask Him for \$25,000 for the redemption of building bonds. By early November \$19,100 had been received. Dr. MacPherson gave the following challenge to his people at this time: "We yet have over two months to go, so earnestly pray that God will help us to reach our goal for His glory and as a testimony to unbelieving men."

God honored this faith, for instead of meeting the desired amount, the money came in like an avalanche and amounted to more than twice the balance of \$6,000. By the end of 1943, a grand total of \$32,800 had been received and paid off on the building bonds.

As the year 1944 dawned, a new motto was heard around COD: it was "Witness more in 1944." This truly became the working slogan of the church. At the beginning of the year, instead of setting a financial goal, which might well have been done either in the interest of missions or of the building fund, a goal was set by Dr. MacPherson for 500 souls for Christ in 1944.

Another outstanding event in 1944 was the unanimous vote of the congregation at its annual meeting in January to affiliate COD with the Independent Fundamental Churches of America. In May of 1944, when the fifteenth annual convention of the IFCA convened in Detroit, Dr. MacPherson was elected president of this great organization.

Perhaps the most outstanding year and anniversary of the church was in June of 1945, its ninth anniversary, for on Sunday morning, June 10, the mortgage was burned. Dr. MacPherson held the

mortgage, and a match was applied by Mr. Harry J. Jaeger, secretary of the official board. A total of \$125,000 had been paid for the two splendid buildings which comprised the property of COD. All indebtedness was cleared, and a surplus of \$2,500 was given, which was used for repairs and renovations on the parish house. Thus in only six years from the time of negotiating for the property, the mortgage had been more than met by the faithful prayers and gifts of God's people. Truly, "great is Thy faithfulness."

From 1945 to 1948 there was a steady growth in membership of both the Sunday school and church. It became evident that we should expand our facilities. One of the highlights of the twelfth anniversary was the unveiling of the architect's sketch, showing how we could expand our facilities to provide additional space for a growing Sunday school and church. Once again pastor and people looked to the Lord for His leading in this matter, rejoicing in past blessings and trusting the Lord to do an even greater work at COD in the future.

However, the following Sunday after the evening service, Dr. MacPherson was taken suddenly and seriously ill. A call to prayer went forth on his behalf. As days, weeks and months passed it was evident that it was not in the plan of God to restore this faithful servant to the place of preaching again. Therefore, various men of God were contacted, and they willingly supplied the pulpit during the latter part of 1948, all of 1949 and most of 1950. Then in the fall of 1950, Dr. Jack Murray was asked to preach for three months.

In September of 1951, Jack W. Murray accepted the call of co-pastor of COD. He was a graduate of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Wheaton College and Faith Theological Seminary. From 1941 to 1951, he had been director of Harvey Cedars Bible Conference in New Jersey. During his pastorate at COD he was instrumental in starting Military Evangelism, a program whereby many servicemen were contacted on the streets of Philadelphia by men of the church and invited to the services. At the church, through the preaching of the Word, many found the Lord as their Savior. Christmas Caravan was also a project of Dr. Murray. Many gift baskets were prepared by a good number of the people of the church for distribution to shut-ins and institutions.

Mrs. Jack Murray, a wonderful musician and composer, became choir director of the church. During this time the choir gave many concerts during the Christmas and Easter seasons, and one year presented a musical program in the grand court of the Wanamaker store (then Macy's) during Christmas time. They also traveled to New York City to the NBC studio to make three TV programs for Frontiers of Faith.

While Dr. Murray was co-pastor, he traveled to three mission fields represented by missionaries of the church: Kentucky, South America and Alaska.

In 1958 Dr. MacPherson thought he should resign as pastor, and Jack Murray became the second pastor of the church, with the title of "Founder" being given to Dr. MacPherson. Jack and Eleanor Murray and their five children (Steve, Sarah, Frank, George and Margaret) served in the church until December, 1959, when the Lord called Jack back into the evangelistic field. Thereafter, he started Bible Evangelism.

Once again we looked to the Lord to send us a man of His choosing to minister among us. God was good and sent faithful servants to minister the Word.

In the late summer of 1960, God called unto Himself the founder of this great testimony, Dr. Merrill T. MacPherson. Although there was a note of sadness among the congregation as they realized Dr. MacPherson would no longer be among them, yet there was joy to know that this man of God was now in the presence of the One he had so loved and served till the very end.

The Second Twenty-Five Years (1961–1986)

In March 1961, at a congregational meeting convened for extending a call to a pastoral candidate, the church unanimously voted to call to Rev. Milton P. Achey of Mountainside, New Jersey. On Easter Sunday, April 2, 1961, Rev. Achey preached his first sermon as the third pastor of the Church of the Open Door.

Rev. Achey had previously pastored the Church of Blessed Fellowship in Albion, New Jersey, and then was pastor of the Mountainside Union Chapel in Mountainside, New Jersey. While at Mountainside he conducted a radio broadcast that grew to 26,000 listeners weekly. In his youth he was billed as one of America's youngest evangelists, holding meetings in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Rev. Achey had studied at the Philadelphia College of Bible (*now Cairn University*), Temple University and Alma White College in Bound Brook, New Jersey. He had also been the vice president of the Eastern Council of the Bolivian Indian Mission. Prior to coming to Philadelphia, he had been chairman of pastoral relations at the New Jersey Bible Training School in Camden, New Jersey, involved with High School Evangelism, Inc., representative from Mountainside to the Union County Psychiatric Clinic and a member of the Library Board of the Mountainside Public Library Association. Rev. and Mrs. Achey and their two children (Milton Jr. and Edith Claire) served in our church until October of 1965.

Rev. Idwal Thomas, a longtime member and friend of our church, became the pastor of visitation at COD in 1953 (during the pastorate of Dr. Murray); he served for fourteen years. He also served as interim pastor during the time COD was without a pastor. When Rev. Achey became the new pastor, Rev. Thomas became assistant pastor of the church for five years. It might be noted that Rev. Thomas had been called by the Lord to enter the ministry through the influence of Dr. MacPherson, Stanley Kline and Sally Patterson (missionaries of our church).

Rev. Larry McGuill served as interim pastor from March of 1966 to June of 1966.

Rev. Richard S. Coons was formally called as pastor on July 25, 1966, and installed as our fourth pastor on October 23, 1966. Rev. Coons was a native of Casey, Illinois. He graduated from Bob Jones University in 1952 and received a master's degree in education from Murray State College in 1965. He had served as director of Youth for Christ in Rochester, New York from 1952 to 1959, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Union City, Tennessee, from 1960 to 1966 and was pastor of COD from 1966 to October of 1977.

On June 15, 1966, the congregation voted to relocate to the Fort Washington area and formally purchased a site of over ten acres from Mr. Edwin Ferguson on April 4, 1967. A dedicatory service of the land was held on Sunday afternoon, May 21, 1967, with a large participating group of people expressing much interest. On August 15, 1967, the church voted to sell the 5455 Old York Road property to the adjacent Albert Einstein Medical Center. On September 15, 1967, the congregation approved the preliminary plans, and Mr. E. Arol Fesmire, chairman of the building committee, was

secured as the general contractor. On Sunday afternoon, October 22, 1967, the formal ground-breaking ceremony was held.

During the interim period between buildings, the Albert Einstein Medical Center generously and graciously allowed the church to continue using the facilities at 5455 Old York Road, requiring no financial remuneration from COD.

The Lord was truly at work, as Pastor Coons said in the 1967 annual report: “In the January meeting, we did not know when or how we would acquire our beautiful lot in Ft. Washington. In April, the lot was ours—and then, the challenge of paying for such a lot. By November the \$35,000 goal was realized. In May we did not know how we were going to sell our present church, only that this was in the plan of our Lord. In July we received the remarkable offer of \$265,000 from the medical center. In July, even with that offer, we did not know where we would be meeting for services and, then, we received the offer from Einstein to meet at 5455 Old York Road—expense free. Last year we had no new building plans. By September, we had approved a plan and began actual construction October 23, 1967. As to the building program, we rejoice in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and His leadership in our church.”

The tri-building complex was designed by Rippel & Burroughs, Architect & Engineers of Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. Sincere appreciation goes to Mr. William E. Burroughs, who as a longtime member and worker of COD was the designer of our beautiful church edifice.

Deep appreciation also goes to Mr. C. Arol Fesmire who, through sincere spiritual dedication to his Lord, gave so willingly and sacrificially to the building of this church edifice. When the plans were complete and approved, he accepted the task of supervising and erecting the new church building from October 23, 1967 to October 31, 1968.

On April 21, 1968, the ceremony of the laying of the cornerstone was conducted. A number of items of great interest were placed in the cornerstone, for example a Bible, the by-laws & constitution of our church, names of the men serving on the board of elders and board of deacons, a present membership list, etc. It might also be noted that the cornerstone of the former building was removed (from 5455 Old York Road) and placed in our present church building.

Then on November 10, 1968, our new church edifice was dedicated. The invocation was given by our old friend, Rev. Idwal Thomas, who was then pastor of Christ Church in Perkasio, Pennsylvania. Guests in attendance at the dedication services were the president and the vice president of Einstein Medical Center, the commissioner of Upper Dublin Township, the superintendent of Upper Dublin schools, and Pastors Kenneth L. Beale (Jarrettown United Methodist Church), William J. Randolph (Cheltenham Baptist Church) and George H. Slavin (Faith Community Church).

The memorial window was dedicated to Dr. and Mrs. Merrill T. MacPherson for their labor of love to our congregation to the glory of God. It was appropriate that Rev. Phil Saint, missionary to South America and son of Mr. Laurence Saint who had painted the mural in the original church, should draw and design the picture of “Christ Knocking at the Door” (Rev. 3:20). This window has continued to speak to the world and to each individual worshiper for years, and its invitation depicts Christ’s concern for individual men, speaking directly to each of us. There are many detailed Biblical truths to be found in the picture besides the theme “Christ Knocking at the Door.” The window was made by the Willet studio in Philadelphia. At the street elevation of the church, one sees a beautiful columned facade which shelters the memorial window and Indiana limestone pedestal. Inscribed in

the limestone are the words “Proclaiming the Word” with the open Bible and “The Church of the Open Door.” This provides a scene of postcard beauty when viewed at night under powerful lights. Towering above and also fully lighted is the striking colonial-styled tower and spire rising 100 feet above the grade and terminating with a bronze cross that is four-and-a-half feet tall. The tower and sanctuary clocks were presented by Mr. and Mrs. E. Arol Fesmire. A historical tablet was placed in the narthex recognizing the founder, the pastor, the general contractor and the architect.

Upon relocation of COD on its new home in Ft. Washington, Pastor Coons assisted several church members in finding nursing homes. He realized that there was a great need of such facilities for the evangelical and non-denominational churches. After some deliberation a committee was appointed by the board of elders to study possible plots of ground and different retirement centers. Upon acquiring property owned by the Bub family, Open Door Estates evolved from a committee to a board of directors. Once again the services of Mr. William E. Burroughs and his associates were needed to design a building and to struggle with township zoning, utilities and financing. Ground-breaking was conducted on December 16, 1971, and within 60 days, all the living units were committed (with a large waiting list). Open Door Estates was designed on the total-care concept, meeting the physical, social and spiritual needs of individuals. It was composed of 61 units, a dining room, a dietary department and a recreational area, plus a 30-bed nursing care facility. This facility was dedicated on April 8, 1973.

Five and a half years after COD relocated to the Ft. Washington area (and approximately 8 years after Pastor Coons’ arrival), a new educational facility was completed with no assistance from banking establishments. Warren Fesmire installed the amplification system in the new educational building. Special recognition goes to Mr. W. Fesmire, who as a dedicated servant of God installed the amplification system throughout the entire church and also set up the radio room and its equipment. The educational facility was dedicated on September 16, 1973. At this point (1973–74) the congregation had grown to almost 700 on Sunday mornings and 400 at Sunday evening services. Church membership stood at just a little under 600, with a sanctuary capacity being 730 (504 in the nave; 76 for pastor, choir and musicians; 150 in the balcony; and a possible seating capacity in the narthex using movable seats for an additional 100 people). Numerous programs were established: evangelism, outreach, nursery school, day camps, Bible classes, Bible clubs, radio ministries, musicals, missionary outreach, Open Door Estates Retirement Complex, etc.

Mrs. Mary Lou Coons, a native of Rochester, New York, and who graduated from Wheaton Conservatory of Music in 1950 and attended Eastman School of Music (majoring in voice), was our director of music from 1966 to 1977. During her very capable leadership, we enjoyed many outstanding concerts during the Christmas and Easter seasons with capacity attendance (for at least two renditions). During this time Mrs. Janet Hutchinson served as pianist at the church. New choir robes and new hymn books were purchased during the 1975–76 church year. Rev. Dave Brewer served as assistant pastor during this period, and he greatly eased the increased burdens on Pastor Coons by sharing duties in administration and counseling. Pastor Brewer took on much of the teaching load when the evangelism program was conducted at COD during the 1976–77 church year. Rev. Brewer left and became a church planter with the Reformed Presbyterian Church.

Open Door Christian Academy (ODCA) started in September of 1975 with Karen Klein as the director. Great satisfaction and comfort was felt by many parents who now knew that their children were receiving a Christian education in a Christian atmosphere with Christian teachers, and a curriculum that excelled that of the public schools. The enrollment doubled for the 1976–77 school year. In 1977 Marilyn Ritter became the acting head of ODCA, followed by Bill Calderwood from

1982 to 1985. From 1985 to 1987 Doris Hooper was the headmaster, and then Dr. Donald Dawes became the headmaster and served in that role until the fall of 2014.

Elva Matthews became the organist at COD while the church was still located at Old York Road. She continued in that position when the church moved to Fort Washington. With the exception of when her son was organist from mid 1975 to 1977, she continued as organist for 48 years until her retirement in 2009.

Many musicians have blessed our church over the years. In October 1977 Mrs. Nancy Beale became the church pianist and is still in that role today. Nancy assumed the position following the resignation of Janet Hutchinson. Later that year, Mary Lou Coons resigned as music director when her husband, Richard, resigned as pastor in order to run the Open Door Estates full time. Ron Matthews then became the choir director. During this time when Ron was the director, many choral works, including works written by Ron, were performed by the choir.

On November 13, 1977, Rev. John R. Emmans was installed as the fifth pastor of COD. The Lord led Pastor John (as he liked to be called) to our church during the dark period of COD which saw law suits between godly Christian men as well as the Open Door Estates (now called ACTS Retirement). These matters caused great turmoil in our church, as well as a division in the congregation.

Rev. Emmans was born in Passaic, New Jersey. He graduated from Philadelphia College of the Bible, (*now Cairn University*) studied at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (*now Palmer Theological Seminary*) and attended Wheaton Summer School. Rev. Emmans married Jean Marie in 1944, and they had three children (Sue Joy Arvan, Steven Arthur and John Robert). Rev. Emmans was ordained into the ministry at Maryland Avenue Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. Rev. Emmans pastored Gladwyne Baptist Church in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania; Immanuel Baptist Church in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania; Calvary Memorial Church in Oak Park, Illinois and Anaheim Community Church in Anaheim, California. He had also been president and founder of Biblical Dynamics Institute in San Bernardino, California; chaplain for headquarters staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, Arrowhead Springs in San Bernardino, California and a frequent conference speaker for Campus Crusade. Later he pastored the Community Bible Church in San Bernardino, California and Community Church of Palm Springs in Palm Springs, California.

Ron Matthews left the music director position in 1979, and Phyllis Ward assumed the choir director position. Phyllis resigned in the fall of 1980, and Keith Beale became the interim choir director until Carol Ward became the choir director in fall of 1981.

On May 17, 1981, the beautiful Rogers organ that now graces our sanctuary was dedicated. The renowned organist of the John Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia, Dr. Keith Chapman, designed and installed the organ in our sanctuary. Dr. Chapman also played the organ at the dedication service. The chimes from the old church (5455 Old York Road) were attached to the Rogers organ.

Rev. Emmans' son-in-law, Bill Arvan, came to COD as assistant pastor in 1982, and he and Pastor Emmans were instrumental in instituting the sound business and accounting practices now in effect. Bill and Sue Arvan and their three children (Susan, John and Stephen) served in our church until March of 1985, when the Lord called them to pastor Calvary Baptist Church in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

The Lord laid it upon Pastor John's heart to retire the mortgage of the church. A mortgage-burning ceremony took place shortly thereafter. Other achievements of Pastor John were restoring the annual

missionary conference, instituting the AWANA ministry to children and giving a car to Stanley and Carmel Kline, longtime friends and charter members of COD who had served the Lord as missionaries for 40 years. We as a congregation had the privilege and opportunity to share the church's fortieth wedding anniversary with Pastor John and Jean. Pastor John's many conference-speaking commitments over the years and his pulpit ministry brought recognition to COD.

On December 31, 1985, Pastor John and Jean Emmans left COD to seek the Lord's will in their lives.

Rev. John H. Becker, missionary candidate, was asked by the board of elders in November 1985 to help part time at the church in the areas of Christian education and outreach. In January 1986 John Becker was asked to serve full time as interim pastor. Jack has been a part of our congregation since 1968 and was baptized, ordained, commissioned as a missionary and married at COD. Jack received a Bachelor of Business Administration with an accounting major from Temple University in 1975, and a Master of Divinity from Biblical Theological Seminary in 1979. In November, 1986 John stepped down as interim pastor when a new pastor began, and he became a missionary in the southwestern states.

We at COD have been blessed over the years by the choir and the music program. Special music was provided for the fiftieth anniversary by such people as Ron and Gary Matthews (a gifted, dynamic duet team, vocalists, pianists, organists and trumpeters) Keith and Nancy Beale (vocalist and pianist), the Philadelphia Boys Choir, Dr. Sam Hsu (pianist), the Joy Bells, Dr. Ron Matthews (organist), Christine Wyrzten (soloist), Myrtle Hall (soloist) and Christmas cantatas by the children's choir and the adult choir. For the fiftieth anniversary a member of COD and the choir purchased new choir robes.

The Third Twenty-Five Years (1986–2011)

The Lord continues to bless our ministry by sustaining us for the past 50 years. Early in 1986 Chuck Tabor accepted the position of assistant pastor. In November of that same year, Rev. Paul Hatmacher accepted the call as the sixth pastor at COD, and he and his wife Barbara joined us the following January. Pastor Hatmacher had formerly been a missionary with Trans World Radio and a Bible college professor, and he had conducted scores of Bible conferences and evangelical services. During his pastorate his son-in-law, Kenny Dickerson, served the church as minister of youth and Christian education.

In 1987, under the direction of our choir director Carol Ward, Diane Susek sang with us in our two cantatas as a special guest artist. Also in 1987 Doris Hooper announced her resignation as ODCA headmaster; and the Lord sent us Dr. Donald Dawes to fill the position. ODCA expanded this year to include Pre-K through eighth grade. In 2015 we celebrated the school's fortieth anniversary. The school has prepared many graduates over the years for full-time ministry.

In 1988 a new grand piano was donated by Fred and Millie Dienert. The dedication service honoring the Lord was held in June and featured Nancy Beale, Sam Hsu and Ron Matthews. Carol Ward resigned in September as choir director after 8 years; Keith Beale stepped in as interim director for about seven months, and in April 1989 Bob McNally became the director.

In 1989 we said goodbye to Kenny Dickerson and welcomed Danny Woehr as leader of pastoral care ministry/visitation, Robert McNally as director of music and Rev. Kevin Cummings as pastor of Christian education and youth. Also during this time a church member, Paul Gregowske, raised most

of his support for the ministry call God had given him, and in 1991 the Lord led him and his family to Guam to be missionaries. Praise the Lord that another one of our own has gone on the mission field.

During these years our AWANA program and summer Bible camp continued to grow. The AWANA (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed) program has reached saved and unsaved children from our church and beyond. Bill Bennett and Dale Alderfer, followed by Don Lippy, Don Hanson, and Tom Vetterani Jr. grew the enthusiasm so that today we have about 250 young people involved on Wednesday nights. Bible camp has had several directors over the years, including Sue Arvan, Susie Tabor, Kathy Trudelle, Evelyn Lippy, Nancy Beale, Maureen Allen and Jane McCrabb. Jane has led the camp for over a dozen years. We average 230 children for a week each June, and we have 85 staff.

In 1991 Pastor Paul started publishing “The Hinge” each month to keep everyone informed of all the events happening at the church. COD began hosting the community Bible study, taught by Millie Dienert this year. This study continued to be led by Millie for nearly 20 years. Also during this year we had a wonderful New Year’s Eve dinner and concert by Diane Susek and Michael Faircloth.

In June 1992 we were blessed to have T.W. Wilson and Cliff Barrows spoke at COD—this was during the Billy Graham crusade held in Philadelphia. In this same year Kevin King became the music director after Bob McNally resigned and Keith Beale filled in as interim director. Fred Dienert went home to be with the Lord and the Rev. Billy Graham spoke at Fred’s memorial service, which was held in our sanctuary.

In the fall of 1993, David Karn, who had been a member of COD since a child, became the director of student ministries. Later, Dave became a full-time pastor and has served several churches and continues to do so. The volunteer orchestra was formed on a permanent basis at this time, and they provided accompaniment at each morning worship service and continue to do so even to this day.

We found that 1994 was a year of transitions. In June 1994 Paul Hatmacher announced his resignation as pastor so he could pursue missionary work with Mainland China Missions. Following his resignation, Rev. Jack Becker once again served as interim pastor for the remainder of the year. The next year Rev. Frank Manno served as interim pastor, and in May Kevin King left the position as choir director and Keith Beale again served as interim director. Art Scott took over many of the responsibilities in the church office concerning finances and administration.

In October 1995 C. David Rogers became the seventh pastor of COD. Dave was a graduate of Biblical Theological Seminary, and he and his wife Maryann had served several churches in Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Florida.

In 1996 we celebrated COD’s sixtieth anniversary with a special concert featuring many of the past and present musicians from COD. Also during this year Mr. Chris Smith was made director of Christian education, with his main focus on the youth groups. In the fall, Bryan Edgett became the director of music. In 1996 COD/ODCA participated in the settlement of the bankruptcy of the Foundation for New Era Philanthropy. ODCA had invested money in this organization that had promised large returns—but after ODCA collected its sizeable portion, the foundation went bankrupt, and the school had to return 100 percent of the funds: \$88,500 to help those other non-profits who lost their initial investment. This required COD to take on some debt. Also in 1996 some minor changes were made to the COD constitution and bylaws, for example, to show that the church was no longer in Philadelphia but in fact in Fort Washington.

In 1997 Danny Woehr announced his retirement, and Art Scott took over the responsibility of visitation. During this year, many new TLC (Tender Loving Care)/small groups were formed. Danny was well loved by the congregation as he cared for the flock as a shepherd.

In 1999 Rev. Art Cordner accepted the position of visitation pastor. In July Christine Wyrzten gave a concert at the church. In the fall of this year, Pastor Rogers resigned his position as pastor. Pastor Dave Garner, Rev. Bill Harding, Darryl Lang and Scott Janney assumed pulpit supply for many of the services. During this time Tom Vetterani Sr., vice-chair of the elders, assumed a great deal of the day-to-day responsibilities for the church. This was a time of brokenness so many members left and went to other congregations. But the Lord looked after us, took care of our needs, strengthened us and we sought him day by day for His direction.

Women's ministries were reinstated with the starting of service circles and the ladies' retreat. In January 2000 the women had their first ladies' retreat held at Willow Valley under the direction of Nancy Beale. This has grown from the initial 60 attendees to over 140 in recent years. Early in the year Dr. David Hard became the interim pastor at COD. In April Andy Barnes accepted the position of director of youth ministries, and during this year ODCA celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary

In January 2001, after a full year of pastoral search, Glenn Jago was asked to become the eighth pastor of COD. He and his wife Tammy and their children (Elysha, Ethan, Alexandra) had served in many churches in Georgia, Maryland and Florida. Glenn was a graduate of Calvary Baptist High School in Lansdale, Pennsylvania, of Pensacola Christian College (where he later taught Greek) and of Calvary Baptist Seminary. Glenn brings a deep understanding and discernment of the Scriptures. In the summer Bryan Edgett resigned, and Keith Beale became the interim music director.

In January 2002 the Lord brought Ken Borrmann to us to become the new music director. Knowing that the Lord wants us to reach out to others who may not know Him or attend church, we started our annual community breakfast, held outdoors every year in August. The breakfast continues as an outreach to the community and demonstrates that worship does not need to be held in the sanctuary. By the summer Andy Barnes left as youth pastor in order to attend seminary, and in November Bryant Geating became the youth pastor. At this time the church was considering purchasing the corner property for a parsonage or a youth building. The congregation voted to authorize it, but the church was outbid by someone else. During this year the children's church/KIDZ Connection grew under the leadership of Tammy Jago.

In 2003 Art Cordner resigned as visitation pastor, and in March Keith Beale became the church administrator. Glenn and the Elders felt that members of the congregation needed more Biblical training in a classroom atmosphere. "Fundamentals of the Faith" (FOF), a course designed to present the truths of Scripture in a very straightforward way, was introduced. It allowed the participants ample time to get their questions asked and answered through a study in God's Word. The fundamentals of the faith are those truths which guide and govern our lives. They are the anchors of our faith, the standards by which we measure and weigh all other claims to truth. They are the basis for our priorities and determine our eternal destiny as they should direct our earthly life. All the leadership of the church went through the course as did many members. This course, as well as an advanced course, is still offered today. Also, this was the first year that COD presented the drive-through living nativity, which it has continued to do, weather permitting, every year on the first weekend of December. During this year Don Hutchinson retired as custodian for COD and ODCA after 30 years of faithful service – Praise the Lord for his faithfulness.

We continued to explore properties next to the church for sale to expand the church's footprint. In 2005 the property on Susquehanna Road adjacent to the church was for sale. The owner, Mrs. Ferguson and her late husband Ed, had sold the original ten acres to the church. On May 15, 2005, the congregation voted to purchase the property—including one acre, a four-bedroom home and a tennis court—for \$386,000. After some cosmetic changes the house became the parsonage for Glenn and Tammy Jago and their children. What a great joy to have the pastor living right on the church property! The tennis court was later made into a sand volleyball court and a half-size basketball court. Many donations and loans made the purchase possible. We know that the Lord was in this allowing us to get the property at such a good price and right next to the church.

In the same year we also installed projectors and large screens in the front of the church to allow for praise songs, sermon notes and videos to be shown during the worship time. In addition, new lights were installed to highlight the stage area, choir and orchestra. This was especially helpful at cantatas and for ODCA and Bible camp programs. In August of 2005, Ken Borrmann resigned, and Keith Beale became the interim choir director/worship leader one more time. Also during this time we developed a new part-time position of children's ministry director. Rachael Crabtree first filled this role; and then Tammy Jago took over the position after Rachael resigned. Tammy had developed the Kidz Connection for children, which was held during the church time.

In 2006 Tom Vetterani Sr., vice-chair of the Elder board, headed up the long-range planning committee. This resulted from information gathered in a health assessment survey done by CMA (Center for Ministry Advancement); the organization evaluated church members as well as facility and ministry needs. A Catalyst team was formed to conduct interviews and discuss the results. In the fall Bryant Geating went from being youth pastor to family and visitation pastor, and Jeff Wahlberg, Pastor Glenn's son-in-law, was hired as the youth director. It was at this time that Bryant developed the men's ministries, including a retreat.

In the summer of 2007, Keith Beale resigned as administrator and interim music director. Cindy Matthews became the music director, and Karen Polesir assumed administrative responsibilities until Herb Hinch was hired full-time as the administrator. This year the Elder Board developed the Content Committee as a safeguard against non-biblical Bible studies infecting the flock with the poison of deception.

In 2008 Pastor Glenn announced his intention to begin working on his doctorate degree, which the church supported. That fall work began on renovations to the main kitchen; soon the room had new flooring, cabinets and lighting. Herb Hinch left the position of administrator, and his work was distributed among other staff members.

In 2009 a few changes were made to the COD constitution, mainly to allow for higher spending limits in an emergency since the old limits, set in 1991, were out of date due to inflation. Also, changes were approved to allow additional deacons. During the year, Tom Vetterani presented results from the Catalyst Team, and additional surveys were undertaken to get the pulse of church members and their opinions of the effectiveness of COD's ministries. Cindy Matthews resigned as music director, and Carol Ward took over the position again. At the end of the year, Elva Matthews resigned as organist after *48-plus* years at the organ. Her sons and nearly all the previous choir directors participated in a farewell concert in October. It was a great time of honoring the Lord and thanking Elva for her long and faithful service.

In 2010, at the end of the summer, Jeff Wahlberg resigned to take another ministry opportunity at Camp Calvary, and Ben Brown became the youth director. Doreen Whitstone and Keith Beale shared the responsibility as the organists. The Elders and Deacons were paired as ministry teams to shepherd the flock.

The Lord honored our trust and faith in Him by bringing many new members to COD over the last few years. In 2011, Church of the Open Door celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary year. What a blessing to continue to have a strong ministry and be a beacon in a dark world. We had a year-long celebration with the updating and distribution of this history of COD, hotplates, mugs, and Christmas ornaments with the church picture. The first weekend in June, we had an anniversary dinner at Williamson's Restaurant with presentations, music, and church memorabilia for about 200 guests. That Sunday night we held a 75th Anniversary Musical Celebration and it was a musical walk down COD's music ministry's memory lane. This melodic path included: Ron and Gary Matthews, the COD choir, the COD orchestra, the COD handbells, a trumpet ensemble, a duet by Keith Beale and Karen Tipton, Elva Matthews and Nancy Beale performing one of their famous piano and organ duets, Kevin King's family and Journey of Grace singing, Bill Kuhfuss the radio voice song leader for many years as the song leader, and Romans 12 ensemble. Everyone was uplifted and blessed and the weekly references to our church history and this history document aided us to understand how many people before us gave of their lives and money to make this church what it is today.

Also during 2011, Doreen Whitstone assumed the position of organist and Dr. Jago received his Doctor of Ministry degree. Due to many leaks, we began the replacement of all the roofs on the church building and we replaced several sidewalks and installed a video surveillance system.

The Next Twenty-Five Years (2012–)

Great is Thy Faithfulness was sung many times this year as we continued to be blessed by Him and given grace in our weakness. In the beginning of 2012 we were still celebrating COD's 75th anniversary with special programs and memos in the weekly bulletin. Several facility repairs were completed including: foundation repairs; water remediation systems; and retiled several areas damaged by water. And all the ministries of the church continued to grow and be a blessing to all those involved. The Lord provided these funds just when we needed them.

In 2013, the theme was "The Year of Engaging in God's Word" and many in the congregation committed to read through the entire Bible and the sermons matched the reading for that week. Many members admitted that this was the first time that they read the entire Bible cover to cover. And they were blessed by doing so. The Lord spoke to so many and there was a clearer understanding of the Old Testament. During this year, Sally Martin came on staff as the Children's Director, Ron Acker, the Physical Plant Manager, and Sean Stahlheber, the newly created full-time position of Youth/Young Adult Pastor after Ben resigned. Stan Stauffer, our volunteer orchestra conductor led the Annual Orchestra Concert which has been loved by many every year since. The Lord has blessed us with very talented Christian musicians and the orchestra has grown tremendously with many various instruments. This year we installed new boilers in the sanctuary and the columns in the front of the church as well as nearly all entrance doors and replaced the steeple windows and did repair work on the steeple.

In 2014, Carol Ward resigned as choir director and Keith Beale became the interim director once again. Don Dawes resigned as ODCA Headmaster after 28 years and Lois Glasstetter was made the interim Principal. We replaced some of the windows in the parsonage as well as a whole new kitchen

and tile floors. A new air conditioning system was installed for the sanctuary and the Blue Room was renovated and new lights installed in the parking lots.

In January 2015, Nancy Beale was appointed the Music Director, as well as pianist, and Keith Beale finally accepted the Choir Director position on a permanent/non-interim basis. Meg McHale became ODCA's next Principal in March. In May, we held a 40th Anniversary Program for ODCA with many of the former administrators, teachers, and students attending. At the end of the school year several teachers retired or resigned so new teachers were hired to replace key positions. The parking lot is being resurfaced in stages and an amendment was approved in the constitution allowing the Annual Meeting to be held any Sunday in the month of June. In June, Duane Adler became the Youth and Young Adult Intern and in August, Henry Oestreich became the Director of Children's Ministries but he resigned in October. Pastor Bryant and his wife Lilan feel a real burden to support pastors, so they went to China for two weeks to show their support and prayers and they plan to repeat this in future years. This year the Lord also put Bryant in contact with someone to start a church plant in the Frankfurt section of Philadelphia. He and several from the church have gone there and helped with Bible studies, a tutoring program and street evangelism. Praise the Lord that we could come along side these people in the city that need the Lord. Since ODCA saw declining enrollment, the church voted to give some funds to them to help them stay afloat.

In 2016, we have seen challenges and blessings. The women's retreat experienced a huge snow storm and many were forced to stay in Lancaster for an additional night – it was a great time of fellowship and getting to know each other. The plan to work with the church in Philadelphia did not materialize due to some city-imposed regulations on what could be done in public buildings. The enrollment for ODCA continued to grow as they added a two and three-year old class, which helped them to be able to keep a balanced budget. Several members of the church and youth went to West Virginia to help with the flood victims there. We have brought back the Living Nativity after having been off for 2 years and had 481 cars go through. We were sorry to say goodbye to Sean and Jeanette Stahlheber as he resigned in August and returned to Texas. Duane Adler assumed the position of Interim Youth Director in September. We were able to refurbish the narthex and repave a good portion of the parking lot this year as well as carpet all the hallways in the church. Earlier in the year Bryant was named Associate Pastor, but late in the year he resigned his position at COD. Bob Jones faithfully managed the COD Tape Ministry for many years until his death the end of this year.

2017 began with the announcement that Duane Adler was named the full-time Director of Youth and Visitation. Emily Watkins, Duane's finance (and now wife), was made Director of Children's Ministries. Joy Kerr had been leading the Worship Team for many years, but had to step down due to work and other time constraints and Cynthia Rasmussen has accepted the position. In March the church conducted a survey to better understand member and friend's grasp of the church and how it relates in the community. The results are being used to see if improvements can be made. The restrooms in the gym have been renovated and the parking lot was repaved on the ODCA side of the church. Also, the first room below the fellowship hall was redone and is now a multi-purpose room for ODCA and the church. Meg McHale resigned as ODCA principal and Tarah Ferrier became the principal in the fall term. ODCA has over 160 students at the beginning of the fall term. Stan Stauffer had led the orchestra since the beginning but due to health issues he needed to step down. Keith Beale then took over leading the orchestra as well as the choir. In October, Nancy Beale was recognized for having been the pianist at COD for 40 years. All of the staff and the church family are thankful for the Lord's blessings with good health and adequate finances in order to continue on in ministry. As 2017 ended, it was announced that the Elders licensed Duane Adler, so he is now Pastor of Youth and Visitation.

2018 continued to see growth in the congregation due to a number of other non-denominational churches in the area stopping traditional music including the choir, hymns, and use of the organ. Several members of the church partnered with Neighborhood Crusade in Philadelphia and spent a portion of 2 days giving out food and clothing to the homeless. Early in the year, it was discovered that the stained glass window in the front of the sanctuary was buckling and needed repair. The congregation voted to authorize \$26,000 to repair and replace the window and it was completed in time for the Community Breakfast. Many other capital programs were approved such as finishing the repaving of the parking lot. In June, Sherri Kreamer and Lynne Siegenthaler announced their retirements. Sherri had worked as Office Manager/Secretary for 21 years and was replaced by Ann Fischer. Lynne had worked as our bookkeeper for 24 years and was replaced by Mary Adlam. At the Women's Ministry kick-off in August of 2018, Nancy Beale announced that this was her 20th and final year as Women's Ministries Director. During that time, a retreat was held each year growing to as high as 150 attendees one year and the annual Brunch grew to as high as 210 attendees. Nancy will be replaced by the team of Doreen Whitstone and Sally Martin.

As we conclude this historical sketch of Church of the Open Door for now, we can truly say, "The Lord has done great things for us whereof we are glad." We not only have a beautiful building in which to worship God, but we have members who are seeking His Word. We continue to provide the annual community breakfast and the living nativity; we continue to have our annual women's retreat in Lancaster and our men's retreat. Fundamentals of the Faith 1 & 2 continue to be taught, and now we even have Theology 3, Old Testament Survey course. The Elder Board continues the Content Committee as a safeguard against non-biblical Bible studies infecting the flock with the poison of deception. Adult Bible Fellowships (ABF) and small groups continue to allow people to bond and share their concerns. Bible camp continues to minister to 230 children each summer, and AWANA shares Christ with over 200 children, many not from our church, every Wednesday night. The Spirited Saints Seniors Ministry continues to grow and have outstanding programs. ODCA continues to teach and instruct students from two-year olds through eighth grade. The choir and orchestra as well as various soloists and our praise team continue to provide a great time of worship every week. We have a well-staffed Sunday school with classes for all ages and a vital youth ministry. And we continue to have many volunteers, such as Roberto Baro, who has led the Sound Room team for many years.

In all these years our goals are still the same as those on which Dr. MacPherson founded the church: the purity of doctrine and the holiness of the church. Our sole purpose is the continuance of the Great Commission. And we are thankful for the grace and blessings we continue to receive from the Lord.

COD Missionaries:

Over these years COD has supported many missionaries. Some have come from within our church, and others have been made known to us. Missionary support for all of these people has been over \$100,000 a year for the past few decades. Our missionaries serve in places as far away as India, Australia, France and Cambodia, and some are as close as Fort Washington, Seattle and South Carolina. Many of these missionaries attend our missions' conferences, and they write to us telling how the Lord is using them in the lives of people for Christ every day.

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I will be with you always to the very end of the age." Matt. 28:19-20 (NIV)

Missionaries who have been supported by COD include (this list does not include short-term missions and mission's trips taken by many of our members): **Current missionaries can be found on the church website: www.cod.org under Ministries / Missions.**

Last Name	First Name	Mission/Organization	Field of Service
Allen	Jay & Maureen	Campus Crusade for Christ	Phila area
Almack	Dave & Deb	CLC Ministries International	USA & Worldwide
Arnett	Kathryn & Harold	Rural Evangel Mission	Kentucky
Baro	Maria	WEC International	Uganda
Barr	Laura	African Inland Missions	Congo, Africa
Barrett	Walt & Jane	Greater European Miss.	Belgium
Becker	Jack & Jan	Integrity Missions	S.W. America & Mexico
Bennett	Kevin & Jill		
Boyd	Herb & Madeline (Ruth)	Baptist Mid Missions	Netherlands
Boyd	David & Crissie	Baptist Mid Missions	Netherlands
Bracken	Ruth	Jewish Missions, California	California
Brill	Roy & Kitty	African Inland Missions	Africa
Brueck	Don		
Bryson	Gladys	Light of the World Chapel	South Philadelphia
Cariss	Bill & Claudia	Church Impact Ministries	United States
Catton	Lisa & Brian	Fell. of Christian Athletes	Greater Philadelphia area
Chamberlin	Freda		
Clark	Roger & Carol	Sudan Interior Missions	Sudan
Elwell	Joan	Campus Crusade for Christ	Phila area
Fang	Dr. Samuel	Mainland China Missions	China
Faulkner	Ray & Alice	African Inland Missions	Africa
Faust	Marie		
Feldi	Greg & Deb	Urban Resource Center	Phila area
Franklin	Dean & Edith	World Team	Trinidad
Fuller	Marlin and Donna	AWANA International	PA, NJ, DE
Gay	Eugene Mr. & Mrs.	Bible Club Movement	
Geiger	Henry		
Gerdes	Ben & Daisy	Send International	Alaska
Giles	David & Lee	Missions to Unreached...	Romania
Gregowske	Paul & Kathy	Trans World Radio (TWR)	Guam & Cambodia
Guest	Charles & Nancy	His Hill	Vermont
Harding	Bill & Elaine	African Inland Missions	Ethiopia, Africa
Hatmacher	Paul & Barbara	Churches in Missions	Worldwide
Johnson	Tim	Church of the Open Door	Bolivia
Johnson	Bridgens & Dorothy	Church of the Open Door	Bolivia
Johnson	Paul & Robin	Amazon Focus / ALTECO	South America
Jones	Kerry (Lynn) & Becky	Campus Crusade for Christ	Phila area
Joy	Vincent & Becky	Send International	Alaska
Kamilchu	Konstantin & Nadia	Baptist Intl. Missions	Not disclosed
Key	Billie May	WEC International	Brazil
Kilmer	Joyce		Alaska
Kline	Stanley & Carmel	African Inland Missions	Africa
Lackey	Dave & Linda	Wycliffe Bible	USA & Colombia
Lackey	Andrew & Heather	International Students, Inc.	Philadelphia, PA
Lewis	Woody & Sue	UFM International/Crossworld	France & USA
Light of the World Chapel	Carmel Kline	Church of the Open Door	South Phila.
Long	Robert & Judy	Team Inc.	Far East

Last Name	First Name	Mission/Organization	Field of Service
MacSweeney	Helen	Rural Evangel Mission	Kentucky
Marshall	Steve & Nancy	World Medical Mission	Africa
Marshall	Alline	Faith Ventures	Georgia
Martinez	Zeke	World Reach	South America
Mayorga	Javier & Betzaba	ALTECO	South America
McConnell	Howard & Virginia	WEC International	USA & N.Z.
Meyer	Bonnie	Sudan Interior Missions	Sudan
Montgomery	Dave and Melodi	CLC Ministries International	Fort Washington, PA
Morrison	Marian	Bible Club Movement	New York
Neighborhood Crusades	Melvin/Elizabeth Floyd	Daniel/Esther Sawyer	Philadelphia
Oates	Ron	Crista Camps/Youth for Christ	Washington State
Okamoto	Wayne & Ollie	Campus Crusade for Christ	Maine
Olson	Lilly	Light of the World Chapel	South Phila.
Pahutski	Stephen & Susan	AWM/Pioneers	Not disclosed
Pahutski	Theresa	Campus Crusade for Christ	Florida
Pardine	Eric and Casandra	Global Faith Missions	Peru
Patterson	Sally	Rural Evangel Mission	Kentucky
Pease	Jack & Mikey	Campus Crusade for Christ	California
Peters	Glenn & Lisa	TEAM	Not disclosed
Pillai	Ajay	India National Island Mission	Not disclosed
Phillips	Dr. & Mrs.	Hebrew Christian Fellowship	Local/Worldwide
Pitman	Jim & Daniela	CLC International	
Roessner	John & Susan	Trans World Radio (TWR)	Guam
Rogers	Blake & Sylvia	BCM International	South America/NJ
Rosenberg	Leon Rev.		
Rus	Alice		
Saints Prison Ministry	D. Adler/M. DiBenedetto	Prison Ministry	PA/NJ/ NY/DE
Saxton	Dean & Lucille	Wycliffe Bible	Arizona
Sharp (Pounder)	Sarah	Wycliffe Bible	Papua, Indonesia
Stelzer	Art	African Inland Missions	Africa
Stratton	Matt and Katrina	Coalition for Christian Outreach	Ohio
Thorpe	Ken & Jean	Afro-American Crusade	
Tilley	Florence	Bible Club Movement	Phila area
Trout	Paul & Kitty	Hosanna!	Mexico/USA
Vossler	Rev. & Mrs.		
Vosters	Tom & Alicia	World Team USA	Cambodia
Weir	Paul & Ruth	AMF	Honduras
West	Richard & Carolyn	Trans World Radio (TWR)	Swaziland/Guam/Bonaire/US
Wright	Megan	World Venture	Uganda
Woodman	Bruce & Margaret	South American Crusade	South America
Woodman	Dan & Daisy	CLC Ministries International	Italy/United States
Yarnall	Iva	Light of the World Chapel	South Phila.

- Christian Cinema
- Hebrew Christian Fellowship.
- India National Island Mission – Ajay Pillai
- Lakeside Youth Service
- Manna Bible Institute
- Neighborhood Crusades – Daniel & Esther Sawyer
- Philadelphia Bible Society
- Roots Fellowship
- The Saints Prison Ministry – Adler; DiBenedetto

If there are any corrections or additions to be made to this history, please see Keith Beale