Chapter 2

On October 29, 1875, Rev. Adrian Westveer was elected pastor and installed on December 15, 1875 in the presence of a large congregation. During his pastorate 46 persons were added to the membership. His pastoral relation was dissolved July 28, 1879. During the years of his pastorate the congregation had a struggle with a debt incurred in building the manse during the time his predecessors served the church. The debt at this time was about $4,500.

On December 6, 1876, the ladies formed a “Sinking Fund Association” whose object was to liquidate the debt of the church property. With their help and the help of the newly installed pastor a little later they met with great success.

At the congregational meeting held February 19, 1880, Mr. Samuel Rowland, a student of Princeton Seminary was elected pastor. He was ordained and installed July 6, 1880. The outlook was not very bright but Mr. Rowland was equal to the emergency. He formulated a plan, by wich in a few months, the money was raised and the debt all paid and “a near surplus in the treasury.” The church was encouraged greatly and prospered spiritually as well as financially, many being added to the membership.

At a special meeting of the Presbytery, December 26, 1882, the pastoral relation was dissolved between Mr. Rowland and the congregation and he went, as pastor, to Syracuse.

On April 9, 1883 Mr. Stewart Dickson, a student of Princeton Seminary was elected to the pastorate. In july, 1883 the congregation decided to enlarge and refit the church. Records show that the work was all completed by February 21, 1884 with a cost of $2,000. On July 14, 1886 Mr. Dickson’s pastoral relation was dissolved to take effect July 4, 1886. During his pastorate a systemic benevolence giving was adopted, an envelope plan which resulted at once in a large increase of offerings.

He was followed by Rev. Thomas Long who was installed December 28, 1886 and served as pastor for 15 years. He preached his 15th anniversary sermon the Sunday preceding his death which occurred December 22, 1901.