

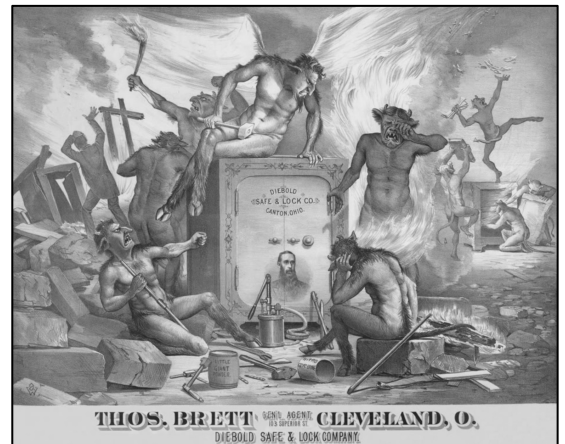
Celebrating the 150-year History of Crawford Memorial United Methodist Church

Through the Years: Operating Expenses, Budgets, and Interesting Gleanings

Ragnhild M. Bairnsfather, December 2021

There is a large safe that one passes going from the sanctuary to Gifford Hall. It was acquired with the assistance of Albert Bent (1867-1952). Bent wrote the history of the church from its founding in 1871 through 1951 and undoubtedly consulted the records that were in the safe. The name across the top is Charles E. Howe Co., the original owner of the safe. The safe, manufactured by Diebold Safe & Lock Co. of Canton, Ohio, is an antique. If one checks similar safes on eBay, you will see some listed for \$800.

This advertisement, about 1880, has a religious theme. Note the distraught man on the left standing by a broken safe with a cross and timbers in flames. The religious and humorous theme is carried further with devils angry because they cannot break into the Diebold safe using blasting powder, nitroglycerine, hammers, pry bars and such. Diebold boasted that their safes withstood the Chicago Fire of 1871. (www.My-time-machine.net/diebold-intro.html)

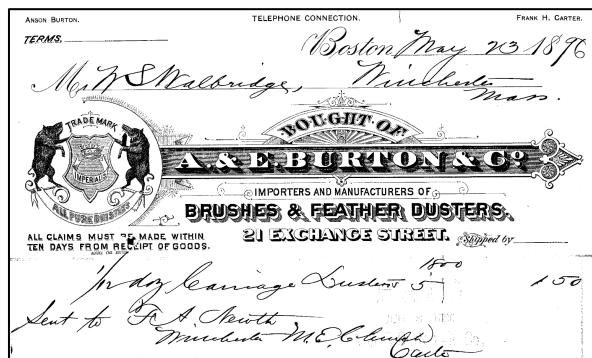


Diebold Safe & Lock ad, circa 1880

It has various sized wooden drawers, vertical slots and cubbies and is not intended to be a place for long-time archival storage. There were Treasurer record books from 1875, Board of Stewards' records from 1872, Women's Society minutes, Epworth League records from 1898 and more; all vying for space in no particular order. In 2013 seven archival boxes of the record books and other items that were organized by subject and type were sent to Boston University School of Theology Archives. Records from churches in the New England Conference are stored there under archival conditions and can be retrieved for users during open hours. Not all of the church records went to BU.

There were no guidelines on what records should be kept and what could be thrown out after a certain number of years as there are today. The treasurers seemed to have kept every scrap of paper. Taking up space in the safe is a large wooden box full of packets of invoices, rolled up and tied in thin string. A number of them have been unrolled and copied and are interesting for the logos, the addresses and phone numbers of Winchester businesses, the goods provided and the prices charged.

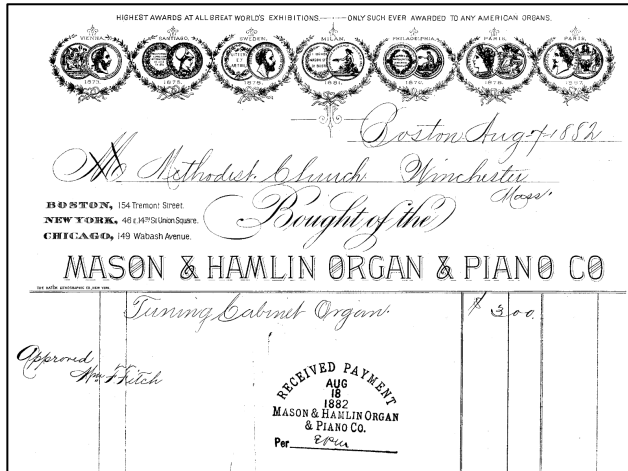
Some of the operating expenses the church faced in its early years were essential. For example:



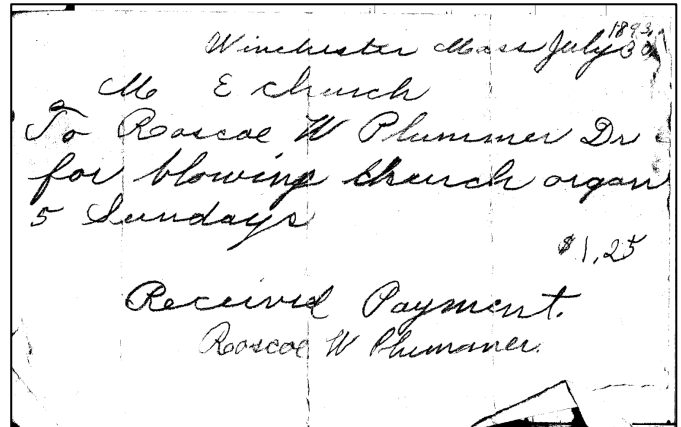
Carriage Dusters

E. B. Stillings & Co.		Boston June 1 st 1888	
55 SUDBURY ST. BOSTON		Winchester M. E. Church	
ACCOUNT BOOKS TO ORDER		To E. B. Stillings & Co Dr	
* Printers *		MANUFACTURERS OF STATIONERY	
Mich	2	300 Labels	1.50
April	25	75 Postcard Cards 1/4	1.75
	27	500 Leaflets 4 pp	4.50
May	26	2000 Envelopes of Weekly Offerings	10.50
		2000 " " Pew Rents	
Grand Total		1.50	
		Total \$ 18.25	

Printing labels, post cards, leaflets and envelopes for weekly offerings and pew rents



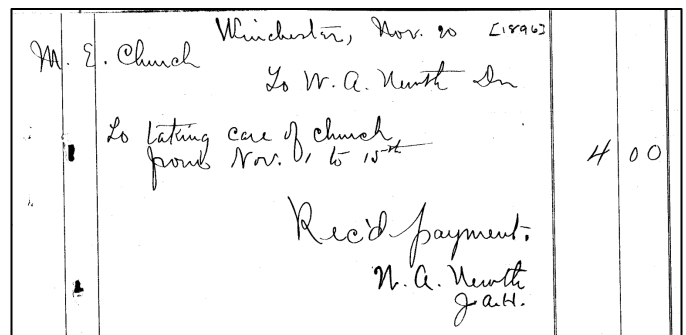
Tuning the organ (1882)



Blowing the organ every Sunday, a once manual process of supplying the wind that enabled the pipes to sound. (1893)

The rules for the sexton in the early 1900s were spelled out. Sweep and dust the whole church each week, assist in handling of tables at socials, clean up afterward and lock windows. Report to Committee when unauthorized persons enter the building. Attend to the suitable heating and proper ventilation – ashes to be sifted. Water to be shut off in freezing weather. Take care of lawns and shovel snow as required.

Water rates for 1892 were found in the treasurer's file. There were four types: * domestic purposes, * hose or fountain, * stables or barns and * stores, shops or offices. There was the warning that the supply of water would be cut off from all persons whose water rates were not paid promptly. The water rate for the first horse in a private stable was \$5, each additional horse \$3 and each cow \$1.50. It appears that horses drank more than cows. The rates for stables include water for washing carriages without a hose, but if a hose is used it is \$5 extra.



Paying the sexton for taking care of the church in 1896

Regarding the pastor

In 1872 it was voted to pay the preacher \$10 per week.

1909 after the service, a special meeting was held at which time it voted to install a telephone in the parsonage on Myrtle St.

The Official Board in 1905 voted that the pastor be allowed to draw up to \$10 per annum for incidental expenses in connection with church work.

Regarding the congregation

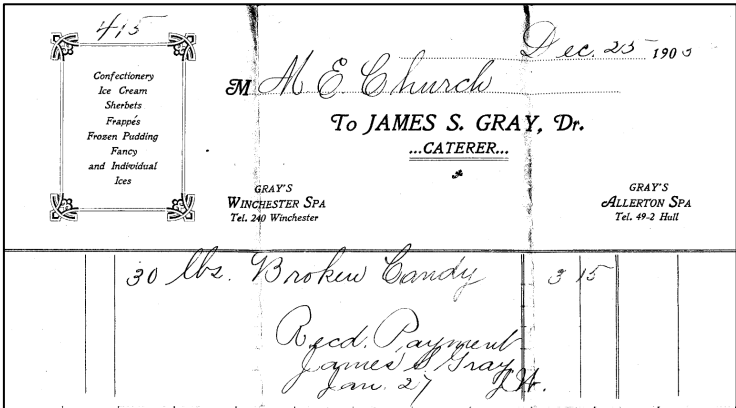
In early times at meetings, names of people who were on probation were presented and voted upon to become members. If there were questions about someone's eligibility, a brother would visit them in regards to the requirements of a Christian life.

Thomas Morris, the church treasurer, itemized the amounts taken in on two Sundays in June 1889.

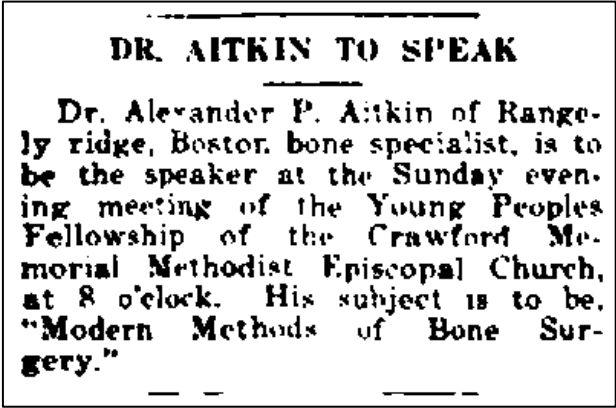
1905 The local caterer supplied a lot of sweets. They were probably to be sold to raise money, a popular event in 1896, however then they were homemade.

1906 Voted that the church be closed in August on account of the pastor's vacation and the small attendance since so many families are away for the summer.

The Winchester Star Friday October 21, 1938 page 1 – an unusual topic, to say the least, for the Youth Fellowship meeting Sunday evening, supposedly when the skilled surgeon was not operating.



Receipt for candy



Announcement from the Winchester Star, 1938

Finances

Included in the bulletin for Sunday, October 11, 1896 is the weekly calendar and the semi-annual report of the treasurer.

<p>SERVICES OF THE LORDS' DAY. OCT. 11, 1896.</p> <p>9:30 Prayer Meeting.</p> <p>10:30 Morning Sermon</p> <p>"Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles."</p> <p>ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP.</p> <p>1. Organ Voluntary, } The People</p> <p>2. Hymn, } standing.</p> <p>3. The Apostles Creed } standing.</p> <p>4. Prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.</p> <p>5. Anthem, -May be omitted.</p> <p>6. Psalter, -Read responsively, } The people</p> <p>7. The Gloria Patri, } standing.</p> <p>8. The Scripture Lesson.</p> <p>9. Notices and Offering.</p> <p>10. Hymn, -The people standing.</p> <p>11. Sermon.</p> <p>12. Prayer.</p> <p>13. Hymn.</p> <p>14. The Apostolic Benediction.</p> <p>12M. Sunday School in the vestry.</p> <p>6:00 Epworth League Meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Spaulding will read an original story entitled, "How Christ Came."</p> <p>7:00 Union Meeting in the Baptist Ch. address by Hon. Elijah Morse, 'Christianity vs. Infidelity.'</p> <p>SERVICES OF THE WEEK.</p> <p>Tuesday.</p> <p>3:00 Y. M. C. A. Auxillary in Association Hall.</p> <p>7:45 Epworth League Banquet & Business Meeting.</p> <p>Wednesday.</p> <p>7:15 Sunday School Teachers' Meeting.</p>		<p>CONTINUED FROM THIRD PAGE.</p> <p>7:45 Mid-week Prayer Meeting.</p> <p>Thursday.</p> <p>Ladies' Social Circle.</p> <p>Admission 10 cents, collected at the door.</p> <p>Friday.</p> <p>7:45 Regular Class Meeting.</p> <p>2:00 Winchester Union in Town Hall Building.</p> <p>Semi Annual Report of Treasurer.</p> <p>ESTIMATE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR-</p> <p>Current Expenses for 96-97. \$2200.00</p> <p>Assets:</p> <p>From Pew Rentals, \$846.67</p> <p>From Pledges, 644.95</p> <p>From Box Collections, 175.00 1684.62</p> <p>To be provided for \$515.00</p> <p>ACCOUNT TO DATE,</p> <p>Cash from all sources, \$820.06</p> <p>Payments:</p> <p>Rev. C. E. Spaulding, \$460.00</p> <p>Presiding Elder, 11.00</p> <p>Treas. of Trustees, 72.50</p> <p>Janitor, 51.98</p> <p>Arlington Gas Light Co., 40.00</p> <p>Coal, 11.50</p> <p>Water Rates, 22.00</p> <p>Rent of Parsonage, 93.00</p> <p>Incidentals, 57.40</p> <p>Bal. on hand .68 820.06</p> <p>Bills Payable to date \$337.00</p> <p>Bills Receivable to date 100.00</p> <p>Thomas Morris - TREAS.</p>	
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These expenses were incurred in 1901 when the pastor earned \$1,000 and the presiding elder's salary was \$44.00. Presiding elders were chosen by the bishop and had oversight of churches and preachers in a prescribed district. He traveled throughout the district, presided over the Quarterly Conferences, could administer baptisms and the Lord's Supper and could change, receive or suspend preachers. (*Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological & Ecclesiastical Literature* by John McClintock and James Strong.

Is it surprising that the amounts received from pew rentals and weekly offerings fell short of their pledges? A study could be conducted to see how often this occurred through the years.


The budget for 1951-1952 is broken down in more detail. The budget was increased to repair the heating system (a familiar and recurring plight) and to strengthen the service of music.

The budget for 1965 saw the minister's salary increase to \$6,500. Christian Education's budget was \$3,700 and music salaries and supplies was \$3,000. The total budget was \$40,000.


Outreach has expanded greatly and along with it expenses. Repair needs are \$17,175; secretarial and communication needs \$3,700; benevolences and mission needs \$9,400. To grab your attention was a photo of the boiler with the caption, "Did you know it will cost \$7,500 to heat and light the church next year?"

To the Members and Friends of the Winchester M. E. Church :			
The Committee on Finances beg leave to submit to you the following financial statement for the conference year, and a report for the seven months ending Nov. 1st, 1901 :			
STATEMENT.			
EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR.			
Pastor's Salary	\$1,000	00	
Presiding Elder's Salary	44	00	
Bishop	15	00	
Music	150	00	
Sexton	100	00	
Fuel	50	00	
Gas	60	00	
Water Rates	41	00	
Taxes	92	00	
Insurance	45	00	
Interest	400	00	
Repairs and Incidentals	103	00	\$2,100 00
To meet this amount there is pledged :			
Pew Rentals	\$693	66	
Weekly Offerings	682	50	
Box Collections (estimated)	100	00	\$1,476 16
Amount unprovided for			\$623 84
PEW RENTALS.			
Received to Nov. 1st	\$385	31	
Overdue	86	04	
			\$471 35
WEEKLY OFFERINGS.			
Received to Nov. 1st	\$204	55	
Overdue	180	25	
			\$384 80
BOX COLLECTIONS.			
April 1st to July 1st (13 weeks)	\$37	76	
July 1st to Nov. 5th (18 weeks)	25	44	
			\$63 20


Crawford Financial Statement, 1901



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP




RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND SUPPLY NEED
\$1,700 & 1000 HOURS DONATED


SPIRITUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS
 WEEKLY WORSHIP
 VISITATION OF ILL
 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
 CAROLING TO SHUTINS
 ABC SPONSORSHIP
 SUPPORT OF GLOBAL
 METHODIST MINISTRIES
 WORLD HUNGER
 MISSIONARY ACTIVITY
 CONFERENCE CAMPS
 METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

COMMUNITY SERVICES
 OPERATION OF PROFESSIONAL WEEK-DAY NURSERY SCHOOL
 MEETING PLACE FOR 13 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS:
 EN KA
 BOY SCOUTS
 BLOOD DONATIONS
 CHURCH SUPPERS

WE FEEL GOOD ABOUT WHAT WE'VE DONE
 WITH YOUR PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION WE COULD DO MORE
 HOW ABOUT IT ?



THE MINISTER'S SALARY \$10,550
MAINTENANCE \$3,150



MUSIC AND MUSICAL EDUCATION NEED \$3,400

Program & Budget 1974