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Memories of the Early Church
by Ruth Lappin

According to an old record book in the basement of the church, I was baptised in 1911 at the age of 11 eleven, I was baptised by Frank Button, head of Morehead Normal School, with his daughter, Ida, a close friend of mine. There was a suitable spot in Triplett Creek, called the "baptising hole" which all Morehead congregations used it for baptismal ceremonies. I recall the crowd, watching on the bank and singing "Shall we gather at the rivers?"

At an early age, I was interested in learning to play the piano, but had had no formal training. Sister Blair got me to play for Sunday ^{School} one Sunday and had to hum through the hymns before I could attempt to play them, since I could not

read music. That must have been great for S.S. attendance.

About 1920, there was a new family who came to Mowhead. The Battsons, mother and father who had charge of the dining room at Mowhead Normal School and their son, Hartley, ^{(Don Battson's Father) xx} who became active in the work of the young people. He organized a Christian Endeavor Society, that was active for many years. We had good programs on Sunday night and occasionally had parties. It was at one of these parties that I met another newcomer, Warren Lippin. After the party ended, he asked if he could walk me home. That was the beginning of a new life for me. After a year of courtship, we were married at the parsonage of St. Lawrence Christian Church by Tom Woods, pastor of the

Show near Christian Church
in Louisville. ^{by Tom Wood} ~~Tom~~ was a fraternal
brother of Warrens, he had met
at Transylvania. Later we were
sorry we were not married in
the old church here, for it was
torn down a year later for the
new building.

About 1930, we organized a
Church orchestra. We were able to
get about fifteen people who could
play ~~the~~ different instruments. Violins,
cello, trumpets, clarinets, etc. Warren
arranged the music for each one. We
had such people as Nelle Young, Jack
Lewis, Luster and Arthur Blair, Sam
Candill, John Will Holbrook and others
after playing together for many
months, we thought we were
pretty good, until someone
dubbed us the Jim Pan Orchestra.

For many years I was church organist and played a Hammond organ. Several of us had been longing for an organ. We got some of the men interested and before long they had raised the necessary \$1700 to buy the Hammond. Later two prominent families, the Otto Carver and the W. B. Caudillo bought the pipe organ which is in service now. Mrs Violet ^{now of Pasadena, Calif.} Severy, of MSU music faculty played the organ. ~~She~~ Her special numbers ~~was~~ Prelude, Offertory and Postlude always appeared in the bulletin. Her favorite postlude was: Awake, Sleepers, Wake for night is flying by Bach.

I always wondered if she was trying to tell the congregation something. I always hear from her etc Christmas in the form of a Christmas carol. Last one was #13

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After Warren and I had been married a couple of years we had a beautiful little girl (blue eyes and blond ~~curly~~ curls).

The pastor of the church was William Swin, (Swin) ^{in 1925} ^{took older people} ^{one day} one afternoon Mr & Mrs Swin came to see the new baby. When she looked at baby her head. She said "you will never raise her". I asked why? She replied "Too pretty, too pretty."

Many years after the new church was built, we were in debt and it looked like we were to stay that way. But we needed new light fixtures badly. Noah Kennard, who was a genius at doing things, said he had a plan. He went to a hardware store and bought 10 or twelve wash pans, cut a hole in the center of each pan, fastened them to the ceiling, painted them to match the ceiling paint, screwed in bulbs and there we had light fixtures.

Oh, to have some ingenuity!

W. Kennard