

Moorhead Evangelical Free Church

Years of Service: Fall 1937 – Fall 1938

Location: Moorhead, Minnesota

Address: 10th Street & 4th Ave. N.



Moorhead Evangelical Free Church

Photo from the 75th Anniversary of the Moorhead Evangelical Free Church Book

“In 1899 Rev. John Thompson (Father of Julia Stone) took up the work and remained for a number of years. He afterward moved to Detroit Lakes. During 1911-1912 Rev. Lars Olson occupied the pulpit. Rev. Thompson, who had by this time moved to Fargo, again took up the work, serving the first Sunday of the month during the years of 1915-27. In October 1937 a call was extended to Rev. Alfred Stone (Son-in-law of Rev. John Thompson) of Milaca, Minn. which was accepted. It was under his ministry that our Northwest Young People's Rally was organized which met here May 15, 1938. Much credit goes to Rev. Stone, for through his efforts the Church was revived. The Sunday School grew, an orchestra was formed and Young People's meetings were held. Due to illness, resignation was necessary and this was accepted with regret.”

Source: Moorhead Evangelical Free Church Diamond Jubilee 1883 to 1958 Booklet.



Rev. John Thompson (Julia's Father),

Alfred and Julia Stone

Photo from the Iola Stone Sandberg Collection

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Greeting to Moorhead Evangelical Free Church

Julia wrote this letter as a greeting to the Moorhead Evangelical Free Church on their 75th Anniversary.

“Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. Psalm 127:1. It is with pleasure that I send a greeting to you at this time of your 75th Anniversary Celebration. The Moorhead Free Church has always been considered my home church as it was there I spent my girlhood years at the time my father, Rev. John Thompson, was Pastor. Then later I returned as a Pastor's wife while Rev. Stone and I served your church. I have many precious memories from the time spent in the Moorhead Church. Although many of the pioneers who were faithful in service have gone to Eternal Rest, I am happy to know there are yet those who are ready and willing to carry on the work in your church. My prayer is that the Moorhead Church will ever be faithful in its High Calling until Christ returns for His own!

Sincerely Yours in Him, Mrs. Alfred Stone

Source: Letter from Collection of Iola Stone Sandberg



Pastor John Thompson

Father of Julia Stone

Served the Moorhead Church prior to Rev. Alfred Stone

Historic Pulpit Donated to Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
1998 alumnus and Pentecostal historian Darrin Rogers recently coordinated the donation of an historic pulpit to AGTS. This pulpit was originally located in Moorhead, Minnesota, at the Swedish Free Mission, which practiced speaking in tongues and healing as early as 1903. John Thompson, pastor of the Swedish Free Mission and chairman of the Scandinavian Mission Society, preached Pentecost from this pulpit over 100 years ago. “Thompson joined with Norwegian immigrant Henry H. Ness in the late 1920s to help start the Assemblies of God (AG) congregation in Fargo,” said Rogers. “Many of Thompson’s descendants went on to serve the AG in ministry, including: Betty (Mrs. Philip) Wannemacher, Doris (Mrs. David) Flower, Peter Thompson, John Thompson, Marion (Mrs. Robert) Perkin and Joy (Mrs. Keith) Sorbo.” “The Moorhead congregation also yielded Mary Johnson, the earliest-known Pentecostal missionary from North America to venture overseas. In November 1904 Johnson experienced Spirit-baptism and the Society recognized her calling. Johnson set sail with partner in ministry Ida Anderson, arriving in Durban, South Africa, on January 16, 1905.” A longtime member of Fargo First AG, Evie McCann, rescued the pulpit when the former Swedish Free Mission building was being remodeled decades ago.

Source:

<http://www.agts.edu/rapport/2004summer/news.html>

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