

Whitesville Aug. 5 1865

The members of the Whitesville Universalist Society and the friends of liberal Christianity met at the church in Whitesville for the purpose of perfecting a church organization, adopting Constitution, Bylaws and electing officers. S. S. was organized in 1864.

Bro. E. W. Fuller - pastor

The organization is to be known under and by the name of the First Universalist Church of Independence.

### Declaration of Faith

- 1<sup>st</sup> We declare and say that we believe in one only living and true God who is revealed in Jesus Christ, by the the holy spirit of divine grace and truth.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> We believe in the scriptures of the old & new Testament as containing a special revelation of God, and of the duty, interests and destiny of man.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> We claim to ourselves the right to interpret the scriptures in the peace of God, and according to the light he has given and we accord to all others the same right. Yet we declare a belief in the scriptures as the divinely given and authoritative standard of faith & practice, to be essential to the fellowship of this church.
- 4<sup>th</sup> We disclaim all authority over the consciences of men . . . . .
- 5<sup>th</sup> We declare that the objects of this Church are, the cultivation of faith, hope charity in our own hearts, the diffusion of gospel light and truth among our fellows . . . . .

This Church shall consist of persons who have avowed at years of discretion and who ~~shall~~ have applied for and received its fellowship as hereinafter provided . . . . .

[Members voted -  $\frac{2}{3}$  aye - the person then signed the declaration and constitution]

Articles of agreement made and executed by and between John Keiser of Belmont, N. Y. Party of the first part and O.A. Potter, Mary Potter, Lettie Coats, Alice Forsythe, Milan M. Barney, H. S. Richmond, A. M. Richmond, H. D. Jacobs, and Robert Casey all of Whitesville, N. Y. as trustees of the First Universalist Church of Whitesville, N. Y. Parties of the second part; Witnesseth: That for and in consideration of the sum of Four Hundred (\$400) Dollars and the stipulations and agreements herein-after metioned, the party of the first part agrees to move for the Parties of the second part, the church building of the Parties of the second part from its present location in said village of Whitesville to the lot in said village known and described as the Allen Foundry Lot situate on the north side of Main Street, Whitesville, N. Y.

Party of the second part to secure the right of way for moving the same and remove and take care of all fences which have to be moved on said route.

Party of first part to remove and replace and telephone lines which have to be moved.

Party of the first part to remove the windows and contents of the church as may be required by parties of the second part and parties of the second to furnish a place to store the same.

Party of the first part to put the building on the lot at a place required by parties of the second part and at a height from the ground as required by parties of second part, but not to exceed four and one-half feet.

Party of first part to let building down on to foundation when the same is built by second party if done in a reasonable time.

Party of first part to begin and complete the work in a reasonable time subject to weather conditions, to take good care of said building and use care in handling the same and not to rack the same any more than is necessary in moving the same.

Payment to be made when the work is completed or payments to be made before as agreed between the parties.

This contract is made in duplicate, each party has one and both are originals for all intents and purposes.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our signatures this 19th day of December 1916.

*At a meeting held at Mrs. Potter's Feb 1st to consider extra labor performed by Mr Keiser was voted to give compensation for extra labor performed to the amount of \$40.00 to be paid when it had been on foundation.*

*John Keiser*  
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*A. M. Richmond*  
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*H. D. Jacobs*  
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*H. S. Richmond*  
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*Mrs. Mary Potter*  
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*John C. Crittenden*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
*Milan M. Barney*  
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*Alice E. Forsythe*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

*John Keiser*

1945

Richmonds June the 19th

Motion made and seconded that Milan Barney act as chairman of the Board of Trustees, this motion was carried.

Motion was made and seconded that the chairman appoint or designate a Universalist Board of trustees as a committee, to confer with the Methodist Committee in matters regarding the federation of the two churches.

Motion carried.

A request was made that a list of those in attendance be filled with the minutes.

Reading of minutes for approval.  
Motion made and seconded for adjournment.

Ora Barney Sec Proctor  
Mr and Mrs. Harold Bluffs and Edward  
Mr and Mrs Henry Richmond, Jean and Jane  
Mr and Mrs. James Richmond  
Mr and Mrs Ray Harris, Lois  
Mr and Mrs Edward Barney  
Mr and Mrs Milan Barney  
Mr and Mrs Birney Wilson  
Mr and Mrs George Probasco  
Mrs. Mae Probasco, and George Little  
Mrs. Mary Day and Don Minges  
Also as guests  
Rev. Burd James Graves and  
Mrs Augusta Graves, Troupsburg  
Mrs. Houser, New Castle, Pa.

Whitesville, N. Y. Dec. 9, 1949

A meeting of the surviving members of the First Universalist Church society was held at the Legion Hall on the 9th day of December 1949 at 7:00 P.M. pursuant to the request of the trustees to take action as to the Church properties.

The Ladies of the society served a very fine dinner at the opening of the meeting. <sup>Fourteen</sup> ~~Fifteen~~ members were present as follows; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bloss Mr. and Mrs. Henry Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. George Probasco, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Harris Mr. and Mrs. James Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hazlett, Mrs. Mary Coats and Mrs. Doris Pfeiffer.

Due to the absence of our chairman Milan Barney a motion was made and seconded that Harold Bloss act as chairman. The minutes of the meetings in which we had decided to sell the church properties were read for the information of those present.

Mary Coats, secretary read and filed notice of meeting with proof of mailing same to the surviving members of the society, also proof of posting notices of meeting in six public places of Whitesville two weeks in advance of the meeting, and publication of notice for two successive weeks prior to meeting, in the Whitesville News.

A. ... ..