

[LeRoy, Genesee Co. NY]

The *Universalist Society* was organized in 1831. They held meetings in the "Round house," which many citizens will remember as an old landmark of the village for a number of years. The first service preached by any clergyman of this denomination was by Rev. Nathaniel Stacy, in 1812, who died in Pennsylvania. Among the early ministers after the formation of the society were [Russell] Tomlinson, [Liscomb] Knapp, [Alanson] Kelsey, [Alfred] Peck, [Orville] Brayton, and others. In 1858 Rev. Charles Cravens was chosen pastor and [he] reorganized the society. Under his ministrations they purchased the old "Round house" and caused to be erected on its site the present commodious edifice at a cost of \$8,000. Twenty-six members participated in this organization, the officers being H. A. Olmsted, G. D. Crofoot, John Tharp, Alba Paul, and Henry Steuber; A. F. Drake was treasurer, and S. F. Gibbs, clerk. The number of members at this time is 51, under the pastorate of Rev. C. L. Haskell. The present valuation of the property is \$3,000. The seating capacity of the church is 250. Mrs. Olive Haaze, who died in 1881, left a legacy of \$6,700 to the church, on condition that services are held regularly for 10 years from the time of her death. Rev. F. M. Gibbs succeeded Rev. Cravens, and he was followed by Rev. C.[Charles] H. Dutton, G. W. Powell, E. W.[Winchester] Fuller, M. L. Hewitt, H. B. Howell, J.[John] F. Gates, DeW. [DeWitt] Lamphere, M. D. Shumway, and C. L. Haskell.

Frederick W. Beers, *Gazetteer and Biographical Record of Genesee County, N.Y.* (Syracuse: 1890), p. 496

Transcribed on 17 Jun 2011 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY