

Three churches predate Gaylord's incorporation; ministerial service

GAYLORD — Three churches here are older than the city in which they reside.

Before Gaylord was incorporated as a village in 1881, the First Congregational Church (1874), the First United Methodist Church (1879) and St. Mary Catholic Church (1880) already were established.

The Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints was formed in the 1890s.

Other operating Gaylord area churches and their founding years:

- Trinity Lutheran Church, 1933.
- Gaylord Evangelical Free Church, 1937.
- Church of the Nazarene, 1943.
- Assembly of God, 1950.
- Calvary Baptist Church, 1952.
- St. Andrew Episcopal, 1954.
- Christian Reformed Church, 1975.
- Gaylord Baptist Church, 1976.
- Michaywe' Mission United Presbyterian, 1976.
- Peace Lutheran Church, 1976.
- United Pentecostal Church Life Tabernacle, 1976.
- Gaylord Community Church, 1976.
- Our Savior Lutheran Church, Church of Christ,

Other churches and religious organizations are represented throughout the county. A listing:

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Jehovah's Witnesses, Christian Science Society, all in Gaylord; Vanderbilt Community Church, Holy Redeemer (Catholic) Church, Song of

the Morning (Yoga) Ranch, all in Vanderbilt area; St. Thomas Aquinas (Catholic) Church, Elmira; Otsego Lake Baptist Church; Hetherton Reformed Presbyterian Church, Johannesburg.

THE OTSEGO County Ministerial Association has participation from about a dozen ministers in the county. The association meets the second Tuesday of each month to study problems and opportunities for Christian service in the community.

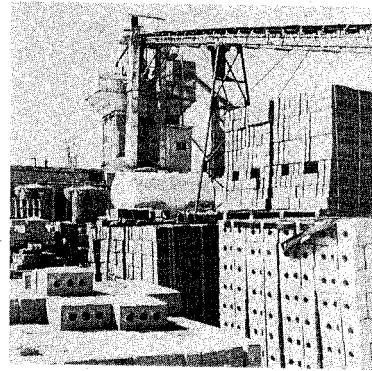
Membership is limited to ordained pastors of Protestant and Catholic churches, retired ministers and appointed leaders of recognized churches in Otsego County.

Various committees carry out functions of the organization, such as hospital chaplaincy, church directory, executive committee, Good Friday community service, Thanksgiving community service, funds for needy.

Serving on the current executive committee are the Rev. Isaac VerHage, president; the Rev. Murray Sleeper, vice-president; Dr. John Bunce, secretary; and the Rev. Myron Von Seggern, treasurer.

The association provides speakers and participates in local high school and middle school baccalaureate and graduation exercises. Members also serve on secular youth, social and other community committees and respond to individual calls for assistance on spiritual matters.

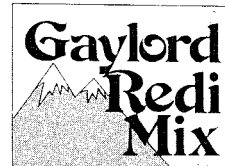
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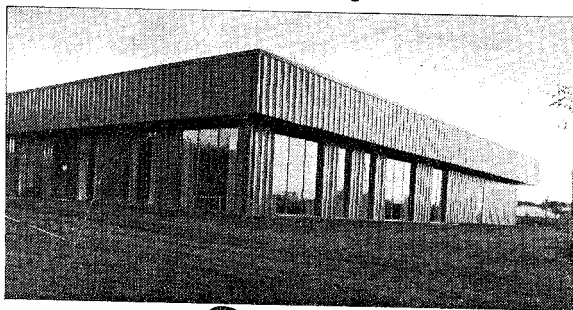
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