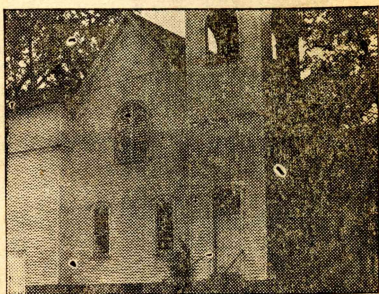


# Arrange All Day *Nov 29* Program to Observe *29* Church Anniversary *1941*

An all day program has been arranged by Rev. R. R. Finlayson, pastor, and members of the church board to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the erection of the Central Christian church of Newton, Sunday. It will begin with Sunday school at 9:30



a. m. and will continue through the morning worship, the afternoon and evening service, with a basket dinner in the basement at noon.

The morning sermon will be delivered by the Rev. C. L. Doty of Flora, and the Rev. Joseph C. Fleshman of Odon, Indiana, a former pastor, will preach in the evening. Edgar F. Johnson, chairman of the church board, will read the church history at the afternoon service. There will be greetings from visiting pastors at this time.

## **Dedicated November 29, 1891**

The present church was built in the fall of 1891 by carpenters under the direction of Samuel R. Barker, and it was dedicated on Sunday, November 29, 1891, at an all day service presided over by the Rev. F. M. Rains of Topeka, Kansas, assisted by the Rev. R. H. Bateman of Flora, the Rev. N. Y. Keller of Effingham and the Rev. George W. Tate of West Salem.

The church is in its essentials the same as it was when dedicated, although numerous improvements have been made throughout the years.

The history of the Central Christian church in Newton is shrouded in mystery previous to February 6, 1886, when it was "reorganized," but it is believed that regular services were held from the early seventies and irregular services considerably earlier than this. At first they met at private homes in the community and later in other churches in Newton.

## **"Charter" Members**

There are two persons living who were members when the church was "reorganized," Mrs. Callie Yelton Armer of Jewett and her sister, Dr. Maggie Yelton Downs of Danville. Seven members of the congregation when the church was dedicated survive, viz: Mrs. Fred Beeman, Mrs. Mary J. Burris, Mrs. C. A. Davidson, Mrs. Hale Johnson, Mrs. John W. Stuteville, and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar F. Johnson.