

This sketch would be incomplete without reference to the service of praise. In the early days this was entrusted to a precentor, the organ and the choir not yet having found their place in Motherwell. So far as the writer of this sketch can learn, the precentors of this congregation were John Bain, sr., John Bain, jr., and David Oliver, sr. The names also of Robert Bain and John McNeil are mentioned as those who led in the Sabbath School and, for a time, in the church.

In the course of time the organ was introduced and a choir was organized. Miss Bessie Bain was organist and choir leader for a number of years. On her retirement to take charge of the organ and choir in Knox church, Mitchell, Miss Ella Brown was appointed organist and Neil Bain choir-leader. On Miss Brown's resignation, Miss Margaret Nairn was appointed organist and is still devoting herself to the work, with Mr. Bain still the trusted leader. The efficient leadership of the musical service in the church has had a very marked effect both in the service of the sanctuary and on the community at large.

On the sixteenth of June, 1918, the congregation celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of the opening of their first church and the induction of their first minister. The committee in charge consisted of the pastor as convenor, Messrs. John Sterritt, John S. Murray, Mrs. H. Bothwell, sr., Mrs. G. Parker and Mrs. Andrew Watson. A great reunion was planned, but the seriousness of the aspect of the Great War led the congregation to limit the celebration of the event to Sabbath services.

The speaker of the day was the Rev. John Neil, D.D., of Toronto, Moderator of the Assembly for 1917-18. He was assisted in the morning service by the pastor. In the evening the congregation was honored also by the presence of the newly-elected Moderator of the General Assembly, the Rev. Colin Fletcher, D.D., of Thames Road congregation. There were also present Rev. S. McCoy, D.D., of Victoria, B.C.; Rev. A. H. Drumm, formerly minister of Avonton, and Rev. Gregory, of the Baptist church,