

THE MacDUFFIE CLASS



Miss Eldora MacDuffie was born June 10, 1870 in Patele Grove, Wisconsin. While a young girl her parents moved to Ottawa. Her father died when she was twelve. She graduated from Ottawa High School in 1887 at the age of 17.



Left, Miss MacDuffie with one of her earlier classes of young men and, Above, with a later class.

She was old for her age and took much of the responsibility for her home and family. In 1887 she began teaching a class of young boys and as they aged they became a class of young men

She taught the class 31 years and in 1918 she became ill and moved to Oklahoma City near her sister and died in 1919.

For many years she was an employee of Davenport Drygoods Co. and although she worked late Saturday night she was always at her task of teaching the class Sunday morning.



El Dora had a younger sister, Lula Belle, who began the What-so Ever Class for young women. Several men of Eldora's class have wives from Lula's class whom they met at entertainments of these two classes.

In 1922 her class gathered for a memorial service. In 1931 fifty members of her class again gathered to honor her. In November of 1954, the MacDuffie Men's Bible Class met for a reunion.

The MacDuffie Class Gathering 1954 Photo below:

In the back row, left to right, are: Hazen Richardson, Frank Slingsby, Leonard Ramsey, Franklin Baker, Guy Barker, Charles Carey, F.R. Bennett, sr., Blaine Phillips, John Okerberg and Grover Knight

Middle row: Glenn Fitch, A.L. Graham, C.E. Twining, Clarence Ingersoll, Otis Shipps, Alva Hoover, Frank Waring, John Brecheisen, Ivan Jacobsen, George Rule and Dr. R.C. Capron.

Front row: Clarence Day, Frank Carlson, Fred Lynes, George McDowell, S.M. Foltz, William Lowe, Otto Milam, James Rokes and Evertt Stith.





The Sunshine Class

In 1983 the "Reta Class" joined the Sunshine Class and in 1989 the "What-So-Ever Class" merged with the Sunshine Class. The class still meets and is now taught by Debbie Simmons.

1980 photo of the Sunshine Sunday School Class



A recent photo of the Sunshine Sunday School Class.



The Sunshine Class

The Sunshine Class was organized by Rev. William Hastie in 1937 for young married couples.

In 1978 the "McDuffie Class" joined the "Sunshine Class".

The Sunshine Sunday School Class in the Chapel



A photo of the Koinonia Sunday School Class in 1989.



A photo of the Koinonia Sunday School Class.

The Koininia Class

In 1963, the "Koininia Class" was organized for young married couples. Rev. Charles Knight was the pastor at this time. Over the years Joel Nordeen, Allen Unruh, and Jack Bushman were teachers. They were active in service projects as well as social activities. The class disbanded in the 90s.



Oxford Service Forum
The Oxford Service Forum Class began meeting in the Fall of 1945 during the pastorate of Rev. R.K. Sutton. It was a class for returning military personnel, college students and young working people. Older adults in the church taught the class until Evelyn Alden became their full time teacher. Later, the class started taking turns teaching themselves.

1966 photo of the Oxford Service Forum Class: Bottom row: Cliff Reynolds, Marge Reynolds, Twila Knight, Christian Olaon Pekun, Job Olaon Pekun, Charles Knight, Loren Mathews, Dorothy Mathews. 2nd row: Jean Langdon, Katie Adamson, Louise Ratliff, Wylamene Bigelow, Ruth Fleming, Mary Royse, Irene Unruh, Dorothy Hewitt, Delma Mavity, Bev Mavity, Marty Ralston, Aurelia Johnson, Nelle Stout (youth director), Dorothy Daugharthy 3rd row: Doris Ledom, Bob Ledom, Janie Sellers, Lee Schmidt, Bev Schmidt, Charles Ratliff, Glenn Bigelow, Bruce Fleming, Dean Royse, Allen Unruh, Richard Hewitt, Charles Mavity, Jim Ralston (class president), Otto Johnson, Don Sellers, Fred Adamson, Russell Daugharthy



Their present teacher/discussion leader and member, Cliff Reynolds, has been teaching them for 40 years with other members occasionally teaching. This is a large, close-knit class that has been together 58 years. They are an active group of adults who enjoy their monthly pot-luck dinners and their thought-provoking Sunday morning sessions.

1984 photo of the Oxford Forum Sunday School Class: 1st row: Lowell Sutton, Katie Adamson, Ruth Fleming, Doris Ledom, Janie Sellers, Don Sellers, Betty Sutton. 2nd row: Jim Ralston, Marty Ralston, Fred Adamson, Bruce Fleming, Bob Ledom, Cliff Reynolds, Charles Mavity, Lionel Sutton. 3rd row: Dorothy Hewitt, Richard Hewitt, Mid Gibson, Irene Unruh, Arlene Sutton, Dee Harnden, Mary Royse, Delma Mavity. 4th row: Art Miller, Peg Miller, Dudley Gibson, Allen Unruh, Jerry Harnden, Dean Royse, Betty Whittmeyer, Herb Whittmeyer, Marge Reynolds.



The 1936 photo of the Friendly Sunday School Class on the Courthouse steps.

The Friendly Class

In January of 1921, while Rev. Harry W. Case was Pastor, the "Friendly Class" – a class for "Young Married People"-- was organized with seven members. It was originally named the "Young Married People's Class". One year later it had 46 members and the name was changed to "The Friendly Class". In 1936 there were about 200 members. For many years the class was taught by Rev. H.A. Cook. After 38 years, the class disbanded in 1959.

The What-So-Ever Class

This class was organized for young ladies soon after the dedication of the new church. Lulu Belle MacDuffie was one of the early teachers. She was the younger sister of Eldora MacDuffie and taught the class until her marriage to A.C. (Bert) Hansen in 1911 when she moved to Oklahoma City.

The Reta Class

In 1918 the What-So-Ever Class was divided with the unmarried women forming their own class. It was originally called the "Margueritas" and Reta Woolf was the teacher. The class eventually became known as the "Reta Class". At one time there were 35 members and by 1978 there were 25 members. In 1983, the Reta Class disbanded and members rejoined the What-So-Ever Class.

Joy/Open Door Sunday School Class

While Rev. Russell Fosmire was pastor, The "Joy Sunday School Class" was organized. In 1958 it became known as the "Open Door Class". The class disbanded in 1960.

The Horizon Class

The "Horizon Class" was started in 1982 under the name of "Pairs and Spares". Jerry Harnden was Pastor. It was a class for married couples as well as "singles". In 1991 the name of the class was changed to "Horizon".

TweenAgers and Pairs and Spares

"TweenAgers" and a new "Pairs and Spares" Class were both begun in the 1990's and in 2003 they joined together and became known as the "Seekers".

Wesley Class

The Wesley Class was formed in 1965 for college students. It no longer exists.

Present Sunday School Classes.

At the present time there are 4 adult Sunday School Classes: The Sunshine Class, The Oxford Service Forum, The Horizon Class and The Seekers.



Disciple Bible Study

Rev. Kent Melcher began teaching this Bible Study class as an in-depth view of the Bible that provided historical context in addition to being an aid to understanding. It is taught as a "Living Word" that is still relevant today.

*Participants in the first class are pictured by row,
front to back, left to right:*

First row; Olin Wollen, Dale Fox

Second row; Martha Chambers, Maxine Wollen, Paul Boots, Edna Boots

*Third row; Rev. Kent Melcher, Deanna Fox, Dr. Robert Brown,
Lorraine Brown*

Fourth row; Bev Bartscher, Kelly Dallas



Photo by row, left to right:

First Row; Jean Sievers, Susan Suits, Susan Geiss, Barbara Warner, Sheri Hewitt, Debbie Usher, Sandra Mace.

Second Row; Laurie Wallace, Jim Tersiner, Jim Ralston, Jack Warnock, Craig Campbell, Robbie Robbins, Terry Mohr, Shelly South.

Third Row; Randy Roseberry, Brad Reynolds, Leroy Fouts, J.D. Sellers, Bruce Royse, Jay Gentner.

Fourth Row; Rev. Knight, Jim Flemings, Jerry Stark, Jim Capper, Lee Titwiler, Steve White, Bobbie Waldo, Johnny Cook.

1964 Confirmation Class of sixth graders.



The Children's Time

A portion of a typical Sunday Service is devoted to the younger children.

They are invited to the front of the chancel for a story or sermonette especially for them.

Georgia Whiteford conducting the Children's Time during the Sunday Service.