

## Corinna United Methodist Church A Brief History

Early services in Corinna were of the Free Baptist denomination. Services were held in Samuel Lancy's barn at the Corinna Center. Later services were held at the school house at Corinna Center. In 1816 the Methodist East Corinth Charge organized the Exeter Circuit. This circuit included Exeter, Corinna, Palmyra, Dexter, Harmony, Ripley, Garland, Corinth, Bradford and other towns which were not yet incorporated.

In 1851 Benjamin Moore donated the lot where the Corinna UMC now stands. Donations were solicited for building a church. With limited funds, four different denominations cooperated together, Christian, Advent, Baptist, and Methodist to build the Union Church on the lot.

Each denomination owned a portion of the 52 pews, and each agreed to sponsor a speaker for a Sunday each month. Not too long after the Union Church was built, the Baptists built a new church at Moses Corner, and in 1883 the Christian Church was built on Pleasant Street. Leaving few Adventist's, before 1900 the name changed from Union Church to Methodist Church.

In early 1900 the church was rebuilt to the configuration it is in today. When built in 1851 the church had wing pews and a choir alcove above in the rear. During remodeling the memorial windows were installed, with side belfry. In 1944 the Church was again remodeled and the chancel was relocated to its present location. Music was enhanced greatly with a new 700 pipe organ donated by George Allen of Livermore, Maine. The Church School building construction began in 1957, and was completed with a new kitchen in 1958. The new building was formally dedicated on October 8, 1961.

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