

# A Long Time Ago

A Sacred Worship Service



**BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH**

Sponsored by

**The Fort Vance Historical Society**

**Sunday, August 17, 1975**

**8 p.m.**

*Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society*

Rev. Joseph Zezzo is Executive Director of the Christian Activities Council, a "channel of concern," in the city of Hartford, Conn. The Christian Activities Council is the voice and the action of the United Church in the inner city. It is an outstanding expression of Christian concern for improved accommodations and care for the aged, deals with the problems of unemployment and job training, and serves as a boost for the original "Head Start" program.

Born in the Rankin section of Pittsburgh, Rev. Zezzo was graduated from the University of Pittsburgh during his pastorate at the Eldersville-Bethel Methodist churches which spanned the years from 1942 to 1945. At this time, he entered Drew University, and moved to Chester, New Jersey, where he became pastor of the First Congregational Church in that city.

In June, 1946, he received his Bachelor of Divinity degree. In March, 1952, he moved to Hart-



REV. JOSEPH ZEZZO

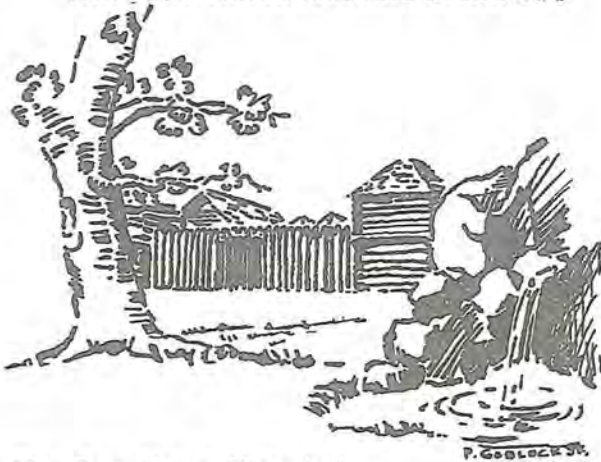
ford, receiving his Masters degree at Drew in 1953. He was

part of the merger of Windsor Avenue and Fourth Congregational Churches in November of that year, which formed the Horace Bushnell Congregational Church at Albany and Vine, where he served in a creative ministry until June, 1962. At this time he accepted the position he holds today with the Christian Activities Council.

He has become deeply involved in urban problems, dealing with all races and nationalities and building dignity for all. He is past president of the Board of Family Service Society; member of the Housing Committee, was the inspiration for Church Homes, Inc., designer of much of the urban development in the city's north end, and creator of Bushnell Apartments and Inner City exchange for youth work.

He has received honors from the city of Hartford and its mayor, and has been heralded as the city's best-loved citizen.

#### THE FORT VANCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Fort Vance Historical Society became a reality in 1969 after a series of preliminary meetings beginning in February of that year. From that time until the present, those who are concerned with the study and the preservation of our American heritage, have met faithfully to further develop these ends.

Enthusiasm has remained high. Meetings are eagerly anticipated, and much effort has been exerted by committees and individuals as well as the officers to pursue the purposes for which the organization was established.

Old homes have been toured and studied. Early churches have

been visited and their graveyards toured. Films have been shown and lectures given on such appropriate American subjects as silversmiths, glasscutters, coal, oil wells, old bells, railroads, antique collections, quilts, pewter, pottery and many others.

Sites of pioneer forts, gristmills and restored villages have provided much interest. Picnics, social gatherings and banquets have served to round out the activities of the group. And time for just plain reminiscing has been much appreciated.

There is room in the Fort Vance Historical Society for anyone whose roots are planted firm in the foundation of that corner of America that encompasses the Burgettstown - Avella - McDonald areas of Washington County, Pennsylvania. There is also room for those who are interested in this area, it matters not where their roots are.

"...to preserve our American heritage..."

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude ..... June and Max Grossmann  
Piano and Violin

Welcome ..... Kathryn Slasor  
Past President and August Program Chairman

Invocation ..... Rev. Ward Elliott  
Retired Former Minister, McKeesport

Hymn ..... Congregation  
"Sunshine in the Soul" June Grossmann, Accompanist

<p>There is sunshine in my soul today,          More glorious and bright          Than glows in any earthly sky,          For Jesus is my light</p> <p>There is music in my soul today,          A carol to the King;          And Jesus listening can hear          The songs I cannot sing.</p>	<p>There is gladness in my soul today,          And hope and praise and love,          For blessings which He gives me now,          For joys laid up above.</p> <p>Chorus          Oh there's sunshine, blessed sunshine,          While the peaceful happy moments roll,          When Jesus shows His smiling face,          There is sunshine in my soul.</p>
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Evening Prayer ..... Rev. William R. Keys  
Retired Former Minister, Connellsville

Scripture ..... Rev. Homer Weaver  
Retired Former Minister, Punxsutawney

Solo ..... Rev. Jane Myers  
"I Know Whom I Have Believed" Pastor, Eldersville UM Church

Selection ..... Choir  
"Beautiful Isle of Somewhere"

Original Poem ..... June Campbell Grossmann  
"The Church on the Hill"

Hymn ..... Congregation  
"Near the Cross"

<p>Jesus keep me near the cross          There a precious fountain,          Free to all a healing stream,          Flows from Calv'ry's mountain.</p> <p>Near the cross a trembling soul,          Love and mercy found me,          There the Bright and Morning Star          Sheds its beams around me.</p>	<p>Near the cross I'll watch and wait,          Hoping, trusting ever,          Till I reach the golden strand          Just beyond the river.</p> <p>Chorus          In the cross, in the cross,          Be my glory ever;          Till my raptured soul shall find          Rest beyond the river.</p>
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Selection .....	Choir
"When They Ring Those Golden Bells"	
Duet .....	Agnes Pastor Anderson Josephine Pastor Stacko
"Sunrise"	
Solo .....	Rev. Dom Sgro Clarksville
"I Must Tell Jesus" "The Ninety and Nine"	
Sermon .....	Rev. Joseph Zezzo
"The Past, the Present, the Future"	
Offering	
Violin Selection .....	Max Grossmann
Recognition of Guests	
Reminiscence and Farewell	
Remarks .....	Richard Holt
President Fort Vance Historical Society	
Hymn .....	Congregation
"When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder"	
When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound, And time shall be no more, And the morning breaks eternal bright and fair; When the saved of earth shall gather Over on the other shore, And the roll is called up yonder I'll be there.	To their home beyond the skies And the roll is called up yonder I'll be there.  Let us labor for the Master From the dawn till setting sun, Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care; Then when all of life is over And our work on earth is done, And the roll is called up yonder I'll be there.
On that bright and cloudless morning When the dead in Christ shall rise, And the glory of His resurrection share, When His chosen ones shall gather	Chorus When the roll is called up yonder, When the roll is called up yonder, When the roll is called up yonder, When the roll is called up yonder I'll be there.
Benediction .....	Ralph Ryan Lay Speaker, Eldersville UM Church

### Acknowledgments

It is with grateful appreciation that the time and effort spent on this special worship service, graveyard tour and social hour by so many willing hands is acknowledged. To Virginia Lochran and Jane Myers, who headed the cookie-baking and food-planning committee and the boys and girls of the church who helped in any way, I am

deeply indebted.

The efforts of A.D. White, who prepared the material for the graveyard tour are gratefully acknowledged. To those who worked to beautify the church grounds - Mike Strho, Bill Truax and Dave Gregorski - thanks so much.

Thanks to the Sutherland family and the other former mem-

bers and their families for their interest. Thanks also to the former ministers and to those who lent their talents in the service, both vocal and instrumental.

And thanks to the Eldersville Administrative Board and to the Fort Vance Historical Society for making this service possible.

Kathryn Slasor