

[Friendship, Cattaraugus Co. New York]

The Universalist church of Friendship was formally organized at a meeting held in the village on the 22d of May, 1854, although Universalist meetings were held in the town as early as the year 1830. The prominent believers in this faith in this locality in early days were Rufus Scott, Casper Niver, Squire Leonard and Lewis Smalley and their families. An informal organization was made soon after 1840, and the first pastor after that time was Rev. I.[Ichabod] B. Sharp. Revs. Judah Babcock, Jason Lewis and Linus Paine had previously preached in the town. The permanent society was formed under the pastoral care of Rev. F.[Francis] M. Alvord. The church edifice was erected in 1855, and was dedicated in February, 1856. In addition to those mentioned the pastors of this church, in succession, have been as follows: Rev. Nelson Adams, T. C. Eaton, F. M. Alvord, E.[Elthanan] W. Fuller, S. T. Aldrich, F. M. Alvord, W. H. McGlaughlin, William Knott, Charles Palmatier and J. J. Brayton, the latter of whom closed his connections with the church in 1895.

Mrs. Georgia Drew Andrews, ed., *Allegany County and Its People: A Centennial Memorial History* (Alfred, NY: 1896), p. 719