

[Genesee Falls (Portageville), Wyoming Co. NY]

June 6, 1950

Rev. Gerald H. Greene
[Seventh Day Adventist Clergy]
Springwater, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Greene,

Atty. Donald W. Beebe—373 Argonne Drive in Kenmore, N.Y., and I are in charge of the sale of our church and land in Portageville.

Following correspondence on the matter, we have decided to accept your offer of \$750.00—cash—for the same.

As an expression of seriousness in the matter, I suggest that you pay the sum of \$50.00 on the transaction, whereby your society will owe the sum of \$700.00 on the delivery of the deed.

Mr. Beebe will prepare the papers for the transaction.

Sincerely,
[Rev. Fred C. Leining, Secretary]

P.S. Please send the check to Mr. Beebe, who is the treasurer of the New York State Convention of Universalists.

from the files of the Lee Universalist Archive,
New York State Convention of Universalists

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

[Genesee Falls (Portageville), Wyoming Co. NY]

June 14, 1950

*Rev. Fred Leining
526 Cumberland Drive
Syracuse, N.Y*

Dear Sir,

As I am one of the very few, one time a member of the Universalist Church of Portageville, N.Y. My father Edward Qusted and his wife (my mother) were always members there and very attentive and so was I before I left the town.

There are now hardly any of the members left.

I was talking with Floyd Smith who lives in Portageville. He loaned me the key as I wanted to go in and look it over just for "old times' sake."

Nothing, of course much left there, it is in sort of bad shape, birds have been getting in it I guess thru the belfry and making a mess.

My father was Deacon and trustee, used to watch my father ring the bell, which is still there I guess, and they cleaned trimmed and filled the oil lamps so many, many times, used to sing and play that old organ which is gone, sang in choir.

Floyd [said] that by meeting you, he gave me your address, I could find out about getting those two lamps on [the] pulpit, also the old Bible.

It is a wonder some one don't break in and help themselves to the lamps. They are a real keepsake is what I would want them for.

Something should be done with the building as it will go to ruin.

Please let me know in regards to your opinion, especially on the lamps.

Sincerely.

Mrs. Nina Qusted Wallace

[Mrs. Charles Wallace, Box 156, Castile, New York]

from the files of the Lee Universalist Archive,
New York State Convention of Universalists

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

[Genesee Falls (Portageville), Wyoming Co. NY]

June 28, 1950

Mrs. Claude Fuller
Fillmore, New York

Dear Mrs. Fuller,

I have your letter of the 23rd inst. enclosing [a] check to my order as Treasurer for \$50.00. I understand that this is tendered as down payment on the purchase of the Universalist Church property in Portageville, New York, for \$750.00 by your church. I am withholding depositing this check until I hear from you in reply to this letter.

The New York State Convention of Universalists gives only Quit Claim Deeds, and as we are incorporated under a special statute which specifically provides that our conveyances do not have to have the approval of the court, as is generally the case for religious corporations, we do not obtain any court order authorizing our conveyances. Also, on this property we are carrying \$3,000.00 of fire insurance through an agency in Castile.

Will you kindly advise me or have someone else advise me as to whether the foregoing is acceptable to you. If so, I will have the Deed prepared and executed by the proper officers of the New York State Convention of Universalists and advise you when it is ready for delivery. In the meantime you will have to write me as to the exact name of your church so that I can properly name it as grantee in the deed. Awaiting your reply, I remain,

Very truly yours,
[Donald W. Beebe, Treasurer]

from the files of the Lee Universalist Archive,
New York State Convention of Universalists

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

[Genesee Falls (Portageville), Wyoming Co. NY]

July 12, 1950

Mrs. Claude Fuller
Fillmore, New York

Dear Mrs. Fuller,

I have your letter of the 10th inst. and beg to advise you that we do not have a search on the Portageville property of the New York State Convention of Universalists. This property was, however, deeded to the First Universalist Church of the Town of Portageville by deed recorded in Liber 16 of Deeds at page 613, in the Allegany County Clerk's Office. Later on, by court order, the property was conveyed to the New York State Convention of Universalists in 1946, by deed recorded in Liber 239 of deed at page 301 in the Wyoming County Clerk's Office. Wyoming County was originally part of Allegany County and that accounts for the recording in the two different offices.

I would suggest that you have your attorney check these deeds and the order of the Wyoming County Judge referred to in the latter deed and advise me as to whether he thinks the title is acceptable without a search. I understood that this low price was made on the property because of the fact that the purchaser would not demand a search.

You did not state in your letter whether you are agreeable to taking over the fire insurance which we have on the property on a pro rated basis.

I am anxious to proceed with the closing of this matter and hope that we can get the transaction consummated in the very near future.

Very truly yours,
[Donald W. Beebe, Treasurer]

from the files of the Lee Universalist Archive,
New York State Convention of Universalists

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

[Genesee Falls (Portageville), Wyoming Co. NY]

September 25, 1950

[Floyd Smith] Operator
Shell Oil Station
Portageville, New York

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Universalist Church property, as you know, is in the process of being sold and I am tomorrow sending the Deed to the purchaser. The purchaser does not want to buy the antique settee that is in the place and I am wondering if you wouldn't want to go over and take it out, put it in your store and get what you can out of it for yourself.

I have been told that it is worth at least \$25.00 and it might be worth considerably more. If you are interested in this I wish you would take it out immediately and write me that you have done so, so that there won't be any dispute about it with the purchaser.

Sincerely yours,
Donald W. Beebe,
Treasurer

from the files of the Lee Universalist Archive,
New York State Convention of Universalists

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY

[Genesee Falls (Portageville), Wyoming Co. NY]

Portageville, N.Y.

Sept. 27, 1950

Dear Mr. Beebe,

Your letter of the 25th received in regard to the settee in the Church. This morning I moved it to my store, where it is now on exhibition as an antique over 100 years old.

If the right person came along I might realize a good sale but if I never sell it I thank you very much for leaving it to me, for Marvin Wood, Grandfather of my wife, was a charter member and helped as a carpenter to build the Church and my Grandfather Smith was also a member.

Again thanking you, I am

*Very truly yours,
Floyd A. Smith*

from the files of the Lee Universalist Archive,
New York State Convention of Universalists

Transcribed on 1 Mar 2007 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY