Central Nassau Church Unites Universalists and Unitarians Special to The New York Times

FLORAL PARK, L.I., Oct. 4—Members of the Universalist Church of Floral Part voted tonight to merge with the Unitarian Fellowship of Central Nassau in Garden City.

The new group, with a combined membership of about 160, will be known as the Unitarian Universalist Church of Central Nassau. It will hold its first service Sunday in the Protestant Chapel at Mitchel Field, Hempstead.

The Rev. Kenneth J. Smith, minister of the church here, said the groups had merged "to increase our forces and to be able to make a greater appeal to liberals in the central Nassau area."

The Universalist church here was formed in 1930 and its parishioners worship in a small edifice at Magnolia and Plainfield Avenues. Horace Clapp was president of the board of trustees.

The Unitarian Fellowship, established in 1957, has been meeting at the Garden City Nursery School. Arthur A. Wachsman is president of its board of trustees. It voted in favor of the merger last Friday.

Mr. Smith, who will be minister of the new church pending a selection by the combined congregations, has been minister of the Floral Park church for two and a half years. He has been minister of the Duluth and Virginia, Minn., Unitarian churches and president of the Minnesota State Unitarian Conference.

New York Times, New York NY, 5 Oct 1961

Transcribed on 8 Aug 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY