

[Webster, Monroe Co.]

### The First Universalist Church of Webster

This society was first legally organized in 1843, although meetings had been held in different places many years previous, by Rev. M. Knapp and other preachers.

At organization the society consisted of 19 members, Ebenezer Cook, Reuben Cobb, Timothy Thompson, Nathaniel Knight, Franklin Robb, John Robb, Dr. Dunham, Benjamin Fall, Ebenezer Dayton, their wives [as known: Mary Peet Cook, wife of Ebenezer; Martha Cobb, wife of Reuben; Jane Thompson, wife of Timothy; Mary Robb Knight, wife of Nathaniel; Mary Wright Robb, wife of John; Emily Dayton, wife of Ebenezer], and Carlos Dunham. The present church edifice was erected in 1844. It is a cobble stone structure, is valued at \$4,000, will seat 250 persons, and was first dedicated, November, 1845, by the Rev. L. L. Spaulding, who became the first pastor. The church several years later was remodeled and rededicated. The following named were preachers in the order of their charge: Revs. L. L. Spaulding, Charles Hammond, H. L. Hayrood [Henry L. Hayward], C. [Charles] A. Skinner, J. J. Austin, M. M. Tompkins, L. F. Porter, T. [Thomas] J. Whitcomb, Hubert Whitney, William Kimmel, Samuel Ashton, William Knott, Charles Palmatier, Mr. June, Irene Earl[1], Henry Reigel, Margaret Brennon, [and] Frank Miller, the present pastor.

A church organization was effected during the pastorate of Rev. T. J. Whitcomb, and there is now a membership of 60. There is also a Young People's Christian union connected with the church, which meets regularly every Sunday evening, besides a Junior society which is composed of an enthusiastic band of little ones.

F. W. M.

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