

"NEW BEGINNING" for Preston Community Church, as founding Pastor, Rev. Dr. Miner E. Bruner, on retiring from Logan's First Presbyterian, becomes Stated Supply at Preston. - - - -

June 1, 1986 marked a "new beginning" for Preston Community Church, as her Pastor of 33 years, The Rev. Miner E. Bruner, D.D., of Logan, retiring from the First Presbyterian Church, Logan, after 43 years, became the minister, or Stated Supply, of the Preston congregation, alone.

Dr. Bruner, graduating from San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo, Calif., and having served a pastorate in San Geronimo, Calif., arrived at Logan on Memorial Day week-end, 1943, to serve as Chaplain to the U. S. Servicemen at Utah State University, and Pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

During the years that followed, Mr. Bruner answered calls for Christian Pastor from Arimo, Idaho, to Bear Lake Country, Utah, and served a small group at Preston, meeting in Franklin County Court House.

February, 1953 saw a beginning of the present Preston Community Church, also meeting in the Social Hall of Franklin County Court House, Dr. Bruner having received his D.D. from Westminster College, Salt Lake City, and relying on members of his Logan Session, or Board of Elders, and the young people of his University group, The Westminster Fellowship, to assist him at Preston, or at Logan, when he was preaching here. On November 8, 1953, the Preston group was officially organized as a Presbyterian Church, serving a widely mixed group of constituents, meriting the name, Community Church of Preston.

Through the years, many fine young people, collegians, have served as Assistant Pastor to Dr. Bruner, and after 7 years meeting in the Court House, the Glendale Ward building was purchased and moved to Preston, and first services were held therein in January, 1960. At that time, the Preston congregation thanked their bretheren of the L. D. S. Church for accepting their bid for the building, inasmuch as it would continue to be used as a place of worship. The edifice was dedicated April 13, 1960, and continues at its present location, the corner of 2nd East and 2nd North Street in Preston, with services now commencing at 10:00 A. M., followed by Church School at 11:00, Sundays.

Dr. Bruner will continue to reside at his Logan home on Sumac Drive, with his wife, Helen, who has just retired from her teaching position in the Logan City Schools. He has been named Pastor Emeritus of the Logan Church, and was honored by that group at a banquet held in the Ball Room of Utah State University recently. Friends from near and far came to pay their respects to him for his 43 years at Logan, and friends from Preston look forward to the "new beginning" here.