

Members of the Otisville-Mount Hope Presbyterian Church will kick off their 150th-anniversary celebration at 11 a.m. Aug. 28 by participating in the Otisville Days parade.

The church's recently organized band will be marching. It is composed of about 25 people, several of whom are not church members but live in the community and wanted to participate. It is led by **Sue Conklin**, the church's music director, who also is in charge of the Anniversary Committee.



Barbara Bedell

The parade also will include a float that members have titled "Still Active After 150 Years." The float is patterned after the Vacation Bible School theme, "Lava, Lava Island." It will feature a smoking volcano designed by congregant **Mark Yuengling**.

The **Rev. Jeffrey Farley**, pastor for the past 21 years, and his family – wife **Sue** and their children, **Katie** and **Brian**, an Eagle Scout – will be involved.

Since Farley became pastor, the congregation has grown. Two years ago, it was necessary to put an addition on for the Sunday school department. There are many outreach groups that serve not only the church family but also the community in need outside, and the music program has had tremendous appeal. There are now five different choirs available for Sunday services.

The focus now is on the anniversary celebration, which during the fall and around Christmas will include the availability of a tree ornament in the likeness of the church, as well as a church tile and a magnet featuring a painting titled "Holy Bears" by artist **Cynthia Pagano**.

Other anniversary events will include a dinner-dance March 20 at **Marty Kuhl's Highland House** in Middletown; a special old-time church service on April 10, in the month the church was started; and an old-fashioned picnic in June.

Church members **Gerda and Chuck Kroglund** will organize an anniversary journal that will be available at no charge. It will include a short history of the church written by **Anita and John Goldsmith**, and will have a synopsis of all the activities during the celebration.

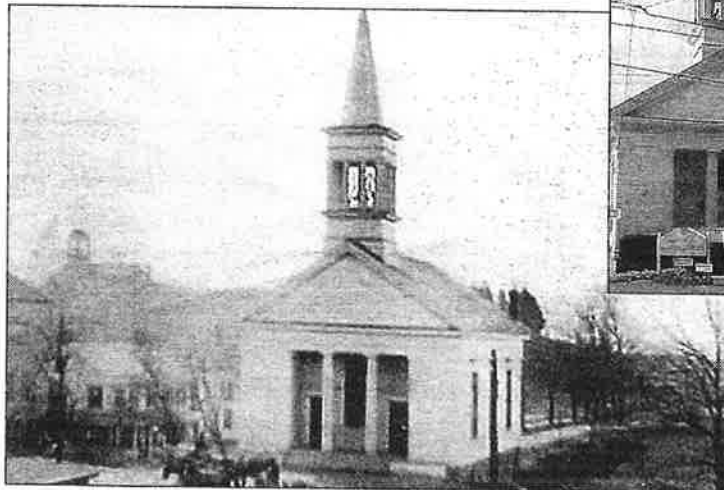
For information, call 386-3851.



The Rev. Jeffrey Farley, his wife, Sue, and their children, Katie and Brian, are getting ready to celebrate the anniversary of their church in Otisville.

Photo provided

Church set to kick off 150th-anniversary festivities



The Otisville-Mount Hope Presbyterian Church's 150th-anniversary celebration is about to begin.