

# *150th Anniversary of Second Presbyterian Church*

## **Hope Springs Eternal...\***

Every third Sunday during the period honoring the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of Second Presbyterian Church the various committees of the church, headed by a member of Session, have and will continue to make presentations of our past and present. They have shed light on the many parts of our “working” church. The committee designated for presentation in May is the *Fellowship Committee*. Unlike several of the previous 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, the research and story of *Fellowship* is more elusive. Should this story be of church picnics, Sunday lunches, working with neighboring churches, combined worship services, etc.? I was stumped, but an inner voice kept saying...“THE PEOPLE.”

In researching reams of material available in the Archives I have observed (with awe) the immense treasure of persons who have made up the congregation of Second Presbyterian Church. They have “witnessed” well for 150 years. Future articles will attempt to share details of many of their journeys.

Do the names Xenophon Wheeler, Dr. Robert Barr, Francis Tyler immediately trigger recognition? Do the sisters: McPhail, the Haynes girls, the Trimble teachers, or the Van Deusen siblings conjure up memories? What of the couples: the Starks, Trains, Woods, Newells. Coolidges, Klings, Coopers, Bernings? What were their contributions? ... And, oh, yes, the name of Mrs. L.A Hilliard must be added to any list!

Today some of the descendants of these “followers” sit among the pews, proud of their heritage and motivated to continue the journey. The stories to be continued...

*\*Alexander Pope “An Essay on Man”*