

New C. M. B. Church at Dime Box Dedicated

The new structure of the Czech-Moravian Brethren Church at Dime Box was dedicated at 10:30 a. m. Sunday, May 29.

Lunch was served at noon and a program consisting of numbers by different congregations was presented.

The new structure is the third house of worship that is to serve the C.M.B. congregation at Dime Box in its 61 years of existence.

Fire caused by lightning destroyed the previous building on July 30, 1954, limiting the source of information of the past history of the church to the memories of still living charter members with the destruction of all written records.

The site of this the third church building was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Mikulin of Brenham. Albert Blaha designed the building and donated the blue prints and Ed Peters supervised the construction of the building, which began on Oct. 18, 1954.

Through the loyalty of members of the congregation and the devoted interest of friends, donated labor and financial support was forthcoming to the extent that the first services in the new building could be held on March 6, 1955.

During the period of construction members of the Presbyterian, Baptist, and Lutheran congregations, offered the use of their sanctuaries to the homeless congregation. Also the board of trustees of the Dime Box Rural High School District offered the use of their auditorium. These offers were received by the C. M. B. congregation with a gratitude that cannot be expressed in words alone.

The Czech-Moravian Brethren congregation at Dime Box has passed through a similar experi-

ence on April 4, 1922, when its first structure was destroyed by a tornado.

The congregation, led by the Rev. F. H. Horak, and assisted by members of the Lutheran church, rebuilt and dedicated a new structure in October, 1922.

The first Czech-Moravian Brethren service at Dime Box was conducted by the Rev. Adolph Chlumsky of Brenham at the Hranice School in Oct. 1894.

The charter members of the congregation were Joe Blaha and his wife, Rozina; Fred Simek and his wife, Anna; Joe Kubena and his wife, Rozina; John Simek and his wife, Veruna; Louis Blaha and his wife, Emilie; John Krenek and his wife, Alabeta; Vinc Marek and his wife, Kornelia; Vinc Balcar Sr., and his wife Jenofa; Vinc Balcar Jr. and his wife Tezezie; Hynek Ripple; William Matejeek and his wife Amelia; Tom Kuty and his wife Anna; and others whose names are not recalled now that fire destroyed all old church records.

The Rev. Chlumsky, founder of the congregation, was succeeded by the Rev. Jos. Barton, during whose ministry the first house of worship was constructed. The Rev. Barton and the Rev. Jos Hegar served the congregation until 1919 when the Rev. F. H. Horak became the pastor. It was during his ministry that the first structure was destroyed by a tornado and rebuilt.

The Rev. Horak continued his ministry until 1937, when the Rev. Jos Hegar came to serve until 1940, when the Rev. H. E. Beseda Sr. was called to serve the congregation.

During 1951 the Rev. Albert Michalik assisted the Rev. Beseda until the latter tendered his resignation. The Rev. Michalik is the

present pastor of the church.

He is assisted in serving the community by Dan Marek, Jessie Skrivanek, and John Bravenec, ministerial students.