CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

The First Christian Endeavor was organized by Rev. P. M. Lewis in 1895. Afterwards the movement became the Allen League of Christian Endeavor. There have been several organizations existing at various times. At present there is a live Allen League in Bethel Church.

Bethel has been fortunate in the quality of its choirs. Even in the early days in the old Church there were good voices, and what they lacked in musical technique they more than made up in the quality of their voices. These choirs carried on into the new Church. In 1894 a group of young people voluntarily organized a choir. This group was reorganized by Mrs. P. M. Lewis in 1895 and became the first "note reading" choir in the Church history. All of its members could not read notes but all were taught to sing by note. Rev. P. M. Lewis used the choir to sing in white churches and at the public opera house to raise money for the church indebtedness. In 1896 and 1897 the choir at its own expense employed the instructress of vocal music at the University to instruct and train it how to sing. The Choir became organized in 1908 or 1909, Ernest Harlan Scott became its director, and Albert R. Lee, its President. The choir continued under this management except during 1919-20, until the passing of Mr. Scott in 1922. As previously mentioned, the Choir bore the expense of enlarging the Choir loft and the installation of the present organ. In 1916 during the pastorate of Rev. E. G. Jackson, the Choir purchased its vestment robes, and caps, at an outlay of approximately Eighty Dollars. It has continued as a