



THE MISSION BELL

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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A Bit of Pre-Centennial History

by Karen Orlando

“Lots for Sale in Carmichael, California - 10-acre tracts for \$1,500 with 10 percent down on terms of \$10 a month at 6 percent interest.” Sounds too good to be true in 2022 and it would be. That advertisement appeared in the early 1900s in area newspapers and in the national press, including *Sunset* magazine. It continued: “In the shelter of rolling foot-



Carmichael School, the first school in Carmichael, was built in 1917.

hills secure from frosts the Woods hereabouts are stocked with game

birds, quail, and the streams are stocked with trout for rod and ducks for gun.” 100 years or more later, Carmichael is not only home to game birds, fish, and assorted wildlife, but it is home to nearly 80,000 residents, and of course, Carmichael Presbyterian Church.

Long before it was
(Continued on page 3)

Legacy Gifting

by Bill Dunn

As was mentioned during worship on May 1, CPC is inviting members to consider a gift through a will or trust that would leave a legacy for Carmichael Presbyterian Church. Ask yourself this: has



CPC enriched your life and the Carmichael community? Do you want CPC’s services and programs to continue for future generations?

In contemplation of CPC’s Centennial in 2023 the Gifts and Bequests Council has cre-

ated the Adobe Funds Legacy Program. The program’s objective is to provide a lasting financial foundation for the mission and work of CPC for the next 100 years. We are also developing ways to recognize those who plan a gift to the Adobe Funds.

The Adobe Funds
(Continued on page 4)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Pastor Keith	2
Worship Task Force Update	4
Food Closet News	5
PW 2022-2023 Bible Study	5
Ode to CPC’s Art Shows	6
Opportunity Knocks	7
Session Spotlight	8
Compassionate Caring	9
Library Corner	10
Best of Carmichael	10
World Relief Impact Report	11
Family Game Night	12
Scuttlebutt	13
In Our CPC Family	14
Notes of Thanks	14

... Centennial History ...

(Continued from page 1)

ever called Carmichael, the Maidu Indians inhabited the land dating back to 1,000 BC. They were forced to leave the area when white settlers began farming around 1860. In 1907, Charles and Mary Deterding became the first permanent residents of the region when they purchased 425

acres beside the north bank of the

American River. The Deterding Ranch, known as San Juan Meadows, is now Ancil Hoffman Park. About that time, a man from Atlanta, Georgia who had settled in Sacramento with the intent of developing land in the Sacramento Valley came along. The man was Dan Carmichael.

“Big Real Estate Deal” was the headline in the *Folsom Telegraph* newspaper on October 1, 1909. The story was about Daniel Carmichael who purchased 3,000 acres in two transactions of land from the San Juan Mexican Land Grant. He then sold 10-acre parcels

for \$1,500 each. By 1918 he had sold 35 parcels. With the war ending, a feeling of prosperity had come to the community. Party line telephone service had reached Carmichael Colo-

still in use today, quickly became the center of community activities.

And this is where the story of Carmichael Presbyterian Church begins, with a fledgling community in 1918 called Carmichael Colony, a two-room schoolhouse used as a community center, and three mothers with a desire for their children to have a Christian Education.

Stay tuned for A Little Bit More of Centennial History next month.

(Excerpt and Source information from:

Carmichael Chamber of Commerce, *Heritage of Faith – A 75 Year History of Carmichael Presbyterian Church*, and *Images of America, Carmichael* by Kay Muther)



The Arrowhead Store was converted from an old fruit packing house by owners Gilmore and Elizabeth Davis in 1920. Located at the corner of Palm and Fair Oaks, it served as a grocery store, meat market, and soda fountain until the Davis family sold out in 1929. (Courtesy of Dorothy Dickson St. John)

ny and H Street (what is now Fair Oaks Boulevard) was paved, making it possible for workers to commute the 15 miles from Carmichael into Sacramento.

Education was an initial need in the community. The earliest school, San Juan Elementary, was at the corner of Dewey Drive and Winding Way. Families demanded another school and Dan Carmichael agreed to donate ten acres as long as the school was named after him. The two-room schoolhouse was built in 1917. Carmichael School at Sutter and California Avenues,

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