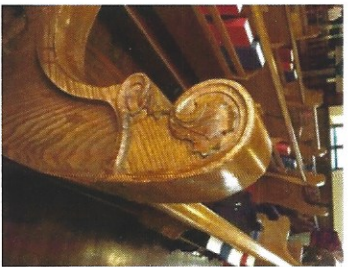


## The Church

Trinity Episcopal Church is constructed of red sandstone quarried near Strasburg, Ohio. It is Gothic in design, resembling common English rural churches. Outstanding features are stained-glass windows, high-pitched roof, rood screen and the symbolic nature of the interior. The oak leaves on the pews represent Christ. The oak is also a symbol of endurance in the face of adversity.



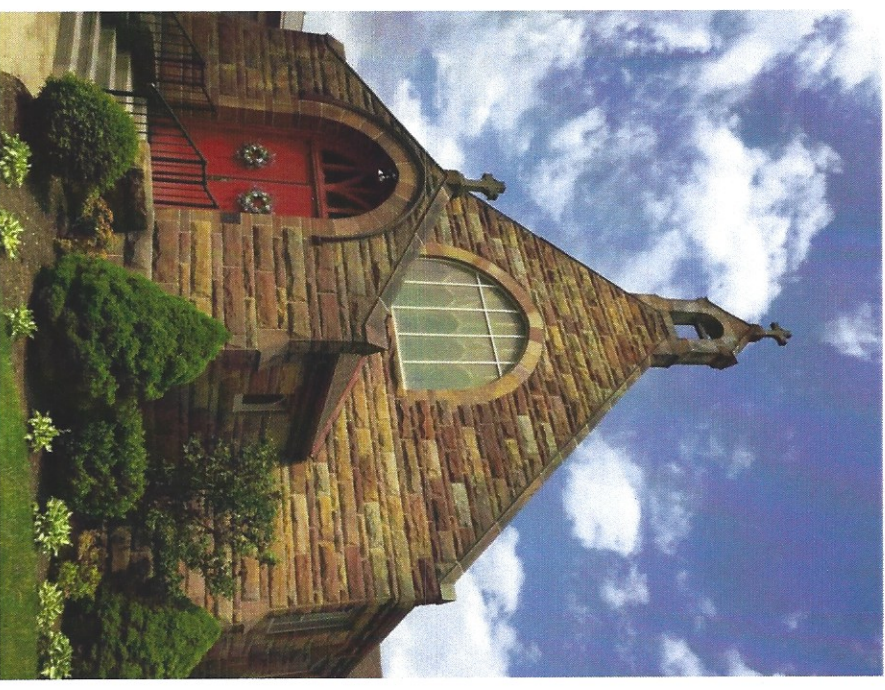
The altar is adorned with carvings of the Alpha and the Omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet to denote the whole of anything, from beginning to end. Jesus as the beginning and end of all things refers to no one but the true God. The Christogram, IHS monogram, center, represents the Holy Name of Jesus Christ.

Framed on the rear wall of the sanctuary, "This Church is Erected to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Emma Buell Brown", the late wife of Mr. Arthur W. Brown.



## Trinity Episcopal Church

Tuscarawas County  
Heritage Home Association  
Historical Marker



122 Third Street, N.W.  
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

## The Founders



### Rev. David W. Thornberry

Born in Castle Caulfield, Northern Ireland in 1868, he came to the United States at the age of 20. He received his B.A. degree from Kenyon College. Rev. Thornberry was ordained into the priesthood in 1899. A true champion. A man with utmost integrity and with "God's guiding hand" was able to draw those necessary to work together with him to realize his vision for a church in New Philadelphia, Ohio. Rev. Thornberry remained Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church until 1905.



### Augustus Beyer

Graduated from Kenyon College in 1848. He was in the rolling mill business at New Philadelphia for forty years. He continued the rolling mill business at Cambridge, Ohio for ten years, then selling interests to U.S. Steel Co. in 1890. Mr. Beyer organized Beyer Electric Light and Power Company in New Philadelphia and the Electric Light Company in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Beyer became President of Ypsilanti Savings Bank.

### Arthur W. Brown

Nephew of Augustus Beyer, and former superintendent of coal mines in the New Philadelphia area. In 1893 he erected the steel mill with Beyer in Cambridge. Finally, he became founder and President of Ludowici-Celedon Tile Company of Chicago.



## The Story

In 1898, Rev. David W. Thornberry was in charge of St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Dennison, Ohio after serving as a chaplain in WWI. In August of that year, he extended his work to New Philadelphia where he held services in a disused YMCA hall for \$1.00 per week. At his first service, were four adults and three children. It was then when he said, "This is no experiment. There will be a service here every Sunday evening, at 7:00 PM. I will stay with you until a chapel is built and paid for."

Thornberry traveled to Cleveland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts asking for donations to build the church and returned with \$1500. Back home, in New Philadelphia, prominent businessman Mr. Augustus Beyer committed to securing land for a brick church after learning Thornberry was a fellow alumnus of Kenyon College. Mr. Beyer then introduced Thornberry to his nephew, Mr. Arthur Brown, also of New Philadelphia, who donated \$5000 to build a stone church in memory of his beloved wife, Emma Buell Brown.

Thornberry returned to Beyer requesting the current 122 Third Street NW lot in New Philadelphia for the church which included the little house that still stands on the property. Beyer agreed, and purchased the lot for \$1600 and gave the deed to the church. Plans for the stone church were then prepared.

In August of 1902, sod was turned, and in September, the Right Reverend William A. Leonard, Bishop of Ohio, attended to lay the cornerstone. Inside the cornerstone was placed a Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, and a newspaper containing information on the assassination of President William McKinley.

The church was consecrated during the Sunday service on March 19, 1903. The choir wore new vestments made by church women with cloth donated by Sr. Warden Matthew Smith of Cleveland. Those in attendance included vestry members Dr. George Collins, Mr. William Farmer, Mr. Robert Galbraith and Mr. Frederick H. Morgan. Also attending were then Archdeacon Abbott, the Rev. David W. Thornberry, the Right Bishop Leonard, New Philadelphia Mayor Samuel Howell Ashbridge, and City Council, as well as church members from Dennison and Dover.