



West Prospect Church

The West Prospect Church was built in 1883 by the Methodist congregation after years of holding services in their homes and later in the school. At the time of the Church Union in 1925, it became the West Prospect United Church and served in this capacity until it closed its doors in 1950. It was then purchased and donated to the museum in memory of the Batters Family.

The Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie contributed \$1000.00 towards the cost of moving and renovating the church. The Portage Ministerial Association undertook the responsibility of furnishing the church to represent all religions.

The pews were presented from the Salem Church. Each identical pew holds approximately six people and typically each family would have had their own special pew. The organ, pulpit and heater are the originals and create an historical centre for the weddings that still take place here.

Miss Margaret Coltart brought the wooden Communion trays from India. The Rosalpuro Training School in India made them. At one time the arched glass windows had coloured paper pasted to the upper half to mimick stained glass.

Other artifacts displayed here are old bibles (including an Eskimo bible), offering plates and a candle mold. The Star of David is from the former Synagogue in Portage and was donated by Harold Narvey.

The church and its leaders played an important part in the development of the early settlement and provided much of the social life. This church stands as a living monument to all religious denominations.