

Men Closely Identified With Westminster Will Take Part In 75th Anniversary Dinner

The seventy-fifth anniversary celebration of Westminster Presbyterian church will open with a dinner for members Friday night, October 14, in Kapke Hall.

Dr. Charles F. Wishart will act as toastmaster and will give a history of the church, the Rev. Curtis Douglass, former pastor and now of Fairfield, Iowa, will give an address "A Gracious Heritage" and Dr. Howard F. Lowry will speak on "The Church and the College." Mrs. John W. Olthouse will tell of the work of the women's organization's and give a welcome on behalf of church women. Dr. John R. Williams will speak for the First Presbyterian church of Wooster.

Dr. Emory E. Luccock, son of the late Dr. George N. Luccock, former pastor of Westminster, will deliver the sermon at the Sunday morning service, October 16. Dr. Luccock, who is pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Wichita, Kansas, will speak on "Our Prodigal God," and he will conduct the service with the Rev. C. John L. Bates, present pastor of Westminster. Prof. Neill O. Rowe and Prof. Richard T. Gore will be in charge of a musical vesper service at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon to conclude the week-end events.

AT THE FIFTIETH anniversary of Westminster church in 1924, the late Prof. J. O. Notestein, then head of the Classics department of the College, told how "the church sprang up out of the college and for the college." It is

interesting to read that at its founding in 1869 the College had an enrollment of 34 students, 28 of whom attended the first meeting to consider "problems of Christian living." Out of this meeting grew the Brainerd Missionary Society which served as an outlet for student religious life before the organization of a second Presbyterian church. This organization took place in 1874 with four faculty families and three other families living close to the College among the first members.

ONE NOTES FROM A historical sketch written in 1924 by the late Prof. Henri G. Behoteguy, then of the department of French of the College, that a committee of three ministers and one elder met on May 10, 1874, in the old Main Building later destroyed in the fire of December 11, 1901, to organize the new church under the direction of the local presbytery. Thirty-six members were received at that time, while today Westminster numbers over 500 men and women. Affiliate membership by students at the College who keep their letters with their home churches but become an active part of the College church while they attend Wooster, is one of the unusual features of this congregation. Westminster church has numbered among its mem-

bers countless missionaries who have brought the Christian message to foreign peoples, and who, on their return to America have found a home in this community.

The Rev. C. John L. Bates, who came to this church from the Presbyterian church, Saltzburg, Pa., has been the pastor since the fall of 1945.

The committee in charge of the seventy-fifth anniversary events

is headed by Dr. U. L. Mackey and includes Mrs. M. H. Franks, Dr. William Hail, Dr. Wishart, Mr. Bates and Dr. William Schreiber.