



Bank Street Methodist Church opened on 11 October 1829 and cost £1,200; it survived early subsidence problems. A new £50,000 church to serve the members of several other Methodist churches which closed and have been demolished opened in 1971, free of debt. The photograph was taken just before demolition in 1969.



The interior of the original Bank Street Methodist Church.



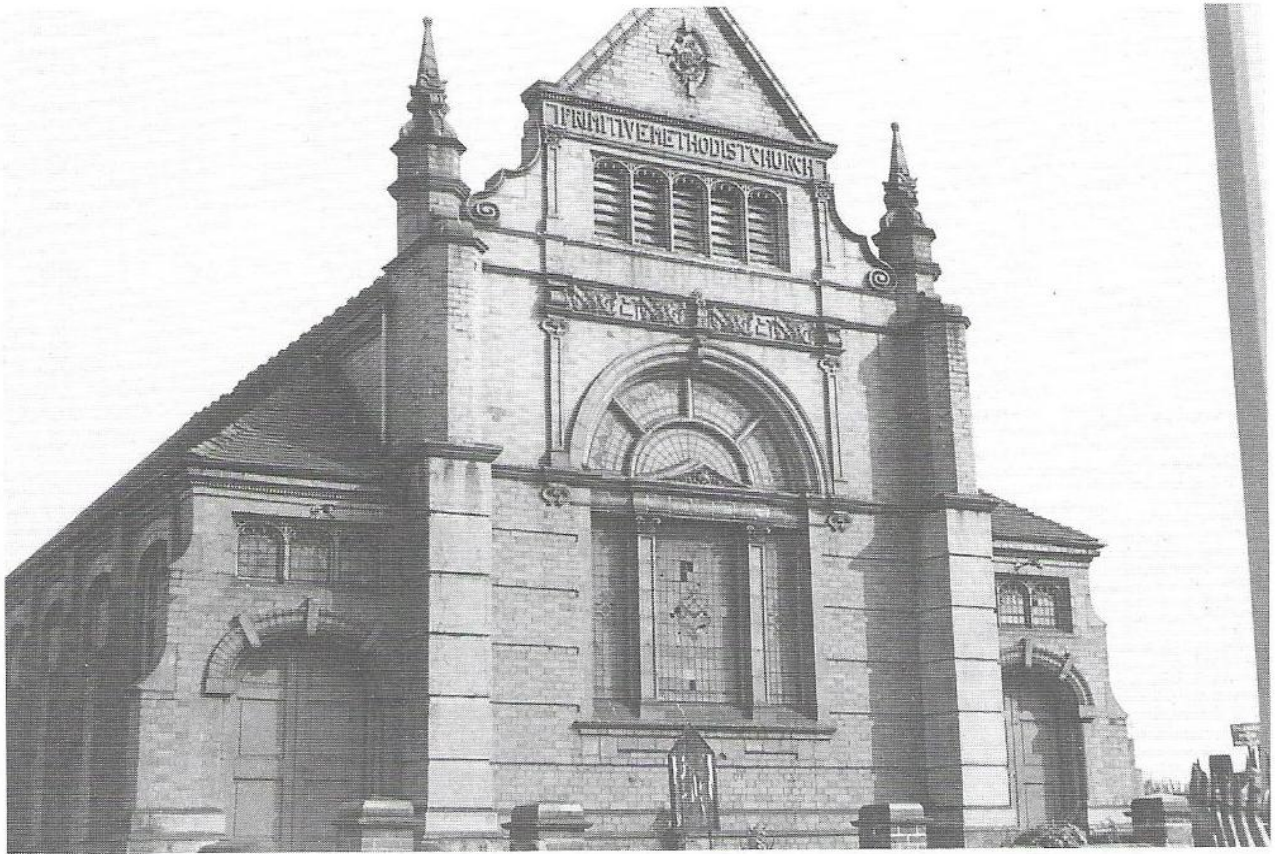


Bank Street Methodist Church Guides and Rangers, c. 1944. Captain Norah Frost is on the extreme left and behind her Doreen Proctor, flag bearer. Lt. Ethel Hodgetts, Ranger Leader is centre, back row, and to her left is the Revd R.L. Brook, minister.



The interior of the Congregational Church, Albion Street, 1965. While the new Bank Street Methodist Church was being built, members of that church held their services here. Congregational Church members decided to join forces with the Methodists at Bank Street. The church is now used by the Assemblies of God, and the former schoolroom opposite by Jehovah's Witnesses.





The Moor Street Primitive Methodist Chapel. The first chapel built on the site dates from 1839, but the building seen here began to develop in the 1890s. It closed in 1965. (*Beryl Totney*)



The last wedding at Moor Street: Vera Carter married Frank Bennett on 3 April 1965 and the wedding party lined up to provide us with a rare, side elevation view of the chapel! (*Frank Bennett*)





*Left: The interior of the old Bank Street Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was possibly more 'church-like' than 'chapel-like', as can be seen here. (Ruth Parsonage)*

*Below: The 'new' Bank Street building, to be known as Brierley Hill Methodist Church, was opened on 30 January 1971 by the Revd Raymond A. Hawthorne, surrounded here by the rector of Brierley Hill; Fergus Montgomery MP; Alderman and Mrs J.W.R. Rowley (Mayor and Mayoress of Dudley) and Bert Barnett. (Edith Hawthorne via Kevin Gipton)*



Right next to the railway on the south side of the High Street was Brockmoor Methodist Chapel, known locally as 'the Sand Hole'. New Connexion Methodists built the first chapel on this site and sold it to the Wesleyans in 1838. The railway arrived a decade later and the road was raised to cross the line, leaving the old chapel even more 'down the hole', and now eclipsed by the arrival of St John's on the other side of the road. The Sunday school, on the right, was built in 1886/7 and the new chapel (on the left) was built in 1898, both at road level. The chapel survived until 1965, and there is now housing on the site.

*(Keith Jevons)*



The Primitive Methodists built their chapel in Silver Street, Silver End, in 1856. The last service was held there on 19 July 1970, although it was later used by the Mormons until faced with demolition in the early 1980s. This picture was taken in about 1980. *(Stan Hill Collection)*