

Graburn United Church Cemetery, originally Peace Congregational, Graburn, Alberta.

Prior to construction of this church in 1917, regular services were held in the pioneer's homes. First known as the Peace Congregational Church, it was built on a piece of property donated by Henry Krahn Sr. Lumber for the project was purchased in Walsh, Alberta, from Mr. Helm. Chief carpenter Bernard Bischel with help from the following volunteers supplied most of the manual labor during construction: William Lehr, Gottlieb Pfeifer, Henry Krahn, Edward Lehr, Adolph Janke Emmanuel Schlenker and Fredrich Hiller.

Dedication services were conducted November 04, 1917. In 1925 it became part of the United Church of Canada. This congregation was part of the Memorial Salem Pastoral Charge and in 1958 became part of the Redcliff Pastoral Charge. The Graburn school building was moved to this site in 1959 and was attached to the church to become a Sunday school and meeting room.

The congregation celebrated its 50th. anniversary November 4 and 5, 1967, with Reverend George Spady and Reverend Bruce Armstrong as guest ministers.

Ministers who served the congregation were: Elias Bernstein 1916 to 1919, Treise 1919 to 1920, Rigert 1920 to 1923, Kesler 1924 to 1926, Hiltenbrand part of 1927, Siebert 1927 to 1929, Gebhardt 1929 to 1930, Reideman 1931 to 1934, Rigert 1935 to 1938, student Megdanil part of 1939, Paul Hediger 1939 to 1947, George Spady 1948 to 1958, Allan S. Hunt 1958 to 1970 and Marjory Ashton 1970 to June 1972.

The last regular church service was held in June 1972. Several special services were held after that. In June, 1977 the congregation held a meeting to decide what to do with the assets. The group decided to leave the church intact, as it was considered a landmark, containing the memories of many people. Most of the valuable furnishings were donated to the Irvine, Alberta, museum. An application for a grant from the Provincial Department of Culture in the fall of 1977 to help restore the cemetery was denied. The Department informed those interested that a grant of up to \$2000.00 would be made available provided it was matched. The second application was accepted in November 1978, and a cheque for \$738.75 was received. The group had to raise funds to complete the project. A successful fowl supper attended by over 400 who drove over muddy roads was held May 06, 1979.

Efforts were made to collect data on all the people interred in the cemetery. Relatives, friends and the Medicine Hat News were instrumental in gathering the information needed. Most of the church records had been destroyed years earlier. The monies collected from the grant and through fund raising allowed the group to build a new fence and erect the \$1200.00 cairn. Enough money was raised that the second half of the grant was not applied for.

This cemetery is located at the junction of range road 12 and township road 100, or ten and one half miles south of Walsh, Alberta, on the Graburn road. The legal land description is NW 35-09-01- W 4. The first burial was 1917 and the last in 1944. This large, L shaped church has fallen into disrepair, several windows are broken, and the foundation is sinking. The two door outhouse stands with gaping doors just south of the church.

The grave yard is in the southeast corner, it is well fenced but one must wade through waist deep grass to do any research. A huge cairn lists all those interred here and also supplies most of the pertinent dates. There are indications that someone was visiting here just a few days ago as there is a good trail through the tall grass. As found September 01, 1996.

As at July 2, 2023 new headstones have been added, the grass was cut last year and there is no church building or outhouse.

Graburn United Church

NW35-9-1-W4

49.82889, -110.18577

Twp rd 100

Rge rd 12 On Graburn Road, County of Cypress

Name	Memorial Information
Alber (nee George), Jakobina	18 Oct 1874 - 9 Nov 1918; spouse: Frederich Alber
Alber, Philipp	10 Jul 1901 - 16 Jun 1923
Bender (nee Eszlinger), Magdalena	13 Feb 1895 - 29 Mar 1939; spouse: Jacob Bender
Buchholz (nee Schelske), Maria	6 Mar 1869 - 9 Jun 1936; spouse: Christian Buchholtz
Buchholz, Christian	22 Jan 1872 - 11 Aug 1924; spouse: Maria Buchholtz
Durr (nee Koch), Maria	5 Nov 1913 - 7 Feb 1937; spouse: Gottlieb Durr
Durr (nee Mauch), Johanna	7 Dec 1880 - 29 Mar 1936; spouse: Christian Durr
Durr, Christian	18 May 1880 - 28 Sep 1931; spouse: Johanna Durr
Durr, Florence	no data available; parent: Gottlieb Durr
Durr, Olga Augustine	9 Dec 1914-12 Jun 1915; parent: Christian Durr
Durr, Velma	no data available; parent: Gottlieb Durr
Frisch, Edwin	30 May 1927 - 30 May 1927
Gebhardt, Phillip	24 Jun 1866 - 23 Jan 1918; spouse: Katherine Lieder
Gomke, Fred	15 Feb 1929 - 15 Feb 1929; parent: Reinhold Gomke
Gomke, William	1918 - 13 Nov 1918
Gutmiller, Margarita	14 Jan 1850 - 21 Jun 1925
Gutmueller, Eva	11 Jul 1880 - 24 Dec 1923
Gutmiller, Christian	16 Mar 1850 - 29 Jan 1919
Jeske, Reinhold	24 Jul 1916 - 27 Jan 1917
Jeske, Reinhold	17 Feb 1918 - 22 Feb 1918
Knoblich, Martin	1872 - 16 Jul 1917, fa Fred
Knoblick, Adelina Freida	8 Feb 1917 - 8 Apr 1917; parent: Matt Knoblick
Mauch, Ludwig	21 Jul 1861 - 2 Sep 1923
Miller, Edna	Died 9 May 1919, 11yrs; parent: Daniel Miller
Miller, Eva	6 May 1908-9 May 1919
Miller, Harold Ferdinand	8 Aug 1908 - 22 Aug 1925
Miller, Wilma	17 Jan 1924 - 22 Jan 1924
Pfeifer (nee Hiller), Marie	4 Apr 1900-23 Aug 1924
Pfeifer, Anna Dora	13 Mar 1918 - 16 Nov 1919
Pfeiffer (nee Hiller), Mary	Died 1925; spouse: Frank Pfeifer
Roth, Johan	1889 - Nov 1918; spouse Wilhelmina Roth
Scheufele (nee Haas), Karolina	1 Oct 1898 - 14 Mar 1922; spouse: Jack Scheufele
Scheufele, Leah Magdalena	18 Jan 1922 - 1 Sep 1922; parent: Jack Scheufele
Schlenker, Clarence Elrov	29 May 1923 - 3 Oct 1923
Stockburger, Gotlieb	11 Feb 1929 - 11 Feb 1929
Wiltermuth, Mary	4 Jul 1891-29 Nov 1918; spouse: Benjamin Wiltermuth
Zieffle, Theodor	23 May 1918 - 15 Jun 1918
Ziffle, Karl	8 Nov 1875-18 Nov 1927; spouse: Katherine Ziffle