



Evangelical Circuit Riders visited this area in the 1830 's bringing the word of God to German speaking settlers. In 1845 a need was felt for a regular place of worship and a log meeting house was built near this location known as "Indian Bush". In 1854 a Sunday School was organized which met there or in nearby homes. Prominent family names in the early church were Kuenzli, Walter, Failor, Blaser, Paulin, and Knoble. The present church structure, completed in 1861, of simple barn frame construction, was used by the congregation then known as the Salem Evangelical Church. Through later mergers, the church became the Evangelical United Brethren and finally United Methodist Church. The bell and tower were added in 1900, and other improvements made over the years. In 2001, a structural failure caused the building to be closed and the small congregation then merged with the Union United Methodist Church located 2 1/2 miles north. In 2002, three former members formed the Friends of Salem Church Foundation and repairs were completed by this foundation to make the building again suitable for use as a place of worship. Currently the building is occupied and maintained by the Upper Sandusky Church of Christ.

The Marker is dedicated in memory of all the worshipers through the years and also to future generations who look to God in faith.

HISTORIC SALEM CHURCH MARKER

DEDICATION CEREMONY

Sunday, November 14, 2004

Song.....My Country, 'Tis of Thee

Pledge to the Flag

Invocation .....Rev. John Hoover

Remarks.....Former Church Members

Dedication of Marker

Song.....Faith of Our Fathers

Closing.....Lord's Prayer

Thanks to those who contributed to the marker and  
the restoration of the church building.

Ann Goodman Baker

Lois Conrad

Kristi Clark-Marshall

Ron & Phyllis Clark

Karl Dilley

Kathryn Grimm

Miriam Holtshouse

Martha Jennings

Joel & Joann Klink

Lillian McClain

David & Treva Schilling

Donald & Frances Schilling

Edward & Ann Schilling

Virginia Schwabel

Robert L. & Diane Stuckey

Robert J. & Lois Stuckey

Sue & Mark Wasielewski

Jack Wilson

Michael & Emily Wolfe

Bringman Clark and Company Funeral Home

The Church of Christ

All who gave support with their prayers and concerns.

### FAITH OF OUR FATHERS

Faith of our fathers! Living still, In spite of dungeon fire and sword:

O how our hearts beat high with joy, when-e'er we hear that glorious word!

Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our fathers! We will love both friend and foe in all our strife:

And preach thee too as love knows how, By kindly words and virtuous life:

Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death!

### MY COUNTRY, 'TIS OF THEE

My country 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing:

Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride.

From every mountainside, Let freedom ring!

Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, To Thee we sing:

Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;

Protect us by thy might, Great God, our King.