

24 March 1959

Worship at Booth

THE first Congregational Church at Booth was opened in 1761, but it was in 1759 that the cause was started. The 150th anniversary celebrations were held in August, 1909, and last week-end a bicentenary gift service took place.

Just two hundred years ago, a number of people in the Luddenden Valley came under the religious influence of John and Charles Wesley, Whitfield and the Rev. William Grimshaw, the Vicar of Haworth. They first met in a small building called Hutton, which is situated in a field beyond Luddenden Dean Methodist Church. Next, a room was used at Upper Saltonstall, but for nearly two hundred years the Congregationalists have been worshipping at Booth.

The first chapel was opened there in 1761 and a second building was erected on the same site in 1828. The third chapel — the present-day structure — was opened in 1869 and cost £4,000.

It is just one hundred years since members left Booth church to form a new church at Luddenden Foot, which was opened on Good Friday, April 22, 1859. Plans have been made for celebrating the centenary in the coming months

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