

*'I Know a House'*

# Poet explains his thoughts

On Celebration Sunday we thanked the Lord for the completion of our several years of building renovation at our church. Two fund drives, the hard work of many people and the faithfulness of God to us made the project a success. I was asked to write a poem for that occasion, which I did. I titled the poem



**From Your Pastor**  
Earl F. Palmer

### I Know a House

I know a house that took me in to  
send me out  
and I keep finding this house is all  
of the places in my life as if it were  
as itinerant as I

My first memory of this place I call a house  
is of friendly fragrances  
the smell of evening supper and coffee brewing,  
sometimes of old wooden doors that  
are out of fashion and sometimes the  
new aroma of children laughing

I came to know the people of this house  
who took me in and who sent me out  
because they taught me here about the  
owner of the house and in time  
I learned his name

# Church members for life

by Peggy Downing

When Virginia Sandry's mother brought her to Mrs. Dearles' Cradle Roll class at UPC, Virginia began a lifetime association with the church that has blessed her in countless ways. She remembers singing "Jesus Loves Me" in front of the sanctuary at the age of 4 or 5. (This was the brick building at the corner of 15th and 47th which was torn down to make space for the Christian Education wing in 1957.)

Virginia joined the church at 7, the youngest age anyone could join. Harry Templeton was pastor at the time.

When Virginia was 12, her father passed away after a two-year illness. Her memories include the time Bill Devin (who later was elected mayor) brought a fan for her father to ease his breathing. "These were tough times for my family, and the church was very good to us," says Virginia. "I think that's when my concern for those who are hungry began. Jobless men came to our door begging for food in the early '30s. Mother always gave them something from our often meager supply."

Soon after Virginia graduated from high school, another tragedy occurred. Her mother died, and Virginia moved to her grandmother's apartment.

In 1938, Virginia was introduced by mutual friends to Tom Sandry. The two met for the first time at the old Clark Top Notch restaurant on 45th Street, and soon fell in love. Dr. Peter Erickson, UPC pastor, married them in 1939. Tom joined UPC and, when the time came, Dr. Erickson also baptized their two sons, Tom and Steve. The Sandrys helped in the Sunday school when their sons were attending, and Tom often played the piano.



photo by Don Hesel

**Virginia and Tom Sandry have shared more than 62 years at UPC.**

In 1986 Virginia became involved with the Saturday kitchen (see page 7). "Betty Clinkenbeard told Bruce Larson the University Baptist Church was starting a program to feed the hungry and thought we should help. I began going every Saturday. It seemed to fit my need to do something for those who were hungry and needed a helping hand," she says.

"We serve a hot meal with soup or casserole and a fruit or green salad to 80 to 120 people each week. Our Deacon Fund gives a quarterly amount as UPC's share in this endeavor."

She continues, "I don't get to the Saturday Kitchen as regularly as I once did, but I'm in charge of scheduling. I can't tell you the number of times the Lord has brought someone