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## Ida Green's 90th Birthday Celebration - November 29, 2008

About 100 people turned out for Ida's 90th birthday party celebration--that's about 1.1 people for every year.

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**Ida and The Three Pastors -- Ida with The Reverends Richard Garland (retired pastor and member of NKUMC), Lori Eldredge (current pastor) and Beverly Stenmark (former pastor at NKUMC)**



**Pastor Lori prepares the offer the opening prayer before dinner**



**The fellowship is filled with Ida fans**



**Ida leads the way at the buffet table**



**Ida, at head of table. In front Sam and Viv Flade who, along with Ida, are**



**Robin Marek signs a message of love for Ida's birthday book**

## Ida Green, 4 score and 10 years young

*--Faith treasure that grows richer each day*

By Larry Price

*Published November 25, 2008*



Ida Green, a charter member of our church, was born on December 20, 1918, but on Saturday November 29, we celebrated her birthday a little early with a pot luck supper at church.

A diminutive lady with a big heart, Ida has lived through many changes during her lifetime, including 16 U. S. Presidents—from Woodrow Wilson to George Bush (Obama will be the 17th). She was born as the first World War ended and married as a second one was concluding. She served in the Army Air Corps in World War II and married her late beloved husband, Ken Green, who also served his country, in the Navy.

*At left, Ida with her late husband Ken in 2005 in front of the church they both helped establish and loved*

When she was born in 1918, the average annual salary of workers was \$1,144. There was no minimum wage, but your dollar probably stretched farther in those days. The average cost of a house was \$4,821, an automobile cost \$500 and a gallon of gasoline was 8 cents. A postage stamp cost 3 cents, a gallon of milk 55 cents and a loaf of bread 10 cents. Since Ida's birth, the population of America has increased from 106 million to nearly 306 million. And, oh yes, the national debt has grown too—all the way to \$10.6 trillion and still growing every day, leaving each of us with a bill of about \$35,000 to pay it off.

Top movies from 1918 included *Mickey*, starring Mabel Normand, and Charlie Chaplin in *A Dog's Life*. Irving Berlin's *Yip Yip Yaphank* was among the popular songs. It was also the first year that America adopted daylight savings time.



Yes, Ida Green has lived through many changes in her lifetime, but there has always been one constant in her life, her service to her faith. She and husband Ken were among a small group of families which started the North Kingstown United Methodist Church over 40 years ago. Every Sunday there's a hot cup of coffee awaiting worshippers. She's been preparing the coffee for the post worship fellowship for many years and it would be difficult to estimate how many cups she's brewed, and how many smiles she's offered to church visitors and members.

It's fitting that we celebrate Ida's 90th birthday because it's not something she would expect or seek. She's one of those wonderful people who serve with no expectation of thanks or appreciation. They are the lifeblood of a church, the foundation that supports a house of worship; and, in Ida's case, a connection to where we came from and a role model to where we should be going. Her quiet service speaks loudly and eloquently to a faith journey to which we all should aspire.

Ida Green is a 90-year faith treasure that grows richer as a blessing to our church every day. Happy birthday, Ida!

***MORE PHOTOS BELOW - SCROLL DOWN***

[Related story: Ida and Ken celebrated 60 years of marriage in 2005](#)



**Ida blows out the candles on her cake**



*Happy Birthday, Ida*  
*from all your friends at NKUMC*