

Like the first century, our first communication method was most likely word of mouth, with maybe a few letters. Neighbor to neighbor. Friend to friend. Relative to relative.

Of course, there were newspapers which some surrounding communities had as early as 1820, although the Bethel journal did not appear until 1898.

From church records, we do know the church was printing a bulletin by the 1940's. We were also printing "the Church Goer" which was mailed out. We stopped printing this in 1949 and just mailed copies of the bulletin to absentees. Did you know we had our own printing press which we got rid of in 1950?

Of course, phones came along in the early 1880's. But it wasn't until 1950 that we added an extension line for the church secretary! Now most of us have cell phones.

We don't know how the church printed its bulletins until the high speed copier came along. We may have sent it out for offset printing or used a mimeograph.

Today's technology has pulled the church with it, so we now have email, a web site, a Facebook page and the ability to project news and upcoming events onscreen before and after services. We do podcasts and post sermons online. And with this year's pandemic, we have learned to stream our worship services on Facebook and YouTube.

