



The little village of Springfield owes its existence to the building of the Racine and Mississippi Railroad which passed through that area in the year 1855. In 1839, Edward Warren came from the East with his family, shortly thereafter was William B. Rose from New York, Arnold Weeks, John Neild, Peter Orell and Joseph Dykeman.

Charles F. Schinke, born 1874, came to America in 1888 from an area near Berlin, Germany. In 1894, he managed the creamery at Bowers, Wisconsin and in September 1905, he purchased the "Farmers Creamery" in Springfield, Wisconsin. The new creamery, built in 1917, was the first creamery in the state to use

both steam and electric power. His sons, Vernon, Walter, and Warren were part of the family venture. Walter C. Schinke, born in 1913, graduated from UW-Madison in 1942, returned from WWII in 1945 and worked at the creamery unit until it closed in 1959. He returned to college, taught for twenty-three years and was active in the community as a lay leader and Sunday School teacher in the United Methodist Church and sexton in the Springfield Union Cemetery for over fifty years until his passing on May 22, 1997.

St. John's Mission Chapel was organized by the Episcopalians in 1861 with this quaint church built in 1865. Kym and Steve

Davidson and Barb Moyer, well known in the antique and garden business are renovating the "Little Church" with intentions of residing there and opening "Pray For More Stuff" Antiques and "The Pastor's Posies" in 1999.

Also near Springfield is Northwinds Perennial Farm. Well known for creativity in the garden using plants, garden ornaments, planters and unique gifts, antiques and garden tools, it is open mid-April through October.

*Helen E. Schinke*

"...my happiest moments have been spent in my garden."

*Tasha Tudor*