

NORTHFIELD TIMELINE

- 1837** Dwight Moody born.
- 1841** Dwight's father died, leaving family very poor.
- 1854** Dwight went to Boston to work in his uncle's shoe shop and joined a Bible Study group.
- 1856** Dwight went to Chicago to work in a shoe shop and joined another Bible Study group.
- 1860** Dwight learned through his studies that he was called to be a lay evangelist and devoted all his time to that.
- 1879** Dwight established the Northfield School for Girls
- 1881** Dwight established the Mt. Hermon School for Boys
- 1886** First men's summer Conference was held. Two hundred men gathered at Mt. Hermon.
- 1892** Fifteen to 20 girls attended the men's Conference with limited participation. One of the girls was May Whittle.
- 1893** May Whittle, with the backing of the YWCA, managed to get the Northfield Conference for Girls started.
- 1894** May Whittle married William Moody, Dwight's son.
- 1899** After Dwight Moody's death, May and William assumed responsibility for the Northfield school.
- 1933** William Moody died. May Whittle Moody continued to live on the Northfield campus in the Birth Place and remained involved with the Summer Conference.
- 1943** The possibility of the Conference breaking into separate groups was tested during World War II. In 1943, a Conference was held at Dana Hall, Wellesley, MA; Westminster College, New Willmington, PA; and Dobbs Ferry, NY. No Conference was held at Northfield.
- 1944** The groups from Dana Hall and Westminster College returned to Northfield.
- 1945** The Conference broke into seven groups held in Albant, Boston, Erie, New York, Philadelphia, Rochester, and Washington. They lasted from 2-5 days and the result was disappointing.
- 1946** All returned to the Northfield Campus except those near Erie.
- 1952** Middle Atlantic and Erie broke away permanently. Both had about 100 conferees that year.
- 1963** May Whittle Moody died; she was 93 years old. It was also the 70th anniversary of the Conference. The Conference had been managed and planned for by a group of Ladies since 1903. In 1963, a member of the Committee at that time wrote a history of the first 70 years entitled "Foundations in Faith."
- 1971** The Northern Area Conference began the transition that made it a Conference for people of all ages and persuasions.
- 2006** The Conference moved to the Mt. Hermon Campus as the School had given up the Northfield Campus.
- 2007** Mid-Atlantic rejoined the Northern Area Conference permanently.