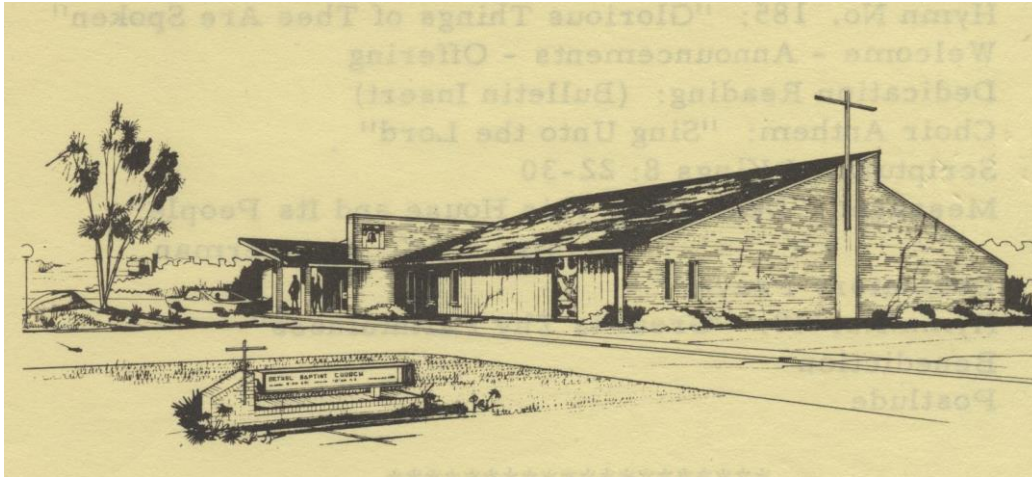


North American Baptist Heritage Commission

Church Histories



2411 Weeden Creek Rd.
1972 to present

Bethel Baptist Church, Sheboygan, WI

During the decade from 1870 to 1880, a number of Baptist believers came to Sheboygan, Wisconsin, from the Brandenburg Province of Germany. The church was organized in 1891 with 29 charter members. W. J. Zirbes, the first pastor, was called from the Rochester Seminary and served the church from 1892 to 1897. During his ministry, the first building was erected at 10th Street and Erie Avenue.

In the 1940s, several of the members left to make their homes in California which was the cause of some discouragement. During this time the possibility of uniting with another church was discussed, but after much prayer this course of action was not taken. The church observed its 60th anniversary in 1951. On April 23, 1972 a new sanctuary on the south side of Sheboygan was dedicated.

The church has been blessed to have had a ministry to refugees from Laos. In November 1981, twenty Hmong believers were baptized and welcomed into the fellowship of the church. A Laotian man served as translator for the worship services and Sunday School classes. Bethel Baptist Church treasures God's faithfulness over the past 120+ years of its existence!

Written by Phyllis Harms with Lucille Lengefeld, NAB Heritage Commission [March, 2016]

Bibliographical sources:

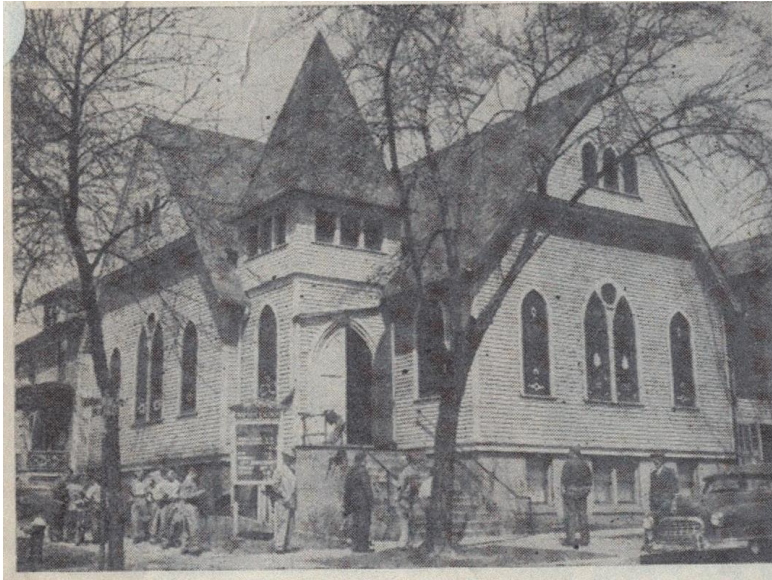
Bethel Baptist Church, Sheboygan, WI web page.

1891

Archival sources in North American Baptist Heritage Center:

60th Anniversary printed materials

75th Anniversary booklet



Corner 10th and Erie
1893 to 1972