

1912

North American Baptist Heritage Commission

Church Histories



Bismarck Baptist Church of North Dakota

In 1966, Pastor Allan Strohschein, of the Bismarck, ND Baptist church wrote these words: As the pastor, my wish for our church may be expressed in the following prayer: “O God, make the door of this church WIDE ENOUGH to see all who need human love and a heavenly Father’s care, and NARROW ENOUGH to shut out all envy, and pride, and hate, and its threshold SMOOTH ENOUGH to be no stumbling block to children or to straying feet, but RUGGED ENOUGH to turn back the tempter’s power. Make it the gateway to Thy kingdom through Jesus Christ.”

The occasion of this prayer was the dedication of a new church building, on November 4-6, 1966. Notes inside the program’s brochure indicated that the church had been “a witness for Christ in the City of Bismarck for more than 55 years,” and that the church was formally organized on February 25, 1912, with thirteen members, although interested Baptist families held services in a private home long before that.

Thirteen people wanting to form a community — establish a church. This community of believers produced good fruit! The Bismarck Baptist Church 2001 Annual Report showed a membership of 474, and other pages showed thriving ministries among many congregational groups — men, women, youth, children, community outreach, along with figures reflecting a healthy budget.

The 2012 Centennial Anniversary booklet for the church shows that in the past 100 years there have been 37 pastors and associates who have served the Lord and His people, all for the glory of God.

Adapted from *Heritage Horizons*, Vol 19, No 3. Fall, 2012.

Bibliographical sources:

100th Anniversary book 1912-2012

90th Anniversary book 1912-2002

75th Anniversary book 1912-1987

Church dedication Nov 4-6, 1966

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Archival sources in North American Baptist Heritage Center:

Church directories

Satisfaction of mortgage 1914, 1921



302 8th Street

From 90th anniversary book prepared in 2002.

**CHURCH
LOCATIONS
THROUGH THE
YEARS**



322 8th Street



11th Street & Avenue B