

1876

North American Baptist Heritage Commission

# Church Histories



Building built in 1997

## Danzig Baptist Church, Avon, South Dakota

The Danzig Baptist Church came into being in 1876 when a group of new settlers met together for the purpose of organizing a church. The first church building was erected before 1882 six miles northeast of Avon, and included horse stables which were built to the west of the church. A cemetery was begun in 1899. In 1919, the church burned to the ground as the result of a lightning strike, with a new structure being built in 1920. Danzig Station observed its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1926 with Rev. William Kuhn as guest speaker. Through the efforts of the church members, a new car was presented to the pastor, Rev. Lang. In 1938, the congregation began using English in the Sunday evening services.

On October 12-14, 1951, Danzig celebrated its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A banquet was held on June 28, 1959, to dedicate the remodeled church basement. A remodeling project took place in 1966-67, which included the removal of the church tower. Also, a 14' x 40' addition was added to the front of the church and other improvements were made as well.

Until 1982, the Danzig Baptist Church and the Emmanuel Creek Baptist Church (renamed the Tyndall Baptist Church in 1943) operated as one church, sharing a pastor and alternating Sunday and Wednesday evening services. On March 22, 1982, after much prayer, the church made the decision to split from the Tyndall Station.

After years of discussion, a decision to build a new church building was made on April 10, 1996, and the new house of worship was dedicated on November 2, 1997. In 2001 the

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Danzig Baptist Church celebrated 125 years of serving the Lord. “One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts.” Psalm 145:4

Written by Phyllis Harms with Luci Lengefeld , NAB Heritage Commission [December 2015]

### **Bibliographical sources: [Published articles – Baptist Herald & Other]**

“Do You Remember? The Danzig Baptist Church”, by Rosalee Sternhagen. *The Avon Clarion*: August 12, 2009.

### **Archival sources in North American Baptist Heritage Center**

Danzig Baptist Church, Avon, South Dakota. 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet—History, Directory

125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Program—June 29, 30 and July 1, 2001 (7 copies)

New Building Dedication Service—November 2, 1997 (4 copies)

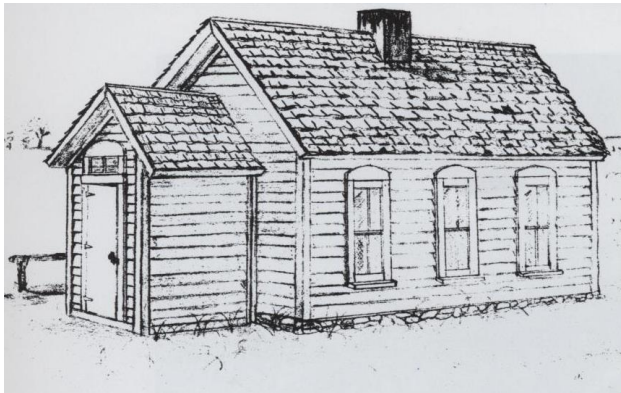
Dedication of Basement Repair—June 26, 1959 Program (2 copies)

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary—October 8-10, 1976. Pictorial Directory

Diamond Anniversary (75<sup>th</sup>)—October 12-14, 1951 (2 copies of program)

Copy of Minutes 1876-1917 and 1949-57, translated from German to English

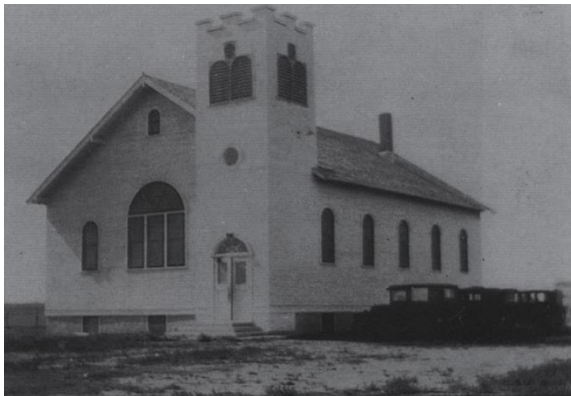
Assorted photos and clippings



First meeting place – SW of Tyndall



First church built in 1882; burned 1919



Second church built 1919-1920



Church with new addition 1967