

North American Baptist Heritage Commission

Church Histories



Current church dedicated April 5, 1981

First Baptist Church, Chancellor, South Dakota

First Baptist Church of Chancellor, South Dakota had its beginning in the early 1890s, soon after several families had moved to Dakota Territory from Iowa and Illinois. These families first held Bible studies in their homes and also Sunday School in a school house. The first church building and parsonage were constructed in 1894 on land given to the congregation by Harm Bleeker, Sr. A cemetery was established in the same area. When the church was first organized, there were 36 charter members.

In 1923, the buildings were moved into the town of Chancellor. Major remodeling was done in 1950, 1958, and 1964. A total of 27 pastors served the church between 1892 and 2001. A new parsonage was built in 1975, and a new sanctuary was built in 1981. The church celebrated its centennial in 1993. The membership was approximately 200 in the year 2001. The Ladies' Mission Circle observed their 90th anniversary in September, 2006.

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

Bibliographical sources:

"Chancellor First Baptist Church ready for centennial next weekend." *Lennox Independent*: July 22, 1993.

1893

“Chancellor First Baptist to celebrate centennial.” *Lennox Independent*: July 29, 1993.
“First Baptist Church welcomes new pastor.” *Lennox Independent*: October 18, 2001.
“Building on the Rock.” Dedication Sunday, April 5, 1981. Program/booklet.

Archival sources in North American Baptist Heritage Center:

First Baptist Church 1985 Directory.
First Baptist Church 1989 Directory.
First Baptist Church 1996 Directory.
100th Anniversary Directory/Booklet, 1893-1993.

Additional pictures



First building in country 1894



Building moved to town in 1923