

North American Baptist Heritage Commission

Church Histories



Current church building – dedicated 1986 (from web site)

First Baptist Church, Watertown, Wisconsin

First Baptist Church of Watertown, Wisconsin, began as a mission by the First Baptist church of Lebanon in 1854. It was officially organized in 1874. In July 1882 it became an independent church. In 1926, property at 5th and Dodge Streets was purchased on which a church building was erected. The church was dedicated in 1928. The last German service was held in 1934. A new parsonage replaced the old one in 1946. During the early days of the Watertown Baptist church there were close connections with the Concord Church and a pastor was shared. That agreement ended and eventually the Concord congregation disbanded. The Lebanon church congregation disbanded in 1940's. Most of those members joined the Watertown church.

The 75th Anniversary of the founding of the First Baptist Church in Watertown, Wisconsin was celebrated in 1957. They had grown from a small mission station of 32 members to a congregation of 158. The 100th Anniversary was celebrated in 1982. Twenty pastors had served the church during that period of time. In 1945 the church became self-supporting. They had also maintained an active Sunday School, a youth organization and a Women's Missionary Fellowship. Several people of the church have gone into ministry as pastors or missionaries.

Written by Phyllis Harms, NAB Heritage Commission [June, 2015]

Bibliographical sources: [Published articles – Baptist Herald & Other]**Archival sources in North American Baptist Heritage Center**

Diamond Anniversary 1881-1957

100 years First Baptist Church 1882-1982

First Baptist church Dedication Sunday June 22, 1986

Centennial program Lebanon Baptist church 1849-1949

1882

History of the Concord German Baptist church (shared pastor)



First building 1874



Dedicated 1928