

1887

North American Baptist Heritage Commission

Church Histories



From 125th Anniversary booklet (erected 1961)

Riverview Baptist Church, West St Paul, MN

Riverview Baptist Church, now located at 14 East Moreland, West St Paul, came into being in 1887 as a result of people living on the west side of St Paul and attending a church on the east side. Thus, the Redeemer Church (east side) became the “Mother Church” of Riverview. Riverview Baptist had its beginning with 35 members. It was named First German Regular Baptist Church of West St Paul. In January 1920, the name was changed to Riverview Baptist to reflect the language used in the church services. When the 40th anniversary was celebrated, it had grown to 208 members. In 1910 the first church building was torn down to make way for a new edifice. That building eventually became inadequate in size and the decision was made to relocate.

In 1957, a 4.5 acre tract of property was purchased in the Signal Hills area at a cost of \$10,000.00. The church was completed in 1961, and a new parsonage was built in 1963. Later projects included a storage garage and a major addition to the church building. From 1887 to 1982, seventeen pastors served the church. Interest in church extension was evident in the early life of the church: in 1905 a small church was formed in South St Paul with several other projects following. Riverview has had the typical organizations: Women’s Missionary Union, Men’s Fellowship, Golden Hour Circle, Searchlights, Alpha Deltas, World Wide Guild, and Fidelity Club.

Riverview observed its 125th anniversary in 2012. In those 125 years, there had been 800 baptisms and 1460 new members. Quoting from the 125th Anniversary Memorial Booklet, “The tongue-in-cheek account of boys climbing through the duct work and disrupting worship services has a point: although at the time there didn’t seem to be much hope for it, a miracle happened – those boys grew to responsible manhood and became pillars of the church. They exemplify a legacy that should inform our future: Riverview as children of God growing up by grace in the power of the Holy Spirit to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”

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

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

Glewwe, Lois. “The History of Riverview Baptist Church,” from Riverview Pictorial Directory, “A Century of Service:” 1887-1987.

Archival Sources in the North American Baptist Heritage Center

Golden Jubilee: Riverview Baptist Church 1887-1937 (3 copies)

Riverview Baptist Church Dedication, August 13, 1961 (8 copies)

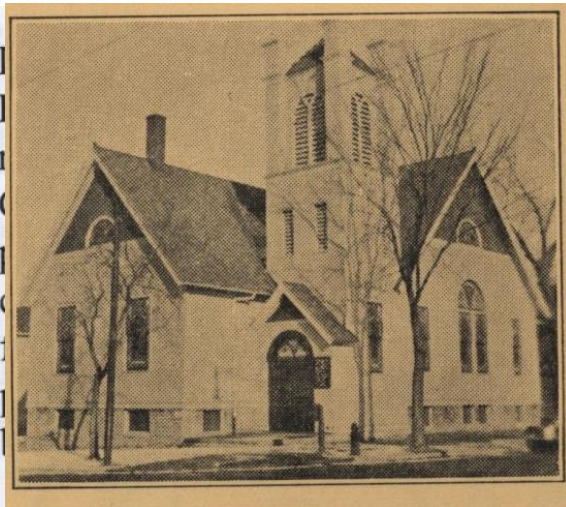
Riverview Baptist Church 125th Anniversary, 1887-2012: “Continuing the mission, renewing the vision.”

www.riverviewbaptist.net printed pages from 11/4/2004, 2/12/2005, 10/19/2007

Assorted bulletins, photos



Building used 1884-1910



building – 1910-1961