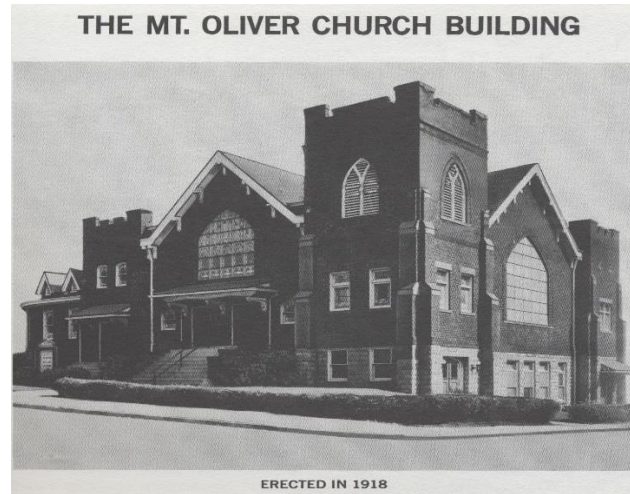


North American Baptist Heritage Commission

Church Histories



Temple Baptist Church, Pittsburgh, PA

The early beginnings of Temple Baptist church of Pittsburgh, PA, go back to 1852. The actual organization of the church took place on Christmas Day 1862. A group of 12 people from Germany organized and named their church the First German Baptist church. The dedication of the first church building was held May 14, 1865. The cost of the building was \$1,945. A year later the church called its first pastor, Rev. Reinhard Otto. A parsonage was built in 1871. Membership had increased to 189 in 1886 and the old church was razed and a larger more beautiful church building was erected at a cost of \$13,000. The church began a mission outreach in 1894 in the Borough of Knoxville and later on Cobden Street in Pittsburgh and even later with the Hungarian and Slav population and still later in the Borough of Carrick.

When the 50th anniversary was celebrated in 1913, the church had grown to 368 members. In 1916, because many of the members had moved to another area, property was purchased on the Corner of Brownsville Road and Onyx Avenue and a church was erected. In 1918, the name of the church was changed to Temple Baptist Church.

Several pastors of the church served in yet a larger work such as editor of "Der Sendbote" General Secretary of the Young Peoples' and Sunday School Workers Union, and President or Professor at the NAB seminary

1862

Temple Baptist observed its Centennial in 1962 and the 125th Anniversary in 1987.

A total of 16 pastors served the church from 1866 to 1937.

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

Article from the 1963 Annual “Through the Century with Christ”

Archival sources in North American Baptist Heritage Center:

50th Anniversary book: 1862-1912;

75th Anniversary book: 1862-1937;

100th Anniversary book: 1862-1962;

125th Anniversary book: 1862-1987

Church Bulletins

Some pictures

THE SOUTH SIDE CHURCH BUILDING



Built in 1887