



"Lifting High

The Cross

Of Christ"

Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church

600 EAST PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
URBANA, ILLINOIS

1965

OUR PASTOR



Don E. Dillow, Pastor

Don E. Dillow was born February 10, 1927, at Dongola, Illinois. In 1941, he became a Christian and a member of the First Baptist Church. Upon graduation from high school he enlisted in the Air Force and was assigned to the Ninth Air Force in Europe.

In 1946 he enrolled at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, and in 1951, received a Bachelor of Arts. Here he met Miss Helen Ruth Jones, a music major from East St. Louis. They were married January 1, 1951, and God has blessed them with two sons - - David, born December 13, 1952, and Bruce, born January 1, 1957.

The Dillows moved to Fort Worth, Texas, in the fall of 1951, where they enrolled at Southwestern Theological Seminary. He received his Bachelor of Divinity in 1954 and his Master of Theology in 1956. Helen Ruth completed a Bachelor of Religious Education in 1955.

Rev. Dillow's first pastorate was at the Makanda Baptist Church, Makanda, Illinois, in 1950-51. From 1951 to 1953, he served as pastor in two half-time rural churches - - Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Deport, Texas, and Novice Baptist Church, Paris, Texas. From 1953 to 1956, he served the Edhube Baptist Church at Bonham, Texas. On January 1, 1956, he began his ministry here at the Pennsylvania Avenue and has led the church in two major building programs.

Our pastor served as instructor of Bible for the Baptist Student Union's ministry to students through the University of Illinois from 1957-1960. Currently he is a trustee of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri. He has served as state BSU pastor-advisor, as moderator of East Central Illinois Baptist Association, and on the Long-Range Planning Committee of the State Association. As our traveling evangelist, he has held revivals in Illinois, Texas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and California.

- Earl F. Crouse -



DEDICATION

To all past, present, and future members;

In memory of those who once labored;

In appreciation of those who now serve;

In hope of an even greater future;

"UNTO GOD BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH . . ." (Eph. 3:21)





Book Of Dedication

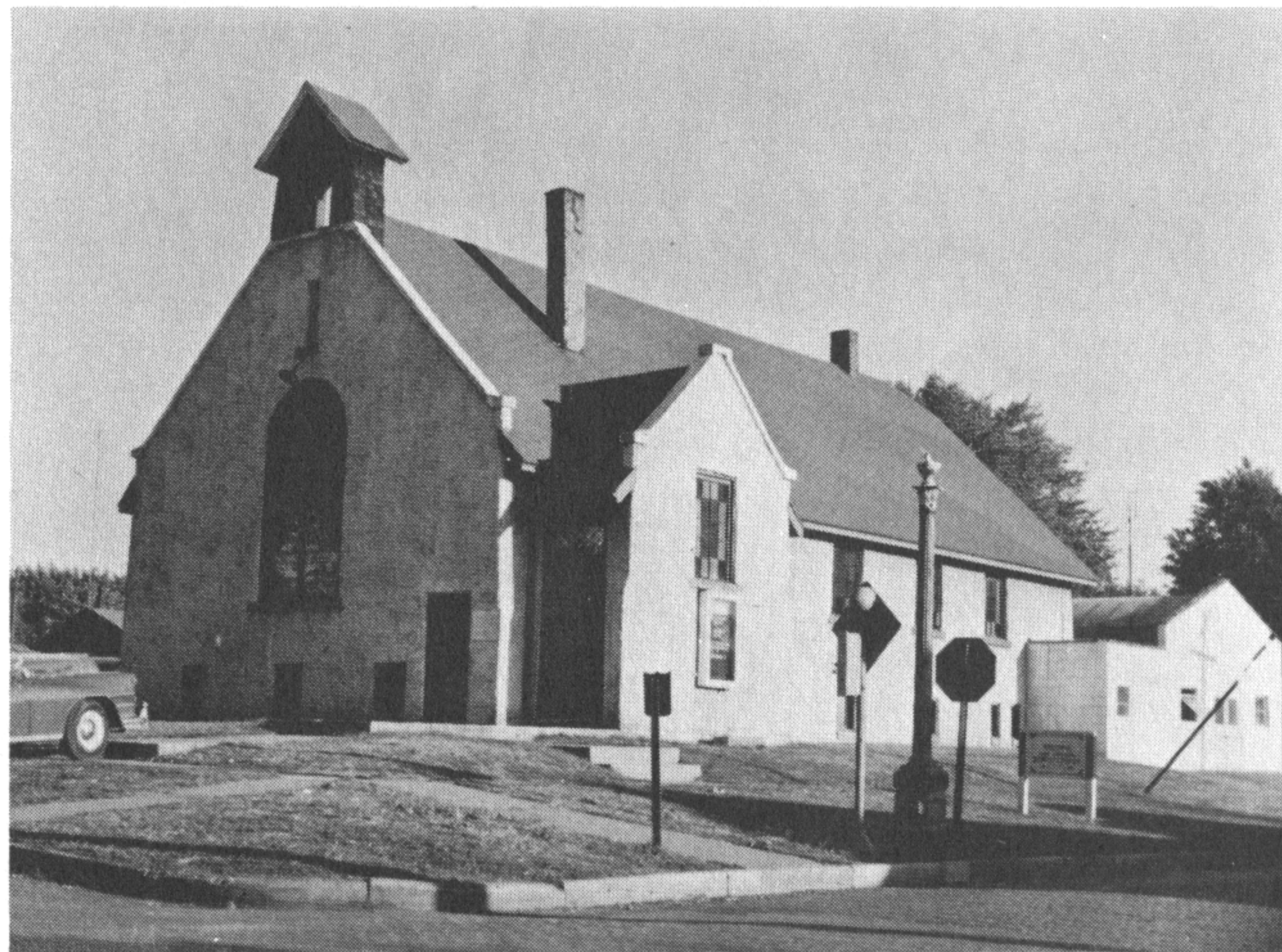
———— MAY 23, 1965 • 3:00 P.M.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

1909 -- The church's history began in the summer of 1909 when a missionary committee of the First Baptist Church of Urbana, composed of F. C. Hubbard, J. S. Hall and Rev. R. V. Meigs surveyed the religious needs of Urbana north of the Big Four Railroad tracks. Rev. Meigs arranged for the chapel car, "Herald of Hope," with Rev. Sparks to come to the city. From October 17, to January 1, 1910, the chapel car stood on a side track at Romine Street. A Sunday School with an enrollment of 43 was organized and services were conducted each Sunday.

1910 -- When the chapel car pulled out, Mrs. Sims and Mrs. M. D. Busey gave lots at the Southeast corner of Goodwin and Fairview Avenues for a church building. Two-thirds of the \$3,100 building fund was subscribed by members of the First Baptist Church of Urbana. Members of the building committee were J. S. Hall, F. C. Hubbard, M. D. Busey, W. R. Courtney, J. J. Johnson, and Howard Woodward.

The cornerstone was laid on June 30. First prayer services in the new building were on August 10 -- led by Rev. J. W. Primm, pastor. The building was dedicated as the "Herald of Hope Baptist Church" on October 23. While



HERALD OF HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

Erected 1910 at S. E. corner of Goodwin & Fairview

the church was being constructed, services were conducted in the Hays School, which was across the street from the mission property.

1911 -- In October, Rev. Edgar Woolhouse joined the congregation and on December 15, the mission was formally organized as a Baptist church, associated with the American (Northern) Baptist Convention. There were approximately 70 charter members.

1912-1938 -- The coming of the automobile, paved streets, and migration gradually changed the environment and outlook of the Herald of Hope Church. These servants of God served as ministers in this order: Rev. W. H. Beeby, Rev. Hillis, Rev. Bishop, Rev. Paul Kirkland, Rev. C. W. Kurst, Rev. C. Hampton, Dr. J. B. Eversole, Rev. Martin.

1939 -- Rev. Wayne Amsler, pastor of the Campus Bible Fellowship congregation, was invited to retain that congregation in addition to serving as pastor of the Herald of Hope Church and in this way unite the two congregations.

1940-1947 -- The war years brought more change and still more migration. Serving as pastors during these troubled years were Rev. Grant, Rev. Bloomgren, and Rev. A. M. Norton.

1948 -- On March 16, the property deed was presented to the church by Mr. Ammerman and Mr. Robbins, trustees of the First Baptist Church, Urbana. In May the congregation voted to affiliate with the Southern Baptist Convention and was accepted into the Great Lakes Association. The pastor at that time was Rev. A. M. Norton.

1952 -- Under the leadership of the Rev. A. L. Greenwalt the name of the church was changed to the First Southern Baptist Church. Lots were purchased at the southeast corner of South Vine Street and Fairlawn Avenue with the objective of building and moving to a new part of the city of Urbana. The church lived in anticipation of the day when the construction of the new building would begin.

1956 -- On January 1, Rev. Don E. Dillow assumed the duties as pastor.

1957 -- The lots at the corner of Vine and Fairlawn did not provide enough space so they were sold for commercial purposes and replaced with a block of eight lots purchased from Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Webber at a total cost of \$32,000.00.

Construction of the new Educational Building started that spring as a venture in faith on the part of the congregation. God laid it on the hearts of the people and they wrought a great work with their own hands. Women of the church brought food and the men came directly from their regular jobs. Beams were treated on the site and put in place. Skilled workmen donated their time for electrical wiring, carpentry, painting, tiling floors, installing seats and landscaping. Conservatively, it is estimated that no less than 15,000 hours of donated labor went in the construction.

On July 10, the Church voted to change its name to "Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church," thus identifying the church with its location.



EDUCATIONAL UNIT CONSTRUCTED 1957

1958--On February 16, the congregation moved into the "L"-shaped Educational Building that they had built "to the glory of God."

1964--Repeatedly the chapel was filled to capacity as Rev. Dillow presented God's message to the people. Thus it was on June 3, the church voted to proceed with building the main Sanctuary, a goal which had been before the people since the beginning of the new building program in 1957.

On September 13, Ground-Breaking Ceremonies were conducted following the morning worship service to initiate construction of the Sanctuary.

1965--On Easter Sunday, April 18, the congregation with deep gratitude unto God for His bountiful blessings entered their New Sanctuary with a processional originating in the Chapel.

The story of progress is also revealed in the church's records. As of December 31, 1956, the church membership was 295; average Sunday School attendance was 120; the church budget was \$13,308.89; the church property was valued at \$11,000.00.

As of May 23, 1965, the church membership is 681; Sunday School record attendance is 415 set on May 2; the church budget is \$57,000.00 and appraised value of all church grounds and buildings is \$405,000.00. One significant factor which has contributed to this growth is that 979 persons have joined the church fellowship since January 1, 1956.

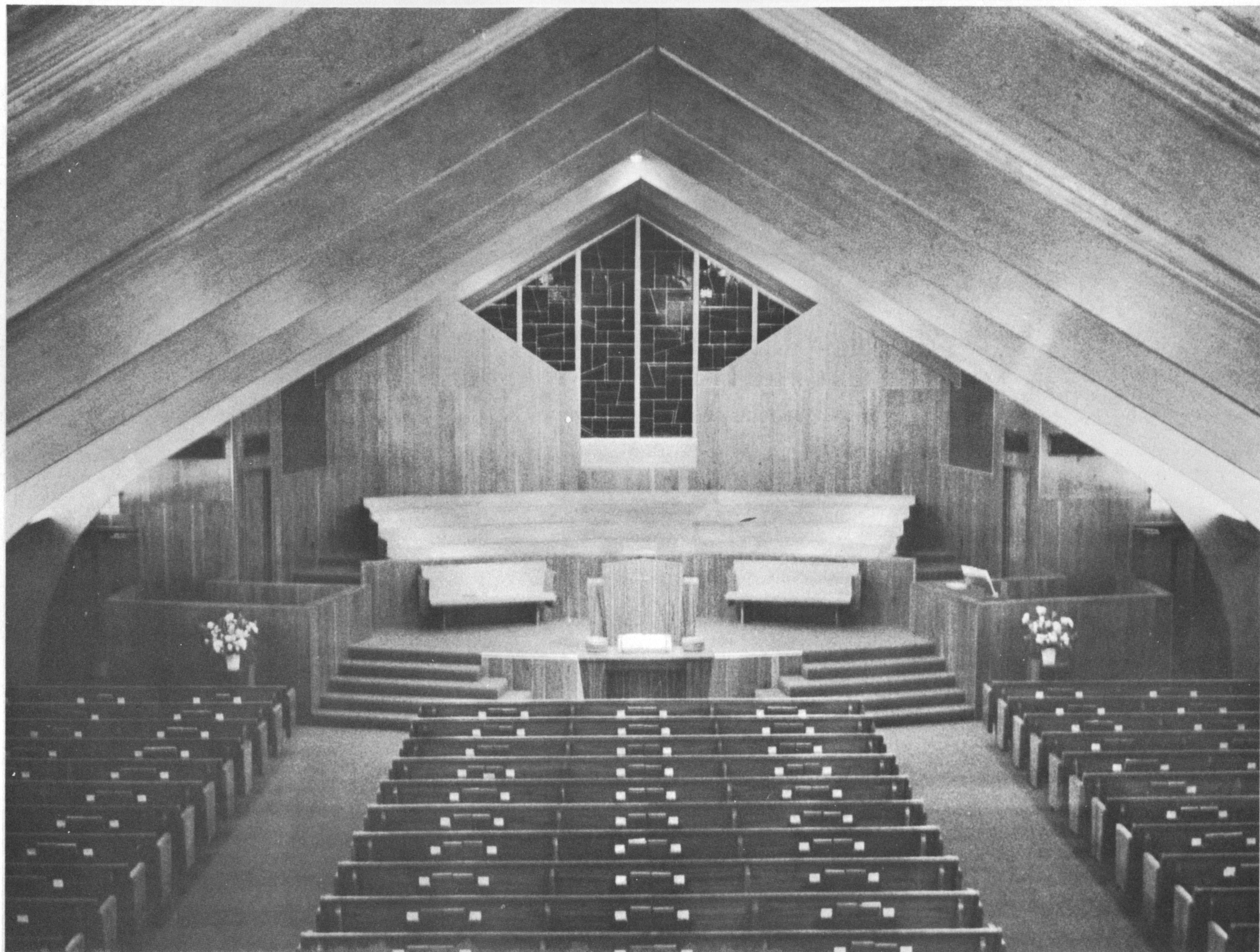


GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY – Sunday, September 13, 1964

Above, left to right: Don E. Dillow, Pastor, Charles Wilmeth, Trustee, Albert Lawrence, Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Deane Stewart, Chairman of the Building Committee.

Below— WE PREPARE TO BUILD A SANCTUARY UNTO THE LORD.





The Sanctuary Of The Lord

THE SANCTUARY

The Sanctuary is of contemporary design. The beautiful Indiana Bedford limestone exterior, the stalwart buttresses, the stained glass windows, the spiraling towers and three crosses all blend together to portray strength and dignity.

Upon approaching the foyer to the Sanctuary, one is immediately met with beauty and openness depicting the warmth of Christian fellowship. Leaving the foyer, one comes to the vestibule where the strength of beauty in stone, walnut paneling, spacious windows, and glass doors invite the worshiper on into the Sanctuary where God's people are gathering to experience a genuine encounter with God in Jesus Christ.

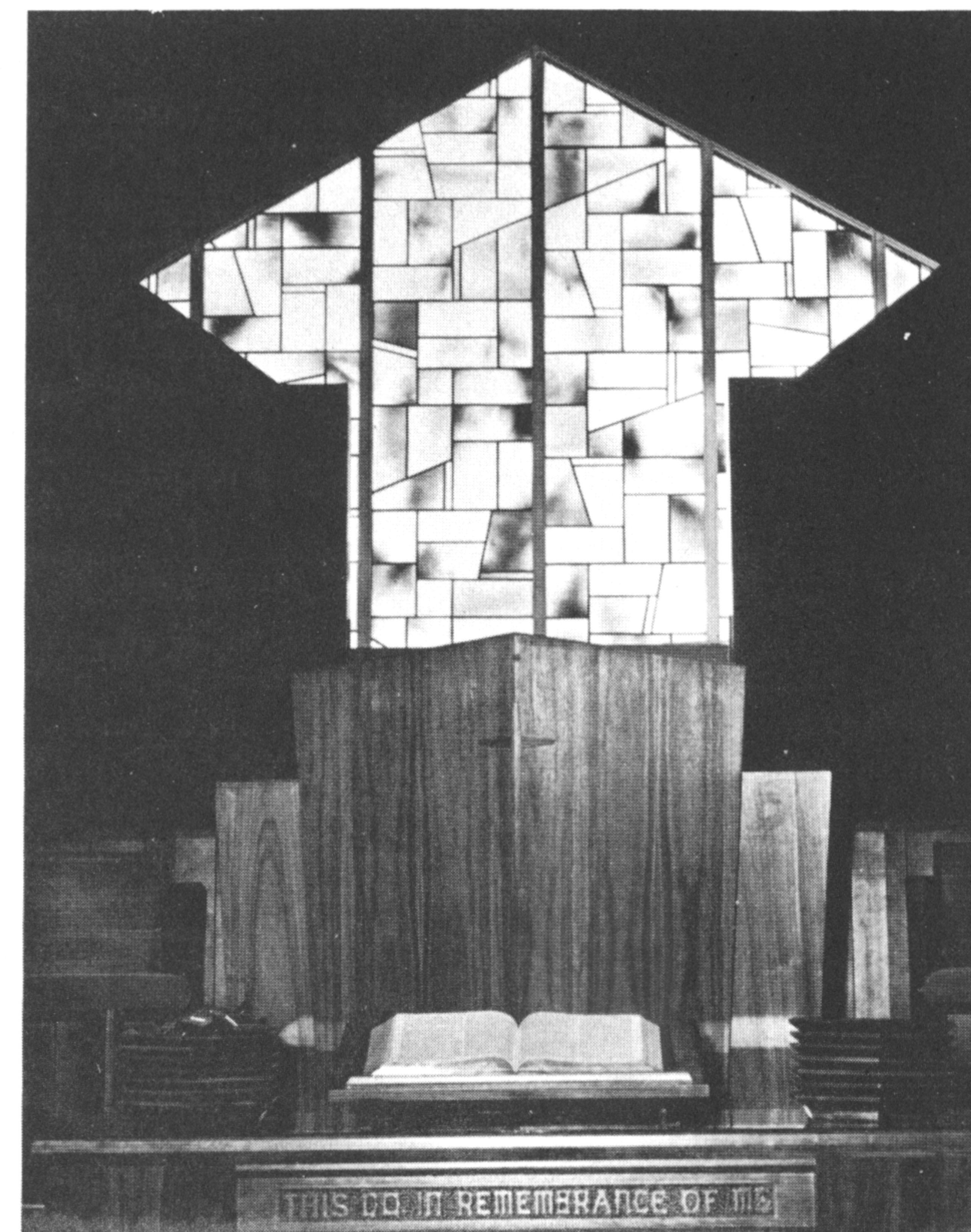
Once inside the Sanctuary, the worshiper is moved by the simplicity, beauty, and warmth of the interior decorations. Colors and furnishings within the Sanctuary are primarily blue, white, and walnut, blending harmoniously for a worshipful setting. A deep pile blue carpet stretches from wall to wall in the vestibule, nave, pulpit, and choir areas. The pews are finished in stately walnut and cushions are of two-inch urethane, covered by a light blue nylon fabric. Laminated arches reach gracefully toward the heights supporting a natural cedar ceiling.

The focal point in the Sanctuary is the open Bible on the Lord's Supper table and the elevated pulpit which together signify the centrality of the proclamation of God's message from His Word, for "faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17).

Rising from this focal point the simply ornamented walnut paneling leads the eye to the framed opening of the baptistry where each baptismal service portrays the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection.

The baptistry is complimented by the antique stained glass window brought to the Sanctuary site from England, France, Germany and West Virginia. The interior design of the baptistry walls against the window suggests an arrow pointing toward the heavens. One is reminded of the message of the Psalmist: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, who made the heavens and the earth" (Psalm 121:1-2).

The projection and control room is located back of the nave area and above the vestibule. This is the heart of all operations of the newly designed low-voltage lighting and public address systems. A dimming device is being installed to help create a most worshipful atmosphere. The projection room is being equipped for the presentation of filmstrips, religious films, and for future radio and television broadcasting.



THE OPEN BIBLE, THE PULPIT, AND THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW THAT POINTS UPWARD TO PROCLAIM THE RISEN CHRIST.

THIS SANCTUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE GLORY OF GOD, SO THAT AS THE PEOPLE ENTER THEY WILL BE ABLE TO SAY WITH THE PSALMIST, "THE LORD IS GREAT, AND GREATLY TO BE PRAISED . . . HONOR AND MAJESTY ARE BEFORE HIM; STRENGTH AND BEAUTY ARE IN HIS SANCTUARY . . . GIVE UNTO THE LORD THE GLORY DUE UNTO HIS NAME!" (PSALM 96:4-8)

THE SERVICE OF DEDICATION

3:00 P.M. SUNDAY, MAY 23, 1965

"Praise God in His Sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power; Praise Him for His mighty acts . . . Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord" (Psalm 150:1-2,6).

ORGAN PRELUDE "Praise to God" Johann Sebastian Bach
Mrs. Don E. Dillow, Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP "To Him Who Halls All Our Days" Herzogl
Church Choir

THE INVOCATION Rev. A. F. Tuck, Garden Hills Baptist Church

CHORAL RESPONSE "Glory Be to the Father" Greatorex

HYMN OF PRAISE No. 54 "God of Our Fathers" Warren

INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS Mr. Deane Stewart
Chairman, Building Committee

GREETINGS:
City of Urbana Mayor Stanley Weaver

East Central Illinois Baptist Association Rev. B. L. Williams
Associational Superintendent of Missions

Illinois Baptist State Association Rev. L. H. Moore
Editor, Illinois Baptist State Paper

HYMN OF DEDICATION No. 380 "The Church's One Foundation" Stone

READING OF DEDICATORY SCRIPTURES I Kings 8:12-13; 22-30

HYMN ANTHEM "Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart" Willan

DEDICATION SERMON Dr. Millard J. Berquist
President, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

SERVICE OF DEDICATION OF SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

Pastor: To the glory of God our Everlasting Father; to the honor of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, the Son of the Living God; to the praise of the Holy Spirit, our Guide Comforter, who has sealed us unto the day of redemption

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Pastor: For the worship of God in Christ through praise, prayer and song; for the reading of and meditation upon Thy Holy Scriptures; for the preaching and teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ; for the observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; for the edifying and perfecting of Thy children

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Pastor: For the teaching of the Word of God unto salvation and Christian maturity; for the nurture and guidance of children; for the commitment of youth to the service of Christ; for the total purposes of Christian education

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Pastor: For the comfort of those who mourn; for rest to the weary; for light to the perplexed; for faith to the doubter; for peace to the fretful

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Pastor: For obedience to the commission of our risen Saviour that we "go into all the world and make disciples," and that through a universal program of Christian witnessing, the kingdoms of this world will become the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Pastor: That this may be for all people a House of Prayer; that men may be conscious that here they may participate in a personal encounter with God; that in accordance with the commandment of Christ who said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself"

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Pastor: That all furnishings, love gifts, and memorials given for this House of Worship may be used for Thy glory

People: WE DEDICATE THIS SANCTUARY AND EDUCATIONAL BUILDING.

Unison: We, the congregation of the Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church, and all those who are here met with us, grateful for our heritage, considerate of the sacrifices and zeal here made evident, mindful of our responsibility to perpetuate the spirit and ministry of our Christian forefathers, DO THIS DAY SOLEMNLY DEDICATE AND CONSECRATE THIS PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, URBANA, ILLINOIS, IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, TO WHOM BE GLORY AND MAJESTY AND DOMINION AND POWER FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.

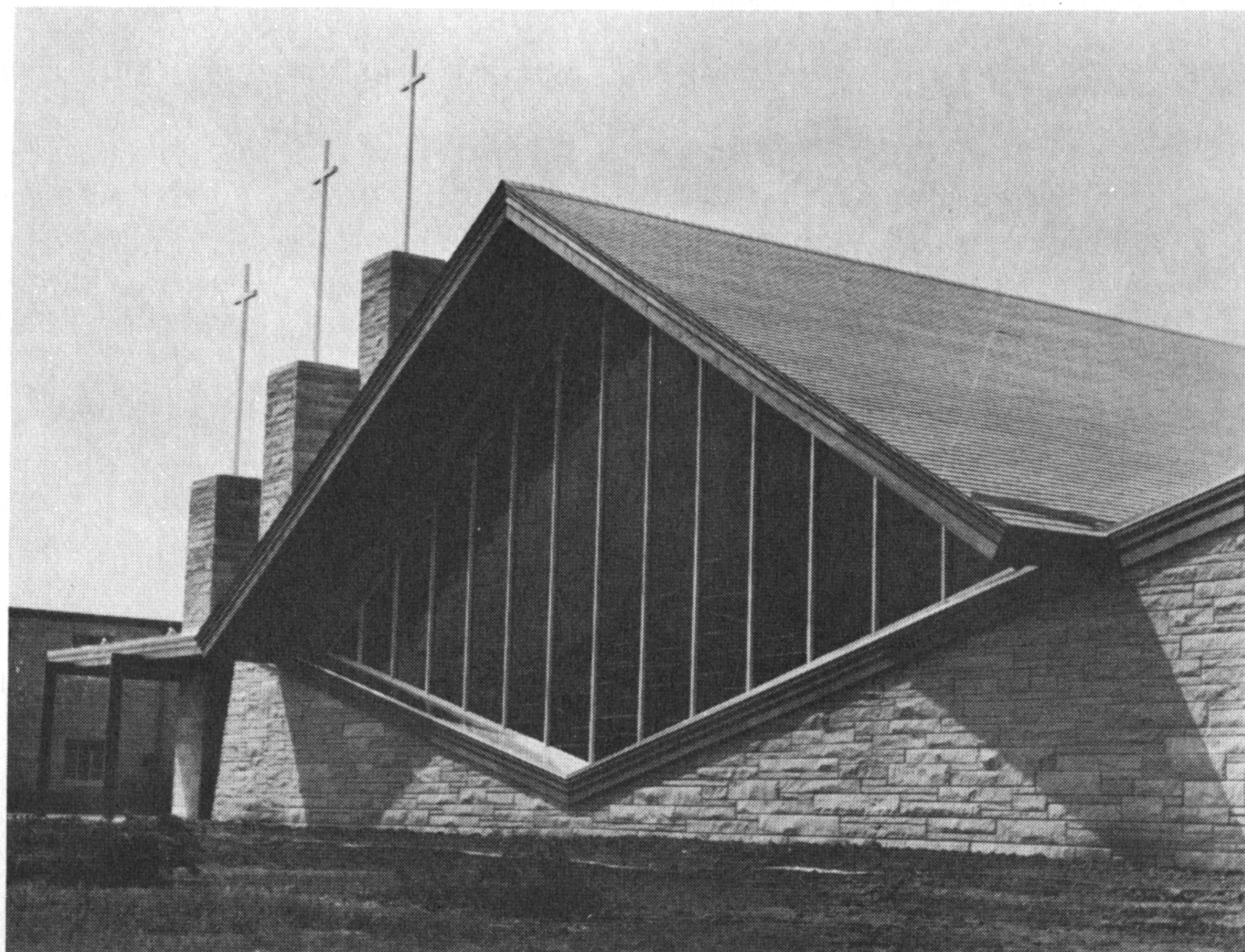
SOLO "Prayer" Beethoven
Mr. Marion A. Hall, Music Director

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Robert Lovell, Temple Baptist Church

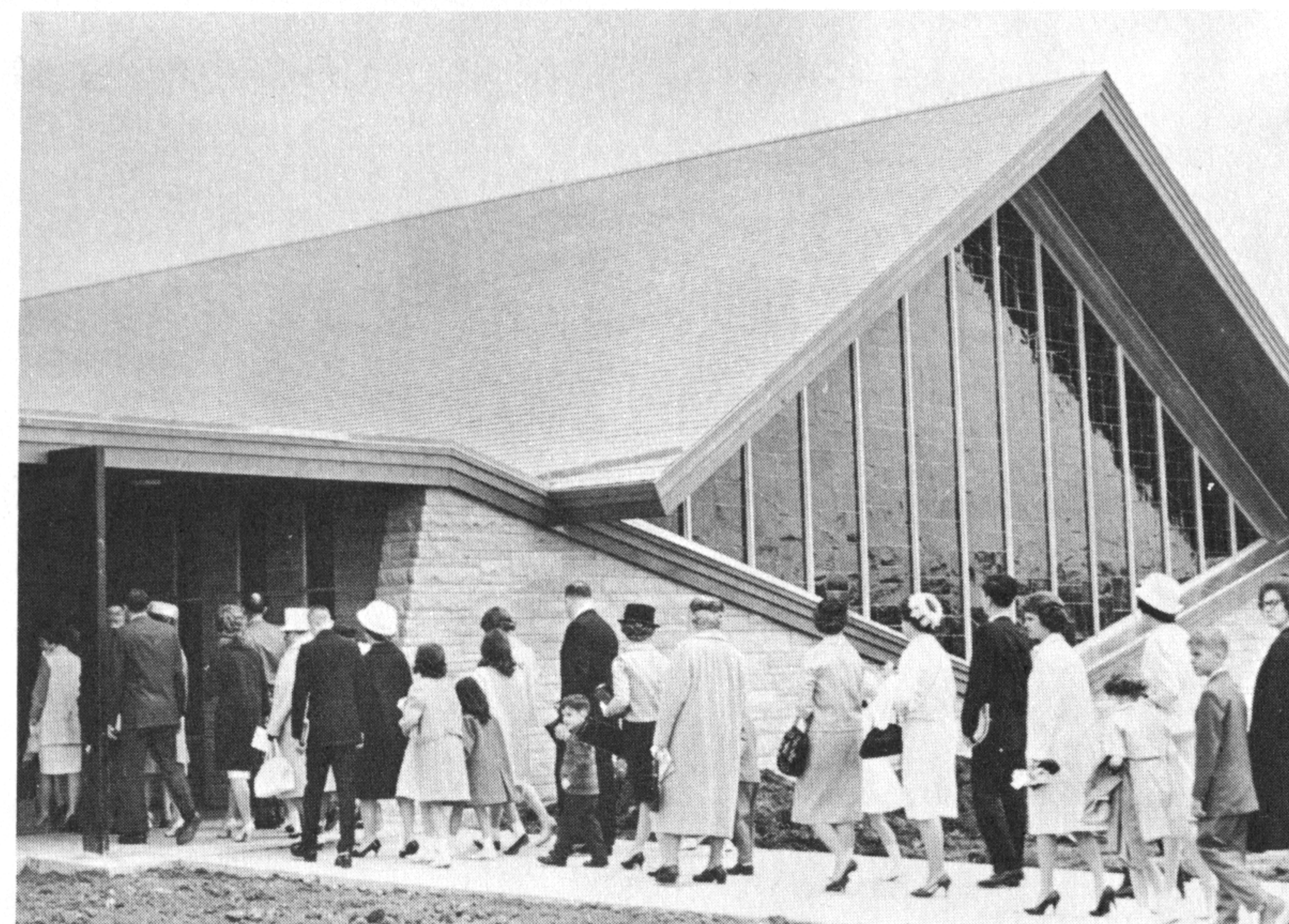
HYMN No. 41 "To God Be the Glory" Doane

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Largo" W. Wolstenholme



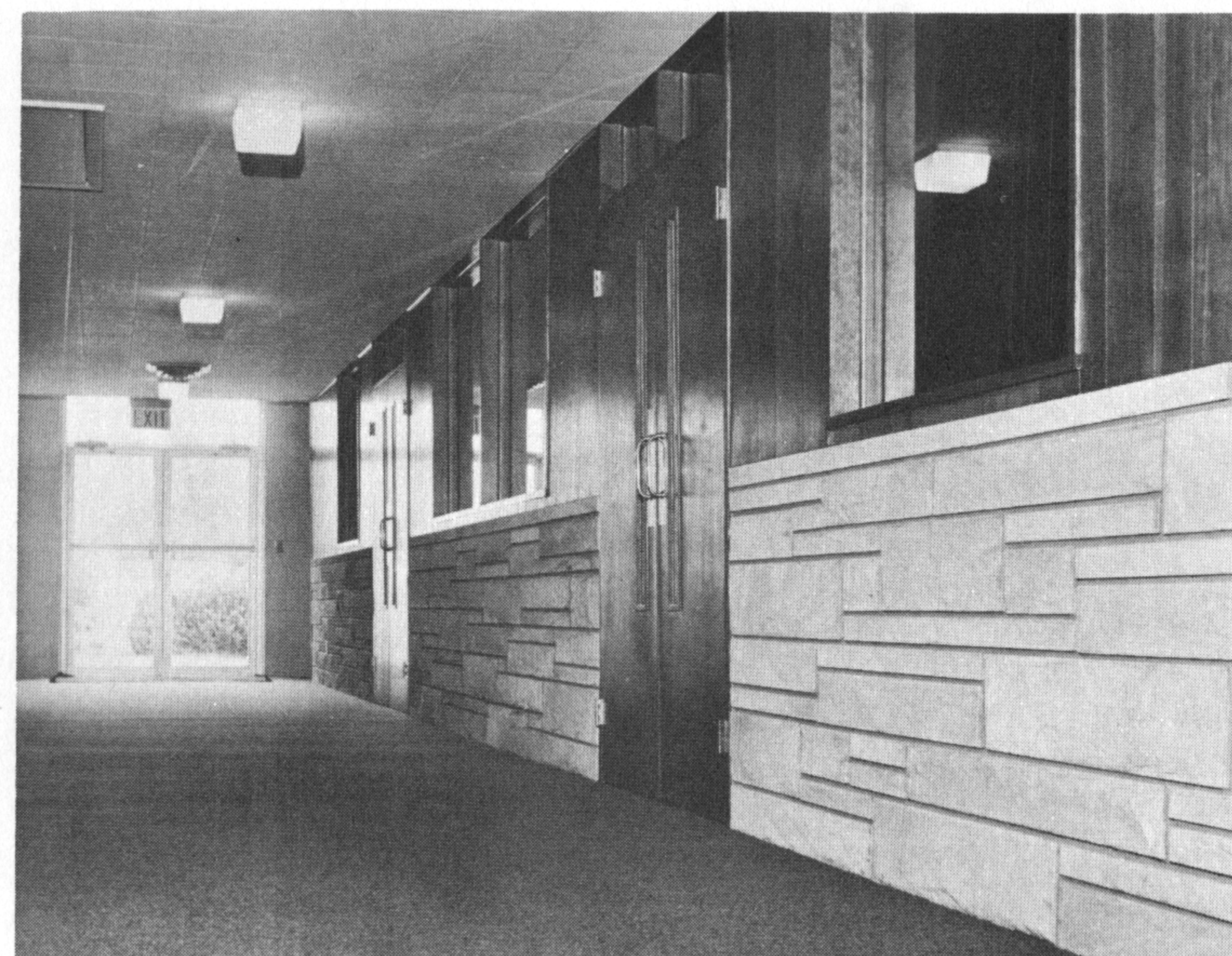
ANTIQUE STAINED GLASS WINDOW, THE SPIRALING TOWERS, AND THE THREE CROSSES.



PROCESSION ENTERING SANCTUARY ON EASTER, APRIL 18, 1965.



GLASS ENCLOSED CORRIDOR WITH ENTRY FROM PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.



VESTIBULE TO SANCTUARY
"Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).

Music Ministry

The sacred music ministry of our church cannot be evaluated to highly. Frequently, the deep spiritual things of the soul cannot be spoken or written, but through music the deeper things of God are better expressed.

"For the common things of every day,
God gave men speech in the common way.
For higher things men think and feel,
God gave the poets words to reveal.
For height and depth no tongue can reach,
GOD GAVE MEN MUSIC, THE SOULS OWN SPEECH."
-- Selected



MUSIC LIBRARY AND OFFICE
Choir pre-service rehearsals and robing.



Marion A. Hall, Music Director

OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR

Our music director received his Bachelor of Music Education from Louisiana State University in 1958 and his Master's Degree in 1960. Before coming to us in 1964, he served as Minister of Music in Baptist churches in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Frankfort, Kentucky, and Lexington, Kentucky. He served on the faculty of Kentucky's Georgetown Baptist College and is now preparing for a Doctorate of Music at the University of Illinois.



THE CHURCH CHOIR, dressed in their new azure blue robes with white and gold stoles, and the Pastor lead the Procession into the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 18, 1965.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Elected – April, 1964

*"The Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the Sanctuary"
(1 Chronicles 28:10).*

DEANE R. STEWART, Chairman

William Anderson
Stanley Bengtson
Rilla Brown
Warren Burgard
Earlene Clemins
Earl F. Crouse
Ralph Hopkins
Albert Lawrence
Carlos McClellan
F. L. Mounce

Thomas J. Lanier
Lawrence Ostama
Irma Phillips
Ronald Price
Eugene Ray
Iva Selvidge
Gerald Smith
J. Robert Starr
R. James Torry
Ruth Waud

This committee was instructed to plan and construct a Sanctuary. "And they gave for the service of the house of God" (1 Chronicles 29:7), many sacrificial hours of praying, planning, and deciding for the completion of the Sanctuary. As King David said: "Therefore we thank thee, our God, and praise thy glorious name" (1 Chronicles 29:13).

MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL LOVE GIFTS

"SYMBOL OF LIGHT" (Church Sign) given in memory of DONALD RAY BROWN by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown.

LORD'S SUPPER TABLE AND CLOTH given in memory of MR. and MRS. H. A. BROWN by Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Brown.

GUESTS' REGISTER given in memory of RICHARD ADAMS MICKS by Lynn Ann and Mary Ann Micks.

PULPIT given in dedication for the preaching of God's Word by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Glick.

LOVE GIFT given in memory of MRS. LELA M. GIBSON and MR. O. R. STARR by Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Starr.

ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERS AND CONSULTANTS

Architectural Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tennessee

C. R. Miller and Sons, Inc., Decatur, Illinois

MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS

Bacon & Van Buskirk Glass Company, Champaign, Illinois
Bee Boat Company, Inc., Paxton, Illinois
Campus Key Shop, Champaign, Illinois
Collegiate Cap & Gown Company, Champaign, Illinois
Cross Construction Company, Inc., Urbana, Illinois
Davis Art Glass Company, St. Louis, Missouri
Electrical Technician Service, Rantoul, Illinois
Glenn Fiscus & Son, Inc., Spencer, Indiana
Hillcrest Lumber Company, Champaign, Illinois
Massanari Decorating Service, Champaign, Illinois
Mendel-Riley Music, Champaign, Illinois
Mrs. Florence K. Korff, Interior Decorator Small Homes Dept., Univ. of Ill.
PDQ Printing, Urbana, Illinois
Petry Roofing Company, Champaign, Illinois
Rose and Mack Air Conditioning, Champaign, Illinois
Everett Schoonover Trucking, Champaign, Illinois
Bob Slade, Concrete Contractor, Mahomet, Illinois
Superior Neon Sign Company, Champaign, Illinois
Tile Specialists, Inc., Champaign, Illinois
James E. Treat Drywall Service, Urbana, Illinois
Tri-R Construction Co., Champaign, Illinois
Turney Wood Products, Inc., Harrison, Arkansas
Urbana Plumbing Company, Urbana, Illinois
Wandell's Landscape Service, Urbana, Illinois
Wm. R. Weber Plumbing, Fairbury, Illinois

SUPERINTENDENT OF CONSTRUCTION

Harold Fuller, Olney, Illinois

PHOTOS

Cover Photo by Larry Brooks of the News Gazette

Other Photos by:

Gene Biggs of the Champaign-Urbana Courier
John E. Keller, Photographic Illustrator
Larry Brooks, Earl F. Crouse and others



THE OPEN DOOR

God has set before the Pennsylvania Avenue Baptist Church of Urbana, "an open door" just as He did for His faithful church of the New Testament in Philadelphia of which Christ said, "I know thy works: behold, I have set *BEFORE THEE AN OPEN DOOR*, and no man can shut it; for thou hast . . . kept my word, and hast not denied my name" - - Revelation 3:8.