

BLOOMINGTON (MN) CEDARCREST CHURCH HISTORY

Idea to birth Cedarcrest: In 1954/55 Rev. John Dillon, pastor of First Free Methodist Church in Minneapolis, and Supt. Roy Johnston talked about building a church in what was just beginning to be a suburb of Minneapolis – Bloomington, Minnesota. The approval was secured from the denomination, and plans proceeded.

First meeting of Tri-Committee held at Mason City, Iowa on Friday March 11, 1955.

First Meeting of Planning Committee was held on Monday, March 14, 1955 in the First Free Methodist Church in Minneapolis.

In May, 1955, land was purchased for the church and construction was begun. (Myrtle Torkelson's father was on the building crew; John Connelly, Don Dye, Roy and Dale Smith were also involved)

The first Pastor was Rev. John W. Dillon. He evidently had been pastoring Minneapolis First Church. According to Donna Smith, Rev. Roy I. Johnston was the Superintendent at that time. Two parsonages were built – one for Rev. Dillon and one for Rev. Johnston. They both were on the Planning Committee when plans were made to build Cedarcrest. Information from bulletins indicate that Rev. Dillon left in May of 1957 and Rev. Johnston left in June of 1958.

First Service: February 12, 1956

Dedication Service: June 24, 1956

First Wedding: October 13, 1956 – Henry (Bud) and Donna Schmidt were married.

Incorporated: May 16, 1957

1963: Funds were raised for pews. The church went from metal folding chairs to wooden pews (pews cost \$100 each at that time).

Sometime in the 1960's: Budget offerings met the goal of \$168 per week – representing just \$1:00 for each hour of the week (annually \$8,736). There was much rejoicing.

September 1968: The church became self-sustaining – took over mortgage payments (the denomination had helped with finances until that time). One year budget: \$12,000.00.

June 3, 1983: Mortgage was paid off

Pastors:

John A. Dillon (Louise) 1955 – May 1957 (Pastor of Minneapolis First Church)

Roy Johnston (Aletha) Conference Superintendent – left in June of 1958

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| James E. Brown (Laveen) | 7-6-58 – 6-23-91 * |
| Michael Kinde (Diane) | Interim Pastor 6-30-91 – 6-7-92 |
| Ronald Fair (Marcia) | 6-14-92 – 6- ? - 94 |
| Wilbert E. Kidd, Jr. (Shirley) | 7-3-94 – 8-10-97 |
| Pamela J. Hiscock | 9-14-97 – 11- ?- 2006 (married Marshal Braman 5/25/03) |
| Shawn and Jamie Morrison | 11- ? -06 – 12/31/19 |

*Pastor Brown recruited several to serve alongside him as Assistant Pastors, Youth Leaders, etc. Among them: Lloyd Edwards (Ministerial Candidate - 1961), Paul Duneman, Priscilla Osborn Thompson, Mike Reynen, Dave Johnson, Lila Scandrett.