

1956 - 1985

In April, 1956, plans were made to build a new parsonage on the same site. The old parsonage was moved to Quincy and 112th. The new parsonage was finished in time for Rev. John Keuning and family. During his tenure the chapel was redecorated, the Junior Choir was started, the catechism was reorganized, a set of new chairs were purchased for communion use, additional parking and sidewalk was added and new front and side doors for the church were installed. He left in March 1959 for Los Angeles, California.

Rev. Lambert Olgers came in November, 1960. A church nursery was started at this time and proved to be very successful. New pews for the balcony were purchased and the kitchen cupboards were remodeled. New carpet was purchased for the pulpit, aisles and the front of church, In 1962 a cross was purchased and put on the wall of the choir loft. Junior C.E. was started on December 2, 1963. In November an urgent plea was brought to the consistory that an educational unit should be added as soon as possible. In April 1964, the Freriks building was purchased and used for Sunday School and other meetings. Later the property was blacktopped for parking and a basketball court was constructed. A New PA system was purchased by the Ladies Aid at this time. Rev. Olgers left in 1965. Rev. Tunis Miersma was installed as Pastor in July, 1966. Preliminary plans for the educational wing were presented. This was the era of the Vietnam War and one of our young men, Robert Westrate, died in 1968 Plans of the new addition were still being discussed. A fellowship room, new kitchen, restrooms, library and several classrooms were included. The addition was finished and dedicated on March 11, 1973. The church continued to grow. Family night was held on Wednesday nights with choir, catechism and prayer meeting. Rev. Miersma left in 1978.

Rev. Al Pruis was installed in June, 1980. The mortgage from the educational addition was retired on March 22, 1981. Many things were started – Sunday evening outdoor services, the acceptance of the gift of the Ebels property to develop a ball diamond, the purchase of a new baby grand piano, and the Celebration choir which consisted of young adults. Rev. Pruis left in April, 1985.