

PASTORS OF ZION UCC, FIRESIDE

Rev. John Stauch 1830-1843

Rev. Marchur 1832-1843

Rev. Frederick Rahauser 1832-1843

Rev. Frederick Wahl 1843-1860

Rev. J.C. Klar 1843-1860

Rev. Davis Kelley 1843-1860

Rev. Eli Keller 1861-1871

Rev. Joseph Keller 1871-1873

Rev. William H. Sandel (Sandoe) 1874-1875

Rev. William J. Peters 1876-1879

Rev. Jacob Ihle 1880-1886

Rev. E.G. Williams 1886-1889

Rev. Fred Keller 1891-1895

Rev. D.M. Christman 1896-1902

Rev. J.B. Shumaker 1903-1910

Rev. G.V. Walker 1910-1917

Rev. H.H. Casselman 1917-1919

Rev. C.I. Lau 1920-1925

Rev. C.L. Hassel 1926-1933

Rev. Bert Wynn 1934-1940

Rev. David A. Sellers 1940-1951

Began Jan. 5, 1830. Log church built on present church location in 1832

Second church, located just to the north of our present location. This replaced the log church and accommodated the increasing membership of the United Lutheran and Reformed church.

After the Lutheran congregation withdrew from the union and built its own building, the Reformed church soon built a new building in 1873 on our present location. Its tall steeple was considered one of the finest of its kind in all of Seneca County. In 1899, the steeple was struck by lightning and fire destroyed much of the church. The church was rebuilt on the same brick walls.

During the summer of 1927, the south walls were torn down and rebuilt to be flush with the bell tower. The balcony was added.

1930 celebrated the centennial of Zion church.

In 1952, fire again destroyed much of the building.

Rev. Alfred W. McLeese	1952-1956
Rev. Martin Waidmann	1956-1962
Rev. Wilbur Cook	1962-1966
Rev. Larry Fish	1967-1968
Rev. Ralph Leisher	1969-1972
Rev. Robert Rahe	1974-1980
Rev. Rickey L. Mearkle	1981-1984
Rev. Mark Bishop	1985-1990
Rev. Steven Slakovits	1990-1994
Rev. Candace Thomas	1995-2007
Rev. Cathy Lawrence	2008-2016
Rev. Nicole Pickens	2017-2020
Pastor Bryan Niebanck	2020

A dedication service for the present building was held on September 27, 1953. The current church has the honor of standing on the oldest church site in Thompson Township and is the oldest Reformed church in Seneca County.

In 1957, the Evangelical and Reformed Church elected to join the United Church of Christ denomination.

1980 celebrated 150 years.