

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Beloit, WI



First Baptist Church of Beloit was founded in the fall of 1837 when Reverend S. S. Whitman, a Baptist minister from Belvidere, IL, preached our community's first Baptist sermon in the "Beloit House," a local inn. On April 24, 1841, the Reverend Albert Burgess organized the first Baptist Church of Beloit with 14 members.

On May 12, 1929, construction on our present building was begun on a hilltop that was then outside of town. The church continued to meet at Beloit College until it was finished. Despite the Depression, the building was finished, and the first service in the new building was on April 27, 1930. The church had 135 families. They did not sit back when the building was finished: improvements were made on the building, new Baptist churches were started in other communities, missions were funded, and the needs of the community were ministered to. The tradition of faithful outreach continues today.

Over the years, First Baptist of Beloit has sponsored immigrant families and has supported the American Baptist Churches in Wisconsin, nationally, and internationally.

We maintain an ecumenical presence in the community, partnering with other churches and organizations. Our faith life continues to flourish as we renew ourselves through a combination of worship, evangelical outreach, and good works. We look forward to the future with optimism and faith in He who has guided our church community thus far.

We are a welcoming church who believes that our small-town friendliness and openness to all fulfills the Great Commission by bringing the greatest number of souls to Christ. We seek all believers and those who want to believe and live in faith-based community with us. We are witnesses for Christ in our community and as we travel.

FBCB continues to believe that God is present everywhere and is available to everyone who professes His name and submits to baptism. *Our core mission is to know Christ and make Him known throughout the World.* We are focused on a bright future centered on our community, our children, and local and international outreach through American Baptist Churches. Working in collaboration with our faith community partners, we look forward to that day when all persons will join hands in worship of our Creator.