

## **Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church History**

March 23, 1883 The **Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church** of Racine was founded by Swedish immigrants. There were 14 charter members. Services began in an existing Episcopal Church.

1884 The congregation purchases a Danish Baptist Church for their services.

1904 The church building was sold to a Jewish congregation and a new building was constructed at the intersection of West 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Lafayette Avenue (later renamed Memorial Drive) at a cost of \$10,000.

1921 The name was changed to **Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church**.

1967 Bethel merged with St. John's United Methodist Church to become **Bethel-St. John's United Methodist Church**. They had a combined membership of 235. This was an historic merger of an all white church and an all black church.

1975 Bethel-St. John's sold its building at 1502 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street and merged with **Faith United Methodist Church**.