

History Of Faith United Methodist Church

1912 Augusto and Katherine Giuliani discovered a colony of Italian immigrants in Racine and started a church. As was their custom, the Giuliani met first in homes offering night classes in English and citizenship. They also offered spiritual guidance and Bible classes.

August 17, 1913 A congregation of 14 was organized, meeting in a rented room on Forest Street (now called Memorial Drive). They used the name **Racine Italian** work.

August 1913 Seminary student, Giuseppe Busacca became the first pastor of the church. He was aided in the work by Miss Matilda Droegkamp, who came weekly from Milwaukee to conduct English and citizenship classes. She also started sewing classes for women.

1913-1914 The church soon became too small. Small chapel was purchased from the Holland Reformed Church on the corner of Albert Street and Blake Avenue for the sum of \$900.00. The chapel was moved to 1621 Albert Street.

August 1914 The church on Albert Street was dedicated to the glory of God by Bishop S.P. Spreng.

1914 - ? The church helped immigrants find jobs, find housing, and gave material aid when needed. The pastor often acted as interpreter as well as English instructor for his people. The deaconess or mission worker held home management classes, teaching women to cook and to sew. The missionaries even offered music lessons and nursing services. In exchange the women shared their famous Italian recipes.

1916 Rev. Joseph Busacca became the first full-time pastor. He served the Racine and Kenosha mission for six years.

1922 Rev. Angelo Germanotta was appointed pastor of the **Racine Italian** work. He was assisted by Miss Hilda Christner until 1926. After that he was assisted by Miss Ellen Frye. (Busacca remained head of the Kenosha Mission.)

1923 Rev. Germanotta started a second congregation of Italian immigrants in North Racine.

1925 The Evangelical Missionary Society assisted the new congregation in purchasing a two bedroom bungalow at 3327 Tenth Street and converted it into a chapel.

October 1926 Rev. Germanotta married Madelyn Schoeller. With the new partnership in ministry it was determined that the assistance of deaconesses and mission workers were not necessary.

1945 The two Italian churches merged. **Italian Evangelical Church** became **Faith Evangelical United Brethren Church.**

1953 Rev. Germanotta resigned after thirty-one years of service.

1954 Rev. Charles H. Kollander was appointed as interim pastor. It was during his leadership from January 1954- May 1955 that a parcel of land was purchased at the corner of Harmony Drive and LaSalle Street.

1955 Rev. Milton Seiwert was appointed pastor of Faith. Under his leadership the two previous churches were sold. The Albert Street property sold for \$500. And the Tenth Street property sold for \$5200.

June 9, 1957 groundbreaking services for the new church building at 1013 Harmony Drive.

July 28, 1957 Cornerstone laying ceremony.

March 2, 1958 Dedication of Faith Evangelical United Brethren Church by Bishop Harol R. Heininger. The church cost \$68,500

1963 An Educational Wing was added at the cost of \$38,000.
Also a fifth anniversary celebration was held.

January 5, 1964 The Educational Wing was dedicated by Rev. Willard Schulz, Conference Superintendent of the Southern District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Brethren Church.

1964 The parsonage at 2203 Carlisle was sold and a new parsonage was constructed at 1101 Harmony Drive.

1965 Faith reached an all time high in church membership at 135, with the Sunday school at 154.

1967 Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church – a member of the Central Swedish Conference and St. John's United Methodist Church- an African American congregation on Silver Street, merged.

1968-1971 During the pastorate of Wesley Falk and Donald Fenner, the church name was changed to **Faith United Methodist Church.**

July 1, 1975 Bethel-St. John and Faith Church merged. Rev Sammartino was the pastor of both before and after the merger.

1995 Harmony Club was started at Faith. It is a program that cares for guests who have dementia, Parkinsons and other conditions that require constant care. This once a month program gives a respite to their caregivers.

Jan. 1, 2018 Faith UMC merged with Trinity UMC to become **North Pointe United Methodist Church**