

Throughout the coming year, as Bethel prepares to celebrate its 125th anniversary, we will be sharing bits and pieces of history and memories. Please help out by sharing your memories and pictures.
Wendell & Millie DeBeer and LeRoy & Geraldine Hassebroek

Rev. Lorenz Ziegler served the Hope and Bethel congregations from 1903 until 1907. In 1910 Rev. George Veenker became Classical Missionary for Pleasant Prairie Classis and since he lived in Sioux Falls, was able to commute to Ellsworth via the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific passenger train on Saturday afternoon, spend Sunday with the Bethel Congregation, and return to his home by train on Monday forenoon—to take some of the pastoral burden off Rev. Ziegler of Hope Church.

In 1918 the pastoral arrangement between Hope and the Bethel congregations was discontinued. Bethel Church was served by Rev. George Veenker and various student pastors until 1920 when Rev. Kaspar Kruger, who had served as a student pastor at Bethel in 1919, was installed as the first pastor. Rev. Kaspar Kruger was installed in 1920 as the first pastor of the German Reformed Bethel Church.



During the time of Rev. Kruger's ministry, the parsonage was built at the cost of \$5000.00 on a three-acre tract of land given to Bethel Church by Mr. Berend L. Brommer. The members of the parsonage building committee were: Rev. Kasper Kruger, Mr. K.W. Huisman, Mr. L.B. Brommer, Mr. Weert Boomgaarden, and Mr. Harm Solma Sr.



The newly constructed parsonage – circa 1921

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended to the dead.

The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty.

From there he shall come to judge the quick and
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

