

By 1975, the community was experiencing a healthy population increase. Housing developments were springing up in various sectors in the area surrounding Osseo, providing homes for new residents.

During the next few years church growth continued under the leadership of Rev. Jerome Schoeppler and Rev. Kenneth Wellman. The youth program also grew and confirmation classes became larger. Rev. Mark Johnson gave strong leadership during his tenure and provided unique spiritual incites. Dr. Howard Krueger started the Video Faith For Life broadcast.

Several fellowship, Bible studies, mission and expanded youth programs were added under the leadership of Rev. John A. Rehnberg, who came to the church in 1992. Rev. Rehnberg became the longest serving pastor of the church, serving over 20 years. The church saw many capital improvements during his leadership including: expansion of the parking lot, a new organ, and air conditioning for the church.

Dr. Woojae Im arrived in 2013 and renewed focus on a contemporary worship service. Dr. Im gave a historical perspective to the Bible and expanded small group studies. After Dr. Im left, Revs. Johnson and Utecht provided guidance during the transition.

Dr. Wesley Gabel arrived in 2019 and led the congregation through the COVID era. Worship service was expanded to radio broadcast to the parking lot, so the congregation could worship safely in their cars. Worship service was also streamed over Face Book and You Tube to allow worship from home.

As we begin our 100th year, we welcome Pastor Jennifer Spickelmier as our twenty-third pastor. We eagerly anticipate what God will do in the coming years and will continue to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ and seek to serve the community that God has placed us in!



OSSEO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**100th Anniversary Celebration
Celebrating 100 years of Faith:
Past, Present and Future**



Sunday September 18, 2022

**Worship Service at 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship and Lunch following the service.
Open House at 2 p.m.**

OSSEO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



First Church Built 1922

Former Pastors

The following pastors served the church from 1922 through 2022

1922 – 1924	Rev. W.E. Clark	1966 - 1967	Rev. Richard Tice
1924 – 1925	Dr. Carl Anderson	1967 - 1977	Rev. J. Schoeppler
1925 – 1934	Rev. H.J. Soltau	1977 – 1984	Rev. K. Wellman
1934 – 1942	Rev. E.B Cooney	1984 – 1986	Rev. Mark Johnson
1942 – 1945	Rev. U.E. Dahle	1986 – 1992	Dr. Howard Krueger
1946 – 1948	Rev. David McGuire	1992 – 2013	Rev. Jack Rehnberg
1948 – 1949	Dr. Irving E. Putman	2013 – 2018	Dr. Woojae Im
1950 – 1951	Rev. Thomas Payne	2018	Rev. Bryce Johnson
1951 – 1954	Rev. Gordon Lund	2018 - 2019	Rev. Jeff Utecht
1954 – 1955	Dr. Irving E. Putman	2019 – 2022	Dr. Wesley Gabel
1955 – 1960	Rev. Al Toews	2022 – present	Pastor Jennifer Spickelmier
1960 – 1966	Rev. Ralph High		

A Brief History of OSSEO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

In the early 1900s there was a small band of practicing Christians, who once more proved God's promise "to be in the midst" where even two or three would gather in His name. Beginning about 1910, these people met in each other's homes on Sunday evenings and worshiped in "Prayer Meetings" to replace the formal church service many of them were accustomed to before they moved to Osseo. This early group included: Mr. and Mrs. Bert Crandall, Mr. and Mrs. Harder, Mrs. Melissa Spence, Misses Clara, Cora and Agatha Krueger, Miss Maude Purdy and Mr. Chauncy Pryor.

In the fall of 1911, Rev. McCaslin came to Osseo to organize a Sunday School for the unchurched people in the community. At the advice of Al Hechtman, a mason, contact was made with Mrs. J.E Curtis, assisted by Hatie Larsen Heesen and Mrs. Murray Carpenter, to plan for a Sunday School. Others who worked diligently with the Sunday School included: Mrs. Andrew Olson, Mrs. Charles Killmer, and her daughters Mary and Lillian, and Mrs. Louis Schwappach and her daughters, Elsie and Edna. Mrs. Charles Setzler worked with the choir. Other families attending included: Setzlers, Dexters, Spences, Curtis, Savages, Larsens, Getchells, Wadsworths, Heesens, Neddersons and Henricksons.

Meetings were in the homes until attendance grew too large. They then moved into the Masonic Hall on Central Avenue. Attendance and interest grew with the guidance of Rev. S.W. Matson, Rev. Boswell, Rev. Runlet, Rev. John Walker, Rev. Volkenant and W.E Clark, a student from Macalester College. The need for a church was soon recognized. In 1920 plans to build a church were made. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Spence donated land for the structure. Ground for the new building was broken on May 26, 1922. Mr. McNeil of Elk River was the contractor. The building committee consisted of Mrs. Archie Champlin, Mrs. Otto Setzler, Mrs. A. Dexter, Mr. Iver Henrickson and Mr. Andrew Olson. The church located at Broadway and 2nd Avenue, was dedicated November 5, 1922. Rev. Henry Soltau presided at the dedication service with Bishop Mitchell giving the morning address and Rev. John Walker the evening address.

Church enrollment continued to increase, and it became necessary to enlarge the church building. During Rev. Al Toews' tenure, the cornerstone of the new building was laid on September 23, 1956. Dr. Paul Lewis, the Minneapolis District Superintendent presided. Rev. Ralph High became pastor in 1960 and the new church was dedicated on January 8, 1961. Bishop Otto Hall and Rev. Paul J. Snyder, District Superintendent were in attendance. The cost of the new Sanctuary was \$148,500.00

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