

BETHESDA BIBLE CHURCH OF PORT HURON
1334 14th Street
Port Huron, Michigan 48060

A History of the Local Church and a
Story of the Building Enterprise

The church began with prayer meetings in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Bressette, 919-Chestnut Street, in the early part of 1961, under the leadership of Rev. George Toth. On June 30th, 1961 rent was paid to begin occupancy at 206-10th Street (a store building), remaining there until the use of the Masonic Temple, 927 6th Street, Port Huron, Michigan, on October 13th, 1961.

The church was incorporated on January 24th, 1962 under 327 Public Act of 1931 as amended. February 9th, 1962 business proceedings to purchase the basement church building at 1334-14th Street. April 8th, 1962 Dedication Service was held and the guest speakers were Rev. M.D. Beall and her son Rev. James L. Beall from the Bethesda Missionary Temple in Detroit, Michigan.

Pastor George Toth remained with the church until December 30th, 1962. January 6th, 1963 through March 17th, 1963 Rev. Paul Stern and Rev. Manley Higgins continued the ministry in the Bethesda Bible Church. Reverends Edgar and Belle Barber began ministering with Rev. Higgins on March 3rd, 1963 taking the oversight after Rev. Higgins left on March 24th, 1963. Reverends Edgar and Belle Barber were set in as pastors of the Bethesda Bible Church, 1334-14th Street on August 19th, 1963 continuing to the present day and until the Lord takes us.

Improvements on said building such as paneling of the sanctuary, carpeting, restoring of seats, building and paneling extra room, remodeling of restroom area and hallway area with swinging doors to enable us to have more Sunday School room. A new Organ was donated by EmmaJean Mobley, thus enhancing the Music Department.

Services were continued in the basement building until July 15th, 1977.

Ground breaking for the new building was on May 9th, 1976. Entrance is now on Chestnut Street.

The members of the local church donated their labor and offerings to enable the present edifice to be erected. It has been built without a mortgage from the bank. The following list of names are those who labored:

BRICK AND BLOCK

Edgar Barber

ROOFING

Earl Bressette
Ted Bressette
Bernard Bressette
Duffy Bressette

CARPENTRY, PAINTING AND ROOFING
LABORERS

Len deBruin	Chris Bressette	Theodore Graham
Fred Sturge	Lorraine Bressette	Dorothy Flaherty
Emil Klatt	Michelle Bressette	Ruth Newberry
Peter Lee	Kelly George	Hazel Spring
Cecil George	Lillian Nahmabin	Charlotte George
Larry Dewey	Gary Vanderjagt	Gary Bressette
Chris McNeil	Dave Bressette	Doris Main
Mike Paulus	Keith Bressette	Michael Henry
William Newberry	John Parsons	Steven Henry
Lloyd McWha	Ronald George	Roger deBruin
Alan McWha	Al Peddie	Carol deBruin
Donald Shafer	Peter Bressette	Danny Nahmabin
Timothy Speckman	Leo George	Sharmine Bressette
Mark Lasater	Jeff Bressette	Selena Lasater
Nelson Bressette	Morley Bressette	Josey Bressette
Ronnie Bressette	Archie Bressette	Paul deBruin
James Graham	Gerald Graham	Alan Bressette
John Vaow	Russell Graham	Arie Vanderjagt
Sam Graham	Mark Young	Ellery Henry, Sr.
Miles Bressette	Robert George	Susie Bressette
Susan Bressette	Jennifer Parsons	Denise Bressette
Claudine Bressette	Jackie Lasater	Dorothy Vanderjagt
Randy Dewey	Diane George	Geneva George
Eugene Shafer	Steve Shafer	Sheri Shafer
Alice Shafer	Terry Frasier	Geraldine Vaow
Eunice Bressette	Arlene Bressette	Josey Duval
Lyndon George	Don Gildenpfennig, Jr.	Don Gildenpfennig, Sr.
Mary Gildenpfennig	Darryl Jolley	Beth Jolley
Belle Barber	James Bressette	Rodney Bressette

CARPET LAYING

Louis Ross, Robert Ross, Donna Ross, Cindy Ross

SOUND SYSTEM

Hans Winkelmann

The women and young ladies did the cleaning and meal preparations.

The first service in the new building was a Young People's Service held on Friday, July 16th, 1977. The first Sunday service in the new building was a Confirmation Service on July 18th, 1977.

We appreciate and love every one in this local church. Without them the building of this edifice would have been impossible. April 23rd, 1978, a Corner Stone Laying Service marked the completion of the foundation of a new church building. On a call to worship on a brass instrument by Gary Jolley, the grandson of Pastors Edgar and Belle Barber followed by opening statement by the pastors and scripture reading: Isaiah 28:16, 23; Ezra 3:10-13 and II Chronicles 6:2.