



First Baptist Church  
Of  
Plano, Illinois

# First Baptist Church of Plano

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# INTRODUCTION

- The Search Committee at the First Baptist Church of Plano has put together, with the help of our congregation, this profile of our church. We have a long history in Plano and surrounding area. We feel this could be a very exciting time in the life of our church with the growth we are seeing in Plano and the surrounding communities. We are only an hour from Chicago, which has a lot to offer such as the arts, museums, shopping, zoos, interesting history, sports, and major airports.
- God has blessed us with more than 135 years in Plano. We have touched many lives during the ministry of our church. We feel the Lord has a special person already chosen to lead our church to continue our ministry in this community. A pastor is the important leadership we need to continue our future.
- We have put together this profile with much prayer and hard work. We pray this will be interesting and provide the information that will draw a special leader to our church as we prayerfully work toward this goal.

# MISSION STATEMENT

Believing we are God's People and He has called us to do His work. We the First Baptist Church of Plano unite to:

WORSHIP – exalting Christ, collectively and individually

PROCLAIM – God's word through preaching and caring ministries

EVANGELIZE – sharing the gospel through love and mission to present salvation

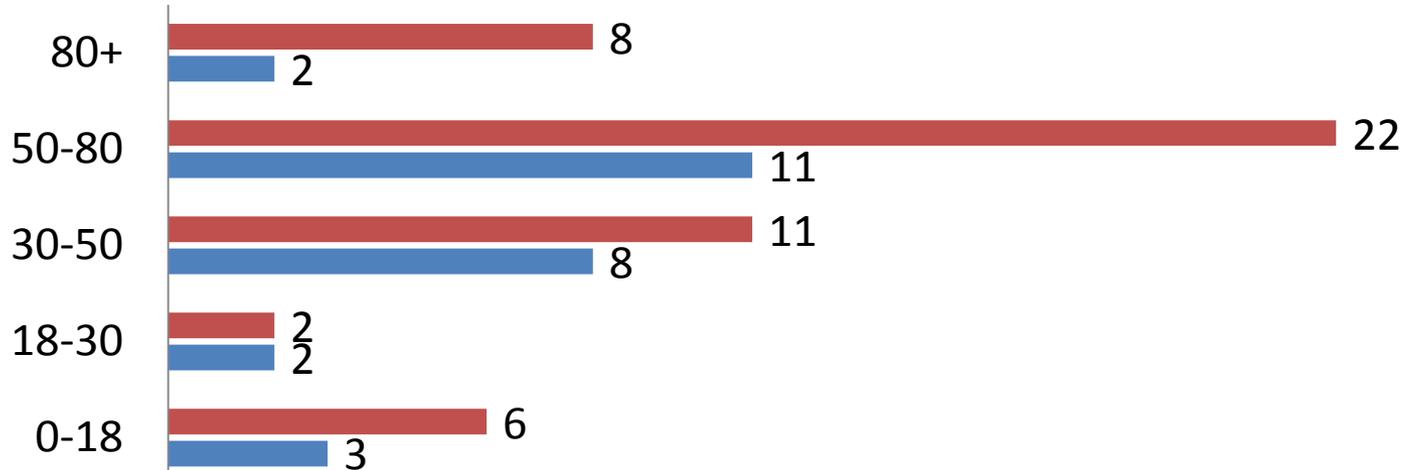
EQUIP – to provide training and encourage believers to serve Christ

# OUR CHURCH INFORMATION

- Plano is a community of about 10,000. However, this is changing daily as we are experiencing the growth of several subdivisions. Plano is in Kendall County and is one of the fastest growing counties in Illinois. It is about 60 miles, or one hour, southwest of Chicago.
- Approximately 85% of our church participants live within three miles of the church and the 15% with in fifteen miles. We are primarily European American decent.
- We are an old established church setting down our roots in the spring of 1876. Several of our ministers and members over the years have participated in meetings, training events, conferences and camping activities of the ABC Great Rivers Region and/or Area I.

## Ages of Active Participants

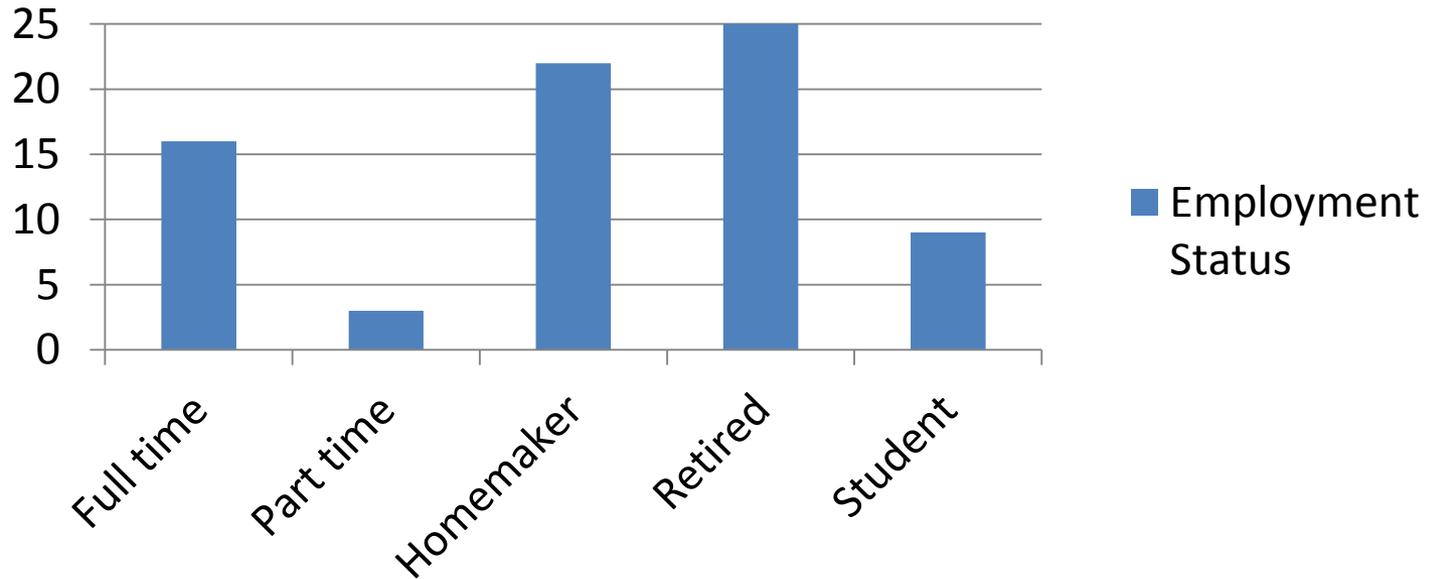
■ Female ■ Male



### Approximate Number of Households in Each Category

Married with one or more school age children at home .....	5
Married/Widowed with adult children at home.....	3
Married with no children at home .....	15
Widowed .....	24
Single adult .....	4
Separated/Divorced with children at home.....	1

## Employment Status of Active Members



Full time include – clerical, health care, laborer, professional  
Part time include – retail, clerical, farmer

25 are retired on fixed incomes \$25,000 - \$45,000  
16 are full time with incomes \$25,000 – \$60,000  
3 are part time with incomes \$13,000 - \$26,000  
31 are homemakers or students with no income

# Organizational Chart of Boards and Committees

**Pastor** – ex officio all boards

**Moderator** – 3 year term

**Church Clerk/Secretary** – 3 year term

**Advisory Board: as needed**

Moderator – Church Clerk/Secretary

Chairperson of each board

ABWM + ABMen Chairperson

1 Youth – 3 members at large

**Deacon Board: 3 year terms**

Chairperson + 5 members

**Trustee Board: 3 year terms**

Chairperson – Financial Secretary

Treasurer – Assistant Treasurer

+ 5 members

**Christian Education Board: 3 year terms**

Chairperson – Secretary/Records

Missions – Children

Youth – Adult

**Music Committee: 3 year terms**

Chairperson + 2 members

**Audit Committee: 1 year term**

2 members

**Nominating Committee: 1 year term**

3 members

**Ushers: 1 year term**

3 members

# What We Believe

- GOD is the master creator, the one and only true God. He is the beginning and the end. He is all knowing, powerful, and there for us always. He is our God and Father and his love is immeasurable. He is our protector and provider of everything. He is holy and righteous.
- JESUS is the only Son of God. Born of a virgin birth, lived a perfect holy life here on earth and sacrificed himself by death on the cross for the sins of all mankind. He was resurrected and now lives at the right hand of God. All who believe in Him, ask forgiveness of sin, and accept Him as Lord and Savior will live in eternity with Him.
- THE HOLY SPIRIT is God's presence living within us.
- THE BIBLE is the inspired word of God. It is our instruction book for life. It gives us guidance, wisdom, and laws to live a Christ-like life.
- BELIEVERS BAPTISM is the public or outward symbol of our personal professions of faith in Jesus Christ. Our church believes in full body immersion.
- THE PLACE, PURPOSE and MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN TODAY'S SOCIETY is to be disciples of God by spreading the Gospel and bring the unsaved to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. We are to be a witness for Christ in our community and provide a place of love and fellowship for others.

- THE LORD'S SUPPER is the remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. The elements are the symbol of the shed blood and the body of Jesus for us.
- THE ROLE OF THE LAITY is to serve God in our church and community and be faithful in our worship and attendance. We are to worship God, love and serve others, be faithful disciples, and lead others to Christ.
- ROLE OF THE MINISTER is to be a Shepherd to the congregation by preaching, teaching, and counseling.
- WE SUPPORT THE ABC/USA through our prayers, giving, missions and attendance. We uphold denominational doctrine as defined in our church constitution.
- WE SUPPORT ECUMENICAL WITNESS through prayer and participation with other churches in our community. Our pastors have served as part of the local Pastors' Ministerial Group for many years.

# Church Building



The main entrance of the church faces Hale Street on the west.



The Educational wing is behind the main building, on the east side.



A second entrance is on the Clark Street or north side of the of the church and educational wing. This entrance was re-built in 2013 to include a ramp, wheelchair access and awning. Landscaping will fill in soon!

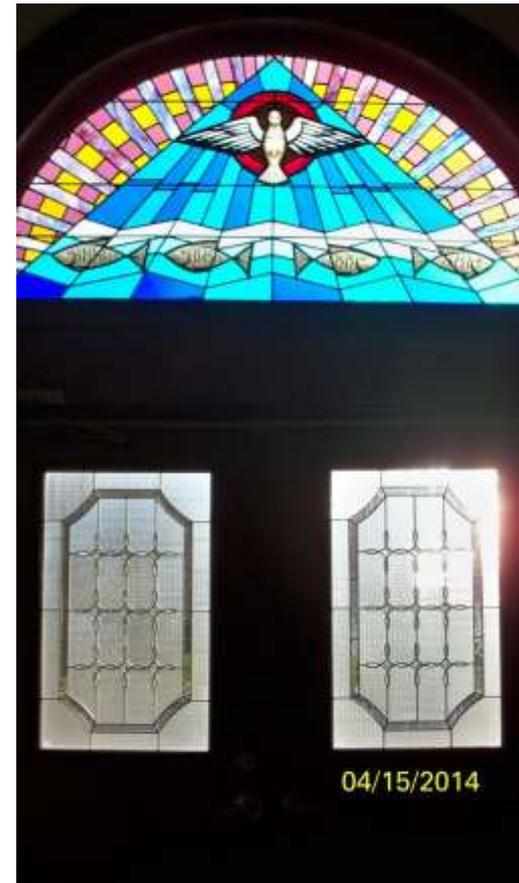
# Entrance to Sanctuary



The Hale Street entrance opens into a vestibule and the sanctuary. Stairs to the basement on the right.

The vestibule is filled with light from a colorful stained glass window and door inserts.

Doors at the east side of the sanctuary lead to the Educational wing.



# Our Worship Life

- Our worship service can best be described as informal. The Pastor plans the worship service with input from the Deacon Board. Members of the congregation share in the service with announcements, joys, prayer concerns and parts in holiday celebrations. We occasionally use responsive readings and always join in the Lord's Prayer. We welcome visitors and have a regular greeting time at the beginning of our worship service. We have communion on the first Sunday of each month served by the Deacons and Pastor.
- Our congregation enjoys music, traditional and choruses, in the services. We have a small adult choir which sings about once a month during the Sunday worship service and additional services during Lent and Advent. We use both an organ and piano, if possible during services, or CD when necessary. Special music is occasionally provided.
- The Pastor is the worship leader with Bible based sermons and regular altar calls. The sermons touch on evangelism, social issues, stewardship and leaderships skills, to assist the congregation in sharing the message of Christ as Savior and Lord.
- Our church family has a close relationship with one another and work together well. We see a real need and opportunity to spread the Gospel in our community and also make our church known.

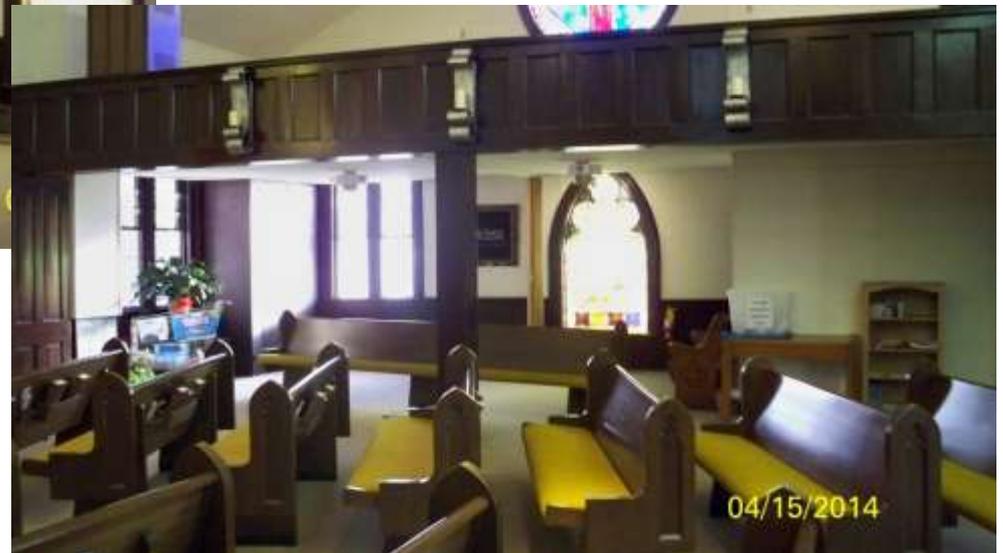
# Sanctuary



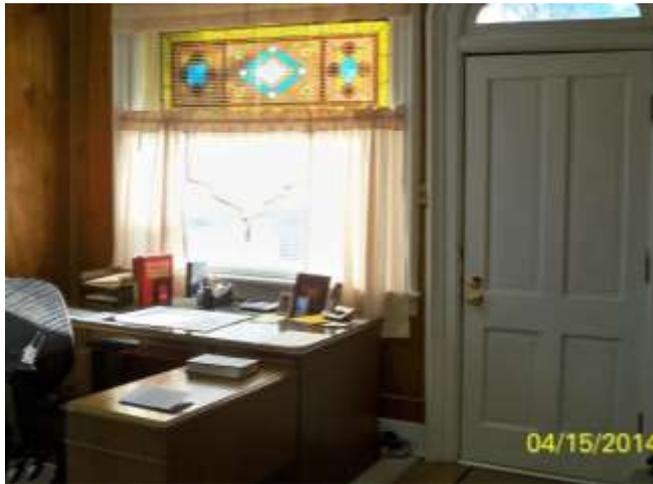
The sanctuary has a two aisle orientation. The platform includes seating for the choir, a piano and organ with chimes. The baptistery is behind the platform and visible from any seat.



Stain glass and leaded windows original to the building shed light from the east and north. A newer stain glass window is on the west (circular with angel), replacing an original that was destroyed in a storm.



An overflow area for extra seating or setting up displays is on the west side of the sanctuary. Folding chairs or tables can be brought in as needed. The area can also be closed off by wooden folding doors but is left open for additional lighting through several stain glass and leaded windows.



## Pastor's Study

The pastor's study can be entered from the south/west corner of the sanctuary and from the outside (west) on Hale Street. It has room to hold meetings, be private for counseling and also has a closet/entrance to the baptistery.

# Congregational Style

First Baptist Church of Plano has a long standing in our community, for more than 125 years. So it is plain to see that we are very much influenced by our history and traditions. Our church is governed by boards. Our plans and ideas are made by the responsible board or committee with the support of the whole church. Our pastors have shared in leadership with the laity of the church, working together for the good of the whole church. We feel ethical decisions should be based on absolute standards as the Lord instructs us in His Holy Word. Our church's approach to social issues is basically educational, leaving any action to individual conscience.

Decisions and announcements of upcoming events are communicated formally during worship service and as a part of our weekly church bulletin. Our newsletter is published monthly and sent to members as well as former pastors and other community churches and friends.

Our church gets involved in community affairs and activities with the many churches in our town. We emphasize ABC relationships locally, nationally and internationally by our support as a mission minded church.

We support financially our special interest missionaries, ABC White Cross overland and overseas quotas, health kits for disaster relief, clothing for LifeSpring women's center in Aurora, IL, as well as World Missions, America for Christ, One Great Hour of Sharing, RMMO and Souper Bowl offerings. We also participate in the Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Shoe Box ministry and several other collections for the needy at Christmas time. We as a church are committed to sharing a tithe from the church income.

Our church seeks to avoid conflict and confrontation by working through our differences as brothers and sisters of Christ. We work together as a church family with a strong love and support for one another through prayer, visitation and church events.

# Meeting Room

A room for board meetings, copy machine and fax machine, and records storage can be accessed from the south/east corner of the sanctuary. There is a closet/entrance to the baptistery, and a second entrance to the educational wing.



# Educational Addition

In the 1940's a "Fish Bowl" project was started in the Sunday School primary department. Each week the children would put their pennies in a fish bowl. This was the beginning of a fund drive for an education wing, which was built and dedicated in 1962. The Educational wing looks over the gravel parking lot which has an entrance on Clark Street, the north side.





The first floor of the educational addition has five classrooms, a nursery, restrooms and an emergency exit.

# Our Church Life

Our church life has remained consistent over the years with Sunday School classes for all ages, Sunday morning worship, midweek Prayer and Bible study. We have a very good attendance in the adults classes. We provide nursery care for infants and toddlers, a Children's message during morning worship and Children's Church during the sermon.

We have a very active American Baptist Women's Ministries group and a small group of men in American Baptist Men's Fellowship.

We have for many years participated in services for the area nursing homes and the two senior housing apartment buildings in Plano.

Our pastor is a member of the Plano Ministerial Association which plans community events with several Plano churches, for Lent, summer Church in the Park, Thanksgiving and Christmas. For several years, we have jointly held VBS with the United Methodist Church and First Lutheran Church.

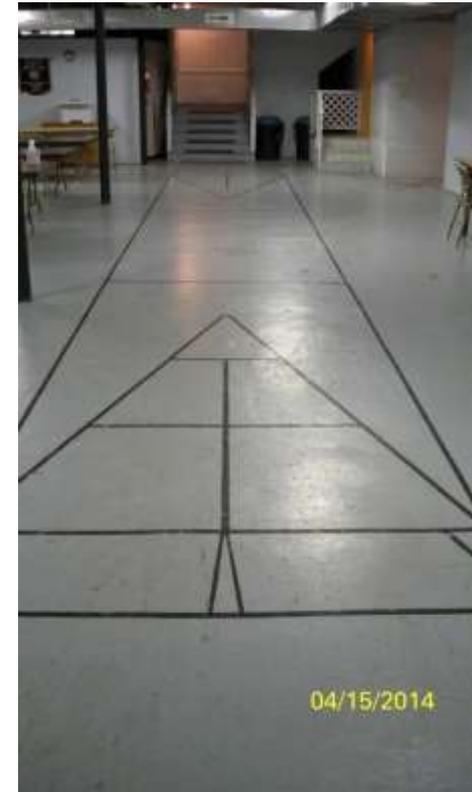
# Fellowship Hall

- The fellowship hall is in the basement of the educational wing. It is accessible by a chair lift, two sets of stairs and has an outside exit for emergencies.





The fellowship hall is used for wedding and funeral receptions, pot luck suppers, Mother/Daughter Socials, Vacation Bible School and other activities as needed. The room can be used as a whole or divided into smaller rooms. A portable sound system can be set up.



Adjacent to the fellowship hall in the basement area under the main church building, is space for additional seating, a full kitchen with pass through, restrooms and shuffleboard court (used monthly by the AB Men's Fellowship).

# HOW OTHERS SEE US

## **What are the present ministries of the First Baptist Church as you perceive and/or experience them?**

1. Sunday School for all ages and traditional Sunday morning worship service.
2. Midweek prayer and Bible study.
3. Vacation Bible School cooperatively with the United Methodist and First Lutheran churches each summer.
4. Ministry at three nursing homes in two neighboring towns each quarter on Sunday afternoons.
5. Ministry at two Senior Residences in Plano.
6. Participate in Lent, Thanksgiving and Advent services with other community churches.
7. Donate faithfully to ABC missionaries and White Cross, Kendall County Food Pantry, Support the Troops mailings, Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, Wayside Cross women's outreach, Chicago Homeless Ministry and several others.
8. Pastors participate in the Plano Ministerial Association.
9. Provide use of fellowship hall for Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts.

## **What new opportunities of ministry do you see for your church?**

1. Evangelism/outreach by providing interesting and friendly activities.
2. Increase children and youth ministry.
3. Help new members get involved in church activities.
4. Support the growing community and welcome the senior population.

## **What are potential areas of growth for your church?**

1. Young families.
2. Public activities to present the church to the community.

# OUR VISION for MINISTRY

## **What are the strengths of our church?**

- Members are cordial, friendly and welcoming
- A base of committed people sharing in leadership
- Healthy spiritually and true to our Bible beliefs
- Biblical preaching and education program
- Active women's mission group
- Members work well together
- Learned teachers for Sunday school
- Building well suited to many purposes and physical needs

## **What are the needs of our church?**

- There are few young families with children
- Encourage more outreach and evangelism
- Be acceptable to change and remain Bible based

## **What do we do well?**

- Very caring congregation – visitation, giving and working together
- Sharing, witnessing and prayer
- Provide Sunday School classes for all ages
- Midweek Bible study
- Nursing home and senior ministries
- Emphasis on missions
- Support area, regional and national ministries
- Dedicated musicians and choir

## **What do our neighbors need from us as a church?**

- Will help in time of need
- All are welcome to worship with us
- Participation in community events
- Building available for community use

# MINISTRY PRIORITIES SUMMARY

1. **Preaching** – Support the preaching ministry with time for preparation/reflection on the Word, and commitment to listen for the Word's power and its relevance for individuals, the church, the community and the world.
2. **Interpreting the Faith** – Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology in terms relevant to persons lives.
3. **Counseling** – Provide opportunities for individual, couples, families, to enter a healing relationship.
4. **Pastoral Care** – Provide by word and presence an empathetic concern for persons in the routine and joys as well as the crises and transitions of life, giving assistance where appropriate and feasible.
5. **Visitation** – Make formal and informal connections with church members or others in their homes, at work or in other settings.
6. **Worship Preparation and Leading** – Participate actively in worship, offering suggestions for greater participation and effectiveness in the expression of praise, and thanksgiving to God.

# Parsonage



The parsonage was built in 1989, about 10 blocks north of the church. It has a great room/kitchen that opens to a deck in the back yard. There are 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a partially finished basement.



The lot is 80 X 120 and has a fenced in back yard with deck, flower beds and raised beds for gardening.

# COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

## **Pastor's Compensation:**

Pastor's Cash Salary	\$24,960.00
Housing – Parsonage allowance	\$12,300.00
**parsonage and repairs are provided	
Housing – Utilities allowance	\$3,000.00
**gas, electric, garage, water and sewer are provided	
<b>Total Compensation</b>	<b>\$40,260.00</b>

## **Pastor's Benefits:**

ABC Retirement/Death Benefit Plan	\$6,441.60
Medical and dental benefits	\$5,000.00
Social Security/Medicare tax offset	\$4,000.00
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>\$15,441.60</b>

## **Pastor's Reimbursement for Ministry Related Expenses**

Automobile	\$1,500.00
**approx. 2700 miles at .56 per mile	
Convention expenses	\$500.00
Books, periodicals, resources	\$500.00
Hospitality fund	\$500.00
Other expenses	\$100.00
<b>Total Reimbursement</b>	<b>\$3,100.00</b>

## **Pastor's Leave Time Allotted:**

Vacation – three week paid vacation per year, to be reviewed after five years

Days off – two days per week, pastor may choose

Sick – 24 days per year, may be negotiated

Family Leave – maternity 8 weeks, paternity 3 weeks, elder parental 2 weeks

Retreats, Mission Trips, Church Camp, Continuing education, Conventions and Sabbatical – to be negotiated at time of request

## **Moving Information:**

The church will pay for moving expenses or will arrange for moving by church members – will negotiate

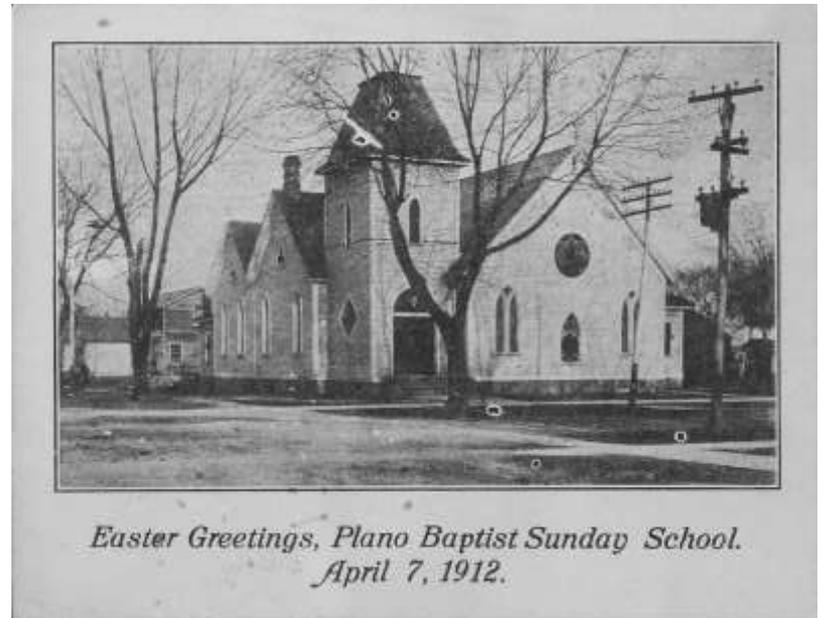
# Our History

As far back as 1858 a group of settlers were interested in a Baptist movement in Plano, IL, under the leadership of Elder A.C. Kinne and services were held in the Methodist Church (across the street from current church). Elder Kinne moved from Plano in 1860 and the movement became dormant.

Interest revived in 1874 when Rev. Lanson Steward of Brooklyn, New York came to preach for two Sundays. Months later he returned and the Church and Sunday School were organized March 4, 1876. Services were held in the Congregational Church until February 4, 1883 when a new building was dedicated at the Hale Street location. The cost, including lot and furniture, totaled \$4800 and a baptistery was installed in 1886 for \$50.



The church was enlarged and the orientation was moved from west to south in 1902.



# City of Plano

With a population of over 10,900 residents, Plano boasts a unique combination of agriculture, business, and industry. Plano Molding is one of the largest manufacturers of plastic tackle boxes. A Menard's distribution center opened in late 1997.

A Wal-Mart Superstore opened in the fall of 1996 and there are several more shopping centers, medical facilities, and recreation areas nearby, including Silver Springs State Park and Cedardell Golf Club. The local YMCA and library offer a variety of activities for all ages year round. Locally sponsored baseball, softball, and youth tackle football leagues offer enjoyment for many boys and girls.

Cultural events are offered in the area by the Paramount Arts Center in Aurora, Rialto Theater in Joliet, Waubensee Community College, Joliet Junior College, Aurora University, the Sandwich Opera House and Northern Illinois University.

The schools are supported by many local service organizations and not for profit organizations like the Plano Community Coalition for Wellness and the Plano Education Foundation. Parents in the community have also joined together to form the Plano Parent's Association, Sports Boosters and Music Boosters.

More information about Plano, IL can be found at: [www.cityofplanoil.com](http://www.cityofplanoil.com)