



Northwest Bible Chapel

Chicago, Illinois

The history of Northwest Bible Chapel in Chicago goes back to 1913. George Schmidt held street meetings on the streets of Chicago, faithfully preaching the gospel. In the spring of 1913, Henry Miller stopped by and talked with him. They found they shared the same faith in Christ, and soon the two men and their wives began to meet in the Miller home to worship.

More families joined this fellowship, and different homes were used for meeting. Eventually a larger facility was needed, and storefront facilities were obtained. After a couple of different locations, they settled on a storefront on the 1800 block of N. Larrabee Street, which became known as Larrabee Gospel Hall. George Wegener held Sunday School for neighborhood children in English, while the Lord's Supper meeting was a German language meeting.



During the early 1930's the Larrabee Street storefront became home to a meeting of Assyrian believers as well, including Paul David. And then, when two Mexican brothers who were co-workers of George Schmidt - Otilio and Manuel Carrera, Sr. - became believers, the German-speaking group and the Assyrian-speaking group decided to merge to form an English-speaking meeting so that the Carrera brothers would have a place to worship.

This was not an easy transition, but the church body felt the need for change and growth and they saw the Lord's blessing as they did so.

As the congregation grew, a church building at the corner of N. Damen and Eddy with more potential space was acquired in the late 1940's. A two-flat apart-

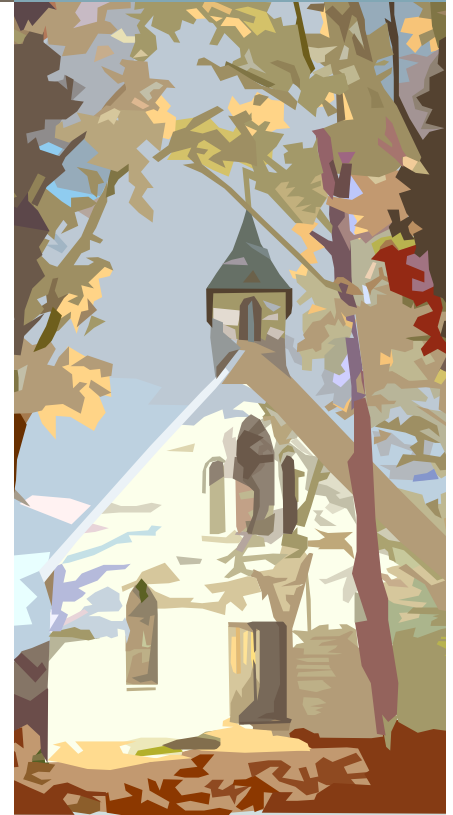
"We thank our Lord for how He has seen fit to use us in the past and we look to Him to guide us into His plans for the years ahead."

ment building was a part of the purchase. Some renovations were needed to better utilize the space. Stewards Foundation helped to finance the renovations. This group of believers became commonly known as Lakeview Bible Chapel which was home for the body of believers for the next forty-plus years.

There was an active children's ministry for many years. Eventually, younger leaders proposed the radical plan of tearing out the pews in the main meeting room and creating a recreational activity floor with an AWANA circle. After careful consideration, the elders agreed to this plan. Stackable, upholstered chairs were purchased enabling worship and ministry on Sundays and Wednesdays, and other times as needed, but providing open space for children's club activities. To allow for better use of the facilities, the clubs were split into a boy's and girl's night.

The believers at Lakeview strongly supported Bible camp ministry, especially the work at Lake

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Geneva Youth Camp in nearby Wisconsin. They sent their own children, and as children's ministries developed, children from the clubs were sent. A substantial sponsorship program was established along with providing transportation to and from the camp.

In late 1990, the former Grace Gospel Church was purchased for an extremely reasonable price. This facility had more space for Sunday School classrooms and recreational activities, and we were blessed to have some members of that congregation, which was closing, choose to remain with us. The facility located on the northwest side of Chicago became Northwest Bible Chapel.

In the early 1990's, the recreational building was expanded to accommodate a gymnasium that was used for children's clubs, and activities for older youth like basketball and volleyball. Stewards Foundation provided financing for this project as well as a couple of larger projects over the years to maintain the facilities.

A long association with the Chicago West Church, a Korean-speaking assembly, commenced during these years when they began using the somewhat larger classroom area above the gym in the recreational building for their services.

Our most recent project was an expansion of the building entry area to accommodate an elevator and ground level entrance to make our building accessible to those with short or long-term physical challenges. We were amazed at how the Lord provided for this expansion, and are thankful that Stewards Foundation gave us helpful assistance with both wisdom and finances on the project.

The pandemic came about a year after the work was completed. Since our building is located within Chicago city limits, we were subject to any restrictions enacted. Closures of our facilities were mandated at different times, and for those periods we functioned solely on Zoom. When allowed to meet in person we continued to provide the Zoom option for those dealing with challenges and not comfortable coming, even with the new accessibility accommodations.

Although cautious in resuming pre-pandemic activities, we have been meeting in the building for some time now, while still providing Zoom for those who need it.

There has been a reduction in overall attendance in recent times which has affected the children and youth ministries. While the decline began before the pandemic, there was a definite drop in attendance during the period of remote-only meetings. Some moved out of the city.

Recently we have been encouraged in being able to resume Sunday School classes, as well as some coffee and fellowship time after the service. We just had our first church picnic since the pandemic began.

Throughout the decades, our congregation has had the

opportunity to commend various workers in the USA and in other countries. The Lord has entrusted us with the privilege of providing funds to help support our commended workers, as well as others.

We thank our Lord for how He has seen fit to use us in the past, and we look to Him to guide us into His plans for the years ahead.

Commended Workers

Peter and Louise Daley

I (Peter) was raised in Montreal, Quebec. At the age of 21, I attended a youth camp at Frontier Lodge located in southern Quebec. It was there that I saw my need to put my trust in God and start following Him. Eventually I became a high school teacher in Eastern Ontario. On weekends I would return home to stay with my mother and attend Rosemount Bible Chapel (then known as Ebenezer Gospel Chapel). Gradually through the chapel's guidance and discipleship I came to know Christ as my Lord and Savior.



Louise was raised by godly parents and came to know and trust in the Lord Jesus at the age of 7. Her family served as home and foreign missionaries moving to different areas such as Nova Scotia, Angola, Africa and Michigan in order to serve. Eventually Louise's parents felt led to go to Missoula, Montana to help with a fledgling assembly there. It was in Missoula that she attended university and graduated in Medical Technology. Louise then moved to Montreal for more studies where she attended Rosemount Bible Chapel.

We met at the chapel and were part of the youth group and camp ministries. This lasted for two years. In 1978, I felt led to take a year's leave of absence from teaching and

IN STEWARDS THAT A MAN BE FOUND FAITHFUL”

become a missionary teacher at Sakeji School in Zambia. It was after that decision that Louise and I started to become interested in each other. We both had a desire to serve in missions and our relationship deepened. During my time in Zambia, I asked Louise, who was now living in Montana, to marry me. The only form of communication in those days was letter writing. A letter took 3 weeks for delivery from Africa to North America, so it took 6 weeks for me to get an answer to my proposal. The answer was a firm yes! Upon returning home we were married and lived in Ontario.

“God has wonderfully blessed us in many ways.”

In 1981, I retired from teaching and we traveled across country to attend the Discipleship Intern Training Program that William MacDonald and Jean Gibson led at Fairhaven Bible Chapel in San Leandro, California. A year later we felt God's leading to go to Angola as full-time missionaries. As commended missionaries with Christian Missions in Many Lands (CMMML), we went to Portugal in March of 1983 for 6 months for intensive Portuguese language study. Portuguese is Angola's national language. After receiving our visas, we traveled to the Biula mission station in Angola and settled in to minister and study the Chokwe language. Unfortunately, due to a civil war we had to leave after 8 months.

We settled in Montana and started working with our local commending assembly, Stevensville Bible Chapel. Over the past 37 years we have been serving at the chapel as well as foreign missions.

Local missions: By God's grace much of our time is spent in the preparation and teaching of God's Word at our chapel and other locations. We also conduct Bible studies during the week, visit contacts, teach and cook at a summer camp and disciple believers. We are the Montana coordinators for Emmaus correspondence courses to prison inmates. We have the privilege of grading courses and encouraging various inmates. In order to have an influence in the community, I substitute teach at a local public school 4 or 5 times a month. Although Covid put a dent into some of our ministry this past year, God is faithful and has allowed us to carry on.

Foreign missions: Twice a year for about a month at a time, I - and sometimes both of us - go to Angola to minister. During the months of March and April I do itinerant teaching and preaching in the provinces of Lunda Sul and Lunda Norte. During the months of August and September I

teach at an indigenous Bible school called Cassongo in Moxico province. Elders and deacons from assemblies in the rural areas of Angola attend the school for the teaching of major doctrines, Biblical themes and expository teaching through books of the Bible.

The Lord in His grace has given us five children (3 sons and 2 daughters) who are now married. Along with our children and their spouses we have 14 grandchildren. God has wonderfully blessed us in many ways.

News you Can Use

2022 Annual Members Meeting

The 2022 Annual Members Meeting is scheduled for September 24th at Wauwatosa Bible Chapel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This meeting is held in different parts of the country to give the greatest opportunity for as many as possible to attend and be informed about Stewards Foundation.

One purpose for the annual meeting is the election of Trustees to the Board of Stewards Foundation. These men bear the responsibility of ensuring that there is no drift from the mission established by the founding Trustees. They direct Stewards Foundation through policies instituted to stay the course. Consequently, this meeting should be of interest to every member assembly.

Our Bylaws require that each member assembly designate a Delegate to act on its behalf, either in person or by proxy, at this annual meeting of the corporation. Unfortunately, many Delegates do not take advantage of this opportunity. Some feel that they cannot participate due to a lack of knowledge about the Trustees in general, and in particular those up for election. Each Trustee's biography is available on our website, www.stewardsfoundation.org.

We encourage you to inform yourself about the men that lead Stewards Foundation by going to our website. In particular, we urge Delegates to take the time to read these biographies, and then attend the meeting in person, or return your assembly's proxy. This will be a great encouragement to the Trustees and a show of support for the work of Stewards Foundation.

This meeting of the corporation is open to anyone interested in attending. In addition to the election of Trustees, our Bylaws state that the meeting is, "to allow the Board to present their Annual Report to the Nonprofit Foundation Members and to transact such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting."

Psalms 126:3, “The LORD hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad”

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Summer 2022

Following the corporate meeting, presentations will be made by Stewards Foundation, Believers Stewardship Services and Christian Missions in Many Lands. Representatives of these three assembly service organizations will talk about their history, and the services they offer to assemblies of the Lord’s people and their commended workers.

Everyone in attendance is invited to join us for lunch following the presentations.



1420 W. Mockingbird Ln.
Suite 410
Dallas, Texas 75247-4932
Phone: 972-726-6550

www.stewardsfoundation.org

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