

Humeston Presbyterian Church

by
Ortha Green

Information from the Iowa Synod of Presbyterians, Wayne county Records office and Wayne and Appanoose county History.

The Humeston Presbyterian Church was organized in 1873, and its house of worship was erected in the summer of 1874. This church first appeared in the Synod in 1875 with 15 members. Records book 1, page 319 is the articles of incorporation which reads;

We the undersigned members of the Presbyterian Church of Humeston, associate ourselves together as a body corporate under the code of Iowa and adopt the following;

I, Name- Presbyterian Church of Humeston, Iowa.

II, Object- To promote Christian religion and its doctrine and worship, as set forth in the New Testament.

III

IV I will omit

V - Officers - two or more Elders and three trustees.

Elected were Trustees- O.V. Calbreath, J.T. Finney, A.L. Bengé, and as Elders - I.C. Morford and W.J.S. Taylor.

Articles 6-7-8-9-10, I will omit.

The charter embraces 50 years from date May, 1874. Names of the Incorporators are; I.C. Morford, W.J.S. Taylor, O.V. Calbreath, James Finney, A.L. Bengé, E.F. Taylor, George McCart, and R.C. Hasbrouch.

Notary, James L. Berry.

Pastors; 1875, Robert Hahn, N. Edgar, C.M. Allen, George Ainsley, W.M. Devor, - Robert Beer in 1885-6 at this time there were about 40 members, M.W. Simpson, 1880-90, J.P. Bringle, 1891, J.M. Wiggins, 1892-5, J.G. Aikman, 1897-98. The church was declared vacant in 1900.

On August 19, 1901 article I was amended and the name was changed to CONGREGATIONAL Church of Humeston, Iowa. The new officers were; Deacons, I.C. Morford, W.J.S. Taylor, Charles Kyner, and C.R. Bishop. The Trustees were; O.V. Calbreath, J.T. Finney and A.T. Bengé. The church shall be known as Congregational Church of Humeston, Iowa.

There is not much material available about the Congregational church, only that Rev. N.H. Gist was the minister in 1910.

The Congregational Church was sold to the Baptist denomination.

The Presbyterian Church was located on Spring and 3rd Streets across from the northwest corner of the city park. When the name was changed to the Congregational Church they built a new church on Broad and 3rd Street just west of the south west corner of the city park. This is the property that they sold to the Baptists.