

History of Detroit and Wayne County and Early Michigan

*A Chronological Cyclopedia of the
Past and Present*

SILAS FARMER

Introduction By

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Zion German Reformed Church.

This congregation was organized on November 20, 1849, and incorporated May 22, 1850. Their first meetings were held in the City Hall. On April 12, 1852, they dedicated their brick church, on the north side of Croghan, near Beaubien Street.

In February, 1857, they sold it to the Second Baptist Colored Church for \$3,800, and on July 9 of the same year it was resolved to buy the lots on the east side of Russell, between Sherman and Catharine Streets, on which the present church is located. They cost \$750. The church, thirty by forty feet, was erected at a cost of \$1,600. In 1862 it was enlarged at a cost of about \$2,200. The parsonage was erected in 1857 at a cost of about \$1,500, including the lot. The church seats 200, and in 1880 had an average attendance of 75. In 1850 there were 65 communicants; in 1860, 107; in 1870, 120; and in 1880, 135. The salary of the pastor in 1880 was \$600, and the total annual ex-

penses about \$900. The value of the property was \$15,000; and there was a church debt of \$1,300.

The pastors have been: A. Berkey, November 20, 1848, to June 20, 1852; E. Berker, August 11, 1852, to September 24, 1854; E. Spies, October 1, 1854, to January 3, 1856; H. Hoff, January 19, to February 1, 1857; A. Shroeter, May 11, 1857, to March 6, 1860; C. Cast, October 28, 1860, to February 26, 1866; P. Greding, February 26, 1866, to August 6, 1870; John Baumgartner, September 19, 1870, to May 12, 1873; John Niehoff, May 12, 1873, to March 1, 1876; William Hansen, from May 3, 1876.



ZION GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH.