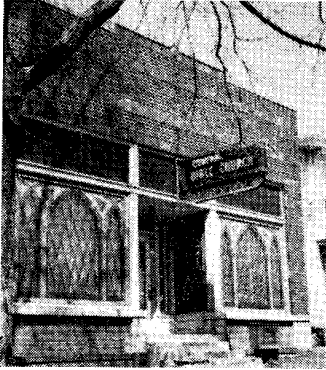


## HISTORY



Several years ago a group came together to form an independent Bible testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ. In June of 1945, Rev. R. K. Kinney came to be the Pastor of this testimony which was then known as the Aurora Bible Church. In November of that year, he spoke to Rev. O. L. Masemore, who was pastoring the Central Baptist Church of Aurora, and suggested that perhaps it would be a good thing if these two churches could be united and thus form a larger and more aggressive witness for Christ. The Pastors agreeing on this move, the Boards of the churches were brought together. After prayer and discussion they felt the Lord was definitely leading in this merger. Besides the Pastors, the following men were on the combined Official Boards—George Benes, Charles Beyerly, Dolo Cunningham, Frank Cwenar, Harry Eggleston, William Feyereisen, Lawton Goodsell, Benjamin Jess, Stanley Mighell, Ervin Nelson, Myron Peterson, Lester St. Clair, Clair Sharp.

In December of 1945, the constituency of both churches voted unanimously to unite and chose the name CENTRAL BIBLE CHURCH. The first services of the new church were held on Sunday, January 6, 1946 at 407 Galena Boulevard . . . the building formerly used by the Central Baptist Church. Both Pastors continued with the new work until the middle of Sep-

tember, 1946, when Pastor Masemore and his family left to take up the pastorate of the Paul Street Bible Church in Ottawa, Illinois. Pastor Kinney continued with the infant church and is still serving the Lord with them.



Many trials came to try the faith of Pastor and people, but the evidence of the Blessings of the Lord was always greater. Finally on April 25, 1951 a Church Business Meeting was held to set in motion plans for building our own church. On the first of November, 1951, the church moved from its Galena Boulevard address to the Mary A. Todd grade school where

all the regular services were held for the next twenty months.

In the Spring of 1950, lots were purchased at 940 Galena Boulevard, and on June 8, 1952 ground was broken for the new church building. By the Grace and Goodness of God, the congregation was able to move into the new edifice on Sunday, June 28, 1953.

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## PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

And now after nearly three years of occupancy, our Sunday School attendance since the first of the year, is averaging 206 a Sunday. This, in some departments, is more than taxing our present facilities and makes it a pressing matter that we begin the construction of our educational unit. Just how or when this new building will be started will depend on the direction of the Lord and the financial response of the members and friends of Central Bible Church and Sunday School.