

ZSJ HISTORY 1895-1905

Starting in 1896, Pastor J Romberg was called to serve St John and he also conducted services at Peace. Because of the growing sizes of both churches, Pastor Buerring was hired to assist with summer religion classes for both churches and assist with services at Peace. The summer religious education classes were held two mornings a week and each student paid \$1 to attend. These classes continued until 1915 when Sunday School classes began. During this time, the first choir was organized. Pastor Romberg left after only two years.

On July 11, 1897, the St John Church celebrated the ordination of Johann Dralle, who became a circuit rider serving in western North Dakota. Pastor Viet Geissendoerfer arrived in 1898 to serve the churches. Because of their large family (8 children) an addition was added to the parsonage. As the Peace congregation continued to grow, it was time to find a larger building to use. In 1898, they started renting the First Baptist Church. Eventually they rented the Evangelical Church and alternated services with them.



The rental fee for each Sunday was \$1, plus \$.10 to hire a fire watcher. During this time Peace started being referred to as the town church.

During these 10 years, there were 92 baptisms, 79 confirmations, and 20 marriages at St John. At Peace, there were 9 baptisms and 2 marriages. All confirmations continued at St John, with young people from both congregations participating. Twenty-one deaths were recorded in the St John congregation and five at Peace. Of these, eight were children or infants.

This time was known as the Progressive Era in the US and the world. Other notable historical events in state, national and world history were:

1895, Volleyball was created, the first professional football game was played; Katherine Bates created the America the Beautiful melody; Oscar Hammerstein opens the 1st theater in Times Square; the 1st China/Japan war ends; Ottoman troops invade Armenia; Rudyard Kipling publishes "Mowgli."

1896, The Supreme Court upholds separate, but equal ruling to keep segregation in place; the Dow Jones average is created; the first Ford vehicle, the Quadricycle is produced; John Phillip Sousa composes the Stars &

Stripes; the first modern Olympics are held in Athens, Greece; an 8.5 magnitude earthquake and tsunami kill 22,000 in Japan.

1897, First Boston Marathon is held; Klondike Gold Rush begins; Boston opens the first underground subway in North America; the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria.

1898, USS Maine explodes in Havana Harbor beginning the Spanish American War, which shows the skill of Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders and eventually ends by December with the Treaty of Paris; Standard Oil controls 84% of US oil and pipelines; 1st game reserve established in South Africa; the Philippines declare independence after 333 years of Spanish rule.

1899, Carrie Nation begins the Temperance movement; newsies strike in NYC; RMS Oceanic is launched from Belfast, the largest ship to date; FIAT is founded in Italy; Aspirin and Bayer are trademarked in Germany; alkaline batteries are patented in Sweden.

1900, American league of baseball is organized; Hawaii becomes a US territory; the Wright brothers begin manned glider flights; the Hershey bar is created; the 1st Zeppelin airship flies in Germany; the 2nd Olympics are held in Paris; the Boxer Rebellion begins in China.

1901, oil is discovered in Texas; Teddy Roosevelt becomes president after the assassination of McKinley; Louis Armstrong is born; Queen Victoria dies; Picaso has his first Paris Exhibition; the British colony of Australia is created.

1902, 1st college Rose Bowl is held; Carnegie Institute is founded; 1st Penney's and Target open; Cuba gains independence from the US; the 1st sci-fi silent film is seen in Paris.

1903, 1st transatlantic radio broadcast is made; the first appearance of the Van Meter Iowa visitor, a winged 9' creature with a horn and bat like wings; 1st World series is played; 1st flight by Orville Wright; 1st Crayola crayons are sold for 5 cents.

1904, the 3rd Olympics are held in St Louis and the ice cream cone was invented there; work begins on the Panama Canal; a fire in Alesund Norway leaves 10,000 homeless; Joseph Smith denounces polygamy.

1905, Dr O B Harriman dies in Hampton; steps, landscaping and artwork are added to the Iowa capitol building; Las Vegas was founded; Huge storm in the Great Lakes destroys 29 vessels; the Julliard School of Music opens; the Russian Revolution begins under the rule of Nicholas II; the University of Sheffield opens in England; Albert Einstein published 3 papers.