

Faith Lutheran Church began January 9, 1959, when a small group of people met with Reverend J. Robert Nordlander, regional director of the board of American Missions of the Augustana Lutheran Church. This group met around the dining room table of Alvin and Ruth Johnson to explore the possibilities of establishing a congregation in Junction City. Following weeks of planning and preparation, the first worship service was held at 9am on Sunday, April 26, 1959 at the Cleary Court Community Building. Approximately 45 people attended.

Worship services continued at that location under the leadership of the Reverend August Aden, pastor of Marion Hill Lutheran Church , the Reverend LeRoy Davidson, pastor of Walsburg Lutheran Church , faculty members and students of Bethany College in Lindsborg. A Sunday School was organized and Christmas was celebrated that year with a children's program.

In early July 1960, the Reverend Lloyd R. Hanson, a newly ordained pastor, came to Junction City to assume his duties as mission developer. Soon after his arrival, the name Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church was chosen for the new mission. Early in August, Pastor Hanson was installed as board missionary of the church and also pastor of the Marion Hill Lutheran Church near White City .

Faith Lutheran grew rapidly under the leadership of a pastor and by fall had outgrown the Cleary Court Building. On October 30, 1960, the congregation held its first worship service, followed by church school in the 18<sup>th</sup> Street Community Center. On April 9, 1961, an organizational service was held with 111 chapter members present.

Three and one-half acres of land were purchased and on November 16, 1962, ground was broken on the site at 1105 McFarland Road (where we are currently at) for the sanctuary. In the summer of 1963, the building was completed with dedication services held on July 7.

Special celebrations were held on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Several physical changes to the church have been done since it was built. Worshipers used to park in the area to the west of the Church and enter thru the west door. The alter and pulpit were on the west wall area and everyone sat in wooden pews. Later a parking lot was built on the east side of the church and everyone entered thru the east doors. Around 1994, the congregation decided that change was needed and the wooden pews were replaced with the movable chairs that we currently use. In addition, the alter area was moved to the south wall.

Levi Kickhaefer decided that an outdoor meditation center was needed at the church. Several members assisted Levi with the building of this Meditation Center and sidewalk to the south of the church. Upon his death, the Mediation Center was named in honor of Levi.

In the summer of 2005, a peaked roof was put on the church over the flat roof that had been in place since the church was built.

Services have been held weekly for the past 40 plus years.