

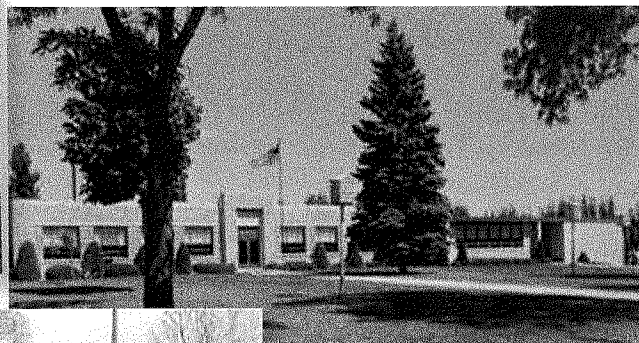
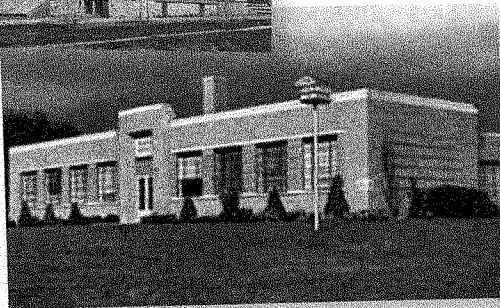
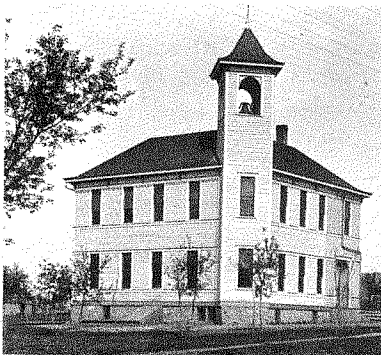
A Pictorial History of Sioux Center Christian School

The following pages show how Sioux Center Christian celebrated 100 years of God's Faithfulness.

We began our celebration in January 2004. We celebrated each decade of the school as well as a special theme. All of the students were divided into 18 cross grade celebration teams. Each month the teams met and talked about the history of the decade featured and the theme. Two teams were assigned to present a program featuring one decade in the history of the school.

The Celebration decades and themes were as follows:

January 2004	1905-1915	<i>Praise</i>
February 2004	1915-1925	<i>Love</i>
March 2004	1925-1935	<i>Suffering Along with Others</i>
April 2004	1935-1945	<i>Loving Enemies</i>
May 2004	1945-1955	<i>Ligamenting (the body of Christ)</i>
October 2004	1955-1965	<i>Seeking Justice</i>
November 2004	1965-1975	<i>Living Thankfully</i>
February 2005	1975-1985	<i>Forgiving Others / Receiving Forgiveness / Grace</i>
March 2005	1985-1995	<i>Praying</i>



The First Decade – 1905-1915

THEME: *Praising God for His Faithfulness through the Generations*

It was in February of 1903, that the first permanent Christian School society west of the Mississippi was formed in Sioux Center.

The first meeting was held under the leadership of the Rev. J. Smitters having been called at the urging of many brethren who had strong convictions for distinctive Christian training for covenant children. A committee consisting of the Rev. J. Smitter, president; H. Nijman, H. Jager, Dr. H.M. Stadt, W. Van Putten, J. Kleinwolterink and G. Gesink was chosen to study ways and means for further action. Rev. J. Vander Mey and Rev. A. Brink gave many inspirational addresses to stir support for Christian education.

At this first meeting nine members pledged \$800.00 and 11 more pledged \$745.00. One year from the time of organization, the Treasurer's Fund contained \$3,300.00.

The first school building was built on South Main Street. The 30 ft. by 40 ft. building was a two story wooden structure. The contractor was Jacob Mouw, and the architect H. Peerbolte. Without decorating, furniture or sidewalks, the building construction cost \$530.00.

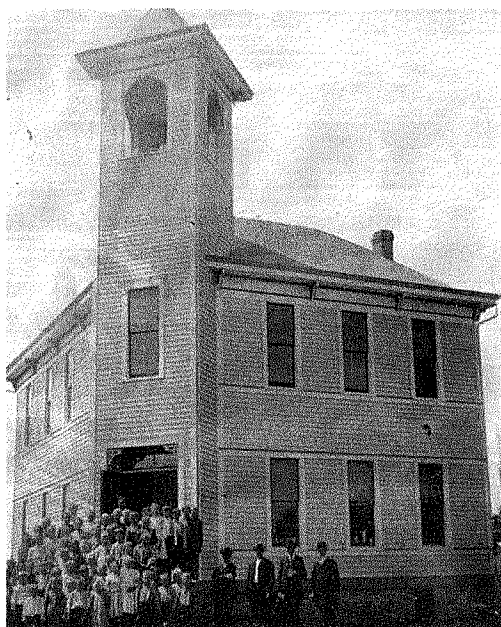
On the third of April 1905, students left the public school and walked down the street to begin class at the new Christian School. The fifty students who were enrolled those first few months were taught by Principal R. Barlow.

The first graduating class for which we have record was the class of 1906: Lee Kiel, Andrew Barlow, Otto Van Roekel. At this first graduation each graduate received an English Bible and this tradition has continued to the present.

In the Fall of 1905, enrollment increased to 61 and an additional teacher, Miss Anna Aue, was hired. As enrollment continued to increase to over one hundred, a third teacher was added.

Mr. Watse Bierma was the first president of the Sioux Center Christian School Board.

Since the very first day our school began, it has been the wish of the School society that the school's graduates carry with them, wherever they go, an understanding of God's hand in history and science, in politics, arts and recreation. It is still the prayer of the faculty and parents, that Christian school students come to understand God's power in His world, but also that they get to know that the Creator of the Universe is their God and Savior, that with the same hand that He rules the world, He has touched their own hearts with His love.



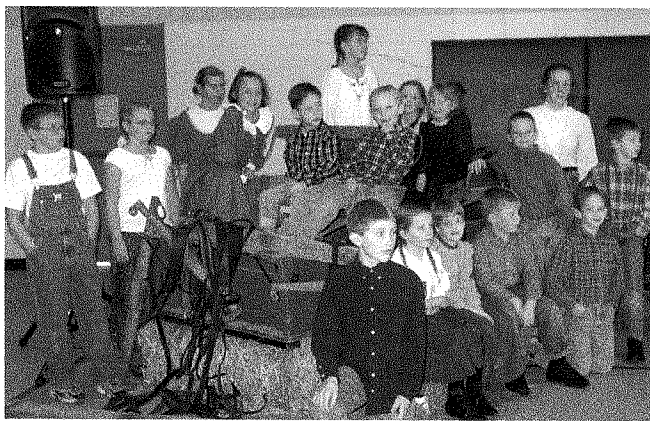
The first school building was built on South Main Street at a cost of \$530



A 10x40 foot addition was added to the north side of the school in 1907



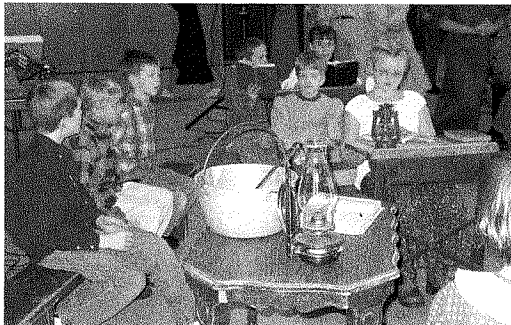
Watse Bierma was the first president of the Sioux Center Christian School Board



Celebration team members gathering around the buckboard, imagining how students arrived at school 100 years ago.



Ring around the Rosy (back row: Mrs. Linda Feekes, Jena Schouten, Tanner Van Wyhe, Caleb De Vries, front row: Cassandra Sybesma, Katherine Mouw, Bryton Buyert)



Ready for lessons

(Samuel Lantinga, Jacob Floen, Adam Franken, David Van Dixhoorn, Monica McConnel, Erin Boersma, Paxton Visscher)



Team members dressed in the latest fashions of the day, 100 years ago

(Briana Koedam, Megan Tinklenberg, Jessica Van Holland, Kortney Kruger)



The original drinking fountain

(Nicholas Kats, Adam Franken, Paxton Visscher)



Mrs. Ellen Korver impresses the audience with her centennial outfit.



Chapel Service January 2004 – The first decade, 1905-1915 Celebration Team Members



Class in Session

(Cheyenne Buyert, Katherine Mouw, Cassandra Sybesma and Bryton Buyert)

Celebration Team Members: Decade: 1905-1915

Team leaders: Linda Feekes, Joanne Soodsma, Ellen Korver, Helen Kobes

Abigail Vander Werf, Hannah Vanderwoerd, Bryton Buyert, Cheyenne Buyert, Karl Hoekstra, Nadine Sikkema, Kylee Zevenbergen, Caleb De Vries, Samuel Lantinga, Sara Horstman, Heather Kaemingk, Jacob Floen, Monica McConnel, Paxton Visscher, Emily Broers, Matthew Roghair, Briana Koedam, Reuben Van Gaalen, Ryan Hoekstra, Laura Jelsma, Ruth Mahaffy, Jessica De Stigter, Chad Van Ravensway, Amanda Boer, John Mulholland, Katherine Mouw, Cassandra Sybesma, Adam Franken, Nicholas Kats, Jena Schouten, Erin Boersma, Tanner Van Wyhe, Hope Kramer, Brooke Wolterstorff, David Van Dixhoorn, Courtney Vreugdenhil, Drew Nederhoff, Caroline Reinders, Justin Jansma, Kortney Kruger, Angel Addink, Megan Tinklenberg, Jessica Van Holland, Nathan Bos, Katie Haverhals.