

The Kansas City, Kansan, May 12, 1985: p 2A

Temple' Church Still Serving as Church

(Editor's note: This is the sixth in a series of "then and now" articles on places and things of interest in Kansas City, Kan., compiled by area historian Margaret Landis in observance of the 100th birthday of KCK in 1986. Much of the information has appeared in past editions of *The Kansan*.)

(Transcriptions are presented without changes except to improve readability.)

In the "then and now" article in the Sunday, April 7 edition of *The Kansan*, reference was made to the "Temple Church."

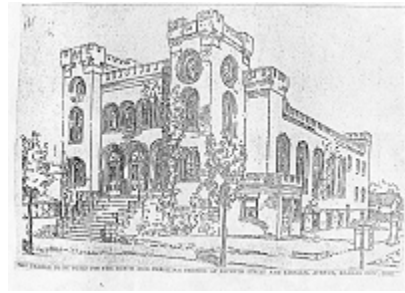
As a result *The Kansan* has received several inquiries as to where the "Temple Church" was located. For those readers we are happy to report the church is still standing at 7th and Parallel and today is the Olivet Institutional Baptist Church.

The "Temple" referred to the architectural style of the North Side Christian Church, when it was built in 1909. The walls are of pressed brick with stone trimmings and ornamentation. cost of the structure was \$30,000 and included a gymnasium, library and reading room.

In 1912 the name of the church was changed to The Temple Christian Church after it merged with the Central Christian Church, then located at 7th street between Armstrong and Ann Avenues.

The cornerstone of the Olivet Institutional Baptist Church reads:

Olivet Institutional Baptist Church
Organized Dec. 22, 1938
Rev. I.H. Fisher, Pastor
Dedicated Sept. 19, 1943



(top)A sketch of the "Temple Church," 7th and Parallel, as it appeared in 1909. (bottom)A picture of the Olivet Institutional Baptist Church, 7th and Parallel, as it appears today, with a change in the front steps. *Kansan* photo by Terry Ganseborn.

The side of the cornerstone is decorated with a Masonic emblem and reads:

Laid by Masons
Of Kansas
Sept. 19, 1943
Rev. C.S. Stamps
B.TH.D.D.
Pastor

The sign in front of the church states:

Jodie V. Welch, Jr., memorial

Correction May 16, 1985

In the "then and now" article of Sunday, May 12, it was stated the Northside Christian Church, 7th and Parallel, changed its name to the Temple Christian Church after merging with the Central Christian Church, 7th street between Ann and Armstrong avenues, in 1912.

Although Northside Christian Church was renamed Temple Christian Church in 1912, the two churches didn't merge until the fall of 1929.