

# Our Church History



1892

*Organization of the "First Presbyterian Church of Paoli" had its beginnings in October 1892, when twenty-three members of a Sabbath School Mission met in a small chapel on Darby Road. The cost of the chapel and grounds - \$1250 - was nearly paid when the congregation's charter was granted in 1900. Descendants of that first congregation worship with us today.*



1907

*By June 1907, the congregation had outgrown the little chapel. A larger gothic-style structure was built across Lancaster Pike from the chapel site. (The "new" church is still standing as the Paoli Baptist Church.) In the post-war decades, the congregation once again outgrew its building and decided to relocate.*



1985

*In 1962, the congregation moved to our present location, but only part of the current structure was built at that time – the Christian Education Wing and what we now call Forrester Hall, which was then used as the sanctuary. In 1985, our current sanctuary was dedicated. With the generous giving of the members, the mortgage was fully paid in January 1991.*



1991

*The Memorial Garden was added to the eastern side of the building in 1991. In 2000, we celebrated our Centennial Anniversary with a year-long series of special events that included return visits by former pastors; a gala celebration service and church-wide picnic; the publication of a centennial history; the dedication of the Heritage Chapel (the original 1892 building, which was moved to our property in 1986); and the establishment of the Heritage Archives.*

*The congregation continues its quest to be a missional congregation that focuses on the many needs of the local and global communities.*

