



United Brethren Church In Christ, 265 North Church Street, 1911. (Peace United)

Constructed of poured concrete to resemble cut stone, this Romanesque Revival styled church is characterized by semi-circular arched window and door windows, square entrance tower with battlements and arched openings on the upper stage, and pilastered parapet with blind arcading. Designed by an architect from Iowa, B.L. Morrow, this church was built to replace the earlier 1894 church demolished by fire.

The church is well maintained and has many, large well-preserved stained glass windows which are lit at night. The bell located in the tower is rung on Sundays to announce the start of services.



United Brethren Church fire 1911. Richland County History Room photos.

Carl Burdick, Sr., in his unpublished memoir of his childhood in Richland Center, describes the U.B. Church, "On the S.E. corner of Union and Church there has stood a U.B. Church as long as I have lived. The first was a big wooden frame building and this burned in 1911 during the winter months. Bert Shambaugh one of the members had the duty of firing up on Sunday mornings to get the place all set for services. This one morning he had a good fire going and went home for his breakfast. The furnace was faulty or something overheated and a fire started. My friend Bun and I suffered the bitter cold this morning to stand in below zero weather just to wait til the weathervane fell from the burning steeple. Later a nice cement church replaced the one burned and that still stands today."



Richland County History Room photo.