

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING A HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION DISTRICT – 836 E. JEFFERSON  
BLVD., FORT WAYNE, IN 46803

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, by passage of Ordinance Number G-06-08 has established Chapter 151 of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana Code of Ordinances entitled "Historic Preservation and Protection Districts;" and

WHEREAS, Section 151.030 of Chapter 151 provides procedures by which areas may be designated as "Historic Districts;" and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 151.030 of Chapter 151,

CALVERY UNITED BRETHREN –	836 E. JEFFERSON, FORT WAYNE, IN
TURNER CHAPEL AME CHURCH	46803

is designated as a Historic District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The property listed as :

CALVERY UNITED BRETHREN –	836 E. JEFFERSON, FORT WAYNE,	
TURNER CHAPEL AME CHURCH	IN 46803	

is hereby designated a Historic Preservation District, in compliance with Section 151.030(E) of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana Code of Ordinances .


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**SECTION 2.** The map submitted herewith as Exhibit "A" is approved and it is noted that all legal steps have been taken by the Historic Preservation Commission pursuant to Section 151.030 of Chapter 151 of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana Code of Ordinances.

**SECTION 3.** That this Ordinance be in effect from and after its passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor.

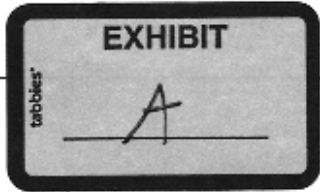
  
Council Member

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

  
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Carol Helton, City Attorney

# CALVARY UNITED BRETHREN -- TURNER CHAPEL AME CHURCH PROPOSED LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

836 E. JEFFERSON BLVD





836 East Jefferson Boulevard  
Hanna Addition E 1/2 Lot 316 & All 317

E Jefferson Blvd

Harmar St

### Legend

-  Calvary United Brethren--Turner Chapel AME Church Historic District
-  Existing Structure

Document Path: O:\community\_development\Rick\HPC\HPC\_Calvary\_United\_Brethren\_Turner\_Chapel\_AME\_Proposed\_LHD.mxd



**STAFF REVIEW OF  
LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT PETITION**



**Petitioner:** Turner Chapel of African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc.; submitted by Rev. Kenneth Christmon and Rev. Samuel L. Summer.

**Case No.:** HPC 9-23-19-LHD-1

**Subject Property:** 836 E. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46803

**Historic Name:** Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church

**Legal Description:** From Allen County Property records:  
HANNA ADD E 1/2 LOT 316 & ALL 317

**Date of Review:** September 23, 2019

**Cultural Resources Survey Information:**

<b>Rating (SHAARD):</b>	Notable	<b>Style:</b>	Gothic Revival
<b>Construction Date:</b>	1927	<b>Architect/Builder:</b>	Henry Wehrenberg & Sons (general contractor)
<b>Condition:</b>	Fair	<b>Integrity:</b>	Unaltered (Addition in 1954)
<b>Use:</b>	Religious facility	<b>Survey No. (1996):</b>	003-215-29031

**Reason for Application:**

Recognizing the architectural and historical significance of this property to the Fort Wayne community, the owner, Turner Chapel of African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc., prepared a “Petition for Historic Property or District Designation” with assistance by Jill Downs of ARCH, Inc. The completed petition was signed August 24, 2019 and it was submitted to the Historic Preservation Commission on August 28, 2019. The petition requests local historic district designation of the Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church at 836 E. Jefferson Boulevard.

**Staff Comments:**

**Criteria for Local Historic Designation:**

Section 151.030 (titled Local Historic Districts) of the Fort Wayne Historic Preservation and Protection ordinance allows for the designation of historic districts. The ordinance provides that:

A local historic district shall not be established unless the proposed map includes a building, groups of buildings, structures, sites, objects, streetscapes, or neighborhoods which meet at least one of the following criteria:

- (1) Are associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- (2) Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- (3) Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, that represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and/or
- (4) Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history.

In applying the criteria set forth in the ordinance, historic preservation staff has determined that the Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church meets two of the four possible criteria for Local Historic Designation. The property is significant under Criterion one (1) because it is “associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.” The property is locally significant for its association with the establishment of the African Methodist Episcopal Church congregation in Fort Wayne and with Civil Rights activities. The property is also significant under Criterion three (3), as a property that “Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction.” The church is locally significant for its distinctive characteristics as an outstanding example of Gothic Revival church architecture; it was built in 1927, and it retains its original appearance.

**Description (Please see the accompanying photos):**

*Note: The following description is the work of Jill Downs, as submitted on the Petition for Historic Property or District Designation. HP staff has made only minor edits to this material.*

The proposed Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church Local Historic District consists solely of a brick, limestone, and terra cotta Gothic Revival church structure built in 1927/1954 by Calvary United Brethren Church. The building is currently the home of Turner Chapel AME Church. Located approximately one mile southeast of downtown Fort Wayne on the southwest corner of East Jefferson Boulevard and Harmar Street, the church building occupies the east half of lot 316 and all of lot 317 of Hanna’s Addition<sup>1</sup> to the City of Fort Wayne. At the time the church was constructed, the neighborhood was well-established as residential with small narrow lots. Two houses

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<sup>1</sup> Allen County, Indiana, Property Record Card for 836 East Jefferson Boulevard, <http://www.acimap.us/website/prc/021201382009000074.pdf?date=6/17/2019%2012:00:00%20AM> (accessed 17 June 2019).

had previously existed on the church site.<sup>2</sup> Presently, East Jefferson Boulevard is a busy one-way, three-lane street with traffic flowing eastward. The block bounded by East Jefferson, Harmar, Madison, and Division Streets, just east of Turner Chapel, is largely vacant of structures, and Turner Chapel uses the northwest portion as a parking lot. There are also several other vacant lots in the surrounding neighborhood. Across East Jefferson to the north are commercial properties supporting a moving company and a large funeral home. Nuckols Park, encompassing a small parcel at the northeast corner of East Jefferson and Harmar Streets, is catty-corner from Turner Chapel.

### *Exterior*

Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church is a cross-gabled structure with bell tower on its northeast corner, smaller tower on the northwest corner, and a two-story flat-roofed addition on the south. The main section of the church housing the sanctuary is oriented north to south on the lot with the cross gables oriented east to west and positioned toward the southern end of the main section. The original building is constructed of tan brick in a running bond pattern while the addition, also of tan brick, exhibits a common bond pattern. Both are on a concrete foundation. Other overall details include limestone and terra cotta accents and a green asphalt shingle roof that mimics the look of the original tile roof. Window styles on the building include one-over one, double-hung constructed of wood; steel-framed awning; and fixed. A few vinyl, double-hung, replacement windows exist on the south façade of the main section. Most of the windows have terra cotta or limestone sills and lintels, and some contain stained glass. Surrounded by some grassy areas and landscaping at the northeast corner of the lot, the church structure fills nearly the entire property.

The church's main section faces north toward East Jefferson Boulevard. On the north, stepped-up gable end with terra cotta accents, a terra cotta detail in the shape of a cross is incorporated into the peak, and the upper story is detailed with three, side-by-side, pointed-arch stained-glass windows, with the center window being slightly taller than the other two. The windows, which illuminate the church's sanctuary, are outlined in terra cotta and have terra cotta accents in a quoin-like effect. Centered on the first level of the front façade is a wood-framed, glassed-in vestibule with glass roof and metal cornice. It contains a central set of contemporary, metal-framed glass doors flanked by divided light sidelights. Two other sets of original door openings, on either side of the center set, now feature a six-light, metal-framed, fixed window unit. One of the glass bays on the east side has been replaced by a door to accommodate a handicapped-accessible entrance.

The west side of the main building section is detailed with brick buttresses and terra cotta accents and incorporates four pairs of pointed-arch Gothic windows with terra cotta keystones and embellished with stained glass and modest tracery. Below these windows is a terra cotta water table, and on the ground floor are four pairs of double-hung windows. The east side is similarly detailed except with three pairs of windows on each level.

A square bell tower, incorporated at the northeast corner of the structure, extends approximately one story beyond the height of the main section and features brick buttresses with terra cotta accents and crenellation with terra cotta accents along its top edge. The uppermost tower section of the north side contains two tall, pointed-arch, louvered openings outlined in terra cotta and with terra cotta details in a quoin-like effect. At the second-story level is a very narrow, pointed-arch window outlined in terra cotta and with a terra cotta sill and lintel. Below this is an engraved sign outlined in terra cotta that reads "Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church," and below this is a band of terra cotta to visually separate this level from the one below. The remaining two levels of the tower each contain a single double-hung window. About at ground level on the buttress at the northeast corner are the dates "1875 1927" in terra cotta. The east side of the bell tower matches that of the north side except there is no signage and there are two double-hung windows at ground level. A square tower about two-thirds the height of the bell tower stands at the building's northwest corner and is detailed with brick buttresses with terra cotta accents. Sections of terra cotta in a pointed arch detail have been combined with brick to create the walls around the uppermost portion. A band of terra cotta visually separates this section from the level below containing a single double-hung window with terra cotta lintel and sill. Below this is a pair of double-hung windows

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<sup>2</sup> *Insurance Maps of Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1918*, vol. 1 (New York, NY: Sanborn Map Company, 1919),

with stained glass and a terra cotta hood mold, and at ground level is a single, double-hung window. All of the windows have terra cotta sills.

The west gable end features a brick buttress, with terra cotta accents, on the north and south edges. At attic level is a very narrow, pointed-arch window outlined in terra cotta and with a terra cotta sill and lintel like that in the bell tower. The window openings on the next two stories are virtually identical to each other with a pair of double-hung windows with terra cotta sills placed toward the north side of the wall; a single, double-hung window placed in the center; and a single, double-hung window placed to the south. The windows on the upper story are a contemporary replacement variety, and the two single windows on the main level are shorter than the others. The north side of the gable contains a pair of fixed stained-glass windows on the upper story and a pair of stained-glass windows with terra cotta hood mold on the main level. Below this is a terra cotta water table for visual separation from the ground level where there are two, double-hung windows. All of the windows have terra cotta sills. The south side of the gable contains a pair of fixed windows on the upper level, a pair of double-hung windows on the main level, and two, double-hung windows on the ground level. All of the windows have terra cotta sills.

At attic level on the east stepped gable end, capped with terra cotta, is a pair of fixed, wood-framed, stained glass windows. Below this is a grouping of five, double-hung, stained glass windows connected by a continuous terra cotta window hood and window sill. On the next level is a similar grouping of five windows except lacking the window mold. At ground level are five single double-hung windows spaced evenly apart across the wall surface. On the north side of this gable section is a grouping of three fixed windows connected by a terra cotta sill and placed high on the wall under the eaves. Below this is a grouping of three, double-hung, stained glass windows connected by a terra cotta hood mold and terra cotta sill. A terra cotta water table adds additional detail and visual separation from the three windows on the ground floor. Off the south side of the east gable is a two-story tall, tower-like structure that contains a paired set of fixed, wood-framed, stained glass windows with terra cotta sill on the second story and a set of metal-framed glass doors, surrounded by terra cotta accents, on the ground floor at Harmar Street. In terra cotta above the door are the words "Sunday School."

The south end of the main building features a stepped-up gable, capped in terra cotta, containing a narrow, pointed-arch louvered vent at attic level. At the main level are four, double-hung replacement windows. Below this row of windows is a two-story structure added in 1954 constructed of tan brick in a common bond pattern and with a limestone cap on the parapet. On both stories of the west side are four sets of four-light awning windows with limestone sill, one placed to the north of a door and the other three to the south of the door. A metal fire escape is positioned between the first and second floors. On both stories of the south side are four, paired groupings of four-light awning windows, although those on the upper story are connected by a continuous limestone hood mold. The east side is identical to the south, except that there are two groupings of three windows on each story.

### *Interior*

Upon entering the main doors on East Jefferson Boulevard, an open staircase with metal painted balustrades and red carpet leads to the church narthex detailed with flattened arched openings and metal painted balustrades. Off the narthex to the east is a wood staircase to the balcony which holds two sections of three rows of wooden pews and one section of two rows of pews. The sanctuary is entered from the narthex through three sets of paired glass doors with wood trim in a pointed arch design. With white painted walls and ceiling and dark wood ceiling beams, the sanctuary has a center aisle covered in red carpeting with 15 rows of wooden pews, with red cushions and seatbacks, on either side. On the south end is the altar and another, smaller seating area with a section of seven wooden pews, also with red cushions and seatbacks, in an east side gallery. These pews originally faced south, but now face west. Flanking the altar are a pair of doors that lead to the building section added in 1954. This area features concrete block construction and includes a hallway, with vinyl composition tile flooring, around which office spaces are oriented. Just through the east altar doorway is a wooden, carpeted staircase for accessing the upper floor.

On the east end of the upper floor is a large classroom space while other, smaller rooms on this level are used as storage. The ground level of the Church includes a large open hall, floored in vinyl composition

tile, directly under the sanctuary. When first built, several classroom spaces existed on both sides of the hall, but those on the west side have since been removed to create a larger hall space and to allow for natural light to infiltrate. There is also a large kitchen off the east side of the hall. The 1954 addition on the south end of the building features concrete block walls, vinyl composition tile flooring, and a dropped ceiling and contains a large classroom space, small kitchen area, library, and cultural center.

### **Historical Significance:**

*Note: The following discussion of the historical and architectural significance is the work of Jill Downs, as submitted on the Petition for Historic Property or District Designation. HP staff has made only minor edits to this material.*

**Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church is locally significant for its association with the establishment of the African Methodist Episcopal Church congregation in Fort Wayne and with Civil Rights activities.**

The United Brethren religion was established in Pennsylvania in the late 1700s as a result of the “Great Awakening,” a spiritual renewal movement in the United States. It was the first denomination to actually begin in the country, and spread to Virginia and Maryland and then to Indiana and Ohio through circuit-riding preachers. For some time, there were two denominations that went by the name of “Church of the United Brethren in Christ.” They merged in 1946 to form the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Church, and in 1968, the EUB merged with the Methodist Church to form the United Methodist Church.<sup>3</sup>

Calvary United Brethren Church was organized in 1875 by Reverend R. W. Wilgus and had twenty charter members. The congregation first worshipped in a building on the northeast corner of Washington Boulevard and Fulton Street, then in 1883, built a church at the northeast corner of Lewis and Harmer Streets.<sup>4</sup> In July of 1922, a building fund for constructing a new Calvary United Brethren Church had been set up,<sup>5</sup> and in 1923, the lots at East Jefferson and Harmer Streets were purchased.<sup>6</sup> The new church was built in 1927, and was dedicated on January 15, 1928.<sup>7</sup>

In 1954, an addition was built on the south side of the building that included classrooms, offices, storage spaces, a kitchen, dining hall, and gymnasium. By 1960, however, the congregation had decided it was time to relocate again citing changing conditions in the area, a lack of adequate parking, and that most members of the congregation lived some distance away. In 1962, the church announced that it had selected a site approximately six miles southwest on Winchester Road, and that the current church was being put up for sale.<sup>8</sup> The following year, Turner Chapel AME Church purchased the building<sup>9</sup> and has been using it for church services and other various functions since 1965.<sup>10</sup>

In 1787, Richard Allen, Absalom Jones and others established the Free African Society in Philadelphia as a result of facing racial discrimination practicing their Methodist religion by white Methodists. The AME Church was officially recognized in 1815. Prior to the Civil War, AME churches developed mostly in the

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<sup>3</sup> United Brethren All for Christ, “Our History,” <https://ub.org/about/history/> (accessed 19 June 2019).

<sup>4</sup> Calvary United Brethren Church, *Souvenir Program of Dedication Services*, 1928.

<sup>5</sup> “Thousand Dollars Given,” *Fort Wayne (IN) News-Sentinel*, 31 July 1922, 22.

<sup>6</sup> Calvary United Brethren Church.

<sup>7</sup> “Beautiful New Edifice of the Calvary U.B. Congregation Completed Recently by Henry H. Wehrenberg & Sons,” *Fort Wayne (IN) Journal-Gazette*, 1928 January 15, 41.

<sup>8</sup> “Calvary EUB Buys Another Site After 87 Years on Jefferson St.,” *Fort Wayne (IN) News-Sentinel*, 4 April 1962, 35. Although the article mentions a gymnasium being built, there does not seem to be any portion of the building that could currently have been used as that type of space.

<sup>9</sup> Tom Castaldi, “Turner Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church,” <http://historycenterfw.blogspot.com/2014/02/turner-chapel-african-methodist.html> (accessed 21 June 2019).

<sup>10</sup> Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, *To God Be the Glory Through the Generations: 150 Years of Triumph, Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church 1849-1999* (Fort Wayne, IN: Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1999), 21.

Northeast and Midwest, and grew significantly during the Civil War period when many southern states established congregations.<sup>11</sup>

The oldest black Methodist congregation in Indiana, Bethel AME Church, was established by William Paul Quinn in Indianapolis in 1836.<sup>12</sup> Turner Chapel AME Church was founded in Fort Wayne in 1849<sup>13</sup> and is the oldest black congregation in the city.<sup>14</sup> This same year, AME trustees in Fort Wayne purchased a lot on Jefferson Street between Hanna and Francis streets, but were unsuccessful in building a church structure due to state laws that discouraged African-Americans from settling in the area.<sup>15</sup> By 1869, however, Reverend Jim Jordan was assigned as a resident pastor, and AME worship services began occurring at an athletic event facility called Hafner's Hall.<sup>16</sup> This same year,<sup>17</sup> AME officers bought the church once utilized by St. John's Reformed Church<sup>18</sup> and moved it to a lot at the corner of (East) Wayne and Francis Streets. The church was then renamed "Turner Chapel AME Church" in honor of the Reverend Henry McNeil Turner, a black chaplain who served during the Civil War, and later was a bishop in the AME Church.<sup>19</sup> In 1888, Turner Chapel AME Church built a larger facility at the same location, which was the first church building erected by an African-American congregation in Fort Wayne, and remained as its house of worship until moving into the present location at 836 East Jefferson Boulevard.<sup>20</sup>

Turner Chapel AME Church also has an association with activities connected to Civil Rights in Fort Wayne. In 1969, efforts were made by the African American community to desegregate the city's elementary schools. When it appeared that no such plan would be developed, the Ministerial Alliance, led by 15 African American ministers, called for a boycott in the form of African American students withdrawing from whatever public school they were attending. Beginning on September 3, 1969, classrooms for the withdrawn students were set up in several churches in Fort Wayne. Known as "freedom schools," the sites included Turner Chapel.<sup>21</sup> On September 12, 1969, the students returned to their regular schools after school officials agreed to establish an integration policy.<sup>22</sup>

### **Architectural Significance:**

**Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church is locally significant for its distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction as it is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival church architecture that exhibits a significant amount of historic integrity.**

Religious buildings built in the Gothic style first appeared in Europe and were prevalent between 1190 and 1400. In the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, a revival of interest in religion in England resulted in church construction and restoration. Gothic was the natural style choice for Britons during this period. It wasn't until the early 1800's, however, that the first Gothic Revival churches appeared in America. A major identifying feature of the style is the use of pointed-arch windows which allows for more window space for light infiltration and for stained glass applications. Other architectural details include primarily stone or brick construction; the use of interior ribbed vaults; hood moldings over

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<sup>11</sup> African Methodist Episcopal Church, "Our History," <https://www.ame-church.com/our-church/our-history/> (accessed 21 June 2019).

<sup>12</sup> Marilyn J. Chiat, *America's Religious Architecture: Sacred Places for Every Community* (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1997), 110.

<sup>13</sup> Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 19.

<sup>14</sup> Miles Edwards, interview by Jill Downs, 24 July 2019.

<sup>15</sup> Castaldi.

<sup>16</sup> George Mather, *Frontier Faith: the story of the pioneer congregations of Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1820-1860* (Fort Wayne, IN: Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society, 1992), 215.

<sup>17</sup> Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 19.

<sup>18</sup> Mather, 215.

<sup>19</sup> Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 19.

<sup>20</sup> Castaldi.

<sup>21</sup> Dell Ford, "Black Parents Urged to Back School Boycott," *Fort Wayne (IN) Journal-Gazette*, 3 September 1969, 1C.

<sup>22</sup> "Protest and Promises," *News-Sentinel*, 28 February 1990, page number not known.

windows; window tracery; pointed-arch doorways; and towers with crenellated parapets. Gothic Revival architecture tends toward asymmetry, irregularity, and verticality.<sup>23</sup>

In July of 1922, a building fund for constructing a new Calvary United Brethren Church had been set up with a goal of raising \$100,000,<sup>24</sup> and in 1923, the lots at East Jefferson and Harmer Streets were purchased for \$21,700.<sup>25</sup> The new church was built in 1927 for a total cost of \$125,000, and was dedicated on January 15, 1928. Although the name of an architect could not be found, Henry Wehrenberg & Sons was the general contractor and S.E. Grosvenor & Co. was the heating, plumbing, and ventilating contractor. Also, the Standard Lumber Company furnished the millwork, the Moellering Company supplied the brick, hardware was supplied by the Wayne Hardware Company, leaded art glass was furnished and installed by Fred H. Briemeyer, and the roof and sheet metal work was completed by Gerding & Auman Brothers. Interior work was completed by Brunner Bros. as decorating contractors and Ray P. Ehinger as plaster contractor.<sup>26</sup> In 1954, an \$80,000 addition was built on the south side of the building that included classrooms, offices, storage spaces, a kitchen, dining hall, and gymnasium.<sup>27</sup>

Although lacking interior ribbed vaults, Turner Chapel AME Church is architecturally significant as it exhibits all of the distinguishing characteristics of the Gothic Revival style. With the exception of the (appropriately-designed) addition on the south side of the building and minor changes to the enclosed main entrance, the structure's exterior retains its original 1927 appearance.

### **Staff Recommendations:**

For the reasons stated above, staff recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) should approve the petition, recommend the Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church for Local Historic Designation, and submit a historic district map for City Council approval. Further, staff recommends that any motion to recommend Local Historic Designation by the Commission must refer to specific boundaries that are clearly identifiable or identified on a map.

Staff further recommends that the Historic Preservation Commission should **consider** if the property is threatened and shall be declared to be under interim protection under the Historic Preservation and Protection Ordinance; however **staff does not recommend interim protection for this property.**

If the property is placed under Interim Protection, the Commission shall, by personal delivery or first class mail, provide the owner or occupant of the building, structure or site with a written notice of the declaration within two (2) working days. The written notice must:

- (1) Cite the authority of the Commission to put the building, structure, or site under interim protection under this section;
- (2) Explain the effect of putting the building, structure, or site under interim protection; and,
- (3) Indicate that the interim protection is temporary.

### **Procedural Notes:**

If Local Historic District Designation is recommended for the Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church by the HPC, the Commission's recommendation and a map of the recommended historic district is then forwarded to the Fort Wayne City Council. The City Council makes the final determination of whether to create a Local Historic District. If a new local historic district is subsequently approved by City Council and the Mayor, the map establishing boundaries of the local historic district will be recorded

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<sup>23</sup> Jeffery Howe, *Houses of Worship: An Identification Guide to the History and Styles of American Religious Architecture* (San Diego, CA: Thunder Bay Press, 2003), 156, 157, 160, 161, 166.

<sup>24</sup> "Thousand Dollars Given," *Fort Wayne (IN) News-Sentinel*, 31 July 1922, 22.

<sup>25</sup> Calvary United Brethren Church.

<sup>26</sup> "Beautiful New Edifice of the Calvary U.B. Congregation Completed Recently by Henry H. Wehrenberg & Sons."

<sup>27</sup> "Calvary EUB Buys Another Site After 87 Years on Jefferson St."

in the Office of the Allen County Recorder. In addition, the owner(s) of the property in the local historic district will be notified by mail of the designation within 60 days following approval by City Council. All designations shall also be recorded on a map and/or mapping system maintained by the organization(s) for land use management that serve(s) the City of Fort Wayne.

A building, structure, or site, placed under interim protection by the HPC, remains under interim protection until the historic district map is approved in an ordinance or rejected by the City Council. While a building, structure, or site is under interim protection under this section:

- (1) The building, structure, or site may not be demolished or moved; and,
- (2) The exterior appearance of the building, structure, or site may not be conspicuously changed by addition, reconstruction, or alteration.

### **Bibliography:**

- African Methodist Episcopal Church. "Our History."  
<https://www.ame-church.com/our-church/our-history/> (accessed 21 June 2019).
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<http://www.acimap.us/website/prc/021201382009000074.pdf?date=6/17/2019%2012:00:00%20AM> (accessed 17 June 2019).
- "Beautiful New Edifice of the Calvary U.B. Congregation Completed Recently by Henry H. Wehrenberg & Sons." *Fort Wayne (IN) Journal-Gazette*, 1928 January 15.  
"Calvary EUB Buys Another Site After 87 Years on Jefferson St." *Fort Wayne (IN) News-Sentinel*, 4 April 1962.
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<http://historycenterfw.blogspot.com/2014/02/turner-chapel-african-methodist.html>  
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- Mather, George. *Frontier Faith: the story of the pioneer congregations of Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1820-1860*. Fort Wayne, IN: Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society, 1992.
- "Protest and Promises." *Fort Wayne (IN) News-Sentinel*, 28 February 1990.
- "Thousand Dollars Given." *Fort Wayne (IN) News-Sentinel*, 31 July 1922.

Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. *To God Be the Glory Through the Generations: 150 Years of Triumph, Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church 1849-1999*. Fort Wayne, IN: Turner Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1999.

United Brethren All for Christ. "Our History." <https://ub.org/about/history/> (accessed 19 June 2019).

**Photos:**

All photos are September 17, 2019; by HPC staff.



Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church, looking Southwest.



Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church, looking Southeast.



Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church; detail of the wood-frame entrance.



Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church, looking West at the east elevation.



Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church, looking Northwest at the south and east elevations of the 1954 addition.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANNING & POLICY

Thomas C. Henry, Mayor

City of Fort Wayne  
Community Development  
200 East Berry Street, Suite 320  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

260 427-1127 [fwcommunitydevelopment.org](http://fwcommunitydevelopment.org)

## MEMO

**To:** Fort Wayne Common Council

**From:** Don Orban, Historic Preservation Planner; Community Development

**Date:** September 24, 2019

**Re:** Local Historic District Designation: Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church

Fort Wayne's Historic Preservation and Protection Ordinance was established to preserve and protect those historically or architecturally worthy structures, sites, and districts which impart a distinct aesthetic quality to the city and which serve as visible reminders of the historic heritage of the city. To assist in achieving this goal, criteria are set forth in the ordinance for the establishment of multiple and single property historic districts.

Pursuant to Chapter 151 of the municipal code, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) held a public hearing on September 23, 2019, and voted to recommend designation of the following property as a local historic district:

**Calvary United Brethren—Turner Chapel AME Church  
836 E. Jefferson Boulevard**

The building is significant for its association with Turner Chapel African Methodist Church, the first African congregation in Fort Wayne. It is also associated with Civil Rights activities by the church in the 1960s. The building is also significant for its distinctive characteristics as an outstanding example of Gothic Revival church architecture. It was built in 1927 by the Calvary United Brethren Church congregation, and purchased by Turner Chapel AME in 1963.

Recognizing the significance of the property, a "Petition for Historic Property or District Designation" was prepared by the owner, Turner Chapel of African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc. The petition was submitted by Rev. Kenneth Christmon and Rev. Samuel L. Summer.

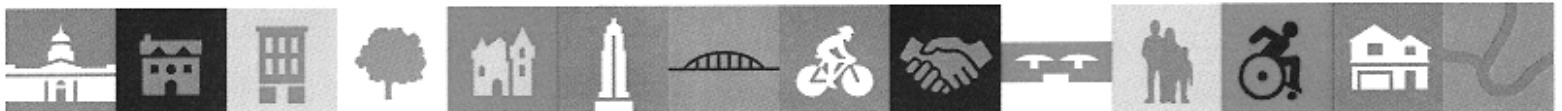
Local historic designation requires that the Fort Wayne HPC review any future conspicuous exterior changes to the property. This does not affect regular repair and maintenance procedures that do not involve a conspicuous exterior change, nor does it mean that buildings/structures cannot be altered or demolished, or that new buildings cannot be constructed. Local designation also has no jurisdiction over use.

The Historic Preservation Commission recommends that the Fort Wayne Common Council adopt the attached ordinance amendment in recognition of the historic and architectural values of the property and to afford its protection for future generations.

Attached, please find the required map of the proposed district as well as the full review detailing its significance. Please contact me at 427-2160, [don.orban@cityoffortwayne.org](mailto:don.orban@cityoffortwayne.org), if you have questions.

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**BILL NO. S-19-10-02**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS**

**October 15, 2019**

***Tom Freistroffer Chair***

***Michael Barranda Co-Chair***

***All Council Members***

An Ordinance designating a Historic Preservation District – 836 E. Jefferson Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN, 46803

*Calvary United Brethren – Turner Chapel AME Church*




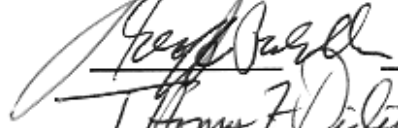
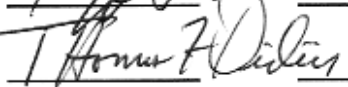
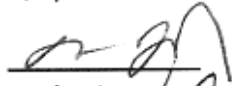
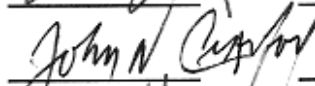
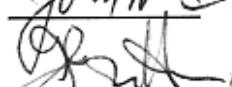
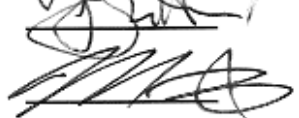
**COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS HAVE HAD SAID Ordinance under consideration and beg leave to report back to the Common Council that said Ordinance**

DO PASS

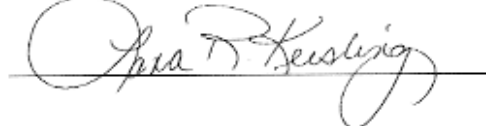
DO NOT PASS

ABSTAIN

NO REC

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**LANA R. KEESLING  
CITY CLERK**



Public Hearing Date: N/A

Read the first time in full and on motion by Councilman Freistroffer.

Read the second time by title and referred to the Regulations Committee.

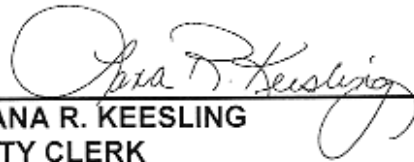
Read the third time in full and on motion by Councilman Freistroffer, placed on passage by the following vote:


<u>TOTAL VOTES</u>	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAINED</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
ARP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BARRANDA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CRAWFORD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DIDIER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENSLEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FREISTROFFER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HINES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
JEHL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PADDOCK	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

DATED: October 22, 2019

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 LANA R. KEESLING, CITY CLERK

Passed and adopted by the Common Council of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, as  
 Special Ordinance No. S-19-10-02 on the 22nd day of October, 2019

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 LANA R. KEESLING  
 CITY CLERK

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 PRESIDENT OFFICER

Presented by me to the Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the 23rd  
 of October 2019, at the hour of 10:40 o'clock A.M. E.S.T.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 LANA R. KEESLING, CITY CLERK

Approved and signed by me this 24<sup>th</sup> day of OCTOBER  
 2019, at the hour of 8:00 o'clock AM E.S.T.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA  
**RECEIVED**  
 OCT 24 2019  
 LANA R. KEESLING  
 CITY CLERK

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 THOMAS C. HENRY, MAYOR