

## Historic Church Buildings The First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Ann Arbor

## **About Our Historic Buildings in Ann Arbor**

Our present building on the corner of Ann Arbor-Saline and Ellsworth Roads is the fourth home for our congregation since its founding in 1865 as the First Unitarian Society of Ann Arbor.

The First Unitarian Society of Ann Arbor was incorporated in the old Ann Arbor court house on January 21, 1867 under the ministry of Charles H. Brigham. That congregation soon purchased and dedicated the old Methodist Church on the southwest corner of 5th and Ann Streets, no longer standing.

In the Fall of 1882 the society now called the First Unitarian Church of Ann Arbor, moved into the Romanesque building they constructed on the corner of State and Huron. Donaldson and Meier of Detroit were the architects and the fine stone work was done by the Walker Brothers of Ann Arbor. The building is now owned by Hobbs and Black Architects. The Ann Arbor Register newspaper in 1882 described the building as "thoroughly churchly in look, picturesque in outline, and certain to be one of the most admired architecturally, of our public buildings."

In 1946 the congregation purchased the <u>Dr. Dean Myers family home and moved to the stone chalet</u> (<u>built in 1916</u>) <u>located at 1917 Washtenaw Ave</u>, now serving as the Stone Chalet B&B. The congregation added a large addition to that church, designed by University of Michigan architecture professor George B. Brigham, in 1956.

Two of our buildings, the Hobbs and Black building and 1917 Washtenaw, are registered historic buildings.

We held our first service in our David Osler designed building at 4001 Ann Arbor - Saline Road location January 24, 1999. Our Religious Education Wing was dedicated November 14, 2004.