

**SELECT LIST OF EVENTS FROM MOODY CHURCH HISTORY**

ca. 1858	Moody began his Sunday school work
2/24/1864	Moody's Sunday school moved into building he had built for them on the south side of Illinois Street, between Wells and LaSalle
12/24/1864	Illinois Independent Church founded, J. H. Harwood pastor
1871	Chicago fire
12/24/1871	North Side Tabernacle dedicated at Wells and Ontario
1873	Church building at Chicago and LaSalle begun, (called the Chicago Street Church). First services held there 12/31/1873.
6/1/1876	Church dedicated and free of debt
10/1876	Moody holds an evangelistic meeting in Chicago in a wooden tabernacle at the corner of Monroe and Franklin
1878	First missionary dedicated, Frederick Franson
2/5/1887	Chicago Evangelization Society organized (granted charter, 2/12/87)
ca. 1888	<i>Pen and Scissors</i> began publication
9/29/1889	Bible Institute for Home and Foreign Missions of the Chicago Evangelization Society opened
1890	Church membership of seven hundred
1893	Church was one of many participating in Dwight L. Moody's effort to evangelize at World Columbian Exposition
1896	G. Campbell Morgan preached at church
1897	Moody conducted a series of evangelistic meetings at the auditorium
1897	<i>Our Field and Work</i> began publication
ca. 1899	First fresh air camp held
1899	Death of Dwight L, Moody
3/21/1900	Bible Institute renamed the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago; around this time the church began to be called informally the Moody Church
ca. 1902	Fresh Air work begun
1902	<i>Moody Church Herald</i> began publication
1903	Church membership of 1775
1908	Church formally renamed The Moody Church
1909	Moody Italian Mission begun (1813 Milton avenue). Gospel Rescue Mission was at 604 N. Clark
1910	Church membership of 2453
1910	Moody Italian Mission began renting space in the Northside Holiness Church at the corner of Elm and LaSalle
1910	<i>Moody Church News</i> begins publication
ca. 1912	Moody Church Home for Young Women begun (1015 N. LaSalle)
1914	Prophetic Bible Conference, sponsored by MBI, held at Moody Church

1914	Church membership approximately 3000 (Sunday school enrollment 3800)
11/7/1915	Moody Tabernacle opened on the corner of North Avenue and Clark
ca. 1916	Acquired Cedar Lake Conference grounds in Indiana (also called Rest-a-while)
1918	MBI buys Chicago Avenue building and grounds
1925	Church membership of 2436
3/15/1925	Last service in Moody Tabernacle; congregation moves temporarily back to Chicago Avenue building
11/8/25	New building dedicated. Church offices at 1605 LaSalle by 1939
11/22/25	Evangelistic services led by R. A. Torrey
12/20/25	Evangelistic service led by Billy Sunday
ca. 1926	Sunday school changes from morning to afternoon
1927	G. Campbell Morgan preached at church
12/27	Gypsy Smith held meetings at church
1928	Church membership of 3740
1929	Borden Library dedicated
6/1929	Reuter pipe organ installed
1930	Church membership of 3750
1933	A variety of activities at church to attract people attending the Century of Progress fair
1933	Gypsy Smith held meetings at the church
1934	Billy Sunday held meetings at the church
1934	Church membership of nearly 4000, Sunday school enrollment of 1700
1934	Broadcast of Sunday morning services over station WMBI begun
1935	Billy Sunday's funeral held at church
1936	Moody Church purchased the church at the corner of Elm and LaSalle for the Italian Mission, under Antonio F. Scorza. The church became known at the Elm-LaSalle Church
1937	Celebrated Moody centenary with Bible Institute
1937	Church membership of 3950 (Sunday school enrollment 1750)
1/1938	Charles Fuller radio program broadcast live from the church
1939	Old Chicago Avenue church building razed to make way for MBI woman's dormitory
1941	Gypsy Smith held meetings at the church
1941	Moody supported missionaries traveling on the <i>Zamzam</i> , a ship sunk by the German naval vessel <i>Atlantis</i>
1942	Gypsy Smith held meetings at church
1942	Home Missionary department formed

12/31/1943	Church burned its mortgage
ca. 1944	Moody Italian Mission became the Elm-LaSalle Street Church
1944-1945	Stained glass memorial windows installed in main auditorium
1946	Hosted first annual convention of National Sunday School Association
1947	Bob Murfin hired as youth director
1947	Hammond electric organ installed in Torrey Chapel
1951	Hosted Greater Chicago Sunday School convention
1951	Billy Graham spoke at church
1953	Church hosted its first Mid-America Keswick Convention
1954	Moody Church purchases a campground on Loon Lake, near Antioch, Illinois
1955	Clyburn Gospel Mission begun (1307 N. Clyburn), although the church had been using the Clyburn (or Clybourne) Avenue Hall since the 1890s
1956	Hosted National Sunday School Convention
1958	Held services at the Men's Grill of Carson, Pirie and Scott
1960	Sunday school enrollment 1200
1961	Christian day school started
3/23/1962	Three African Americans admitted into membership
1966	Meeting held by Jack Wyrzten
ca. 1967	Dial-a-story ministry begun
1967	First <i>Songs in the Night</i> banquet
1/21/1968	<i>Songs in the Night</i> became a Moody church radio program
1968	First Moody Church Founder's Day
1968	Moody Youth Camp changed its name to MoYoCa
1968	History Center opened
1970	First "Adventures in understanding " banquet for Christians and Jews
1970	Elm-LaSalle Church became independent
2/1970	Day care center begun
1974	First broadcast of the <i>Moody Church Hour</i> radio program
1976	Participated in Here's Life America campaign in Chicago
5/16/1976	Festival Americana held at church
ca. 1980	"Women in the Working World" luncheons begun
1981	REECH program begun (Reaching through Evangelism Explosion in Chicago)
1983	Operation Nehemiah campaign begun to refurbish the church building
10/1983	Ray Bakke hosted a seminar on how to reach Chicago
1/15/1986	Fire damages organ and main altar