

First Hungarian Lutheran Church, OH *Lutheran*2830 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Cleveland, Ohio *No website*216-721-7074

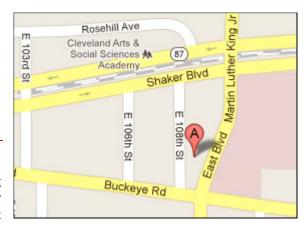
Pastor: xxxxx

Hungarian Church Services: Sun. 10:00 AM

Hungarian Congregation: 120 people

Church History

Some twenty Hungarian Lutherans held their first meeting in 1905 and shortly afterwards, on April 23, 1906, they were granted a charter to establish an independent congregation.



The first pastor was Steven Rúzsa (1907-23). The congregation initially met in a church building on Rawlings Ave., purchased in 1907. Within 6 years, they had founded the orphanage (also on Rawlings) and the Martin Luther Sick & Death Benefit Society. By 1923 the church supported a Lutheran seminary in Budapest, Hungary. In 1941 the congregation moved to a new Transylvanian Gothic-style church at 2830 Martin Luther King Blvd., at Buckeye Rd. Kossuth Hall, which housed educational work, was dedicated 21 Nov. 1954; the congregation then numbered more than 1,000. In 1949-50 the church sponsored the immigration of approx. 200 displaced persons and in 1956 the immigration of over 100 Hungarian Revolution "freedom fighters." The First Hungarian Lutheran Church has preserved Hungarian culture, sponsoring at first an annual Grape Harvest Festival, and, by 1967, the annual "Hungarian Heritage Days." Pastors have included Ladislaus Rúzsa (1923-34), Andor Leffler, Ph.D. (1934-54), and Gábor Brachna, D.D. (1955-76). Frank Juhász Shepherd was pastor in 1994 with membership reaching approx. 120.

Map: http://g.co/maps/gshhp