



**First United Methodist Church  
dedication photos April 12, 2015  
Photos by Monty Siekerman**



First United Methodist Church members and friends, some wearing yellow hard hats, gather for the beginning of the ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday. A large number of people attended the formal dedication of the new church. The pews were full for the worship service prior to the celebratory ribbon cutting.

In July 2013 the congregation voted to move forward with construction of their new church building on their historic site in downtown Ada. This \$6 million, 25,000-square-foot project is supported by insurance receipts from the tragic March 2012 fire and significant gifts from members, friends, and other churches.



Pastor Mary Jo Yeakel speaks from the balcony to the crowd below during the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new church on Sunday. At right is Rev. Barry Burns, United Methodist district superintendent.



Taking part in the dedication of the new \$6 million First United Methodist Church (from left) Rev. Wayne Albertson, pastor from 1999 to 2011; Rev. Mary Jo Yeakel, current pastor; Rev. Barry Burns, district superintendent who preached; Bob McCurdy, chairman of the building committee.



Dr. Lou Lobenhofer blows a shofar (a ram's horn) to gather people together for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the First United Methodist Church on Sunday. The original shofar was lost in the devastating church fire three years ago. The dedication of the new church was held Sunday.



ONU President Emeritus Dr. DeBow Freed (left), Composer Jonathan Wey and ONU President Dan DeBiasio at the dedication of the First United Methodist Church. Mr. Wey composed a piece titled “Unless the Lord Builds the House” which was sung during the service by the Chancel Choir and University Singers.