Bethany Theological Seminary Time Line

1901 While overlooking the village of Bethany in Palestine, A.C. Wieand and E. B. Hoff select Bethany as the name for the school they plan to open.

1905 Bethany Bible School opens at 188 Hastings Street, Chicago.

1905 To put educational theory into practice, Eva Trostle organizes students to lead Bible study groups, visit prisoners, work in soup kitchens and teach life skills to immigrants.

1909 The Van Buren Street campus in Chicago is dedicated.

1918 The School of Sacred Music begins.

1925 The Church of the Brethren assumes ownership of Bethany.

1931 Bethany Bible School is renamed Bethany Biblical Seminary.

1939 The American Association of Theological Schools accredits Bethany.

1963 Classes begin at the Oak Brook, Illinois campus.

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1963  Called the “bright new faculty,” Warren Groff, Don Miller, Graydon Snyder, Robert Neff, Don Durnbaugh, Dale Brown, and Byron Royer begin teaching at the Seminary.

1971  Bethany’s Peace Studies Program begins.

1974  Annual Conference removes Bethany from the General Board budget and authorizes the Seminary to develop its own fund-raising program for individuals and congregations.

1993  The Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center is established in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania.

1994  Bethany’s new campus in Richmond, Indiana is dedicated.

1998  The Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership is established by Bethany and the Church of the Brethren General Board as a successor to the training school.

1998  Ministry Formation is developed as a centerpiece of ministry education.

2000  Major gifts finance the development of an Institute for Ministry With Youth and Young Adults and a distance education program, Connections.

2004  The Church of the Brethren Christmas Eve service on the CBS television network is produced at Bethany.

2005  Bethany celebrates 100 years of educating witnesses of the gospel.