St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

3937 Canal Street

A 1902 clipping from the Detroit *Free Press* reports that the firm of Spier and Rohns, of Detroit, had been selected to design a church for St. John Evangelical Church in New Orleans, at the corner of Iberville and North Prieur streets. Its solid stone walls gave a comforting appearance of strength, while bright fleur-de-lis-style opalescent windows added a color and gaiety.

In the mid-1920s St. John Lutheran sold the building to an African-American congregation, Grace United Methodist Church. The Lutheran congregation, founded in the 1850s, then moved to this brick structure on Canal Street.

*Not visited*

*Epilogue: Hurricane Betsy in 1965 removed the steeple of the 1902 structure, and Hurricane Katrina in 2005 collapsed large parts of the rear sanctuary wall. The members of Grace United Methodist Church merged in 2007 with First United Methodist Church, combining names: First Grace United Methodist Church.*