

## This Week in Eden History October 6 | Frederick C. Klick



Frederick c. Klick's Eden graduation photo, 1902 | Eden Seminary Archives

Frederick C. Klick, President of the Evangelical Synod of North America during the merger process with the Reformed Church in the United States to form the Evangelical and Reformed Church, died on October 6, 1947. He was born in Pickneyville, Illinois, Dec. 29, 1879, but spent most of his youth in St. Louis during the ministry of his father, John F. Klick (Eden 1874), at St. Peter's Church, 1885–1908. After studying at Elmhurst College; Walther College, St. Louis; Washington University, and Eden, he was ordained in the Evangelical Synod on June 15, 1902. He served pastorates at St. Paul's, Manheim, Illinois, 1903–1908 and Zion, St. Joseph, Missouri, 1908–1934. He also served as President of the West Missouri District twice, 1915–1919 and 1926–1929.

Klick was a member of the Evangelical Synod Board of Directors when the denomination's president, C. W.

Locher, died on April 2, 1934. Paul Press (brother of Eden President, S.D. Press), as First Vice-President, succeeded Locher, but soon resigned to continue his pastorate at Friedens Church in St. Louis. Klick, who had become the First Vice-President under Press, became President on December 1, 1934, and continued until the merger of the two denominations was complete in 1940. He returned to the pastoral service at St. Paul Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, serving 1939–1947.

The Klick family has long been prominent in the history of Eden and the Evangelical Synod. John (Johannes) F. Klick graduated from Marthasville campus in 1874, served several Evangelical Synod pastorates and was a founding member of the Evangelical Deaconess Hospital in St. Louis in 1889. Three sons graduated from the Wellston campus: Frederick C, Arnold (1914), and Belmont (1916). Arnold's daughter, Ruth, married Robert L. Tiemann, a long-time Eden Board member. Their son, Tom Tiemann, is a current Board of Trustees member (2021).