



Community House

First Congregation Church
310 Broadway Street
1915, Prairie School



Cornelia Ingram, a church member and wife of prominent lumber baron Orrin Ingram, provided the funds for construction of this building. It was designed by Purcell and Elmslie of Minneapolis and has suggestions of the Gothic Revival as well as the Prairie School. It has a broad street-facing gable, characteristic of several of the firm's other buildings at this time. Its stained-glass windows and other decorative features show Elmslie's style.

As long-time associate of Louis Sullivan, George Elmslie had been responsible for the decoration of numerous important American buildings, including the Carson-Pirie-Scott department store in Chicago (1899, 1904) and the National Farmers Bank, Owatonna, Minnesota (1908). He also designed dining room furniture for the Eau Claire home of A.J. Keith (108 Emery Street, no longer standing), which is now in the collections of the Minneapolis Institute of Art.