

In 1914, Walter and Gertrude Leonard and their eight children emigrated to Citrus Heights from Oklahoma. A Quaker, Leonard conceived the idea of establishing a Quaker community center in Citrus Heights. He set out to attract other Quaker families to the community. Initially, he attracted four other families, which with Leonard's made up the original congregation. They began meeting with other area residents at the Sylvan School. In 1917, Mr. Leonard formally established the Citrus Heights Friends Church—the first church in Citrus Heights. They purchased land on Old Auburn Road in 1919 and on June 16, 1921, the new meeting house was dedicated. In 1975, the Friends Church moved to a larger facility and the original property was sold to become the Pioneer Baptist Church.

