The town of Evangeline has an unusual background of religious history. The first Lutheran congregation in southwest Louisiana was established there in 1873, and what is believed to have been the only organized group of Quakers in Louisiana flourished there for a time.

A Lutheran missionary, Rev. H. Gellert, came to the Evangeline vicinity in 1872, along with several other Germans. He acquired land in 1873 and started a congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church. Rev. Gellert returned to the north to resume ministerial labors, then came back to Acadia Parish in 1886. In 1888 he was holding regular services at the school house in Evangeline and at other points in the parish, including Crowley.

Dr. Andrew D. Tomlinson was the minister for the Society of Friends (Quakers). The Tomlinson home was used for church services and also for a school; Mrs. Tomlinson, an experienced teacher, taught classes one half of each day. Some 40 members attended the Quaker Sunday School. Dr. Tomlinson practiced medicine in the area and was also Evangeline's first postmaster.

The Quakers hoped to have a church house, but whether this was ever achieved is not known. An article in the Crowley Signal of April 21, 1888 states: "An effort is being put forth for the establishment of a monthly meeting of Friends (Quakers) at Evangeline. They are a quiet, peaceful religious people desirous of living under the influence of the church, and feeling the need of a church house, they have taken this step, hoping also to furnish a house for all those who may become isolated from the church by coming South on the hunt for a more genial climate. Possibly there is not an organized branch of the Christian Church in the state, and why should not Evangeline be the first?" Nathan Hunt was superintendent.