St. John

Lutheran

Articles of Incorporation of German Evangelical Lutheran St John Church

Filed for Record this 11th day of April AD 1868 at 11 Oclock A.M.
A. J. Cooper Recorder, Marshall County Iowa

The undersigned being willing to form a Church Organization, hereby adopt the following Articles of Incorporation

Article I. This Church shall be known by the name of the German Evangelical Lutheran St John Church of Minerva Township Marshall Co. Iowa

Article II. Our Confession of faith is as follows: We hold and believe that all the Canonical books of the Old and New Testament are the revealed word of God and that the unaltered Augsburg Confession and Luther's Smaller Catechism are a correct explication and interpretation of the word of God

Article III. Entitled to voting are only such male members that have completed the 21st year of their age and have subscribed the Constitution of the Church

Article IV. The Trustees shall administer the property of the church in the name of the same and according to the will and direction of the church

Article V. Should it ever be the case, which God in mercy may prevent that a separation should take place in the Church then shall all the property of the same and all privileges connected therewith belong to those members or that member who shall faithfully adhere to the confession of the Church as named in Article II. and for the furthering of the foregoing, the following persons are named as Trustees for the first three years: Louis Kantwig, Henry Smith & August German

Witness our hands this 9nth day of April AD 1868

Stmp 5 cts
10/4/68

G. German [Seal]
Louis Kroome [Seal]
Christian Fike [Seal]
F. Hillman [Seal]
Henry Hillman [Seal]

State of Iowa }
Marshall Comty } Be it remembered that on this 9nth day of April AD 1868 before the undersigned a Notary Public in and for said County personally appeared the foregoing named George German, Louis Kroome Christian Fike Fred Hillman & Henry Hillman who are personally known to be the identical person whose names are affixed to the foregoing Article of Incorporation and acknowledged the execution of the same to be their free act and deed for the purposes therein mentioned

Witness my hand and Notarial Seal the day and year last above written

S. S.

D. B. Carpenter
Notary Public

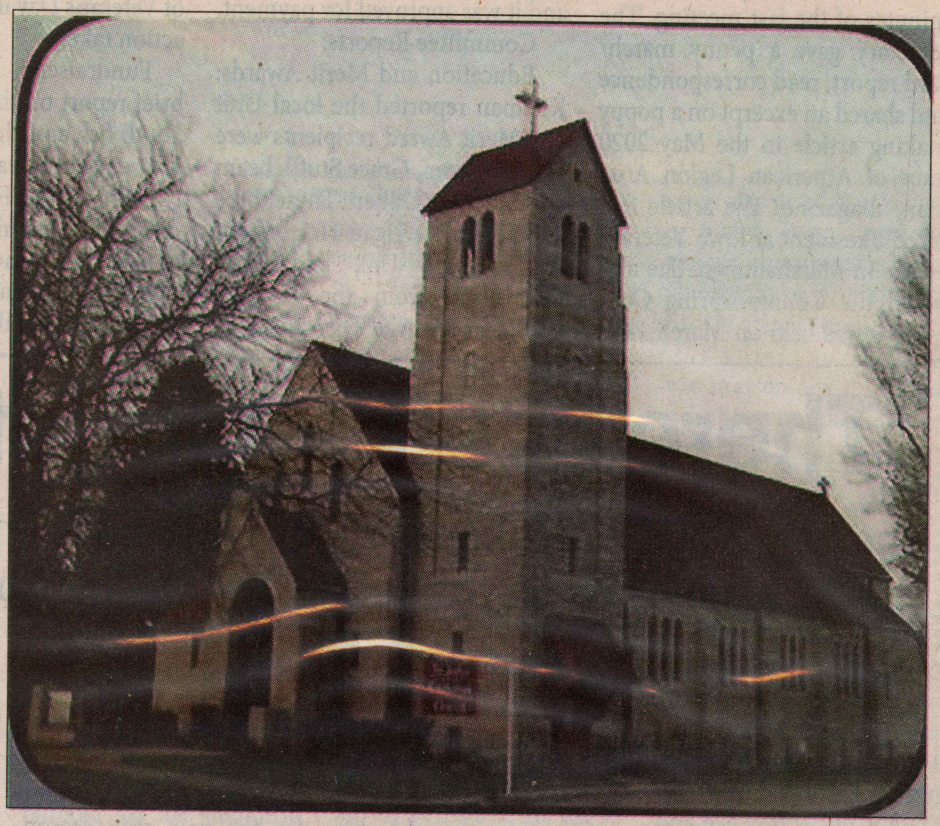
STAPLES

83-G-5a

St. John Lutheran Church to close after 155 years

6-28-2020

TIMES-REPUBLICAN



STATE CENTER — On June 28, the St. John Lutheran Church Missouri Synod located at 1956 Durham Ave., State Center, will close its doors after 155 years.

There will be a 9 a.m. church service led by Pastor David Klinge and a 3 p.m. service led by Rev. Brian Saunders, president of Iowa District East-LCMS who will officially close and deconsecrate the building.

The church has a long and rich history. On April 17, 1865, German Immigrants organized the church which was also known as the French Grove Lutheran Church and the German Lutheran Church. They organized a school and church services were held in German at the Center School House. A piece of land was purchased later in 1865 to be the future home of St. John's. A parsonage was built on the property and the pastors taught students there until 1880. The first confirmation was held on April 17, 1870 with 14 confirmands.

Over the years students traveled to school on foot, by horseback or buggy, on bicycles and, finally, automobiles. During the winter months, students often stayed with nearby relatives or friends in order to attend school. There was a pony barn to shelter the ponies and horses while the students were in class.

rebuilt, services were held at the State Center High School gymnasium while weddings and funerals were held at nearby Lutheran Churches. After the basement was completed, church services were then held there while the remainder of the church was built. St. John has often been called the country cathedral. There is a beautiful stone arch between the nave and the sanctuary. The ceilings soar with large wooden beams and trusses anchored by red bolts whose color represent Christ's blood. There are nine groups of stained

the congregation have gone on to be pastors, teachers, missionaries and community leaders.

In 1980, the Clemons School Building was purchased and Clemons Lutheran School was formed. St. John's has always been supportive of Christian Education and helped support CLS until it closed in May of 2014. Over the 35 years the school was open, it provided many opportunities for students, families and staff. There were many wonderful staff members who contributed to the success of CLS. The build-

delicious. The Children's Christmas Eve Program has been a tradition for many years, along with the giving of Christmas bags filled with peanuts, apples, oranges and candy to the children and congregation.

Adult fellowship and service have included: Ladies Aid, Young Ladies Aid, LWML, Vespers Circle, Morning Circle, Quilting Club, Lutherans for Life, Choir, Dart Ball Leagues, Young Couples Club, Harvest Festival, Easter Break-

Volume 3. Sunday after Ascension May 9,1937. Number 1.

COST OF THE WATER OF LIFE.

It has been said that during the battle of Fredericksburg there was a little patch of ground which was occupied in turn by the contending armies. It was covered with the dead and the dying; and all through the afternoon of a weary day the cry was heard: "Water! water!" A Southern soldier begged his captain to be allowed to answer those piteous cries, but met with the refusal: "No; it would mean certain death! He persisted, however, saying: "Above the roar of the artillery and the crack of the muskets I hear those cries for water: let me go!" He set out with a bucket of water and a tin cup; for a while the bullets sang around him, but he seemed to bear a charmed life. Then, as the Federals beyond the field perceived the purpose, the firing gradually ceased; and for an hour and a half there was an armistice, while the soldier in gray, in full sight of both armies, went about on his errand of mercy.

And this was the kindness of our God. He came from heaven to bring the cup of cold water to dying men. Ah, that was the greatest kindness that was ever known. It was the most sublime heroism too. But the firing did not cease when He came to us with the Water of Life; His mercy toward us cost Him His life. What shall we render unto the Lord for His loving kindness? Luke 1:74.75, 2 Cor.5:15.

FRED HOLLE 1855 - 1937.

Friedrich August Wilhelm Holle was born at Long Grove, Ill. Nov. 25, 1855. On December 16, 1855 he was baptized into the name of the Triune God. Vowing loyalty and faithfulness to his God and Savior and Church he was confirmed on April 10, 1870. He came to Iowa in 1875. On April 15, 1883 he was united in marriage to Mis Minnie Schaper and settled on a farm six miles north and west of State Center, Ia. residing there until 1912 when they moved to State Center, Ia. This union was blessed with two children, Mrs. Ernest Hilleman and Mrs. Leland Nolta. He departed this life on Ascension Day, May 6, 1937, after having reached an age of 81 years, 5 months, and 11 days. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Fred Holle, two brothers, William Holle of Yorkville, Ill. and Henry Holle of Litchfield, Minn., one sister; Mrs. Mary Voss having preceded him in death, two daughters, Mrs. Ernest Hilleman and Mrs. Leland Nolta, 6 grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

SPECIAL SERVICE SUNDAY EVENING MAY 23, 1937.

A special service will be conducted in the interest of young people's work on the above mentioned date. During this service we shall call the names of all those who have been confirmed in our church the last sixteen years and all are asked to be present to answer the roll. Invitations will be sent out some time next week. This service is for young and old. A lunch will be served after the services to all attending. Remember the date: May 23 at 8:00 P.M. at the church. Make your plans now to attend.

Announcements:

The funeral services will be held this afternoon at 2:00 from the house and 2:30 here at the church. Let us refrain from loud singing at funerals. Congregational singing is to be carried on in a soft, subdued manner during funeral services.

The Trinity Ladies Aid will meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. August W. Eggers Wednesday afternoon.

The Rally of Zone Three of the Walther League will be held at Fredricksburg, Iowa next Sunday. The Zone Rally will be opened by a service in the High School Auditorium at 10:30. Rev. J.W. Behnken, president of our synod, will deliver the address. All our young people are invited.

The following have been chosen as officers of our local League: Howard Riese, Pres., Lloyd Eggers, Vise-Pres., Inez Riese, Secretary, Lucille Riese, Ruth Koepke, and Arnold Pfantz, Members of Executive Board.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
of State Center
Appreciates the Patronage of St. John's Membership
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Funeral and Ambulance Service
State Center, Iowa
Res. Ph. 85 Funeral Home Ph. 78-J

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Seating Capacity, 200. Modern Sanitary Preparation Room Family Room
Complete Funeral Service at the Price One Wishes to Pay
Large Stock of Caskets to Select From
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C. H. Brimhall Phones: Day, 34, 51; Night, 34, 80. Clifford L. West

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Where You Have Always Had a Square Deal
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BRIARDALE CANNED GOODS -:- QUALITY FRESH MEATS
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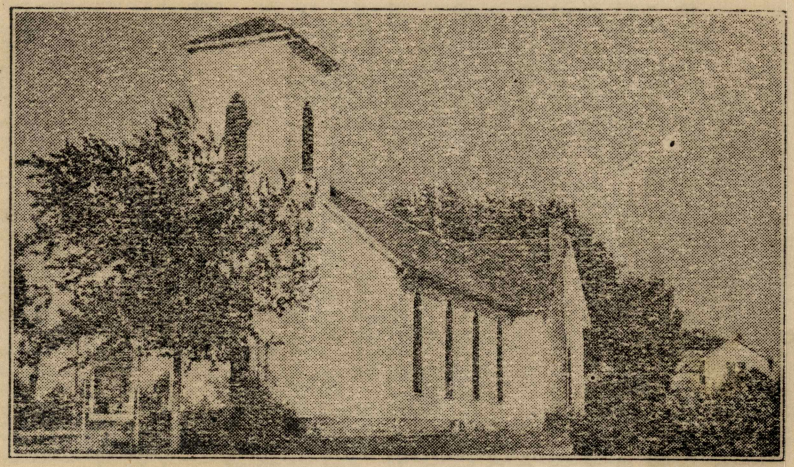
FAIR PRICES — SERVICE — QUALITY

The Parish Messenger



St. John's Lutheran Church

State Center, Iowa

Sunday School - 10:00
Divine Services - 10:30

Volume 10. FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Number 6
January 7,1944.

EPISTLE: Romans 12,1-5. GOSPEL: Luke 2,41-52.

Sermon Text: Isaiah 55,6-9.

Theme: "MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS!"

HYMNS: 514 651 519 577

Attendance Last Sunday:251 Attendance a year ago:250
New Year's Eve :264 New Year's Eve:197
New Year's Day :181 New Year's Day:245

C H U R C H C A L E N D A R

THIS AFTERNOON at 12:30 p.m. "MARSHALL COUNTY LUTHERAN HOUR" over K F J B.

WEDNESDAY,Jan.10, MISSION SOCIETY meets at 2 p.m. with Mrs.Minnie Armbrecht. Members are requested to read Matt.11,20-30; Luke 7,36-50.

L.L.L. QUARTET meets at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY,Jan.12, CHURCH COUNCIL meets at the parsonage at 8 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY,Jan.14,Sunday School and Services here at the Gym at usual hour. REGULAR QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING will be held at 1:30 p.m. at our Christian Day School. All members are urged to attend.

N O T E S and N E W S

In order that we may replace our hymnals,we would like to know how many of our members have in their possession one of our church hymnals. We know that sometimes people inadvertedly carry one of these books home with them. If you have such a copy please informed the pastor or one of the elders.

Our Treasurer, Mr.Harley Smith, submits the following report for December:

HOME PURPOSES: Offerings $1426.96; L.A.S.payment on kitchen $83,77; Sunday School offering: $13.97.....$1524.70

OUTSIDE PURPOSES: Budget $351.46; Christmas Eve offering for Ft.Dodge $50, for Bible Society $50,forDetroit $30;for Bethesda $30.28.Memorial wreaths to Lutheran Hour $4 and to Army & Navy Com.$1.50; From Ladies Aid Society for School in India.$5.52..... $ 522.76

TOTAL RECEIPTS:.....$2047.46

On Monday evening God in His wisdom seen fit to take from us our beautiful house of worship.The origin of the fire remains a mystery.The insurance on the church and contents is $26,475. We are happy to report that our Communion vessels which Mrs. Oehlsen had taken home,are saved.Also the silk covering and some of the communion linens were saved since Mrs.Minnie Armbrecht had taken these home to launder.The contents of the new cornerstone are not damaged.One of our young men noticed that the stone was cracking and he manage to carry it away from the flames.

In our hour of loss God has not forsaken us.He has sent us brotherly sympathy. Sympathetic hearts beat for us when they heard of our loss.Letters of sympathy and encouragement have come to the parsonage from many pastors and friends.Even a check has been received for the Building Fund.All these letters tell us:

"Better to hope though the clouds hang low
And to keep the eyes still lifted;
For the sweet blue sky will soon peep thru
When the ominous clouds are rifted.

There was never a night without a day
Nor an evening without a morning,
And the darkest hour,as the proverb goes,
Is the hour before the dawning.

To all these kind friends, we herewith say "THANK YOU" and "GOD BLESS YOU"

Our New Year's Motto: "LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAY!"

Prayers

Begin your worship with a silent prayer.

Lord, open Thou my heart to hear,
And by Thy Word to me draw near,
Let me Thy Word still pure retain,
Let me Thy child and heir remain.

Conclude your worship with a silent prayer.

O God I thank Thee for Thy gifts of grace; strengthen me through the same in faith and in all good works,—through Jesus Christ, my Lord.—Amen.

Prayer before Communion:

Come, Bread of Heaven, to feed our souls,
And with Thee, Jesus enter in!
Come, Wine of God! and as we drink,
His precious blood wash out our sin!

Prayer after Communion:

Now lettest Thou Thy guest depart
With full assurance in his heart;
For such communion, Lord, with Thee
May a new life my offering be.

Meetings

Please consult our Sunday Messenger for the announcements of the meetings of the Voters, the Church Council, the Sunday School Teachers, the Ladies' Aid, the Mission Society, the Walther League, Lutheran Layman's League, and the Women's Missionary League. In these organizations you will find splendid opportunity for Christian knowledge and Christian service.

Christian Day School

St. John's Church maintains a Christian Day School. Besides the subjects taught in the eight grades of our Public Schools our Day School gives its pupils a thorough instruction in the Christian Religion which is the "one thing needful." We encourage all parents to send their children to our Christian Day School.

To Our Visitors

This Church extends cordial greetings and warm welcome to you. The pastor will be glad to meet you after the service. Kindly register in our Visitors' Record on the table in the vestibule, and please come again.

To Our Members

The pastor is at your service; help to keep him informed. If a member of your family or some other member of the church is ill, kindly notify the pastor. Call, phone or write. Changes of address should be made known to the pastor immediately.

Our Invitation

To all who "labor and are heavy laden"—To all who sin and need a Savior—To all who ask: "What must I do to be saved?"—To whosoever will come, St. John's Lutheran Church opens wide her doors and in the name of Jesus says: "Come with us and we will do thee good."

Our Only Aim—to Save Souls.

Our Only Means—The Gospel of Christ Crucified.

The Messenger

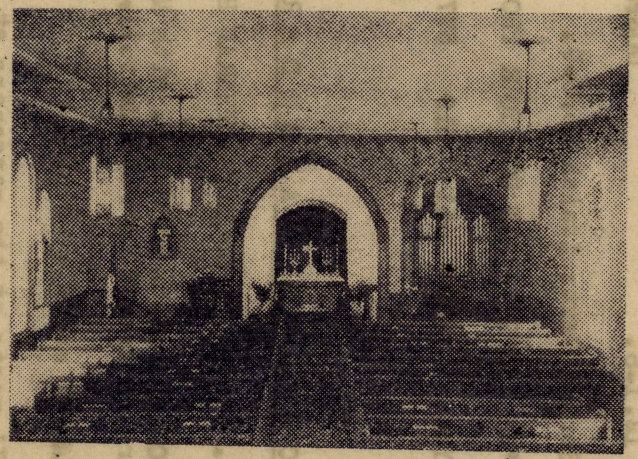
of

St. John's Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)

STATE CENTER, IOWA

"The Church of the Lutheran Hour"



"Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy House and the place where Thine honor dwelleth."

Sunday School and Bible Class . . . . 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:45 A. M.

G. H. Perlich, Pastor

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IS DESTROYED BY FIRE ON MONDAY NIGHT,

JAN. 1

The above picture of St. John's Lutheran church, which with its contents was completely destroyed by fire New Year's night, was taken in 1940, when the church observed its diamond anniversary. The cause of the fire is not known. The property was valued at between $35,000 and $40,000. Insurance covers about two-thirds of the loss. The fire was the first serious conflagration of the new year in Marshall county.

NEW HATCHERYMAN

CARD OF THANKS

rk in German factory in Alsace, Ukrainian girls Houston, Tex., to shoulders.

J. S. troops
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27 warships
. U. S. troop
2,623 dead,
missing.

EUROPE:
Yanks Stiffen

In what Allied headquarters said was a brilliant operation, conceived by Adolf Hitler but worked out by Field Marshal Von Rundstedt, the great German winter offensive ground onward, moving slower after the first surprising rush with the steady organization of the U. S. defense.

As the enemy's attack developed, he threw one arm northwestward toward Namur, in what was described as an effort to cut off all Allied forces in Belgium and Holland, and he flung another arm southwestward toward Sedan, historic gateway to France and scene of the great Nazi break-through of 1940.

Although Von Rundstedt employed two whole armies of about 300,000 men, and was said to have another 90,000 men in reserve, German progress appreciably slowed after the first great push carried them around Stavelot and Bastogne. Reacting

revelation of farmers' intentions as of December 1 came as it was reported that the recent huge grain harvests assured the country of bumper feed supplies through 1945. Of all stocks, only barley may run short, what with the 352,000,000 bushel supply 76,000,000 bushels below the last year, but such a deficit will more than be made up by the record 3,128,000,000 bushels of corn.

Since some of the farmers listed short feed supplies in their areas as one of the reasons for their reduction in spring pig production, efficient distribution of existing supplies may result in alteration of their plans. Other reasons given for cutting output were marketing difficulties and dissatisfaction with prices.

Postwar Army

Declaring that the U. S. probably would be the first object of aggressors in any new war, the army called for one year of training for youths to prepare them properly for the rigors of conflict.

In advocating a force of trained reserves, the army ruled out the alternative of a standing military organization and national guard big enough to meet the initial attack of any enemy as wholly impracticable and too expensive.

Under the army's program, balanced units of air, ground and service forces would be built up, to assure well-rounded offensive or defensive operations following mobilization.

In calling for one year of strict military training, the army took issue with those advocating supplementary instructions for trainees in other fields.

TIRES:
Cut Output

was about one to twenty.

Mine refuse comes from falls of roof, cleaning up roadways and working places in the mine, and material that has been rejected in handpicking. It is "gobbed" underground or brought to the surface and dumped in piles. Many surface waste piles are destroyed by burning. S
the mines in the Pittsburgh
ready are recovering coa
mine refuse, while many oth
not.

In proving that valuable
being overlooked in waste pil
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of nearly 17,000 pounds of
refuse fresh from a mine an
that it contained more tha
pounds of coal suitable for
trial use.

The salvaging of coal
mine refuse may have a role
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the bureau engineers point
As the unit-cost of minin
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Cold Frame One of Oldest Garden De

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basis should be the constru
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Many are now occupied
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radishes and lettuce, which
harvested long after freez
ended the garden harvest.

Uncle Sam's combat wounde
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recreation on their return vo
but what they clamor for is
honest-to-goodness back-home
sic." Jam sessions are the
thing. On the Marigold, enl

FLAMES DESTROY OLD RELIGIOUS LANDMARK IN VERY SHORT TIME

St. John's Lutheran church, located four miles north of State Center and representing this community's largest church congregation, was totally destroyed by fire early Monday evening, January 1. The exact origin of the fire is undetermined. The blaze was discovered in the ceiling of the furnace room by Henry Oehlsen, church custodian, about 8:20 o'clock. He rushed to the home of Rev. George H. Perlich, pastor of the church, and asked him to call the fire department. He returned to the church immediately but by the time he reached the building, the basement was so full o fsmoke that he could not reenter. Rev. Perlich, who had hoped to retrieve his pastor's robe, which was given him when he graduated from seminary, and others, who tried to enter the edifice to get the church bible and other valuable articles, were forced back when they endeavored to enter the burning structure.

Mr. Oehlsen, who lives in the teacher's home on the church property, had filled the stoker and checked the furnace less than an hour before the fire was discovered. He had set the thermostat in the main auditorium of the church at 50 degrees and when he left the building there was no evidence of trouble. He returned to the church when he smelled smoke.

The State Center fire department reached the church shortly after the alarm was sounded and when the truck arrived it looked like the fire was confined to the furnace room. The flames spread rapidly, however, and in less than five minutes, the blaze burst through the roof of the east end of the church.

Almost instantaneously, the fire spread to the main portion of the church and in less than an hour

(Continued on page 4)

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IS DESTROYED BY FIRE ON MONDAY NIGHT, JAN. 1

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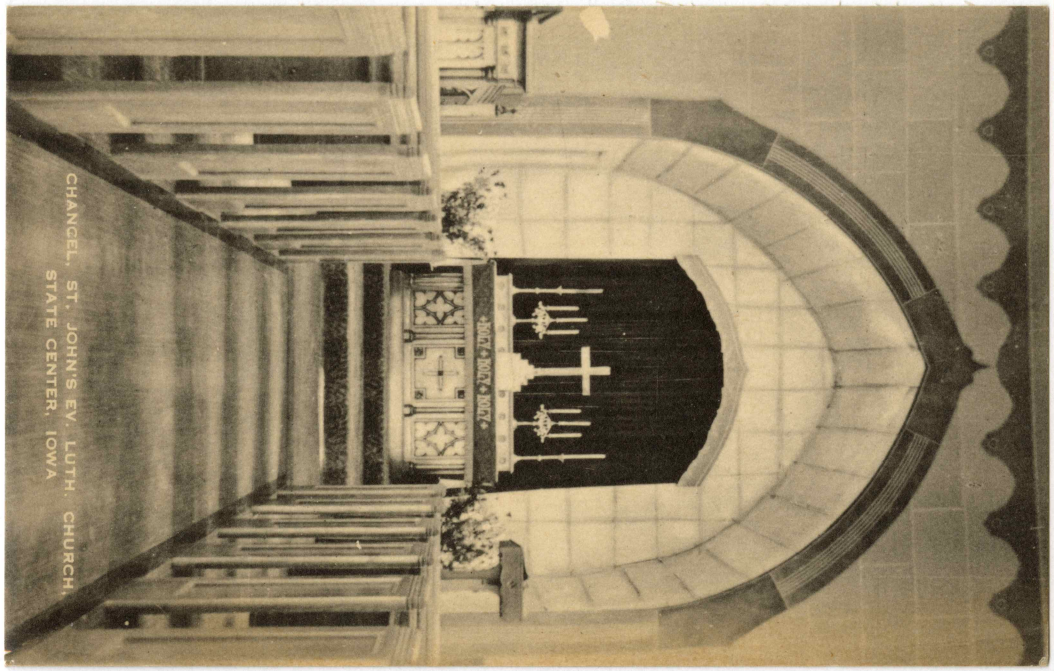
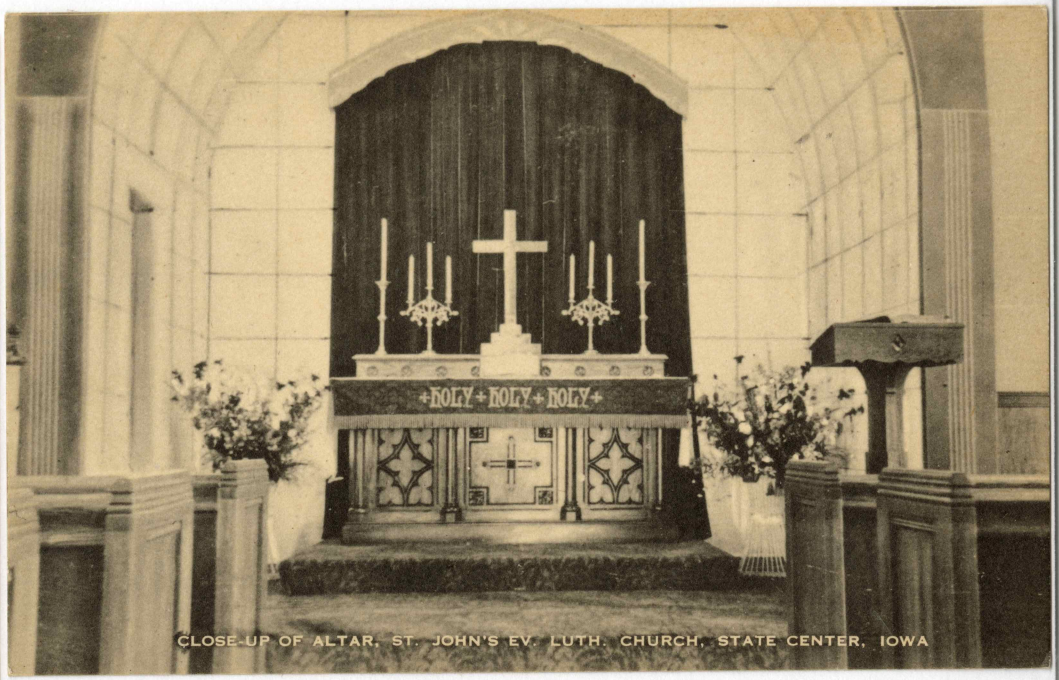




St John's Lutheran Church

ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH
STATE CENTER, IA.

HOLY HOLY HOLY
CHANCEL, ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTH. CHURCH,
STATE CENTER, IOWA

ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH
STATE CENTER, IA.

† PASTOR H. C. KOEPKE †

In this memorial shall be traced the span of life allotted to one who was a friend to a large number, a Christian brother to many, a pastor to a smaller circle, and a beloved one to some selected few. The hearts of all these are deeply touched and filled with sincere sorrow because of the sudden passing away of this esteemed friend and brother, this beloved husband and father. But we know it is the heavenly Father who has called him from his labors in the Church militant to the peaceful rest of His Church triumphant. Knowing this we humbly submit ourselves to His will, trusting that His ways, though not always our ways, are unmistakably correct and redound to our eternal welfare. Our comfort rests in the good and gracious will of our heavenly Father who does all things well.

Herman Conrad William Koepke was born on Sept. 8, 1884 at Waterloo, Iowa, the son of Fred Koepke and Mary nee Preschold. Here he grew up in a Christian home and under Christian influences and after due instruction in the truths of God's holy Word he has confirmed in 1898 by the Rev. Theo. Wolfram. In the fall of 1900 he entered Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn., to prepare himself for the ministry. Having graduated from this institution he entered Concordia College at Milwaukee, Wis., where he finished the prescribed course in the spring of 1905. In the fall of the same year he started his theological course at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, graduating in 1908.

In July 1908 he began his ministerial activity in Buckeye, Iowa, where he was the first resident pastor of the congregation. With untiring zeal he sought souls for the Savior. From Buckeye he served at various periods a mission in Iowa Falls, organized a Lutheran congregation in Alden, preached at Grant Center, and was pastor at Tipton Lutheran near Buckeye. During all these years he also conducted and taught in the Lutheran school at Buckeye.

In 1918 he was overcome with illness which extended over a period of several months, during which time he often lingered between life and death. But his work was not yet completed. The Lord gave him strength to recover, but he never regained his full health and strength. His condition remained more or less poorly. In March of 1919 he accepted the superintendency of the Lutheran Home Finding Society at Fort Dodge and served in that capacity until 1924, in which year he entered the pastorate of St. John and Trinity congregations at State Center, where he was active until the Lord called him home on Friday morning, January 30. Upon arising in the morning he had a sudden attack of hemorrhage, breathing his last shortly after. Thus his active career in the Christian ministry came to a sudden close after 22½ years of service; 10½ years at Buckeye, 5½ years in Fort Dodge and 6½ years at State Center.

The funeral service was held Sunday afternoon, February 1, at State Center. The Rev. Theo. Hinck conducted the prayer service in the parsonage and the Rev. C. Hesse, a classmate and intimate friend of the family, preached the funeral sermon, based on Nahum 1, 7. The Rev. A. H. Janke read the obituary and the Rev. Ad. Schwidder, vice-president of the Iowa District and also a classmate of the deceased, spoke words of comfort and sympathy in behalf of the Iowa District and the classmates who could not attend. The board of deacons of the State Center congregation acted as pallbearers and young ladies as flower-girls. A ladies choir and the school children sang beautiful selections for this solemn occasion. Many and beautiful were the floral offerings and enormously large was the number of those who had come from all parts of Iowa and beyond to pay their last respects to the beloved and deceased friend.

On Monday morning the remains were taken to St. Ansgar, where another funeral service was held in the Lutheran Church, conducted by the Rev. P. Brammer who spoke words of comfort on the basis of Luke 2, 29 to another large audience. Thereupon burial was made in the cemetery of St. Ansgar, Rev. J. Schliepsiek reading the committal service.

The Rev. H. C. Koepke was the German editor of the Iowa District News until this year. He was the first visitor of the Eldora Circuit of the Iowa District, serving from 1928 to 1930. He was instrumental in founding the Lutheran Hospital Association in Hampton and was a member of the Board and secretary of that organization. Besides he was District chairman of the Lutheran University Association of Valparaiso, Indiana. While pastor in State Center he began mission-work in Marshalltown and organized a congregation which now has its own resident missionary. Indeed, a life devoted to the cause of the Lord and His church has come to a close.

On his birthday, September 8, 1908, the Rev. H. C. Koepke was united in holy wedlock with Miss Martha Wiegner of St. Ansgar, Iowa, to whom he was a tender and affectionate husband. Nine children were born to this union: Waldemar, Paula, Ruth, Flora, Victor, Luther, Edwin, Theodore, and Dorothy who, together with his widowed wife now mourn his untimely death. Other immediate relatives are: his mother, Mrs. Mary Koepke; his brothers, Carl, Lorenz, Ernest, Herbert; his sisters, Alma and Helen Koepke, and Mrs. Clara Zopf; four brothers-in-law; two sisters-in-law, besides his bereaved congregation, his brethren in the ministry, especially the members of his conference, with whom

REAR VIEW OF INTERIOR, ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTH. CHURCH, STATE CENTER, IOWA

CLOSE-UP OF ALTAR, ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTH. CHURCH, STATE CENTER, IOWA

ST. JOHNS LUTHERAN CHURCH
STATE CENTER, IA.

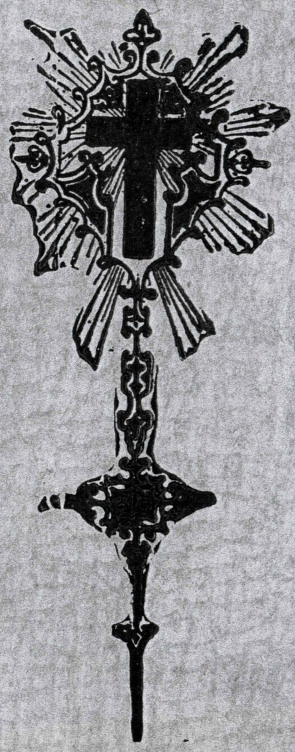
Diamond

ANNIVERSARY

1865-1940

ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

State Center, Iowa



"In the Cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers 'round its head sublime"

Dedication

IN MEMORY of our pioneer founders, and the many other men, women, and children who through the seventy-five years have lived with us, worked with us, and worshipped with us, and who have through faith in Jesus Christ finished their course and crossed the Jordan of time and entered into the Church Triumphant, we affectionately dedicate this anniversary booklet.

The Good Shepherd

"O Earth, earth, earth, hear the Word of the Lord." Jer. 22:29.

"He that heareth you heareth Me." Luke 10:16.

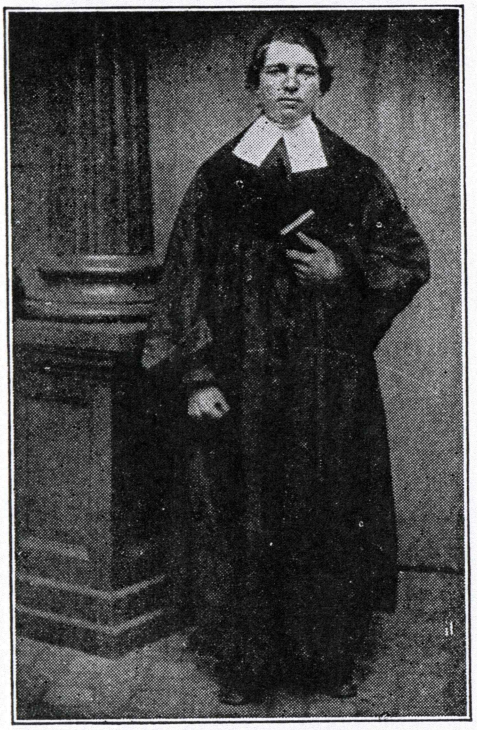
St. John's Lutheran Church--1940

"Come thou with us and we will do thee good,
for the Lord hath spoken good concerning Israel."
Num. 10:29

History of St. John's Lutheran Church

White settlers were beginning to displace the roaming Indians around the middle of the last century. Without railroads and improved highways this part of the state remained but thinly settled until the end of the Civil War. As conditions adjusted themselves after the Civil War and when the railroads had made their advent into the state conditions changed rapidly. Thousands of farmers from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, and from the northern European countries, took up homesteads on the virgin prairies of the state. Immigrants came in steady streams and many of them were of German origin.

A few German families settled in this vicinity. Here they found conditions ideal for establishing their homes and in due season they prospered as God showered His blessings upon them. But earthly prosperity alone does not satisfy the longing of the soul. The Savior says: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," and "What is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his soul?" These pioneer German Lutherans were brought up in the fear of God and they longed, even fainted for the courts of the Lord, and they were anxious to do their God given duty also toward their children. They wanted their children brought up in the faith of their fathers.



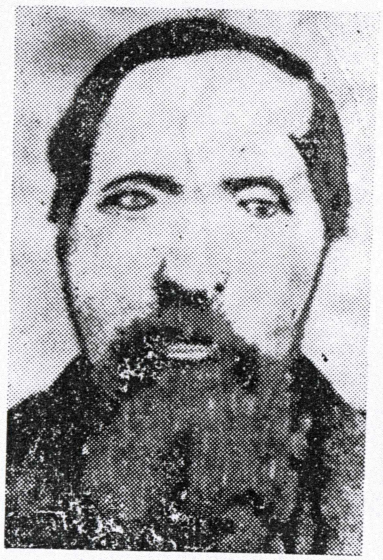
Rev. F. Doescher

This longing was satisfied when a few Lutheran families were placed under the shepherding care of a circuit riding missionary, Rev. Lossner, and later under the spiritual care of Rev. F. Doescher, who was residing at Ft. Dodge, Ia. These pioneer missionaries were willing to bring great sacrifices in order to break the bread of life to the scattered Lutherans in the state of Iowa. One of the Rev. F. Doescher's assistants reported to his mission Board that he had traveled 6,622 miles in saddle and buckboard during the year. But they gladly bore this hardship. They fought valiantly for the cause of the Lord. They spent their energies and were spent in the service of the Master.

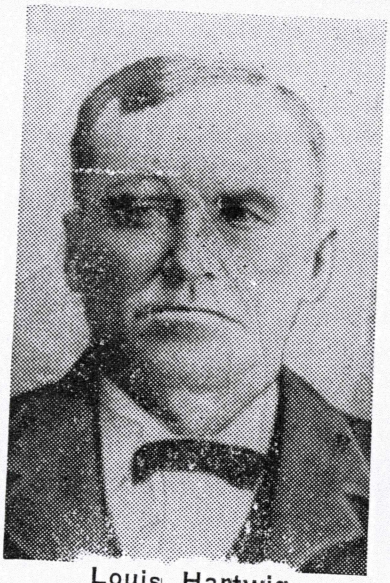
About ten years after the founder of Marshalltown had plotted the city and had with the assistance of his friends wrested the county seat from Marietta in 1853, Rev. Lossner, a Lutheran missionary, came here to supply the religious needs of the German Lutherans of that place and vicinity. The bloody Civil War, however, greatly retarded the progress of his work, which he was conducting with a great deal of self-denial. Later his work was continued by Rev. F. Doescher.

On the 17th of April 1865 St. John's Lutheran Church was organized by missionary Doescher. A constitution was adopted and signed by nine members. The names of these charter members are: Louis Hartwig, Henry Oehlsen, Louis Frohwein, Henry Schaper, Fred Bader, August German, August Eckhardt, George German, and Fred Oehlsen. (All photographs of the founders except the photograph of Mr. Fred Bader were available.) These families did not have an imposing church structure; no, they had to be content to worship in the Old Center School House. In the fall of 1865 a piece of ground consisting of five acres was purchased for $100.00. On this plot of ground a church building with an annex for school purposes and a parsonage were erected. The records show that the sum of twelve dollars was paid for the corner stone.

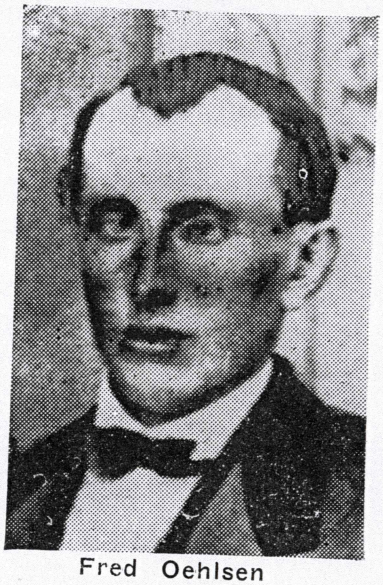
Charter Members of the Church



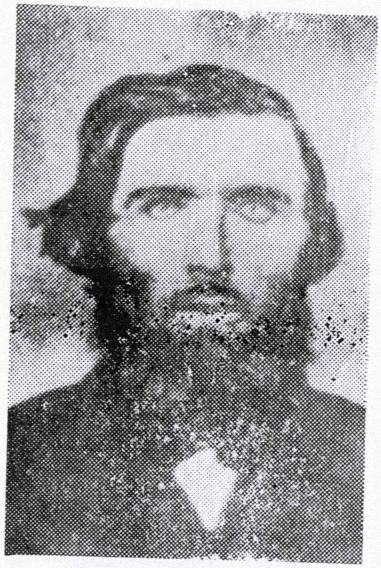
August Eckhardt



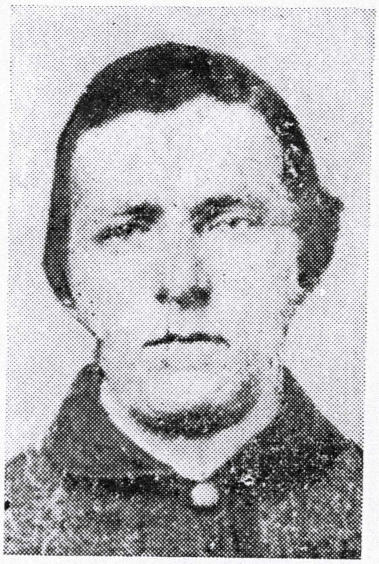
Louis Hartwig



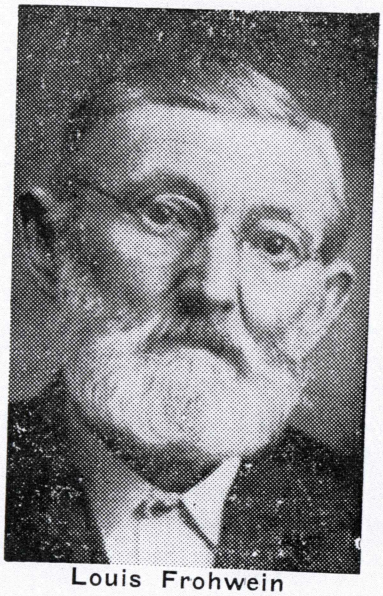
Fred Oehlsen



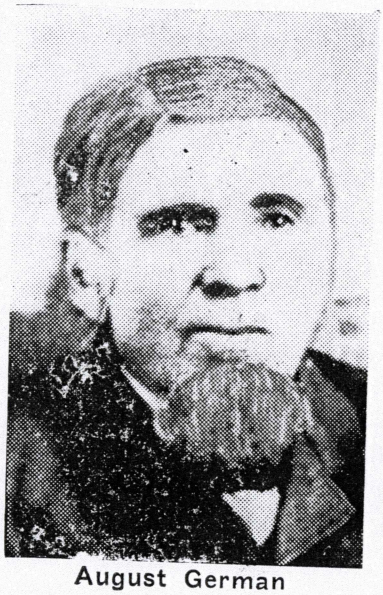
George German



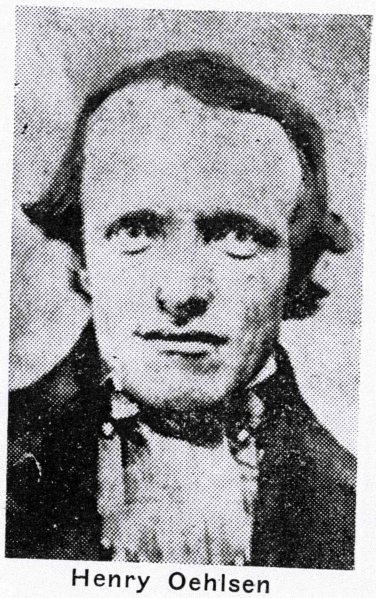
Henry Schaper



Louis Frohwein



August German



Henry Oehlsen

Succeeding Rev. F. Doescher the Rev. Lossner ministered to the needs of the flock and later on Rev. Mertens took charge. After the pastorate of Rev. Mertens, the Rev. F. Doescher, then stationed at Timber Creek, took charge and later was called by the congregation as its first resident pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. Winsch who again was succeeded by a layman, Mr. Kugland, who offered his services to the congregation because he was so well versed in the Scriptures. At this time the first parsonage was destroyed and all the old church records were consumed by the flames. On April 17, 1870 Rev. F. Doescher, who was living at Boone, Ia., was privileged to confirm the first class consisting of the following catechumens: Katy Schaper, Minnie Schaper, Vena Eckhardt, Hanna Eckhardt, Caroline Eckhardt, Mary Bader, Tillie Bader, Fred Hilleman, August Tops, Mary Rafeld, Caroline Tops, Hanna German, Mary Eckhardt, and Edward Rafeld.

Confirmation Class--1940

St. John's Church--1874

After Mr. Kugland's short term of office Rev. Ph. Studt, pastor at Luzerne, Ia., took charge during the vacancy. From this time all church records are available.

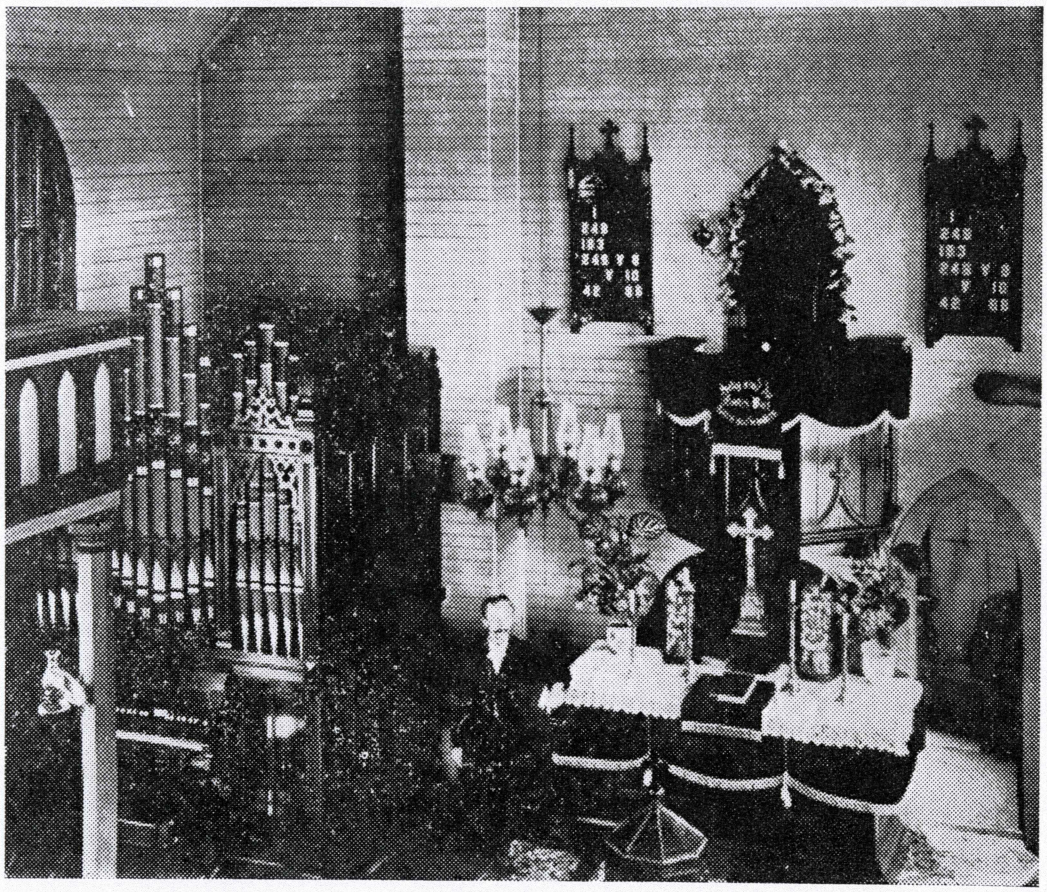
In 1872 Rev. C. F. Herman was called and he faithfully served the congregation until Easter 1885. During his pastorate the congregation grew so rapidly that it became necessary to erect a larger house of worship. The voting members, 29 in number, did not falter, but erected a building at a cost of $4,000.00 and were privileged to dedicate the same to the services of the Triune God on October 18, 1874. Although most of the members were yet poorly situated in this world's goods and were obliged to borrow the money they subscribed to the building fund at an exorbitant rate of 12 percent, they did so with a willing heart because they loved their Savior. To show you how willing they were to lay their offerings at the feet of the Lord who bought them, they also erected a school building in 1880. This school still stands and is used to indoctrinate the children whom the Lord has given and entrusted to our care and to train them for heaven's citizenship.

Rev. C. F. Herman

Rev. C. F. Herman was followed by Rev. P. Meineke who faithfully took charge of the flock over which the Holy Ghost had made him an overseer from 1885-1892. During his tenure of office the bell weighing 1800 pounds was purchased at a cost of $348.00 and was dedicated to call to prayer and to invite all who have ears to hear to compass the Lord's altar and to hear of all His wondrous works. At this early stage of St. John's history the congregation showed a healthy sign by being interested not only in its own welfare, but also in the development and extension of God's kingdom in other localities. That the congregation was mission minded at that time can be seen from a paragraph gleaned from the Fiftieth Anniversary Booklet of our sister congregation at Hubbard, Ia. The paragraph reads: "A debt incurred through the building of the church soon caused great concern. The congregation was poor and the members few. Payment of the note was due. In their great distress the members appealed to the sister congregation at State Center. The fellow-Christians at that place granted the Hubbard parish to solicit funds. A committee canvassed the French Grove congregation and raised sufficient money to liquidate the indebtedness. To this day St. John's congregation is indebted to the church at State Center for havng helped to save the church. Humanly speaking, it was the support of these friends in Marshall County that saved the Lutheran cause at Hubbard."

Rev. P. Meineke

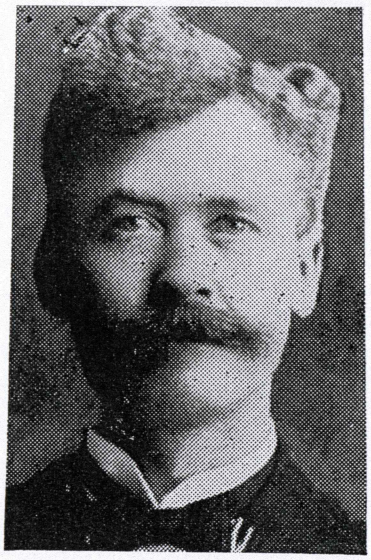
Interior of Old Church



The congregation was privileged to enjoy and prosper under the able and devoted services of the Rev. A. J. Boehm. From 1892-1911 he taught in the school in addition to his ministerial duties. Trying were the days when the question arose: Shall we or shall we not permit lodge members to commune at our altar? When the question was taken up by the congregation the prediction was made that if the pastor would not cease his opposition to the secret societies he soon would not have enough members to fill the front pew. But the pastor stood firm. And so did the congregation. The lodge question was settled once and for all times. To the energetic and faithful testimony of this man of God this congregation will be forever indebted. While pastor Boehm was pastor the present parsonage was built in 1902, the furnace was installed in the church (only the older members who saw the long line of stove pipes can fully appreciate the improvement) and the fine pipe organ was purchased for $671.00.

Rev. A. J. Boehm

Rev. H. Markworth became the next pastor in 1912. He was a true shepherd and the work of the Lord prospered under his faithful ministrations. He was instrumental in organizing our present Ladies Aid Society. There had been in existence a Ladies Aid and also a Young Ladies Aid previous to this time, but both of these organizations were merged into the organization which is active to this day. This organization has done much good by serving the local congregation in numerous capacities and by making substantial contributions for missions and charitable institutions and endeavors. Last year the Ladies Aid was privileged to observe its 25th Anniversary by an impressive service in gratitude to the good Lord who has found us meet to be His colaborers. While Rev. H. Markworth was pastor of this congregation the membership had grown to such an extent that an edition had to be built in 1917. This addition to the church increased the seating capacity considerably. The present alter and pulpit was purchased by the Ladies Aid and presented to the congregation. Humanly speaking the services of pastor Markworth came to an end all too soon. Due to ill health he had to resign from his life's calling.



Rev. H. Markworth

Ladies Aid Society

Mrs. Martin Riese, Pres.; Mrs. Emanuel Oehlsen, V. President; Mrs. Arthur Riese, Treasurer; Mrs. H. C. Koepke, Secretary

Rev. A. Brauer was called and installed as Rev. Markworth's successor. He faithfully served the congregation from 1920-1924. He was a good sermonizer. All those who have heard him will testify to the fact that he could really give you a heart to heart talk. It was with reluctance that the congregation gave him a dismissal to take up his present charge at Keystone, Ia. During the pastorate of Rev. A. Brauer the Luther League was organized. This organization later became the Walther League and joined the International Walther League on October 17, 1926. The object of our Walther League could be summed up in these words: To promote Christian fellowship, to provide a program which will increase the Christian knowledge of the confirmed and to prepare the youth of our congregation for a more consecrated service of Him who died for them and rose again. The Walther League endeavors to aid in keeping the young people with the church and give them an opportunity to continue the study of the Word of God after their confirmation. The Walther League deserves the full cooperation of all the parents and young people of our congregation.

Rev. A. Brauer

Rev. H. C. Koepke became the pastor of this congregation after Rev. A. Brauer moved to Keystone, Ia. He was pastor of this congregation from 1924 to 1931. Being mission minded himself he had the gift of making others give and live to extend the Savior's kingdom. Mission treasuries, charities and other worthy causes had an ardent and enthusiastic advocate in pastor Koepke. It was pastor Koepke who prevailed upon the congregation to organize and establish a Sunday School. This organization now has an enrollment of over 150. An average of over a hundred children are sitting at the feet of the Savior every Sunday morning hearing about the Lord who bought them and who has ascended on high to prepare a place for all those who love His appearing. It was also pastor Koepke who saw the need and possibility of a congregation at Marshalltown. The growth and progress of our sister congregation shows the wisdom of his vision and labor. Although in failing health pastor Koepke labored faithfully until the Lord called him home and thus reaping the end of faith, which is the soul's salvation. This faith with the aid of God's Holy Spirit he planted and nourished in the hearts of others through his preaching and teaching.

Rev. H. C. Koepke

St. John's Walther League

Hugo Armbrecht, Pres.; Darwin Riese, V. Pres.; Loyd Eggers, Sec. & Treas.; Lucille Hunzelman, Chairman of Christian Service; Fern Richter, Chairman of Christian Knowledge. Executive Board: Joe Armbrecht, Fern Richter, Carol Riese.

Church Council--1940

Front Row—left to right, Ernest Hilleman, Conrad Schaper, Albert Smith, Roland Wengert. Back Row—left to right, Rev. William J. F. Zabel, Leon Timmerman, Emmanuel Oehlsen, R. L. George

Rev. William J. F. Zabel, the present pastor was installed on May 3, 1931 and has since been the overseer of the congregation and its various departments.

Rev. William J. F. Zabel

The congregation has grown from a small group into one of the largest congregations in our district. Many external changes have been made during the course of the years, but internally she has not changed, but tenaciously remained what her fathers and founders intended her to be, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Himself being the chief corner stone. Her sole norm and rule had been and is to this day the Word of God which abideth forever. Her sole business has been and is and we hope ever shall be to preach Christ and Him crucified, to hold up the changeless Christ to a changing world that is ripening for its final doom. Many great things have been accomplished by the grace of God in the past seventy-five years and let us with the help of God go onward and forward and upward ever praying and toiling for ever greater accomplishments in the power of God as the years roll on toward the century mark. Let us labor while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work. Let us bear fruit that abides. Our earnest prayer is at this Diamond Jubilee: "May the Lord be with us as He was with our fathers, and may the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it" Amen.

The Present Parish School

Our Christian Day School

Christian parents know that their children are a gift from the Lord and that their children are a sacred trust and that they must rear them as God wants them to be reared. God speaks to all parents when He says: "These words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently to thy children," "All thy children shall be taught of the Lord," "Take this child and nurse it for Me," and "Ye fathers provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Christian education begins at the cradle and continues until the grave. Christian education and training must begin in the home in early childhood. The parents have this responsibility. The church is there to aid the parents in bringing up their children in the faith of the fathers. One of the finest agencies, which is in position to aid the parents in this God-given duty of nursing the children for the Lord, is the Christian Day School. This congregation has from the beginning recognized this and has made provisions to give children of the parish well planned religious education and training. Our school has been taught in the parsonage, in the annex of the church, and in the present school building which was erected and dedicated in 1881. Our school teaches all the subjects the state requires and in addition to the THREE R's our school teaches the most important R, Religion. Every day a certain period is devoted to the instruction of religion and the entire day is spent under the influence of the Word of God. If a Sunday school with less than a half hour of religious instruction a week is good—and we all know that it is—it stands to reason that greater things can be accomplished with daily instruction during the entire school term and school years. It is well worth to bring the extra sacrifices necessary to bring our children to our school that dispenses and radiates the influence of the Word of God.

The parish school was faithfully conducted by the pastors until 1880 when the first teacher, Mr. J. A. Wiedmann, was called and installed, and also thereafter when the school was without a resident teacher. To the teachers of our school we are also indebted for the accompanyment of the congregational singing on the pipe organ and the direction and training of the choir. Our parochial school has enjoyed the faithful services of the following teachers: Mr. J. A. Wiedmann 1880-1882; Mr. J. Thoma 1882-1893; Mr. Louis Pozehl 1911-1915; Mr. C. F. Jessen 1915-1922. Since 1922 Mr. R. L. George has been in charge of the school.

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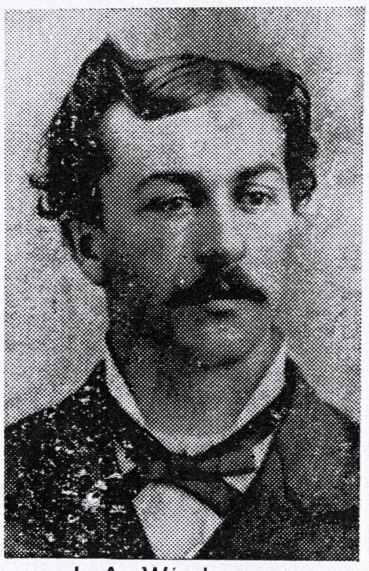
Present Statistics: Reported on Jan. 1, 1940

Baptized Members	699
Communicant Members	491
Voting Members	102
Baptism:	
Children	21
Adults	1
Confirmations:	
Children	11
Adults	7
Marriages	2
Burials	5
Day School Enrollment	29
Sunday School Enrollment	157
Contributions:	
Home	$3,556.59
Outside	$2,711.24

"The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Psalm 126:3.

Parochial School Teachers



J. A. Wiedmann

J. Thoma

Louis Pozehl

C. F. Jesren

R. L. George

St. John's Lutheran Church Choir

Anniversary Committee

Robert Buschbom
August Eggers
Roland Wengert
Wm. A. Armbrecht
H. F. Oehlsen

Anniversary Committee of Ladies Aid

Mrs. Orville Wengert
Mrs. Arthur Pfantz
Mrs. Edgar Riese
Mrs. Wm. H. Eggers
Mrs. Aug. Eggers
Mrs. Martin Riese
Mrs. Leora Metge
Mrs. Emanuel Oehlsen
Mrs. Harry Weuve
Mrs. Arthur Riese
Mrs. Wm. A. Armbrecht
Mrs. H. C. Koepke
Mrs. Martin Mehlisch

Jubilee Dinner Committee

Mrs. Wm. Lindemann
Mrs. Christ Schaper
Mrs. Orlan Conkin
Mrs. Orville Hartwig
Mrs. Arthur Oehlsen

Anniversary Services and Guest Speakers

June 16-21, 1940

Morning Services at 10:00 June 16, 1940
Rev. A. J. Boehm, Des Moines, Ia.
Rev. A. Brauer, Keystone, Ia.

Afternoon Services at 2:00
Rev. V. Koepke

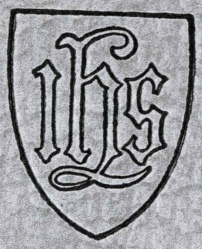
Monday Evening at 8:00 Ladies Aid Service
Rev. Fred Ilten, Marshalltown, Ia.

Tuesday Evening at 8:00 Young Peoples' Service
Rev. L. C. Wuerffel, Iowa City

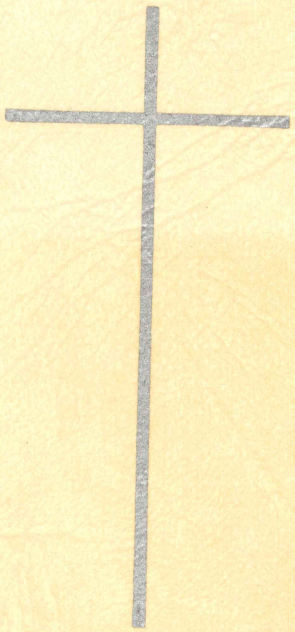
Wednesday Evening at 8:00 Christian Education
President Carl Hesse, Eldora, Ia.

Thursday Evening at 8:00 Missions
Rev. R. Torgler, Clinton, Ia.

Friday Evening at 7:00 Fellowship Banquet
High School Auditorium



St. John's Lutheran Church
1865 - 1965



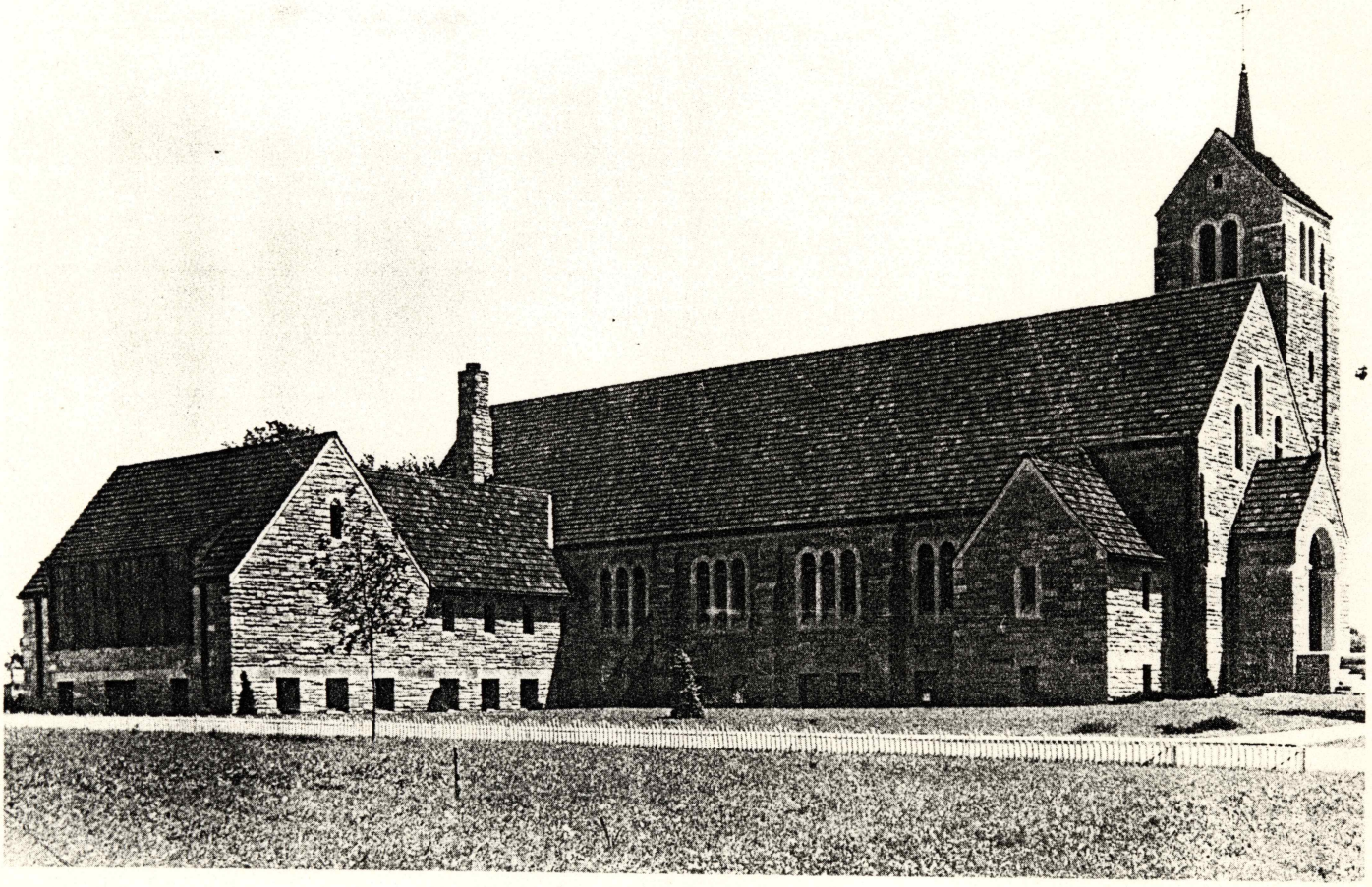
Commemorative Booklet In Remembrance

Of The Centennial Of

St. John's Lutheran Church

4 Miles North Of State Center, Iowa

1865-1965



Dedication

To the glory of our God, who has established His Church as His agency on earth to administer the means of grace for the salvation of fallen man, who brought His Church to the virgin prairies of the state and gathered our pioneer fathers into a Christian congregation a century ago; and

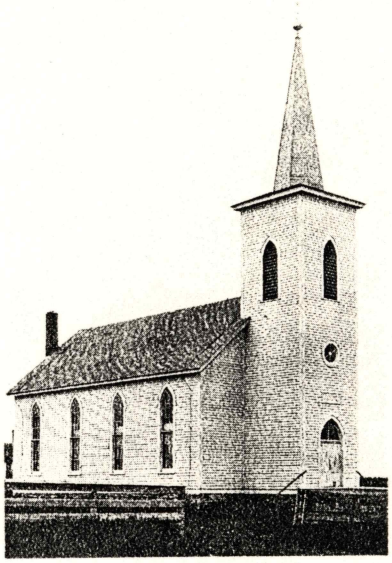
To the sacred memory of the fathers, who together with the noble men of God who heeded the Master's call to proclaim the Gospel, cheerfully shared the hardships of pioneering and established and maintained St. John's congregation, whose sturdy faith and unflinching loyalty to the Gospel of Salvation reflect the power and glory of God's saving love,

These pages are reverently dedicated.

Psalm 90:1
Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

A Century of Grace

The State of Iowa grew with many immigrants coming from other states as well as foreign countries. A group that settled north of State Center found that conditions were ideal for establishing their homes and in due season they prospered as God showered His blessings upon them. But earthly prosperity alone does not satisfy the longing of the soul. Our Lord Jesus says: "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," also, "What is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his soul?" These pioneer German Lutherans were brought up in the fear of God and they longed for the courts of the Lord, and were anxious to do their God given duty also toward their children.

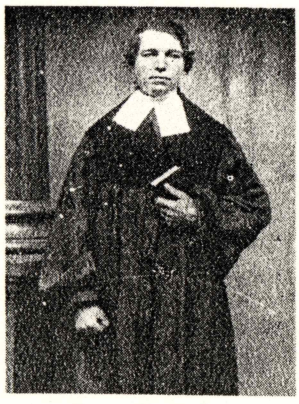


First Church

This longing was satisfied when a few Lutheran families were placed under the shepherding care of a circuit riding missionary, Rev. Lossner, and later under the spiritual care of Rev. F. Doescher, who was residing at Ft. Dodge, Iowa. These pioneer missionaries were willing to bring great sacrifices in order to break the bread of life to the scattered Lutherans in the state of Iowa. One of Rev. Doescher's assistants reported to his mission board that he had traveled over 6,000 miles in saddle and buckboard during a year. But they gladly bore this hardship. They fought valiantly for the cause of the Lord. They spent their energies and were spent in the service of the Master.

One hundred years ago on the 17th of April, 1865, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized by missionary Doescher. It was also known as French Grove Lutheran Church. The constitution that was adopted at that time was signed by nine members. The charter members of the church were: Louis Hartwig, Henry Oehlsen, Louis Frohwein, Henry Schaper, Fred Bader, August German, August Eckhardt, George German, and Fred Oehlsen. These families were content for the time being to worship in the Old Center School House. In the Fall of the same year the piece of ground was bought on which later a church building with annex for school purposes, and a parsonage was erected. This five acres of ground was purchased for $100. It is also recorded the cornerstone cost the sum of twelve dollars. The church of today, 1965, stands on this same piece of land.

This little flock was then ministered to by missionary Lossner, and later on by Rev. Mertens. After Rev. Mertens, Rev. Doescher, then stationed at Timber Creek, took charge, and was finally called by the congregation as its resident pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. Winsch. After Rev. Winsch a certain Mr. Kugland, by profession a veterinary surgeon, offered his services as pastor to the congregation on the ground of his being well versed in the Scriptures.

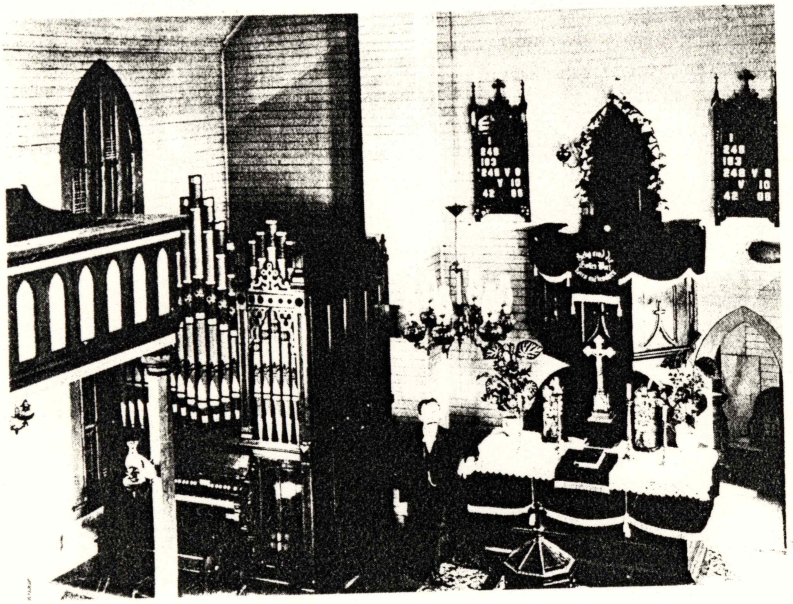


Rev. Doescher

During his short tenure of the ministerial office the first parsonage was destroyed by fire, causing also the loss of the church records. The records were then commenced by Rev. P. Studt, then pastor at Luzerne, Iowa, who ministered to the congregation during its pastoral vacancies.

On April 17, 1870, Rev. Doescher, then living at Boone, Iowa, was privileged to confirm the first class consisting of the following catechumens: Katy Schaper, Minnie Schaper, Vena Eckhardt, Hanna Eckhardt, Caroline Eckhardt, Mary Bader, Tillie Bader, Fred Hilleman, August Tops, Mary Rafeld, Caroline Tops, Hanna German, Mary Eckhardt, and Edward Rafeld.

In the year 1872 Rev. C. F. Herman was called and for twelve years, from August 4, 1872, to Easter 1885, faithfully served the congregation. Soon the flock had so grown and increased that it became necessary to provide a new church building. The voting members, twenty nine in number at the time, did not falter and the new church was erected at a cost of $4,000, and dedicated on the 18th of October 1874. Though most of the members were then yet poorly situated and were obliged to borrow the money they had subscribed to the church building find at 12 percent interest, they did so with a will because they loved their church. To show you how willing they were to lay their offerings at the feet of the Lord who bought them, they also erected a school building in 1880.



Interior of first church

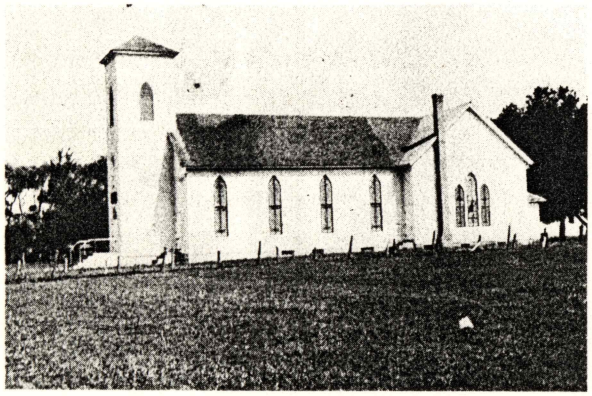
Rev. C. F. Herman was followed by Rev. P. Meineke who faithfully took charge of the flock over which the Holy Ghost had made him an overseer from 1885-1892. In the Fall of 1889 the church bell, weighing 1,800 pounds, and costing $348 was installed. It was dedicated to call to prayer and to invite all who have ears to hear to compass the Lord's altar and to hear of all His wondrous works. At this early stage of St. John's history the congregation showed a healthy sign by being interested not only in its own welfare, but also in the development and extension of God's kingdom in other localities. That the congregation was mission minded at that time can be seen from a paragraph gleaned from the Fiftieth anniversary booklet of our sister congregation at Hubbard, Iowa. The paragraph reads: "A debt incurred through the building of the church soon caused great concern. The congregation was poor and the members few. Payment of the note was due. In their great distress the members appealed to the sister congregation at State Center. The fellow Christians at that place granted the Hubbard parish to solicit funds. A committee canvassed the French Grove congregation and raised sufficient money to liquidate the indebtedness. To this day St. John's congregation is indebted to the church at State Center for having helped to save the church. Humanly speaking, it was the support of these friends in Marshall County that saved the Lutheran cause at Hubbard."

Rev. A. J. Boehm was the next pastor to serve as our shepherd. He was installed November 6, 1892. He also taught in the school along with his pastoral duties. During his pastorate the question arose: Shall we or shall we not permit lodge members to commune at our altar? When the question was taken up by the congregation the prediction was made that if the pastor would not cease his opposition to the secret societies he soon would not have enough members to fill the front pew. But the pastor stood firm. And so did the congregation. The lodge question was settled once and for all times. To the energetic and faithful testimony of this man of God this congregation will be forever indebted. In 1902 a pipe organ, costing $671, was dedicated on the third Sunday in Advent. A new parsonage was built in 1900. During Pastor Boehm's shepherding the services were changed to English. Toward the close of 1911, after nineteen years of faithful and successful service, Rev. Boehm accepted a call to the Lutheran congregation at Ogden, Iowa.

Rev. A. J. Boehm

Old Parsonage

Rev. H. Markworth became St. John's next pastor, being installed in January of 1912. He was a true shepherd and the work of the Lord prospered under his faithful ministrations. He was instrumental in organizing our present Ladies Aid Society. While Rev. Markworth was pastor of this congregation the membership had grown to such an extent that an addition had to be built in 1917. This addition to the church increased the seating capacity considerably. St. John's celebrated the fiftieth anniversary in 1915. The following paragraph from an old newspaper says: "The originally small flock has, by the grace of God and in spite of the many wicked onslaughts of Satan and the enemies of the church within the past fifty years, grown and increased so that at present it numbers over 500 souls. Within this space of time, as far as the records show, there have been baptized 1,000 children, confirmed 500 children and adults, married 186 couples, and buried 225 persons." The services of Pastor Markworth came to an end all too soon. Due to ill health he had to resign from his life's calling.



Remodeled Church

Rev. A. Brauer was called to be Rev. Markworth's successor. He faithfully served the congregation from 1920-1924. He was a good sermonizer. All those who have heard him will testify to the fact that he could really give you a heart to heart talk. It was with reluctance that the congregation gave him a peaceful release to take up a charge at Keystone, Iowa. The Luther League was organized while Rev. Brauer was here. This organization later became the Walther League.

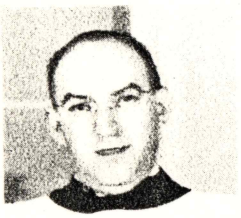
Rev. A. Brauer

Rev. H. C. Koepke

Rev. H. C. Koepke became the pastor in 1924. Being mission minded himself he had the gift of making others give and live to extend the Savior's kingdom. Mission treasuries, charities and other worthy causes had an ardent and enthusiastic advocate in Rev. Koepke. It was he who prevailed upon the congregation to organize and establish a Sunday School in 1928. An average of 100 children are now sitting at the feet of the Savior every Sunday morning hearing about the Lord who bought them and who has ascended on high to prepare a place for all who love Him. It was also Pastor Koepke who saw the need and possibility of a congregation at Marshalltown. The growth and progress of our sister congregation shows the wisdom of his vision and labor. Also three of his sons entered the ministry of our Lord. Although in failing health Rev. Koepke labored faithfully until the Lord called him home and thus reaping the end of faith, which is the soul's salvation. This faith with the aid of God's Holy Spirit he planted and nourished in the hearts of others through his preaching and teaching.

Rev. William J. F. Zabel was installed as our pastor on May 3, 1931 and served until October 1940. We celebrated our Diamond Jubilee during his pastorate. He was given a peaceful release to become pastor at Charlotte, Iowa.

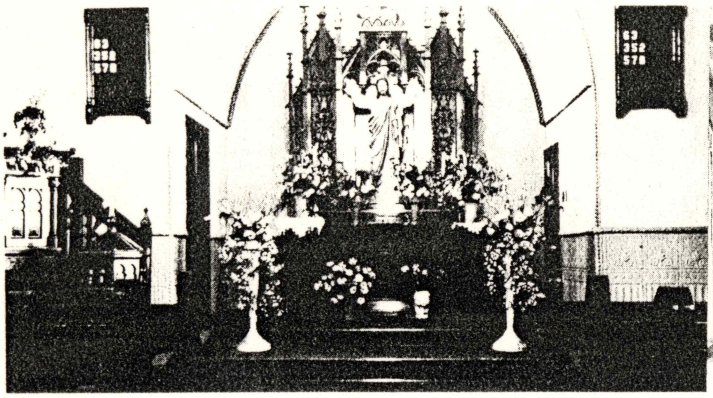
Rev. Wm. Zabel



Rev. Geo. H. Perlich

Rev. Geo. H. Perlich became the shepherd of St. John's in January, 1941. He came from Keokuk, Iowa. He served us faithfully for fifteen years. The German services were discontinued entirely in 1941. The order of service was changed also. The constitution was revised in 1942.

The church was completely remodeled, refurnished, and rededicated at a cost of $10,000. This rededication of the interior was held on June 27, 1943. The basement was remodeled in 1944. The highest membership was attained under the leadership of Rev. Perlich. It was 740 baptized souls, 536 communicants, and 133 voters.



Old Interior

Remodeled Interior

Then God in His wisdom sent a disastrous fire on the night of January 1, 1945. The fire was discovered by the custodian, Henry Oehlsen about 8:20 in the evening. Attempts to enter the church to save the church Bible and other records proved futile and St. John's church was completely destroyed. Most all the records were lost also. The loss was about $35,000. This fire caused many conscientious decisions to be made. Many meetings were held and many prayers for the Lord's guidance were said. Some wanted the church to remain at the country location. Some wanted to build a church in town. A peaceful release was granted 164 communicants, 220 souls, on April 8, 1945. This group formed Trinity congregation, State Center, which was organized on April 11, 1945.

St. John's held services in the State Center high school gym until April 1947. Weddings and funerals were held in other Lutheran churches in the area. Organizations of the church had their meetings in the homes of the members. After many delays of the architect, the ground breaking for the present church edifice was held on June 23, 1946. We began to have church services in the basement of the new church in April, 1947. The cornerstone for the church was laid in a special Thanksgiving Day service, 1948. At that time thank offering gifts in the amount of $27,000 were placed on the Lord's altar.

The dedication of our present church building was held April 18, 1950, along with a celebration of the 85th anniversary of the church's organization. More than one thousand persons attended the dedication service. Friends and relatives came from all parts of the state to share in the joy of St. John's consecration of its new house of worship. The cost was set at $225,000 plus many, many hours of labor by members. Indeed, God was gracious and blessed all the members as He had for so many years, for the church building was paid for soon after. In May 1955, lightning struck the steeple and caused a small fire. The damage was about $5,000. Rev. Perlich was very reluctantly released to accept a call to Janesville, Minnesota, and preached his farewell sermon on January 8, 1956.

Rev. Walter B. L. Strandes

Rev. Walter B. L. Strandes was called to succeed Rev. Perlich. He served St. John's until August, 1961. He faithfully administered to all, especially to the aged and shutins. He was installed on September 23, 1956 and went to Elma, Iowa, in 1961.

Old School

THE CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

The congregation from the beginning, recognized the importance of Christian education, so provided the needs of its children with facilities for that purpose. It was taught in the parsonage, in the annex of the church, in a school built in 1880-1881. It was used until the present school annex was built in the new church in 1947. The parish school was faithfully conducted by the pastors until 1880. The first teacher was J. A. Wiedman (1880-1882). J. Thoma served from 1882-1893. Rev. A. J. Boehm conducted classes from 1893-1911. Louis Pozehl was teacher from 1911-1915.

A teacherage was built in 1914. C. F. Jessen taught from 1915-1922. R. L. George served faithfully as the teacher of the congregational lambs for the longest time. He came in 1922 and retired in 1944 when he went into social welfare work in Marshalltown. Myra Potratz served 1944-45. Herbert Beer taught from 1945-47. Louis Armbrecht taught 1947-49. Rosalie Krueger served 1949-50. Martin Riese taught 1950-52. E. T. Mueller was here from 1952-54. Rosemary Schultz taught 1954-55. Joseph House taught from 1955-58. Jerome Carlson taught 1958 to January 1962. The school was closed in January 1962, after some 97 years of teaching the lambs of the congregation.

R. L. George

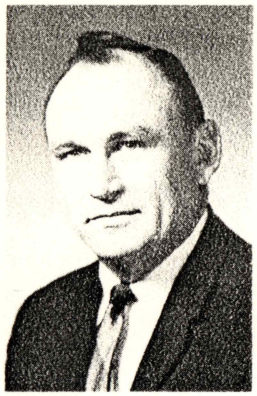
Rev. R. L. Thoelke

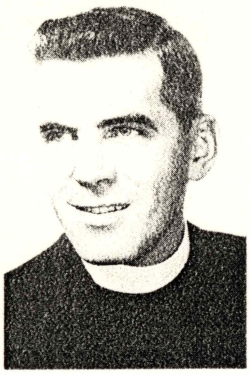
Rev. Robert L. Thoelke was called from Idaho, and was installed on June 3, 1962. He was our pastor until November 15, 1964, when he was peacefully released to accept a pastorate at Kewanee, Illinois. Pastor Thoelke manifested a deep interest in the music of the church and added much to our Communion Service by chanting the liturgy. He was especially helpful to the young people of our congregation.

Rev. E. L. Stuempfig

Rev. E. L. Stuempfig, who had served as pastor of Concordia Lutheran Church in Waterloo, Iowa, became St. John's seventeenth pastor. He was installed on April 25, 1965. At the present time he is serving as Secretary of Iowa East District.

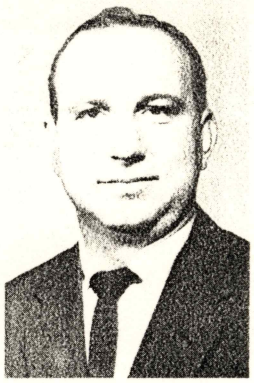
SONS OF THE CONGREGATION


Rod Riese


Ross Schuler

Charles Bell

Louis Armbrecht


Dean Wengert

St. John's can justly be proud to lay claim to the following people who are in the service of the Lord. Rev. Rodney Riese, graduate of St. Louis Seminary in 1944; presently serving at Plainview, Minnesota. Rev. Ross Schuler, graduate of St. Louis 1956, presently serving at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Rev. Charles Bell, graduate of Springfield in 1957, presently serving at Pomeroy, Iowa. Teacher Louis Armbrecht, a graduate of River Forest in 1953, is teaching at Frankenmuth, Michigan. Teacher Dean Wengert, a graduate of Seward in 1956, is teaching at Fort Wayne, Indiana. John Fricke is currently studying at Seward. Others teaching or who have taught in our Lutheran schools are Helen Riese Bunge, Evelyn Riese Lutz, Janet Jessen Komarchuk, Dorothy Hunzelman Lensch, Martin Riese and Dolores Smith Meadows.

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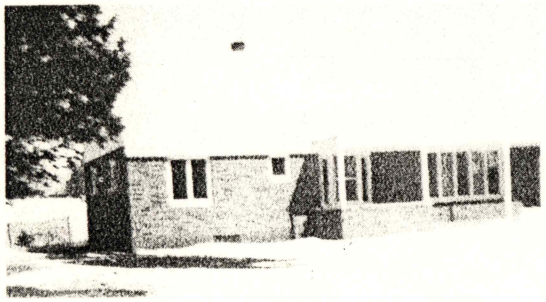
PRESENT STATISTICS, JANUARY 1, 1965

Baptized Members	531	Communicant Members	345
Voting Members	90	Sunday School Enrollment	121

Along with Rev. Stuempfig there are two former pastors still living, namely, Rev. Geo. Perlich and Rev. Robert L. Thoelke.

St. John's has maintained a cemetery from almost its beginning, for our departed brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Lord also went with our members who served in the Armed Services of our country. About nineteen served in World War I and some 50 men and women served in World War II. The supreme sacrifice was paid by Harland Pfantz in World War I and by Morris Fricke in World War II. Later, Kenneth Schuler died while serving his country.

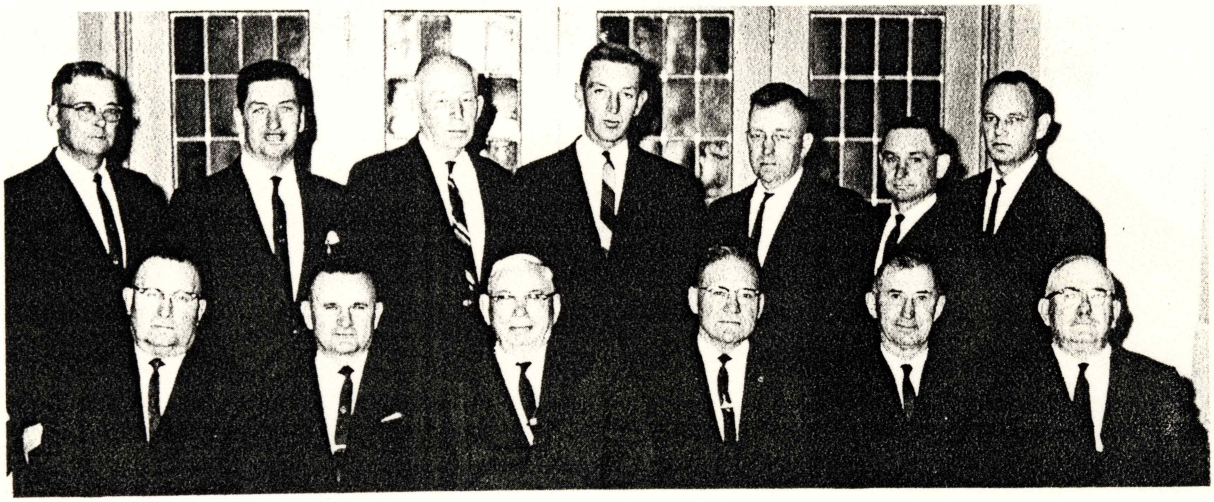

New Parsonage

Groundbreaking for the new parsonage was held April 19, 1964. The old parsonage was razed by the local members the week before. It was finished early in 1965 at a cost of about $30,000.

The church has made many changes during the past century as to customs and such. But the Word of God in all its truth and purity still reigns as the sole guiding light as it did for our forefathers and founders one hundred years ago. The church was built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Himself, being the chief cornerstone. The same is true today. As we begin the second century may our earnest prayer be: "May the eternal God be with us as He was with our forefathers and may He continue to guide and keep us in His grace."

384
390
384
390

CHURCH OFFICERS: (Back row, left to right) Lester Olson, Louis Nolta, Donald Hunzelman, Orville Edler. Third row; Raymond Frohwein, James Montgomery, John Koch, Fred Schaper, Kenneth Armbrecht, Karl Bangtson. Second row; Marion Nehring, Eldon Edler, Kenneth Wright, Ralph Mehlisch, Joe Armbrecht, Daryl Moore, Clare Ziemke. Front row; Elders: Vernon Hunzelman, Nyle Hartwig, Karl Frieberg, (Not Shown, Kenneth Pfantz).



CHURCH AND PARSONAGE BUILDING COMMITTEES: Back row, left to right; Edwin Jessen, William Mehlisch, Harley Smith, Eldon Edler, Karl Bangtson, Theobald Armbrecht, Duane Conkin. Front row; Arthur Riese, Ralph Riese, William Armbrecht, Arthur Pfantz, Elmer Hartwig, Roland Wengert, Sr. (Not shown, Carl Davis), (Deceased, Arnold Riese).

USHERS: Raymond Gerke, Duane Conkin, Carrol Freiberg, Elmer Eggers, Clifford Schaper, Duane Riese, Robert Gerke, Ralph Mehlisch, Ronald Eggers, Glen Eggers. Not shown: (Gordon Krause, Floyd Roske, Ronald Papenberg, Raymond Mehlisch).

LADIES AID

St. John's Ladies Aid was organized on July 19, 1914 under the leadership of Rev. H. Markworth. Although there had been in existence, prior to this time, a Ladies Aid and a Young Ladies Aid, which was organized in 1887, both of these organizations were merged into the organization in 1914 which is active to this day. Two of its charter members are living today, namely Mrs. August Eggers and Mrs. Albert Eggers. Much good has been done by the ladies in serving the local congregation in numerous ways. By decorations and improvements in the church, parsonage and the teacher's residence, and in making substantial contributions for missions and charitable institutions. St. John's Ladies Aid is a member of and takes an active part in the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, an auxiliary organization of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, which provides a threefold program of missionary education, missionary inspiration, and missionary service for the women of our Synod.

LADIES AID: Front row; Dorothy Edler, president; Kathryn Moore, vice president; Myrtis Kuhlman, secretary; Lavonne Greiner, treasurer; Thelma Armbrecht, L.W.M.L. secretary; Gerry Hartwig, Joan Wengert, (Not shown, Pat Mehlisch), executive board. Second row; Erma Riese, Betty Armbrecht, Karen Gerke, Esther Riese, Ida Gerke, Florence Koch, Carol Hunzelman, Helen Anderson. Third row; Elaine Schaper, Lena Edler, Isabel Gerke, Sadie Kuhlman, Ivadel Oehlsen, Ada Mehlisch, Dorothy Mehlisch, Renetta Jacobs. Fourth row; Donna Eggers, Mildred Berrey, Ida Frohwein, Kathleen Montgomery, Mathilda Edler, Lena Armbrecht, Amelia Schuler, Ruth Papenberg. Fifth Row; Helen Maddick, Leona Pfantz, Anna Schaper, Esther Bangtson, Helen Eggers, Helen Pfantz, Luella Pfantz, Muriel Armbrecht, Sixth row; Marian Edler, Lucy Schaper, Shirley Ziemke, Lillie Schaper, Lornetta Nolta, Myrtle Westphal, Eloise Severidt, Ildra Armbrecht, Marilyn Wengert. Seventh row; Marie Hartwig, Cordelia Smith, Estella Bell, Emma Thake, Hilda Hunzelman, Lois Riese, Marcella Riese, Atvea Zeisneiss. Eighth row; Lorna Wengert, Eleanor Wengert, Elsie Armbrecht, Hilda Moore, Sharon Kasischke, Irene Armbrecht. Not shown; Hannah Anselme, Louisa Busse, Ruby Davis, Lizzie Fricke, Nora Nolta, Emma Pfantz, Lena Schaper, Mary Wengert, Clara Andresen, Pat Mehlisch, Marjorie Wengert, Delores Anselme, Edith Leggett, Norma Anselme, Joan Roske, Elva Schuler.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF: Back row, Hugo Armbrecht, Dorothy Edler, Secretary; Kenneth Armbrecht, Superintendent; Myrtle Westphal, Don Severidt, Eloise Severidt, Howard Riese, Ida Gerke, Joe Armbrecht, Ruth Frohwein, Erma Riese, Shirley Ziemke. Front row; Inez Henze, Helen Anderson, Cheryl Edler, Arthur Riese, Jr., Joan Wengert, Ildra Armbrecht, Carol Hunzelman. (Not shown, Elaine Schaper).

JUNIOR HIGH: Back row: Richard Hartwig, Diane Stolzman, Russell Hartwig, Nancy Allen, Craig Pfantz, Marlys Greiner, Gary Ziemke, Sharon Edler, Charles Fricke, Debbie Fehrle, Curtis Edler. Front row: Connie Olson, Betty Wengert, Linda Anderson, Connie Pfantz, Joyce Armbrecht, Paula Henze, Barbara Edler, Marlys Frohwein. (Not shown, Patty Armbrecht, Bruce Nehring).

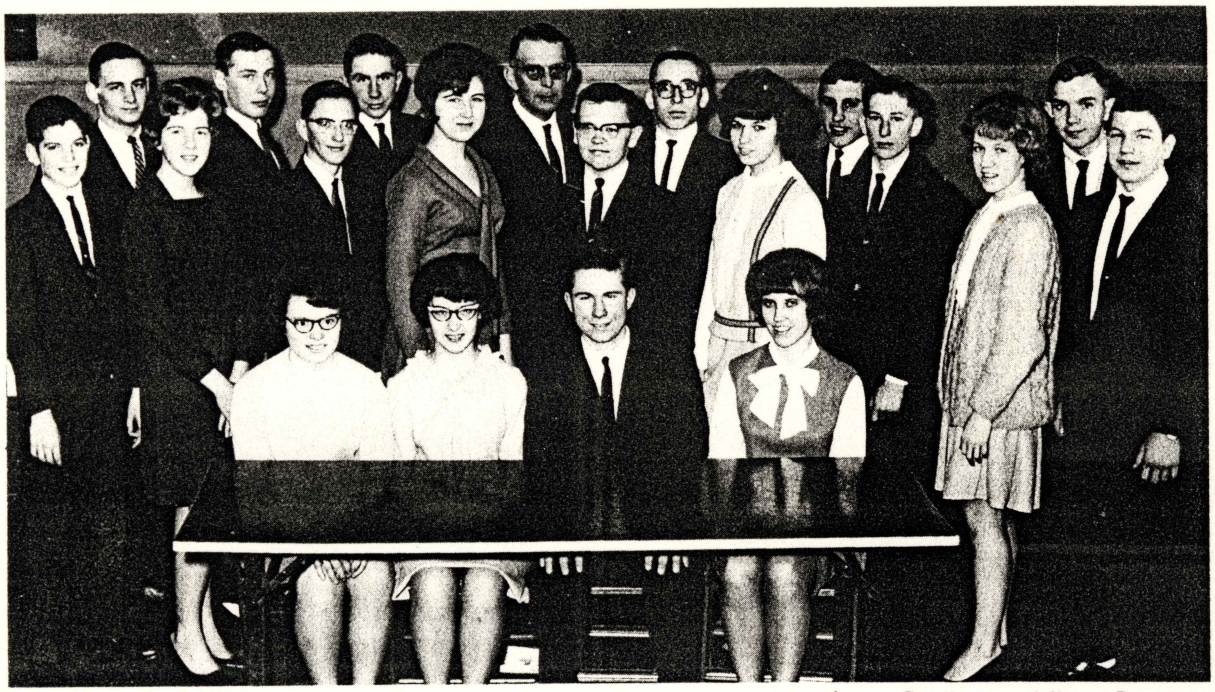
PRETEEN: Back row; Kevin Edler, Bruce Robins, Dean Severidt, Roy Berrey, Dan Freiberg, Ronald Allen, Arden Greiner, James Riese, Henry Armbrecht, Tommy Armbrecht. Front row; Nancy Nehring, Denise Wengert, Janice Wengert, Ruth Hartwig, Pam Mehlisch, Marcia Pfantz, Jean Armbrecht. (Not shown; Reba Davis)

JUNIOR: Back row, Ronna Hartwig, Donna Mehlisch, Joan Nehring, Linda Frohwein, Brenda Stolzman, Janet Zeisneiss, Mary Barnard. Front row; Timmy Moore, Jeff Koch, Kent Wright, Kevin Moore, Arthur Olson. (Not shown, Karen Anselme, Nylene Henze, Larry Milleson, Russell Roske, Kathy Wengert.

PRIMARY: Back row; Judy Hunzelman, Jackie Zeisneiss, Natalie Allen, June Wengert, Tammy Pfantz, Jeanelle Robins. Second row; Cindy Wright, Jennifer Wengert, Karen Moore, Lynn Riese, Hazel Wengert. Front row; Kent Kasischke, Randy Frohwein, Craig Weuve, Richard Koch, Charles Henze, Danny Severidt. (Not shown, Wendy Roske, LuAnn Milleson).

BEGINNERS AND KINDERGARTEN: Back row; David Montgomery, Karla Moore, Gerald Olson, Cindy Peterson, Tommy Koch, Jane Wengert, Billy Edler, Lynnette Kasischke. Front row; Michael Maddick, Lauri Conkin, Margo Berrey, Shan Kroeger, visitor; Annette Mehlisch, Tommy Anderson, Jeanice Robins, Brad Weuve, Timmy Eggers. (Not shown, Peggy Davis, Gail Krause, Kevin Roske, Mark Tintjer, Randy Wallace, Tammy Tintjer, Vickie Davis, Gregory Krause, Tamara Davis, Jana Hunzelman, Michael Berrey, Gordon Schuler.

NURSERY: Back row; Kim Wright, Douglas Montgomery, Kenny Henze, Brian Saltow; Front row; Marcia Hunzelman, Mary Riese, Cindy Gerke, Sue Maddick, Kendra Kasischke. (Not shown, Gary Krause, Dalona Pfantz, Valerie Davis).



WALTHER LEAGUE: Seated; Barbara Riese, Secretary; Merikay Greiner, Vice President; Paul Armbrecht, President; Cheryl Edler, Treasurer. Standing; Larry Severidt, Bill Armbrecht, Jeanine Robins, Don Frohwein, Gary Pfantz, Allan Armbrecht, Jeanette Robins, Donald Hunzelman, Counselor; Craig Ziemke, Raymond Hennies, Gayle Edler, Richard Riese, Dwight Wengert, Janice Edler, Stanley Nolta, George Barnard. (Not shown, Steven and Carl Fricke, Randy Wengert, Russell Gerke, Sandra Pfantz, Patty Freiberg).

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

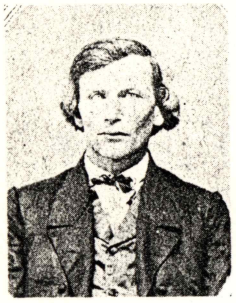
The Walther League was organized under the guidance of Rev. A. Brauer. It was first called Luther League. This later became the Walther League and joined the International Walther League on October 17, 1926. The object of our Walther League could be summed up in these words: To promote Christian fellowship, to provide a program which will increase the Christian knowledge of the confirmed and to prepare the youth of our congregation for a more consecrated service of Him who died for them and rose again. The Walther League endeavors to aid in keeping the young people with the church and give them an opportunity to continue the study of the Word of God after confirmation. The Walther League now numbers 25. The counselor is Mr. Donald Hunzelman.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 1965: Back Row, left to right: Nancy Allen, Curtis Edler, Charles Fricke, Rev. E. A. Wiedbush, Richard Hartwig, Marlys Greiner. Front row: Connie Olson, Deborah Fehrle, Sharon Edler, Diane Stolzman, Patricia Armbrecht..

SENIOR CHOIR: Back Row; Richard Riese, Bill Armbrecht, Kenneth Armbrecht, Joe Armbrecht, Donald Hunzelman, Art Riese, Jr., Raymond Hennies. Second row; Jane Eggers, Kathleen Montgomery, Kathryn Moore, Helen Maddick, Carol Hunzelman, Gayle Edler, Ida Gerke, Myrtis Kuhlman; Front row; Merikay Griener, Irene Armbrecht, Director; Barbara Riese. (Not shown; Gordon and Sandy Krause, Clara Andresen, Linda Leggett, Lucy Schaper, Eloise Severidt).

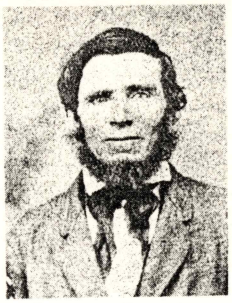
JUNIOR CHOIR: Back row; Curtis Edler, Barbara Edler, Joyce Armbrecht, Debbie Fehrle, Sharon Edler, Myrtis Kuhlman (Director), Linda Anderson, Connie Pfantz, Paula Henze, Marlys Frohwein, Charles Fricke. Second row; Ronald Allen, Connie Olson, Richard Hartwig, Marlys Greiner, Diane Stolzman, Russell Hartwig, Jean Armbrecht, Craig Pfantz. Front row; Nancy Allen, Tommy Armbrecht, Gary Ziemke, Betty Wengert. (Not shown, Bruce Nehring, Patty Armbrecht).

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME FOUNDING FATHERS ---

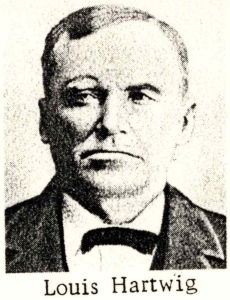


Henry Oehlsen

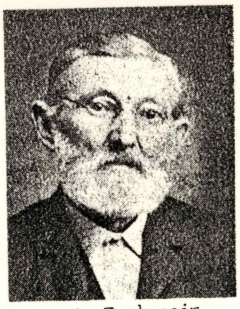
August German



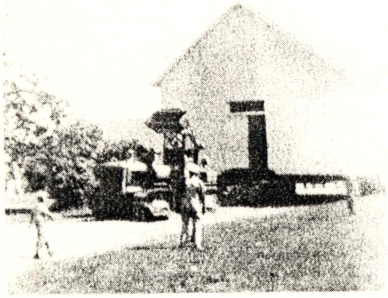
George German



Louis Hartwig



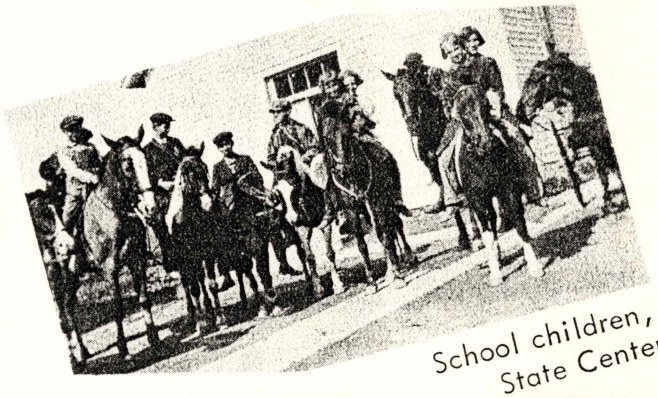
Louis Frohwein



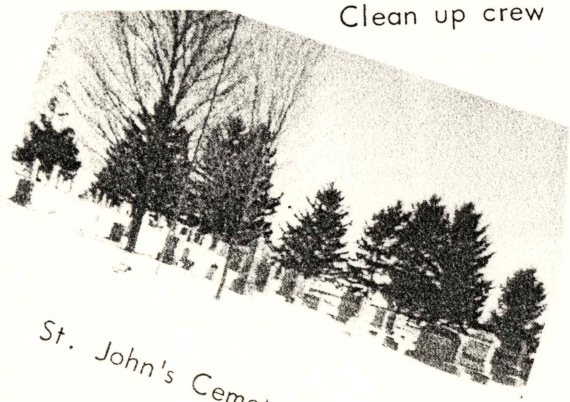
Moving old schoolhouse

Photo on the right shows School Children in 1915

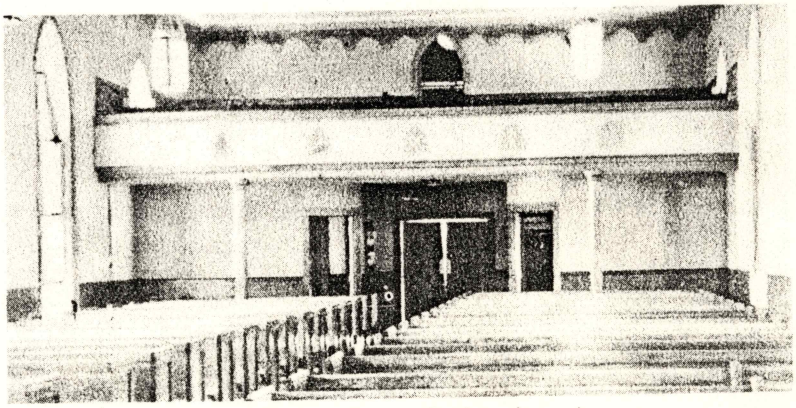
Clean up crew



School children, State Center



St. John's Cemetery



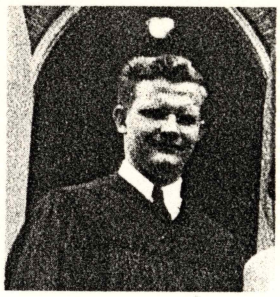
Rear view of old church

CHILDREN OF THE CONGREGATION IN THE SERVICE OF OUR LORD

Helen Riese Bunge,
Presently teaching at
Morristown, Minnesota

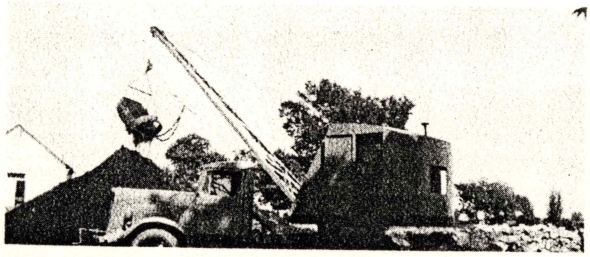
Luther Koepke,
Dean at Valparaiso University,
Indiana

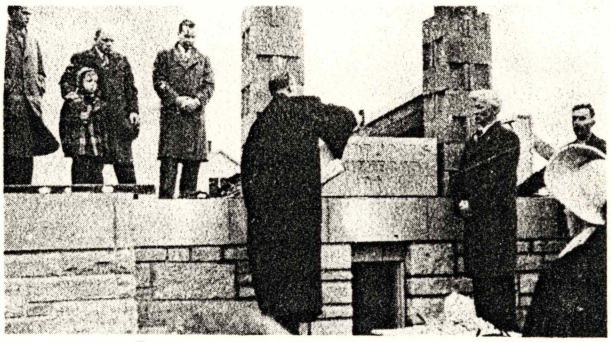
T. Victor Koepke
Lt. Col. Chaplain in U. S. Army
Ft. Meade, Maryland



R. Theodore Koepke,
Missionary in India

Construction of the present church.

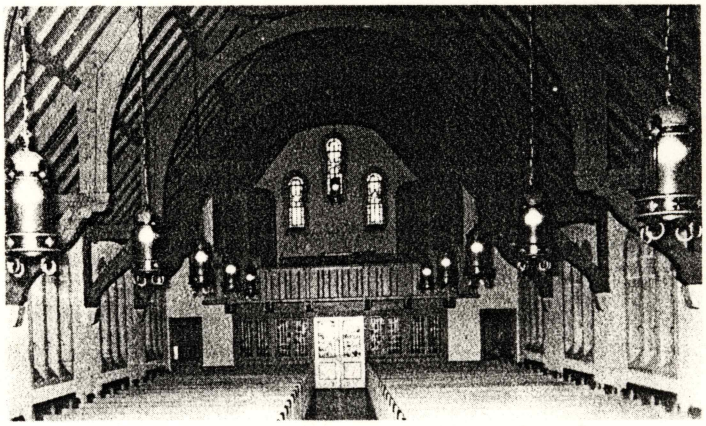




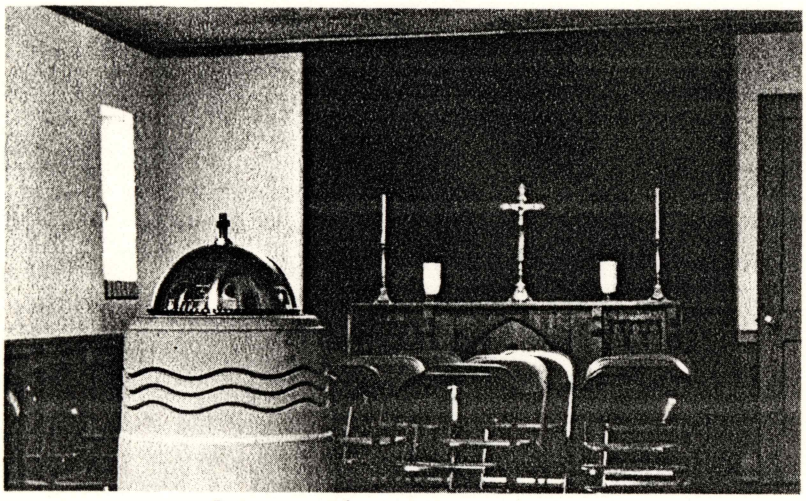
Cornerstone laying Nov. 1948

85th Anniversary Celebration

Groundbreaking for parsonage 1964



Rear view in new church



Private Chapel in new church

Organist,
Irene Armbrecht

ST. JOHN'S FELLOWSHIP CLUB: Front row; Myrtis Kuhlman, Kathryn Moore, Helen Maddick, Elsie Armbrecht, Joan Wengert, Shirley Ziemke, Ildra Armbrecht, Esther Bangtson, Colene Armbrecht, Lois Riese; Second row; James Montgomery, Kathy Montgomery, Amanda Fehrle, Ralph Eggers, Helen Eggers, Ron Eggers, Donna Eggers, Clare Ziemke, Theobald Armbrecht, Karl Bangtson, Joan Hartwig, Marcella Riese, Elaine Schaper; In back; Lowell Kasischke, Howard Riese, Art Riese, Jr., Carroll Wengert, Joe Armbrecht, Kenneth Armbrecht, Irene Armbrecht, Marion Nehring, Louis Nolta, William Armbrecht, Art Riese, Sr., Daryl Moore, Hugo Armbrecht, Muriel Armbrecht, Nyle Hartwig, Eloise Severidt, Jack Koch, Don Severidt, Florence Koch, Barbara Conkin, John Maddick, Lornetta Nolta, Duane Conkin, Sharon Kasischke, George Schaper, Erma Riese. (Not shown; Oliver and Thelma Armbrecht, Caryl Kuhlman, John Fehrle, Gordon and Sandy Krause, Karl and Ivadel Freiberg, John and Renetta Jacobs).

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

This book represents the joint efforts of many people. The Committee desires to express their sincere thanks to all those who helped in any way in the preparation of this book -- to those who loaned us photographs, clippings, etc.; to those who searched their homes and their memories for historical momentos and historical facts. Thanks to you all. We are especially grateful to Rev. E. A. Wiedbush, interim pastor, at St. John's, for his helpful assistance in preparing this book.

One is conscious of the many omissions. No doubt some errors in historical facts have been recorded in this book. We hope they are few. We dedicate this book to the past and to the future of St. John's Lutheran Church of State Center.

Hugo Armbrecht, Chairman: Don Gerke, Karl Freiberg, Nyle Hartwig, Kenneth Pfantz.

Psalm 92: -- It is a good thing to give thanks
unto the Lord, and to sing praises
unto thy name, O Most High.

St John's Ladies Aid taken at Henry Gerkes House

Constitution
and
By-Laws

•

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

•

Adopted July 7, 1941

•

State Center
Marshall County, Iowa

Constitution and By-Laws of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of State Center, Iowa

(Adopted July 7, 1941)

Article 1—Introduction

Whereas God says in His Word (1 Cor. 14,40) "Let all things be done decently and in order," therefore we, a number of Lutherans in this community, have resolved to form a parish, and by the following document, to which we subscribed our names, we lay down the order, according to which our congregation shall be governed.

Article 2—Name

The name of this congregation shall be: "St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church."

Article 3—Incorporation

The purpose and object of this congregation is religious and educational as an adjunct, and as such it shall have power to hold title to and manage such real estate as may be acquired for church purposes, including parochial school, parsonage and a teacher's dwelling.

This congregation shall have all the rights and powers given and granted by the Laws of the State of Iowa to religious corporations organized under the provisions of the Corporation Act of the State of Iowa.

Article 4—Creed

The congregation accepts and acknowledges all the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments as the inspired Word of God; and all the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, especially the Unaltered Augsburg Confession and Luther's Small Catechism, as the true and sound exposition of Christian doctrine taken from and in full agreement with Holy Scriptures.

Article 5—Membership

No one can be or remain a member of this congregation, but such as:

a is baptized;
b that accepts the Creed named in Article 4;
c does not live in manifest works of the flesh (Gal. 5, 19-21) but leads a Christian life;
d together with the congregation partakes of the Lord's Supper with due frequency, if he be of sufficient age;
d permits himself to be fraternally admonished and corrected when he has erred, and
f is not a member of any ungodly society or lodge.

Article 6—Voting Membership

Only such male members of this congregation as have reached their twenty-first year and have signed this Constitution shall be entitled to vote and only such that have been voting members for one year are eligible to an office in the congregation, providing he has reached the age of twenty-five years. The names of those who have been absent for a year, having previously been dealt with, shall be presented at the January meeting. The congregation may then, by a majority vote remove any one or all of them from voting membership and render official notice of such action to the parties concerned.

Article 7—Meetings

It is the duty of every member to attend meetings. The members present shall constitute a quorum, and have authority to transact business and to pass valid resolutions. In voting, the majority rules, save in matters of doctrine and conscience, in

which case the vote must be unanimous. To rescind a former resolution two-thirds of the votes of those present are necessary.

Article 8—Contributions and dues

It shall be the duty of every member of this congregation to contribute according to his ability toward the maintenance of church and school, and in general to assist in bearing the burdens of the congregation.

Article 9—Church Discipline

When a member of this congregation, after fruitless admonition in the various grades prescribed by the Word of God (Matt. 18,15-20), where the observance of such grades has been possible, shall have been expelled from the congregation, such excommunicated person shall then have forfeited all rights of a member of this congregation and all claims upon the property of the congregation as such or any part thereof. The same shall also hold good with reference to such members as may have refused to submit to church discipline and thus excommunicated themselves, as also of those who may sever their connection with the congregation by removal to another place.

Article 10—Pastoral Office

The pastoral office in this congregation shall be conferred upon such ministers or candidates only as profess their acceptance of and adherence to all canonical books of the Old and New Testaments, as the inspired Word of God, and all the Symbols of the Evangelical Lutheran Church enumerated in Article 4, as derived from such Word of God, and the pastors as well as school teachers shall be pledged to faithful adherence to the Word of God and the Symbols of the Lutheran Church by the call extended to and accepted by them.

Article 11—Public Service

In the public services of this congregation purely Lutheran hymns, and in all ministerial acts purely Lutheran forms only shall be used.

Article 12—School

An elementary school shall at all times be connected with the congregation. Besides the Holy Scriptures, Luther's Small Catechism and such books only as are purely Lutheran, shall be introduced and used for instruction in Christian doctrine. All instruction in secular subjects shall be free from everything, which is at variance with Lutheran doctrine.

It shall be the duty of such members of this congregation as have parental care of children, to send such children to the parochial school or otherwise to provide for their instruction in the pure doctrine. (Eph. 6,4).

Article 13 — Powers Vested in the Congregation

The congregation, as a body, shall have the supreme power in the external and internal administration and management of its own acclesiastical and congregational affairs. No decision, enactment, or performance in behalf of the congregation or with reference to a member thereof as such shall be valid whether it have proceeded from an individual or from a body within the congregation, unless it shall have been enacted or performed according to a general or special power conferred by the congregation, and whatever may have been

ordered or decided by indiviuals or minor bodies within the congregation under a power by the congregation, shall always be subject to revision and final decision by the congregation. But not even the congregation shall be enpowered to order, enact or decide anything contrary to the word of God and the Symbols of the Lutheran Church, and such ordinance, enactment, or decision shall be null and void.

Article 14—Election of Officers

The right of choosing or calling ministers and school teachers and of electing all other officers of the congregation shall ever be vested in the congregation, and shall never be delegated to an individual or to a minor body or circle within the congregation.

Article 15—Deacons (Elders)

The deacons at any time in office shall have no authority beyond that which has been conferred upon them by the congregation, and whatever power may have been delegated to them shall be at all times subject to change or revision by the congregation.

Article 16—Trustees

All property of the congregation is intrusted to the trustees at any time in office in such manner that they regard it as their entrusted property, and in the name of the congregation sign contracts, in behalf of it pay and receive money and give receipts, sign documents, appear before court and perform all manner of business which the congregation as sole owner would have to do; however, in such manner, that they in their dealings be governed by the valid decisions and orders of the congregation. For all such dealings which the trustees perform according to the decision and order of the congregation, the congregation as such is responsible; should however, the trustees deal with the property of the congregation according to their own will, contrary or without the decision of the congregation, they are personally held responsible.

Article 17—Church Officers

The officers of this congregation shall be a Chairman, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, a Board of Deacons (Elders), Board of Trustees, a Board of Christian Education, Finance Committee, Auditing Committee and a Church Council.

Article 18—Church Council

The Church Council shall consist of the following officers: Pastor, Teacher, Treasurer, the Board of Deacons (Elders), the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the Chairman of the Board of Christian Education, the Chairman of the congregation, and the Financial Secretary. The pastor is ex officio chairman of the Church Council and the teacher is ex-officio Secretary.

Article 19—Removal from Office

All the officers of the congregation may, in Christian and lawful order be removed from office. Sufficient and urgent causes for deposing an officer, a pastor, or school teacher are, persistent adherence to false doctrine, scandalous life and willful neglect of official duties.

Article 20—Adjustment of Property

If at any time a separation should take place in this congregation on account of doctrine, the property of the congregation and all the benefits therewith connected shall remain with those members who shall continue to adhere to Article Four (4) of this constitution.

Article 21—Amending the Constitution

To alter or repeal any alterable paragraph of this constitution, it shall be required that in two (2) consecutive meetings of the congregation two-thirds (⅔) of all voting members present cast their votes in favor of such alteration or repeal.

Article 22—Unalterable Articles

Articles 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 19 20 and 22 shall be unalterable and unrepealable.

BY-LAWS

Article 1—Reception of Members

Admission to membership in this congregation shall be effected as follows: Children growing up within the congregation are received into Communicant membership by Confirmation; likewise those who have not been confirmed members of an Evangelical Lutheran church elsewhere. Persons desiring admission, and coming with a letter of dismissal from some congregation whose doctrinal stand conforms to that of our own, may, upon presentation of such letter of release to the Pastor, be received into Communicant membership immediately and in the next meeting of the congregation be received as Voting Members. Other applicants shall give notice of their intention to the Pastor or one of the Elders and in an interview with the Pastor give satisfactory evidence of qualification for membership, whereupon the application with the testimony of the Pastor will be presented at a subsequent meeting of the congregation and acted upon. After having been admitted the applicant shall sign the Constitution of the congregation and thus his membership shall be established. The names of the Communicant members are to be entered in the list of congregational members by the recording secretary.

Article 2—Meetings

There shall be five regular meetings of the congregation during each calendar year, to be held on or about the second Sunday in January, April, July, October and December, at which meeting the Annual Election

shall be held. Extra meetings may be called by the Church Council. All regular and special meetings are to be announced by mail.

Article 3—Elections

There shall be an annual election of officers at the December meeting. Two names shall be submitted as candidates for each elective office by the Board of Deacons, one of which shall be the name of the retiring officer. Additional candidates may be submitted by any member of the congregation. Those candidates receiving the majority of votes cast shall be declared elected, excepting when there are more than two candidates, when the two highest shall be candidates for the next ballot. Absentees may be elected. Newly elected officers take office on the first of January.

Article 4—Method of Calling Pastors and Teachers

Election of Pastors and parochial school Teachers shall be conducted as follows: In a meeting having authority to pass valid resolutions the congregation nominates a number of candidates by ballot. The result of this nomination is made known to the assembled congregation in the following public service. If no valid protest is made, the whole congregation has sanctioned the candidates as thus announced. In the following meeting of the voters, the final election takes place by ballot, and the candidate obtaining a majority of all votes cast shall be considered elected by the congregation. But when a candidate directly from one of our Seminaries shall be called, the Faculty of such Seminary may be requested to appoint the person to whom such call shall then be extended.

Article 5—Duties of the Church Council

The Church Council shall meet once each month. Special meetings may be called by the chairman.

The Council shall have no legislative power, but its activities shall be advisory and executive.

They shall confer upon and discuss such matters as shall be presented to the congregation, prepare a definite program for each meeting and present proper recommendations.

They shall annually select a Staff of twelve Ushers, designate one as Head Usher and one as Assistant. The selection thus made shall be presented to the voters for ratification in the December meeting.

Article 6—Board of Deacons and Their Duties

The congregation shall choose from its eligible members a Board of Deacons. This Board shall consist of four members, one from each district of the congregation. The term of office shall be two years. The Pastor shall be ex-officio a member and chairman of this Board. The duties of the Board are:

a. They shall set an example to the congregation with a godly life and do all in their power to further the internal and external growth of the congregation. To this end they are, to the best of their ability, to prevent or at least check all public offenses within the congregation.

b. They shall support the Pastor with their advice in all difficult cases of his ministry and promote and support his official activities by all

means at their command. To this end they shall exercise Christian admonition when requested by the pastor; visit the sick and lead in the care of the poor of the congregation; notify the Pastor of all the sick and those in need of spiritual care in their respective district; accompany the Pastor while making calls, if he so desires, and make such calls in his stead when he is absent.

c They shall together with the Pastor examine all applications for membership in the congregation and visit those who have applied for voting membership, in order to report upon the eligibility of such members to the congregation. If unable to report favorably, they shall notify the Pastor privately of conditions interfering with such acceptance.

d They shall hold regular monthly meetings, elect their own secretary for the term of one year, who shall keep accurate minutes of all transactions.

e They shall be required to keep strictly confidential all matters discussed at their meetings. (I Tim. 3,8-11.)

f They shall upon request investigate, consider, discuss, and decide all matters which might belong before the congregational forum, but for the sake of Christian love and prudence should rather be presented to such a smaller circle than be brought before the whole congregation. Appeal can, however, be made from the decision of the Board to the entire congregation. It shall remain optional with a member whether or not to consult the Board of Deacons (Elders).

g Whenever and inasmuch as the Board acts in accordance with such general or specific instructions of the congregation, the members are in duty bound to receive such admonition in the spirit of love in which it is given; also to show every Christian willingness to submit to the decision of the Deacons and to meet them with that respect which is due their office. (1 Tim. 5,17).

h They shall attend to good order during and immediately before and after the public services; assist the Pastor at such services, especially at the Communion and Baptismal services.

i They shall have authority to arrange for and set the time of all special services.

j They shall ascertain every six months from the Finance Committee whether the members are fulfilling their duty in regard to contributions. All non-contributors are to be fraternally admonished by them.

Article 7—Duty of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall consist of three members. The term of office of each trustee shall be three years.

The duties of the Trustees shall be:

a To insure the property of the congregation against loss and damage and to keep the buildings in good repair. They shall inspect these buildings at least twice a year, make proper recommendations to the voters, or give orders for immediate repairs when necessary. They shall have the authority to take such action and to expend such monies as they may deem necessary to improve and to maintain the church property.

b To hold regular meetings at least once every three months, shortly before the regular meeting of the congregation. They are to appoint their own chairman and their own secretary who shall keep a record of all their transactions.

c To keep securely the deeds and other valuable and important papers of the congregation, such as mortgages, contracts and the like.

d To audit and approve all bills, and no treasurer shall pay any bill without such approval.

Article 8—Duties of the Board of Christian Education

The Board of Christian Education shall consist of seven men, four of whom shall be elected, one from each district, and shall serve a term of two years. The Pastor, the Teacher and the Sunday School Superintendent, who is elected by the voters annually, shall be members ex-officio. The Teacher shall be the chairman of this Board.

This Board shall aid the Pastor in his supervision of the Day School and Sunday School and shall give its fostering care to both institutions, and in every way advance the cause of Christian Education. To this end they shall do everything in their power to induce parents within the congregation to send their children to the parochial school when they are of school age.

They shall periodically visit the school to assure themselves:

a That the school is serving its purpose both in religious and in secular education;
b That Christian discipline and order obtains in the classrooms;
c That proper equipment and supplies are maintained;
d That cleanliness of classrooms and playgrounds prevails;
e They shall provide a substitute for the teacher when the need arises. The school calendar shall also be under their jurisdiction.
f They shall exercise a general supervision over the Sunday School and serve as a Committee on Young People's Work.
g They shall meet at least quarterly for the discussion of school affairs the youth problem and Christian Education in general.

Article 9—Chairman

The chairman shall be elected for the term of one year. In his absence a chairman pro tempore shall be chosen by the members present. The duties of the chairman shall be:

a To preside at the business meetings of the congregation and see to it

that good order is maintained:

b To give all members a fair chance to express their opinions and in the order in which they have asked for the floor. He must at all times be fair and just in his decisions:

c Together with the secretary he shall sign the minutes of the congregation after their adoption. All written documents proceeding from the congregation except those mentioned in Article 16 of the Constitution are to be signed by them.

Article 10—Recording Secretary

The Recording Secretary, elected by the congregation for one year, shall prepare careful minutes of the proceedings of each meeting and shall read the minutes at the following regular meeting. He shall keep and enter such records in a book provided for the purpose, after their approval. Both he and the chairman shall sign the minutes of each meeting. He shall keep a list of all voting members and communicant members and shall call the roll at each meeting. He shall conduct and preserve the correspondence. All documents not representing monetary value or indebtedness should be on file with the secretary. Also all statements, stubs, sample letters, etc., of the financial system should be turned over to him at the end of the year. He shall notify in writing the respective persons of the resolutions of the congregation. He shall supply the necessary ballots for elections. In the absence of the chairman it shall be his duty to call the meeting to order.

Article 11—Financial Secretary

The Financial Secretary shall be elected for a term of one year. His duties shall be to receive all dues, contributions and other income of the congregation; to turn over all receipts to the treasurer and shall demand a receipt thereof. He shall keep account of all his receipts and disbursements. He shall keep a correct list of all communicant members and shall keep exact record of their contributions. In conjunction with the Finance Board he shall see to it that every communicant member receives envelopes; he shall see to the collection of contributions, dues and extra offerings that may be asked of such communicants, and to this end shall send notices to delinquent contributors, prepare and sign quarterly statements of receipts of such communicants and shall render a report of the financial condition of the congregation at each regular meeting. He shall be ready at all times to show communicants or the congregation the record of contributions. The Financial Secretary is to be a member of the Board of Finance as well as of the Church Council.

Article 12—Duties of the Board of Finance

The Board of Finance is elected annually. The Treasurer, the Financial Secretary and four other voting members, one from each district, shall constitute this Board. This Board shall give its attention to all financial questions related to the work of the congregation. It shall pass such regulations as shall improve the financial condition of the congregation; assist the Financial Secretary in his work of collecting pledges, carry out plans and campaigns which shall be beneficial to the congregation, and assist in carrying on the financial canvass. It shall endeavor to enlist the financial support of all communicant members, encouraging regular and proportionate giving;

if they find that some members are in arrears, they shall in all friendliness remind them of their duty. Such as will not heed their admonition are to be reported to the elders. They shall accordingly have the following duties:

a To distribute the envelopes at the beginning of the new year and visit the new members to explain to them the financial arrangements of the congregation;

b To keep accounts on the envelope collections and to credit each donor with his contribution;

c To see to it that at least 2 members of the Finance Committee are present whenever contribution envelopes are opened;

d To annually publish and distribute a complete financial report;

e Together with the Trustees they shall in September of every year make an estimate of the expenses of the coming year. When the congregation has accepted this budget the committee on Finance shall see to it that the expenses of the congregation, if at all possible, remain within these limits.

f To conduct the annual every member canvass during the month of November. The Treasurer and the Financial Secretary shall not be required to canvass.

g To serve as the congregational stewardship committee.

Article 13—Treasurer

The Treasurer, elected annually, shall receive all funds from the Financial Secretary, give receipts therefor, keep account of all his receipts and disbursements and enter such records in books that shall be and remain the property of the congregation. He shall pay all fixed and regular expenses without order; all other disbursements he shall make on order of the Trustees. He shall present all account books when demanded of him. He shall issue checks for all money drawn. All accounts shall be audited quarterly by the Auditing Committee. He shall keep all receipts until this Auditing Committee has examined all books and found them correct. During a serious illness of the Treasurer the books and papers and other valuable articles in his keeping and belonging to the congregation shall be taken into custody by any person whom the Board of Trustees may appoint for this purpose. This shall also apply to the Financial Secretary. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Board of Finance and the Church Council.

Article 14—Auditing Committee

1 An Auditing Committee of three is elected annually.

2 The Auditing Committee shall at the end of each quarter audit the books of the various treasurers. They shall check all entries against receipts and vouchers etc., audit all books and shall convince themselves that all balances are either on deposit in the bank or available as cash on hand. When the books have been found to balance correctly they shall so certify by their signatures and make a written report to the congregation. Two shall constitute a quorum.

3 They shall, upon resolution of the

congregation, arrange for the bonding of the treasurer and the financial secretary.

4 All recommendations of the Auditors regarding bookkeeping and accounts shall be made directly to the congregation. Recommendations regarding the financial system shall be made to the Committee on finances. Serious discrepancies or dishonesty shall be reported to the Board of Deacons through the Pastor.

Article 15—Order of Business

The following shall be the order of business of every regular meeting:

1 Opening with Scripture reading and prayer.
2 Reading of minutes.
3 Reception of new members.
4 Roll call.
5 Reports of Church officers and council.
6 Unfinished Business.
7 New business.
8 Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer

Article 16—Alterations

These by-laws can be altered or repealed only by the assenting vote of two-thirds of all members present at any business meeting.

Cemetery Constitution

1

Following the examples in Holy Scripture and those of the Christian Church, we also desire to give a decent and Christian burial to our deceased, and therefore we, the St. John's Church, have dedicated a two acre tract of land, donated by Mr. Fred Oehlsen, for said purpose.

2

Said cemetery shall be and remain the property of St. John's Lutheran congregation.

3

Lots and graves may be sold or transferred only with the approval of the Board of Directors.

4

It shall be permissable for an owner of a cemetery lot to bury his blood relatives on his lot, even though they were not members of our church.

5

Until further notice, the following price will be charged for lots and graves. For communicant members, one half lot $5.00. Whole lot, $10.00. Single grave for child, $2.00. Grave for adult, $3.00. For non-members, one half lot, $10.00; whole lot, $20.00; single grave for child, $3.00; grave for adult, $4.00. Included with this at the time of purchase is the permanent upkeep which is as follows: for lot, $30.00, one-half lot $15.00, single grave, $7.50. Said price to be paid in advance.

6

It is prohibited to take any dirt either from the cemetery itself or from the public highway in front of the cemetery for the purpose of filling up lots or graves without the consent of the board.

7

All lots and graves must be mowed as often as needed, and all dead grass, brush, rubbish, etc. must be taken to the rubbish pile and burned.

8

The Board of Directors of the cemetery is to consist of four members of St. John's Lutheran congregation of State Center Iowa. And these four men are to elect their own chairman. Two of these directors are to be elected each year at the regular annual meeting. Said directors to hold office for a period of two years.

9

The Treasurer and the Secretary is to be be one and the same person and is to be elected at the annual meeting in January. He is to hold office for a period of three years, and shall make an annual report to the congregation at the annual meeting.

10

Processions of secret societies, lodges, orders, etc., are not tolerated on this cemetery, neither are the members of such organizations permitted to enter the cemetery in their regalia, uniforms, etc. Those acting contrary to this rule forfeit their cemetery lot, and the same reverts to the congregation.

11

The old cemetery regulation of 1921 is hereby revoked.

Duties of the Board of Directors of the Cemetery and Its Officers

It is the duty of the Board of Directors of the cemetery to see to it:

1 That the cemetery regulations are complied with.

2 That the cemetery is kept clean.

3 That every grave having no tombstone at least have some other marker stating the name of the deceased, and the year of his demise, if this is possible.

4 That it have power to sell lots and graves of the cemetery for the price which is fixed by the congregation.

5 That all bills against the cemetery must first be submitted to the Board of Directors.

6 That they employ a warden or caretaker who is to comply with the regulations of the Board of Directors

7 That the making of graves and the filling of the lot be left to the Board of Directors.

8 That the Board of Directors shall be and is hereby authorized and empowered to receive in trust for the use and benefit of lot and grave owners in said cemetery such sums as may be given to it by gift, will, or otherwise, to invest the same and to apply the proceeds of such investment to the maintenance and repairs of such lots and graves as may be designated by such donors. Said Directors may also receive annual contributions for said purpose. The principal of which shall be applied to the maintenance and repairs of such lots and graves as may be designated by the giver.

9 The treasurer is to receive all money accruing from the sale of lots and graves; also all money collected by the Directors for the repair and upkeep of lots and graves. He shall be required to make an annual report to the congregation.

W. A. MILES

Phone 17

STATE CENTER, IOWA

Dealer in All Kinds of

BUILDING MATERIAL
STEEL POSTS
LIME
CEMENT
BARBED and WOVEN WIRE
ASPHALT ROOFINGS
SHINGLES and NAILS
ETC.

Mid-Continent Petroleum Corp.

D-X LUBRICATING MOTOR FUEL

DIAMOND 760 MOTOR OIL and GREASES

H. W. RIESE

Tank Wagon Service Phone 760

Elnora Eckhardt

Financial Report
of
St. John's Lutheran Church
State Center, Iowa

1934

LISTON'S

Not a Bank But a Place to Save Money

on

Groceries and Hardware

PHONE 106

C. E. ANDERSON

Coal and Ice
Feed and Salt

We Appreciate Your Business

PHONE 27

Farm Bureau Service Co.

GASOLINE and OILS

PAINT

TIRES

INSECTICIDES

Phone 11-03 for Tank Wagon Service

Ernest Eggers

REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

1934

Name	Current Expense	Budget	Repair Fund
Ankrum, Bernita	$ 2.29	$ .91	$
Anselme, J. B.	10.40	3.46	
Anselme, Mrs. J. B.	10.20	3.35	
Anselme, Herbert	5.10	.55	
Anselme, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph	18.05	7.00	.50
Armbrecht, Mrs. August	15.00	41.00	
Armbrecht, Frieda	4.40	24.30	
Armbrecht, Mr. and Mrs. Henry			
Armbrecht, Oliver			
Armbrecht, August			
Armbrecht, Theobald			
Armbrecht, Mrs. Minnie	11.90	5.65	
Armbrecht, Dorothy	4.95	3.05	
Armbrecht, Hope		.25	
Armbrecht, Wm. A.	13.00	20.00	
Armbrecht, Mrs. Wm.	12.75	19.75	
Armbrecht, Hugo	5.15	6.15	
Bell, Fred	11.70	.75	
Bell, Mrs. Fred	5.75	1.25	
Berry, Isaac	5.20		
Berry, Mrs. Isaac	5.20		
Bickensderfer, Mrs. Sylvia	8.00	2.00	
Bohnsack, Albert		1.00	.50
Brackney, E. L.			
Brackney, Mrs. E. L.	1.00		
Brandt, Mr. and Mrs. Fred		.80	
Brandt, Fred, Jr.	1.50	1.55	
Brandt, Wilbert		.30	
Brandt, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey	17.00	8.00	
Buschbom, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond			
Buschbom, Miss Lena		.35	
Buschbom, Mr. and Mrs. Rob't	25.00	9.25	.50
Buschbom, Dorothy	2.15	2.30	
Busse, Mr. and Mrs. Henry	30.00	11.50	1.50
Busse, Julius	25.00	11.25	.25
Busse, Louisa	39.00	15.50	.25
Conkin, Mrs. Orlan	6.40	3.20	
Conkin, Rufus		.25	
Conkin, Maxine	1.75	1.75	
Conkin, Floyd	.30	.50	
Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	25.00	8.95	.50
Davis, Carl	15.00	12.50	.50
Davis, Mrs. Carl	6.00	4.50	.50
Davis, Mr. and Mrs. George	35.00	8.00	1.00
Davis, Walter	10.00	.75	

Davis, Mildred	5.00	3.75	.25
Davis, Ira		.50	
Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Ivan	3.00		
Eckhardt, Wm. L.	15.00	11.75	
Eckhardt, Albert	15.00		
Eckhardt, Elnora	25.10	20.60	
Edler, Fred A.	36.40	7.70	.50
Edler, Mrs. Fred	36.40	7.75	.50
Edler, Mr. and Mrs. Otto	42.00	9.30	1.50
Edler, Ruth		4.95	
Edler, Esther		3.70	
Edler, Carl	1.75	2.25	
Edler, Eldon		.25	
Edler, Wm. L.	25.00	17.50	
Edler, Mrs. Wm. L.	15.00	7.30	
Edler, Lavonne	7.80	5.20	
Edler, Arlind	7.80	5.20	
Eggers, Albert	11.00	2.50	.25
Eggers, Mrs. Albert	11.00	2.50	.25
Eggers, Ralph	5.25	.50	.50
Eggers, Mrs. Ralph	5.25	.50	
Eggers, August Sr.	60.00	18.00	
Eggers, Ernest	40.00	24.43	1.00
Eggers, Leona	22.50	17.00	.25
Eggers, Paul		1.00	
Eggers, August W.	17.00	12.00	.50
Eggers, Mrs. August	17.00	13.00	.50
Eggers, Wynema	5.00	7.00	.25
Eggers, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin	8.50	3.30	.50
Eggers, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin	7.30	1.20	
Eggers, Fritz Sr.	30.00	7.50	.25
Eggers, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jr.	10.00	5.75	
Eggers, Wm. F.	20.80	9.80	.25
Eggers, Mrs. Wm. F.	23.40	9.80	.25
Eggers, Raymond	7.80	6.70	.25
Eggers, Florence	7.80	6.70	.25
Eggers, Wm. H.	5.50	2.65	.25
Eggers, Mrs. Wm. H.	5.00	6.56	.25
Eldridge, Bernice	.48	.34	
Eldridge, Cordelia	.29	.28	
Eldridge, Howard	.05	.37	
Evans, Mrs. Floyd			
Fehrle, Mr. and Mrs. C. J.	20.00	9.00	
Fricke, Adelbert	3.50	1.50	.25
Fricke, Christ	.75		
Fricke, Mrs. Christ	3.15		
Fricke, Mr. and Mrs. Fred E.	10.00	2.50	
Fricke, Hiram		.25	
Fricke, Inez	3.30	2.05	
Fricke, Fredrick	2.00	1.85	
Fricke, Elmer	.10	.55	
Fricke, Kenneth	2.15	2.55	
Fricke, Wm.		.50	
Fricke, Renton		.50	
Frohwein, Miss Amelia	10.55	5.85	
Frohwein, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence	18.00	1.50	.50
Frohwein, Mrs. Ella	4.89	4.40	.75
Frohwein, Mr. and Mrs. George	10.00	4.00	.50
Frohwein, Mr. and Mrs. Henry	25.00	6.00	.50
Frohwein, Mr. and Mrs. Louis			
Frohwein, Rosella	5.20	3.35	.25
Funke, Mrs. Earl	2.00	.25	
George, Mr. and Mrs. R. L.	25.80	25.40	1.00
George, Roberta	9.80	5.35	.50
Gerke, A. H.	27.51	13.36	.25
Gerke, Mrs. A. H.	27.45	13.10	.25
Gerke, Erhard	10.85	5.65	.25
Gerke, Alvin	11.00	6.15	.25
Gerke, Myrtle	10.94	6.20	.25
Gerke, Gladys	11.12	6.21	.25
Gerke, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad	5.00*	2.50	
Gerke, Henry	12.00	8.50	
Gerke, Mrs. Henry	12.00	9.25	
Gerke, Rocel	8.80	8.05	
Gerke, Gertrude	3.00	7.25	
Gerke, Harold	3.00	7.25	
Gerke, Louis Sr.	21.00	7.50	.50
Gerke, Rosetta	7.85	4.80	
Gerke, Martin	9.40	4.19	.50
Gerke, Leora	3.90	2.55	.25
Gerke, Lawrence			
Gerke, Louis Jr.	10.00	3.00	
Gerke, Dorothy	7.80	8.20	.25
German, Mrs. Anna		1.00	
German, Cyril			
German, Mrs. Minnie			
German, Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz	20.00	7.35	
Gross, Mrs. George			
Hamm, Mrs. H. C.	12.25	7.25	
Hamm, Vernon	1.30	.90	
Hannusch, Mrs. Caroline	.60		
Hannusch, Mr. and Mrs. Fred	14.50	1.50	
Hannusch, George		.25	
Hartwig, Mr. and Mrs. Earl	.45		
Hartwig, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer	10.40	4.00	
Hartwig, Mrs. Ernest	8.65	2.75	
Hartwig, Ernest Jr.	6.25	1.40	
Hartwig, Helen	2.98	1.36	
Hartwig, Mr. and Mrs. Henry	12.50	5.40	
Hartwig, Alvin			
Hartwig, Alma	4.55	5.55	

Hartwig, Amanda	2.85	3.10	
Hartwig, Mr. and Mrs. Leland	5.20	.10	
Hartwig, Mr. and Mrs. Orville	10.00	1.00	
Hartwig, Louis			
Hennies, Mrs. Amelia	10.00	2.50	
Hillemann, Mr. and Mrs.Ernest	25.00	4.50	
Hillemann, Reuben	3.50	1.35	
Holle, Mr. and Mrs. Fred	35.00	3.00	
Honeck, Fred	12.20	4.85	.25
Honeck, Mrs. Fred	12.10	5.85	
Honeck, Floyd	4.70	.75	
Honeck, Cecil	3.70	1.45	
Hunzelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Sr.	12.00	2.00	
Hunzelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Aug. Jr.	15.00	3.00	.50
Hunzelmann, Oliver			
Hunzelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Henry	15.00	4.25	
Hunzelmann, Doris	2.40	.20	
Hunzelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Leland	10.00	2.20	
Hunzelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Warren	20.80	9.20	.50
Hunzelmann, Lucille		.25	
Jacob, John	4.70	.80	
Jacob, Mrs. John	3.20	.35	
Jessen, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin	7.15	2.85	
Jones, Louis			
Jones, Mrs. Louis	2.51		
Jones, Elmer	2.60		
Jones, Dorothy	.30		
Jones, Ralph	2.80		
Jones, Edward			
Koepke, Mrs. H. C.	5.20	16.00	
Koepke, Waldemar	6.45	8.00	
Koepke, Paula	5.20	13.40	
Koepke, Ruth	5.30	13.35	
Koepke, Flora	5.30	10.95	
Koepke, Victor	.65	1.30	
Koepke, Luther	.20	.60	
Koepke, Edwin	.60	1.20	
Kuhlmann, Mr. and Mrs. Geo.			
Kuhlmann, Arlene	1.00		
Kuhlmann, Claire			
Kutzner, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest	3.55		
Kurth, Mr. and Mrs.			
Kurth, Walter			
Kurth, Harold			
Lahr, Mr. and Mrs. August	2.82	.90	
Lahr, Marvin		.11	
Lindemann, Wm.	12.00	6.75	.25
Lindemann, Mrs. Wm.	10.00	6.25	.25
Lindemann, Elaine	1.00	.50	.25
Lucas, Idella	1.35	.65	
Mehlisch, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer	5.00		
Mehlisch, Mr. and Mrs. Martin	25.00	6.50	.50
Mehlisch, Armour	.01	.26	.25
Mehlisch, Mr. and Mrs. Wm.	11.50	1.10	
Mehlisch, Wm. Jr.	.50	.56	
Mehlisch, Irene	5.73	.43	
Merrill, Mrs. Minnie	12.40	5.70	
Metge, Mr. and Mrs. Wm.	11.75	1.45	
Moore, Mrs. Roy	3.25	1.25	.25
Nehring, Mrs. Ernie	.45		
Nolta, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron	10.00	1.75	
Nolta, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald			
Nolta, Mr. and Mrs. Harold	.50		
Nolta, Mrs. Mary	12.00	4.00	.25
Nolta, Mrs. Leland	5.05	5.00	
Nolta, Luverda		.85	
Nolta, Verneda		1.25	
Nolta, Mr. and Mrs. W. G.	15.00	4.45	.50
Nolta, Louis	2.00		.25
Neuse Gilbert	4.35	.35	
Neuse, Mrs. Gilbert	1.75	.10	
Oakes, Mrs. Sam	12.00	6.00	
Oehlsen, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel	10.06	4.84	
Oehlsen, H. F. Sr.	10.00	2.00	
Oehlsen, Henry, Jr.	3.90	1.46	
Oehlsen, Mrs. Henry	4.30	3.35	
Oehlsen, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	1.18	.27	
Oppermann, H. A.	8.60	3.60	
Parsons, Mrs. Mary			
Pappenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Ado'ph	22.75	8.11	.50
Pfantz, Mr. and Mrs. Albert	10.50	1.40	
Pfantz, Glen		.10	
Pfantz, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	13.75	3.75	
Pfantz, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence		.20	
Pfantz, Katharyn		.25	
Pfantz, Mrs. Minnie	45.00	13.00	2.00
Pfantz, Erma	15.05	10.90	1.00
Pfantz, Mrs. Walter	2.00	.25	
Pfantz, Lyle	.06	.04	
Richter, Mr. and Mrs. Otto	20.00	6.50	.45
Richter, Herman	5.00	3.20	
Richter, Oscar	5.00	2.50	
Richter, Fern	2.48	2.34	
Riese, Christ	50.00	43.00	1.00
Riese, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	50.00	27.50	
Riese, Edgar	13.00	7.45	.25

Riese, Mrs. Edgar	13.00	7.45	.25
Riese, E. A.	26.00	8.20	.75
Riese, Mrs. E. A.	13.00	6.70	.50
Riese, Arnold	10.40	6.20	.25
Riese, Harold	15.40	8.70	.25
Riese, Ralph	10.30	6.20	.25
Riese, Martin	10.00	13.00	
Riese, Mrs. Martin	13.00	20.00	
Riese, Lucille	4.70	5.80	
Riese, Inez	3.95	9.00	
Riese, Howard	4.75	6.70	
Riese, Matthew	20.00	7.50	.50
Rohrer, Mr. and Mrs.			
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. Arno	1.20	.60	
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold	2.78		
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. August Sr.	25.00	12.45	.50
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. August Jr.	15.00	9.50	
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. Christ	9.86	2.35	
Schaper, Irene	.89	.39	
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad	20.00	2.75	
Schaper, Reuben	3.22	1.08	
Schaper, Myra	.72	1.53	
Schaper, Freddie	5.65	6.55	.25
Schaper, Mrs. Freddie	5.40	6.35	.25
Schaper, Mrs. Henry C.	15.00		
Schaper, George			
Schaper, Elda	5.50		
Schaper, H. H.	30.00	10.50	.25
Schaper, Mrs. H. H.	3.20	3.05	.25
Schaper, Martin	3.00	2.70	.25
Schaper, Mildred	2.80	2.65	.25
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon	5.20		
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. William C.	20.00	6.00	
Schaper, John		.25	
Schaper, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur	10.00	2.90	
Schmellik, Christ	7.00	3.00	
Schmellik, Marie	3.35	3.10	
Schoppe, Mr. and Mrs. Alva	7.30	1.25	
Schuler, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin	9.00	5.50	
Schuler, Harley	1.00	1.40	
Schuler, Mr. and Mrs. Ed	10.00		
Schuler, Raymond			
Schuler, Ernie			
Schuler, Evelyn	.04		
Schuler, Mr. and Mrs. Harley R.	10.00		
Schuler, Mr. and Mrs. Henry	12.00		
Schuler, Mr. and Mrs. Julius		.25	
Schuler, Thelma		.05	
Schuler, Laverne		.10	
Schuler, F. D.			
Schuler, Miss Fredericka	15.00	11.50	
Schuler, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert			
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Albert	20.00	5.50	
Smith, Mrs. Emma	15.00	5.75	
Smith, Harley	15.00	10.75	
Smith, Mrs. Harley	4.70	5.30	
Smith, Mrs. Louis	15.51	.25	
Smith, Oscar	12.00	3.26	
Smith, Mrs. Oscar	12.25	3.25	
Steitz, John			
Steitz, Mrs. John	8.35	8.55	.25
Steitz, Russell		2.00	.25
Sprouse, Leslie			
Thake, Mrs. August	10.00	2.00	.25
Thake, Mr. and Mrs. Ed			
Thake, Mr. and Mrs. Leland			.50
Thake, Mr. and Mrs. William	20.80	6.70	.50
Timmermann, Leon	15.00	7.00	
Tisler, Henry	1.00	.50	
Tisler, Harold	.51	.31	
Wengert, Mr. and Mrs. C. F.	15.00	7.50	.50
Wengert, Vyron	2.00	1.35	
Wengert, Lamont		.39	
Wengert, George	12.00	3.25	
Wengert, Mr. and Mrs. Leon	9.00	2.90	
Wengert, Mr. and Mrs. O. G.	15.00	6.50	
Wengert, Mr. and Mrs. R. H.	10.00	5.70	
Westphal, Ferdinand		.25	
Weuve, Harry	11.00	2.50	
Weuve, Mrs. Harry	10.00	1.50	
Weuve, Virgil	5.20	1.95	
Weuve, Merle	1.90	1.70	
Weuve, Ildra	1.20	1.75	
Wilkening, Mr. and Mrs. Carl	13.00	8.70	1.00
Wilkey, Henry	6.00	.80	
Wilkey, Mrs. Henry	2.30	.88	
Wilkey, Melvin	.50	.45	
Wilkey, Myrl	.20	.31	
Wohlert, Mr. and Mrs. John		1.60	
Wohlert, Arnold		.45	
Zabel, Rev. and Mrs. Wm.	30.00	34.00	1.00
Ziesness, Fred	11.05	4.79	.40
Ziesness, Mrs. Fred	11.00	4.75	.35
Ziesness, Mrs. Wilbur			
Ziesness, Elmer		.50	
Ladies Aid	7.00		
Dividend of Clemons Bank	1.34		

Patronize Our Advertisers

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1934

Balance, cash on hand January 12, 1934	$ 461.54
Total RECEIPTS in 1934	5138.25
Total to be accounted for	$5599.79
Total CHECKED OUT in 1934	5540.91
Balance, cash on hand January 8, 1935	$ 58.88
Less 20 cents, overpaid on BUDGET	.20
Net balance in bank	$ 58.68

Itemized List of Disbursements

Treasurer Fiene, Iowa District	$2271.04
Rev. Zabel, salary and expense account	1380.02
R. L. George, salary and expense account	1217.00
C. E. Anderson, coal	286.84
Omar Heins, painting	25.92
Town of State Center, light and power	19.84
First National Bank, box rent	1.10
Florence Eggers, interest	10.02
Student Fund	61.63
Concordia Pub. House, envelopes, S. S. supplies, etc	136.13
McMahon & Sons, supplies	14.82
P. J. Adams, brace rods	1.27
W. C. Hilleman, electric line expense	9.52
Traveling expense of preachers for Mission Festival	5.54
Mutual Insurance Co., assessment	42.52
Student Koch, preaching	5.02
Re-insuring of Church Property	23.90
Albert Eggers, traveling expense to convention	5.02
Central Iowa Telephone Co., line call	1.02
Bagge Hardware Co., supplies	.53
W. C. Liston, supplies	4.10
Miscellaneous Items	1.74
Total Expense	$5540.91

Parochial Report

Baptized members, 664.
Communicant members, 431.
Voting members, 93.
Baptisms: children, 14; adults, 5.
Confirmations: children, 12; adults, 3.
Communed, 756.
Marriages, 6.
Burials, 3.

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STATE CENTER, IOWA
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OILS TRACTOR FUELS
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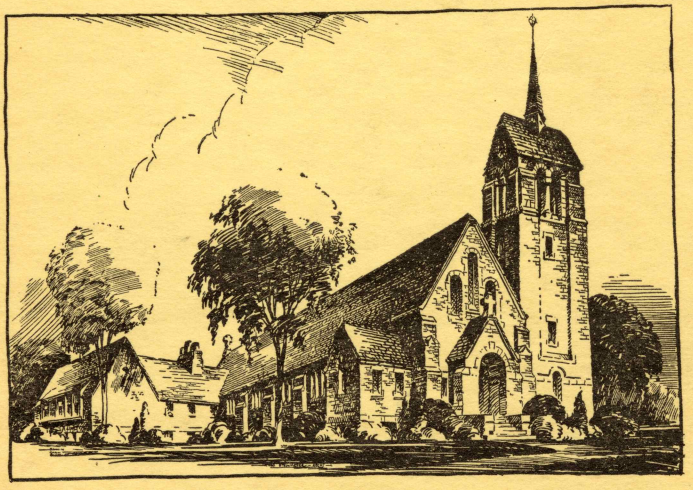
Dedication

and

85th Anniversary

St. John's Lutheran Church



State Center, Iowa

Sunday, April 16, 1950

Geo. H. Perlich, Pastor

Dedication and Anniversary Services

Guest Speakers and Organists

April 16 - 21, 1950

Sunday Morning service at 10:00 a. m. (Dedication)

Rev. W. D. Oetting, Waterloo, Iowa
Prof. John A. Jaeger, Evanston, Illinois

Sunday Evening service at 7:30 p. m. (Organ Dedication)

Monday Evening, service at 7:30 p. m. (Christian Education)

Rev. B. W. Bruch, Alden, Iowa
Mr. R. L. Geroge, Marshalltown, Iowa

Tuesday Evening service at 7:30 p. m. (Walther League)

Rev. Paul Roeder, Chicago, Illinois
Prof. Frank R. Behnke, Latimer, Iowa

Wednesday Evening, service at 7:30 p. m. (Ladies Aid & L.W.M.L.)

Rev. Albert Brauer, Keystone, Iowa
Mrs. Walter Guenther, Eldora, Iowa

Thursday Evening service at 7:30 p. m. (Lutheran Laymen's League)

Rev. Rodney W. Riese, Wiota, Iowa
Mr. Hugo Boehm, Ogden, Iowa

Friday Evening at 6:00 p. m. Fellowship Banquet
Church Auditorium

Dedication Service

10:00 A. M.

Congregation assembles at the West door of the new church, the church officers bearing the Bible and sacred vessels.

ACT OF DEDICATION_____The Rev. Geo. H. Perlich

a: Prayer by the pastor.

b: Presentation of keys by the contractor.

c: Unlocking of door by Pastor and opened by member of Church Council, during which the pastor reads portions of the Psalms.

Prelude "Song of Joy"—H. Markworth_____Prof. John A. Jaeger
Evanston, Illinois

The Minister with the Congregation shall enter the Church. Having come to the chancel the Minister and Guest Pastors shall enter the sanctuary. The members of the Church Council, standing at the chancel shall give the Bible and the sacred vessels into the hands of the Minister, who shall put them in their proper place. The Congregation may be seated.

Invitation to hear the Word of God and call to prayer for dedication by pastor.

The Hymn of Praise (250)_____Based on the Te Deum

1. Holy God, we praise thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heav'n above adore thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.

2. Hark! the glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord;
Holy, holy, holy, Lord!

3. Lo, th' apostles' holy train
Join Thy sacred name to hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refain,
And the white-robed martyrs follow,
And from morn to set of sun
Thro' the Church the song goes on.

4. Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;
Though in essence only one,
Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee
While we own the mystery.

Minister—In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

CONGREGATION—AMEN.

M—Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C—WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH.

M—I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord.

C—AND THOU FORGAVEST THE INIQUITY OF MY SIN.

M—Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer — for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Dedication of Organ, Chimes and Carillon

Evening Service — 7:30 P. M.

PRELUDE "Hallelujah" Chorus----------Handel

Guest Organist, Prof. John A. Jaeger, Principal of Bethlehem Lutheran School, Evanston, Illinois.

HYMN OF PRAISE (39)----------J. Neander

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation!
   O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy Health and Salvation!
   Join the full throng
   Wake, harp and psalter and song
   Sound forth in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
   Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth, sustaineth.
   Hast thou not seen
   How thy desires all have been
   Granted in what He ordaineth?

3. Praise to the Lord, who hath fearfully, wondrously made thee;
   Health hath vouchsafed and, when heedlessly falling hath stayed thee
   What need or grief
   Ever hath failed of relief?
   Wings of His mercy did shade thee.

4. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
   Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy doth send thee.
   Ponder anew
   What the Almighty can do
   Who with His love doth befriend thee.

5. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore Him!
   All that hath life and breath, come now with praise before Him!
   Let the Amen
   Sound from His people again,
   Gladly for aye we adore Him.

THE ORDER OF VESPERS

Minister—O Lord, open Thou my lips.

Congregation—AND MY MOUTH SHALL SHOW FORTH THY PRAISE.

M—Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C—MAKE HASTE TO HELP ME, O LORD.
GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY GHOST: AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

(To be read responsively)

M—Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teaching one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts unto God.

C—LET THE PEOPLE PRAISE THEE, O GOD, LET ALL THE PEOPLE PRAISE THEE.

M—Take up the timbrel and the harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ.

C—PRAISE HIM WITH THE SOUND OF THE TRUMPET; PRAISE HIM WITH THE PSALTRY AND HARP, PRAISE HIM WITH THE STRINGED INSTRUMENTS AND ORGANS.

M—Our gracious God and Father in Christ Jesus hath made this day to be unto us a day of special rejoicing. The new organ, chimes and carillon, which of His fatherly goodness He hath given us, is this day to peal forth in this sanctuary and from this tower in harmonious strains for our worship. To the glory of God, the author of perfect harmony and peace.

C—WE DEDICATE THIS ORGAN.

Organ—Amen.

M—To the honor of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Saviour; at whose birth the angels sang.

C—WE DEDICATE THIS ORGAN.

Organ—Amen. Amen.

M—To the praise of the Holy Spirit in whose fellowship the discords of life are lost in the glorious harmony of God.

C—WE DEDICATE THIS ORGAN.

Organ—Amen, Amen, Amen.

M—We further rejoice today in the presentation of a set of Mass Cathedral Chimes to our church in loving memory of G. B. Davis, given in his memory by his wife and children. Now for the ministry of music to the soul; for inspiration to praise through heart-touching melodies.

C—WE DEDICATE THESE CHIMES.

Chimes—Amen.

M—For the soothing of troubled hearts in anxiety; for the giving of cheer and of comfort to the downcast; and for the kindling of courage in those who hear them.

C—WE DEDICATE THESE CHIMES.

Chimes—Amen. Amen.

M—For the humbling of the heart in awe before the eternal mysteries; for the edification of those who listen to them and to those who have given them that they may feel a nearer presence of their loved ones, who abide in Thy presence in the realm of eternity.

C—WE DEDICATE THESE CHIMES.

Chimes—Amen. Amen. Amen.

M—In loving memory of our members who have entered eternal rest since 1945 a Carillionic Tower System has been made possible by the memorial gifts of their relatives and friends. For the proclaiming the peace of our Lord, for the summoning the congregation to this house of God, and for inviting us to prayer.

C—WE DEDICATE THIS CARILLON.

Carillon—Amen.

M—For the ringing forth a sure welcome to the sinner and to whosoever will come.

C—WE DEDICATE THIS CARILLON.

Carillon—Amen. Amen.

M—For those who through the sorrows and sufferings of this present life are prevented from coming to this house, that its sound may bring to mind Thy love for all who suffer; Thy courage and help for those who are sore beset; Thy peace for those who are heavy laden and Thy comfort for those who mourn.

C—WE DEDICATE THIS CARILLON.

Carillon—Amen. Amen. Amen.

Minister and People—We dedicate this organ, chimes and carillon for the comfort of the sorrowing, the strengthning of the weak, the cheering of the weary, the swelling of the chorus of praise, for help in singing the songs of the Church, we, the people of this congregation in presence of Almighty God, surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our lofty inheritance, and sensible of the sacrifices of those who have gone before, do dedicate ourselves, organ, chimes, and carillon to the service of God, the service of mankind, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Minister—Prayer of Dedication.

SCRIPTURE READING—Psalm 150 ..... The Minister

Minister—And now this organ, chimes, and carillon set apart by the Word of God and prayer, is henceforth dedicated to the praise, glory, and honor of the Triune God. As the tones of this organ, these chimes, and carillon peal forth in pleasing unity and concord, so may we, His people, in unity of spirit and harmony of faith, with one mind and one voice glorify God with hearts and hands and voices.

CHORUS "Now Let Every Tongue" ..... St. John's Mixed Choir

SERMON ..... Rev. George H. Perlich, Pastor

THE VOLUNTARY "Pastorale" ..... A. DeBonis

The offerings of this service is to follow into the Building Fund.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING (30) ..... Johann Mentzer

1. Oh, that I had a thousand voices
To praise my God with thousand tongues!
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices
Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all, wherever I might be,
What great things God hath done for me.

2. Oh, all ye pow'rs that He implanted,
Arise, and silence keep no more;
Put forth the strength that he hath granted,
Your noblest work is to adore.
O soul and body, be ye meet
With heartfelt praise your Lord to greet!

3. Ye forest leaves so green and tender,
That dance for joy in summer air;
Ye meadow grasses, bright and slender;
Ye flow'rs so wondrous sweet and fair;
Ye live to show His praise alone,
With me now make His glory known.

4. All creatures that hath breath and motion,
That throng the earth, the sea, and sky,
Now join me in my heart's devotion,
Help me to raise His praises high.
My utmost pow'rs can ne'er aright
Declare the wonders of His might.

5. Lord, I will tell, while I am living,
Thy goodness forth with every breath,
And greet each morning with thanksgiving
Until my heart is still in death;
Yea, when at last my lips grow cold
Thy praise shall in my sighs be told.

6. O Father, deign Thou, I beseech Thee,
To listen to my earthly lays;
A nobler strain in heaven shall reach Thee
When I with angels hymn Thy praise
And learn amid their choirs to sing
Loud Hallelujahs to my King.

M—Let my prayer be set before Thee as incense.

C—AND THE LIFTING UP OF MY HANDS AS THE EVENING SACRIFICE. LORD, NOW LETTEST THOU THY SERVANT DEPART IN PEACE: ACCORDING TO THY WORD FOR MINE EYES HAVE SEEN THY SALVATION WHICH THOU HAST PREPARED BEFORE THE FACE OF ALL PEOPLE, A LIGHT TO LIGHTEN THE GENTILES: AND THE GLORY OF THY PEOPLE ISRAEL. GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY GHOST. AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.
LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US, CHRIST HAVE MERCY UPON US, LORD HAVE MERCY UPON US.

M—Dedication Prayer and The Our Father.

M—The Lord be with you.

C—AND WITH THY SPIRIT.

M—The Collect for Peace.

C—AMEN.

M—Bless we the Lord.

C—THANKS BE TO GOD.

M—The Apostolic Blessing.

C—AMEN.

Silent Prayer.

Organ Recital

By Prof. John A. Jaeger

1. Praise To the Lord, the Almighty King ..... Sigfrid Korg Elect
2. Rondo from "Concerto for Flute Stop" ..... Johann Christian Heinrich Rinck
3. Prelude on "Netherlands" ..... Beatrice Hatton Fisk
4. My Heart Ever Faithful ..... J. S. Bach
5. Come, Sweet Death ..... J. S. Bach
6. Festival Prelude on "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" ..... G. C. Albert Kaeppel
7. Gavot in Ancient Style ..... Ch. Neustedt
8. At Evening ..... Dudley Buck
9. The Lord's Prayer ..... Albert Kay Malotte
10. Toccata in G Major ..... Th. Dubois

Postlude "Toccata in D Minor"

Our organ, which is a two manual ALLEN ELECTRONIC ORGAN, has the following specifications:

GREAT ORGAN—8' Open Diapason, 8' Principal, 8' Flute 8' Flute Dolce, 8' String, 8' Gemshorn, 8' Oboe Gamba, 8' French Trumpet, 8' French Horn, Great Coupler 16', Unison Off 8', Great Coupler 4', Great Coup- 2 ⅔' Great Coupler 2', Great Coupler 1 3-5' Swell to Great 16' 8' and 4' Tremulant and Chimes (21 tubes).

SWELL ORGAN—Diapson 8', Gamba Celeste, 8' Gedecket, 8' Melodia, 8' Flute Celeste, 8' Dulciana, 8' Aeoline, 8' Viola, 8' Vox Celeste, 8' English Horn, 8' Trumpet, 8' Vox Humana, Harp Swell Coupler 16' Unison Off 8' Swell Coupler 4' Tremulant.

PEDAL ORGAN—32' Resultant, 16' Tuba, 16' Bourdon, 16' Lieblich Gedeckt, 16' Dulciana, Great to Pedal 8' 4', Swell to Pedal 8' 4', Pedal to Pedal 8', 3 Expression pedals, one controlling swell and pedal, one controlling Great, one balanced crescendo pedal with indicator lights.

The Building

The new church is a version of Norman Architecture, in Lanon Stone, trimmed with Bedford. It is L shaped, 113 feet long, 36 feet across the body, the L extending 47 feet which houses the Christ Day School, Pastor's Office and Study, Working Sacristy and a private Chapel opening off the north-east end of the nave. The basement unit erected in 1947, comprises a large and spacious auditorium, stage, and the usual auxiliary utilitarian rooms. The cost of the completed building is in the neighborhood of $225,000.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Rev. George H. Perlich, Chairman
Mr. Ralph Riese, Secretary
Mr. Harley Smith, Treasurer

Mr. Wm. A. Armbrecht
Mr. Karl Bangston
Mr. Carl Davis
Mr. Elmer Hartwig
Mr. E. J. Jessen
Mr. Wm. Mehlisch, Jr.
Mr. Arthur Pfantz
Mr. Arnold Riese
Mr. Arthur Riese
Mr. R. H. Wengert

ARCHITECT—Mr. Theodore Steinmeyer, A. I. A., St. Louis, Missouri.
CONTRACTOR—Fane F. Vawter, Des Moines, Iowa. Roy Cushman, Supt.
Basement Unit—Lippert Bros., Boone, Iowa.
Lanon Stone Corporation.
Cut Stone—Rowet Cut Stone, Des Moines, Iowa.
Purlins and Trusses—McKeown Bros., Chicago, Illinois.
Roofing and Tile—Mefferd & McGuire, Des Moines, Iowa.
Pews and Chancel Furniture—Carondelet Mfg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Art Glass—Jacoby Art Glass Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Light Fixtures—L. F. McKelley and Betz Iron Works, St. Louis, Mo.
Altar Tile—Ravenna Mosaic Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Baptismal Font—A Schrader and Pickel Stone Co., St. Louis, Mo.
Font Cover—Architectural Bronze Studio, St. Louis, Mo.
Vigil Light and Altarware—Bensinger, Chicago, Illinois.
Organ—Allen Organ, Buch Sales & Service, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Chimes and Carillon—Mass Cathedral Chimes, Los Angeles, California.
Painting—Michael Paint Co., Waterloo, Iowa.
Floor Covering—Siberts Floor Co., Des Moines, Iowa.
Plumbing—Downing Bros., Marshalltown, Iowa.
Heating—Wood Plumbing & Heating, State Center, Iowa.
Wiring—Wilkening Electric, State Center, Iowa.
Sheet Metal Work—Iowa Sheet Metal, Des Moines, Iowa.
Neon Cross—Porter Sign Co., Des Moines, Iowa.
Plastering—Lameraux, Marshalltown, Iowa.
Landscaping—Wiese Gardens, Marshalltown, Iowa.
Public Address System—Buch Sales and Service, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
Millwork—Jaeger Mfg. Co., Des Moines, Iowa.
Cement Walks—Glenn Thompson, State Center, Iowa.
Mother's Room Furniture—Brimhall - West, State Center, Iowa.
Office Equipment—Marshall Office & Printing Co., Marshalltown, Iowa.

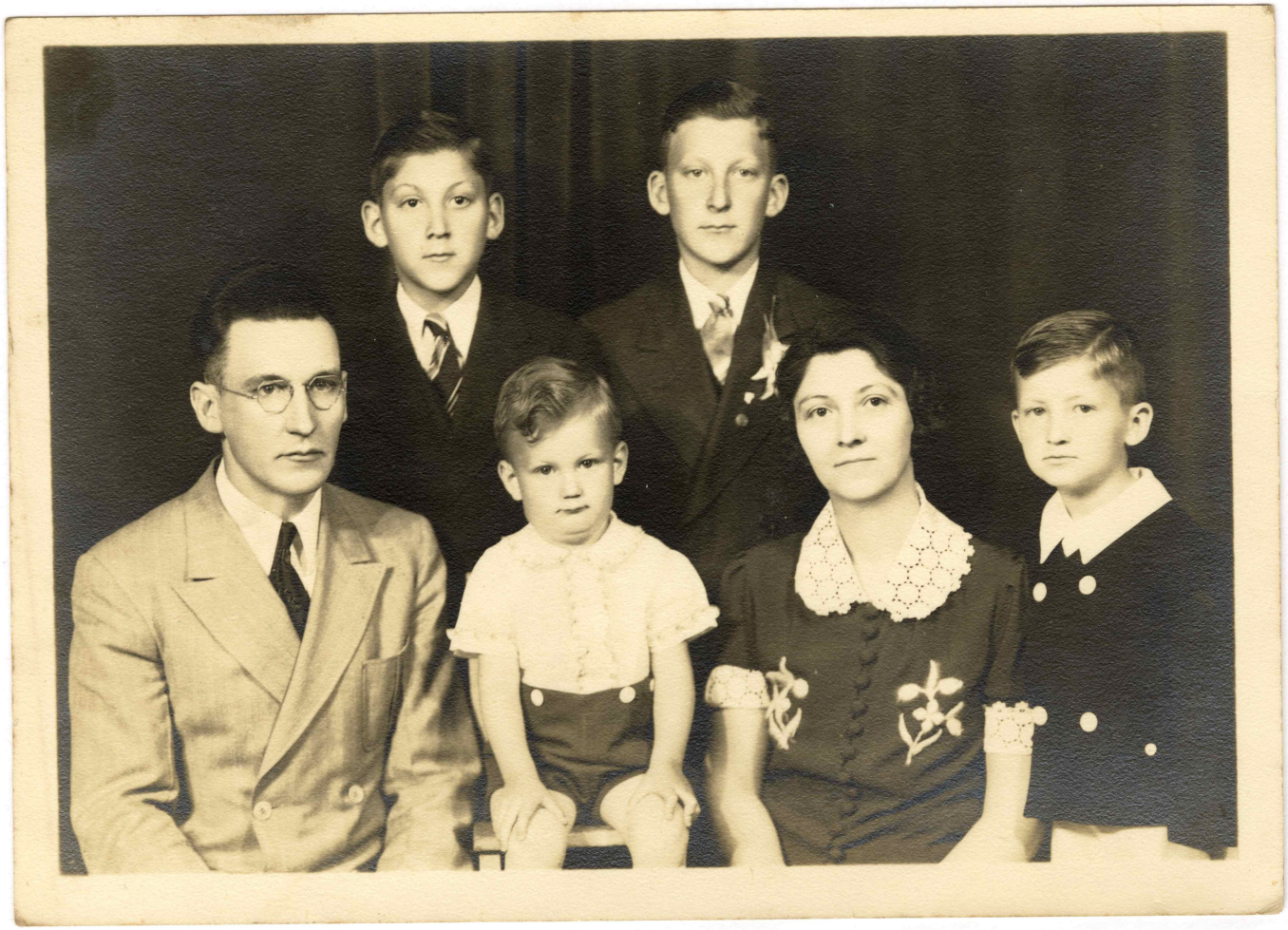
The Congregation

St. John's Congregation was organized on April 17, 1865, with nine charter members. In that same year a church was erected. This building served until 1874, when a new church was dedicated on October 18, to serve the growing congregation. This building was enlarged in 1917. In 1943 this church building was renovated and dedicated on June 27, 1943. A full basement was placed under the entire church structure and dedicated in February of 1944. This building was destroyed by fire on January 1, 1945. Immediately plans for a new church and school were discussed and adopted in April of 1946.

Ground was broken on June 23, 1946 in a special afternoon service. The first unit of this structure was completed in April of 1947 and has been used by the congregation for its worship service. The corner stone for the superstructure was laid on Thanksgiving Day 1948, at this service the congregation brought a cash offering of $27,000. Work on this structure was begun on April 4, 1949. Today we dedicate this new church and school to the service of our God and pray that His blessing may rest upon all who worship here. "May the Lord be with us as He was with our fathers, and may the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us, yea the work of our hands establish Thou it!"

SOLI DEO GLORIA

WILDMAN PRINTERS, NEVADA, IOWA



Rev. & Mrs Zabel and sons

St. Johns Lutheran Church
RR
State Center, Iowa

June 1, 1990

Plan 125th anniversary celebration

Photo furnished

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN Church, rural State Center, will celebrate 125 years of "God's Abounding Grace" with a day of thanksgiving and praise Sunday, June 10. The Rev. Mike Maddick of Oxford, Wis., a son of the congregation, will be guest pastor for the 10 a.m. worship service. A dinner will follow at noon in the church auditorium. Dr. A.L. Barry, Iowa District East president, will have the commemorative service at 2 p.m. "under the big top" on the church grounds. Music will be by the church choir. A social hour with refreshments will follow. All former members and friends are invited to join in the celebration.

St. John's Looks To New Year With New Church Hopes

State Center — (Special) — While mourning the Jan. 1, 1945, loss by fire of their church, which only a few weeks before had been remodelled and refurnished at a cost of approximately $10,000, members of St. John's Lutheran congregation look forward to the new year with the hope that before its end they will be occupying a new modern structure.

Plans for a new building have been drawn and approved by the church council and construction is expected to start early in the spring.

The disastrous fire which destroyed the property was discovered about 8:30 p .m. in the furnace room, where only a short time before the furnace had been fixed for the night. Within 90 minutes the building and contents were entirely destroyed, entailing a loss of $35,000 to $40,000, with insurance of about $32,000.

Immediately after the fire, the church council discussed plans for rebuilding and it was not long before details were completed and it was expected construction could start at once, but war conditions intervened. However, there was no letup in activities of the architect and the church council and their efforts have been so successful that a new home for the congregation is practically assured within a few months.

Meanwhile, church services and Sunday school are being held in the State Center consolidated school gymnasium, while St. Paul's Lutheran congregation has offered its church facilities for weddings and funerals.

nes-Republican, Wed., Jan. 21, 1948

Replica Of Church In Mammoth Pastry Is Given Minister

State Center —(Special)— A mammoth cake, a replica of the new St. John's Lutheran church northwest of here which is under construction, was presented to Rev. G. H. Perlich, pastor, Sunday as a part of a surprise birthday party planned for him following the regular morning worship.

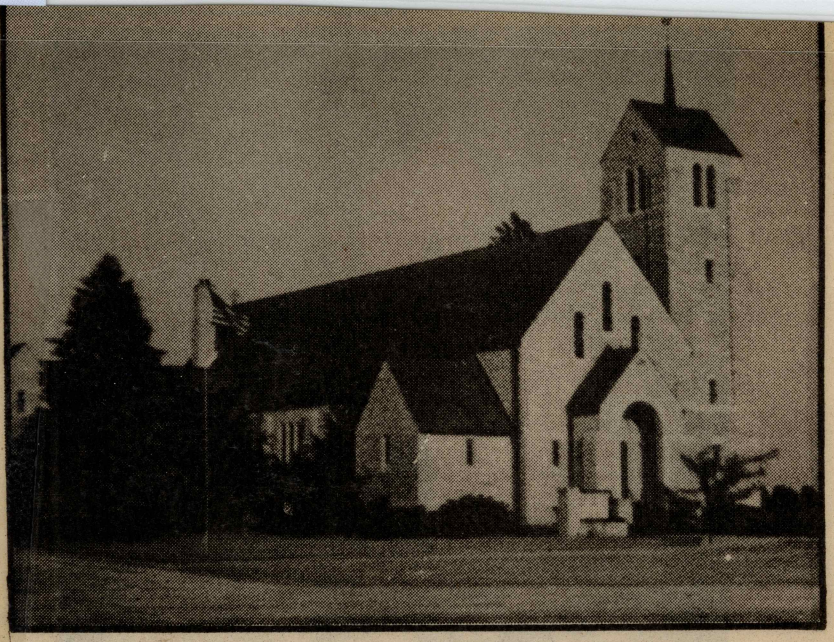
Twenty-one angel food cakes were used in the construction of the replica and they required 19 pounds of sugar and 126 egg whites, according to the cake bakers, Mrs. Irene Riese and Mrs. Elsie Armbrecht. After requiring five hours to bake the cakes an additional seven hours time was used to decorate it.

Colored frostings representing the church roof and various parts and sections of the proposed building was used. More than 230 persons attended the party and dinner which followed the morning service.

W. A. Armbrecht served as master of ceremonies at a short program held after the dinner. Those on the program were Joe Armbrecht, who gave the welcome; Richard Armbrecht, representing the Walther league, and Louis Armbrecht, the schools.

Rev. Perlich was presented with a purse of money. Bouquets of flowers were given to the honoree by the kitchen committee. A birthday cake for the occasion was also baked by Mrs. Hilda Hunzelman.

Pastor Marvin Flanscha



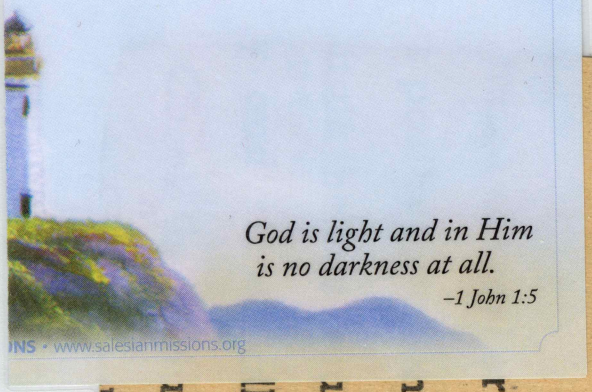
St. John's to celebrate . . .

The Revrend Lyle Kiemz was installed on November 16, 1975, and during his brief tenure, cushions for the nave pews and chancel chairs were purchased through memorials. A cluster of flags were purchased for the cemetery in 1976 and a year later, a permanment brick sign was erected with the engraving in marble," "St. John's Cemetery."

The Reverend Marvin Flanscha became the 19th pastor of St. John's. He was installed in August, 1977.

An entire new heating system was installed in 1978. During 1978, church records were reorganized and updated. A committee including Clara Andressen, Estelle Bell and Frieda Gerke, began the task of trnaslating the old handriwtten German church records into English. Beginning January 1, 1979, the voters began working under the new rules of the constitution and by-laws which had been revised and adopted the preceding year.

In the fall of 1979, the Clemons school property was purchased to be operated as parochial school, teaching both academic and religious subjects.



Marshalltown, Iowa, Times-Re

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF at Story County Hospital Eating Disorders Unit are shown here, including, from left: Laura Harrison, Vicki Trindle, Kathy Flanders, Jill Von Ehwegen and Nancy Gilinsky. The employees are standing under a group of masks representing the mental cover-ups that the staff says the program aims to remove.

May 10, 1990

Recall St. John's past history

Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles on the 125th anniversary of St. John's Lutheran Church:

Now that the church building was gone, the members of St. John's had many decisions to make and many meetings were held. On April 8, 1945, a peaceful release was granted to those members who wished to build a church in the town of State Center and this group formed the Trinity Lutheran Church. Members who wished to build on the original site remained, and held services in the State Center High School gym until services were held in the basement of the new church in April, 1947.

Ground-breaking services were held for the building of a new church on June 23, 1946 and the cornerstone for the church was laid in a special Thanksgiving Day service in 1948, and the dedication of the present church building took place April 18, 1950. The celebration of the 85th anniversary of the church was observed on that day also and more than 1,000 persons from all parts of the state, attended. The cost of the church was set at $225,000 plus innumberable hours of labor by members. The Reverend Perlich gave his farewell sermon, January 8, 1956 and the Reverend Walter Strandes succeeded him and served until August, 1961.

"Her sons and daughters now are scattered the width and breadth of our fair land; some have long forgotten her teachings but in their hears, they will under stand and return to the faith of their fathers, still heirs of that immigrant.

She has withstood hardships, trials and a fire that laid her low; band." also, wars and depressions, but her faith has continued to grow. Now on that Rock of Ages on which her strength was built, may the pure words of the Gospel in the Lutheran faith be upheld." Velma W. Lahr

The Reverend Robert L. Thoelke was installed June 3, 1962 and served until November 15, 1964. Pastor Thoelke manifested a deep interest in the music of the church and added much to the communion service by changing the liturgy. Ground-breaking for a new parsonage was held April, 1964 and the house ws finished early in 1965 at the cost of $30,000 and dedicated May 9, 1965.

The Reverend E.L. Stuempfig was installed on April 25, 1965 and shortly after his arrival, the church elebrated its 100th anniversary with a centennial festival service featuring former pastors; the late Reverend George H. Perlich as speaker and the Reverend R.L. Thoelke as liturgist. Some 590 persons gathered for this service. The "Centennial Confirmation Reunion Service" was held in the afternoon and attending by 474 persons and featured three sons of the congregation as speakers; the late Reverend Rodney Riese; the late Reverend Charles Bell and the Reverend Ross Schuler.

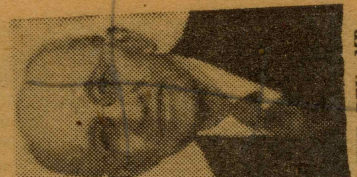
Beginning the year of Pastor Stuempfig's tenure, the Saturday School of religion expanded to include fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth

--to page 2

Hole-in-one!

It's another HOLE-IN-ONE at Lincoln Valley this spring! Gene Conkin of State Center joined a very select group of golfers this week, namely those who have scored a hole-in-one at Lincoln Valley Golf Course. Gene's feat was accomplished on Number 5 last Monday, May 7.

A. J. BOEHM, PASTOR, DIES



THE REV. MR. BOEHM.

The Rev. A. J. Boehm, 79, of 3616 University ave., died at 8:30 a. m. Saturday in a Boone, Ia., hospital, following a lingering illness due to a weak heart.

Retiring to Des Moines in 1937, the Rev. Mr. Boehm had been active for 48 years as a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Missouri Synod. He was born in Racine, Wis. He graduated from the Concordia Theological seminary, St. Louis, Mo., in 1890.

He began his ministerial career in Dillon, Ia., where he served three years He served 19 years at State Center, Ia., and 26 years at Ogden, Ia.

Upon his retirement the publication of the synod said: "The Rev. Mr. Boehm brings to a close one of the finest periods of church accomplishments of any pastor in the community. During his ministry he officiated at 757 baptisms, 648 confirmations, 229 marriages and 249 funerals. In addition to ministerial duties at State Center he taught the parochial school there from 1893 till 1911."

Surviving are his wife, Mary; three sons, Arnold A. and Hugo of Ogden and Maj. Albert E., serving overseas; and one daughter, Mrs. R. B. Douglas, Oskaloosa, Ia.

Services will be at 2 p. m. Wednesday at Zion Lutheran church, Ogden. Burial will be at Ogden.

Second article tells of St. John's past

--from page 1

grades. The Ladies Aid carpeted the church aisle including the chancel and organized the church library. The Christian and the American flags were displayed for the first time and the Walther League donated new Bibles in 1968 for the church pews. Room divders were installed in the church auditorium in 1969, and memroial money was used to construct a bulletin board in front of the church in 1970, and new pianos wre also given, as gifts through memorials.

Leveling and seeding of the unimproved section of the cemetery was done in 1967. In 1971, dirt was purchased for landfill and that same year, some 138 old and broken stones were removed and a large granite memorial marker listing deteriorated tombstones was placed; this ws dedicated on Memorial Day, 1972.

The completion of the blacktop road north of the church occurred in 1973 . On May 5 of that year, the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, observed its 125th anniverary with a "Celebration Sunday" marking its humble beginnings of 16 congregations in 1847 expanding to over 6000 congregations in 1972. In conjunction with the anniversary, St. John's also participated in the "Key 73" evangelism effort involving both United States and Canada.

A new 18-rank console organ was installed and dedicated on April 27, 1975, with Jerome T. Schwab, Director of Music at St. Paul's College, Concordia, MO, as guest organist. The 110th anniversary of the church was celebrated in May of 1975 with the Reverend J. A. O. Preus, Synodical president, as guest speaker.

The Reverend Stuempfig retired after 10 years of faithful service (July 31, 1975) and will be remembered by many for his love of gardening; his immaculate rows of vegetables and flower beds which enhanced the beauty of this countryside church

In 1980, Pastor Flanscha constructed a model for plex-a-glass storm windows to conserve heat and with the approval of the voters, during the next four years, all the windows were installed with storms except for the basement ones which were replaced with glass blocks. Two air-conditioning units were installed in the auditorium and the floor of the auditoirum was carpeted. Hook-up for rural water occurred in 1985.

Pastor Flanscha has been instrumental in efforts to improve the church building and his mechanical knowledge and carpentry skills are very evident in the improvements during his 'shepherding of the flock'.

In 1981, Iowa District West established a mission church at Nevada, which later became Faith Lutheran. Pastor Flanscha furthered the cause of this little group and becamse its first pastor that year and Mrs. John (Helen) Maddick served as organist. Faith Lutheran recently installed its third pastor in February 1985.

A memorial gift of 200 new hymnals was dedicated on June 6, 1982 and the congregation had the first opportunity to use the new communion liturgy also. The congregation was priviledged to host the 'ordaining' of Mike Maddick, a son of the congregation in a special evening service, June 23, 1985 with former pastor the Reverend E.L. Stuempfig, speaking. The following Sunday, 'Mike' preached his first sermon as an ordained minister of the Lutheran Church, Missouir Synod in his 'home' church and is now serving at a dual parish in Wisconsin.

In 1988, four communion services were added per year and this also marked the beginning use of individual cups for six communion services per year In June, 1989, the congregation chairman, John Maddick, appointed committees for preparation of the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the church with photographs taken of the congregation for a pictorial directory in August. A ten year history of Clemons Lutheran School was written and the 125 year history of St. Johns was updated.

At the present time, St. John has 444 baptized members; 338 communicant members and 69 enrolled in Sunday School. Three of the former pastors are still living: the Reverend E.L. Stuempfig, retired and living in Marengo, the Reverend Lyle Klemz, currently serving at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Rocky Ford, CO, and the Revrend Robert L. Thoelke, serving the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church, Veneta, OR.

A "Music-Fest" will begin the festivities for the 125th anniversary on the evening of June 9 at 7:30 with various individuals and groups providing a program of music and talent "Under the Big-Top" on the church grounds. The Young Saints will treat everyone to a "Sundae Bar" after the program.

The day of celebration for the 125 years of "God's Abounding Grace" will be observed on Sunday, June 10 at 10 a.m. with guest pastor, Reverend Mike Maddick, delivering the morning worship sermon. A dinner will follow at noon in the church auditoirum. Dr. A.L. Barry, Iowa District East president, will be the guest speaker at the 2 p.m. service, "under the Big-Top". Refreshments and a social hour will follow the afternoon program.

"May we remain steadfast and our faith continue to grow as we give Thanks to God for that little band of believers that built St. Johns so long ago." V.W. Lahr

WAC Service

Shipped separately when W
50 pounds when fully packed.
Evelyn Johns, 24, of Chicago, I

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

WACs---

Continued from Page 1.

are mighty close behind, and
there is training in the use of gas
masks.

The army's staging area for WACs headed overseas is at Fort Des Moines, Ia. The army took the wraps off the process Saturday, lifting restrictions.

Fifteen thousand WACs wen
all parts of the

St. John's Lutheran Church to celebrate

May 3, 1998

--from page 2

Christian Hoberland, 1815-1881 is the earliest date currently found on a tombstone.

"They made a place to lay their loved ones on a hillside not far away; there to await the resurrection of that great and glorious day."

...Velma W. Lahr

The Reverend Markworth resigned due to ill health and the Reverend A. Brauer became his successor, serving from 1920-1924. During his leadership, the Luther League which later became the Walther League, was organized. The Reverend H.C. Koepke became pastor in 1924. Mission treasuries, charities and other worthy causes had an ardent and enthusiastic advocate in this man. Under this guidance, the congregation organized and established a Sunday School in 1928 and had 100 children attending. The Reverend Koepke was instrumental in promoting a Lutheran church in Marshalltown and was proud to have three sons follow him in his profession. He was a faithful shepherd serving until his Lord called him home.

Pastor William J.F. Zabel was installed on May 3, 1931 and served until October 1940. The Diamond Jubilee was celebrated during his pastorate.

Pastor George H. Perlich became the shepherd in January, 1941 and served faith fully for 15 years. The German services were discontinued entirely in 1941; the order of service was changed and the constitution revised. The church was remodeled, refurnished and rededicated at the cost of $10,000; the rededication taking place on June 27, 1943 and the basement was remodeled in 1944. Under his leadership, the highest membersip was attained (740 baptized souls; 536 communicants and 133 voters). Then God in His wisdome, allowed a disasterous fire on a night in January 1945 which destroyed the church and nearly all its records.

Excerpt from bulletin the following Sunday...

"On Monday evening God in His wisdom seem fit to take from us our beautiful house of worship. The origin of the fire remains a mystery. The insurance on the church and contents is $26,475. We are happy to report that our communion vessels which Mrs. Oehlsen had taken home, are saved... also the silk covering and some of the communion linens were saved since Mrs. Minnie Armbrecht had taken these home to launder. The contens of the new cornerstone are not damaged ... one of the young men noticed that the stone was cracking and he managed to carry it away.

In our hour of loss, God has not forsaken us...He has sent us brotherly sympathy. Sympathetic hearts beat for us when they heard of our loss ... letters of sympathy and encouragement have come from many pastors and friends...even a check for the Building Fund! All these letters tell us...

Better to hope though the clouds hang low and to keep the eyes still lifted;

For the sweet blue sky will soon peep thru when the ominous clouds are lifted.

There was never a night without a day nor an evening without a morning;

And the darkest hour, as the proverb goes, is the hour before the dawning."

as celebration draws near

erected at the cost of $4,000 and dedicated on October 18, 1874. The Reverend F. Meinecke took charge of the congregation from 1885 to 1892. A church bell, weighing 1800 pounds and costing $348 was installed in the fall of 1889 and dedicated to call to prayer and inviting all to 'Come and Hear of His Wondrous Works.' The congregation was mission-minded and assisted in the establishing of the Lutheran Church at Hubbard.

"Then a school was quickly added so their children could be taught the ABC's of learning with religion the uppermost thought.

Sometimes 'Herr Pastor' seemed very hard and cruel but their catechism must be learned, also the golden rule.

Many teachers and pastors came to serve each in his own way, leaving their mark behind them that is still St. John's today.

Many others came to join in the quiet countryside, where they learned to live together and in 'one faith' abide.

The Reverend A.J. Boehm was installed on November 6, 1892 and he also taught in the school along with his pastoral duties. In 1902, a pipe organ, costing $671 was dedicated on the third Sunday in Advent and a new parsonage was built in 1900. During Pastor Boehm's shepherding, the services were began in the English language. Pastor H. Markworth became the next pastor, January 1912, and was instrumental in organizing the Ladies Aid Society. An addition was built to the church in 1917 as the membership grew and the fiftieth anniversary was celebrated in 1915. An old newspaper relates: "The originally small flock has, by the Grace of God and in spite of the many wicked onslaughts of Satan and the enemies of the church within the past fifty years, grown and increased so that at present it numbers over 500 souls. Within this space of time, as far as the records show, there have been 1,000 children baptized, 500 children and adults confirmed; 186 couples married and 225 persons buried."

St. John maintained a cemetery just a mile southeast of the church from almost the beginning (deed dated October 31, 1879) and the first grace sites were placed near the gate extending in a row to the south. Fredricka Kuhlmann, who died in 1874, was the first burial and the second was George A. Wengert, 1875

--to page 3

Church to celebrate anniversary

May 3, 1990

Editor's note: This is the first of a series of articles concerning the history and activities in commemoration of the 125th anniversary of St. John's Lutheran Church, rural State Center.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1865-1990

"On a windswept Iowa prairie, over a 125 years ago, a group of Lutheran immigrants came searching for a home.

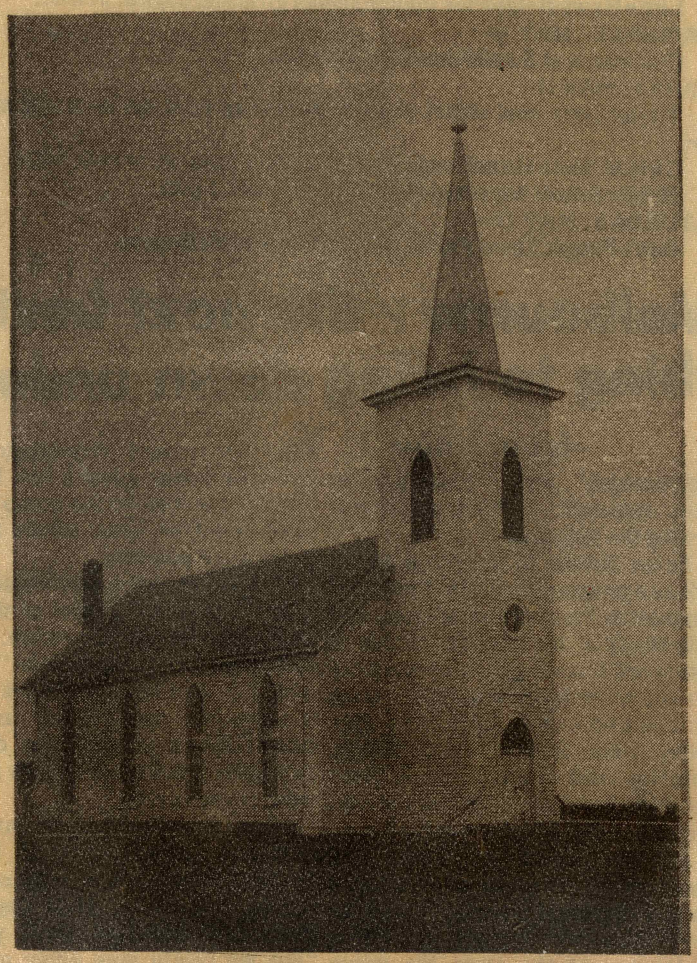
They looked on the hills and meadows and saw that it was good; Then knew that this would be the place where they would worship God.

They had left their beloved homeland where they no longer felt free to express their Christian way of Life that would satisfy their needs."

...Velma Wengert Lahr

And so it was, around the middle of the 19th century, following the aftermath of the bloody and grievous Civil War, that thousands of farmers from the eastern states and northern European countries, came west and homesteaded the fertile plains of Iowa. Among these were some families of German origin, who settled in Marshall County near State Center. Conditions were ideal for establishing homes and their love for the land and

--to page 2



THE VERY FIRST CHURCH was built in 1865.

THIS IS THE CHURCH BUILDING that was destroyed by fire. This building got the additions built on in 1874, nine years after the original structure was constructed.

St John's recalls the past

--from page 1

for their God. A circuit-riding missionary, the Reverend Lossner and later, the Reverend F. Doescher, provided spiritual care for these pioneers.

On the 17th of April, 1865, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized by Reverend Doescher. This church was also known as the 'French Grove Lutheran Church'. It's charter was signed by nine members: Louis Hartwig, Henry Oehlsen, Louis Frohwein, Henry Schaper, Fred Bader, August German, August Eckhardt, George German, and Fred Oehlsen.

"After settling their families upon the fertile land, they knew the next thing they must do, that sturdy little band;

So nine men came together and chose a section of sod, to build their house of worship and glorify their God.

They had no wealth or money, but faith, strength and prayer; knowing there would be a way to meet their every care."

....V.W. Lahr

At first, the families worshiped in the Old Center Schoolhouse until in the Fall of 1865 when a piece of land, five acres, was purchased, at the price of $125 from George German, one of the founding fathe A church with an annex for school ses and a parsonage was erected e present church stands on this same piece of land.

"So the little church was builded and they met together there, to sing hymns of joy and gladness and bow their heads in prayer.

St. John was the name they gave it after the beloved apostle of old and for a 125 years of preaching, to the Lutheran Doctrine hold.

They brought their children to be blessed in their baptismal grace also, at Holy Supper, to receive the Lord's Sacrifice."

...V.W. Lahr

This little flock was then ministered to by Missionary Lossner and later the Reverend Mertens. After the Reverend Mertens, Pastor Doescher, then stationed at Timber Creek, took charge and was finally called by the congregational as the resident pastor. He was succeeded by the Reverend C. Muensch and then by a veterinary surgeon, who was well-versed in the scriptures, a certain Mr. Kugland. During his short tenure, the first parsonage was destroyed by fire, causing also the loss of the church records. The Reverend P. Studt, Luzerne, who ministered to the congregation during its pastoral vacancies, then commenced the records. The first confirmands were confirmed by the Reverend Doescher on April 17, 1870 and included: Katy and Minnie Schaper; Vena, Hanna, Caroline and Mary Eckhardt; Mary and Tillie Bader; Fred Hilleman; August and Caroline Tops; Mary and Edward Rafeld and Hanna German.

Pastor C.F. Herman served the congregation from August 4, 1872 to Easter, 1885. Because of the increase in its members, a new church was

Aunt Nor's pictures

I think is St. John's

save this

Services Held Today for A. Steffensen

Funeral services for Albert (Steve) Steffensen, 74, State Center, will be held at 2 p.m. today, Thursday, at the Presbyterian Church, with Rev. Stewart Congdon, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Hillside Cemetery.

Mr. Steffensen died suddenly of a heart attack in Marshalltown Tuesday, Jan. 21.

He was born June 28, 1894 in Denmark, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Steffensen. He came to America in 1908 and settled in Nebraska. On Sept. 9, 1916 he married Grace Hoffman at Omaha. They made their home at Vale, Ia. and Omaha before coming to State Center in 1930, where they have since made their home.

Mr. Steffensen was a member of the Presbyterian Church and of Terrestrial Lodge No. 276 AF and AM, State Center. He also belonged to St. Aldermar Commandery No. 30 K. T., the King Solomon Council No. 20 R. & S.M., and the Signet Chapter No. 38 R.A.M., all at Marshalltown.

He is survived by his wife; two daughters, Mrs. Ernie (Ruby) Hoermann of Arnolds Park, Ia., and Mrs. Donald (Betty) Nolta, State Center; a son, Leonard, State Center; five grandchildren and three great grandchildren; two brothers, Carl of Omaha and Valdermar of Denmark; and two sisters in Denmark.

He was preceded in death by a sister.

Pallbearers are Harold Hilleman, Edgar Riese, Charles Heishman, Keith Pollock, Henry Wilkey and Virgil Klemme. Wensel-Perrin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Rev. G. Perlich Installed at Cedar Falls Church

On Sunday afternoon, a good representation of members and former members of St. John's Lutheran Church were in attendance at installation rites at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls for the Rev. George Perlich, a former pastor of St. John's.

Rev. Perlich served here for 15 years, leaving in January, 1956.

Real Estate Transfers

Jacob Bros. Lumber, Inc., to James Andrew and Ernestine Wilma Aaalfs, property in Melbourne.

The Sacred Heart Church of St. Anthony to the Town of St. Anthony.

SCHOPPE BABY BORN ON FATHER'S BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Schoppe, State Center, are the proud parents of their first child, a son, Dean Arnold, born Thursday, Jan. 16 at Evangelical Hospital, Marshalltown, weighing 8 lbs., 3½ oz.

The young man was born on his father's 27th birthday.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alva Schoppe and Mr. and Mrs. John Briney, all of State Center.

Plan 125th anniversary celebration 1990

Photo furnished

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN Church, rural State Center, will celebrate 125 years of "God's Abounding Grace" with a day of thanksgiving and praise Sunday, June 10. The Rev. Mike Maddick of Oxford, Wis., a son of the congregation, will be guest pastor for the 10 a.m. worship service. A dinner will follow at noon in the church auditorium. Dr. A.L. Barry, Iowa District East president, will have the commemorative service at 2 p.m. "under the big top" on the church grounds. Music will be by the church choir. A social hour with refreshments will follow. All former members and friends are invited to join in the celebration.

Saturday, April 11, 2015

St John Evangelical Lutheran Church marks 150th year

T-R PHOTO BY SARA JORDAN

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in State Center was founded on April 17, 1865 and its members have planned special events to commemorate the 150th anniversary.

T-R PHOTO BY SARA JORDAN

David Klinge has served as the church's pastor since 2009, having worked as an engineer for 25 years before answering the call to ministry.

'The Cathedral of Rural Iowa' stands as symbol of faith

By SARA JORDAN
TIMES-REPUBLICAN

STATE CENTER — Nestled in the heart of rolling farmland lies a church seemingly unfazed by the hands of time. The edifice beckons to congregants who for 150 years have traveled miles from every direction for Sunday worship services.

Founded on April 17, 1865 with nine charter members, St. John belongs to the Missouri Synod of the Lutheran Church. On January 1, 1945, the church was destroyed in a fire and rebuilt in 1948 with a dedication ceremony held April 16, 1950.

A North German Baroque pipe organ in the choir loft commands attention as well as the striking stained glass windows encasing the structure, depicting scenes from Jesus' life according to the Gospel of John.

A room in the church proudly displays photographs and mementos belonging to congregants from the past, including death notices of those killed during Wold War I and family portraits of angelic children from another century.

"I just love worshipping in beautiful places," Pastor David Klinge said.

After working 25 years as an engineer, Klinge, a native of Dubuque, entered Seminary school in 2004, becoming the church's minister in 2009.

"It is quite a switch from engineering. Theology has been my hobby my entire life. I like the old theologians," Klinge explained.

Richard Hartwig, who has belonged to St. John for the last 64 years said,

CHURCH | C3

Church

CONTINUED | FROM C1

"Growing up in the church makes it my home."

John Maddick has been attending the church for over five decades, and witnessed the baptisms and confirmations of many a relative. His wife Helen has played the organ there around 53 years.

"We're proud of the church and try to keep it in good shape. We've got just a fine pastor here," Maddick said.

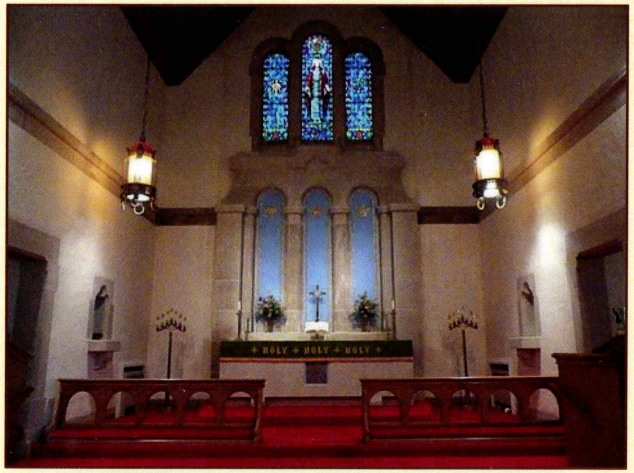
Pastor Kinge said something that makes his congregation noteworthy is the fact two-thirds of the members also attend adult Bible study after the service. He said individuals interesting in hearing "the pure Gospel" and "historic doctrine and practice" will feel at home at St. John.

Visitors can expect lively singing from the choir accompanied by the pipe organ. Worship services are held Sundays at 9 a.m. with Sunday School and adult Bible classes at 10:15 a.m.

St John is marking this milestone with two functions: Sunday, April 19, a special service at 9 a.m. with guest preacher the Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, president of Iowa District East. On Sunday, June 21, special services at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. will be led by the Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz, a worldwide evangelist with the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. Potlucks and Bible studies will follow the services.

The country church is located at 1956 Durham Ave., State Center and Pastor Klinge may be reached at 641-483-2753.

Contact Sara Jordan at 641-753-6611 or sjordan@timesrepublican.com



Sunday School

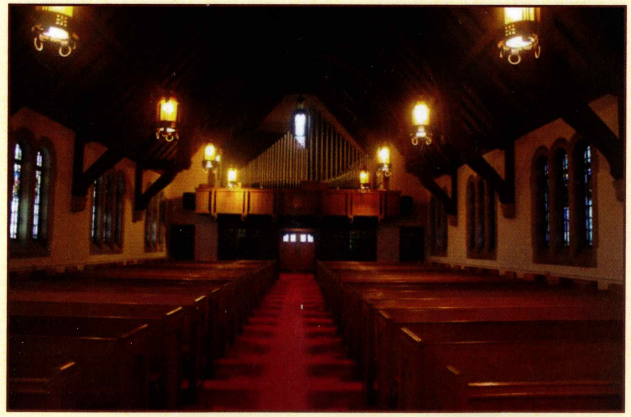
Adult Bible Class

Lutherans For Life

Young Saints

Vespers Circle

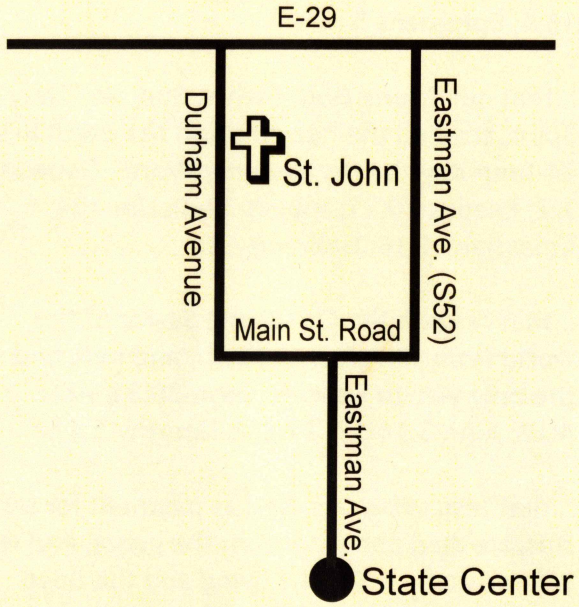
Ladies Aid



Traditional Worship
at 9:00 a.m. Sunday.

Sunday school and
adult Bible class at 10:15 a.m.

Midweek services are held
Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.
during Advent and Lent.



St. John Lutheran Church
1956 Durham Avenue
State Center, IA 50247-9692
Pastor: Rev. David Klinge
Church: 641-483-2578
Parsonage: 641-483-2753
www.stjohnsc.com

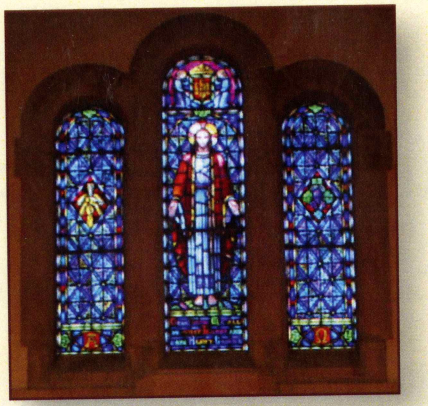
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Cathedral in the Country

We Preach Christ Crucified
for the Forgiveness
of Your Sins

1956 Durham Avenue
State Center, Iowa

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod



Come unto Me, all ye that labour
and are heavy laden, and
I will give you rest.
(Matthew 11:28)

Study to show thyself approved
unto God...rightly dividing the
Word of Truth.
(2 Timothy 2:15)

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.
(Psalm 100:1)

We Believe

...that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God. Psalm 119:160; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; John 17:17

...in the sanctity of human life.
Psalm 139:13-16; Luke 1:31; Job 10: 8-12; Matthew 19:13-15

...in the sanctity of marriage. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Exodus 20:14; Mark 10:6-9; Hebrews 13:4; Ephesians 5

...that our Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, created the heavens and the earth in six 24-hour days by His almighty Word. Genesis 1-2; Exodus 20:11; Job 38-39; Psalm 104; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 11:3

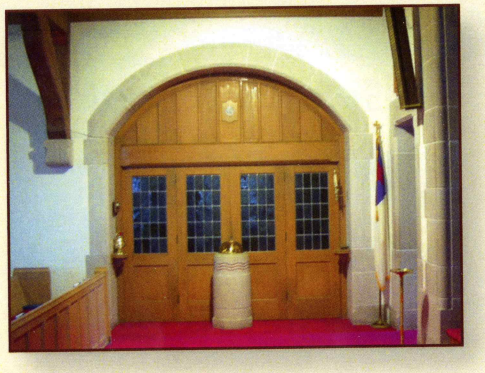
...that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world from sin, eternal death, and hell, and the only way to heaven. John 20:31; Acts 4:12; John 3:14-17, 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:4-6

...that Jesus was crucified as payment for our sins, He died and rose from the grave, and He will return to judge the living and the dead. Everyone will live forever either in heaven, a place of eternal bliss, or in hell, a place of eternal torment. 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 2:24; John 19-20; John 5:22-29; Daniel 12:2; Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 16:19-31

...that all people are sinners and that those who die without faith in the work of Christ on the cross for the forgiveness of their sins will perish eternally. Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:23; John 3:18, 36; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

...that salvation is not something we can earn by being good and by doing good works. Salvation is a free gift from God, earned for us by Christ when He was crucified, and received by us through faith in Christ. Galatians 2:16, 5:4-5; Romans 3:20-28, 6:23, 11:6; Ephesians 2:8-9

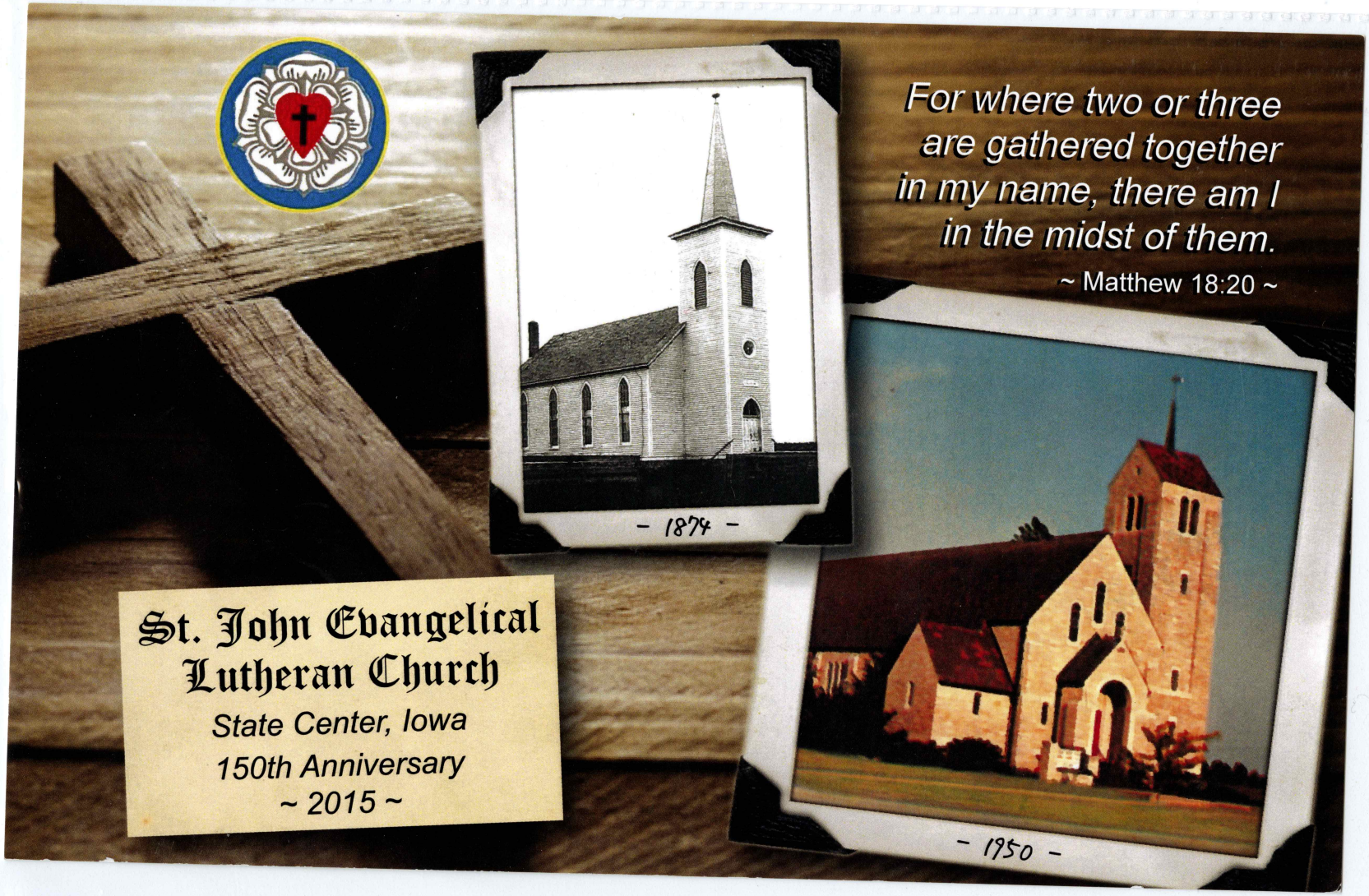
A more in-depth statement of our beliefs can be found in the Lutheran Confessions at www.bookofconcord.org.



"Go ye therefore, and teach
all nations, baptizing them..."
(Matthew 28:19)

Organist - Helen Maddick

STAPLES


For where two or three
are gathered together
in my name, there am I
in the midst of them.
~ Matthew 18:20 ~
- 1874 -
- 1950 -
St. John Evangelical
Lutheran Church
State Center, Iowa
150th Anniversary
~ 2015 ~

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

1956 Durham Avenue
State Center, IA 50247

Often called "the cathedral of rural Iowa", it stands as a monument dedicated to the glory of the Triune God. Here among open fertile fields you are welcome to come and worship. "For this is none other but the house of God." (Genesis 28:17)

Join us for Two Special Services being held in 2015 for our 150th Anniversary...

~ Sunday, April 19, 2015 ~

The Rev. Dr. Brian Sanders, Iowa District East President, will be preaching at the regular worship service at 9:00 a.m., followed by Bible Study and Potluck meal. (Meat provided)

~ Sunday, June 21, 2015 ~

The Rev. Dr. Wallace Schultz, former speaker of the Lutheran Hour, and former Vice President of the LCMS, will be preaching at 2:00 p.m. Normal church service will be held at 9:00 a.m.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
1956 Durham Avenue, State Center, Iowa 50247
641-483-2578

Pastor David Klinge
641-483-2753

150th Anniversary of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Dear members, friends, and neighbors:

Near the end of the Civil War, the population of the State of Iowa grew with many immigrants coming from other states as well as foreign countries. A group that settled north of State Center, Iowa, found that conditions were ideal for establishing their homes, and in due season they prospered as God showered His blessings upon them.

On April 17, 1865, nine men, organized by Missionary Doescher, founded St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. (Also known as French Grove Lutheran Church.)

It stands today as one of the oldest churches in the area. Often called "The Cathedral of rural Iowa," it stands as a monument to the Triune God. Here among fertile fields you are welcome to come and worship. "For this is none other but the House of God." Genesis 28:17

Two Special Services will be held this year, AD 2015

On April 19, 2015, The Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Iowa District East President, will be preaching at the regular worship service at 9:00 a.m., followed by Bible study and potluck meal (meat provided).

On June 21, 2015, regular worship and Bible study will be followed by a potluck meal (meat provided) and a special service at 2:00 p.m. The Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz, worldwide evangelist with the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, and former LCMS vice president and speaker of the Lutheran Hour, will be preaching.

We welcome you at St. John Lutheran Church anytime. Please put these two special service dates on your calendar.

The 150th anniversary committee: Richard Hartwig
Hugo Armbrecht
John Maddick
Elaine Robins

Hope You Can Come!

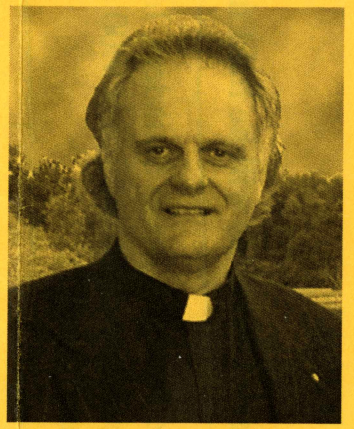
LUTHERAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION
Translating, publishing, distributing & introducing confessional Lutheran materials around the world

51474 Romeon Plank Rd.
Macomb, Michigan 48042
(800)554-0723
www.LHFmissions.org

Mission Presentation Speaker

Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz
LHF Evangelist

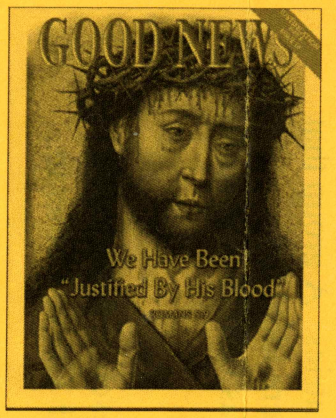
Don't miss this opportunity!



For more than 30 years, Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz has boldly proclaimed the Gospel in pulpits, in print and over the airwaves. Across the United States and around the world, his voice rings strong and clear, focusing his listeners on the message of salvation through faith alone in Jesus Christ.

A former LCMS vice president, Rev. Schulz is now called to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation (LHF), an organization dedicated to translating, publishing and distributing confessional Lutheran materials around the world. Rev. Schulz has spent a great deal of time overseas, doing the work of an evangelist – one who presents the Gospel of Christ primarily to the unsaved in words that the man of the street can understand.

His journeys have taken him into countries where people suffer for their faith. Under the Soviet Union's Communist government, Christians were persecuted: pastors were imprisoned and executed; church buildings, Bibles and other Christian printed materials were destroyed. Without the printed Word to sustain and grow their faith, the Christian confession seemed all but dead.



Rev. Schulz was the first person from the LCMS to enter the former Soviet Union, traveling throughout Russia and Siberia. Along the way, he found opportunities to tell the people about Jesus Christ, and he alerted Rev. Robert Rahn, LHF executive director, to the need for printed Christian materials. To help provide pastors to teach the people, Rev. Schulz started a program to bring Russian men to study at LCMS seminaries in the United States.

For more than a decade, he has also maintained contact with and assisted underground Christian churches in China and Cuba by helping develop ways to distribute Christian materials in those countries.

Rev. Schulz continues to proclaim the Gospel in the United States and more than a dozen other countries by writing and editing the highly-acclaimed *Good News Journal*. *Good News* is a popularly-written magazine that introduces new Christians to the foundations of the Lutheran faith: Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions. Rev. Schulz' ability to simply but powerfully explain Scripture also strengthens lifelong Lutherans' faith and understanding.

Don't Miss This Opportunity

Come hear Rev. Schulz' inspiring accounts of God's church persevering and growing under the most adverse circumstances. Come hear how you can take part in this "second Reformation," putting into the hands of new Christians the books that will help form the foundation of their faith.

To learn more about the worldwide mission efforts of LHF, call (800)554-0723 or visit us online at **www.LHFmissions.org**

Everyone is invited to stay for our Sesquicentennial Potluck. The meat and table service is being provided. Members have brought salads, vegetables, and desserts. After dinner we will have the premier showing of the two newly edited DVD's of the construction of the church using our newly installed sound system and movie projection system on the big screen. After additional editing is completed, the DVD's will be available for sale. Orders will be taken beginning today. Thank you to the 150th Anniversary Committee and everyone else who has helped make this Sesquicentennial Celebration possible. Members of the Anniversary Committee are: Hugo Armbrecht, Richard Hartwig, John Maddick, and Elaine Robins.

Lutherans For Life invites you to our New National Office Open House on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 1101 5th Street, Nevada, Iowa 50201-1816. Come and see our new national office and enjoy fellowship and refreshments.

"The Dark Secret of Christianity in America is that we are losing. We hide it with light shows, Christian dance and music, and video games, but it's true. And it's not new." Pastor Jonathan Fisk will examine the counterfeit Christianity that has been taught and accepted in America and how thru the death and resurrection of Jesus, we have new identities that are based on Christ and the cross. This presentation will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 24 at Redeemer Lutheran, 1600 South Center St., Marshalltown. Pastor Fisk will also have a presentation at 3:30 p.m. on teaching the Sixth Commandment, in particular to the younger generations.

Today	April 19		Sesquicentennial Celebration
		10:15 a.m.	Bible Class with President Saunders
		noon	Potluck—Everyone Is Invited
			Watch DVD of Church Construction
Tuesday	April 21	5:00 p.m.	Pre-confirmation Class
Wed.	April 22	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class & Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	April 23	7:00 p.m.	Vespers Circle at Church (Kay Schmidt)
Friday	April 24	3:30 p.m.	Rev. Fisk Teaching the 6th Commandment
		7:00 p.m.	Rev. Fisk Presenting on His Book ***Broken***
Tuesday	April 28	3-6 p.m.	LFL New National Office Open House
Sunday	May 3		Reservation Deadline for May Breakfast (*RSVP to RoxAnne, Merikay, or Kate*)
Thurs.	May 7	9:00 a.m.	Ladies Aid Breakfast at Country House

Easter

About the Cover: The Risen One opens the Scriptures to the Emmaus disciples to reveal to them what their entirety was about: that the Christ should suffer and on the third day be raised from the dead and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations. The Bible is all Jesus' book. It proclaims from start to finish the gift of the forgiveness achieved by His Passion.

Luke 24:47 ESV®
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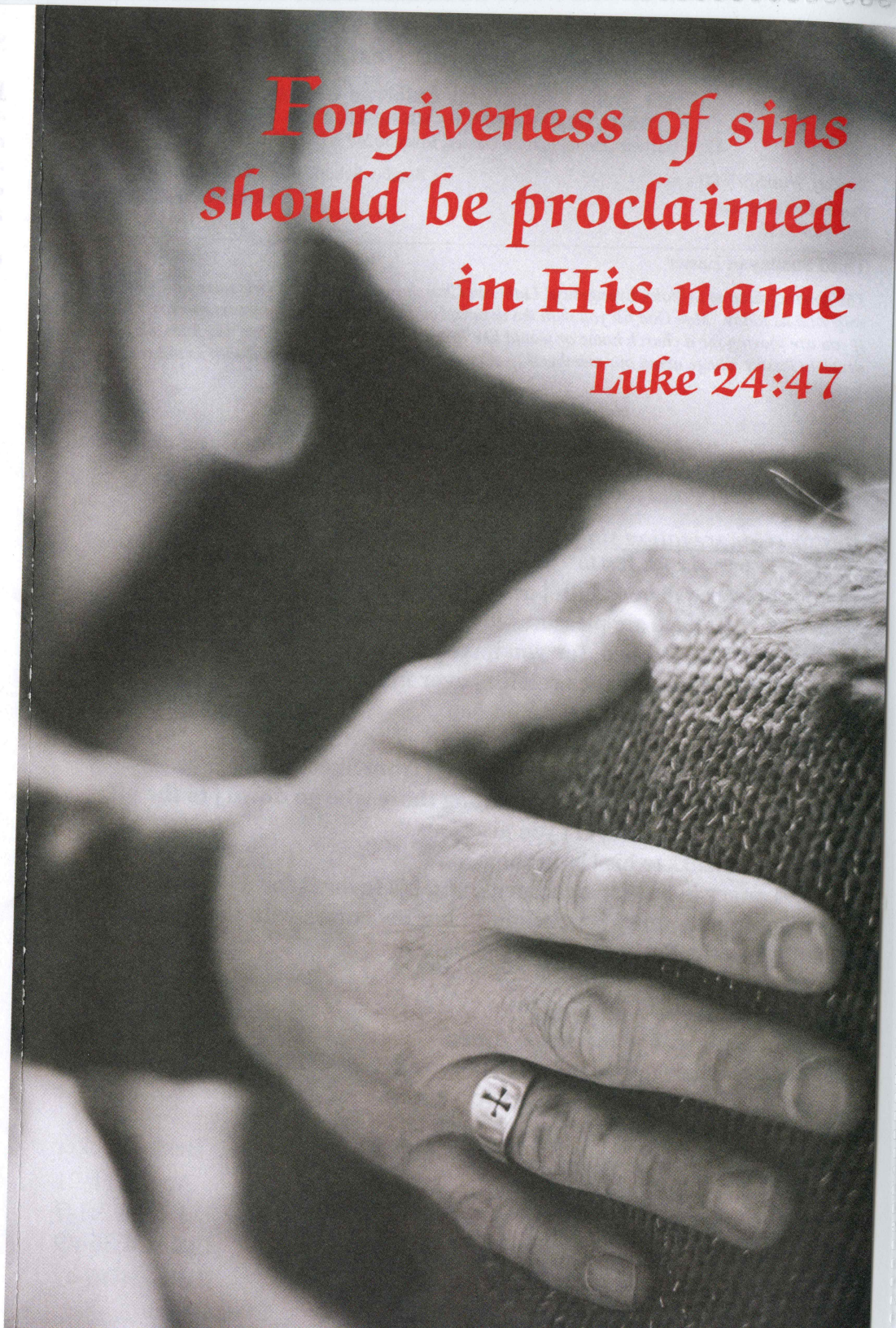
April 19, 2015
Christian resources at cph.org 1543



Celebrating 150 Years

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
1956 Durham Avenue, State Center, Iowa 50247 641-483-2578

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. — Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 10:15 a.m.
Pastor David Klinge 641-483-2753 — Helen Maddick, Organist 641-477-8508

Third Sunday of Easter — April 19, 2015

The congregation of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church extends a warm welcome to all who worship with us today. May God fill you with the assurance of His love and forgiveness in Christ Jesus. If you are looking for a church home or would like to learn more about the Christian faith, please speak to Pastor Klinge about our membership classes. God bless your worship with us today.

Divine Service, Setting Three (p. 184)

Prayers before Worship/Confession/Communion — Front Cover of Hymnal

Hymns: **915,** (*stand for last verse*), **464, 475, 830, 831, 480, 857**

Introit (*Congregation sings the bold-faced print*)
Ps. 30:1–5; antiphon: Ps. 16:11b

In your presence there is full- | ness of joy;*
at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.
I will extol you, O Lord, for you have | drawn me up*
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.
O Lord my God, I cried to | you for help,*
and you have | healed me.
O Lord, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;*
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.
Sing praises to the Lord, O | you his saints,*
and give thanks to his | holy name.
For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.*
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
In your presence there is full- | ness of joy;*
at your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

Choir Anthem: "O Come Ye People of the Lord" — Bach-Wacker
First Reading: — Acts 3:11-21
Epistle: — 1 John 3:1-7
Holy Gospel: — Luke 24:36-49
Sermon: "Forgiveness of Sins Will Be Preached" — Luke 24:46-47

We invite to the Lord's Supper *communicant members in good standing of St. John Lutheran who can publicly confess their unity of faith with us at this Altar. Since the Lord's body and blood can be taken for your damnation as well as for your salvation, visitors who have not previously received communion under Pastor Klinge, and members who have been communing at another altar (other than LCMS), are kindly asked to speak with him during the week before taking communion. Thank you for honoring our practice.*

Choir Anthem: "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" (with 7-Fold Amen)

Thank you, President Saunders, for being with us, and preaching and teaching Bible class, and helping us celebrate our 150th anniversary.

Flowers on the altar are from Frieda Gerke.
Greeters Today: Dick Oehlsen and Frieda Gerke
Attendance Last Sunday: 86; Bible Class: 53; Offering: $2,207.00
Easter Breakfast: $421.00

Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship for fellowship, coffee and rolls, and Bible study taught by President Saunders. **High school and college students are encouraged to attend Bible class.**

Please remember in your prayers: Mike Charley, Ray Frohwein, Helen Maddick, Ramona Milleson, Lou Nolta, Charles Rees, Jerome Rees, Morgan Elizabeth Rees, Claire Reitz, Barbara Smith (daughter of Dorothy Edler), Lori Taschner, Lee Tollefson, Landon Torres

TOPICAL, TIMELY, TIMELESS… Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. This week's topics include: Liberal Theology & John's Gospel, Adultery, The Good Shepherd, Sorrow into Joy, Paul's First Missionary Journey and more. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

Today in Sunday School the children studied "The Conversion of Paul" and learned that as God did with Paul, so God does with us. Through the Law we are crushed by the weight of our sin and are helpless. As God revived Paul through Ananias (Acts 9:1–31), He revives us through our pastors with the proclamation of His Word and the administration of His Sacraments granting forgiveness, life, and salvation to all who believe. *Talk to your children about how the Sacraments and God's Word revive you so that you may live as God's child.*

Life Quotes: "The Gospel is not a picture of adoption; adoption is a picture of the Gospel." *John Piper, pastor – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-271-8679

"Giving"
Con't. from Page 1

that basic question - WHY DO I GIVE? The laws and forms and budgets and needs may change, but not those six reminders above. Operating from those "givens" my giving ought to grow regardless of what the new law might be because that's not why I give!

So — with Tax Reform in our midst, with the end of the year fast approaching, and with the giving season of Christmas off and running again - it's good that God's Redeemed are reminded *WHY* they give. You can't go wrong with concentrating on what Paul said about it when writing to the Corinthians —

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich."

There's the *WHY*!

—Rev. David W. Hoover
Mission Stewardship
& Social Ministry Exec

"Schulz"
Continued from Page 1

Canada and overseas offices in 19 countries. The league, an auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, also sponsors the syndicated television drama, "This Is The Life."

"Child Abuse"
Continued from Page 3

agency with referrals for guidance and counseling. You can find them in the county listings in your phone book, and in larger communities, they, too, have toll-free numbers.

Clemons Lutheran School

"The Youngest Kid On the Block

The youngest of the parochial schools in Iowa District East is Clemons Lutheran School located in Clemons, Iowa approximately 50 miles Northeast of Des Moines.

In the spring of 1979, the West Marshall School District, State Center, Iowa, decided to sell the facilities at Clemons, Iowa since they were no longer in use. Several individual members of St. John Lutheran Church's congregation decided to make an offer on the school building as a possible site for a parochial school. The bid was accepted.

On December 23, the voters of St. John voted to accept ownership of the school and voiced agreement that steps be taken to gather information and advice on starting a parochial school.

By February, 1980, several committees had been formed to work on plans for a preschool through sixth grade nodical Board of Assignments of the LCMS to request placement here of a spring graduate in teacher education from a synodical school. Miss Laurel Frey, who was currently a student at Concordia College in St. Paul, Minnesota was assigned as pre-school and Kindergarten teacher. Miss Frey was a native of West Allis, Wisc.

With the apparent interest shown, the school board deemed it advisable to call another teacher. Miss Sandra Giertz, who had previously been teaching in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, was contacted. She accepted the call in August. Miss Giertz was a native of Marengo, Illinois and was a graduate of Concordia College in River Forest, Illinois.

Now that the teaching staff was secured, attention turned to finding means of transportation for the children. In grown to 117 which necessitated the addition of another teacher. A call was extended to Miss Janelle Woodward, a 1983 graduate of St. John's College, in Winfield, Kansas. Miss Woodward is originally from Denver, Colorado. She joined the staff in the fall of 1983.

In the spring of 1984, Miss Frey accepted a call to Portage, Wisconsin. At that time, Mrs. Bonnie Berrey joined the staff. Mrs. Berrey is a graduate of Buena Vista College and is from Albion, Iowa. She is currently enrolled in the Colloquy Program at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebraska.

In March of 1984, Mr. Levenhagen accepted a call to Hinsdale, Illinois. In order to fill the position of principal and teacher, St. John extended a call to Mr. David Sellmeyer. Mr. Sellmeyer accepted the call and he and his seasons, the annual Christmas program, and music for weekly chapel services. Band, piano and guitar lessons are also made available to the Clemons students.

Art too is an important part of the curriculum at Clemons. Mrs. Berrey is responsible for the majority of the art program, which in addition to the basic program, involves art theory and history and several artists in-residence during the year. Each spring the art students participate in the Fine Arts Fair at Readlyn and display their work at the Clemons Music Festival.

It has become traditional that several other events take place each year at CLS. October 31 brings the Reformation Day hayride and weiner roast. In the spring, the classes alternately present an operetta, last year's being "Lost and Found", the story of the prodigal son, per-

STAPLES

Another source of help is the Iowa Department of Human Services which may be called at 1-800-362-2178.

Physical abuse is only one type of child abuse. There are also sexual and emotional abuse. The Reagan Administration formed a special Commission on Pornography which released its findings on July 7, 1986 . . . findings which confirm that pornography causes sexual violence against women and children. Evidence that one problem contributes to another.

In this Christmas Season of "peace and goodwill" let us stand ready to act to help prevent and control child abuse with the spirit of love, forgiveness and caring for those who need help—the growing number of abused children among us.

Loras Troge
Member of Social
Ministry Committee IDE

"Anniversary"

Continued from P. 3

for the Fiftieth Anniversary offering to special District projects such as new missions, Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca, campus ministry, deaf ministry and the chaplaincy ministry.

More than 500 persons then enjoyed a fellowship supper at Immanuel Lutheran school gymnasium hosted by the congregations of the Waterloo Circuit. Monetary donations amounted to $475.10. After costs of $69.63, $405.47 was available also for the Fiftieth Anniversary offering.

All glory to God as we "Remember, Praise, and Give Thanks!"

program which would begin this fall. The enrollment and recruitment committee drew up a five-page information booklet which was sent out to the area churches, along with a survey sheet to determine probable enrollment.

William Levenhagen, who was then the principal of Central Lutheran School in Newhall, Iowa, was contacted to be a resource person to aid in planning for the school. In early April, a call was extended to Mr. Levenhagen to be principal and teacher at the new school. St. John was soon pleased to learn that Mr. Levenhagen accepted the call and would be coming in June to join the "venture of faith". He was installed on June 8, 1980. He brought with him 30 years of teaching experience in Lutheran schools, which greatly benefited Clemons Lutheran School.

Prior to his coming, St. John had contacted the Sy-

August, two school buses were purchased. School bus services from the West Marshall School District were also used.

Clemons Lutheran School opened on August 25, 1980, with an enrollment of 52 students. Dedication of the school building, as well as the installation of Miss Giertz and Miss Frey took place on Sunday afternoon, September 7, 1980.

On December 11, 1980, Clemons Lutheran School was granted approval as an accredited elementary school by the state of Iowa. This approval entitled Clemons to AEA and bus services.

After the first school year, a call was extended to Mrs. Lynne Pfantz, who was teaching in Pierce, Nebraska. Mrs. Pfantz who was originally from Colo, Iowa, accepted the call to join the staff the following fall.

By 1983, the enrollment had

family moved from Aurora, Illinois to Clemons in July. Mr. Sellmeyer was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri.

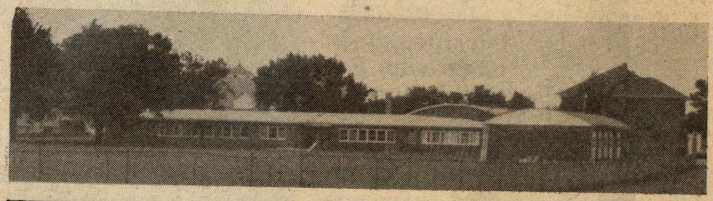
Although Clemons Lutheran School is only in its seventh year, a quality program has been developed for the students. In addition to the basic academic and spiritual programs there is an extensive athletic program, including soccer, volleyball, basketball, track, and softball. Miss Giertz (now Mrs. Richard Riese) is the athletic director. Two of her many responsibilities are the annual fall soccer tournament and "Jump For Heart" that takes place in the spring.

The vocal music program, under the guidance of Miss Woodward, included theory classes, choir, a yearly music festival in the spring and all the special music presented over the year, such as performances at area churches during the Lenten and Advent

formed by the 4-8 graders.

Special activities throughout the year include Grandparents Day, an authentic Thanksgiving feast, a family Christmas decorating party, a Christmas dinner for special guests, Star of the Week, Career Day, Senior Citizens Day, Color Days, Letter Days, Valentine caroling, and the P.T.F. Ham and Beef Dinner.

The faculty, staff and chapel families, which are made up of students from each of the classes, gather each Wednesday morning to worship together. As voices are lifted in praise and thanksgiving, it is remembered that the Lord has truly blessed Clemons Lutheran School and has worked through many dedicated individuals to make it a thriving ministry. It is our prayer that we may continue to depend on Him and exist to serve Him, to His glory.



IOWA EAST
LUTHERAN WITNESS SUPPLEMENT

This supplement is published monthly. If you have some interesting happenings in your congregation or circuit please send them to the editor. We are interested in what is happening. We also would love to have some pictures.

Please send the articles to:
Rev. Robert Bailey, Editor
440 First Avenue
Iowa City, Iowa 52240
All articles are due by the 15th of the month, and will be in your hands for your reading pleasure 2 months later.

—(T.-R. Staff Photo)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. George

Mr. and Mrs. George Honored By Redeemer Church, Friends

Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. George, 1002 W. Boone St., who observed their golden wedding anniversary Tuesday have been honored this week on two occasions. They were given special recognition at the Sunday worship service at Redeemer Lutheran Church where he has been organist and choir director for a number of years.

Tuesday evening they were surprised by a group of friends and neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. George were married Dec. 30, 1908, a year following his graduation from Concordia Teachers College, at what is now River Forest, Ill. The next 38 years were spent in teaching in Lutheran Christian Day Schools, the longest period of time being from 1922 to 1944 at St. John's Lutheran Church northwest of State Center.

Since then they have lived in Marshalltown and he has been engaged in social welfare work. He has also been superintendent of the Sunday School at Redeemer Church and served on the building committee..

The Georges have one daughter, Mrs. Roberta Riese of State Center, two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Everyone at St. Johns Church called him Teacher George
Clair + Keith both had him as teacher attending parachoil school
Granddaughter Mary Jane Riese in Donna's confirmation class at Trinity Church.
Roberta Riese rode with Donna to work in marshalltown several years.

2013 Mary Jane Riese Runge lives in Conrad, Ia

Confirmation class holds reunion

A reunion was held over the weekend for the 50 year confirmation class of St. John's Lutheran Church. On Saturday evening the group had dinner at the Fore Quarter Restaurant and then went to the home of Arlene Hoing in Marshalltown for a social evening.

On Sunday morning they attended church services as a group.

Those attending were Rev. and Mrs. Victor Koepke, Sarasota, FL; Cordelia Bates, Greenville, NC; Mr. and Mrs. Ted Lowe, Des Moines; Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Schuler, Zearing; Arlene Hoing, Marshalltown; Mr. and Mrs. Lincoe Brown, Myrtle Westphal and Mr. and Mrs. Karl Bangtson, State Center.

Cordelia Eldridge Bates
was Emma Schoppe niece

Karl Bangston parents of
Kathy (Jim) Montgomery

End of May will be end of school

T-R PHOTO BY ANDREW POTTER

Teacher Melanie Maddick goes over a reading lesson with her students at Clemons Lutheran School recently. The school will close at the end of May after 34 years.

Clemons Lutheran prepares for closing after 34 years

By **ANDREW POTTER**
TIMES-REPUBLICAN

CLEMONS — Thirty-four years as a learning institution is down to just two months for Clemons Lutheran School.

The school in the town of 150 people which opened in 1980 will close permanently as the school year draws to an end in late May.

"It will be sad day," said Melanie Maddick, a 20-year teacher at the school. "When you invest this much in it, it becomes part of your family."

The school currently serves 30 students in preschool through eighth grade.

Citing economic factors, the nearby St. John Lutheran Church voting assembly chose to close the school it operates.

Increased costs are a big reason for the impending closure. For example, Maddick said it cost four times as much to heat the school this past winter than the average in previous winters.

"It's pretty tough to keep going," Maddick said.

Lynne Pfantz, who leads the preschool, is preparing to step away from teaching at the school after 33 years.

"It's sad," Pfantz said. "I just like the kids so much."

Pfantz said she also understands why the school is closing.

"When the money runs out, the money runs out," Pfantz said.

Kelsey Lindholm, who teaches grades fifth through eighth, said much like the teachers, the students are upset with the closing of their school.

"They are sad about it and a few were trying to come up with ways to save it," Lindholm said.

Clemons Lutheran School opened in 1980 in a former West Marshall School District building. A new gym at the school, that also featured a cafeteria and kitchen, opened in 1996. Maddick said the school has had an impact on many people through the years and leaves a legacy of great students.

"We know that we have

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STAPLES®

School

CONTINUED | FROM A1

been a blessing because we have students who in are multiple fields — teachers, pastors, electricians, ag business and beauticians," Maddick said. "We have had principals and superintendents from here. There were opportunities here."

Maddick said the 30 students will go in several different directions for their schooling this fall, including West Marshall, St. Francis Catholic School in Marshalltown and Colo-NESCO, while some families will decide to home-school their children.

The school will host a closing service at 1:30 p.m. June 1 in the gym, which is open to the public.

It's unclear what the future of the facility will be after the school is closed.

"They'd like to sell the building for someone to use to help the community," Maddick said.

Contact Andrew Potter at 641-753-6611 or apotter@timesrepublican.com