

Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church:
the first Lutheran church in the city of Tempe

Church History

Kevin Salzwedel

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Senior B

Third Quarter

1984

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Library
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Mequon, Wisconsin

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

Psalm 26:8

A special "thank you" is in order to the charter members, Mr.
and Mrs. Warren D. Converse, Reverend Walter A. Diehl, and Pastor
Daniel D. Pautz who were so dedicated to give of their time and talent
in helping with this brief history for the love of Jesus Christ.

O Praise the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him all ye people. For His
merciful kindness is great toward us: Praise ye the Lord.

Psalm 117

Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
715 W. Southern Avenue
Tempe, Arizona

85282

Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tempe is a member of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We believe, teach and confess
that man is saved alone by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, true God
and true man.

For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it
is the gift of God; not of works lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church:
the first Lutheran church in the city of Tempe

The history of Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church is a history worth sharing interestingly enough.

Oftentimes the city where Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod churches are located has little intrinsic historical value in itself. Not so in the case of Tempe, Arizona, the home of Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church. This city's own history is also one worth sharing along with the first Lutheran church ever founded there.

The Tempe region has been an agricultural center since prehistoric times. Hohokam tribe Indian farmers lived in this area and grew corn, beans, squash, cotton and tobacco with water supplied through an elaborate network of hand dug canals. Because their adaptation to their environment was precise and efficient, they were able to live in the desert for well over 1,000 years. When the historic settlement began to develop in the 1870s, many canals followed the paths of these historic waterways.

Tempe and its once extensive surrounding agricultural district played a significant role in the development of the Salt River Valley and central Arizona.

The establishment of an irrigation system was critical to the opening of the desert to agriculture. As early as 1868, Charles Trumbull Hayden, a Tucson freighter and entrepreneur, recognized the potential of the region and was influential in organizing canal construction south of the Salt River. Through his efforts, and those of the Hardy Canal Company, W.H. Kirkland and W.B. McKinney, the Tempe Irrigating Canal Company was formed in 1871, bringing water

to lands east and south of Tempe Butte. Not only did this new system open land to the cultivation of wheat, alfalfa, dates, fruit, sugar beets, and garden crops but it provided water in sufficient volume to turn the stone wheels of Hayden's flour mill.

The focus of the first small settlement of Tempe was the water driven flour mill, constructed in 1874 by Hayden. The shallow river crossing, along with a small collection of retail shops and a population of 100 people, became known as Hayden's Ferry. A cable-operated ferry boat was built at this time to allow crossing of the river when high water prevented the use of the Land. This ferryboat served north and south-bound travelers. Most of the dwellings and stores were flat-roof adobe buildings, appropriate where milled lumber was scarce, summers intensely hot, and shade trees a rarity.

In 1886 Arizona State University opened, then the Territorial Normal School, with the goal of training teachers for the growing number of rural schools in Arizona. The establishment of this institution stimulated many changes in the town of Tempe, not the least of which was the provision of reasonably priced housing for the influx of students and teachers. The new school added much to the cultural life of the small community, and provided new clientele for merchants. Tempe children of school age attended the Eighth Street School, while students of high school age went directly to the Normal School.

By 1900, Tempe had become an important agricultural, educational, and transportation center. It was a town of about 900 people, with nine general merchandise stores, two candy shops, one jeweler, one shoemaker, one hardware store, one bicycle shop, two saddleries, four barber shops, five physicians, one dentist, one hotel, four saloons and six churches. There was local telephone

service, and public utilities were soon to be installed.

The social life of early Tempeans was diverse. By 1900, the six churches in town, none of them Lutheran, carried on many social and charitable activities. Most citizens belonged to several fraternal organizations, and this was a common form of fellowship in town and still is to a degree.

In 1912, a concrete highway bridge was constructed across the Salt River at Tempe, linking north and south with an automobile route. The bridge was incorporated into the State Highway system in 1919, further solidifying Tempe as a primary transportation link. This highway program was part of the Bankhead National Highway program which ran from Wash. D.C. to San Diego. A portion of the original Bankhead Highway is today known as Old Eighth Street and follows the alignment of the original Tempe-Mesa road. This transportation link was updated in 1931 with the completion of the Mill Avenue Bridge, which was the major north-south river crossing for three transcontinental highways. It remained Arizona's only north-south Federal route until the 1950s. It was in the 1950s that perhaps the most worth sharing event in Tempe's history took place. A WELS church was founded in historical Tempe.

The date was December 2, 1951 when Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church was founded as a mission in Tempe of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The old Eighth Street School where Tempe children of school age attended with the goal of training teachers for the growing number of rural schools in Arizona before the turn of the century was now the meeting place of Emmanuel Lutheran congregation.

By now the second floor of this old school at 8th and Mill was condemned.

On December 2, 1951 the population of the city of Tempe was 7,850. Some 30 to 40 people were present at Emmanuel's first worship service in the old condemned 8th Street School.

THE
NEW
DIEHL

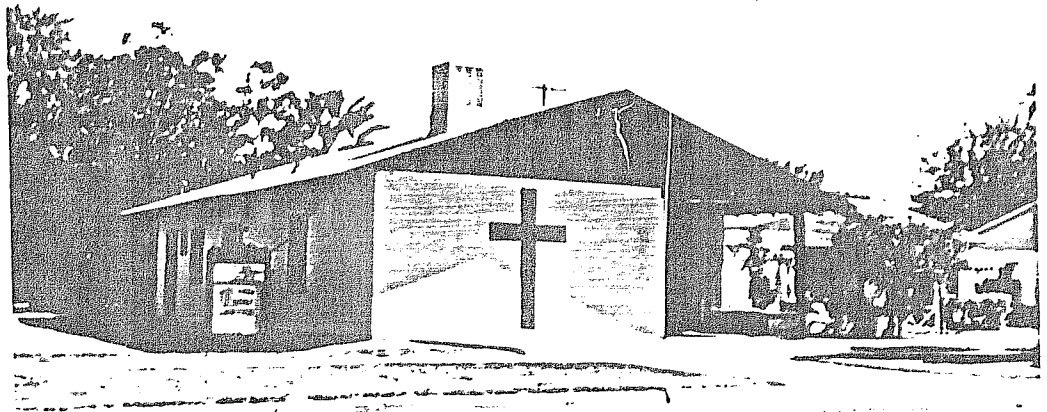
The reverend Walter A. Diehl, a graduate of the Evangelical Lutheran seminary in Thiensville, Wisconsin, founded Emmanuel of Tempe after having already served sixteen years in the parish ministry. Reverend Walter A. Diehl was the first resident Lutheran pastor in historical Tempe, Arizona. Interestingly enough, his father-in-law, the Rev. George N. Luetka, was the first resident Lutheran pastor in Phoenix, Arizona. He came to Phoenix in 1910 and founded Zion Lutheran church downtown.

1951 charter members of Emmanuel Lutheran who met at the old Eighth Street School were the following:

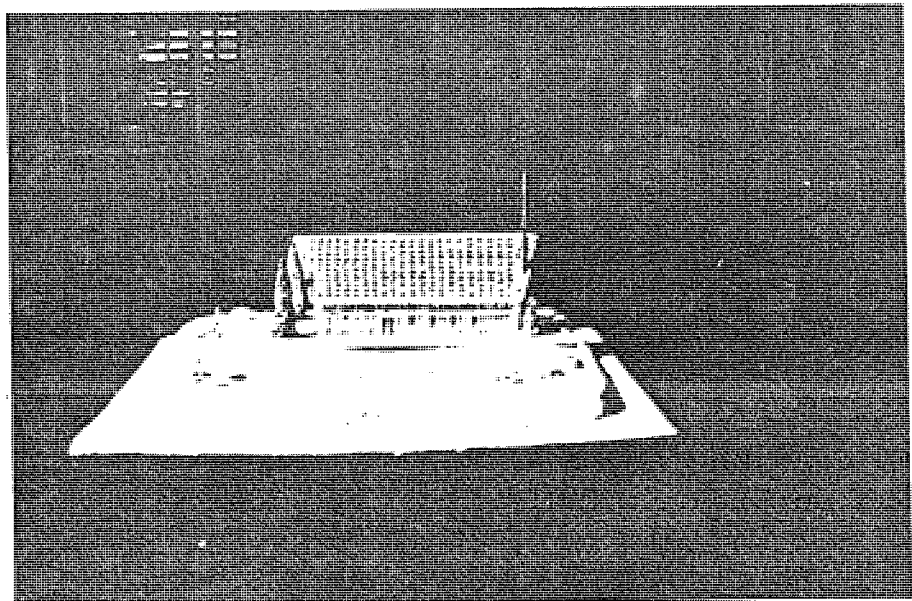
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Carstens, Janet & Mary
Mrs. Christensen
Norman Garnetz
Mr. & Mrs. Hawkins, Arlene Hawkins, Violet Hawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Keen & son
Mrs. Kingsley
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Kloha & three children
Margaret Landeck
Mr. Steven Maracek
Ruth Martsolf
Mr. & Mrs. Preggi
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Sauer
Mr. & Mrs. Gustave Schaefer
Gust Schaefer Jr.
Ruth Schleager

In 1952 the congregation bought property at 7th and Myrtle so that it could move out from underneath the condemned second floor of the old Eighth Street School. The building on the property was a three car garage 30 feet by 30 feet.

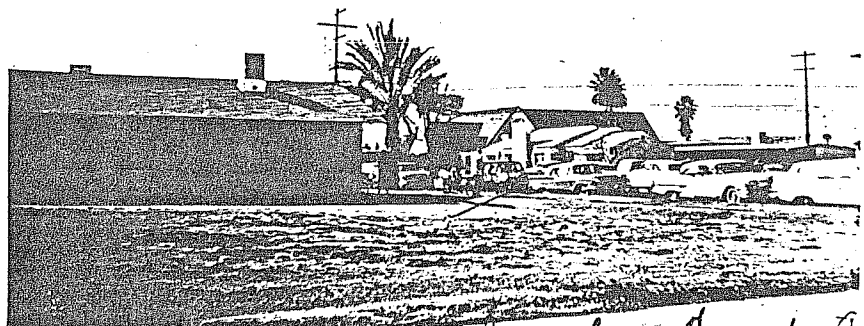
First church
a remodeled
garage on the
corner of
Myrtle and
7th St.



plans for a
new church
on Southern
avenue



A Sunday
School
class being held
outside



Lutheran Church - Tampa, Fla.

The congregation remodeled the garage for worship purposes. Soon the infant Emmanuel congregation had to enlarge the remodeled garage into a 30 foot by 48 foot facility with a corner for a porch cut out 6 feet by 10 feet. Emmanuel was already serving as many as 180 souls at one time.

NEAR
TRAGEDY:

In purchasing the lot and remodeling the garage on 7th and Myrtle, Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synodical procedures were violated. Since these violations never reached epic proportions no fingers will be pointed in this paper. Young Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran church did not wait for a CEF (Church Extension Fund) loan from the Synod before the congregation boldly advanced in securing the property and building by paying down a few hundred dollars and immersing herself in monthly payments. But this heroic congregation cast in the same inventive mold of earlier Tempeans such as the Hohokams and Charles Trumbull Hayden somehow managed to survive and do it all herself, and more importantly, without any embarrassment to the Synod.

May 3, 1953 marked the dedication of the remodeled garage into a church, at 101 E. 7th St. Shortly before 3:00 P.M. the congregation and pastors gathered at the door of the new church. A brief prayer was offered. The doors were then unlocked. They were opened and the congregation proceeded into the church. The Dedicatory Sermon was preached by the Reverend R. H. Zimmermen of Glendale, AZ who was chairman of the Mission Board of the Arizona District.

On July 12, 1953 Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran church planned its constitution in the evening. The congregation discussed subjects pertaining to articles of faith, membership, finance, Christian education, voting, ministry,

and church officers. In October the new constitution of the church was adopted and signed by the voting and communicant members present.

In 1956 the church building was enlarged by 360 square feet.

September 15th, 1957 marked the beginning of a special reaching out endeavor. Emmanuel of Tempe helped begin Pilgrim Lutheran Church of the nearby suburb of Mesa, AZ. Both parishes were served by Pastor Walter A. Diehl.

By 1959 due to Emmanuel's steady growth the congregation saw the progress fast approaching when it would be time to move again. So in August of 1959 the congregation purchased 2 1/2 acres of land on Southern Avenue.

Related to the purchase of property at 700 West Southern Avenue in Tempe, Emmanuel congregation and Pilgrim of Mesa, AZ became a self-supporting joint parish in November of 1959. This merger was a business transaction so that these congregations could borrow money on their own at both churches for 6% interest rates on private bonds. This merger made it easier to pay off debts, having the expense of only one pastor between the two congregations.

Four months later in March of 1960 a new Parsonage was completed at 904 East Roosevelt Street.

Saturday, Dec. 2, 1961 marked the 10th anniversary of the first Lutheran church in Tempe. On Sunday Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church 101 E. 7th St. celebrated. Reverend Walter A. Diehl's sermon theme was "Christ's Anniversary Invitation, Come Unto Me." After the 11 A.M. service a banquet was served by the Ladies' Group. The guest speaker at the banquet was a former member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Mission Board, the Reverend R.H. Zimmerman.

Tempe Pastor Leads Double Life

By GENE LUPTAK

The Rev. Walter A. Diehl of Tempe ministers two churches and has two congregations.

Every Sunday Mr. Diehl holds 7:30 a.m. service at the Tempe Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church. When he's through there, he drives to Mesa to preach before his other congregation, the Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church, at 8 a.m.

WHEN HE finishes that sermon, Mr. Diehl hurriedly shakes hands with his Mesa congregation, hops into his car, and drives back to Tempe. He's got another service there at 11 a.m.

Even during the week the pastor has the dual job of visiting members of both congregations and conducting both churches' affairs.

"It's really amazing," he said, "how the two groups get along together. Many people think a rivalry should exist, but it doesn't."

ONCE IN a while the two congregations gather under the same roof for a service.

Any time one church has a big occasion, members of the other church always show up.

"I guess under any other circumstances being a pastor of two churches would be difficult," the two-pulpit preacher said. "But in this case it's a challenge."

Mr. Diehl's study is in his home on the east side of Tempe. He has shelves of ecclesiastical books and modern novels in many languages. Besides English, he speaks Hebrew, German, and Greek.

"I DO AN awful lot of reading," Mr. Diehl said. "I want to get the feel of what today's pulse is like."

"During the war I found that people lived fast. They were always rushing. But now the times have changed somewhat. People are preparing for leisure and retirement. They want money but not for money's sake alone. They want it for what it can buy."

"Religiously times have changed too. It used to be people were deeply concerned with religion. They either were deeply engaged in their beliefs or were strongly opposed to Christianity."



TWO-PULPIT PASTOR — The Rev. Walter A. Diehl, of Tempe, is pastor of Tempe Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church and Mesa Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church. Last Sunday the Pilgrim congregation dedicated its church build-

ing in formal ceremonies. Mr. Diehl has been in the ministry since 1936. He said that being a minister of two churches presents no real problem because of close co-operation of both congregations.—(Republic Photo)

"People today have a greater interest in religion and churches, but they don't have the same depth. They scan the surface and are not so positive in their thinking."

Mr. Diehl is a graduate of Concordia College in Milwaukee and the Lutheran Seminary in Thiensville, Wis. He served in a church at Elkhorn, Wis., for 16 years before moving to Phoenix and accepting the pastorate at the South Phoenix Redeemer Lutheran Church.

In 1956 he became minister of the Tempe congregation and

a year later started the Mesa church.

SHORTLY AFTER his ordination, Mr. Diehl, who was in his early 20s, was conducting a confirmation class. He asked the students what fasting meant.

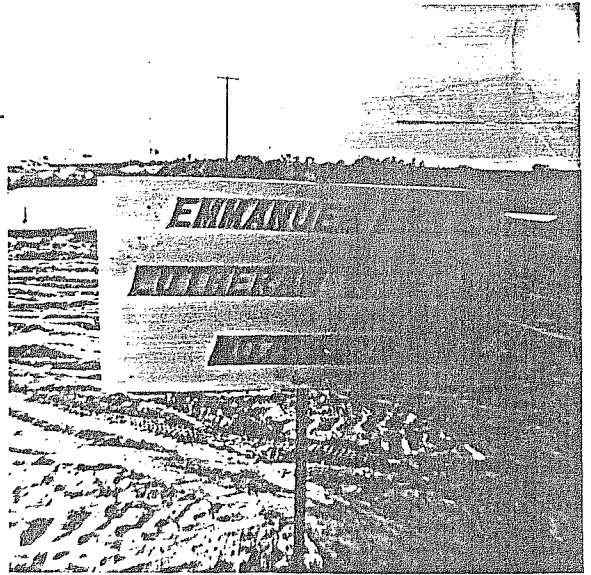
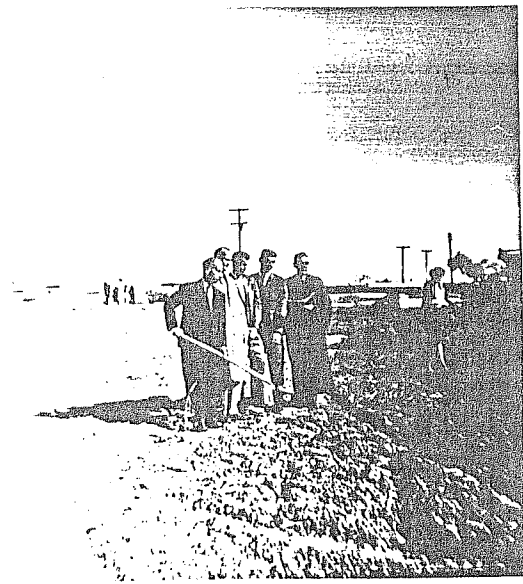
One girl, a few years younger than the new minister, answered. "It's going without food and clothing," she said.

Mr. Diehl married in 1958 two years after his first wife died. He has two children, James, 22, a student at Arizona State University, and Mary, 15, a sophomore at Tempe High School.

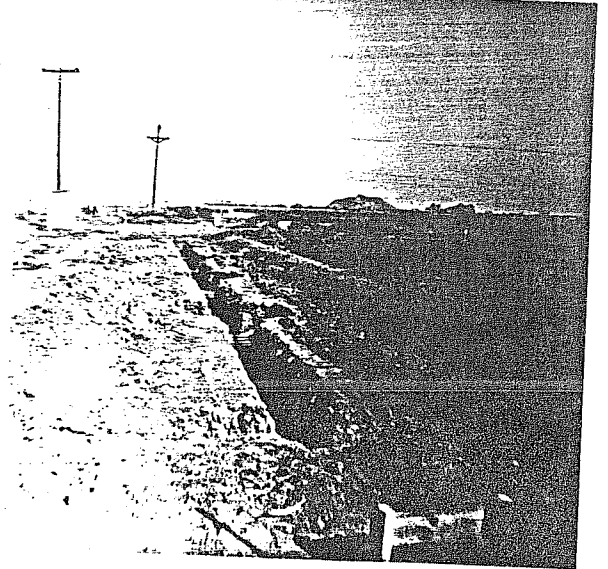
On June 2, 1963, Emmanuel's plans to move into a new area of Tempe ever since she had purchased two and a half acres of land on Southern Avenue were carried out. No longer would the congregation worship on the corner of 7th and Myrtle. The old property sold for \$17,000. Today it is called the Trophy Den. At 4 P.M. on this Sunday in June a new church on Southern Avenue was dedicated.

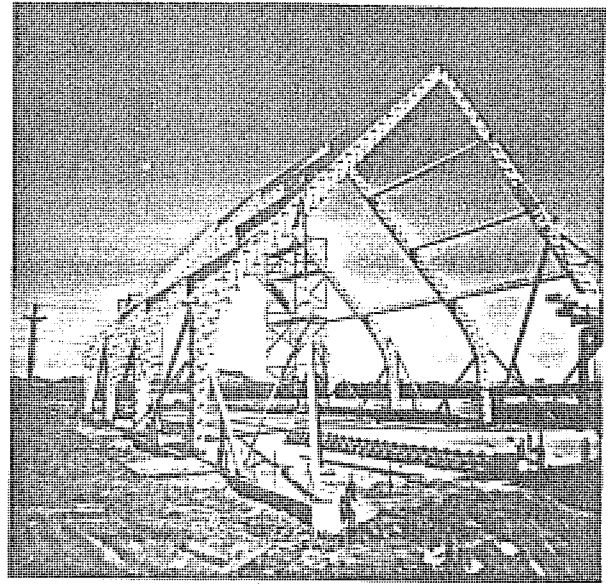
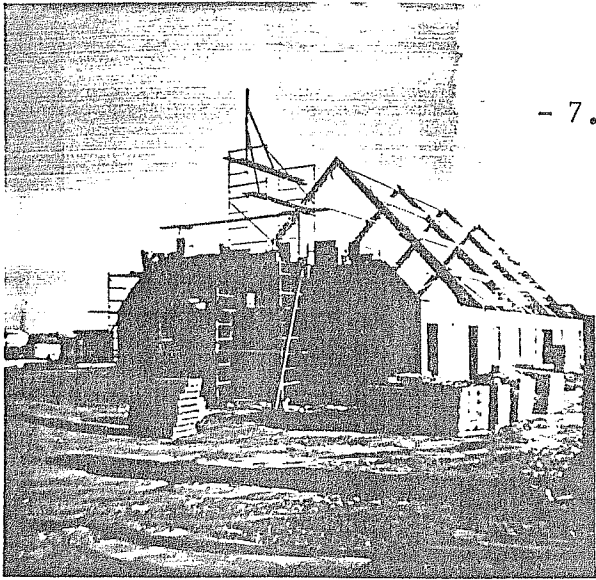
The building itself was erected by Robert Oakley, Timber-Lam, Inc. It was 103 by 40 feet, made of slump block in a rose beige shade with laminated trusses and purlins and knotty pine decking. It rises to 29 1/2 feet in height and was so divided by a temporary partition near the back that could be easily moved to increase the capacity from 198 to 325. The church also was built with a balcony. The overall cost of the church came to \$56,000 including land, wall parking lot and pews. It was partially financed by a mortgage from Greater Arizona Savings and Loan. The church was out in the country. From time to time there were grasshopper plagues, the well wasn't always reliable and the uncarpeted and separated back area often created a noise problem. The General Contractor donated the curb, sidewalk and water heater, and the church was built with a cross 46 feet above the ground. Next door to the church directly to the east was a small stable with a few cows and other farm animals.

The congregation gathered now in the afternoon of June 2, 1963 at the door of the brand new church where the ceremony would begin. The builder handed the key to the chairman of the building committee who turned the lock and gave the key to the President of the Congregation (Carl Colle) He opened the door assisted by the council (Darwin Bacon, Glenn Groenke and Joseph Worischek). The

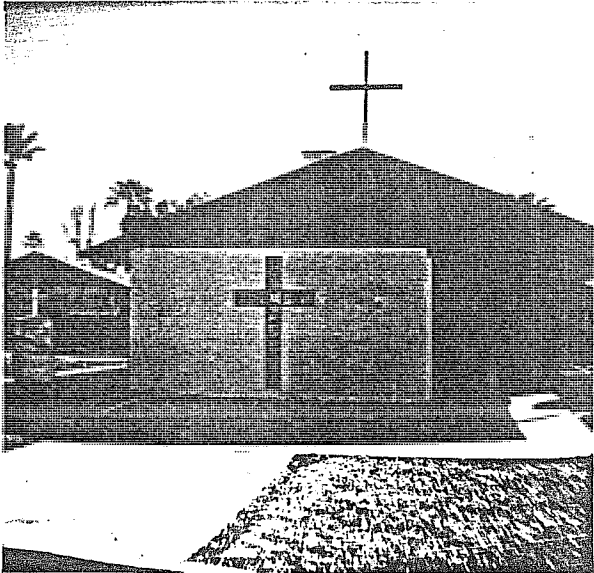


Ground breaking of Emmanuel on Southern
avenue in progress

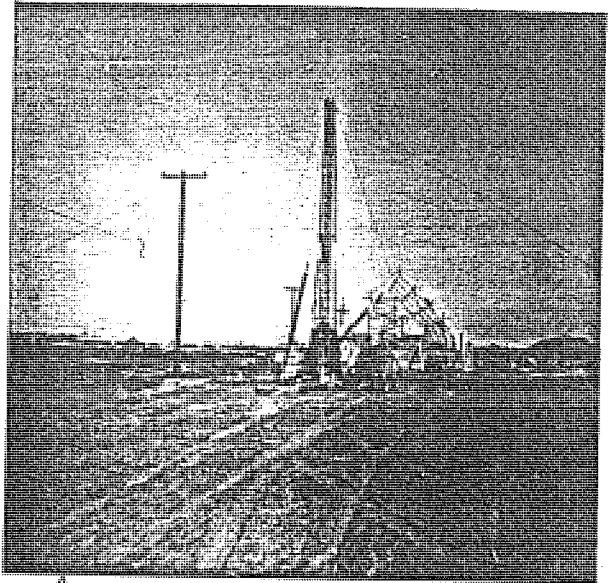




Emmanuel on Southern
avenue



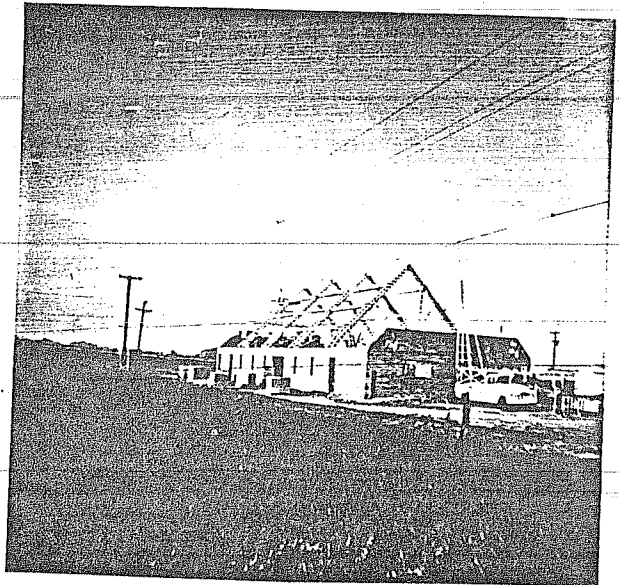
outside of church on 7th and
Myrtle



Beginning stages of church
on Southern avenue



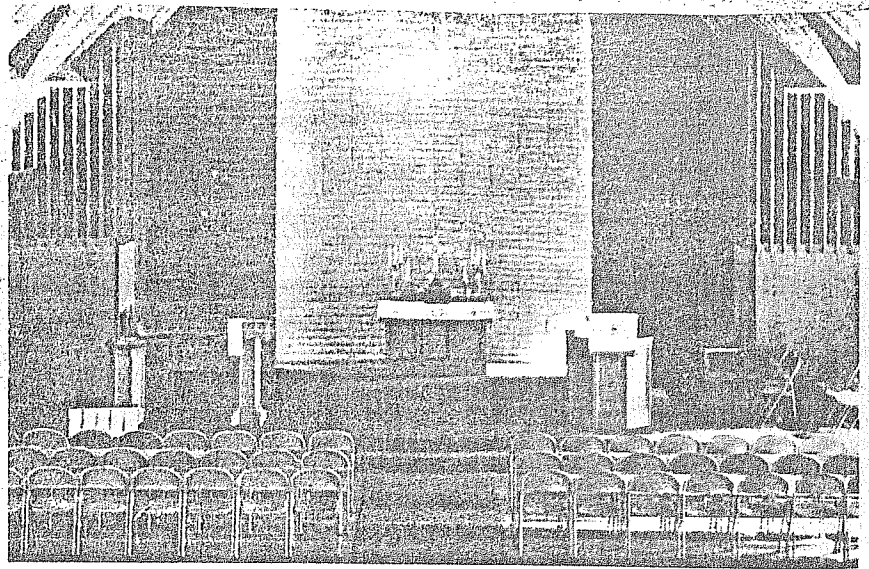
Inside of church on
+1



Dedication of Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

Pastor Edgar Hoenecke, chairman of the Wisconsin Synod's Board for World Missions, was the festival preacher at the dedication of Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church at its new location at 715 West Southern Avenue, Tempe, Sunday, June 2, 1963. Pastor I. G. Frey, second vice-president of the Arizona-California District, and Charles E. Found of the neighboring Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church in Phoenix, assisted Pastor Walter A. Diehl with the liturgical portions of the ceremony.

The new church is 103 feet by 40 feet, built of slump block with laminated trusses and pine decking. It is 29 feet in height and has a cross of aluminum on a spire of copper which reaches 46 feet in height. It is located on a 2½-acre tract. Total cost of the project will



Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Tempe, Arizona

be about \$56,000.00. The building is designed to seat 198 at present, with a temporary partition to provide an all-purpose room at the rear. Later, the partition is to be moved back under the balcony already installed, and an educational unit is to be attached to the building.

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church has an interesting history. It was begun in 1951 as a mission of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod. It built its first church in 1953 by remodeling a three-car garage. It is the first of the four Lutheran churches now in the city of Tempe. In September of 1957 it became the mother of Pilgrim Ev. Lutheran

Church of Mesa. Together with its daughter church, it became self-supporting on the eighth anniversary, December 2, 1959.

On Wednesday, June 5, a special service of thanksgiving was held. Songs of praise and thanksgiving and Bible readings of joy and gratitude formed the main portion of the mid-week service. Mrs. G. R. Schaefer provided special organ music for both services, and the choir under the direction of Mrs. Peter Schillke sang, "Christ, Thou Art the Sure Foundation," "Come, Jesus, From Thy Sapphire Throne," and "Now Thank We All Our God!"

WALTER A. DIEHL

Dedication

Behold, I build an house
to the name of the Lord my
God, to dedicate it to Him."

II CHRON. 2:4

pastors (I.G. Frey, Walter A. Diehl, Edgar Hoenecke and Charles E. Found) along with the council bearing altar ware and the choir and congregation entered the church while Mrs. G.R. Schaefer, the organist played the prelude.

One of the liturgists that day, Pastor Charles E. Found, would be called about 20 years later to be assistant Pastor at Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church and is currently serving there through 1984. Pastor Edgar Hoenecke, chairman of the Wisconsin Synod's board for world missions and member of Emmanuel's daughter congregation, Pilgrim Lutheran, preached the dedication sermon.

Later that year on December 1, 1963 the first Lutheran church in the city of Tempe celebrated her 12th anniversary. Communicant membership topped 100 that year.

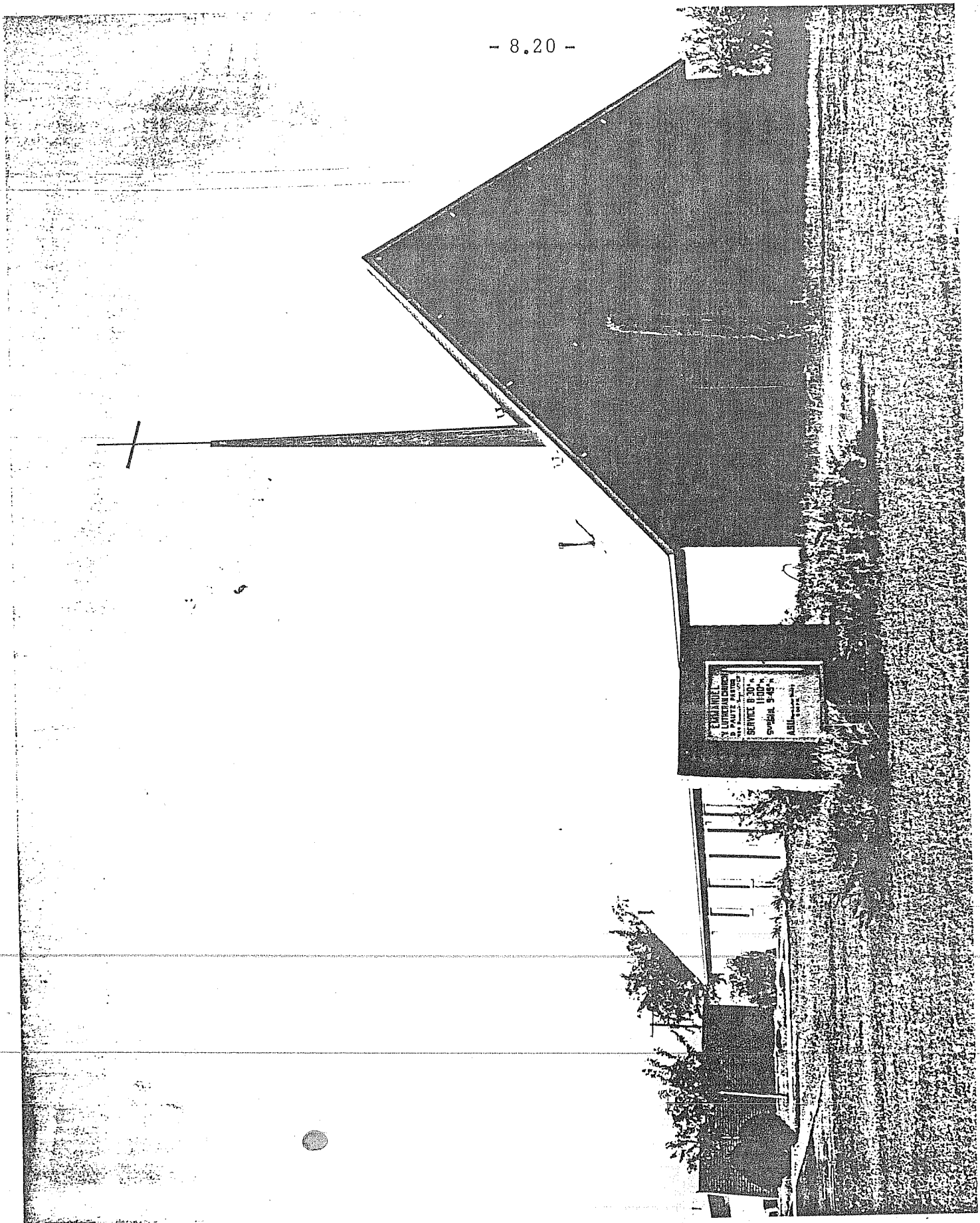
On April 30, 1967 a Sunday School Addition to Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church was completed.

One year later in April of 1968 Reverend Walter A Diehl's blessed career at the first Lutheran church ever founded in the city of Tempe came to an end. Pastor Diehl accepted a call to Calvary Lutheran Church in Dallas, Texas.

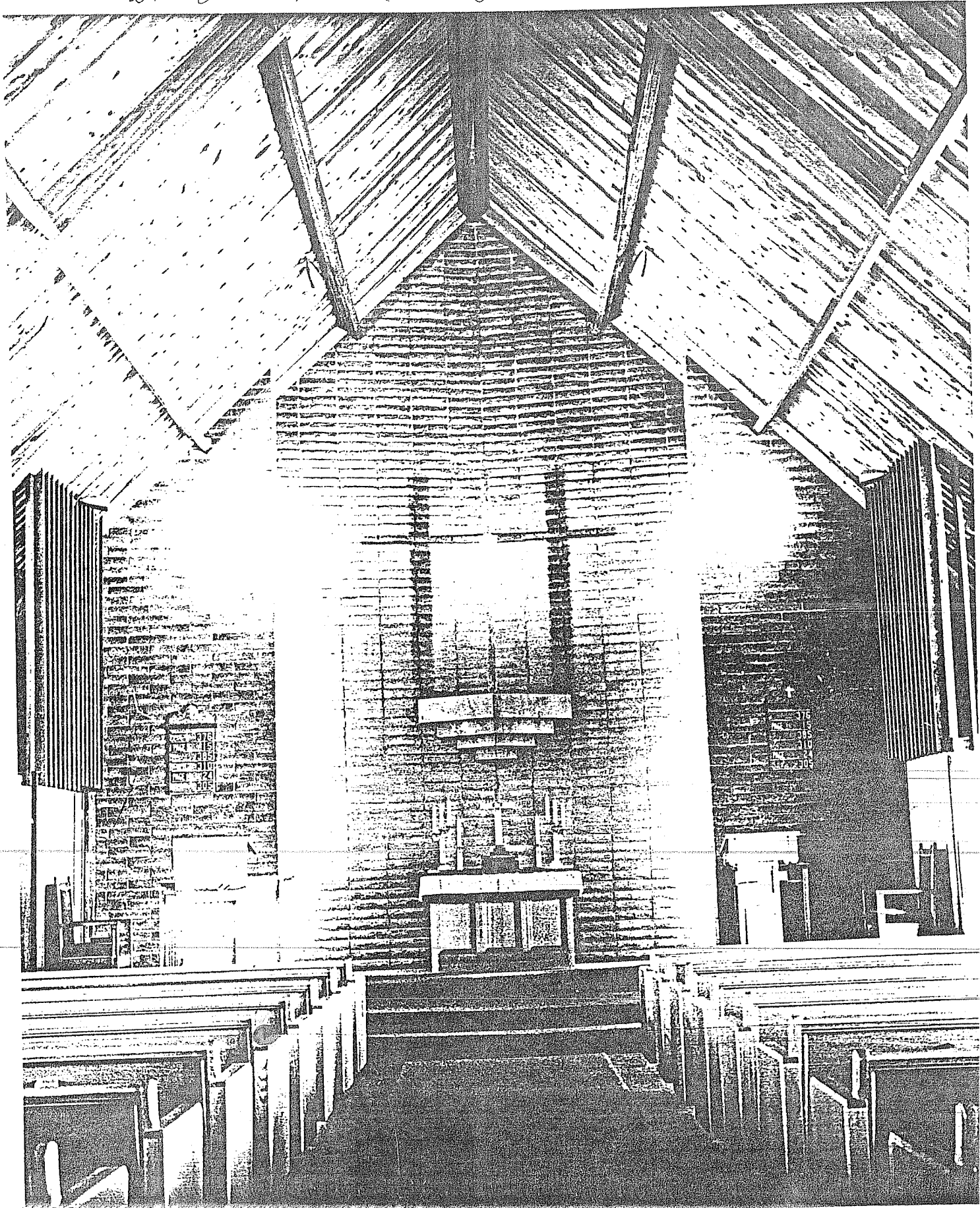
Currently Pastor Diehl is still serving at Abiding Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church 1612 W. 6th Street Weslaco, Texas 78596 through the year 1984. From Weslaco, Pastor Diehl writes.

"We still have 300 worshippers per Sunday in January to March, and 37 in July to September here. It is 80% Laten American, and we have to import our members to a great degree. Eventually the faithful confession will work, for God's Word does not return empty."

In June of 1968 a new era for Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran church began.



Inside church on Southern Avenue



No longer was she a dual parish with her daughter in Mesa. Emmanuel and Pilgrim became two separate parishes. They had been a dual parish since 1957. Now Pastor Daniel Pautz would be the new pastor after accepting a call to serve the first Lutheran church in Tempe.

Daniel D. Pautz was a 1967 graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, WI. He served for approximately one year at St. Philip's congregation in downtown Milwaukee, WI of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod before accepting his call to come to Emmanuel Lutheran of Tempe.

In 1968 the parking lot of the five year old church at 715 W. Southern Avenue in Tempe was paved.

FASTER !
PASTOR

Less than two years after Pastor Daniel Pautz's arrival at Tempe Emmanuel, serious plans were made to begin a Tri-Parish School with Pilgrim Lutheran congregation of Mesa and Salem Lutheran congregation of Scottsdale, AZ. The plans did not materialize. One of the difficult questions was, where would the children attend? In the fall of 1970 three pastors and three lay delegates met in the parsonage in Tempe to discuss the idea of a Tri-Parish school. It did appear that there would be a Tri-Parish school in the fall of 1971 but the Lord had different plans in mind. After much toil and prayerful consideration, the idea was abandoned.

So in January of 1972, Emmanuel Lutheran congregation went out on her own again and decided to establish her own school. In September the Christian Day School opened. For the first year school was held in the back of the church. The school consisted of grades 1-4 only with 20 students. Miss Kathleen

Barfknecht was Emmanuel's first called teacher. She served faithfully from 1972-1980. Miss Barfknecht is currently teaching in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod in Appleton, WI.

In 1973 grades 5-8 were added to Emmanuel's Christian Day School. A new school building was completed at a cost of about \$65,000. A new house was also purchased at 5436 S. El Camino in Tempe for \$25,000 to house a new principal. Mr. Michael Wiechmann was called as Emmanuel's first principal.

Mr. Wiechmann was born in Milwaukee, WI. In preparation for the teaching ministry in Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod schools, he attended Milwaukee Lutheran Teacher's College, and Dr. Martin Luther College of New Ulm, MN where he graduated in 1969. He then served Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Los Angeles, CA as the teacher of grades 5-8 and as principal of its Lutheran school. In February of 1973 the Lord led Mr. Wiechmann to accept the call of Emmanuel Lutheran Congregation to serve as teacher and principal of its school. Mr. Weichmann currently is teaching at a Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod school in West Allis, WI. Emmanuel had a special installation service for its first principal on Sunday July 22, 1973 at 7:00 P.M.

August 19, 1973 marked the dedication service of the fellowship- education building of Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Tempe, AZ. The building itself consisted of two 900 square foot classrooms, a fellowship hall, a kitchen, a storage area and bathrooms. There was a partition between the upper grade classroom and fellowship hall which could easily be removed

to provide one larger fellowship hall when needed. The kitchen was not equipped.

The first graduating class of Emmanuel Lutheran School of Tempe received diplomas in a special worship service in the evening of May 29, 1974 at 7:30 P.M. It was a joyous occasion. The graduates were Wayne Aswege-Valedictorian, Michael Nelson, Amy Pinckard-Salutatorian, and Allen Wolle. The sermon text was Matthew 6:33. The students gave addresses and sang a hymn.

In 1975 a third teacher was called to serve the 65 children the Lord had brought into the Christian Day School. Barbara Groehler was led by the Lord to accept the call Emmanuel of Tempe had issued to her.

The first Lutheran church of Tempe reached out still farther in December of 1976 when Emmanuel helped begin Calvary Lutheran Church south-east of her in Chandler, AZ. So in nineteen years Emmanuel had two daughters. Mesa AZ in 1957 and now Chandler in 1976.

In September of 1977 the Christian Day School expanded from grades 1-8 to K-8. Kindergarten began. In 1977 Emmanuel's first principal accepted a call to serve at Star of Bethlehem Christian Day School in Wisconsin. The Lord led Paul Bartelt, therefore, to accept Emmanuel's call to serve as the second principal of her Christian Day School in 1977.

The Christian Day School was growing, so Emmanuel purchased more land adjacent to the church property immediately to the south in 1978. The cost was \$33,000 for 1.35 acres of prime Tempe land. In 1978 Emmanuel also helped begin an area Lutheran High School, Arizona Lutheran Academy. 1978 was an eventful year in another way too. The parsonage at 904 E. Roosevelt was

sold and Pastor Pautz's new home and office was relocated at 717 W. Manhattan Drive. Now the parsonage was walking distance from the church just to the south-west of the church property. Total offerings in 1978 were \$101,143, an average of \$286.52 per communicant.

In 1980 extensive landscaping was done at Emmanuel. The parking lot was enlarged and newly paved. The 1.35 acres of new property purchased in '78 was developed into a playground. Mrs. Carol Worischeck was called to teach kindergarten. Also that year the teacherage at 5436 S. El Camino was sold to the principal, Mr. Paul Bartelt. Total offerings for 1980 were \$147,746, an average of \$367.52 per communicant.

In 1981 three new called workers were led by the Lord to Emmanuel. The kingdom workers were Duane and Karen Behm and Lois Troeller (Pomerenke).

The first Lutheran church in the city of Tempe celebrated its 30th anniversary on Sunday June 13, 1982. The theme for the day was "Emmanuel's Foundation and Power: The Gospel of Christ, the Supreme Wisdom" (1. Divine 2. Revealed 3. Spiritual). The Word of God was from 1 Corinthians 2:6-16. Pastor Walter A. Diehl returned for the blessed occasion. He had founded Emmanuel as the first Lutheran Church in the historical city of Tempe and served as its pastor during its first sixteen years of existence and was the guest speaker.

Also in 1982 a new permanent storage shed was built and plans were made for interior improvement in the church.

Plans for interior improvement included expanding the worship capacity in the back portion of the church, quieting the noisy back area with the installation of carpeting, and installing new padded pews which are cheaper than wooden

pews. Plans also included expansion to the east of the church, knocking out part of the east wall and building air-conditioned and carpeted offices. Perhaps the most important of all is the planned construction of a new classroom because again the Lord provided a need for Emmanuel to call a new teacher Mr. Jay Storm of Eau Clair, WI in 1984. In a letter from Pastor Daniel D. Pautz dated April 18, 1984, Pastor Pautz wrote,

"I patiently, actually it's impatiently, wait for construction to get started. But as of this writing, we don't have the building permit. We do need the new classroom by fall or the new teacher will have to teach under a shade tree in 110 degree weather."

On April 23, 1984 construction began at Emmanuel. If things go according to schedule without any delays or problems construction should be completed by August. Vacation Bible School will not take place in 1984 because of the many construction hazards for the children.

At this time Emmanuel Lutheran Church has about 650 members of which over 450 are communicants. Mr. Roger Sievert is Emmanuel's new principal, the third whom the Lord has brought to the congregation.

Today the city of Tempe has a population of about 200,000 including 40,000 students who attend Arizona State University. The city is rich in history and culture. But never so rich as the day a Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Church, the first Lutheran church ever, was founded in the city of Tempe. Since 1951 Universal forgiveness of sins through Christ have been preached to Tempeans along with specifically Lutheran doctrines, namely, Justification, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, all of which disclose to every human being that his sins are already forgiven in God's only Son, Jesus Christ.

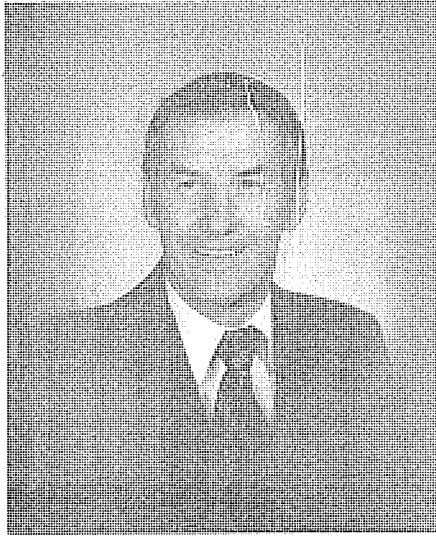
Called Workers of Emmanuel

1951-1968 --- Reverend Walter A. Diehl
1968- --- Pastor Daniel D. Pautz
1972-1980 --- Kathleen Barfknecht
1973-1977 --- Michael Wiechmann
1975-1979 --- Barbara Groehler
1977-1973 --- Paul Bartelt
1979-1981 --- Jane Campbell
1980-1981 --- Judy Schuelein
1980- --- Carol Worischek
1981- --- Duane and Karen Behm
1981- --- Lois Troeller (Pomerenke)
1983- --- Roger Sievert
1984- --- Jay Storm

In Retrospect

The data in this paper was taken from the records of the congregation. It was no small matter to condense a wealth of material into a plainspoken paper and do justice to all facts and to everyone concerned. But I hope to have given the reader of this history a "bird's eye view" of the main things God has done for Tempe and Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church. In closing, we lift up our eyes to the God of all grace and mercy and say:

"God, Our Emmanuel, We Thank Thee, Because Thou Hast Been With Us In The Past, And Implore Thee To Be With Us In The Future, For Jesus Sake. Amen"



Pastor Daniel Pautz



Organists: Mary Smith, Lydia Schaefer,
& Lois Troeller



Teachers: Carol Worischeck, Karen Behm, Duane Behm, Lois
Troeller, Pastor Pautz, Principal Paul Bartelt

FINANCIAL STATUS

	<u>12/31/83</u>	<u>12/31/82</u>
CHECKING	1,364	1,138
MORTGAGE REDUCTION	4,850	3,764
FOUR YEAR C.D.	2,536	2,351
INTERIOR IMPROVEMENT	10,434	14,991
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	982	930
	<u>20,166</u>	<u>23,174</u>

APPROXIMATE LOAN BALANCES

CHURCH & SCHOOL MORTGAGE	59,160	63,150
ADDITIONAL LAND	18,400	20,800
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT LOANS	15,600	17,500
LAWN MOWER	-0-	600
PARKING LOT RESURFACE	1,200	-0-
	<u>94,360</u>	<u>102,050</u>

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>TOTAL OFFERINGS</u>	<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>AVERAGE PER COMMUNICANT</u>
1970	22,738	22,846	151.58
1971	25,682	24,804	142.68
1972	34,819	33,178	169.02
1973	52,143	51,670	217.26
1974	59,346	60,019	215.80
1975	64,948	68,090	214.35
1976	75,350	74,181	224.91
1977	86,208	85,666	247.22
1978	101,143	98,162	286.52
1979	109,695	114,894	292.52
1980	147,746	195,016	367.52
1981	162,316	160,772	385.55
1982	207,858	200,052	497.27
1983	218,653	222,313	485.90

STATISTICS - 1973

	1973	1972	1971	1970
TOTAL ATTENDANCE - All Worship Services	13,600	11,589	10,480	9,408
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - Sunday Services	218	184	170	151
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - 15 Special Services	150	122	111	103
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - Lenten Services	124	114	98	91
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - Advent Services	134	96	85	81
ATTENDANCE AT SPECIAL SERVICES				
MAUNDY THURSDAY	81	98	82	110
GOOD FRIDAY	115	95	79	65
EASTER SUNDAY	307	280	247	232
THANKSGIVING	199	158	171	114
CHRISTMAS EVE	405	300	287	297
CHRISTMAS DAY	167	118	102	80
New Year's Eve	139	94	102	85
ENROLLMENT IN CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL				
SUNDAY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT	79	66	71	78
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	51	49	54	47
BIBLE CLASS (This year Teen Class Formed)				
BIBLE CLASS ATTENDANCE	27	27	26	19
TEEN CLASS ATTENDANCE	12			
NUMBER OF YOUTH CONFIRMATIONS				
NUMBER OF YOUTH CONFIRMATIONS	10	8	8	1
NUMBER OF ADULT CONFIRMATIONS				
NUMBER OF ADULT CONFIRMATIONS	10	8	3	5
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT				
NUMBER OF BAPTISMS	14	13	7	5
NUMBER OF COMMUNICANT MEMBERS				
NUMBER OF COMMUNICANT MEMBERS	240	206	180	150
NUMBER OF BAPTIZED MEMBERSHIP				
NUMBER OF BAPTIZED MEMBERSHIP	351	305	280	220
ELIGIBLE MEMBERS FOR VOTING				
ELIGIBLE MEMBERS FOR VOTING	84	70	66	55
TOTAL NUMBER COMMUNED				
TOTAL NUMBER COMMUNED	1702	1424	1196	1010
AVERAGE TIMES PER MEMBER				
AVERAGE TIMES PER MEMBER	7	7	6.8	6.7

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CHURCH COUNCIL - 1973

- Council Chairman - Pastor D, Pautz
- Congregation President - Ben Jaeger
- Treasurer - John Gilbert *Bill Warshaw*
- Secretary - Garry Richey *Bob Aswege*
- Evangelism - John Nelson
- Head Usher - Robert Snyder
- Education Chairman - Robert Aswege *Ron Clegg*
- Financial Secretary - Michael Crabtree *Kelly Richey*
- Stewardship Chairman - Francis Tetmeyer

EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 1973

- Chairman - Robert Aswege
- Ronald Clegg
- Joseph Worischeck
- Michael Wiechmann
- Pastor D. Pautz

SCHOOL TEACHERS

- Michael Wiechmann - Principal
- Kathleen Barfknecht - Lower Grades

OFFICERS OF LADIES GROUP - 1973

- President Kelly Richey
- Vice-President Tera Lill
- Secretary Elaine Aswege
- Treasurer Joan Robbins

- CHOIR DIRECTOR - Kathleen Barfknecht
- TEEN CLASS TEACHER - Robert Aswege
- YOUTH GROUP WORKER - Joseph Worischeck
- GIRL PIONEERS - Sharon Lill
- SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS - Elaine Aswege, Sharon Lill, Kelly Richey, Sherry Frie- stad, Carol Worischeck, Sharon Surprise, Lorraine Klatt, Rose Nash, Donna Wolle,

STATISTICS - 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1975	1970
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - Sunday Services	334	321	312	303	290	281	261	151
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - Lenten Services	177	178	184	139	141	148	149	91
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - Advent Services	204	193	186	138	118	142	140	81
ATTENDANCE AT SPECIAL SERVICES								
MAUNDY THURSDAY	178	196	171	168	143	129	154	110
GOOD FRIDAY	213	234	175	182	171	215	156	65
EASTER SUNDAY	579	566	526	580	546	532	406	232
THANKSGIVING	260	264	208	242	210	226	217	114
CHRISTMAS EVE	706	649	630	657	634	540	490	297
CHRISTMAS DAY	350	233	184	175	185	195	179	80
NEW YEAR'S EVE	175	175	196	180	160	152	167	85
NUMBER OF COMMUNICANT MEMBERS	450	418	421	402	375	353	303	150
NUMBER OF BAPTIZED MEMBERS	625	560	564	549	517	483	424	220
AVERAGE TIMES COMMUNED PER COMMUNICANT	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	7	6.7
ENROLLMENT IN CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL	99	76	83	84	82	70	65	-
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE IN SUNDAY SCHOOL	57	35	35	40	52	60	65	47
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - BIBLE CLASS	30	25	24	21	24	23	29	19
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE - TEEN BIBLE CLASS	15	8	8	9	9	10	12	-
NUMBER OF YOUTH CONFIRMANDS	7	14	16	9	11	16	19	1
NUMBER OF ADULT CONFIRMANDS	10	6	5	4	12	4	5	5
NUMBER OF BAPTISMS	24	15	10	13	21	25	10	5
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT	100	82	60	-	130	160	175	110
ATTENDANCE - ARIZONA LUTHERAN ACADEMY	19	19	15	13	7	8		
NUMBER OF WEDDINGS	14	10	5	4	9	6		
NUMBER OF FUNERALS	4	7	4	8	2	6		



Some Of Our Church Council
& Board Chairmen



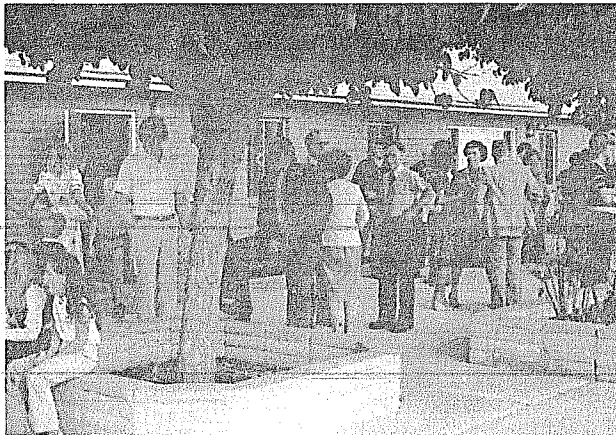
Quarterly Voters Meeting



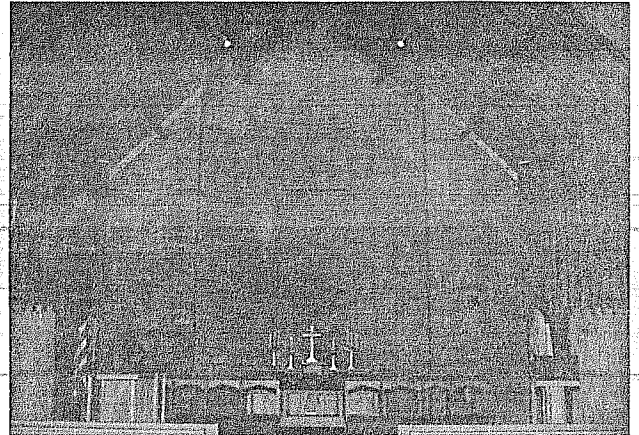
Choir Rehearsal With
Director Lois Troeller



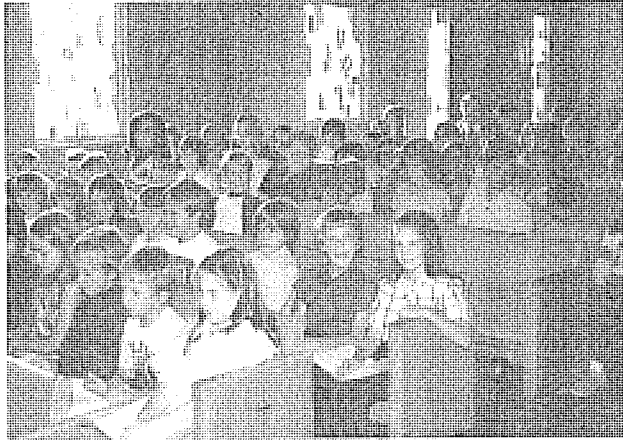
Ladies' Group



Sunday Morning Fellowship



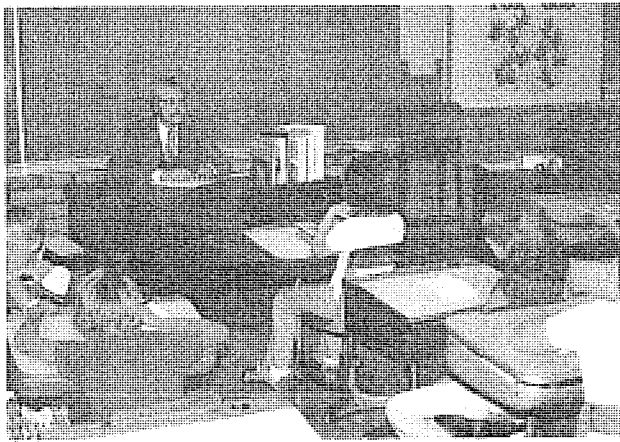
Our House Of Worship



Tuesday Morning Chapel



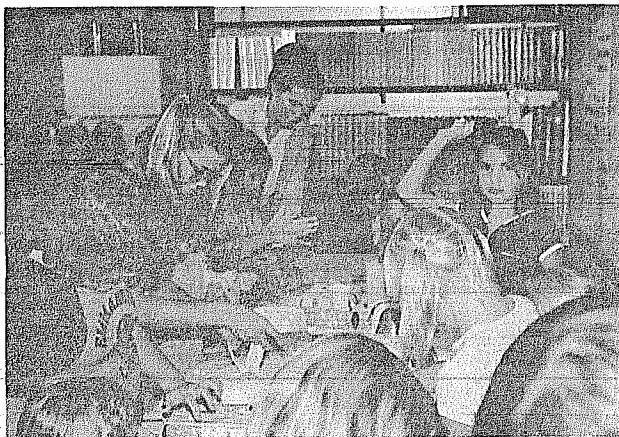
Sunday School



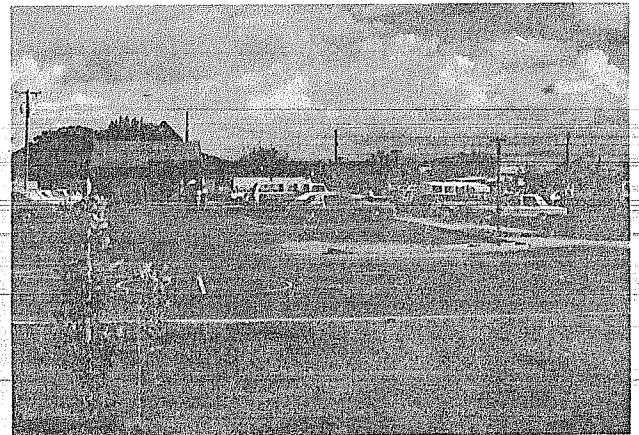
Middle Grades Classroom



Buckaroo Campout



Girl Pioneers At Work



Our Church Property

1983

PASTORS' REPORT

"Growth" is the word that aptly describes the year 1983 for Emmanuel Lutheran Church. There was growth in membership from 418 to 450. Baptized membership increased by 65 to 625. Attendance at church services rose during 1983 to 334 average per Sunday, an increase of 13 over the last year. In December the average attendance per Sunday was 400. The average attendance in Sunday School rose from 35 to 57. Students in the Christian Day School now number 100, that number at the end of 1982 was 76. The enrollment at Arizona Lutheran Academy rose from 140 to 170. Even the staff of Emmanuel grew, for Pastor Found, who serves on a parttime basis, was added to the staff during 1983.

The growth has caused some real challenges in many ways, especially upon our facilities. We are crowded. The partition in the church has had to be opened for several years for some of our church services but in 1983, with the exception of the summer months, it was commonplace to have the partition opened. We just do not have enough room. Nor has the "Kindergarten Room" been adequate to serve a kindergarten that numbers over 10. Our present kindergarten has 13 students and meets in the back of the church. Because of the kindergarten meeting in the back of the church in the mornings and because the band program is meeting in the back of the church on Tuesday afternoons, the Confirmation Class from the school has had to juggle its schedule in order to use the back area of the church.

We pray that another type of growth has taken place during 1983, a growth that is difficult to measure but yet is very important. We pray that there has been growth not simply in quantity but also in quality. We are speaking about a spiritual growth. May our membership have grown in faith in Jesus, growth in Christian living, a growth in dedication to the Lord.

During 1983 the "Reaching Out" Program was carried out. The Reaching Out program was to gather \$10 million from the members of the synod's congregations for various capital programs in our mission fields and for our worker-training schools. By God's grace over \$23 million in commitments have been received from the people of our Wisconsin Lutheran Synod.

A "Lutherans For Life" chapter was formed in 1983 in the valley. The obvious goal of the organization is to seek to prevent abortion by providing Scriptural counsel to pregnant women. At the same time this organization seeks to bring babies and their parents to Christ. This young organization is seeking to establish a pregnancy counseling center. May God's blessings be with these efforts.

Pastor Charles Found who had retired from the fulltime ministry accepted our call to serve on a parttime basis at Emmanuel. His work began in January, 1983, and the extra pastoral help he brings is certainly needed and appreciated at Emmanuel.

Mr. Roger Sievert accepted the congregation's call to serve as principal and upper grades teacher, and assumed these responsibilities in July. We pray for God's continued blessings upon him and his work, and we thank Mr. Bartelt for his service to us as principal and teacher.

Growth in 1983 means several things for 1984. We hope to continue to integrate our new members into active roles in the congregation. Also, the sanctuary area must be enlarged, additional pews must be purchased, the balcony fixed, and other improvements undertaken. Additional space must be provided for the kindergarten, another classroom is needed for the school. A fourth fulltime teacher is needed. Two of our classrooms have over 30 students in them and will in the near future have over 35 students in them unless a fourth teacher is added.

We hope that the addition of the Young Adult Group to our program will truly serve God's glory and the spiritual needs of our young adults. Since this group was just started in December, 1984 will be a key role in its existence and nature. We urge our college students and young adult to come.

Another area of service that we should look into is serving our senior citizens with an afternoon Bible study and social activity. We do have many senior citizens, we do have many winter visitors, and it appears that the interest in such a group is there.

Facing Emmanuel in 1984 us a financial challenge. Gifts to the budget in 1983 were \$30,000 more than in the previous year, but in 1984 the increase must continue especially if there is building expansion and an additional teacher on our staff. But God always provides His people with the means to do the work that He sets before them. May our members in turn use them for the spread of the Gospel.

But the greatest challenge that a congregation always faces is to remain faithful to the Word of God. The devil has not slowed down, our sinful natures remain as opposed to God as they always have been, and it seems that the pressures from the unbelieving world keep on increasing. But God's power and love remain stronger than any evil force. We must continue to rely upon God and His Word.

May God grant us faith and wisdom as we travel through 1984. And should our earthly pilgrimage come to an end this year, may our gracious God for Jesus' sake take us to our destination, the eternal home of heaven.

And throughout the year whenever there is a need, a question, a problem, please contact the pastors of Emmanuel.

The purpose of Emmanuel Lutheran Church is to preach and teach the message of God -- which is the Bible. We do believe that the Bible is the Word of God. It is the authority in the church -- our teachings are drawn from it. Our task is to teach the Gospel through which the Holy Ghost brings people to faith, making them Christians who serve God here on earth and then forever in heaven.

Our congregation is 32 years old. It had held services on 7th Street and Myrtle (near College Avenue). The building which served as the church is now the "Trophy Den". In 1963 the congregation moved to its present location, 715 W. Southern Avenue. Our church is a member of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod which numbers about 400,000 people throughout this nation. There are 13 Wisconsin Synod churches located in the Valley. Through the church body we preach the Gospel in many places throughout this nation and the world -- in Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Indonesia, India, Malawai, Zambia, West Cameroon, Sweden, Puerto Rico, West Indies, Mexico, and Colombia. In Arizona considerable effort has been given to the spread of the Gospel among the Apache Indians -- there are ten congregations on the Apache Reservations. Our mission offerings which during 1983 were \$20,000 are used to train future missionaries, pastors, and teachers, to publish Christ-centered materials, and to bring the Gospel to others in our nation and throughout the world.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church at the end of 1983 numbers 450 communicants and has a total baptized membership of about 625. Church Services are held every Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 A.M. During the summer months church services are held at 8 AM and 9:30 AM. The Lord's Supper is offered in the 8:00 AM Service on the second Sunday of the month, in the 10:30 Service on the last Sunday of the month. It is also available in the services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and New Year's Eve. Private Communion is given by the pastors for those unable to attend church services for health reasons, and for others who may be facing surgery, etc. During the Advent and Lenten seasons there are Wednesday evening services at 7:30 PM.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Every Sunday from 9:15-10:15 AM there are Bible study classes. The Sunday School classes teach the Bible stories to children from age 3 to eighth grade. We do look for all of our youth, including our Christian Day School students, to be present in Sunday School. The Sunday School hour begins with a brief devotion and an offering. The Sunday School is divided into six groups presently -- average attendance is about 60.

TEEN BIBLE CLASS meets also on Sunday mornings, 9:15-10:15 AM. The teens study Biblical topics, Books of the Bible, and its doctrines. We encourage all of our teens to come to this class. Teacher has been Mr. Charles Sechrist.

ADULT BIBLE CLASS also is held on Sunday mornings -- average attendance is about 30. Pastor Daniel Pautz leads the class. Most of 1983 was spent studying the Book of Genesis.

CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL To train our children thoroughly in the Scriptures, a Christian Day School has been established. It began in the fall of 1972. There are 100 youth enrolled in Grades K-8, taught by Roger Sievert, Duane and Karen Behm, Lois Pomerence, and Carol Worischeck. The school is under the control of the congregation and the Church Council. Most of the routine matters are directed by the Board of Education. Most of the school expenses such as teachers salaries and utilities are paid from the General Fund of the congregation for we believe it is the duty and privilege of all Christians to train our youth in God's Word. Registration fees for each student during the 1983-84 school year was \$50, Tuition was \$25 per month. Those with children in our school and who are not members of the congregation are charged a higher tuition fee. We pray that the Lord continues to bless our Christian Day School.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is conducted either for a one-week or two-week period during the summer. Its purpose is to teach the Word of God and to lead youth closer to Christ. Many youth whose families are not providing a Christian education have been reached through the Bible School.

PIONEERS is an organization for youth. Boy Pioneers for boys 4th through 8th Grade. Girl Pioneers for girls 3rd through 8th Grade. "BUCKAROOS" is the youth organization for boys Grades 1-3. "SUNBEAMS" is for girls Grades 1-2. The organizations provide an opportunity for Christian fellowship, recreation, hiking, camping, first-aid, etc. The groups are quite active.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for those 7th & 8th Grade youth not in the Christian Day School are held on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:30 PM, September through May. Pastor Charles Found teaches the Class.

ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASSES are conducted for those who are not Lutheran and who wish to find out more about the Bible, and also for those who are members who wish to review the teachings of the Bible. These classes are usually held on Thursday evenings, 7:30-9:30 PM, for a 12-15 week period. For those who are unable to arrange their schedule to attend the Thursday evening Class, the pastors will happily arrange a private instruction class.

TEEN GROUP About once a month the teens meet, usually on Sundays. Some of their activities in the past have included swimming, hiking, Christmas Caroling, providing the Easter Breakfast, tubing, and some sledding.

THE LADIES GROUP meets the second Tuesday of each month. All women are invited to attend. The purpose of the Ladies Group is to 1) Provide instruction on specific topics or portions of the Bible or church related subjects, and 2) Serve the Lord through various activities, work, and functions of the congregation, and 3) Provide an opportunity of fellowship plus an opportunity for women to become acquainted with one another.

THE ADULT FELLOWSHIP is designed for fellowship activities. One of its purposes is to provide an opportunity for those who worship together in the church to become acquainted with one another in a more informal setting. The Adult Fellowship met but once in 1983, hopefully it can become more active in 1984. Also, a Coffee Hour held usually the first Sunday of the month, 9:15-10:15 AM provides another opportunity to meet and greet fellow members. Church Picnics and related activities provide fellowship opportunities.

CHOIR meets on Thursday evenings, 7:30-8:30 PM. Mrs. Lois Pomeranke is the director. The choir sings at least once a month in the services. A Ladies Choir also meets on Thursdays, 8:30-9:00 PM.

ARIZONA LUTHERAN ACADEMY Our new Lutheran High School, offering Grades 9-12, started in the fall of 1978 with 44 students, 8 of which were from Emmanuel. It is leasing the facilities of Madrid School, 37th Avenue and Osborn. The enrollment is presently 170, with 19 from Emmanuel. Buses transport the youth to the high school. The principal is Mr. Robert Adickes, 247-4482 or 272-8572. Tuition and fees are about \$1,000 per student. The rest of the funds needed to operate the school come from the Federation Congregations. In 1983 Emmanuel contributed to ALA over \$20,000 for General Operating Expenses and nearly \$8,000 for capital funds.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP A new group was formed in the last month of 1983, the Young Adult Group for people of College-age and up. Purpose of this group can best be summed up with the 2 S's of Spiritual and Social. Likely, the group will be a very active group.

THE PROPERTY of the church includes the church and school buildings on nearly 4 acres of land at 715 W. Southern Avenue. In addition, the congregation maintains about a 16% investment in the homes of Pastor Pautz and the principal, Mr. Sievert. The principal's home is located at 926 W. La Jolla. Pastor Pautz's home is a few blocks from the church, 717 W. Manhattan Dr. The church office is in his home. Pastor Charles Found lives at 5020 E. Oneida, Ahwatukēe. Mr. & Mrs. Duane Behm live at 204 E. Fordham, Mrs. Lois Pomeranke at 519 W. Southern Ave. #102, and Mrs. Carol Worischeck at 2010 E. Libra.

PUBLICITY Besides the Sunday bulletins which provide information about meetings, activities, and church related news, a newsletter is sent to our families every month. The Academy has a newsletter which we distribute. Our Synod's newsletter is called the "Northwestern Lutheran" which contains devotional, doctrinal, and informational articles. All are encouraged to subscribe to the Northwestern Lutheran. The subscription rate is \$6.00 for one year and can be obtained by writing to Northwestern Publishing House, 3624 W. North Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208-0902. "Meditations" is a devotional booklet which is available at the church.

THE VOTERS of the congregation meet quarterly in January, April, July, and October, and at other times when special matters must be taken care of. The Church Council, made up of five members, and five boards: Elders, Education, Stewardship, Property, and Fiscal, carry out the more routine business.

May the Savior in His love bless our congregation!

RESOURCES

1

Tempe Historical Museum

Emmanuel Lutheran Statistical Reports, 1951-1984

Sunday Bulletin, Emmanuel of Tempe, AZ, May 3, 1953.

Sunday Bulletin, Emmanuel of Tempe, AZ, June 2, 1963 .

Sunday Bulletin, Emmanuel of Tempe, AZ, December 1, 1963.

Sunday Bulletin, Emmanuel of Tempe, AZ, July 22, 1973.

Sunday Bulletin, Emmanuel of Tempe, AZ, August 19, 1973.

Sunday Bulletin, Emmanuel of Tempe, AZ, June 13, 1982.

Newspaper articles from the Phoenix Gazette, Phoenix, AZ.

Newspaper article from the Arizona Republic, Phoenix, AZ. Saturday, May 7, 1960.

Newspaper articles from the Tempe Daily News, Tempe, AZ. July 6 and 13, 1953.

Letter from Pastor Diehl from Weslaco, TX March 13, 1984 .

Letter from Pastor Pautz April 18, 1984.

Conversations with Mrs. Warren Converse

19 81 Directory of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Tempe.

Church Records of Emmanuel Lutheran Congregation. (photographs)

Newsletters 1982-1984.

Pastor's Report 1983 .