

More Than A Century of God's Grace



The History of St. John's Lutheran Church Lannon, Wisconsin

By

Christopher E. Koschnitzke

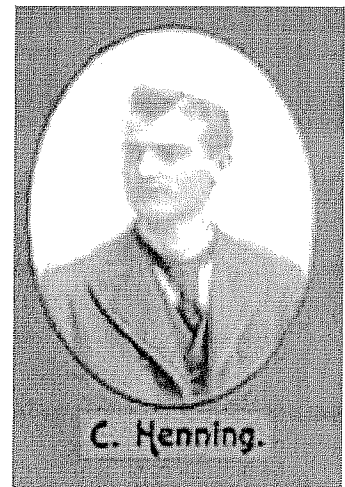
December 11, 2006

CH 3031

~ HOW IT ALL BEGAN ~

St. John's Lutheran Church, Lannon, Wisconsin did not exist before 1895. As a matter of fact, Lannon, Wisconsin did not have an organized congregation of any kind. But that all changed on May 14, 1895. It was on this date that a group of Christians met to officially organize a congregation. These Christians met at the home of Gottfried Schmoller. The founding members of St. John's were Adam Schalla, William Turkowski, William Busse, William Skebba, Adolph Worgull, August Gildemeister Sr., Karl Mathiak Sr., Friedrich Buchholz, Friedrich Schultz, Gottfried Schmoller, Otto Schmoller, William Schmoller, August Gastrau, Charles Strube, Friedrich Albrecht, William Wiesekofski, August Turkowski, Gottfried Weyer, Herman Glietz, William Glietz Sr., and Karl Prag.

After organizing, these Christians decided to call themselves "St. John's Congregation." St. John's first worship service was held at the home of Gottfried Schmoller, which is presently located at 7303 Vine Street, Lannon, WI. However, these founding members felt the need to worship in more than just a house. On July 7, 1895, less than two months after founding St. John's Congregation, it was decided to build a church. The members of St. John's bought a lot for \$50.00 and built a 40' x 28' x 14' church building. The cost of erecting this sanctuary was \$955.00. In October of 1895 the church building was dedicated. However, the members of St. John's Congregation did not have their own pastor. Pastor John Karrer served this congregation through its beginning while at the same time continuing to serve his congregation in Waukesha. St. John's felt it necessary that they have their own pastor. In 1896 they received a Candidate of Theology, Carl Henning, to be their first pastor. He was installed by Pastor Karrer. Not only did Pastor Henning remain faithful to his pastoral duties, but he also



taught school five days a week.

St. John's congregation did not have a parsonage so a committee, consisting of Carl Dorn, Fred Albrecht, William Turkowski, Adam Rossman, Bernard Joecks Sr., and Otto Schmoller was appointed to canvass the congregation for funds concerning a parsonage in St. John's annual meeting on May 30, 1898. The committee found such a favorable response that the congregation moved forward with plans to build a parsonage. On December 18, 1898, the first parsonage at St. John's was dedicated to the glory of God.

After four years of service Pastor Henning accepted a call to serve Trinity Lutheran Church, Waukesha, Wisconsin. St. John's called Pastor W.G. Albrecht who accepted the call to serve the congregation.

~ Continued Growth ~

Up to this point in time school was held in the church building. In 1902 St. John's purchased land east of the parsonage in order to build a school. Although the decision to build was reached on September 6, 1903, the building project was held off until 1905. It was in March of 1905 that a building committee was appointed. Soon after the school building was built and dedicated just in time to celebrate the congregation's tenth anniversary.

God's grace was upon St. John's as he richly blessed them under the leadership of Pastor Albrecht. It would seem that St. John's received subsidy from the Synod throughout the early years even though it is not recorded anywhere. But in 1906 it is recorded that St. John's was confident that they could support themselves apart from Synod subsidy. What a blessing from the Lord!

Worship was enriched in 1908 as a new reed organ was purchased. Membership continued to increase and it was evident that the church building needed to be expanded upon. The congregation decided to add on an Altar niche in 1909. God opened the hearts of St. John's members as they were able to expand and re-dedicate the new addition on February 6, 1910.

In 1912 Pastor Albrecht received a call to North Tonawanda, New York, and accepted it. Unfortunately, this meant the end of St. John's school in which Pastor Albrecht poured much time and energy. Pastor Emil Duerr was called and became the new pastor at St. John's. He was installed by Professor Pieper the second Sunday in Advent in 1912. He served St. John's until the end of 1918. Pastor Paul Kneiske served as the vacancy pastor until he received and accepted the call to serve St. John's full time in 1920.

~ Changes Abound ~

All services at St. John's, from 1895 to 1920, were held in the German language. In April, 1921, it was decided to hold English language services on the last Sunday of each month. The parsonage was also in need of repairs and upgrades. As a result a furnace and electrical wiring were installed in the parsonage, as well as a study for the pastor. In July of 1925 the congregation decided to pay the organist \$50.00 a year. A big change also took place in 1925 as electric lights were installed in the church. English services moved to every third Sunday rather than the last Sunday of the month in 1928. The church was redecorated in 1929 at a cost of \$475.00, and stained-glass windows were purchased and donated. All the buildings were painted in 1933. In 1936 the motion was made and passed to have English speaking services every second and fourth Sunday of the month. If there were five Sundays in a month, the fifth Sunday would also be conducted in English.

The pulpit was lowered in January, 1940 and in April a ventilating fan was purchased. The final German congregational meeting was in October, 1941. Beginning in January, 1942 all meetings were conducted in English. German services were almost completely phased out in 1942 as it was decided to only hold German services on the first Sunday of each month.

Pastor Kneiske made it know in July of 1943 that he may have to resign because of his ailing knee. As a result the congregation granted him leave of absence until September. It was at that time they met to call a new pastor. After the first call they issued was returned, they called George W.

Boldt, a Candidate of Theology on October 17, 1943. He accepted the call. After 25 years of service, Pastor Kneiske bid farewell to St. John's on November 12, 1943. The next week, November 19, Pastor Boldt was installed by Pastor Philip Koehler.

God had blessed St. John's throughout its first fifty years. The congregation consisted of 247 communicants, 335 souls, and 69 voting members. During these first fifty years 586 were baptized, 294 were confirmed, 121 couples were married, and 154 were buried. God's grace was certainly poured out on St. John's congregation.



~ A New Church Needed ~

St. John's appointed a building committee in January, 1947 to seek the services of an architect to draw plans for a new church. They were also instructed to find a new location for the proposed new church. It's no coincidence that at a time when the church was looking to build, the congregation was at its strongest. The congregation's financial condition was improved; the pastor's salary increased; the congregation held firm to the Word of God in spiritual battles against Veteran's organizations, Scouts and the like.

It was also in 1947 that Pastor Boldt received and accepted a call to St. Peter's, Theresa, Wisconsin. On December 21, 1947, St. John's called Pastor L. Hallauer, who was then a missionary on the outskirts of West Allis, Wisconsin. He accepted the call to serve St. John's.

Because of the growth of the congregation, in 1948 St. John's adopted a new constitution and introduced two services on Sunday to better handle the growth. German services were now held during the first service of the first Sunday of the month. Also in 1948 a new site was purchased for the new church. This new site was located about two blocks south of the current location. The

five acre plot was bought at a price of \$1,000.00. Several years later, in 1953 the total cost of this project was announced at \$119,459.92.

In February of 1949 a special drive took place to take pledges for the new building project. \$15,000.00 was pledged by the congregation to undertake this project. Exactly one year later the plans and specifications for the new building were complete. The congregation broke ground for their new church in May, 1950. The congregation decided to sell the old property and the old church building currently sits near the corner of Burleigh and Brookfield Road in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

Although construction progressed slowly, St. John's new church building was complete. On June 24, 1950, the new church was dedicated in three separate services with a total attendance of 1,005. Pastor H. Shirley of Waukesha spoke at the morning dedication service; Pastor E. Kneif of West Allis spoke in the afternoon service; Pastor H. Cares, Vice President of the District, spoke in the evening service. Jordan Lutheran Church's choir enhanced the evening dedication service with a short concert.

~ School Revisited and Re-opened ~

When Pastor Albrecht left in 1912, the school ceased to function. However, in October of 1951 a school committee was formed which consisted of Ernest Fryda, Armin Kuphall, Martin Pruess, Elmer Mathiak, and Harvey Rossman. This committee was asked to look into the possibility of opening a Christian Day School. The committee presented their report on January 13, 1952. However, the treasury was in no condition to support the school at the present time due to the recent building project only a few years earlier. The school question would be revisited at a future meeting.

During the annual meeting in 1954 this question was once again raised, but postponed to a meeting two weeks later due to lack of time for intellectual discussion. At the special meeting it was

voted 26-9 to begin a Christian Day School in the fall of that year. The first board of education was manned by Norman Mathiak, Richard Alsch, and Richard Waldschmidt. A survey showed that the school would be able to begin in the fall with 24 children, which meant only one teacher needed to be called. Several experienced teachers were called, but ultimately St. John's went to the assignment committee and was assigned Miss Naomi Nitz. So on September 7, 1954 St. John's school started with 31 children.

The school continued to grow and in October of 1956 it was decided to begin the second room of the school. St. John's desired a male teacher to be called, who would also serve as the principal, and a female teacher to be called to teach the lower grades. Mr. Rueben Kramer accepted the call to be the first principal and Mrs. Robert Schlicht was called to teach the lower grades.

The Building Committee was appointed to divide the school into two rooms and also plan future expansion to the church and school. Within the next few years it became evident that the school needed to be expanded. Plans were made to add two more classrooms, a principal's office, a work room, a storage room and additional lavatories. It was also agreed upon to purchase a half-acre lot across the street from the church for \$1,500.00. This lot would be used to build a teacherage or be used for future expansion since this property was one of the few left near the vicinity of the church and school.

Soon after the plans were made to add on to the school, the congregation borrowed \$50,000 to begin this new addition, and construction started immediately. It was also agreed upon to build a teacherage on the newly purchased lot. This home would be occupied by the principal. An apartment would also be added on to the house for lady teachers who would serve St. John's.

A third classroom was opened in January of 1958 and as a result, a third teacher was called. One month later the new school addition was dedicated and the members were privileged to hear

Professor R. Krause of Wisconsin Lutheran High School speak at the dedication. The very next morning classes began in the new addition.

God's grace was truly showered on St. John's school. Over the course of a few years the school enrollment stood at 111 students, and that number continued to grow.

~ 65 Years of God's Grace ~

St. John's celebrated its 65th anniversary in 1960. Many changes took place during this year. Teachers came and went; much work was done to improve the church property and parsonage. On October 9, 1960 St. John's officially celebrated 65 years of God's grace. Pastor Boldt returned to preach for the two morning services. Pastor Hallauer presented the congregation's history through a slide show of past and present pictures. The church had grown to 826 souls and 491 communicants. Since the congregation began, 813 people had been baptized, 456 were confirmed, 173 couples made their vows to God, and 204 souls entered eternal rest. The Lord had truly blessed St. John's throughout its first 65 years.

~ More Change Takes Place ~

St. John's made more changes to their worship schedule in the early 1960's. In 1961 St. John's incorporated midweek advent services for the first time in church history. In 1962 plans were made to hold two services during the mid-week Lenten season. An Easter Sunrise service was added to accommodate the many worshipers at St. Johns. To this day the Easter Sunrise service continues.

It was also decided in 1961 to begin making plans for further expansion to the church and school. The Lord had blessed the congregation with the "problem" of being over crowded during both worship and school. What a blessing! Because of this over crowding, a third service was held on Sundays, beginning on September 2, 1962. By October 27, 1962, dedication services took place for both the church and school additions. The school addition consisted of three rooms fully

completed and an upper level that remained unfinished. The church addition added 150 more seats for worship.

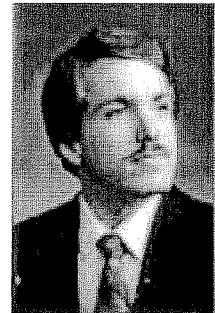
~ **Sister Congregation Started** ~

In 1967 twenty seven members of St. John's were transferred to start Faith Mission in Sussex. Since then, Faith has grown to be a large congregation. They recently built a beautiful new church building. St. John's and Faith continue to work together in the gospel. Faith supplies some of their own teachers to teach at St. John's school, and members of Faith send their children to St. John's school.

~ **God's Grace Continues to Abound** ~

After serving St. John's for twenty years, Pastor Hallauer was led by the Holy Spirit to accept a call to Salem Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1968. Called to take his place was Pastor Wilbert Krueger, who came from Christ, Big Bend, Wisconsin.

In 1989 it was recommended by the team ministry committee that a second pastor be called. For nearly 94 years St. John's was served by one pastor, even when membership reached 1,000 souls in 1970. For the first time in congregation history a second pastor was called. Gary L. Koschnitzke accepted St. John's call to serve as an associate pastor.



*Pastor Gary
Koschnitzke*

In the coming years the spiritual growth of St. John's improved. Contributions, church attendance, communion participation, and enthusiasm for Bible Class all increased. The Christian Day school continued to enroll higher numbers of students. At its peak, St. John's school enrolled well over 200 students.

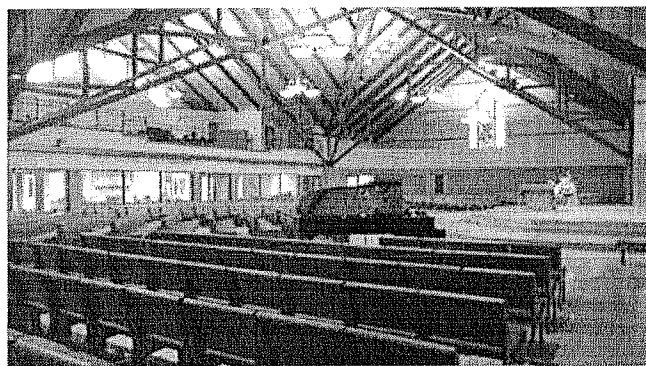
In 1995 Pastor Krueger announced his decision to retire after serving the Lord faithfully for forty years. On August 3rd and August 6th, Pastor Krueger delivered his farewell sermon on 2 Corinthians 2:1-5 under the theme **"I Resolved to Know Nothing While I Was With You**

Except Christ and Him Crucified.” This happened to be the text he used at his installation 27 years earlier. In the summer of 1995 Pastor Dean Zemple, from Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, Florida, was called to replace Pastor Krueger. Pastor Zemple served St. John’s until January of 2004.

A special voters meeting was held on July 2, 1995 to discuss and seek approval to purchase properties around St. John’s. This was done to provide for future expansion needs at St. John’s. This would provide five acres of land on which a new church could be built. In 1998 a steering committee was put together and planned for a new facility. Preliminary work began and money was set aside for an architect.

On March 30, 1999, a special voters meeting was held to decide whether to build a new church. After 1 ½ hours of discussion a vote was taken. The members of St. John’s decided that a new church was needed by a vote of 89-20. On May 7, 2000, exactly 50 years to the day of the original ground breaking of the former church, St. John’s broke ground for their new church.

On June 10, 2001 St. John’s held a closing service for the old church. On June 24 St. John’s dedicated their new worship facility at 2 P.M. Synod President Karl Gurgel was on hand to deliver the sermon for this occasion.



Interior of St. John's New Church

~ 100 Years of God's Grace ~

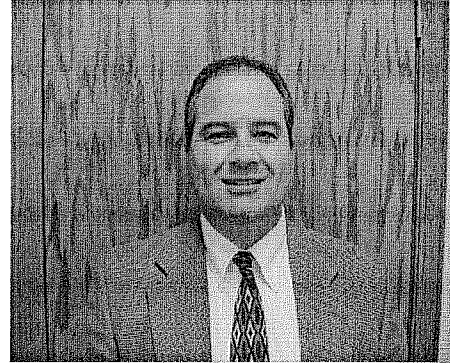
St. John’s celebrated 100 years of God’s grace in 1994-1995. Special events took place each month to celebrate this anniversary.¹ Special guests and visitors came, and sons and daughters of the congregation returned to participate. The old church building, which presently sits at the corner

¹ See Addenda II.

of Burleigh and Brookfield Road, was set up with old artifacts. Members were able to go to the building to see it for themselves, as well as to look at the history of St. John's.

~ St. John's Today ~

Many changes took place to the staff in a short amount of time. Pastor Jeffery Duquaine, called in the summer of 2004 to replaced Pastor Zemple, now serves as the associate pastor. Pastor Koschnitzke continues to serve St. John's, now as the lead pastor. After many years of service as principal, Daniel Feuerstahler stepped down from those duties in 2004 but continues to teach. Daniel Brands was called to be the new principal, a role which he serves today.



Pastor Jeffery Duquaine

Two worship services are still held on Sunday mornings, but to accommodate the busy schedules of its members, St. John's holds Saturday and Monday evening services. Saturday offers a more contemporary style of worship while still retaining the gospel message through the liturgy. Instead of common hymns being sung from the hymnal, a mix of praise songs are presented. During the majority of the year two or more Bible classes are offered on Sunday morning for adults and Kid's Bible Hour (Sunday school) is held for the children. Various groups also gather throughout the week to study the God's Word together. The youth get involved twice a year as they present a worship service in the fall and spring. There truly is something for everyone to be involved in.

St. John's continues to be showered with God's grace. The church and school continue to thrive. Membership in the church is approximately 1,100 souls, with it growing yearly with many new adult confirmands. There are approximately 150 students enrolled in the school, a number that ebbs and flows depending on the size of families which are smaller in this day in age.

It is truly amazing what can be accomplished when people come together in God's name. Matthew 18:20 comes to mind: *"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."* In looking at the history of St. John's Lutheran Church of Lannon, it is evident that the Lord has showered his grace and continues to shower his grace upon this congregation. As the world and our culture have changed over the course of time, so St. John's has changed too. But one thing has never changed at St. John's, and that is the commitment to hold firm to the Word of God. God promises to be faithful to those who are faithful to him, and he has kept this promise to his faithful followers of St. John's Lutheran Church, Lannon, Wisconsin. May God continue to bless them until he comes again!

ADDENDA I

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. JOHN'S CONGREGATION (1895-1995)

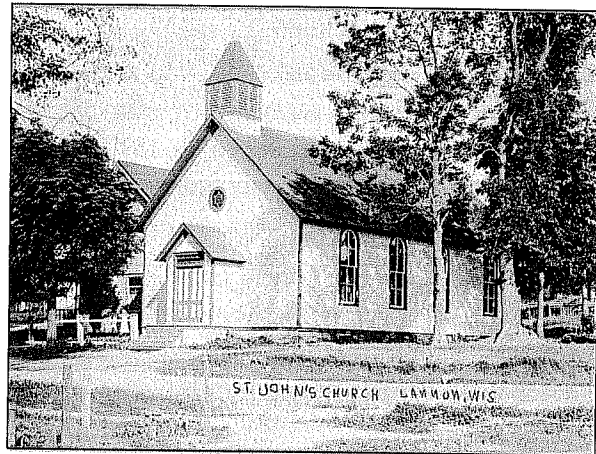
1895 On May 14th a number of Christians gathered in the home of Gottfried Schmoller to establish a congregation. The early records are vague about the number of charter members, but the following are listed as having become members during the year 1895.

They were:

Adam Schalla
William Busse
Adolph Worgull
Karl Mathiak, Sr.
Friedrich Schultz
Otto Schmoller
Charles Strube
William Wieseckowski
Gottfried Weyer
William Glietz, Sr.

William Turkowski
William Skebba
August Gildemeister
Friedrich Buchholz
Gottfried Schmoller
August Gastrau
Friedrich Albrecht
August Turkowski
Herman Glietz
Karl Prag

The first members organized under the name of "St. John's Congregation." Charles Strube, William Wieseckowski and August Turkowski were elected to the first church board. The first services were held in the home of Gottfried Schmoller, which is now 7303 Vine Street in Lannon. On July 7th a decision was made to build a church. A lot was purchased for \$50.00 and a church



building, 40 x 28 x 14, was erected at a cost of \$955.00. Pastor Ebert and Pastor Knuth preached at the laying of the cornerstone. The dedication of the new church was celebrated in October. Pastor Nutz, Pastor Hoyer and Pastor Brockmann addressed the congregation on that occasion. Pastor Karrer from Waukesha was instrumental in organizing the church and helped to serve the first two years with the Word and Sacraments.

1908 A new reed organ was purchased, and it was also agreed to enlarge the church by adding an altar niche.

1910 Work on the expansion was completed, and a dedication service was held on February 6th. Mr. Felsing was the builder. Pastor Albrecht received a call to Salem Congregation of West Granville. The membership prevailed upon him to return the call, which he did.

1912 Pastor Albrecht received another call to a sister congregation in North Tonawanda, New York. He accepted this call, and the congregation granted him a peaceable release. This also meant the end of the school. Pastor Emil Duerr was called. He accepted and was installed on the second Sunday in Advent by Professor A. Pieper.



1918 The records show that Pastor Duerr served until the end of the year. Pastor Paul Kneiske cared for the spiritual welfare of St. John's members from West Granville.



1920 A formal call was extended to Pastor Kneiske that he accepted. Considerable repair and maintenance projects were completed this year that included reshingling the church, adding fire-proof sheathing on the inside, painting and decorating. The Ladies Aid purchased an organ from Bethel Lutheran Church of Milwaukee for \$400.00. These projects were done as a thank offering for the twenty-five years of blessings that the Lord had showered upon the congregation.

1921 All services up to this time were held in the German language. In April it was decided to conduct an English service on the last Sunday of each month.

1922 Plans were approved for repairing and modernizing the parsonage. Otto Joecks, Otto Schmoller, Otto Rossman, Fred Kuphall and William Viergutz were members of that committee. Electric wiring and a furnace were installed, and a study added. Every voting member was asked to contribute \$10.00 to cover the cost of these projects.

1923 A motion was made and carried that each member pay dues of \$16.00 per year.

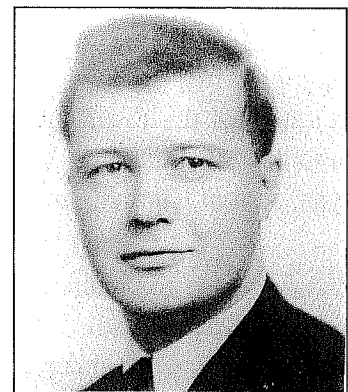
1925 A yearly salary of \$50.00 was established for the organist. Electric lights were installed in the church.

the building fund. Pastor Boldt proposed the question of re-opening the Christian Day School. The membership thought it best to delay this action by a vote of 14 to 7. The parsonage was modernized with the installation of plumbing and laundry facilities. The parsonage was also insulated.

1945 St. John's Congregation celebrated its 50th Anniversary. It numbered 335 souls, 247 communicants and 69 voting members. During its fifty year history, 586 were baptized, 294 confirmed, 121 couples married and 154 were buried. Appreciation and thanks were extended to Pastor Paul Kneiske, who at the time was an honorary member of the congregation, for supplying the data for the history of the first twenty-five years.

1947 The difficult times created by the war years were now over and changes were quite evident. The area was changing from a farming and stone quarry community to a middle-class blue-collar population. People were moving from the cities to the subdivisions in the surrounding area. The church was preparing to meet the demands of these changes by engaging an architect for sketches of a new church building and also looking for a new location. Much improvement in the financial condition of the church was noticeable. It went over the top in its synod contributions and in a special Synod Building Fund Drive. The pastor's salary was also increased considerably. In matters of doctrine and practice, the church fought spiritual battles against veterans' organizations, scouting, and worldly practices in the church. With the Lord's guidance the victory was won, and the church became more adept in discerning the Lord's Word. In December Pastor Boldt received a call from St. Peter's Congregation in Theresa, Wisconsin, that he accepted for conscience sake. On December 21st a call was extended to Pastor Lyle Hallauer who at the time was serving as a missionary on the outskirts of West Allis, Wisconsin.

1948 Pastor Hallauer accepted the call and was installed by Pastor H. Shiley of Waukesha on February 1st. With the growth of the congregation on its mind, a new constitution was written and adopted. Double services were conducted each Sunday in English, and a German service was held on the first Sunday of the month. A parcel of land, which is the present site of St. John's Congregation, was purchased. The new parcel was a five acre site with a cost of \$1,000.00. Road construction was started immediately, and the land was leveled off. An architect was hired, and much activity followed in the construction of a new church building.



1949 Early in the year pledges were secured for the building fund drive. A total of \$15,000.00 was received in pledges. Planning continued at an accelerated pace.

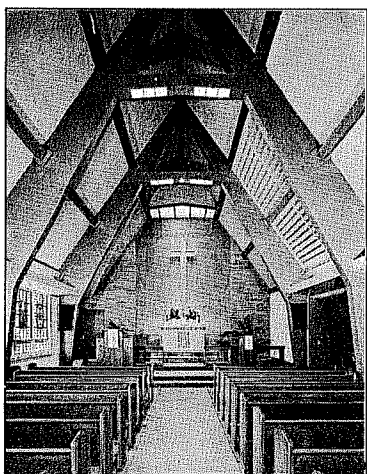
1950 In February the plans and specifications for the new church were completed and presented to the congregation by the architect, Mr. Alfred Siewert. Bids were invited,

1953 It was decided at the annual meeting to schedule a German service for the first Sunday of each quarter with Holy communion. For the first time in the congregation's history an estimated budget for the ensuing year was presented. The church seal was registered at Waukesha County Court House. The building committee issued a statement in December concerning the cost of the new construction. The total cost including the land and surveying was \$119,459.92. Notes payable remaining totaled \$33,200.00.

1954 The question of starting a school was again raised at the annual meeting. The question was tabled for further consideration at a special meeting to be held in two weeks. At that special meeting a vote of 26 to 9 in favor of opening a Christian Day School in the fall was recorded. A Board of Education was elected which included Norman Mathiak, Richard Alsch and Richard Waldschmidt. A survey showed that the school would open with at least 24 children. It was therefore decided that one teacher would be called. After several calls were returned the Synod Assignment Committee appointed Miss Naomi Nitz to become the first teacher. She began her work on September 7th. The first year's enrollment totaled 31 children. Necessary additions and changes were made to the constitution to include the Day School. In April Pastor Hallauer received a call that he returned. The old pipe organ that was moved from the old church was in bad repair. A committee was appointed to study the matter of replacing it. Permission was granted to start a Men's Club.

1955 Pastor Hallauer received another call to churches in Mobridge and Glenham, South Dakota, that he returned. A new Consonata Electronic organ was purchased and dedicated on June 26th. Mr. Emil Trettin, Executive Secretary of our synod's Board of Education performed as guest organist for this occasion. A second English service each Sunday was started in September. A German service would be held on the first Sunday of each quarter with Holy communion. An effort was suggested to eliminate the debt of \$30,000.00 within eighteen months. At the voters' meeting in October it was decided to open a second classroom in the fall of 1956. A male teacher who would also assume the duties of principal was called. It was also necessary to call a lady teacher to replace Miss Nitz since she informed the congregation that she would be leaving at the end of the school year in June.

1956 The building committee was given the assignment to provide for two classrooms. They were also to plan for future expansion of the church and school. Calls were sent to Mr. Reuben Kramer and Mrs. Robert Schlicht. Both calls were accepted for the beginning of the school year. The public examination of children to be confirmed was changed. The traditional examination a week before confirmation was replaced with a written test on the contents of the chief parts of Christian doctrine and a tape recording of the recitations of the chief parts. These tests were to be reviewed by the church council together with the pastor. Permission was granted to begin a Youth Organization. St. John's joined the Wisconsin Lutheran High School Conference and participated in the fund raising drive to build the new Lutheran High School. Pastor Hallauer received a call



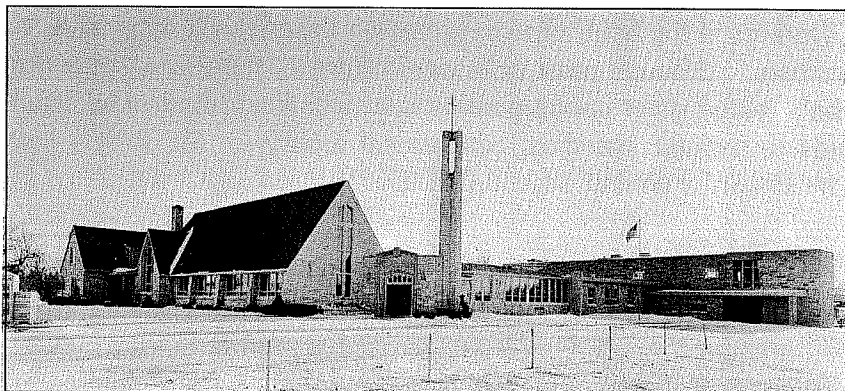
included redecorating the parsonage. Pastor G. Boldt exhorted, admonished and encouraged the congregation as guest speaker at the morning services. Pastor Hallauer presented the history of St. John's together with a slide presentation in the afternoon. Pastor Henning was invited to attend but poor health prevented him from traveling. The services were graced with the presence of Bernard Joecks, Sr. (90 years of age) and William Weyer who was a member under all seven pastors that served St. John's. On the 65th anniversary the congregation membership included 826 souls and 491 communicants. During those 65 years 813 were baptized, 456 were confirmed, 173 couples were married and 204 had gone to their eternal

rest. Pastor Hallauer received yet another call that he returned.

1961 Advent services were held for the first time. In June a regular janitor was employed to help maintain the properties. A unified envelope system was started together with a pre-budget subscription system.

1962 An Easter sunrise service was held for the first time. The building committee was reactivated to study church and school expansion plans. Starting with the first Sunday in September a third Sunday service was held.

1963 A fifth teacher was called. Ground was broken on February 23rd for the church and school additions. Fluorescent lighting was installed in the two older classrooms and in the pastor's office. A second



large bus was purchased and the small Volkswagen sold. The constitution was brought up to date and published. The school addition was finished in time for classes to begin on the first day of school in September. The church addition was used on September 15th for the Mission Festival. Dedication services were held for both additions on October 27th. Guest speakers were President A. Buenger of our Southeastern Wisconsin District and Pastor H. Wicke, a member of our synod's board of trustees. The school addition added three completed classrooms on the lower level. At the encouragement of Mr. Reuben Kramer a second level was included for future expansion. The church addition increased the seating capacity by 150.

1968 The heating system for the parsonage and church was replaced. A Federal Library Subsidy for our school was accepted. It was decided to start a kindergarten in the fall of 1969. The treasurer was authorized to transfer \$2,000.00 from our debt retirement fund to the synod's mission treasury. During his ministry at St. John's, Pastor Hallauer had received numerous calls to sister congregations. After returning these calls, the Lord led him to accept a call to Salem Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Arrangements were immediately made to call another pastor. Pastor P. Janke from Bethlehem congregation in Menomonee Falls was assigned as vacancy pastor. Gifts were presented to the Hallauers at their departure. Among them was a new robe for Pastor Hallauer. A call was sent to Pastor Wilbert Krueger from Christ, Big Bend. He accepted our call.



1969 The opening of kindergarten was postponed one year because of the small potential enrollment. The anniversary committee published a church directory that included all members.

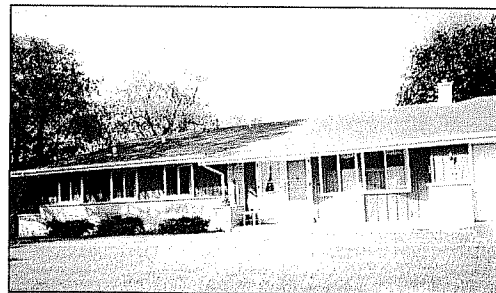
1970 The membership totals showed 1000 souls and 623 communicants.

1971 The second floor of the school addition was finished into three more classrooms. A second male teacher was called. Articles of Agreement between St. John's and Faith congregations were presented to both congregations for approval. Both ratified the agreement. School enrollment reached 169. The New Year's Day service was discontinued. The Men's Club was disbanded due to a lack of interest.

1972 Faith congregation joined St. John's to start Lutheran Boy and Girl Pioneer programs. The Board of Education reported the joint cooperation with Faith congregation was very encouraging and prayed for its continued success. A motion was made, seconded and carried to amend Article VII of the constitution that pertains to suffrage to read "18th birthday instead of 21st." This in effect changed the age for voting membership from 21 to 18 years.

1973 Mr. Myron Fluegge was called to be the second male teacher. He joined the faculty at the beginning of the school year.

1974 Building a second teacherage to house the Fluegge family was approved at a cost of approximately \$35,000.00. This project was completed and financed with contributions and



1980 The Articles of Agreement with Faith congregation were reviewed and renewed. Mr. John Schultz informed the congregation that he had accepted a call to a sister congregation in North Hollywood, California. Mr. Myron Fluegge was appointed as acting principal until a new principal could be called.

1981 Faith congregation contributed to the faculty by calling two teachers to serve at St. John's school. St. John's called Mr. Daniel Feuerstahler to serve as principal and 8th grade teacher. He accepted the call. The fall school faculty consisted of two male teachers and five lady teachers.

1982 The constitution committee was reactivated for a complete review and update of the constitution. Ceiling fans were installed in the church.

1983 A student tuition assistance fund was started. The synod introduced a Reaching Out Program that suggested a figure of \$29,500.00 as St. John's share of a ten million dollar goal. St. John's members made commitments of \$154,000.00. The computer age entered the picture as part of the school equipment. This was made possible through donations by members. A number of members retired notes on past indebtedness.

1984 It should be noted that St. John's contributions to synod charities represented about 27% of the total budget. This compares favorably to 20% that the synod expects.

1985 St. John's celebrated its 90th anniversary. Pastor Hallauer accepted an invitation to preach at both morning services. A catered dinner followed. The Board of Elders was increased from four to six members.

1986 An afternoon good Friday service was held for the first time. The July 8th voters' meeting approved the revised constitution. The first church/school secretary was hired. Enrollment at the beginning of the school year was 159 students, 101 from St. John's, 55 from Faith congregation and three tuition students. The pews in the church were refinished and the seats upholstered. The second Sunday of each month as well as the first Sunday was to be a Communion Sunday. A very definite improvement in the finances of St. John's was in evidence.

1987 The constitution committee finished its work by presenting a revised list of by-laws that were to be considered as part of the constitution. They were approved as amended. A mail box system was installed in the narthex of the church. A new heating system and air conditioning was installed.

1988 A blanket subscription to the Northwestern Lutheran was introduced. The date of the annual meeting was changed to the third Sunday in January. This change was

ADDENDA II

PASTORS WHO HAVE SERVED ST. JOHN'S

John Karrer	1895 to 1896
Carl Henning	1896 to 1902
W. G. Albrecht	1902 to 1912
Emil Duerr	1912 to 1918
Paul Kneiske	1919 to 1943
George Boldt	1943 to 1947
Lyle Hallauer	1948 to 1968
Wilbert Krueger	1968 to 1995
Gary Koschnitzke	1989 to Present
Dean Zemple	1995 to 2004
Jeffery Duquaine	2004 to Present

TEACHERS WHO HAVE SERVED ST. JOHN'S

Naomi Nitz (Schultz)	1954-1957	Carol Hartwig (Laitinen)	1975-1979
Rueben Kramer	1956-1965	Janet Kolb (Wolfgram)	1975-1983
Loretta Schlicht	1956-1957	Sandra Schultz	1976-1980
Delores Becker (Miller)	1957-1968	Pennie Nelson	1978-1982
Phyllis Krause (Pederson)	1958-1960	Pamela Abel (Plagenz)	1979-1981
Rose Petschel	1960-1962	Judy Acker	1980-1981
Marilyn Watschke	1960-1962	Janet Becker (Brooks)	1980-1984
Louise Klinker	1962-1980	Rita Bartsch	1980-1981
Clarice Panning (Fastenau)	1962-1965	Miriam Festerling	1980-1983
Lois Kahrs	1963-1964	Daniel Feuerstahler	1981-Present
Lavonne Nagel (Mey)	1964-1970	Sandra Lemke	1981-1985
Russell Griffin	1965-1974	Andrea Dunsmoor	1982-Present
Charlene Kutz (Bode)	1965-1966	Kathy Cohrs (Bintz)	1983-1988
Geraldine Boelter	1966-1971	Laura Schmidt (Martin)	1984-1991
Mary Zarling	1968-1969	Vicki Schleef	1984-1985
Kathy Sievert	1969-1970	Jeanne Kurth	1985-1986
David Timm	1970-1973	T. J. Fluegge	1986-1996
Dorothy Hopf (Trueden)	1970-1971	Denise Turpin	1987-1989
	1985-1989	James Schmidt	1988-Present
	1996-Present	Alisa Schmidt	1989-1992
Jean Vogt	1970-1973	Sue Anderson	1990-Present
Donna Ibisch	1970-1971	Joyce Feuerstahler	1991-2006
Fay Wagner	1971-1975	Coralee Kolbow (Henning)	1992-1994
Karen Cullen (Johnson)	1971-1975	Cheryl Loomis	1994-1997
	1987-1988	Shelley Hildenbrand	1995-1999
	1992-2004	Nancy Koschnitzke	1995-Present
Susan Becker (Webb)	1973-1974	Jeremy Thiesfledt	1996-1999
Myron Fluegge	1973-1996	Sandra Gierach	1997-Present
Lelani Rahn	1973-1974	Sarah Gabb (Randall)	1999-2000
Bethal Spaude (Schmiege)	1974-1978	Steve Gartner	1999-2004
Max Schramm	1974-1975	Daniel Vogel	2000-2003
Marianne Bame	1974-1976	Daniel Brands	2004-Present
John Schultz	1975-1980	Beth Schulz	2004-Present
		Brenda Kuphall	2004-Present

ADDENDA III

SONS OF THE CONGREGATION WHO BECAME PASTORS

Orval Cullen
William Neumann
Michael Plagenz
Gregory Schulz
James Weiland

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE CONGREGATION WHO BECAME SYNOD TEACHERS

Patty Bintz	Robert Kramer
Karen (Cullen) Johnson	Patricia (Lemke) Hemmelman
Michele Fluegge	Sandra Lemke
Sandra (Griepentrog) Hahn	Judy (Mathiak) Snell
Ronald Gross	Lynette (Miller) Olson
Jeanette (Hallauer) Bode	Fred Nell
Patricia (Hallauer) Seeger	Priscilla (Nell) Martens
Jane (Joecks) Strutz	Sue (Pantazon) Marowsky
Larry Joecks	Carol (Pruess) Nommensen
Jocelyn (Johnson) Steffenhaagen	Tina (Wagner) Lange
Patrick Johnson	David Wege
Randall Kramer	Louise Sherwood

