



**Ev. Lutheran
St. Peter's Church**

Dedicated nine-
teen hundred and
twenty



**Corner South Lane Street and Talmer Avenue
North Judson, Indiana**



DR. MARTIN LUTHER

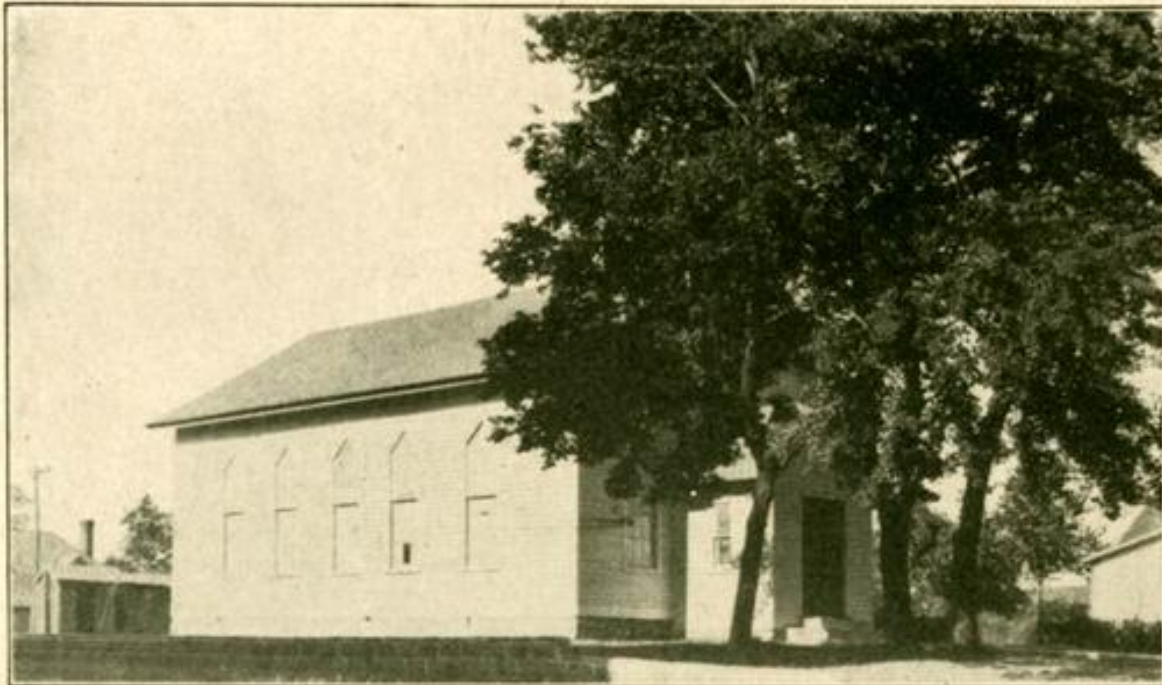


Horwort



Indem wir uns anschicken dies Büchlein herzustellen tun wir es mit herzlichem Dank gegen Gott für alle Barmherzigkeit und Treue die er unserer Gemeinde in den Jahren ihres Bestehens so treu erwiesen hat. Wir bitten ihn, den ewig treuen Gott zugleich, er wolle auch in Zukunft mit und bei uns bleiben mit seiner Gnade und seinem Segen und das Werk unserer Gemeinde, welches da ist sein Werk, herrlich hinausführen zu seiner Ehre und zum Heil vieler unsterblicher Seelen. Das tue er, der treue Gott, um Jesu Christi unsers Herrn und Heilandes willen. So wollen wir heute und immerdar von Herzen bekennen:—

1. Ein Gotteshaus, die Himmels-Pforte
Ist uns're Kirch, der Gläub'gen Hort;
Gott wohnt an diesem sel'gem Orte,
Nährt uns im Geist mit seinem Wort,
Erhält uns in dem Wort so klar,
Die Kirch das Haus des Herrn führwahr.
2. Ein Gotteshaus voll Gnad und Segen
Ist uns're Kirch, wo Jesus wohnt,
Er starb nach seinen Wunderwegen,
Am Kreuz sein Blut er nicht verschont
In Lieb und Gnad für dich und mich
Zu unserm Heil ergiebt er sich.
3. Wie fest die Kirch, Gott's Haus im Wetter,
Hier wohnt der Herr, der Gläub'gen Hort,
Der Bräut'gam uns'rer Seel, der Retter,
Er schützt und schirmt uns durch sein Wort;
Er süßet unser Erden Loos
Und nimmt uns in sein' Arm und Schooß.
4. Bleib Jesu, in dein's Geist Gemeinde
Und seg'n uns durch dein süßes Wort,
So sind wir, Herr, durch dich Vereinte
Ein Leib und Seel in dir dem Hort.
O bleib bei deinem Haus, o bleib,
O Herr, beschütz die Kirch, dein' Leib.



St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran School, 1920

The present school building is a structure of 26x40 feet, the pride of our congregation, the foundation for the future of our church. But why have separate schools? Why? Because we believe our children are entitled to the opportunity of religious training; separate schools, because the public school cannot give this religious training because it is unconstitutional, and the Sunday school cannot do full justice to the subject, one hour a week being insufficient, just as one hour a week for arithmetic would be. We have separate Christian schools because we endeavor to be mindful of the one thing needful; because we think that fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; because we think God gave this book to us and our children for a purpose, and we get the benefit only by studying it; because all arithmetic that we may learn will not avail on the last day of reckoning; because in secular geography one city is not given, the city of God, nor the road thither; because no amount of secular learning will equip us or our children for heaven's citizenship. In short, we have our own schools because we prefer giving our children food sufficient for the temporal and eternal interests, secular and religious instruction rather than the secular only.

Indeed, the public school is a necessary institution, and we Lutherans gladly pay our taxes for its maintenance. But though we readily grant the importance of secular knowledge, we look upon religion, outside of its spiritual importance, as the basis of true morality and the bulwark of society.

Since that is what our school stands for, may God bless its work and prosper it.

Abide within our school, dear Jesus,
And lead us with Thy word of grace.
It is so sweet, so graceful, precious,
It fills our hearts with joy and praise.
Abide within our school, abide,
Lord God, protect it by Thy might.



Old School Built 1893

Fore Part of This Structure—
First Church Built 1873.
Addition Built 1896

Short History of the Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation at North Judson, Indiana

It is not our intention to give a detailed history of our congregation. We would simply note some of the important events of the past regarding our congregation.

Very naturally, the congregation had a small beginning, for in the year 1872 the following number of Lutherans—George Stocker, Jacob Kreis, William Wegner, John Neupert, William Liske, August Steuk, D. Barke, August Adam, William Keehn, George Neupert, Mike Ringhand, Sr., August Sonnenberg, John Hopp, Sr.; Christ Schricker, Daniel Kreis and Gottlieb Hankey—joined together to form a congregation which received the name Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation. In the year 1874 the congregation was incorporated and from that time on its activity really dates. The first pastor serving the congregation was Rev. Henry Jox. Being the pastor of the Ev. Lutheran congregation at Logansport, Ind., and serving many other congregations at the same time, he served the congregation at North Judson in the years 1872-1874 as often as he had opportunity. During this time the first church (26x40 ft.) was built and dedicated in the month of October, 1873.

No doubt this building meant as much of a sacrifice and love and devotion to the members of that day as does the building we dedicate today to us.

The following pastors served the congregation during its history: C. Dautenhahn, 1874-1879; H. Jungkunts, 1879-1889; J. Molthan, 1889-1890; H. F. Massmann, 1890-1893; W. Roesener, 1893-1906; A. Biester, 1906-1910, and the present pastor, Wm. Heine, since 1910.



GROUP OF THE BUILDERS OF THE FIRST CHURCH, BUILT 1873

Back row from left to right: George Neupert, Mrs. John Hopp, Sr., Mrs. John Neupert, Mrs. William Liske.

Front row from left to right: Daniel Kreis, Mrs. Daniel Kreis, August Adam, Mrs. August Adam, Christ Shrieker, Mrs. Christ Shrieker.

Short History of the Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation at North Judson, Indiana, (Con't)

The following teachers served our parochial school: W. E. Beinke, 1912-1914; Theodore Schmidt, 1914-1915; Student L. Rathke, 1915-1916, and the present teacher, William Uffelmann, since 1916.

We will mention but a few of the outstanding events which will give us an insight into the development of the congregation. Having built a new church in the year 1873, the congregation started a parochial school to have its children not only educated in secular knowledge, but what is more, to teach them knowledge of salvation. However, since the congregation was not large enough to call a teacher for the school, the pastors in all these years up to 1912 took care of the school.

In the year 1880, the congregation joined the Ev. Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other states and since that time has always been active in helping in the synodical affairs. In 1881 the congregation bought a parsonage from G. Schuessler for the sum of \$600. Up to this time the church buildings had been used for school purposes, since the congregation was not in a financial condition to erect a school building. However, in 1893, a new school (22x34 feet) was built and dedicated in the same year. In the following year, 1894, four new rooms were added to the parsonage. Two years later, while the congregation had increased in members to such an extent that the church was too small, the congregation built a new addition (16x40 feet) to the church, and also installed new pews. Five years later, in 1901, a new organ



Group of Pastors

Top row, left to right: H. Jox, 1872-1874; H. Jungkuntz, 1879-1889; William Heine, since August, 1910; W. Roessner, 1893-1906.

Bottom row, left to right: C. Dautenhahn, 1874-1879; J. Molthan, 1889-1890; A. Biester, 1906-1910; H. F. Massman, 1899-1893 (not shown.)

Short History of the Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation at North Judson, Indiana, (Cont'd)

(vocallion) was purchased for the church for \$450. The next year, 1902, a new beautiful copper bell was placed in the church tower. In the years from 1906 to 1910, under the leadership of Rev. A. Biester, the church was renovated. A very beautiful altar and pulpit were purchased and electric lights then took the place of the former oil lights and helped to beautify the church.

During the last eight years, when the thought of a new church had taken root among the people, no repairs of any kind had been undertaken and the church and the school were in a bad condition and something had to be done. In 1916, in the regular July meeting of the congregation, it was concluded that the elders should take up a subscription list for a new church, which brought the very good result of \$9,000. The congregation was now assured that a new church for about \$12,000 was in reach.

Early in the spring of the following year, 1917, Architect Meyer of Fort Wayne, Ind., was engaged to make plans for a combined church and school building. These plans were accepted by the congregation and everybody hoped for a new church and school in the near future. Alas, at this time our country was entangled in the world war, and consequently all chances for building in that year were blasted. Accordingly the congregation decided to wait until later.

In 1919, in the month of February, Architect Freyermuth of South Bend, Ind., was engaged to make a new set of plans for a combined church and school building which would cost no more than \$12,000. These plans were



GROUP OF THE TEACHERS

Reading from left to right, Theo. Schmidt, 1914-1915; W. E. Beinke, 1912-1914; W. Uffelmann, since 1916.

Short History of the Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation, North Judson, Indiana, (Cont'd)

well liked by the congregation and accepted. However, when the bids were opened, another hope was blasted for the congregation, for the lowest bid called for somewhat over \$21,000, and this was not within the reach of the congregation. So it was concluded to build only a new church (35x70 feet) and to have the old church turned into an up-to-date school building. The architect changed the plans accordingly, and when, a few weeks later, the bids were opened the lowest bid was Mr. Frank Irmiter's bid. Since he is also a home man, the congregation, without hesitating, accepted his bid and so he received the contract for building our new church.

The elders of the congregation, Christ Neupert, Fred Keehn, John Spenner, George Moderhack, William Kellermann and Henry Henning, Fred Kellerman and John Hopp, Jr., were appointed as the building committee, Christ Neupert being the chairman. However, John Spenner moved to another city and so John Smith was appointed to take his place.

From the 9th day of June, 1919, up to the end of that month, old and young, with gladdened hearts and willing hands, in the sweat of their faces, nevertheless in the best of spirit, were busy excavating to make arrangement for the basement of the new building. The old church was moved to the west side of the church property. The old school was sold to William Schricker. In July, 1919, the work on the new church began. The 12th day of October was a day of great rejoicing for the whole congregation, for on this day, in a very impressive service, the cornerstone of the new church was laid. The



TRUSTEES AND BUILDING COMMITTEE, 1919-1920

Top row, left to right: Henry Henning, John Hopp, Fred Kellermann, Sr.
 Bottom row, left to right: William Kellermann, Fred Keehn, Chris
 Neupert, John Smith. George Moderhack (not shown.)

Short History of the Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation, North Judson, Indiana, (Cont'd)

work went on very nicely and although there were times of uncertainty and suspense, yet the work progressed so that up to the winter season the walls of the new church were nearly completed. During the winter the work naturally came to a stop, but in the early spring the work went on again nicely and was finally finished in the Month of August, 1920.

It would take a larger booklet than this to go into the details of the work. Only this much can be said in all fairness and without undue pride, that no efforts were spared in caring for the interest of the congregation. Not too much credit can be given to the members of the building committee, especially to Christ Neupert and Fred Keehn, who sacrificed not days, not weeks, but months of hard labor, without any charge, for the benefit of the congregation. Every day anew these men could be found at the property, toiling and mulling for the new church and school and to beautify the church ground. And all this out of love to God and their dear new church and school. May God reward these men.

Also the dear old people brought great sacrifice for their new church and school. Their forms already being bent by hard labor and old age, they nevertheless could not stay away from the church property. Day after day for several weeks in succession they lent a helping hand for their new church and school which they love so much. God's blessing be with you until you are at sweet rest in heavenly Canaan.



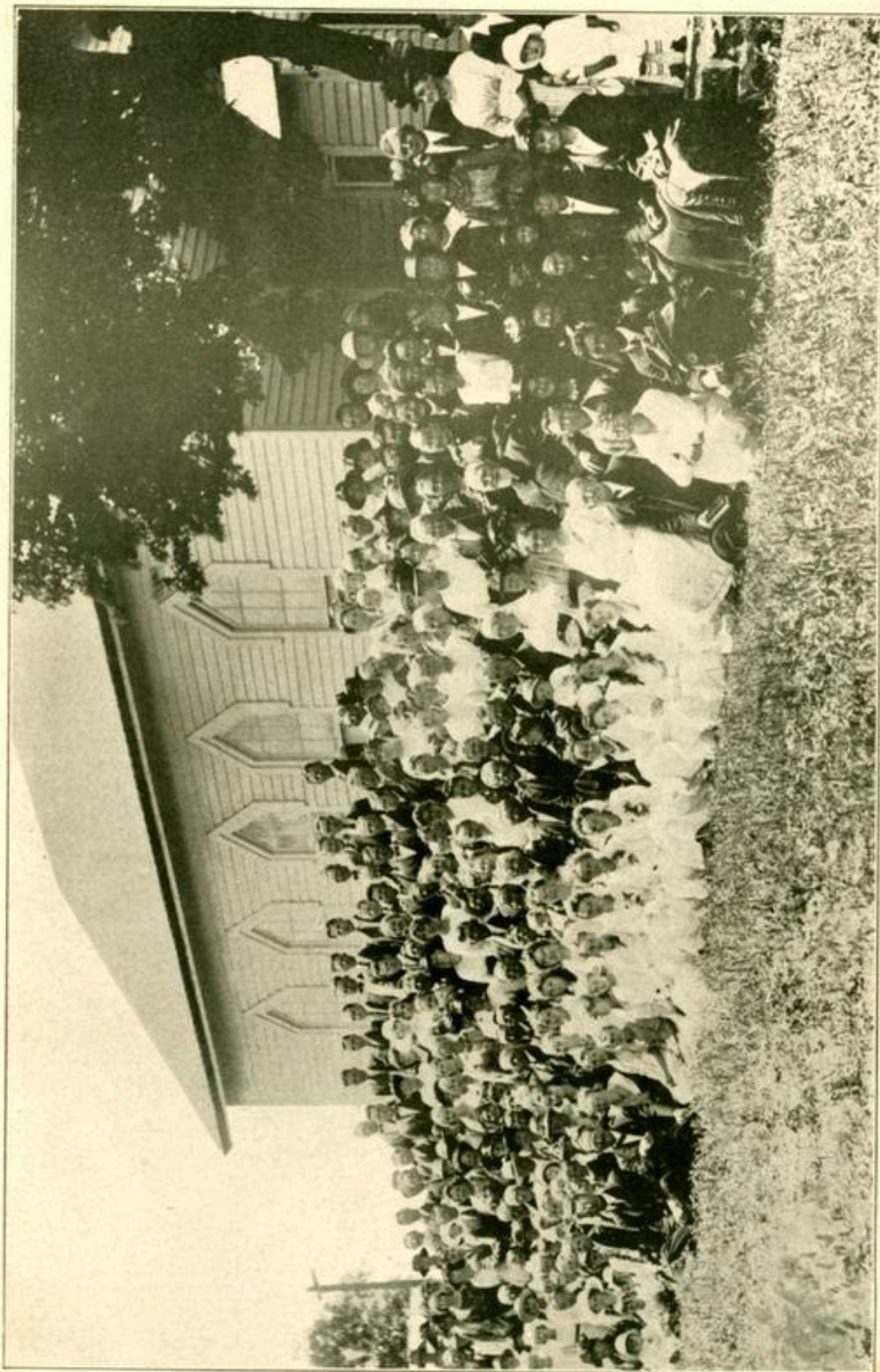
LAYING OF CORNERSTONE, OCTOBER 12, 1919

Short History of the Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's Congregation, North Judson, Indiana, (Cont'd)

However, while the men folks were busy, the ladies of our congregation, and especially the ladies' aid, were not idle. Since several years these Christian sisters, out of love and esteem to their Lord and Savior and their dear church and school, were planning to find means and ways to help along in building a new church and to have an up-to-date school. They sewed and baked and having markets and suppers year after year, never weary to spend all their ambition to raise money not only to buy a beautiful organ for the new church, but also to help otherwise in erecting the building. And God's blessing was with them. When the time of building was at hand, the Ladies' Aid signed a contract for a large splendid organ which cost \$2,750, and besides they turned \$1,000 over to the building committee to be used for the new church and school.

Last but not least, we must also give due credit to the young people of our congregation and our school children and Sunday school classes who so willingly raised \$500 to beautify the new church with splendid designs of art window glasses.

Well done. We can truly say that we have a building of which we may be justly proud, a building which is a credit to our city and community. And now we are ready to dedicate our beautiful building to the service of the Triune God. Surely we can say all our efforts have been worth while and the Lord blessed us beyond our fondest hopes and expectations. Let us therefore come into His presence with thanksgiving. Let us worship Him in the spirit of holiness, for He is our God.



GROUP OF THE CONGREGATION, 1920



Pupils of Ev. Lutheran St. Peter's School

William Uffelman, Teacher

Irma Heine, Frieda Surma, Emma Kuehn, Clara Kuehn, Ida Wobith, Agnes Adam, Martha Spenner, Rosa Rhode, Frieda Scholz, Esther Heine, Leona Kane, Viola Trinosky, Goldie Hankey, Grace Krueger, Irene Teske, Minnie Abraham, Anna Ringhand, Maria Rimek, Anna Heine, Leona Spenner, Elsie Surma, Frieda Hankey, Lydia Schultz, Martha Surma, Helen Thonert, Bertha Latta, Elsie Schultz, Hazel Thonert, Clara Surma, Frank Rhode, Louis Gussmann, Alfred Teske, Carl Henning, Otto Spenner, Raymond Rhode, Richard Thonert, Luther Abraham, George Kuehn, Harold Hankey, Carl Hopp.



Church Choir
Director, William Uffelmann

Elsa Wobith
Emil Hankey
William Kellermann
Fred Keehn
W. E. A. Guenther
John Hopp
Elizabeth Neupert
Katharine Neupert

Mrs. Fred Keehn
Elsie Frederick
Mrs. W. E. A. Guenther
Selma Hopp
Lydia Spenner
William Kellermann, Jr.
Louise Foedtke



LUTHERAN LADIES' AID ORGANIZED 1913

In the year 1913 a group of our Lutheran ladies joined together and organized a Lutheran Aid. Ever since this society has been very active in the support of all undertakings which were for the benefit of our church. Besides purchasing a beautiful organ for \$2,750 for the new church, they also contributed \$1,000 to the building fund. The officers for this year are:

President—Mrs. Fred Keehn.

Secretary—Mrs. Orin Schuyler.

Treasurer—Mrs. G. Napoleon Peterson.

The members are: Mrs. Fred Keehn, Mrs. Lydia Schuyler, Mrs. G. Napoleon Peterson, Mrs. Paul Traester, Mrs. Otto Wobith, Mrs. Adolph Hankey, Mrs. John Smith, Mrs. William Kellermann, Mrs. Rev. William Heine, Miss Katherine Neupert, Miss Elizabeth Neupert, Mrs. Emlie Traester, Mrs. Walter Guenther, Mrs. Lena Kane, Miss Emma Krause, Mrs. Ote Underwood, Mrs. Emma Foedtke, Miss Louise Foedtke, Mrs. Charles Moderhack, Mrs. Chris Schricker, Mrs. John Hopp, Miss Lydia Spenner, Mrs. John Schultz, Mrs. August Adam, Mrs. Elmer Mosher, Mrs. August Ringhand, Mrs. Chris Neupert, Mrs. William Frederick, Mrs. Julius Lemke, Mrs. Henry Krueger, Mrs. Ernest Teske, Mrs. William Brose, Mrs. Fred Surma, Mrs. Caroline Keller, Mrs. Carl Scholz, Mrs. Charles Hankey, Mrs. August Spenner, Mrs. Herman Trinosky, Mrs. Robert Sohn, Mrs. Fred Lemke, Mrs. Emil Gussmann, Mrs. William Keehn, Mrs. William Abraham, Mrs. Frank Thonert, Mrs. Ira Latta, Mrs. Minnie Teske, Mrs. Augusta Scholz, Mrs. Otto Schultz, Mrs. Daniel Kreis, Mrs. Ludwig Tetzlaff, Mrs. Augusta Schultz, Mrs. Chris Sautter, Mrs. Clarence Jennings, Miss Ida Henning, Mrs. August Tetzlaff, Mrs. Theodore Jordan Mrs. John Neupert.



THE AMERICAN LUTHER LEAGUE—ORGANIZED 1920.

Something we should have had long ago.

A Live Laymen's Club whose purposes are:

To assist in any undertaking designed to promote the welfare of the Lutheran Church and the cause of Lutheran Education.

To assist in promoting good Citizenship and safe-guarding our Constitutional rights.

To foster good fellowship and a spirit of mutual helpfulness.

Aim:—A live Laymen's Club in every Congregation. Councils of neighboring clubs, possessing a community of interest. Effective state and national organizations.

Spirit:—"If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all and servant of ALL."—Mark 9-35.

Endorsement:—"Resolve that Synod welcome the American Luther League as a helpful organization and that we wish it God's blessing."—By the Central District of the Missouri Synod, 1919.

The A. L. L. was organized in our Congregation on the sixteenth day of May, 1920. The present officers, who are also the Directors, are as follows: Fred Keehn, Chairman; W. E. A. Guenther, Secretary; Elsie Frederick, Treasurer.

The members are as follows: Otto Adam, Fred Born, Louise Foedtke, Elsie Frederick, William Frederick, Charles Fritz, Walter Guenther, Martha Guenther, Emil Hankey, Anna Hankey, Leona Hankey, Clarence Hankey, Henry Henning, Mrs. Henry Henning, Rose Henning, Edna Henning, Elsie Henning, William Hopp, Sr., Fred Keehn, Emilie Keehn, William Keehn, Mrs. C. M. Keller, William H. Kellerman, Lena Kellerman, William Kellerman, Jr., Fred Kellerman, Sr., Frederick Kloetz, Mrs. Emma Kortum, Mrs. Henry Kruger, Henry Kruger, John Ludtka, Ernestina Liskey, George Moderhack, Chris Neupert, George Neupert, Sr., Kate Neupert, Elizabeth Neupert, Mike Ringhand, Henry Schhacht, Otto Schultz, Carl Schultz, Sr., Mrs. Orin Schuyler, George Skibbe, Mrs. George Skibbe, John H. Smith, Mrs. John H. Smith, August Spenner, Mrs. Adeline Spenner, Elsie Spenner, A. W. Spenner, Mrs. Ida Spenner, Lydia Spenner, Charles Surma, Fred Surma, Robert Surma, Louis Tetzloff, Paul Traester, Elsie Wobith, Mrs. Otto Schultz, Mrs. Nellie Traester, Selma Hopp, Mrs. Charles Surma, Herbert Jordan, Ida Henning, Mrs. Lewis Tetzloff, Mrs. Florence Abraham, William Abraham, Adolph

Hankey, Mrs. Adolph Hankey, Hugo Keehn, Ida Trester



Junior Sunday School Class, Teacher, Katherine Neupert

Elsie Surma
 Frieda Hankey
 Anna Ringhand
 Viola Lemke
 Anna Heine
 Edna Hauck
 Lydia Schultz
 Martha Surma
 Elsie Schultz
 Leona Spenner
 Clara Surma
 Helen Thonert
 Hazel Thonert
 Elsie Rhode
 Bertha Latta
 Florence Latta
 Elizabeth Jennings
 Lucile Weiss
 Goldie Kortum
 Caroline Mosher

Minnie Abraham
 Bertha Surma
 Esther Spenner
 Caroline Hankey
 Anna Erfurth
 Bessie Erfurth
 Annis Troester
 Edward Houck
 Edwin Spenner
 Raymond Rhode
 Harold Smith
 Harold Hankey
 Walter Tetzloff
 George Houck
 Roger Moderhack
 Richard Schultz
 Luther Abraham
 Carl Hopp
 Fred Surma
 George Keehn



Senior Sunday School Class, Teacher, Elizabeth Neupert.

Esther Heine
 Leona Kane
 Bertha Kane
 Ida Wobith
 Lydia Fredrick
 Frieda Surma
 Irma Heine
 Blanche Lemke
 Alice Lemke
 Viola Trinosky
 Minnie Abraham
 Maria Rimek
 Goldie Hankey

Grace Krueger
 Helena Scholz
 Martha Spenner
 Frieda Scholz
 Rose Rhode
 Irene Teske
 Julie Jennings
 Alice Jennings
 Otto Spenner
 Richard Thonert
 Alfred Teske
 Carl Henning

Finances

It would be impossible to give a complete list of all sacrifices and donations which were brought for the erection of the new church and school. The members and friends have responded splendidly to every appeal. Far beyond the expectations of anyone they have been able to pay about \$15,000 in cash of the \$20,000 that the entire cost will amount to. This indeed speaks volumes for the self denial and the willingness of the members and friends for the cause of the kingdom of God. And right here we want to thank all those friends who so cheerfully have helped the congregation in the erection of the new structure and invoke for them the blessings of God.

One thing that perhaps many will notice is the lack of memorial tablets in the church. We can explain this by saying that all our members, young and old, have been working for the interest of the congregation, instead of for individual honor and glory. This we think speaks well for the future of the church. So we can say on the day of dedication that all have helped and the church and school in every detail is a memorial to the love and devotion of the entire membership and friends of our congregation.

Conclusion

Now we shall close with the following remarks:

May the dedication of our new church and the reading of this booklet be an added inducement and inspiration to all to put forth greater efforts and to do more for our dear Lord and Master Jesus Christ who has called us with a holy calling and chosen us to serve Him, and who found us worthy to use us in the erection of this beautiful church and in the work of His kingdom. Unto Him, therefore, be all praise and honor and glory world without end.

1. There is a house so dear, so precious,
It is our church, our heart's delight;
Lord God, here deals with us so gracious.
He leads by His word, the light,
And keeps us in true faith, so sweet—
Our church the house of God indeed.
2. There is a house so dear, so precious,
It is our church, where Jesus dwells;
He died for all of us so gracious,
On calvary His heart mere melts
In love and grace for you and me,
That blessed and happy we could be.
3. Our church the house of God, how precious;
Here dwells the Lord, our hearts' delight,
The lover of our soul, our Jesus,
He shields, protects us by His might;
He sweetens all our earthly task,
And takes us to His home at last.
4. Abide within our church, dear Jesus,
And bless us with Thy word of grace;
It is so sweet, so graceful, precious,
It fills our hearts with joy and praise.
Abide within our church, abide,
Lord God, protect it by Thy might.



Sunday School Class—(Christenlehre)

Arthur Ringhand
 Harry Tetzloff
 Otto Wobith
 Louis Gussmann
 Walter Spenner
 Ruth Spenner
 Elsie Frederick
 Frieda Hopp
 Ella Tetzloff
 Clara Tetzloff
 Edna Henning
 Bertha Kane
 Ella Scholz

Ottillie Foedtke
 Elsie Spenner
 Emma Kuehn
 Martha Spenner
 Clara Kuehn
 Ida Wobith
 Lydia Frederick
 Frieda Surma
 Frieda Scholz
 Agnes Adam
 Irma Heine
 Frank Rhode