

TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

75th  
Anniversary



THE  
SEVENTY-FIFTH  
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
OF  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Hovland, MN

September 12, 1909 to July 29, 1984

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Our congregation has contributed one pastor, Arvid Sundet, who with his wife Kim serves Calvary Lutheran Church at Minong, Wisconsin.

Not glorying in our past history, we look forward to the mission ahead, with the present generation carrying the torch of Christ to all the world.

*Elsie Palmer*

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Elsie Palmer was born December 31, 1909 at mid-night on Poplar Hill in Hovland, Minnesota, the third child of Jacob and Maria Soderlund. Mary Westerlund Rex was the attending mid-wife. She was baptized February 15, 1910, the first baptism recorded in the newly organized Trinity Church.

She received her primary schooling at the Flutereed School and her secondary schooling at Grand Marais High School as a boarding student. She went to Duluth Teachers' College which is now UMD.

She taught school for six years at the Cloverdale School near Mineral Center retiring in 1934 to marry Donald Palmer. She went back to teaching again at the Chicago Bay School with a short break when their son Mark was young. She returned to teaching at Chicago Bay School after Mark entered school followed by four years of teaching Head Start at Grand Portage. She also worked seven years for the U.S. Customs at Pigeon River.

Elsie claims the distinction of being the only senior citizen still living in Hovland who was born there.

Trinity Congregation wants to thank you, Elsie, for a job well done!!

## Reflections...

As we reach the seventy-fifth year since the organization of Trinity Lutheran Church, we give thanks to God for His continued blessings. We are grateful to the pastors who have served us through the years. We cherish the memory of the early pioneers who struggled to establish a church in the wilderness. Those were the building years when much physical labor and meager finances were used to complete the church building and meet current expenses.

We remember with thankful hearts the St. Olaf students for their selfless labor in the building of our present church. Their presence in our community during the three summers of the work camps was an inspiration to all.

We remember the dedicated work of volunteers, both members and non-members of Trinity, who spent their evenings, weekends, and holidays to complete the present structure.

We have seen many changes in our church over the years. With less effort focused on the church building itself, there is a visible growth in our outreach. Community concerns, world hunger, world missions, the county food shelf, sending our youth to summer camp at Vermilion, visits to the nursing home, Christmas boxes for families in the community, and supporting H'Mong refugees are some of the matters that now engage our attention. Our vision has extended to embrace all people, regardless of church affiliation. Vacation Bible school invites all children of the area to come. In 1983 Christmas love and warmth overflowed into the community as all residents were invited to a Christmas Eve supper and candlelight service.

Along with Bethlehem Church, our church has served as a training ground for seminary students through the summer ministry program.

## Words from Pastor Stoskopf

In the second chapter of the Book of Acts the Apostle Peter repeats the message of the prophet Joel. He tells of God's message: "I will pour out my Spirit on everyone. Your sons and daughters will proclaim my message; your young men will see visions, and your old men will have dreams... On both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit..." Peter continues by giving witness to the ancient prophecy of the Resurrection of Christ by the Prophet David. At issue was that all the people of Israel should know "for sure that this Jesus...is the one that God has made Lord and Messiah!" There was much confusion concerning this message, but many people believed in the Lord Jesus. They learned and took part in the fellowship of believers and they shared in the fellowship meals and the prayers.

I thank God for the special opportunities that are available to the residents and many visitors of the Hovland community through the ministry and outreach of Trinity Congregation. Our roots and our involvement in the lives of people run deep. This invigorating history tells just how much involvement there has been through the years--and undoubtedly there are many, many items of interest that weren't accessible to us at this printing. There is no end to the work that can be done to the glory of God. We are not to grow weary, but are to continue in the love and work of the Lord.

As we read of life among the believers of another age, the story is timeless. "Many miracles and wonders were being done through the apostles, and everyone was filled with awe. All the believers continued together in close fellowship and shared their belongings with one another. They would sell their property and possessions, and distribute the money among all, according to what each one needed. Day after day they met as a group in the Temple and they had their meals together in their homes, eating

with glad and humble hearts, praising God, and enjoying the good will of all the people. And everyday the Lord added to their group, those who were being saved."

This is the same story multiplied as we read and re-read the history of Trinity. We have the love of God in Christ Jesus to celebrate. We celebrate in the fellowship of the church. We celebrate in our daily lives of caring, supportive love, and concern for one another, which is so typical of the underlying spirit of Trinity. To God be the Glory!

*Rev. Robert H. Stockopf*

"Any one who is to find Christ must first find the Church. For how can one know where Christ is, and where faith in Him is, unless he knows where His believers are? Whoever wishes to know something about Christ must not trust himself, nor by the help of his own reason build a bridge of his own to heaven, but must go to the Church, must visit it, and make inquiry.

"Now the Church is not wood and stone, but the company of people who believe in Christ. He must keep in company with them, and see how they believe, teach, and live."

--Martin Luther

## Trinity Church Schools

A Sunday school was first organized on January 17, 1910, at a meeting of the congregation. The first teachers were: Jennie Jacobsen, Sam Johnson, Olive Christiansen, Emma Jacobsen, and Anna Sundquist. There are no records of Sunday school activities during these early years, except for the above-mentioned teachers. Mons Hanson served as Sunday school superintendent for many years, leading in the devotions and the singing. Anna Sundquist conducted Sunday school for the Sundquist and Soderlund children in her home on Sundays when there were no church services.

Vacation Bible school was held for three weeks in 1935, twelve days in 1936, and two weeks in 1938, as recorded in minutes of annual meetings of those years. No records are available concerning vacation Bible school until the year 1953. From then on, vacation Bible school has been conducted every summer.

The highest enrollment recorded for Sunday school was 49 pupils on October 14, 1951.

The following names are recorded as Sunday school superintendents throughout the years, beginning with 1946: Marian Jacobsen, Leona Schuppel, Lulu Finley, Helen Strand, Elsie Palmer, Mabel Johnson, Ann Eliassen, and Loretta Bloomquist.

Other teachers of Sunday school, vacation Bible school, or release time were: Alice Sundquist, Helen Bergstrom, Marie Norman, Edna Hammer, Inez Anderson, Luther Wallace, Dianne Anderson, Dorothy Peterson, Irene Hammer, Loretta Bloomquist, Evelyn Hammer, Ruth Pearson, Virginia Johnson, Sandy Johnson, Judy Ann Eliassen, Marie Hagen, Virginia Tilbury, Joyce Sundquist, Anne Sundquist, Borghild Ongstad, Shirley Nilsen, Marie Lindemann, Lisa Bloomquist, Mary Jo Flack, Christine McClure, Megan McClure, Kim Bloomquist, David Bloomquist, Judy Twiest, Susan Krueger, and Gordon Lindemann. Loretta Bloomquist holds a record for 19 years of Sunday school work.

Finley, Dolly Koss, Clarence Johnson, Leona Schuppel, John Koss, Gordon Finley, Clyde Johnson, Eileen Johnson, Jacob Norman, Harold Schuppel, Mabel Johnson, Arthur Eliassen, Lawrence Peterson, Donald Palmer, Arthur Sundquist, Otis Anderson, Ida Johnson, Duane Johnson, Dorothy Peterson, Luther Wallace, Kristian Hammer, Arnold Dufseth, Loretta Bloomquist, Clarence Strand, Gust Berglund, Gilbert Bloomquist, David Wood, Samuel Alle, Orvis Lunke, Sandra Lunke, Arvid Sundet, Dean Gulden, Elsie Palmer, Gordon Lindemann, Christine McClure, Dianne Pelto, Walter Rouser, Elaine Rouser, Janice Hall, Timothy Hall, Patrick Flack, Mary Jo Flack, Wayne Hensche, Arthur Ongstad, Turie Waananen, John Bloomquist, David Bloomquist, Stanley Pelto, Marie Lindemann, and William Behrens.

### The Early Years...

Early in the month of July, 1905, a courageous and dedicated young man left his home in Pennsylvania and traveled to Grand Marais to begin his work in the Lutheran Church there and to assist Reverend Stacy in his ministry to the pioneer settlers along the North Shore of Lake Superior. During the following seventeen months, the young man, Reverend Gable, conducted worship services all the way from Beaver Bay to Hovland--a formidable task because of the hardships of travel in those days. The record shows that during this time Reverend Gable traveled a total of 3,904 miles: 1,058 miles on foot, 2,532 miles by boat, and 314 miles on the stage.

In the pioneer settlement of Hovland at that time, there were no regular religious services, no church building, and no organized congregation. The settlers were dependent upon itinerant ministers who occasionally visited Hovland. With the arrival of Reverend Gable in Grand Marais, the people of Hovland were able to have services more often.

The first of these services was held September 9, 1905, on a Thursday evening. Reverend Gable walked all the way to Hovland, returning to Grand Marais on the steamer America that same night. From then on he held services at Hovland about once a month until November 1906 when he left to take charge of a Lutheran mission in Superior, Wisconsin.

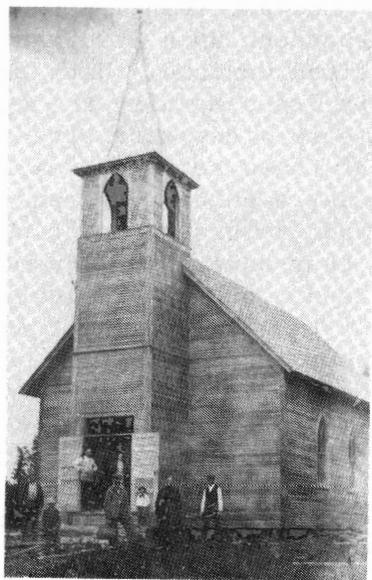
Early in the summer of 1907, Reverend Carl Eidnes, who had just been ordained, was called to take charge of the Norwegian Lutheran Church in Grand Marais.

At a meeting of interested residents of Hovland on August 10, 1907, a Norwegian Lutheran congregation was organized and called the Zion Congregation. The officers elected were: Reverend Eidnes, chairman; Louis Ellingsen, secretary; Martin Jacobsen, treasurer; John Eliassen, Louis Ellingsen and John Jacobsen, trustees; Hjalmer Eliassen, janitor;

Mattie Jacobsen, organist; John Jacobsen, usher.

From then on services were held in Hovland on an average of every three weeks, usually in the Chicago Bay School. The minister made the trip from Grand Marais by horse and sleigh in winter and by horse and buggy when the ground was bare. It was necessary for him to stay overnight at Ellingsen's Hotel, returning to Grand Marais the next day.

In the year 1906 more settlers arrived, taking up homesteads farther inland, where they hoped to farm. One settlement was known as Poplar Hill; another one, also an inland community, was called Flutereed Valley. Both new settlements were located about four miles from Chicago Bay, a considerable distance in those days of almost impassable roads. A September 1907 issue of the Cook County News Herald said, "More roads and better roads is the crying need of Hovland Township."



Trinity Lutheran Church in 1913

### Those Who Served...

In the early years and in later years until the year 1951, pastors headed the congregation, serving as chairmen of the council and presiding at annual meetings. The one exception was the election of Mons Hanson, who served as president from April 1917 until March 1920.

At the annual meeting in December 1951, Arthur Ongstad was elected president, serving in that capacity for seven years. Arthur Eliassen followed him from 1958-1960.

During the next three years Kristian Hammer served as head of the congregation. For several years after this the term of the president was limited to one year, with the following members officiating: Clarence Johnson (1964), Otis Anderson (1965), Lawrence Peterson (1966), Arthur Sundquist (1967), Donald Palmer (1968), and Arnold Dufseth (1969).

In 1970 the rule of one term was waived with the election of John Bloomquist. John has the distinction of serving as president for the longest period in the history of the congregation--ten years of faithful service.

He was succeeded by his brother, David Bloomquist, elected in 1979 and serving the next three years. In 1982 Marie Lindemann was elected president, agreeing to serve for only one year. David Bloomquist was elected again in 1983 and is the current president.

The following have served as church officers through the years since the congregation was organized: Martin Johnson, Andrew Westerlund, Esten Jacobsen, Hans Christiansen, Jacob Soderlund, John Teberg, Mons Hanson, Samuel Nilson, Thomas Knutson, Werner Sundquist, Paul Jacobsen, Louis Ellingson, O.L. Johnson, Anton Arnquist, Ludwig Eliassen, Carl Thoreson, Alex Englund, Selmer Kjarum, Randy Thoreson, Nels Norman, Edwin Thoreson, Clarence Eliassen, Beatrice Eliassen, Helmer Aakvik, Arvin Arnquist, Lulu

### Long-term Workers of the Congregation...

John Koss served as treasurer for thirteen years, 1948-1960.

Kenneth Koss faithfully carried on the duties of head usher for many years.

Virginia Johnson, the present organist, has served intermittently for twenty-six years, the last fourteen full time.

Mons Hanson, a charter member of Trinity Congregation, holds a distinguished place in history of the church. From 1910 to 1945 he served continuously in various offices and jobs as president, vice president, deacon, trustee, secretary, caretaker of the cemetery, church singer, or Sunday school superintendent.

Mabel Johnson held the office of secretary of the congregation for fifteen years, 1953-1968.

Ida Johnson was treasurer of the congregation from 1963 through 1970.

Loretta Bloomquist served as secretary of the congregation from September 1968 to January 1980.

John Bloomquist was president of the congregation for ten years--1970 through 1979.

### Trinity Congregation Organized...

The difficulty of traveling those four miles to Chicago Bay was no doubt an important factor in the formation of a separate congregation. Trinity Lutheran Congregation was organized September 12, 1909, at a meeting at the Flutereed Valley School with Reverend Eidnes presiding as chairman.

The charter members were: Esten and Ingaborg Jacobsen and six children, Hans and Olive Christiansen and four children, Martin and Caroline Johnson and six children, Stephen and Lise Nilson and one child, Tom Knutson, Jacob and Maria Soderlund and two children, Andrew and Mary Westerlund and one child, Mr. and Mrs. John Teberg, Werner and Anna Maria Sundquist and two children, Oscar Halvorson, Mons and Anna Hanson--a total of forty-two members.

The name "Trinity" was chosen for the congregation, which belonged to the Hauge Norwegian Evangelical Synod of America. The first officers of the congregation were elected as follows: Pastor Carl G. Eidnes, chairman; Martin Johnson, secretary; Andrew Westerlund, treasurer; Esten Jacobsen and Hans Christiansen, deacons; Jacob Soderlund (1 yr.), Tom Knutson (2 yr.), and John Teberg (3 yr.), trustees.

At the meeting held on January 17, 1910, the annual pay of the pastor for Trinity was set at \$75.00, tentatively, with the understanding that if more money would be forthcoming, his salary would be higher. Also at the same meeting, a Sunday school was organized with the following teachers: Samuel Nilson, Jennie Jacobsen, Olive Christiansen, and Anna Sundquist. Another important matter decided was to organize a Ladies' Aid Society or, as it was called in Norwegian, Kvindeforening. The main purpose of this organization was raising money to build the church.

The church notices in the Cook County News Herald of that day state that services were held at 11:00 A.M. for Zion and at 2:30 P.M. for Trinity; the congregations meeting respectively at the Chicago Bay

School and the Flutereed Valley School.

One can imagine the growing activity in the congregation, especially in the Ladies' Aid, whose members raised money through projects such as basket socials and auction sales or bazaars. Women sewed, knitted, crotcheted, and embroidered articles to be auctioned off to the highest bidder.

At the annual meeting on March 9, 1911, officers were elected, among them a janitor, Hans Christiansen, and a Kjorkesanger (church singer), Mons Hanson. For many years Mr. Hanson led the hymn singing, since there was not always an organist available, or perhaps at first there was not even an organ!

In January 1912 Reverend Eidnes tendered his resignation to accept a call from the Litchville parish in North Dakota. He did not leave immediately, however, but remained in the area several months and preached his farewell sermon in Hovland on March 31. A reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Ellingsen to show the people's appreciation for the work and friendship of Pastor Eidnes during the years he spent in Hovland.

Reverend T.G. Sandeno arrived in Grand Marais in June and was installed as parish pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on June 18, 1912. On July 13 the new pastor met with the Trinity Congregation at the Flutereed School. Two vital matters were discussed: the possibility of a merger with Zion Congregation and the building of a church. A committee was elected to meet with the members of Zion to discuss the possibility of joining with Trinity; Martin Johnson, Andrew Westerlund, and Mons Hansen were selected for the committee. It was also decided that Pastor Sandeno should preach in English as well as Norwegian.

The work of the committee was evidently successful; the Zion Congregation was dissolved and its members joined Trinity Congregation on August 1, 1912. The pastor's annual salary from Trinity was set at \$100.00, to be paid on a quarterly basis. Since services were held only once in three weeks, the pastor's pay from Hovland was approximately \$6.00 per

#### Past Organists of Trinity...

Lena Ellingsen Arnquist  
Idella Kjarum  
Ragna Hanson Humphrey  
Beatrice Eliassen Hall  
Helen Thoreson Strand  
Doroty Koss Peterson  
Marian Jacobsen

Presently serving: Virginia Schuppel Johnson

## Church Women of Trinity...

Trinity Lutheran Ladies' Aid was first organized on January 17, 1910, with the main purpose of raising funds for building the first church building. No records are available regarding officers or activities of the Ladies' Aid during those early years. Some information may be gleaned from perusing the files of the Cook County News Herald of that time. Many fund-raising activities and gatherings were carried out to build the new church building, to purchase the furnishings, and even to help pay the pastor. A legacy of those pioneer years is the bell in the tower of the present building.

The first minutes recorded are dated January 4, 1928, when Anna Eliassen was elected president. Other presidents serving through the following years were: Idella Kjarum, Chrestine Aakvik, Borghild Ongstad, Jenny Arnquist, Helen Strand, Marian Jacobsen, Lulu Finley, Elsie Palmer, Anne Sundquist, Anne Eliassen, Marie Hagen, Bernice Wallen, Dorothy Peterson, Tyna Ongstad, Inez Anderson, Susan Krueger, and Marie Lindemann.

In 1960 the name Trinity Lutheran Ladies' Aid was changed to Trinity Lutheran Church Women.

Following are names of women who have served in other offices of Trinity Lutheran Church Women: Gudrun Norman, Anna Hanson, Blanche Englund, Beatrice Eliassen, Esther Drouillard, Randy Thoreson, Mabel Johnson, Mrs. Oscar Fintland, Leona Schuppel, Karin Berglund, Dolly Koss, Edith Mickelson, Ida Johnson, Ruth Pearson, Ailie Waananen, Nellie Sundquist, Louise Clevette, Mickey Norman, Barbara Petz, Olga Turensky, Shirley Alle, Christine McClure, Loretta Bloomquist, and Sharon Bloomquist.

Sunday that he served.

The following news items from the Cook County News Herald give a glimpse of church activities of that day:

The Ladies' Aid Society of Hovland and Flutereed Valley will have a sale of their articles and also serve lunch at Ellingsen's. --Oct. 5, 1912.

Reverend Sandeno held services in English at the Flutereed School, Sunday afternoon, the school being crowded with representatives from the several settlements. --Oct 27, 1912.

At the close of the church services at the North School (the Flutereed School) on Sunday afternoon, Reverend Sandeno was tendered a pleasant surprise in the shape of a \$50.00 purse. --Dec. 27, 1912.

As well as conducting services in Hovland, Reverend Sandeno ministered to the men in the logging camps on the Pigeon River. On Saturday, February 13, 1912, traveling with horse and sleigh, he came as far as Hovland. After spending the night at the Ellingsen Hotel, he continued on Sunday morning to the Pigeon River camps. There he held religious services during the afternoon and evening, presumably spending the night in one of the camps.

Judging from the news items of that day and from Elsie Palmer's recollections of her parents' conversation regarding him, Reverend Sandeno was a very popular pastor. He enjoyed participating in the various social gatherings and visiting Hovland homes.

At the annual meeting of Trinity Congregation on March 17, 1913, at the Flutereed School, the secretary's book records that it was unanimously agreed to build a church building that year. A building committee was elected, consisting of Martin Johnson, Ludvig Eliassen, and Andrew Westerlund. The

Ladies' Aid provided coffee and refreshments, according to the Cook County News Herald. The April 24, 1913, issue of the paper tells of the building committee meeting to perfect plans for the new church building. The hauling of the timbers had already been started. As related by Mary Westerlund Rex in later years, the foundation timbers came from the Andrew Westerlund place. It was decided to obtain 10,000 feet of lumber and to build a concrete foundation for the church. By July 24, 1913, the lumber for the building had been hauled from the dock by members of the congregation "during the past week." Professor R.M. Hall and his father were hired to build the church, and the work was "rapidly pushed forward," (Cook County News Herald accounts of July 24 and August 14, 1913). The Ladies' Aid paid the sum of \$500.00 to Professor Hall, for his work, according to information given by Mary Westerlund Rex.

The accounts in the Cook County News Herald of August 14 and September 4, 1913, are worth recording, respectively, as follows:

The church building is being rapidly pushed forward, the builders have been somewhat handicapped by delay in receiving much needed material ordered sometime since. The building is already enclosed and the steeple has been completed, the whole making a fine appearance.

The new church building which has been built the past summer for the local Lutheran Congregation by Professor Hall and father, is finished ready for seating, and is an imposing looking structure for these parts, reflecting credit upon the designer, the builders, and the congregation. It is 28 by 40 feet with a 19-foot ceiling and has a capacity of about 250. The height from the ground to the top of the steeple is 57 feet. The formal dedication of the building is postponed till next summer, but services will be held there commencing with October 12th. The structure is a valuable asset to the

### Present-day Spiritual Guides...

The years of Pastor Robert Stoskopf's ministry have been a time of growth in the life of Trinity Congregation. Giving has increased, and with it a growing concern for outreach in the community and in the world outside. Adoption of a new constitution, acceptance and use of the Lutheran Book of Worship, and receipt of new members into the congregation have been some of the signs of growth during this time. The worship service has been enhanced by greater participation of members in the reading of scriptures and in providing special music on occasion.

Worship has been further enriched by Pastor Bob's chanting of the liturgy and by his occasional solos--a much appreciated addition to the service.

Reverend Gordon Lindemann, an LCA pastor, moved here in 1976 and has contributed much to the life of Trinity Congregation. Pastor Lindemann and his wife Marie transferred from the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, LCA, to the Central Canada Synod, after moving to this area. They are associate members of Trinity Congregation. Gordon has served as a pulpit supply for Pastor Stoskopf, has been a leader of the adult Bible study class, and has helped lead weekly Lenten services and Christmas Eve services for the last few years.

in Indonesia. Cindy Fern, a domestic AFS student from Cleveland was a guest speaker following services on December 4, 1983.

In the summer of 1983, the "Worship and Witness" workshop in Minneapolis was attended by Pastor Bob and Dorothy Stoskopf, Patrick and Mary Jo Flack, and Christine McClure. Trinity Church Women carried out a soap-making project, making over 100 pounds of soap to be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

A December special offering went to the Cook County Food Shelf. Christmas boxes of baked goods, fruit, and candy were given to thirteen families in the community. For the first time a community Christmas Eve supper was served. Following the well-attended dinner, the traditional Christmas Eve candle-light service was held.

town of Hovland.

The December 18, 1913, issue of the Cook County News Herald states: "Preaching services will be held in the church on Sunday following Christmas, Dec. 28." The chairs for the church had not yet been purchased, for at the congregational meeting on December 29, 1913, one item of business was to buy five dozen chairs for the church. Temporary seating was probably provided by planks on nail kegs as was first used in Bethlehem Church in Grand Marais. Interestingly, those chairs are still in use in the social room of the present church--after seventy years at this writing.

To provide shelter for his horse during services, Pastor Sandeno built a small stable at the church. Cook County News Herald wrote: "Reverend T. G. Sandeno, believing that a merciful man should be merciful to his beasts, has had a frame stable shed erected on the rear of the church lot for the benefit of his horse. Shed covering for all the teams of the members of the congregation will doubtless be a feature of the future, so that they can be sheltered in stormy weather during the holding of meetings in the church," (Sept. 4, 1913). As noted in the Oct. 21, 1915, issue, he also raised oats for his horse on a piece of farm land in Hovland and he had the threshing done there.

On January 11, 1914, the annual meeting was held at Louis Ellingsen's. Among other officers elected was the kirkesanger, Mons Hanson. The only other item of business recorded was to pay Johan Dyrstad seventy-five cents for each Sunday service as janitor. Presumably his duties would be to build fire for heating the church, in addition to cleaning the church building.

Little detail of the years 1914 and 1915 can be found in the secretary's book.

The annual meeting at Ellingsen's on February 1, 1915, was given over to discussion of the cemetery plots. The price of the lots was set as follows:

\$5.00 for a family lot, and \$2.00 for a single grave for members; \$10.00 per family lot and \$3.00 per single grave for non-members. The committee elected to be in charge of the cemetery was composed of members O.L. Johnson and Ludwig Eliassen.

On New Year's Day 1916, religious services were held in the morning, followed by a basket social--the receipts of which were to be used in needed improvements to the church building. Basket socials were a popular fund-raising activity. Each lady decorated a box or basket and filled it with food to be shared with someone. The baskets were auctioned to the highest bidder, who then shared the contents with the basket maker.

On January 27, 1916, the Ladies' Aid met at the Andrew Westerlund's, at which time the annual meeting of the congregation was also held. The Ladies' Aid met every three weeks, usually on Monday following the Sunday service. Ministers usually were present at the Ladies' Aids; this practice continued through the years until the late 1950's when it came to an end.

The Ladies' Aid meetings were attended by men and children, as well as by the women. School was dismissed earlier on Ladies' Aid days so that children who wished to could join their mothers and enjoy the good food served. Preparing to be hostess took days of effort as the lady of the house cleaned and scrubbed, washed windows and curtains, and baked. No one dreamed of serving one item as is the custom today. The table was filled with sandwiches, cakes, donuts, cookies, and whatever else the hostess had prepared. It was, indeed, one of the social activities enjoyed by all.

On April 10, 1916, the congregation met at Paul Jacobsen's to discuss the matter of incorporating the congregation under state law.

Pastor Sandeno resigned in 1916, probably in April, since the record for April 23 indicates he was no longer chairman as he had previously served. Mons Hansen was elected chairman.

According to the church notices of that time,

specifications and present them to the congregation for a vote.

There was also discussion of the merger of the ALC, LCA, and AELC. A motion to approve an amendment to the constitution allowing for the merger was made and carried.

At the February 17 council meeting held at Bethlehem Church, members viewed a video tape regarding the merger of the three synods. Following this tape, the Trinity Council met in the library. Among topics discussed were: engaging Roger Waage to install new lights in the narthex and sanctuary; the seventy-fifth anniversary celebration of Trinity Congregation, to be held July 29, 1984; and the roof project.

At a meeting of the congregation following Sunday services, the seventy-fifth anniversary was further discussed, with Gordon and Marie Lindemann named as co-coordinators of the event.

At another special meeting, the congregation voted to approve the roof project. The congregation decided to add insulation as well as cedar shakes.

Financing the roof project was the main topic discussed at the March 21 meeting of the church council. Members decided that the new roof should be on a labor bid, notices for bids to be published in the Cook County News Herald with the closing date on May 7.

At the May 25, 1983, council meeting, bids were opened and members voted to accept Patrick Flack's quote for labor at \$4,200, with materials to be purchased by the church.

The new roof was completed on September 26. "T-Blast" members of Bethlehem donated \$500 from the proceeds of their corn feed. Trinity's "Coffee an'" donations of \$278.89 were matched by Lutheran Brotherhood, as was the \$500 from "T-Blast."

Pradeep Sugathadasa, AFS student from Sri Lanka, gave a slide presentation on May 29, 1983. On October 23, Denise Carlson gave a slide presentation and talked about her experiences as an AFS summer student

was dedicated at Trinity. The earthenware bowl and ewer were designed and crafted by Jan and Tim Hall, and the stand to hold them was made by Gilbert Bloomquist. Jason Hall, the son of Jan and Tim Hall, was the first child to be baptized in the new font on this special day.

A new organ was purchased from Schmitt Music Center, Rosedale Mall in Minneapolis, at the cost of \$5995.00. The dedication recital took place on the evening of July 18, 1982, with Don Hogenson as recitalist.

At a special meeting on August 5, 1982, the problem of installing a new roof on the church was discussed. Timothy Hall was named to secure information on the cost of materials. Also discussed was the purchase of new light fixtures for the sanctuary.

On September 24, a work-day crew gathered to repair the roof covering the east wing of the narthex.

A special event on October 3 was the ordination of Arvid and Kim Sundet, who were installed as pastors of Calvary Lutheran Church in Minong, Wisconsin. Arvid was the first member of Trinity to be ordained as a pastor. Pastor Stoskopf, accompanied by Donald and Elsie Palmer, traveled to Minong for the event. They brought with them a gift of money from the members of Trinity and the best wishes of Hovland friends.

As a finale to the year, members and friends of Trinity gathered at the Bloomquist Mountain cabin on December 26, bringing leftover Christmas food for a potluck dinner. Outdoor winter fun for some and visiting and games indoors for others kept everyone busy and happy.

Among the subjects under consideration at the annual meeting of Trinity Congregation on January 23, 1983, was the need for replacing the roof of the church. (The original shakes had been installed in the summer of 1957.) With this in mind, members voted to budget \$12,000 toward capital improvement. The church council was authorized to consider

John Larson served as interim pastor for part of the year 1916 until the summer of 1917 when Reverend H.F. Johnson assumed ministerial duties of the parish, which at that time included Tofte, Grand Marais, and Hovland. The 11:00 morning services, held in the church, were in the Norwegian language; and the 7:30 evening services, held at Ellingsen's, were in English.

An important matter was discussed at the annual meeting of February 4, 1918, at the Paul Jacobsen home. A committee was elected, with Pastor Johnson heading it, to look over the constitution for the congregation to see whether any changes needed to be made before adopting it.

The annual meeting on March 17, 1919, was held at the Andrew Westerlund home. Members decided to work two or three days in the spring on the church yard, the time to be determined by the chairman, Mons Hanson. Those who didn't turn out for work on the church yard would have to donate \$3.00 per day!

March 29, 1920, the annual meeting was held at Jacob Soderlund's. Each family was to pay \$10.00 a year toward the minister's annual salary of \$150.00 from Trinity. The next year the pastor's salary was set at \$225.00.

Pastor Johnson resigned some time in 1921, preaching his farewell sermon in Bethlehem on November 27, 1921.

For almost a year, the parish was served by an interim pastor, L.C. Jacobsen, until Reverend H.M. Herstad arrived October 1, 1922. Reverend Herstad carried on his ministerial duties until December 1929, when he resigned.

What was it like for a child to attend church in the 1920's? The sermons were in the Norwegian language, so very little was understood by a child of Swedish-speaking parents. The hymn books were in a strange Norwegian script; the women sat on the west side of the church with their children; and the men sat on the east side. However, the children liked to attend Sunday school, which was held before regular

service. In 1925 there were also four weeks of religious school in the summer, which were well attended and enjoyed by the children of the community.

Mons Hanson was elected the superintendent of Sunday school in 1925 and served in that capacity for twenty years.

The women were given the right to vote at annual meetings, as decided at the meeting in May 1926.

During the next few years, there was evidently a struggle to keep the congregation alive. Membership dwindled and little money came into the treasury. The pastor's salary would depend on free-will offerings, as entered in the secretary's book for January 25, 1928. Even the Ladies' Aid meetings seemed to be attended by only an average of five or six women. However, these faithful few agreed at their meeting on January 29, 1930, to give Reverend Herstad \$100.00 from their treasury as a gift.

After Reverend Herstad's resignation, a call was extended to P. Lauritz Mork, a senior student at Luther Theological Seminary. Reverend Mork arrived in September 1930. The annual meeting was held at the John Eliassen home on February 11, 1931. The pastor's salary was set at \$20.00 a month for 1931. In 1932 the salary was the same.

In 1932 two younger officers were elected: Edwin Thoreson, treasurer, and Clarence Eliassen, secretary. Anton Arnquist was a trustee.

The record shows that the Ladies' Aid was active at this time. Anna Eliassen was president; Gudrun Norman, vice president; Beatrice Eliassen, secretary; Esther Drouillard, treasurer. On July 8, 1932, the Ladies' Aid voted to give \$150.00 toward needed repairs on the church building.

Reverend Mork tendered his resignation in 1932, effective on September 1.

Reverend James O. Pederson was called to succeed Reverend Mork and assumed ministerial duties of the parish on September 1, 1932. His first meeting with the congregation was November 10, 1932. A record of all confirmed members showed a total of 27.

A heart-warming decision in 1980 was for Trinity to co-sponsor a H'Mong refugee family with Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Duluth.

On March 1, 1980, Evalyn and Jesse Sharpe of Thunder Bay, Ontario, observed their 35th wedding anniversary at Trinity with an exchange of vows and a sharing of a buffet dinner with their Hovland and Thunder Bay friends.

Word was received of the Thao family's arrival in Duluth on May 22, 1980. The H'Mong family members were: Cher Sona, the father; Yona Her, the mother; Seng, their nine-year-old son; and Yong, their six-year-old daughter. Joining them later were Cher Sona's sister-in-law, Lee Her; her seventeen-year-old son, Ky; and an orphaned boy whom they had befriended.

A farewell fish planking for Samuel and Shirley Alle was held at the Holy Hovel, home of Gordon and Marie Lindemann, on June 23, 1980. Samuel and Shirley Alle, moved to Florida soon after.

On October 26, 1980, a welcome party was held at Trinity for the Thao family, who were brought here for the occasion by Duluth friends. It was a moving experience for all to meet the Thao family, to share with them a buffet dinner, and to learn more about them.

An important decision at a special meeting of the congregation on December 27, 1981, was to purchase a new organ. The vote in favor was unanimous.

On January 17, 1982, Marie Lindemann became the first woman president of the congregation. Another first at the annual meeting was the organization of a disaster fund to provide emergency help when needed. Among the social events enjoyed in 1982 was a snow day for young and old at Bloomquist Mountain in Colville. Nels Norman was honored at a coffee hour on his 89th birthday on March 31. Another social gathering was a Palm Sunday brunch.

On Sunday, March 14, 1982, the new baptismal font

totaling nearly \$6,500, the congregation voted to send \$1,000 to the Lutheran World Refugee Fund.

A major improvement of 1979, suggested by Pastor Bob, was the construction of a shingled narthex roof with a fluorescent light beneath. The project was carried out by Walter Rouser, Gilbert Bloomquist, and Donald Palmer.

The congregation gave financial support through special offerings for the two seminary students of the parish: Rolf Morck of Bethlehem and Arvid Sundet of Trinity.

The TLCW contributed \$100 to the Lutheran World Hunger Appeal. They also ministered to Marie Hagen, a cancer victim, with visits, gifts of food, and personal items.

Reverend Pederson served many years. In January 1934, the question of moving the church to a more convenient location was discussed. Since the new highway had been completed, many families had moved, and the church was no longer centrally located. No decision was reached at this time and the matter was tabled for the time being.

Vacation Bible school was held for three weeks in the summer of 1935.

In 1936 new doors were installed on the church building by Julius Bergstrom. The same doors are still in use on the present church building.

By 1937 a decided decline in church attendance was noted in the pastor's report at the annual meeting on February 3. At the same meeting, the matter of moving the church to a site somewhere on the new Highway 61 near the Flutereed River bridge was again discussed. Reverend Pederson pointed out that "the church could not prosper as it should, being isolated from the community as it is at this time. If the church were located in the heart of the community, we could have a Sunday school. This we must do something about if our young people are going to get any religious training." (Since the construction of the new Highway 61 had been completed, most Hovland residents preferred to live near it, instead of on the old highway.)

The financial cost of this project was discussed. An interesting suggestion by Reverend Pederson was that a history of the church and congregation in Hovland could be made and sold for about fifty cents. Advertising from business firms would bring in money. Reverend Pederson also suggested that when the church was moved to its new location, a celebration could be held and the books sold at that time. As the secretary's minutes read for February 3, 1937: "Some of the members were whole-heartedly in favor of this proposal as they agreed that we must consider the future of our little congregation. On the other hand, there were members who did not express themselves either way."

A vote was taken upon this motion: "If we can raise the funds without a decided expense or indebtedness to us as a congregation, should our church be moved from its present out-of-the-way location to a more centrally located spot in the community?" The vote was six for, zero against, and six neutral. This attitude was discouraging to the pastor; but after more discussion, a committee to look further into this project was appointed.

These were the years of the Great Depression, and the financial report for 1936 reflects the struggle to keep the church alive:

\$107.00--pledges from members  
117.60--given by Ladies' Aid  
56.31--collections and contributions  
\$280.91--total receipts for the year

The Ladies' Aid Society was active and met regularly. Amazingly, even during these depression years of the thirties, these women managed to raise considerable monies to assist the church financially. Examples of bank balances of the Ladies' Aid after disbursements for the years of the 1930's are: \$152.50, \$118.52, \$167.40, \$100.48, \$90.74. Fund-raising projects were mainly the annual auction sale of fancywork, basket socials, and suppers, as well as offerings at the Ladies' Aid meetings. The money raised was used to help pay the pastor's salary, the pastor's pension fund, the synodical budget, expenses for vacation Bible school, repairs and improvements to the old church, and any other miscellaneous expenses, such as tree trimmings, materials for the altar, etc.

Again at a congregational meeting on April 5, 1938, there was a discussion of moving the church to a more convenient location near Highway 61. Once more no decision was reached and the matter was deferred to a later date.

In October 1938, Reverend Pederson resigned, preaching his farewell sermon December 25 in Grand Marais.

A call was extended to Jerrold L. Moilien, who

Krueger as chairperson, the TLCW was successfully reactivated. From then on the church women met regularly and continued their activities, even though the membership had noticeably declined; many older members had passed away or moved, and there were fewer young members living in the community.

On August 21, 1977, the members of Trinity gathered at the Hovland dock for a fish planking feed; in charge were Gordon and Marie Lindemann.

A project of the year 1978 was that of making storage cabinets in the sacristy for storing the communion service, the pall, and the altar hangings. Another project was the installation of fluorescent lights in the social room. The church women paid for the fixtures, and Arthur Sundquist and Donald Palmer installed them in the spring of 1978.

On April 30, 1978, Mission Festival Sunday was celebrated in conjunction with Bethlehem Church, with special message given by Pastor Kawie of South Africa.

The work of plotting the cemetery, which included setting marking posts, was completed in the summer of 1978 with Arthur Sundquist in charge.

On Sunday, November 12, 1978, the congregation voted in favor of changing to the new Lutheran Book of Worship.

This was also the year that a land exchange was negotiated with Consolidated Pulp and Paper Company, which enlarged the area of the cemetery.

The church women purchased new folding tables for the social room in 1978.

Another event of 1978 was the Maundy Thursday Seder and Communion Service at Bethlehem, conducted by Pastor Gordon Lindemann, with Trinity members participating also. The Trinity Lutheran Church Women prepared and served the meal.

In 1979 Pastor Bob introduced the congregation to the new Lutheran Book of Worship. The new books were dedicated on the third Sunday in February when the congregation began using them.

Since the receipts for the past year had far exceeded expectations, with a year-end balance

following regulations were to be followed: (1) no viewing of remains in sanctuary or narthex, except in unusual circumstances; (2) coffin to be draped with pall and no flowers thereon; (3) flowers may be placed elsewhere; (4) music to be approved by pastor and organist and must be in keeping with Christian beliefs; (5) funeral services for non-members shall be approved by pastor and deacons.

At the council meeting on December 2, 1974, the decision was made to have a roster of ushers to coincide with the cleaning and firing list.

During 1975 the book racks were made by several members of the congregation, including women who did the sanding and varnishing.

At a congregational meeting following Sunday worship on September 7, 1975, members voted to help sponsor a Vietnamese couple with Bethlehem. The refugees temporarily lived with the Earl Niewald family. On October 8, 1975, Earl Niewald gave a progress report before the Trinity Congregation and introduced members to Bey and Mai. The Vietnamese refugee couple later moved into an apartment in Grand Marais. Bey, a trained diesel mechanic, was by then employed at Cobblestone as a mechanic.

At the annual meeting on January 14, 1976, Arthur Sundquist was named head of the project of improving the cemetery.

On June 20, 1976, the men served a pancake breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 A.M. with Arthur Sundquist in charge of making his special pancakes.

In order to conserve energy, the congregation decided at their annual meeting on January 16, 1977, to have services in the basement during the winter months, using the coal and wood furnace for heat.

Another topic of discussion at the annual meeting was initiated by Susan Krueger, that of re-activating the Trinity Lutheran Church Women, who had not met as a group since 1971. Susan was appointed to get the organization activated once more. Subsequently the TLCW met on January 25, 1977, at the church social room for the purpose of re-organization. With Susan

accepted; and installation services were conducted on March 12, 1939.

The possibility of moving the church was again discussed at the annual meeting December 18, 1940, and also at the annual meeting January 1943. By January 1944 the decision had been made to build a new church instead of moving the old one, tearing down the old building and using all lumber and materials possible. A committee composed of Nels Norman, Anton Arnquist, and Marian Jacobsen were to look into the possibility of acquiring a site on Highway 61. Arthur Ongstad offered to contact an architect to discuss plans for a suitable small church building. Several members had second thoughts about tearing down the old building, and after discussion at the next annual meeting on December 27, 1944, everyone favored moving the old church building to the new site.

During the years of Reverend Moilien's ministry, the Ladies' Aid membership increased, as well as did their activities. These faithful workers met once a month in various homes, with the pastor also in attendance. Fund-raising events helped support the work of the church. The minutes of meetings in 1940 record such events as a rummage sale at Chicago Bay School, a supper at the town hall, a bake sale at the town hall, a chop suey supper at the town hall, and the annual bazaar on December 7. All these fund-raising activities were held in the year 1940. Other events in the 1940's were a strawberry social, a bazaar and supper, a clothing drive for Norwegian Relief (1941), a victory program and buffet supper, a pie social, the sending of testaments to boys of the community who were in the armed services (these were the war years), a fish ball supper, a donut and coffee sale, and an apron sale.

Pastor Moilien resigned April 29, 1945, but did not leave for his new field in Everett, Washington, until August 1945.

Reverend Aubrey Edmonds accepted the call from the parish and arrived in January 1946. At the annual meeting on January 29, 1946, in the school house, the

question was repeated--what was to be done about the church? The decision was again made to tear the old building down, salvaging as much material as possible. The new church lot, slightly more than two acres, was purchased February 8, 1946, from the State of Minnesota for the sum of \$219.70.

The idea of a student work camp was suggested by Dr. Howard Hong, professor of philosophy at St. Olaf College, to a gathering of senior students at his home in Northfield, Minnesota. Some of the students had dreamed of working among the displaced persons in Central Europe for the Lutheran World Federation, as Dr. Hong would be doing during the coming year; but Dr. Hong encouraged them to do a job in their own country. And so the dream was born, and the students pursued it through the coming weeks.

Then, during the summer of 1946, when Dr. Hong visited in Hovland, he and Pastor Edmonds discussed the need for the new church building and the possibility of initiating such a work camp in Hovland. The time for the project to proceed seemed right, for the people of Hovland were eager to build. They missed having a church, for the old building had been used less and less after the highway had been moved, and the church had, in fact, been torn down in 1946. Services meanwhile were being held in the Chicago Bay School or the Hovland Town Hall. At the annual meeting of the congregation on January 19, 1947, the location of the new church was discussed, and a building committee was appointed, consisting of the trustees and other members as follows: Harold Schuppel, chairman; Anton Arnquist, Carl Thoreson, Arthur Ongstad, Nels Norman, Gordon Finley, Clarence Johnson, and John Koss.

### The 1970's...

A farewell party was held for Pastor Joe Nystuen on March 2, 1970. Pastor Nystuen will be remembered for his love and concern for all, in particular for some of those outside of the congregation who remember his visits to their homes.

Pastor Nystuen left April 15, and Pastor Joyce Ranum agreed to serve as interim pastor when he arrived in June; Pastor Herman I. Muus would fill in during the intervening months.

Pastor Robert Stoskopf, the present pastor, arrived in August 1970. He was welcomed at a buffet dinner at the home of Nancy and Virgil Lindquist. Members of the Bethlehem and Trinity call committees and their spouses attended.

The church women met in February 1971, but from then on until 1977 they were inactive due to declining membership.

In 1972 Gilbert Bloomquist was in charge of installing the railing on the stone steps to insure safety during icy conditions. Also in 1972, a pall was given by the Johnson family in memory of Ida Johnson.

At the September 27, 1972, council meeting, a motion was made, seconded, and carried that the decision regarding funeral regulations made at the September 1968 council meeting be rescinded. Instead, the council voted for the following regulations: (1) use of the pall covering the casket within the sanctuary; (2) limitation of flowers; (3) viewing of the body in the narthex, but not in the sanctuary.

The decision to allow ten-year-olds to receive communion was made at the annual meeting in January 1972.

Another change in 1972 was advancing the time of worship services on Sunday to 8:30 A.M. instead of 9:00 A.M.

In 1973 funeral procedures once again were discussed at the annual meeting on January 28. The

Lake on June 16, 1968. Christmas cookies were sent to servicemen and eleven local bachelors were given Christmas boxes.

Projects of the congregation for 1969 included repairs and staining of the church building exterior.

The church women contributed \$467.64 for the cost of the above project, gave Christmas gifts to the nursing home, and made blankets to send to New Guinea.

### Fram, Fram, St. Olaf...

In April 1947 Professor Howard Hong and Professor Arnold Flaten, head of the art department at St. Olaf College who had been chosen to design the new church building, came to Hovland to look over the building site. They were happy to find that the site had already been cleared by the men of the church and the ground prepared by Clarence A. Johnson's bulldozer. Everything was in readiness for the work of the building to proceed. They went back to St. Olaf filled with enthusiasm--an enthusiasm which was reflected in the students' planning for an organized work camp. In the weeks ahead, plans for the building were drawn up by Professor Flaten, assisted by Ed Sovik.

On one of his visits to Hovland, Dr. Hong had met Mons Hanson, who owned a farm seven miles northwest of Hovland. Mr. Hanson had offered the use of his farm for living quarters for the camp, because he and his wife had moved to Grand Marais.

This offer was accepted, and on June 16, 1947, Mr. and Mrs. Flaten, who had agreed to act as camp directors, their four children, and the following St. Olaf students arrived: Armand Asper, Ed Barsness, Oliver Carlson, Bill Dion, Paul Hanson, David Helgen, Les Larson, Bill Ostroot, Alice Erlander, Irma Gangsie, Doris Grimsvedt, Celeste Johnson, Ruth Johnson, Marilyn Morgenson, and Faythe Nelson.

The girls moved into the upstairs of the farm house, while the boys used the hayloft of the barn. The hayloft had been converted to sleeping quarters for this purpose. Guests were housed in a log cabin, and the Flaten family moved into the nearby cottage of Reverend Carrol and Mary Hinderlie.

Under Mrs. Flaten's supervision and teaching, the girls learned how to cook satisfying meals for hungry workers. Hours were spent at the church site. The basement was dug, and on July 2 the men of the congregation helped pour the footings.

The building was designed to make use of natural rock in harmony with the rugged setting of the North Shore. Oscar Sundquist had loaned a trailer to the group, and with Dr. Hong's jeep to pull it, the trailer hauled rock to the building site. Most of the rock was picked up along the highway, and some was even carried up out of the Flutereed River bottom! Water for the cement mixing was hauled from Lake Superior. By the end of the summer the rock wall was completed to the main floor level by sheer manpower, without the use of any modern equipment such as front loaders or cranes.

There were other activities carried on by the students in addition to the construction work. The life of the community was enriched by the music of the work camp choir at the Sunday services at the Chicago Bay School and by the students' teaching of Bible school.

At the farm there were chores such as cutting wood and taking care of Pokey, the cow loaned by Anton Arnquist. Many hours were spent in discussion and reading, and always there was singing. There were many hours of companionship with Mons Hanson as he told them stories of pioneer life in the north woods.

The work camp students in 1947 participated in many activities of the church such as sharing in the money-raising events and in the programs of the Ladies' Aid meetings. The Ladies' Aid record gives an account of the bazaar held at the Chicago Bay School on August 8, 1947. Paul Hanson led the St. Olaf students in lively songs; and two other students, Les Larson and David Helgen, acted as auctioneers for the sale. The bazaar and accompanying bake sale netted the magnificent sum of \$323.83.

After the students left at the end of the summer, the men of the church put in the joists donated by V. Agurkis and built a temporary roof so that the basement could be used for worship. The women served noon meals to the men of the community, as they hurried to complete the roof before winter set in.

The following year, 1948, Professor Flaten led a

Grand Marais. Pastor Anderson had resigned, necessitating a search for someone to replace him. The group accepted his resignation, but in the words of Trinity's secretary, Mabel Johnson, "I know in our hearts, we didn't want to." The members of Trinity congregation were deeply saddened by his resignation, as he was held in high regard by the Hovland group.

After Pastor Anderson's departure in August, Merton Christensen served as interim pastor through the next months until Reverend Joseph Nystuen arrived in December.

Matters discussed at council meetings and events of 1967 included: safety measures needed--stairway slippery (no railing), ramp dangerous, outside steps slippery in winter; rules for church building use changed--anyone could use the building after contacting the president, and a small donation would be acceptable and appreciated; joint services with Bethlehem would be held at Thanksgiving; donations were given to Plymouth Youth Center. In April Annabel Parode of Uruguay gave a slide presentation and talk at the fellowship supper.

During 1967 the Trinity Lutheran Church Women continued regular monthly meetings, with Bible study and a program, in addition to the business meeting. They contributed \$100 a year toward the "Cause of the Month," gave a \$35 campership to be used at Wilderness Canoe Base on Seagull Lake, helped pay for redecorating the parsonage, and raised money through bake sales and rummage sales for these projects and other local needs of the church.

The matter of getting carpeting for the church was brought to a vote on July 30, 1968, at a congregational meeting. Results of the vote were 13 against carpeting and 2 for carpeting.

On September 11, 1968, at the church council meeting, Alan Clothier was present to discuss funeral procedures. The members voted to disregard previous regulations concerning funerals and to leave the matter up to the pastor, funeral director, and family.

The Sunday school picnic was held at McFarland

studied the Bethel Bible Course in Grand Marais under Pastor Joel Anderson. The classes were held once a week for two-hour sessions, which were inspirational and enlightening.

Fellowship suppers were held once a month in the social room. On February 16, 1964, Mario Carrer, AFS student from Argentina, gave a slide presentation and talk.

By 1964 the Conn organ was paid for in full, through memorial gifts and donations.

On December 13, 1964, at a special meeting held after services, the church council accepted the offer of the church women to pay for a new heating system, a wall furnace, for the basement. The new furnace to be purchased from Mr. Stoltz would replace the overhead heating unit. The project was approved by all.

During Pastor Anderson's years of service, July 1958--September 1966, the Cook County Ministerium, composed of the pastors of the various churches of the county, was organized and is still active. For the first time joint Lenten services were held in 1965, with churches of the county participating. The services were held alternately at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and at St. John's Catholic Church, since these were the largest and could accommodate the most people. The services were well attended by an enthusiastic number of people from the different churches.

The Bethel Bible Study continued in 1965 with Pastor Anderson as instructor for those who later would teach it to other members of the congregations.

After completing the course, Elsie Palmer began teaching it to a group of Trinity members once a week in the fall of 1965 and through the winter and spring of 1966. The Old Testament was covered in the first half of the course.

Again in 1966, community Lenten services were held in Grand Marais, with all churches participating.

On June 1, 1966, four members of Trinity Church Council, Clarence and Ida Johnson, Luther Wallace, and Mabel Johnson, met with Bethlehem Church Council in

group of six men and four women to Hovland for another work camp: Ed Barsness, Bob Bergeson, Norris Erdahl, Ivan Fagre, Maurice Schmidt, Bill Smith (from Carlton College), Ann Harang, Beatrice Helgen, Faythe Nelson, and Allyson Rieke. That summer the rock tower wall was completed, the arches fabricated, and several arches placed. The men lived in the church building and the women in a cabin donated for the summer by Charles and Mildred Mainella.

At a special meeting on August 29, 1948, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried that the board of trustees be authorized to execute a note and first mortgage in the amount of \$3,000 from the "Church Extension of the E.L.C." (Minutes of July 18 and August 29, 1948 record this.)

After the departure of the work camp students, the men of the church finished erecting the arches, put in all the framing, and roofed the building. Cedar for the shakes and part of the paneling was donated by Walter Wojtysiak.

The first wedding in the church building took place on November 3, 1948, when Mildred Potter and Ed Thoreson were married in the basement room which was still being used for worship services.

In the spring of 1949, the floor from the old church building was installed. Warren Hansen had sanded it, and it was ready for the wedding of Karin Seaberg and Paul Westin, which took place in May.

In the summer of 1949, Professor Flaten again led a group to Hovland; this group consisted mainly of art students of St. Olaf College. Members of this third work camp decorated the arches and inscribed the words on the altar and above the main entrance doors. Professor Flaten, along with Dorothy Divers, Dorothy Berge, and the art students, designed and sculptured the figure of the Resurrected Christ over the main entrance. The members of the 1949 work camp were: Ed Barsness, Willie Buehl (U of W), Don Cook, Morris Dalton, Lambert Locker, John Makestad, Dick Nelson, Dorothy Berge, Dorothy Divers, Beatrice Helgen, Celeste Johnson, Polly Lindem, and Floy Schimmel. The

group lived in the church building that summer, the men in the basement and the women in the room that became the narthex and sacristy.

The building was given its finish lumber and the windows were installed during the summer and fall of 1949 and into the spring of 1950. The work begun by the students was carried on and completed by the men of the church, who spent many evenings and holidays to bring the building to a state of readiness.

A service of dedication took place on July 16, 1950. The dedicatory sermon and the rite of consecration were given by Dr. P.S. Dybvig, Director of Home Missions, E.L.C. Maurice Schmidt, who had returned to instruct vacation Bible school and work on the church building, sang two solos.

Attending the dedication services were several pastors, members of the St. Olaf work camps, two charter members of Trinity Church, Mons and Anna Hanson, and a host of church members and friends --numbering well over two hundred. Many had to stand outside where they heard the service by means of a public address system. At the piano and organ were Dorothy Koss and Helen Edmonds. Following the dedication, ladies of the church served a supper in the social room.

Worth remembering is the work of the Ladies' Aid during the years that the church building was being built and in the years following. Little mention, if any, of the women's support was made at the dedication service. The record shows the financial aid given by the Ladies' Aid: January 1948, \$500 for the building fund; 1949, \$1,000 to be paid on the mortgage; and in 1950, \$450 payment on the mortgage.

Raising money was only part of the activities of the Ladies' Aid. In the secretary's record book are to be found accounts of many other projects and causes in which the women were active: support of missions, the polio fund, Sunday school, and Thank Offering; participation in Bible study and devotions; adoption of a child in Africa for one year (1950); sponsorship of hunters' dinners every fall.

## The 1960's...

At the January 13, 1960, council meeting, it was decided to have a movable communion rail and a stairway railing built. Both of these additions were designed by Donald Palmer and built with the help of other members.

On January 31, 1960, the congregation began using the new red Service Book and Hymnal.

In 1961 the church council voted to give \$25 toward expenses of Luther League delegates to the convention at Miami Beach. Dianne Anderson and Maribeth Strand attended and brought an interesting report back to the congregation.

During the year 1961, the Trinity Lutheran Church Women, formerly known as Ladies' Aid, budgeted \$200 for ALCW projects: American Missions, World Missions, Education, Inter-Church, Pensions, and Charities. Local needs were budgeted at \$95: Sunday school, Thursday school, and vacation Bible school. Other needs such as convention offerings, literature, etc., brought the total amount budgeted to \$400 for 1961. The Bible study for the year was "How Shall I Pray?"

In 1962 the church women sponsored one camper from Plymouth Youth Center in Minneapolis to go to the Wilderness Canoe Base on Seagull Lake.

At a church council meeting on January 16, 1963, Pastor Anderson told the group about the Bethel Bible Study that would be starting within a year. During the summer Pastor Anderson took the Bethel course in Madison, Wisconsin, in preparation for teaching it during the next two years to ten students: Hannah Johnson, Ethel Johnson, Roger and Rauha Scott, Luther Wallace, Harvey Lampel, Elsie Palmer, Louise Anderson, Ade and Bertha Toftey.

In 1963 the women served coffee after two services. They contributed to the expenses of Bible school, Sunday school, Lutheran Girls' Home and to the district and general conventions.

During 1964 Luther Wallace and Elsie Palmer

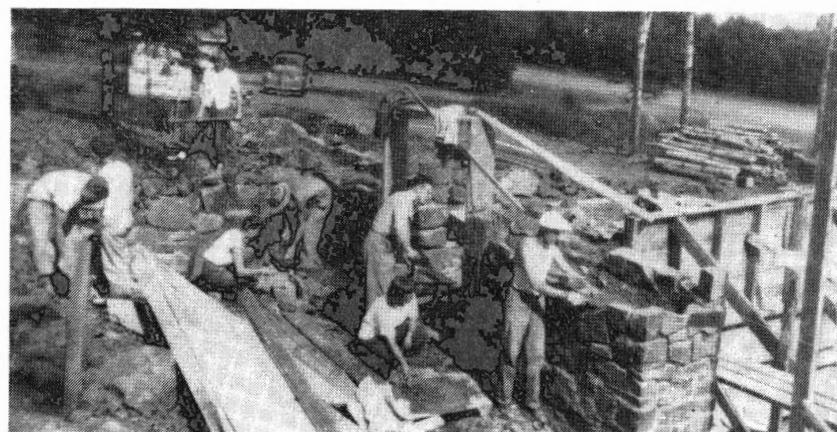
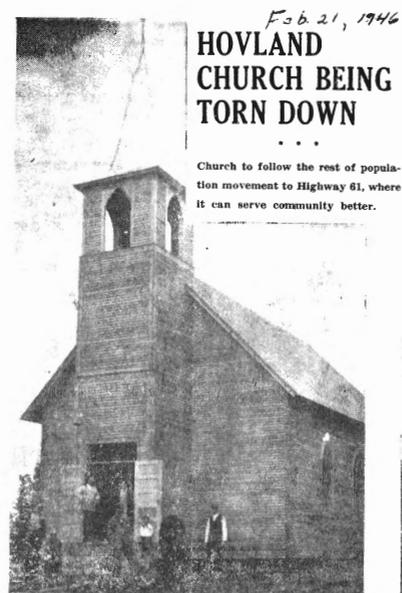
For many years, plans had been progressing for purchasing an organ. An organ fund had grown steadily until on April 15, 1958, at a special meeting, the congregation decided to buy a Conn organ at the price of \$2,300. The organ was installed on April 24, 1958. In August the organ dedication took place, with Loretta Wilkinson playing the recital.

Reverend Joel Anderson was installed as pastor in July 1958. On January 16, 1959, Pastor Anderson asked for a Board of Deacons to assist the pastor. At the annual meeting on January 18, three deacons were elected.

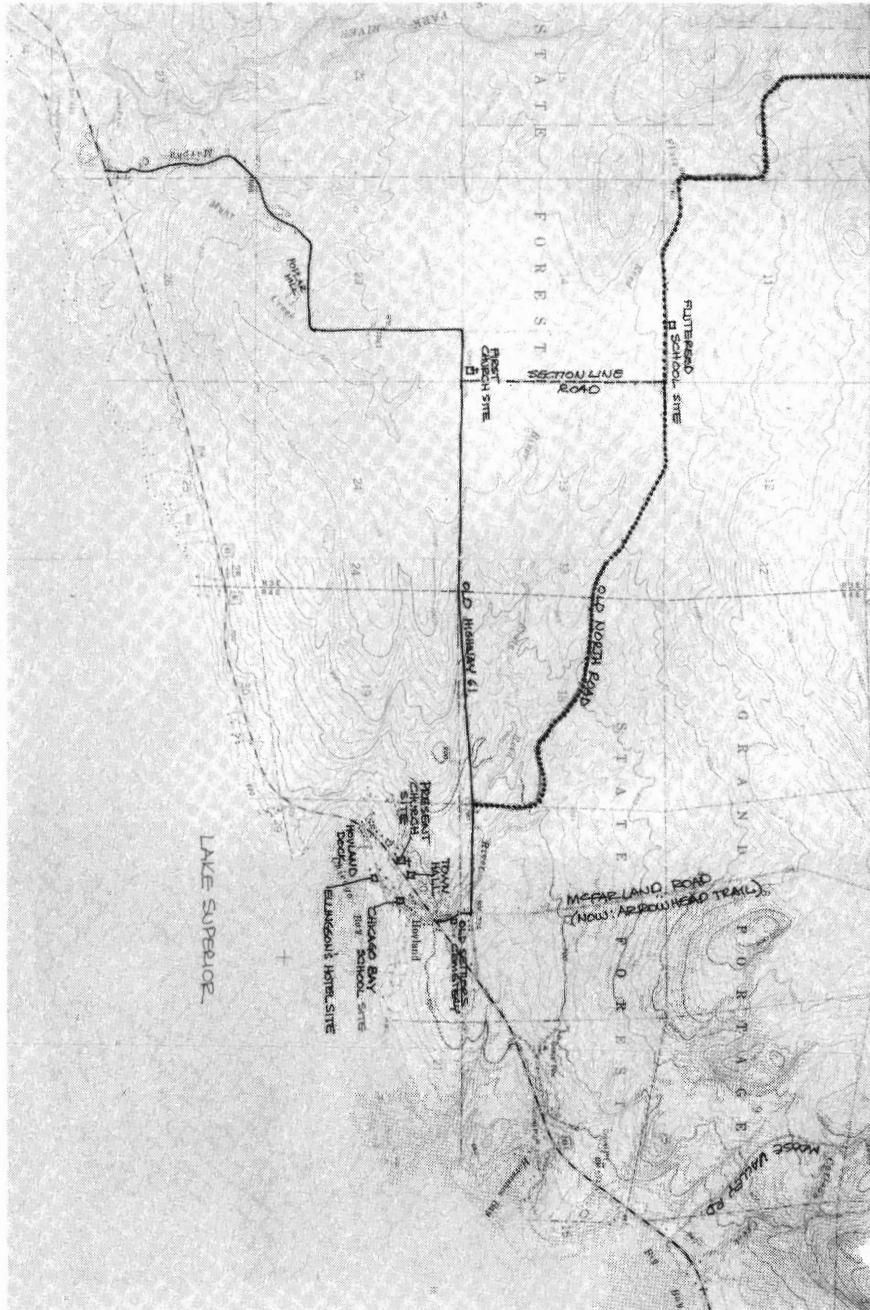
On December 26, 1959, a gas wall furnace for the basement was purchased from Stoltz.

Not to be outdone in zeal, the men of the church put on a ham and trout supper every year in May to help pay off the mortgage.

As a result of these combined efforts, the loan of \$3,000 from the Church Extension of the E.L.C., received in August 1948, was paid back within three years and three months.



St. Olaf student work camp 1947



busily engaged in their activities. Leona Schuppel and Pastor Govig attended the WMF district convention at Bemidji in June 1955. Five fellowship suppers were held with groups serving in their turns. Proceeds from the pie social were given to support the new choir. New members were added to the Ladies' Aid, making a total of 29 members in 1955. The church library grew to a total of 32 books. The Martin Luther film was purchased jointly by the four churches. Offerings were made for missions and Youth in Action, and donations were made for the seminary. Clothing drives were held every fall. Fund-raising activities for the years 1955-1957 were bake sales, pie socials, the annual bazaars, and hunters' dinners. Specific missions supported through offerings by the Ladies' Aid were: Columbia, S.A.; Nome, Alaska; and Japan, as well as home missions and foreign missions in general.

The various departments of the Ladies' Aid, each headed by a chairman, were: Charities, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Higher Education, Cradle Roll, Christian Nature, Literature and Library, Hospitality, Life Membership, and In Memoriam. Each month the chairman of each department was responsible for an informative program emphasizing her special subject, as well as carrying on the work throughout the year. More time and emphasis was being given to devotions and Bible study at the monthly meetings.

The Ladies' Aid helped support an evangelist Bible teacher, Isao Makayama, and his wife in Japan as part of their mission work. Ladies' Aid also contributed generously \$100 to the Organ Fund and \$400 to the Building Fund.

In August 1957, much to the regret of the congregation, Pastor Govig resigned and left for Norway to study under a special fellowship. Reverend Theodore Lerud arrived in October to serve as interim pastor until July of 1958. At the end of 1957, the membership of the church showed a steady growth through the years: baptized members numbered 89; confirmed members numbered 66.

old church building and the main beams and arches of West Coast fir.

In May 1956, a gas furnace for the upstairs was purchased; the basement was still heated by the coal and wood furnace.

Also in May of 1956, Otis Anderson was engaged to saw the cedar shakes for the west side of the church building. Harold Schuppel had made the shakes for the east side; he also constructed the first pews in his spare time. In January 1957 Harold, who had served as building chairman in the years that the church was being built and later as foreman of additional work projects, was transferred to Hill City. His ten years of dedicated labor will be remembered by all who knew him.

After Harold's departure, Art Eliassen was appointed work foreman and Marvin Soderlund was hired to make the additional pews. Due to illness, Art was unable to carry on the work after May 1957, and Donald Palmer was appointed to replace him.

In June 1957 a crew of eleven church members cut and skidded cedar logs which were then sawed into shakes by Otis Anderson on his mill. The men of the church installed the shakes on the east side of the church building. Stone Brothers were hired to put the shakes on the west side, thus completing the roofing.

In September 1957 the decision was made to install a new floor in the basement to replace the temporary floor. The project entailed removing the old floor, putting in cement pillars and new floor joists, laying lumber over that, and finally putting plywood over all. Later, the plywood was covered with tile.

The work crew started on a Tuesday, and by working evenings the rest of the week, the men had completed the job by Saturday evening. These men all worked at their jobs during the day, but they aimed at finishing the floor in time for Sunday school the next Sunday and they did.

While the men of the church worked on finishing the church building, inside and out, the women were

## The 1950's...

In August 1950 Pastor Edmonds tendered his resignation and left for Lewiston, Montana, much to the regret of Trinity and the other three congregations at Tofte, Lutsen, and Grand Marais. His inspiring leadership was responsible for a growth in church membership and gave the impetus for erecting the present church building.

The heating system for the church at this time was ingenious, although primitive by today's standards. A jacketed stove, formerly used at Chicago Bay School, was installed in the basement of the church building. A jacket extension on the basement stove connected with a register in the floor upstairs, allowing the heat to travel up into the sanctuary. Coal was purchased from Charles Mainella at \$15 per ton and used to keep the fire going all Saturday night before Sunday service. Men of the church took their turn at firing and also cut wood to supplement the coal.

On October 1, 1950, Dr. C.S. Thorpe, a retired pastor, arrived to serve as interim minister until June 1951. Dr. Thorpe will be remembered fondly as a warm, gentle person who spoke to the hearts of all in his sermons.

On June 17, 1951, Reverend Rolf Hansen was installed as the new pastor, with Dr. Thorpe conducting the service.

The exterior of the church building was oiled in the fall of 1951.

Harold Schuppel was in charge of a crew of church members to get wood for the winter.

The stained glass window for above the altar was being created by art students at St. Olaf College under the direction of Professor Flaten in the fall of 1951. A letter received from him at that time stated that the cost would be \$100.

In May of 1952 the annual ham and trout supper was put on by the men of the church. Fellowship

suppers were held regularly once a month; a girls' choir, which had been organized and led by Marian Jacobsen, received robes; and a Cradle Roll was active, with at least sixteen children under the age of three.

The Ladies' Aid, as it was still called, continued their activities of giving financial support to the church through fund-raising projects including rug making, pie socials, bake sales, rummage sales, and the annual hunters' suppers. They sewed layettes and sent baby clothing to the mission in Liberia, put on a Father's Day supper, improved the sacristy, sponsored other improvements for the church, purchased supplies and equipment for the kitchen, and supported vacation Bible school financially.

An important matter under consideration in 1953 was the purchase of a coal and wood furnace to replace the jacketed stove. At the February 15, 1953, meeting, it was decided to buy such a furnace from the Marshall-Wells Company.

The men's ham and trout supper in May of 1953 netted \$264.00.

Another matter under consideration was that of roofing the church building. No action was taken at this time in 1953.

At a congregational meeting on February 4, 1954, Pastor Hansen tendered his resignation.

On March 22, 1954, a meeting was held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Grand Marais to discuss the separation of the parish. Representing Hovland were Arthur Ongstad, president; John Koss, treasurer; and trustees Jacob Norman, Nels Norman, and Harold Schuppel. The meeting was turned over to A.E. Hanson, president of the district.

The resolution before the delegates read as follows: "We resolve that the Cook County parish be divided into two--one consisting of Grand Marais and Hovland and the other of Tofte and Lutsen."

There were 25 votes cast by representatives of the four churches of the parish, and all were in favor of the separation. Before this change became legal,

it was necessary for members of each congregation to vote on it. No record of the vote was recorded in the secretary's book, but the resolution was evidently favored by the majority. Previously, because of the pastor's having four churches to serve, services at **Trinity were held every other Sunday. From then on, Trinity was able to have services every Sunday.**

After Pastor Rolf Hansen's departure in May 1954, Herman A. Muus, then a seminary student, served as the interim pastor until July 1954. Pastor Stewart Govig accepted a call to be pastor and arrived in July to take over his duties.

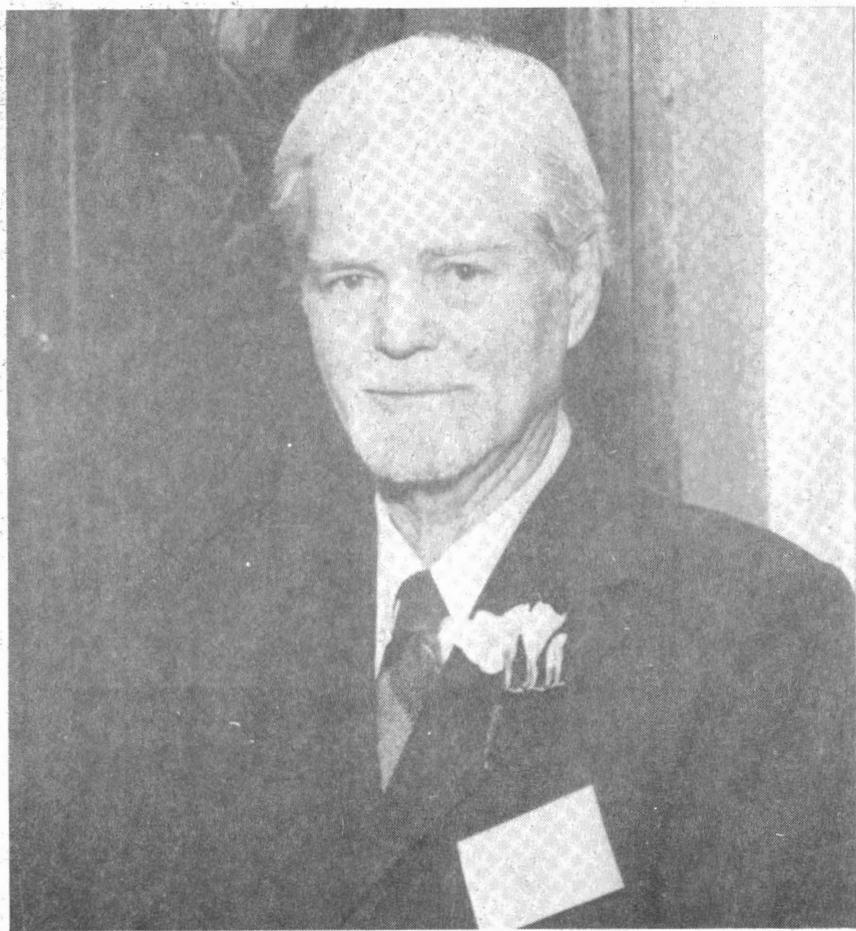
A church library had its beginning in 1954, with Harold Schuppel making the bookshelves and members donating books.

Other additions and improvements in 1954 were covering the social room tables with masonite and purchasing low tables and small chairs for the Sunday school.

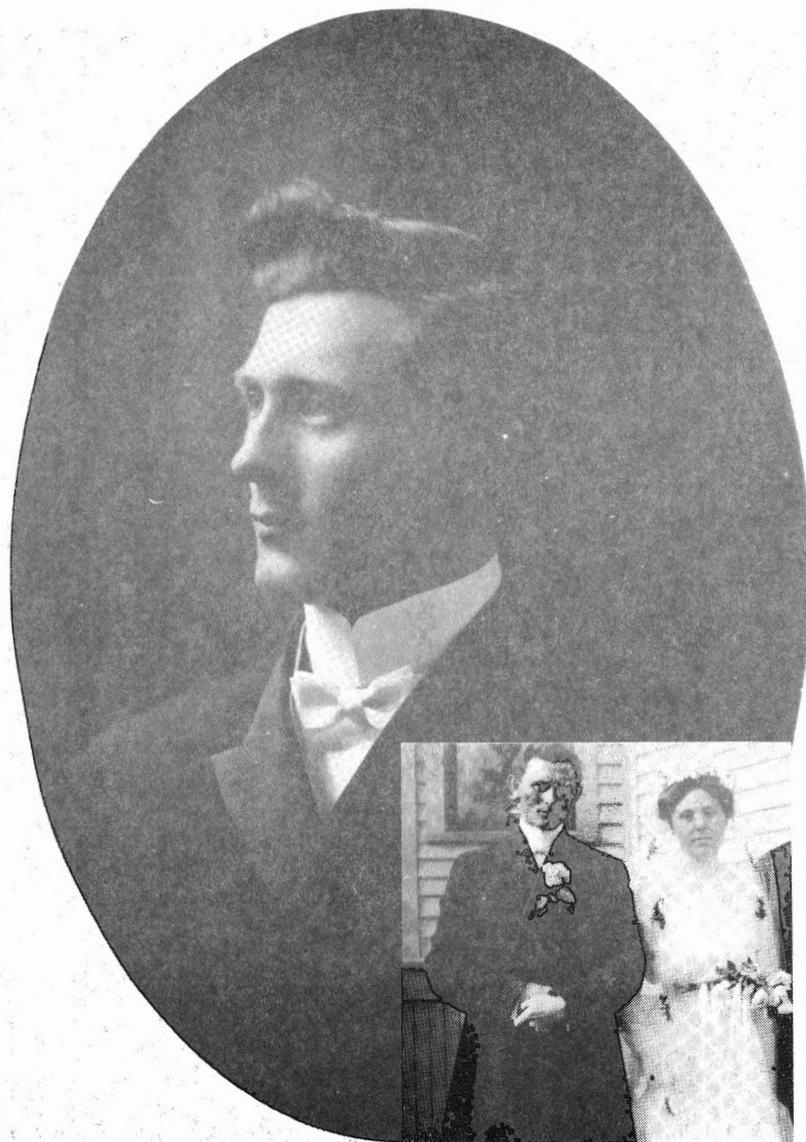
During 1955 an adult choir was organized with Marian Jacobsen as director. Pastor Govig, who had a beautiful tenor voice, was a member of the choir. Other members were Ida Hammer, Andrea Odean, Elsie Palmer, Anne Sundquist, Marjorie Sundquist, Einar Lofgren, Otis Anderson, and David Nordquist.

An important project of the year 1955 was that of paneling the basement ceiling and walls. The cedar timber was donated by the State Forest Service and the U.S. Forest Service in the Colville area where Donald Palmer's mill was set up. A crew of church members cut the cedar logs, Philip Hedstrom skidded the logs to the mill, and the crew of men helped saw the lumber and pile it, all in the period of three days. After drying all winter, the cedar lumber was hauled to Hedstrom's Mill the following June, planed and made into paneling. With Harold Schuppel as foreman, the paneling was installed in the basement in the fall of 1956.

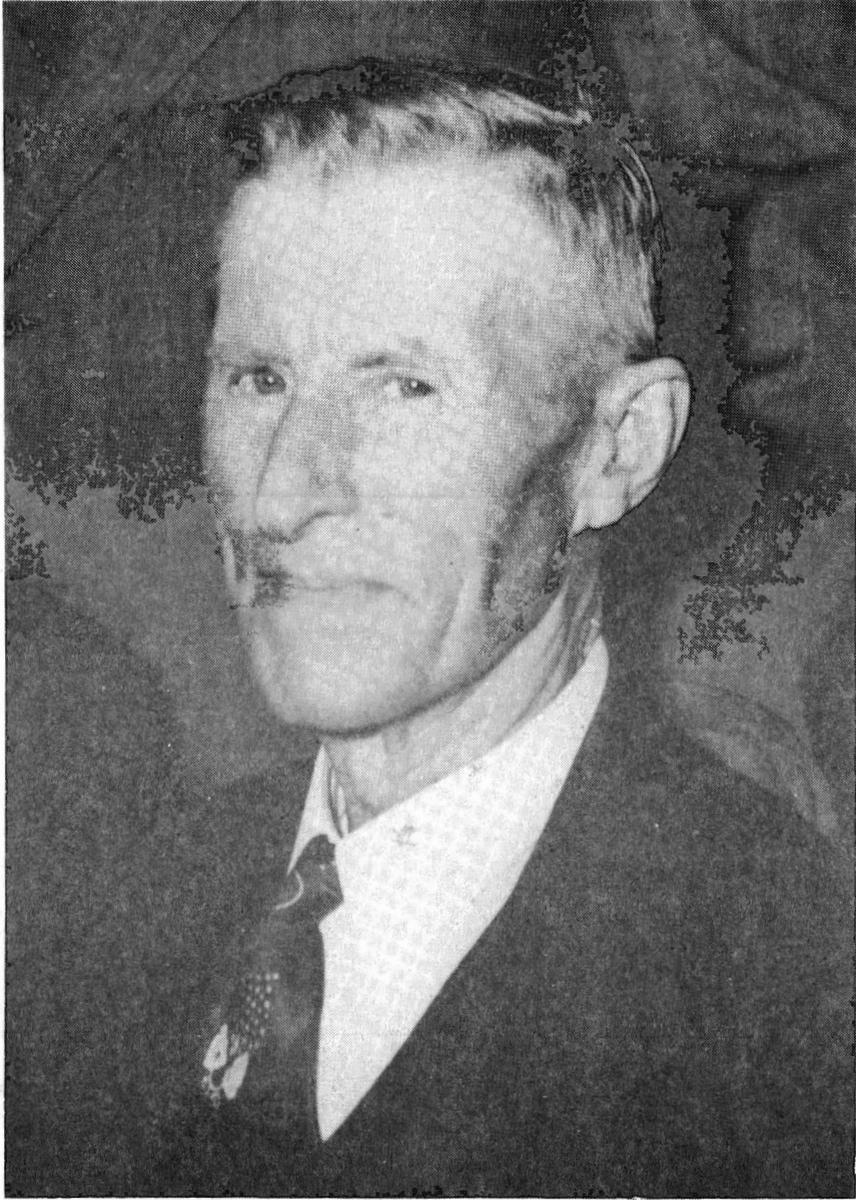
All materials used in building the church were native products of Cook County, except for the hardwood flooring and the two sets of doors from the



Dr. Howard Hong



Rev. C.G. Eidnes  
Served from 1907 to 1912



Mons Hanson



Prof. Arnold Flaten