

Church/Organization: Lutheran Concordia Church
16 Helena Street
Rochester, NY 14605

Years of Operation 1877 - 1960

Volume Title: Anniversary 60th 1877 - 1937

VOLUME CONTENT

An historical sketch of the first 60 years of the Church.

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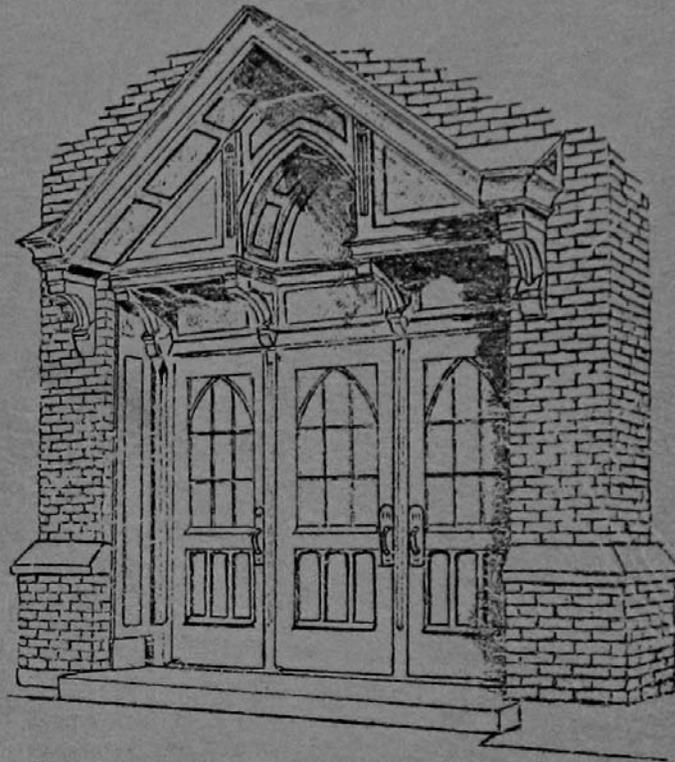
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Anniversary 60th 1877 - 1937

1877-1937

The Lutheran Concordia Church

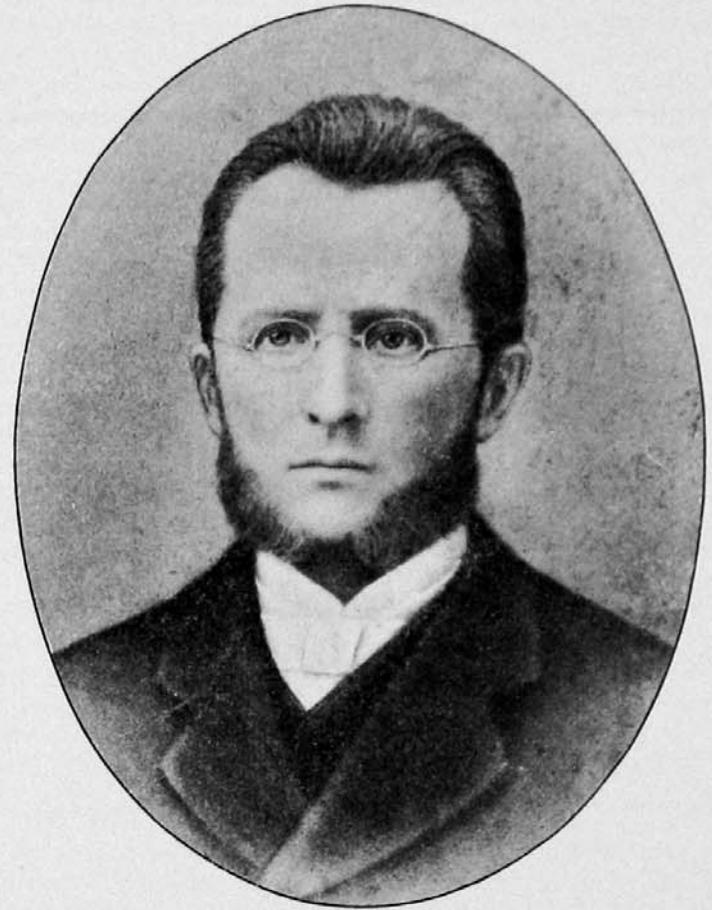
Rochester, N. D.



The Sixtieth Anniversary and Rededication

November 14, 1937

Anniversary 60th 1877 - 1937



REV. ERNST HEYDLER

Historical Sketch of the Lutheran Concordia Church

On September 30, 1877 a meeting was held at the home of Pastor Ernst Heydler on Joseph Street to consider the matter of founding a new Lutheran Congregation with an especial appeal to the North Germans. Present at this meeting were some sixty former members of St. John's Lutheran Church, and Pastor Heydler, its former minister. The way had been prepared for the contemplated organization and the first meeting accomplished much. A constitution was adopted. The name of the new congregation was chosen upon recommendation of the Pastor, who in making his motion quoted the last stanza of Schiller's "Glocke," the "Song of the Bell." A place of meeting was rented for the services of the newly organized church at Goers' Hall, 103 Hudson Street, for the period extending from September 3rd to April 1, 1878 at two dollars per week. A room for the holding of a parochial school in German and English was rented for a like sum from October 1 to April 1, 1878 at 51 Concord Avenue. A church council was elected to consist of the following: Elders—John Roggman and Fr. Desens; Deacons—Carl Maas, John Knut, Gustave Dumrese, Christ Peters, August Weichbrodt and John Frank; Trustees—E. Ruscher, John Welner, John Bauch, H. Bauman, Fr. Hamman and Louis Schmidt. The call of a pastor was next in order, and Pastor Ernst Heydler received the unanimous call of the assembled congregation. Incorporation papers were taken out in 1878 under the name "Die Norddeutsche Evangelisch-lutherische Concordia Gemeinde." The congregation was reincorporated on May 17, 1919 under its present name. Such were the beginnings.

Goers' Hall soon became too small to accommodate the rapidly growing congregation. Upon the recommendation of a committee appointed on January 1, 1878 a special congregational meeting on February 4th voted to purchase the plot on the corner of Helena and Putnam Streets, 70 x 100 feet, for the price of \$700. Cash was paid for the lots. On April 22nd it was voted to build a church to seat 400 people, 40 feet wide and 70 feet long, as reasonably as possible. Plans were prepared by Pastor Gomph of Pittsford, N. Y. In order to help finance this project Pastor Hedyler made a visit to New York and received the kind permission of the Pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church to make a visitation among its members to solicit funds. An offering of \$606 was thus made available, which was received with joyful thanks. In accepting the gift, Pastor Heydler wrote that Concordia will never forget what it owes to the love of the brethren.

The church building was completed and dedicated on October 6, 1878 at a cost of \$3,634. Furnishings were gradually purchased and assembled. Benches and pews were built, two furnaces were in-

THE PROGRAM

November 14, 1937

9:00 A. M.—SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 A. M.—REDEDICATION SERVICE

English and German Sermons by the Pastor,
The Rev. Wilfried Tappert

3:00 P. M.—ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Sermon by Dr. Fred R. Knubel,
Pastor of Reformation Church

stalled, and the faulty ceiling replaced with a new one. In December the cellar was dug out to prepare for future developments.

The need for a school moved a congregational recommendation to purchase two additional lots adjoining the congregational property on Helena Street. The deed was signed in July 1879, the cost being \$600. A schoolhouse was built on this property at a cost of \$933 and dedicated on August 27th. There were only two rooms in the school so that by October 23, 1881 the need of more room having become urgent, an addition had been built at a cost of \$600.

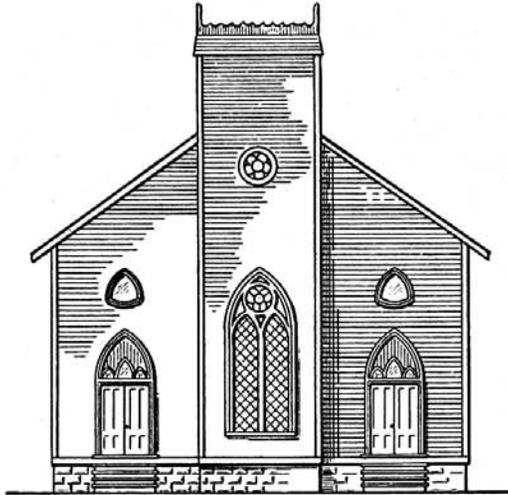
It was at this time that Pastor Heydler took ill. Vacations were granted him to recuperate, but in vain. He died on September 26, 1882 and was buried at Mount Hope Cemetery. He sleeps blessed in the Lord, and his works do follow him! The present Baptistery is dedicated to his memory by vote of the congregation.

On July 24, 1882, a special congregational meeting elected to send a call to Theological Candidate Carl Nicolas Conrad to become pastor of the congregation. He had supplied at Concordia during the sickness of his predecessor. The call was unanimous, and Pastor Conrad accepted willingly.

At the same meeting it was decided to build a room for confirmation instruction and a sacristy for the Pastor's use at the rear of the church building. These were completed in September 1882 at a cost of \$525.

On March 26, 1883 the First Benevolent Society of the congregation, organized in 1879, finding the schoolhouse rooms too small for its meetings, suggested to the congregation at a special meeting that it would loan the money necessary for finishing the basement of the church if the congregation would move the church pews to that basement and buy new ones for church use. The recommendation was adopted. The work was finished and dedicated on July 22, 1883. The basement cost \$504, the new pews \$535. The door to the basement was made at the schoolhouse side of the church near the confirmation room.

A pipe organ for the church was purchased from the Brick Presbyterian Church in December of this year for \$500 and installed in the rear balcony.



Original Church 1877
Drawn by Maryn F. Willenberg

This was a time of rapid growth in the congregation because of extensive emigration from Germany. Pastor and people tried to make the newcomers feel at home, gladly supplied them with needful articles of furniture, and ministered to them in many ways. On February 4, 1884 it was voted to extend and enlarge the church building proper. To this end two additional lots were purchased in April for \$800. They adjoined the congregation's property in the rear.

The confirmation room and sacristy, after a debate as to the advisability of moving them to the rear of the schoolhouse structure since they served as 4th classroom for the school at this time, were moved back to adjoin the rear of the enlarged church. A spire was also added and a belfry to the tower front of the church, to accommodate a new bell purchased at the cost of \$300 as a gift of the



CONCORDIA CHURCH AND SCHOOL IN 1884

Young Men's Society. The addition to the church, tower and bell, were dedicated on July 15, 1884. The cost was \$5,000. Pictures of the remodelled church were taken in November of this year.

In 1886 the congregation laid the groundwork for founding missionary congregations and Sunday Schools in Brockport, East Rochester, and the Wakelee Farm district. This home missionary activity proved a great blessing, and Concordia can be proud of having stood mother to seven daughter congregations. They are: Concordia, West Henrietta, 1880; Concordia, Brockport, 1886; Bethlehem, Rochester, 1886; Concordia, Kendall, 1887; Concordia, Byron, 1889; Concordia, Charlotte (dissolved) 1890; Concord, West Greece, 1908. Groundwork was also laid by Pastor Conrad, in cooperation with Pastor Graf, to lay the foundations for the establishment of the Lutheran congregation in Hornellsville, N. Y.

In 1887 a school bell was purchased. The highlight of this year was the celebration of the congregation's 10th Anniversary. We can appreciate how thankful this flock of God must have been, under God's blessing, and with such a small beginning, to have reached the ten year milestone with so many successful undertakings to look back upon.

A fire in the basement and sacristy broke out in January, 1888. The effects of this conflagration could be well seen during the remodelling of this year. The repairs were covered by insurance, except for the personal losses of the Pastor.

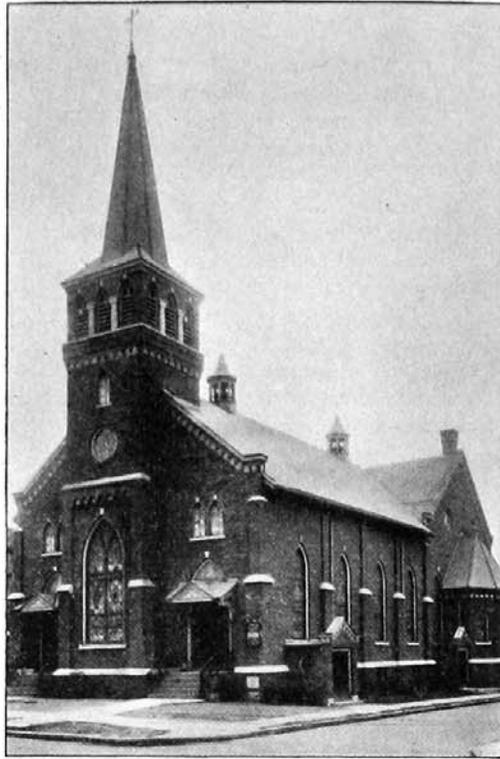
On August 19th of the same year the congregation with other Lutherans of the city chartered a boat to take them to Troutberg, N. Y. near Kendall, for a Mission Festival. Because of a storm the boat could not land. The whole day was spent on board and at evening a hungry and for the most part seasick congregation was put on shore at Rochester.

On August 13, 1890 the Rev. W. E. Rommel of West Henrietta was called as assistant pastor to give special attention to the work of the chapel at Wakelee Farm. He resigned in January, 1892. The cornerstone of the chapel was laid on September 15, 1890 and the building finished the same year at a cost of \$6,000.

In 1893 the church was redecorated. A new side gallery was built, new doors were installed, and gas brackets, the gift of the Young Men's Society, added. The cost was \$1,000. In April, 1896 the Chapel on Wakelee Farm was given to the Bethlehem Congregation which had been organized there, under the condition that that congregation pay the \$500 principal still unpaid on the mortgage. This was accepted.

A new organ was purchased in 1898 for \$3,000. It was placed to the front of the church in an addition built for the purpose at a cost of \$1,500. In 1900 the congregation severed its connections with the New York Ministerium. Finding no other suitable synodical body with which to affiliate itself, it decided after four years, and then five more years of search, to remain without synodical connection for the present, but to hold itself to the doctrinal standards of the General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

An organ was purchased for the basement at a cost of \$500 in January 1902, and new entrances were made for the basement at a



CONCORDIA CHURCH IN 1918

cost of \$350. The church was repainted, inside and out, and minor changes were made costing \$1,800. In 1906 a Building Fund was established looking forward to the erection of a new church. During the same year an assessment for the paving of Helena Street amounting to \$680 was paid in full. In 1907 English Services were introduced for the first time in connection with the evening worship; hitherto the services had all been in German. On November 1, 1907 the parochial school was closed. During the thirty years of its existence this school did a fine work. Its peak enrollment was 4 teachers, 350 scholars. Those who served as teachers through the years were: Pastor Ernst Heydler, Miss Sophia Bentleon, Carl A. Wonneberger, A. Rebhahn, Christian Frank, Miss Marie Gerndt, M. Mayer, Miss E. Kuss, Henry Meyer, Miss B. Zwiebel, Miss Emilie Conrad, Miss Howard, Miss Georgia Frank, O. C. F. Leddin, Mr. Spangenberg, Edward Hecker, Otto Ehlers, C. Brown, K. Veith, L. Stiehl and F. Mayer.



NEW PARISH HALL BUILT IN 1924

During this year, 1907, Arthur F. Nowack was called as organist and choirmaster. He has been faithful in service ever since, so that this year he celebrates his 30th Anniversary, having been with the congregation for half of its life.

In 1908 a permanent floor was laid in the basement and a choir room was built, at a total cost of \$2,000. Picture postcards were made of the exterior and interior of the church at this time and widely distributed. In December of this year a fire in the school building did over \$1,000 worth of damage. In 1910 a city wide coupon contest was won by the young people of Concordia, who received a fine piano and a magnificent library as prizes. In 1912 the school building was remodelled into an Assembly Hall for \$1,800. On July 5th of this year lightning struck the church steeple and ignited the roof. Damage to the amount of \$500 was covered by insurance.

Beginning with September 1913, one of the rooms of the Assembly Hall was rented to the city for the use of Grammar School 18 in the care of its overflow pupils. A contract was made for a year. In December 1914 five lots were bought at Alphonse and Carter Streets for \$6,500 with the view of building a new church plant at that location.

and buyers were sought for the old church property. From June 3, 1915 on, morning services were held in English on every third Sunday of the month, and beginning with 1916 an alternate Sunday mornings.

During the war Concordia did her part, and 193 of her sons served under the colors. Five gold stars adorn the congregation's service flag. A Memorial Window in the church is dedicated to the memory of these heroes. After the war the congregation also helped to bind up the wounds of the conflict by gathering food and clothing for the starving victims of this catastrophe.

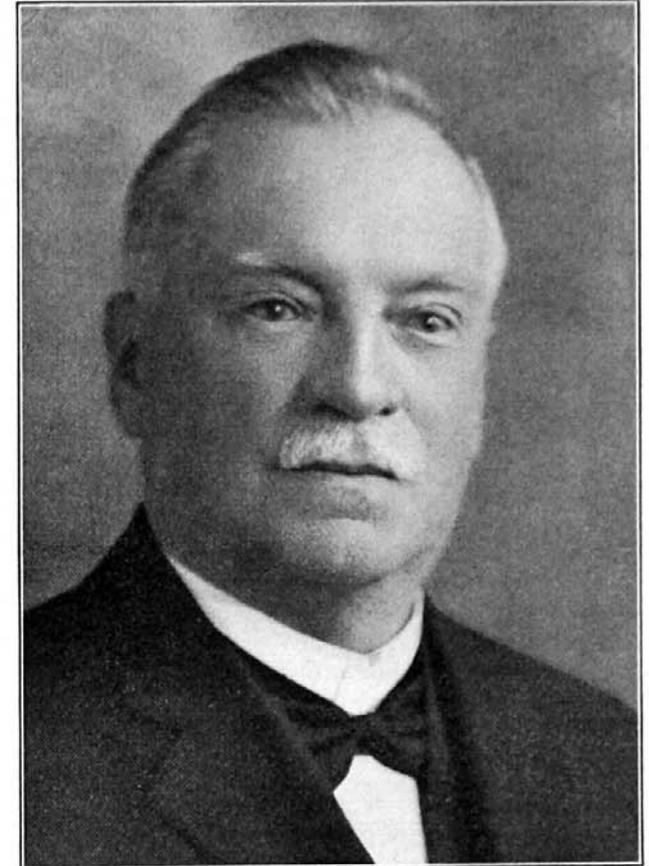
In 1918 the wooden church building which had with various additions and improvements served the congregation for 40 years was remodelled and modernized. The building was covered on the outside with an ornamental brick veneer, a new asbestos shingle roof was installed both on church and tower, hot water heat was introduced, new windows placed, a hardwood floor furnished, the altar, pulpit and lighting improved, a new carpet laid, and various other alterations effected at a cost of \$30,000. The work was begun with \$8,000 on hand in the Building Fund, and by the year 1920 all the debt incurred in the remodelling of the church had been paid off. The following paragraph in the resolutions adopted at the time of the last payment may be of especial interest:

"That we press forward with renewed success for the cause of Inner, Home and Foreign Mission work, in the name of our great Master, Jesus Christ our Lord."

In 1923 the old school bell was given to Concord Church, West Greece, and the basement organ to Fairport Lutheran Church.

The desire became evident, especially among the younger people of the congregation that a modern Parish Hall be built on the site of the Assembly Hall. A Ways and Means Committee was appointed to canvass the congregation and to make plans. Advance collections were made and pledges received. The sale of the lots owned by the congregation for \$5,200 in 1924 helped swell the fund. By September 7, 1924 it was possible to lay the cornerstone of the Parish Hall which was erected at a cost of \$80,000. Steady use is made of the Hall's four bowling alleys and its other recreational equipment, as well as of the meeting rooms and great hall. In order to help pay for the debt incurred in building the Parish Hall, the double envelope system was introduced at the close of this year.

In 1927 the congregation celebrated its Golden Anniversary and the Forty-fifth Anniversary of the Pastor. A history of the congregation was published in honor of this event. The report of the Pastor's official acts during the 45 years of his ministry included 5,471 baptisms, 3,756 confirmations, 2,095 marriages and 3,077 burials.



REV. CARL N. CONRAD

During 1928 the Dorcas Society installed churchly lighting fixtures in the nave of the church at a cost of \$1,000 and furnished the church council room in the Hall for \$400.

The Hall debt was fully paid by the close of 1930. In the meantime the need of a new organ in the church was felt and steps were taken to raise funds for this new installation. The organ was bought in April 1930 at a cost complete of \$17,538.

The year 1931 was spent in normal congregational activity and in planning for the 55th Anniversary of the congregation and the Golden Anniversary of the Pastor for the next year. The Pastor's Anniversary could not be observed since he was called to his heavenly reward on June 8, 1932. Deep mourning filled the hearts of the people whose faithful shepherd he had been during these many years. There was not a family in the congregation into which his pastoral activity had not carried him for one purpose or other. His body was laid to rest in Mt. Hope cemetery beside that of his beloved wife. The congregation cares for these graves. The memory of Dr. Conrad, however, lives in the hearts of those whom he served.

Pastor Charles J. Reichardt was chosen by the church council to serve the congregation till a new pastor could be called. He labored faithfully, and won the respect and love of Concordia's people during the three short months left him to serve. The Fifty-fifth Anniversary of the congregation was celebrated under his ministry in September, and new paraments, altar candlesticks, vases and service books were dedicated. Pastor Reichardt died on October 6, 1932 and was laid to rest in the presence of a mourning congregation.

The present pastor of Concordia was called at a continued meeting of the congregation on September 26th, and began his duties on the first Sunday in October. He was installed in the presence of an overflow congregation on November 6, 1932.

The developments of the last few years are so familiar as to need little mention. A plan long in the mind of the congregation was begun, establishing a regular German and a regular English service every Sunday morning. In 1933 a visitation of all members of the congregation was made by a selected group of men for the purpose of stimulating participation in the congregational life, and a new Constitution was adopted. On Christmas of this year the Common Service Book was introduced and 500 copies purchased. In June, 1934 the mortgage still remaining on the organ was paid off and burnt. The following year the interior of the great hall was painted for the first time, and on June 20th the 15th Anniversary of the pastor's ordination was celebrated. In 1936 plans were made for the present remodelling, as brought to a culmination in the celebration of the congregation's 60th Anniversary.



REV. WILFRIED C. H. TAPPERT

The history of Concordia Church is intertwined with that of her organizations. It may be well therefore to touch upon the sidelights which these offer us.

The Sunday School was begun on September 23, 1877 in Goers' Hall with two teachers, 15 boys and 34 girls. When the first church was built the sessions of the school were held there until the basement was completed. The first picnic was held on Wakelee Farm. The first Christmas treat consisted of several bushels of peanuts. The Christmas trees at the celebrations were regularly guarded by tree committees, who had brooms and pails of water ready for use in case of fire.

On August 16, 1882 the Teachers' Society was organized by Pastor Conrad. At present it includes 39 officers and teachers, and former teachers.

In 1879 the custom was originated of presenting every child at confirmation with a Bible, and has been kept up ever since. A treat of Easter eggs at the festival for the pupils and teachers of the school was also begun at this time.

In 1919 English was introduced into all the departments of the Sunday School. A large class of adults was in existence before 1907 and bears the name Mission Class. There is also an organized class for girls called the Ruth Class, and a similar one for boys. The Beginners' Department is well organized and will with the remodelling receive a new and finely appointed room for its sessions. The Cradle Roll is kept up by the Sunday School to enlist all baptised babies of the congregation. The main body of the Sunday School is under the direct administration of the Superintendent. A monthly offering for missions is taken up in the school on the first Sunday of the month, at which time also a special feature is put on by some class. In 1932 the school made the gift of \$1,000 to the Board of American Missions to be used for making church extension loans not larger than \$250 each to mission congregations for a limited period of time, money being returned to be loaned again to other congregations.

The officers and teachers of the school at this time, together with inactive teachers still connected with the school are: William Griep, Superintendent, 1893; Amelia Griep Bunde, 1898; Otto Scheik, Librarian, 1902; Henry Unterborn, Treasurer, 1908; Minnie Weier Manske, 1910; Laura Weber Scheik, 1910; Eleanor Nowack, 1911; Rose Ahrens Carroll, Secretary, 1914; Elsie Kranzush, 1917; Eleanor Pallas Kaplin, 1919; Grace Pallas, 1919; Florence Heim Slager, 1919; Loretta Saucke, 1921; Anna Bock, Superintendent Beginners' Department, 1922; Mildred Schock, 1925; Grace Bock Padget, 1926; Helen Treckel, 1927; Eleanor Schroeder, 1927; Frank Bock, 1929; Bernice Smith, 1931; Beatrice Smith, 1931; Mildred Pioch, 1931; Louise Mors, 1931; Walter Bock, 1932; Dorothy Bundschuh, Cradle Roll Superintendent, 1932; Arthur Pioch, 1932; Mildred Manske,

1933; Ruth Neuwirth, 1934; Richard Gaedt, 1935; Anna Radtke, 1935; Carl Bunde, 1936; Russell Padget, 1936; Carol Cooligan, 1936; Helen Stein, 1937; Arline Frank, 1927; Frank Manske, 1908; Julia Schrank Berndt, 1922; Mabel Pallas Patzer, 1922; Marion Muisus Hopkins, 1928; Erma Muisus Koeplin, 1928; Ruth Tappert, 1933; Arthur Hergenahan, 1935.

The Young Men's Society was organized by Dr. C. N. Conrad as a benevolent organization on April 20, 1883 with seven members. Only one of the charter members, Mr. William Horn is alive today. Throughout the history of the congregation this organization has been a ready help to lead the way to a greater Concordia. The first contribution toward our remodelling of this year from an organization was made by this society. It has 250 members, with the pastor as honorary member, and resources of over \$19,000. It still continues to invite young men of our church over 16 years of age to join its fellowship and to participate in its benefits. Dues are fifty cents a month after initiation. The present officers are: Frank Manske, President; Willard Unterborn, Vice-president; William A. Griep, Secretary; William Tomaschke, Secretary of Finance; William A. Schroeder, Treasurer; Willard Treckel, Librarian; L. J. Weber, Perry Sheehan and Charles Patzer, Finance Committee.

The Dorcas Society was organized September 19, 1937 upon the dissolution of the former Frauenverein. Its first officers were: Mrs. Catharine Conrad, President; Eleanor Nowack, Vice-president; Mrs. Anna Kimmel, Secretary; Mrs. Amelia Bunde, Treasurer. The organization has been active throughout its history in the support of the congregation's undertakings, and celebrates its twentieth anniversary this year. Though the dues are only ten cents the month, the many activities of the Dorcas and its alert readiness for every promising undertaking for the welfare of the congregation restrict the membership to such as are willing to sacrifice their time and ability as well as money in the faithful pursuit of the organization's objects. During the years of its existence, the Dorcas has contributed \$5,000 to the congregational treasury for special expenditures, at the same time contributing more than this sum for special objects and benevolences. The bright past of this society augurs a still more glorious future. Present officers are: Mrs. Ruth Tappert, President; Mrs. Eleanor Nowack, Vice-president; Mrs. Marie Seville, Secretary; Mrs. Amelia Bunde, Treasurer.

The Choir found its inception in a motion of the congregation on March 3, 1879, that the children of the Parochial School were to be trained in singing so as to be able to participate in the services and at burials. The desire for more skilled participation on the part of se-

lected singers found expression in the development of a quartette, then a double quartette, a men's chorus, and finally a full voiced choir. When English was introduced into the services the choir participated in both languages. With the introduction of a regular German and a regular English service every Sunday, the German Choir was developed as an auxiliary. With the last year, under the direction of Stud. Theol. Arthur Hergenhan, a Junior Choir has been organized, and will function as a regular part of the choir set-up.

The members of the choir have generally been active in every other department of the congregation's work, as teachers in the Sunday School and members of various committees and organizations. They have shown themselves willing to help out with extra services in the St. John's Home for the Aged, the County Home, the Penitentiary, the Home for Transient Men, the Convalescent Hospital and other institutions. Though mention is made again and again of the appreciation of the congregation for the work of director and choir during the progress of the congregation's life, it seems that adequate expression can never be given for all that this service entails. Our music is among the best in the city, our voices are fresh and sweet, our choir serves the whole year round, is fully voluntary, and is always well represented at the services. With the processional and recessional from now on a regular part of our English Service, still more will depend upon the smooth functioning of this congregational unit. Our choir is robed, and has but two officers, the director Arthur F. Nowack, and the treasurer, Mrs. Amelia Bunde. Miss Ruth Neuwirth is the accompanist of the Junior Choir and Carl Bunde assistant director. This choir too will be robed by vote and gift of the Sunday School.

The Concordia Girls' Club functions since June 21, 1922, when it was organized as the Girls' Friendly Society under the guidance of Mrs. T. Twietmeyer. It holds regular meetings, presents plays and dramas, and undertakes benevolent activities, especially toward the sick, the old and the underprivileged. Its officers are: Ruth Neuwirth, President; Dolores Kieffer, Vice-president; Dorothy Hergenhan, Secretary; Mildred Schock, Treasurer.

The Mission Class has already been mentioned in the report of the Sunday School. It serves also in a social capacity as an organization of the younger people of the congregation. Its officers are: Irving Muisus, President; William Adams, Vice-president; Lois Herbert Schwan, Secretary; Evelyn Geiwitz, Treasurer.

The Ruth Bible Class and the Boys' Bible Class are organized in a similar way as the Mission Class. Officers of the Ruth Class are: Dorothy Schlegel, President; Mary Jane Seville, Secretary; Violet Hoffman, Treasurer. Officers of the Boys' Class are: Clifford Short,

President; Robert Heinrich, Vice-president; Carl Mueller, Secretary-Treasurer.

A Young Peoples' Society is in process of becoming under a committee appointed by the Sunday School. These organizations have all contributed their part to the past glories of Concordia, and are giving vital support in the present remodelling. Our Lord bless them!

As we look upon the beautiful house of God in which we now worship, and keep in mind the steady progress which has marked Concordia's life under the blessing of God, let us not in spiritual pride say: "Behold what we have done!" But, recognizing in repentance how often we have lacked, and how much must yet be wrought upon our spiritual house to approach the perfection which Christ demands of His own, let us confess: "Thy gentleness hath made me great;" and resolve under God to labor diligently on to the goal of our high calling in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Wilfried Tappert, Pastor.

The Festival of the Reformation, 1937.

The officers and members of the Church Council at the time of our 60th Anniversary celebration are:

The Rev. Wilfried Tappert, Pastor and President
Frank Cooligan, Deacon and Secretary
Charles Neuwirth, Elder and Treasurer
William Wackerman, Elder and Financial Secretary
Gustav Heinrich, Deacon and Hall Committee Chairman
William Griep, Elder
William Slager, Deacon
Otto Scheik, Deacon
Henry Unterborn, Deacon
William Adams, Deacon
Edward Bess, Deacon
Arthur Pioch, Deacon
Howard Werner, Deacon

The Finance Committee in charge of our 60th Anniversary Campaign was: Perry Sheehan, Chairman; Frank Cooligan, Secretary; Charles Neuwirth, Treasurer; William Wackerman, Financial Secretary; Charles Patzer, Campaign Chairman; William Slager, Gustav Heinrich, Milton Roessel, Howard Werner, and the Pastor.

The Building Committee in charge of our improvements was: Charles Urlaub, Chairman; Henry Unterborn, Secretary; Charles Pioch, William Saucke, Edward Berndt, Arthur Nowack, John Radtke, Arthur Demler, William Wackerman, Edward Moldenhauer, and the Pastor.

The architect for our remodelling was Charles Pioch of Gustke and Pioch, the builder Saucke Brothers, Inc.

The congregation accords its sincere thanks to these members for their faithful and devoted labors in bringing to a successful conclusion the undertakings of this year.

Gruss an unsere alten deutschen Glieder :

Es wird in dieser Zeit gar manchem unter Euch zu Mute sein wie den Juden, als sie aus der babylonischen Gefangenschaft zurueckkehren und den Tempel in Jerusalem wieder bauen durften. Von diesen heisst es in der Schrift: "Aber viele der alten Priester und Leviten und obersten Vaeter, die das vorige Haus gesehen hatten, und nun dieses Haus vor ihren Augen gegrundet ward, weineten sie laut. Viele aber toetenen mit Freuden, dass das Geschrei hoch erscholl."

Etliche von Euch sind mit dabei gewesen, als unter dem seligen Pastor Heydler die Concordia Gemeinde gegrundet wurde. Etliche von Euch haben zum Bau der ersten Kirche und den nachfolgenden Verbesserungen beigetragen, nicht nur mit Geld und Gut, sondern auch mit Eurer Haende Arbeit und mit dem Gebet Eurer Herzen. Ihr habt dann fast 50 Jahre lang unter Dr. Conrad Freud und Leid mit der Gemeinde geteilt. Da ist es kein Wunder, dass heute, wo Eure Kirche nach gruendlichen Verbesserungen in neuem Glanze vor Euch steht, Eure Herzen erfuellt sind von Freude und Dank. Ihr habt sie lieb, diese Huette Gottes bei den Menschen, wo Ihr die seligsten Stunden Eures Lebens verlebt habt. Und mit Dank gegen Gott muesst Ihr, wie Israel, bekennen, dass die Herrlichkeit dieses Hauses groesser ist, als die des ersten war.

An diesem 60. Jahresfest der Gemeinde wollen wir es nicht unterlassen, unsern Alten einen besonderen Gruss zu senden. Wir wollen Euch das Versprechen geben, dass es Euch in Anerkennung Eurer Treue durch so viele Jahre, an Gottesdiensten in Eurer Muttersprache nicht mangeln wird. Und wenn Eure Fuesse so schwach werden, dass sie Euch nicht mehr zum Gotteshause tragen koennen, so will Euch Euer Seelsorger doch willig mit Wort und Sakrament in Eurer Muttersprache dienen.

Moege in Zukunft die Gemeinde weiter bauen auf dem Grunde, auf dem Ihr gebaut habt, ein gesitliches Haus, einen heiligen Tempel in dem Herrn, und moege das Erbe der Vaeter unversehrt weitergegeben werden, von Kind auf Kindeskind, damit es auch hier wahr werden moege: "Gottes Wort und Luthers Lehr, Vergehen nun und nimmermehr."

Geht durch die Tore des Herrn mit Loben,
Durch seinen Vorhof mit Gesang.
All euer Herz sei zu ihm erhoben,
Zu bringen Ehre, Lob and Dank.
Lobt seinen Namen, danket ihm,
Ja, lobet ihn mit heller Stimm!
Halleluja, halleluja!

Wilfried Tappert, Pastor.

Our 60th Anniversary Undertaking

In 1937, to mark the 60th anniversary of the Congregation, Concordia Lutheran Church undertook extensive alterations to the entire Church Building.

The entire interior of the Church was changed from a mixture of designs to pure Tudor Gothic, with Sanctuary, Baptistry, Transept, Narthex and Nave entirely refinished.

The two Helena Street entrances with outside steps were removed, and replaced with a spacious center entrance at grade level with all steps inside. A large Waiting Room and Stair Hall leading to the basement and to the gallery was formed under the Balcony, by a wood and glass Narthex screen.

A transept was formed from the former L to the left front of the Church by removing the side balcony, and separating this portion from the nave by three large Gothic arches. The choir and organ console were relocated here.

The old Sacristy, side entrance and rear porch gave way to a new Baptistry with three new leaded glass windows and three Gothic arches to match the transept arches.

The old altar platform forming the Sanctuary which was flat across the front wall of the Church was removed. A separate Sanctuary Wing was built in the space the Infants' Department formerly occupied, with ornamental wainscoting, a carved communion rail, an ornamental leaded glass Rose window, and all new chancel furniture, including a new altar, a new pulpit and sounding board, two credences, and clergy stall.

A new Sacristy, built at the side of the Sanctuary, is connected to a Side Hall which leads to the rear exit and also to the new Beginners' Department in the Basement. There is access to these from the Church.

The entire interior was replastered after the old plastering had been removed, and a new beam ceiling with Temlock panels was erected in place of the old flat plaster ceiling.

The lighting system was changed by altering the fixtures, adding more, and controlling all the lights with dimmers; and a system of signal control was installed in the pulpit.

A Timkin oil burning unit was installed in the old heating boiler, changing the system from coal burning to oil.

Toilet Rooms for Men and Women were added under the Helena St. entrance, accessible from Sunday School Room and also from the Church proper.

Several minor rearrangements were made in the basement so as to provide separate Dressing Rooms for the Men and Women members of the choir.

Two large ventilating fans were installed in the attic capable of making a complete air change in the entire Church every 12 minutes.

The entire exterior of the Church building and also the Parish Hall was retucked, cleaned and repainted.

The entire interior trim of the Church was renewed with close-grained oak and ornamental radiator enclosures were provided.

The sidewalk on Helena St. was removed and relaid at a new grade level and a strip of cement walk was laid between the street walk and the curb.

The Contractors on the work were as follows:

Saucke Bros. Construction Co.—Mason and Carpenter Work

Seebach Kimble, Inc.—Painting

E. G. Snyder—Plumbing

Lothar Gresens—Heating

Laube Electric Corp.—Electric Work and Fixtures

Pike Stained Glass Co.—Ornamental Glass

Charles Urlaub, Chairman of the Building Committee.

Charles Pioch, Architect

The following Memorials have been given and placed, to the Glory of God, and to the remembrance of loved ones:

The Chancel: dedicated to the Rev. C. N. Conrad, Pastor of Lutheran Concordia Church for fifty years;

The Baptistry: dedicated to the Rev. Ernst Heydler, Founder and Pastor of Lutheran Concordia Church;

The Baptism Window: dedicated to the memory of the Rev. Charles J. Reichardt, who finished his earthly course while ministering in Lutheran Concordia Church, by his wife;

The Rose Window: dedicated to the memory of Gustave and Bertha Marschinsky by Mr. and Mrs. William Gottschalk;

The Altar and Reredos: dedicated to the memory of Fred and Sophia Demler by their children;

The Baptistry Windows: dedicated, the one to the memory of Caroline Mors Eggert by the Mors Family; the other to the memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Dahlheim by Mrs. Minnie Vogt;

The Front Windows: dedicated, the one to the memory of Ottilia Javet by her loved ones, the other presented by the Roessel Family;

The Processional Cross: by the choir;

The Hymn Boards: by the Building and Finance Committees;

The Landscaping; in memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Vragle by their daughter, Mrs. Mary Gebhardt.

Memorial Gifts have been given: in memory of Rev. Ernst Heydler by his son, John Heydler; in memory of Amelia Muisus by Louise Muisus; in memory of Caroline Urlaub by Miss B. Urlaub and F. Klick; in memory of Ferdinand Urlaub by Mrs. F. Urlaub; in memory of Max Eisamann by Mr. and Mrs. G. Eisamann; in memory of Mrs. Johanna Bess by Mrs. Minnie Ryan; in memory of Mrs. Augusta Dumrese by Alma Dumrese; in memory of Mrs. William Schroeder by William Schroeder; in memory of Rudolph Prien by Mrs. Mary Prien; in memory of Tena Horn by Mr. William Horn; in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Hahnke by their children; in memory of Edwin and Howard Rodemerk by Emilie Rodemerk; in memory of Carl Knop by Mrs. Rose Meyer; by Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Matthiak.

As we look back upon the past with grateful thanks, let us set aims of accomplishment before us, to guide our endeavors for the immediate future.

As a member of Concordia, as a Christian, I will strive, in the day of grace yet left to me:

- To attend the services of the church more regularly;
- To partake of the Lord's Supper more frequently;
- To read the Bible daily, and to devote more time to daily prayer;
- To grow in the grace of giving and in self-denial;
- To apply my Christian faith in my dealings with the fellowman;
- To serve more willingly in and through the church;
- To realize more fully my Christian ideals;
- To share my spiritual wealth with others, and to be courageous in inviting them thus to share with me;
- To take a greater pride in my church, to love her work, to speak well concerning her to others;
- To bring at least one new member to the fold of my church.

As a Lutheran, a Christian congregation, we will strive:

- To exalt spiritual realities, and seek first the Kingdom of God;
- To bring our church attendance to an average of 600 per Sunday;
- To advance the family pew, the family communion, the family altar;
- To increase our membership steadily;
- To pay off our debt in three years;
- To take our rightful place in Lutheranism by willing and consecrated service;
- To encourage our young people to consecrate themselves to the ministry of the Word and the ministry of Mercy;
- To keep faith in word and deed; with God, with fellow-believers, with the fellowman;
- To build ourselves up into a spiritual house of true beauty and lasting strength with the same devotion which we have shown in building and beautifying our church property;
- To permit the Spirit of Christ to guide and determine all things in our midst, to His praise, and to the fulfillment of our mission as His Church.

To these our aims, as we are sincere, may God grant His blessings, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen!