



St. Paul's Church

Foreword

Over a period of several years much time and effort have been given by pastors and laymen of our church in research for an authentic record disclosing the reason for the founding of our beloved St. Paul's but without satisfactory results. It has been discovered however that many of our charter members were formerly associated with Trinity Evangelical church, then located on Allen Street near North Fitzhugh. Rev. J. Ph. Conradi, who was pastor of Trinity church in 1861, is introduced as St. Paul's pastor in 1862 - the year of the founding. We St. Paulites therefore conclude that our church was created as the result of a temporary estrangement among the Trinity church members. At the time of St.

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Paul's organization Trinity
was celebrating her twen-
tieth anniversary. Rev. Carl
Siebenpfeiffer was her
newly elected pastor.

Ida S. Pagels
Church Historian

1862-1865

Rev. J. Conradi

St. Paul's first minutes, dated February 18, 1862, read thus: "First meeting of the new congregation was opened with song and prayer led by the Rev. J. Ph. Conradi. The pastor served as chairman and the teacher, Mr. Boeber, as secretary. Mr. Hendricks and Mr. Fr. Baumann were named co-officers. A motion was made and seconded that a committee be appointed to interview Mr. Hiram Smith thus: 1st Did he wish to sell only the church building on State Street, or, 2nd was the entire plot of ground for sale.

The following persons served on this committee: Messrs. Bätzel, Leonhardt, Mansnest, Dürbaum, and Baumann."

(The purchase of this church property never materialized. Why? no record reveals. The Garvey Hotel has been located on

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this site for many years.)

St. Paul's first church council consisted of Michel Michel, Dietrich Dürbaum, Heinrich Raab, Carl Hetzel, Adam Seel, George Krautwurst, trustees; Adam Schake, ? Hansen, Heinrich Goetz, Adolph Enzmann - deacons; Jacob Seiler, Joseph Koehler, Carl Diehm - elders. Johann Seiler was made treasurer of the church and Louis Breternitz, secretary. Rev. Conradi served, throughout his pastorate, as president of the congregation.

A congregational meeting was held March 14, 1862. The read in the minutes that property was bought on North Fitzhugh Street - No. 113 - from the trustees of the Unitarian church. (It has been said that their church building had burned to the ground.) This property was purchased for \$4500.00.

The following building committee was appointed: Messrs.

Henrichs, Senfer, Baetzel, Baumann, Roemer, Lampert, and Hetzel. A finance committee consisted of Messrs. Seel, Schantz, Treulieb, Steinhauer, Selbert, and Wittmann. The special rule and regulation committee included Messrs. Fortekauer, Stein, Hetzel, Fockler, Steinhardt, Guman, Gaেকে, Hofner, Hutter, Kuehn, Diehm and Stirnemann.

A motion was made, March 14/62, that the name of the new church should be Evangelical Lutheran St. Paul's Church but the majority disapproved. The name Deutsche Vereinigte Evangelische St. Paul's Kirche was finally definitely decided upon. (German United Evangelical St. Paul's Church) Another decision made at this meeting fixed the pastor's yearly salary at \$500⁰⁰ and Mr. Boeber's, the teacher, at \$170⁰⁰.

The Corner Stone of the new church building was laid April 21, 1862.

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The expenditures for masonry and carpentry on the new edifice totalled approximately \$3500.00.

May 13, 1862 the church council decided that the new structure be erected with a tower.

September 21, 1862 the new church was dedicated with appropriate services. Rev. Schelle of Buffalo was the guest speaker.

Prior to the completion of the new sanctuary, worship services were held by St. Paul's founders in the Dreieinigkeitskirche on Allen Street, and also in the Westminster church on West Avenue.

After scanning the minutes of the various congregational and council meetings of 1862 one comes to the realization that the work of gathering funds for the upkeep of the new church was most burdensome. The big

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majority of St. Paul's founders were poor people financially, but God put within the hearts of many of those pioneers an unusual willingness to serve. The council persuaded members to loan money, without interest, for one year. Approximately 3000.00 were secured. Some loans however demanded interest. Parties and picnics were advocated as a means of helping finance the new venture.

The oppressive years of the Civil War - many of our young men had joined the northern army - intensified the difficulty of completing the organization of the church.

During Rev. Conradi's pastorate much attention was focused on the parochial school. April 14, 1862 a special committee was appointed. Messrs. Jacob Seiler, Joseph Köhler, Heinrich Goetz,

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and Rev. Conradi served. The first teacher remained until August 1862 when a new instructor was called.

This second teacher remained one year. Thereafter there was much trouble in retaining any of the teachers for a profitable length of time. Teachers were continually complaining of the parents' lack of cooperation in paying weekly dues - 6¢ - and sending their children regularly to school. Dues for indigent children were taken out of the church treasury. The school proved to be a great financial burden.

In the spring of 1863 Rev. Conradi loaned the congregation \$2000⁰⁰ for payment on church property mortgage.

At a special meeting of the church council held January 18, 1864 a decision

was reached to sponsor a "Fair." The selling of 800 tickets netted over \$400.00. No information is given in the minutes however disclosing the net profit of this undertaking.

Receipts from a picnic, held July 25, 1864, were \$272.46, disbursements \$126.50, leaving a balance of \$145.96 in the treasury.

Another picnic was held in September 1864 but no record of activities or receipts can be found in the minutes.

In the beginning of 1865 we read in the minutes that again there were financial worries - many notes had become due. The council asked for a renewal on a \$400⁰⁰ bank note but the bank officials refused and insisted on immediate payment. There was less trouble with notes

issued by St. Paul's members. Many allowed the notes to be renewed and others did not stress the payment of interest.

By April 1865 there was a deficit of \$111.09. The income during the year 1864 had been \$1349.94 and the expenditures \$1461.03. It was now compulsory to raise money to meet the many urgent demands. Rev. Conradi suggested holding a Fair and Picnic simultaneously. This materialized. 1500 tickets were printed. The receipts of this gigantic undertaking were \$807.16, the disbursements \$380.82, leaving a balance of \$426.34.

Finances were not the only troubles facing the congregation. Harmony no longer reigned between Rev. Conradi and many of his parishoners. It is recorded in the minutes of the congregational meeting August 1, 1865 that Rev. Conradi asked for a raise of salary. At its refusal he tendered his resignation. Continued friction followed between

pastor and his flock. Finally on October 3, 1865 the resignation was accepted. There were 50 votes in favor and 3 in opposition. The three year old congregation now stood shepherdless. She placed her trust in God and at the expiration of one month a new shepherd, Rev. Hoffman, arrived to administer to the small courageous flock.

During his brief pastorate, Rev. Conradi baptized 437 children (132 in 1862), married 105 couples, officiated at 186 funerals, confirmed 133 children.

W. S. Taggart
Church Historian

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1865-1869

Rev. J. U. Hoffmann

The Rev. John Ulrich Hoffmann was chosen pastor of St. Paul's November 14, 1865 at a salary of \$550⁰⁰ per annum.

It is recorded that shortly after Rev. Hoffmann entered his pastorate the church constitution was revised. One important clause read that a pastor was not to hold the office of president of the congregation as Rev. Contradi had done. A member of the church council was to be elected to the presidency of the church. John G. Hart held this office from 1865 to 1869.

February 7, 1866 our official board was again trying to find ways and means of meeting financial obligations. Many notes were again due.

In April 1866 the ladies Altar Society was organized. Little did Rev. Hoffmann realize the importance of that undertaking

and the beneficial effect it would have on the life of St. Paul's throughout these many years.

In the spring of 1866 the salaries of pastor and teacher were augmented \$100⁰⁰ and \$50⁰⁰ respectively.

A "Party" was held in the autumn as more funds were needed.

Records show that in the late spring of 1867 a "Fair" was again resorted to. The receipts were \$828.22, disbursements \$156.86, leaving a balance of \$671.36. The finances of the church were in such a critical state that this substantial sum soon vanished.

August 6, 1867 a Sunday School was organized. Previously all attention had been focused on the parochial school. Now pastor and council agreed that in order to interest the youth in attending church services Sunday School training was most essential.

The fifth anniversary of

the founding of St. Paul's was observed Sunday September 22, 1867. An anniversary supper was enjoyed on the following evening. The parish records disclose that the supper netted \$68.67.

In studying the minutes written during Rev. Hoffmann's pastorate we discover three major problems; finances, parochial school, discord between pastor and teachers.

December 1867 Rev. Hoffmann resigned due to a conflict with the teacher of the parochial school. After much persuasion by the church council the pastor reconsidered and withdrew his resignation.

In the summer of 1869 Rev. Hoffmann received a call to a new pastorate. He at once tendered his resignation to St. Paul's which was accepted without hesitation.

1869-1873

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Rev. F. Heinle

A new lease on life seemed to come to St. Paul's with the arrival of the Rev. Frederick Heinle. He was an advocate of "System" in carrying out the different phases of church work, a strong disciplinarian, an opposer of serving strong drinks at church fairs and picnics, a lover of peace and orderly conduct at social gatherings.

Minutes of the first congregational meeting in 1869 disclose Rev. Heinle's pledge to cooperate with the trustees in seeking ways and means to lessen St. Paul's great financial burden. A decision was reached to hold a large church festival to help decrease numerous debts. The pastor announced to his members at this meeting that he would direct children's religious instruction classes every Sunday afternoon.

from 2 to 3 o'clock. He requested the parents to send a written excuse whenever their children were absent from one of the classes.

At the second congregational meeting Rev. Heinle asked to hear the reading of the church constitution. After a brief meditation he pleaded with his parishioners to be loyal to St. Paul's and give willingly to the support of their church.

Harmony apparently reigned between pastor and congregation. During the first year of his pastorate Rev. Heinle's salary was increased \$100⁰⁰. The trustees were less troubled with finances. The income from April 1869 to October 1869 was in excess of \$2000.00. But the day school, as always, continued a burden. \$42.95 had been taken from the church treasury from April

to October and still there was a deficit of \$5.95. The congregation however could now stand this drain.

In scanning the minutes of the Church Council, dated November 2, 1869, we read that pastor and council came to the conclusion that members who were not willing to live peaceful, honest, loyal, Christlike lives should be asked to withdraw from St. Paul's membership. It stated that they would be a hindrance to the spiritual growth of the congregation.

Prosperous, harmonious times continued. April 5, 1870 the pastor's salary was again increased \$100⁰⁰. The school teacher received a \$50⁰⁰ raise. A lady teacher was appointed to assist the professor.

After a time financial worries again crept into

the life of St. Paul's. Money had to be borrowed. Another festival was held to raise funds and to meet the school deficit. September 1870 the trustees reported that the expenditures had mounted to \$700⁰⁰ more than the income. They appealed to the Church Council to be more cooperative, if possible. Through the efforts of Rev. Heintz, 3 bells for the church tower were purchased. These were to be paid by "Free Offerings."

During the years 1871-1872 friction was evident between Rev. Heintz and various parishoners, trouble was brewing between certain council members, and a general feeling of unrest in the congregation was noticeable. The pastor, according to our research work, did not seem to feel at all to blame

for the change in the life of the congregation. January 2, 1872 the church council dropped fourteen members from our church membership.

Two important resolutions were adopted in 1872. (1) \$6,000.00 were borrowed from the Rochester Savings Bank to pay off many small individual notes of long standing.

(2) In May (1872) our church affiliated with the Evangelical Synod of North America. Mr. Adam Schake was elected delegate to the district conference.

At the October (1872) meeting of the congregation Rev. Heinle asked for a two weeks leave of absence stating he had important business to transact. The request was willingly accorded him. Three months elapsed and Rev. Heinle had not re-

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turned to St. Paul's. A special congregational meeting was called January 14, 1873 at which time it was definitely decided to abandon the hope of Rev. Heinle's return. Thus ended a pastorate that had so promising a beginning.

1873-1883

Rev. A. Grotian

The Rev. August Grotian entered the pastorate of St. Paul's in the spring of 1873. Being confronted by many puzzling problems he began his work calmly, meditatively, and prayerfully. He appreciated the hearty cooperation of the church president, Mr. Adam Schake, a Christian gentleman of superior qualities. Piloted by these able and untiring leaders new life again pulsed through the brave little flock of tried and true St. Paulites.

June 1, 1873 eleven boys and eighteen girls were confirmed in our sanctuary. This was one of the first official acts performed by Rev. Grotian in his new parish.

Pastor Grotian spoke thus at a meeting of the congregation October 5, 1873;

"We should forget the past and look anew into the future. Every member should put trust in God and work for the good of the church as a whole."

Records reveal that the life of the congregation rolled peacefully on for many years. True there were many financial struggles but a kindly, happy spirit prevailed. Sunday morning services were so well attended that a late comer met with disappointment - no vacant pew to be found!

Finances! a source of anxiety for St. Paul's congregation. April 1874 the church debt stood at \$7450.00. October 1874 it had climbed to \$8542.88, a year later it had decreased slightly - \$8026.76. Picnics and parties were again resorted to in trying to meet parish financial obligations.

The first Altar Society minutes on record are dated 1877. That year the member-

ship totaled 69. The society's income mounted to \$124.30, expenditures \$91.55, thus leaving a balance of \$32.75.

February 26, 1880 - at a special meeting of the congregation Rev. Grotrian tendered his resignation. (No reason for this act is given in the minutes). It was not accepted however. Rev. Grotrian remained pastor of St. Paul's until April 1883 when injuries from an accident necessitated him to retire from the ministry. He moved with his family to Lyons, New York, where he spent many happy years in the eventide of his life.

During the ten years Rev. Grotrian had lived in Rochester he served St. Paul's congregation loyally. He was deeply loved by many of his parishoners who continued their friendship and often traveled to Lyons to visit their pastor friend in his declining years.

1883-1894

Rev. A. Zeller

Rev. Albert Zeller began his St. Paul's pastorate in the summer of 1883. He found his new parish in excellent condition. He was fortunate in having Mr. J. Adam Schake continue to hold the important office of presidency of the congregation. Pastor Zeller appreciated his self-sacrificing spirit. At the time of Mr. Schake's death, which occurred in 1894, the last year of this pastorate, Rev. Zeller wrote the following appendix to his president's death record: "A worthy example for the congregation in his faith, his life, and untiring willingness to serve." Rev. 3: 11-12. Mr. Schake had served 24 years, 1870-1894, as president of St. Paul's. The church records reveal that Rev. Zeller con-

ducted mission services the second Sunday of each month.

The new pastor concentrated special attention on debt reduction. From 1875 to 1883 little had been accomplished in decreasing the \$8000⁰⁰ indebtedness. Permission was granted the Altar Society to conduct "Fairs." The proceeds were usually large. From October 1883 to January 1884 the church income rose to \$2203.65. A "Fair" held in 1887 netted a profit of \$1359.13; a surplus of \$146.60 was recorded for a Fair conducted in 1889. Still the church debt had been decreased only \$3000⁰⁰ in six years.

Beginning about 1890 the regular income through pew rentals was growing less and less. This was a cause for anxiety.

The parochial school was a continued source of worry. In July 1884 the motion was made to discontinue it but after much discussion it was decided to retain the teacher and continue instruction. It became so unsuccessful that in 1886 Rev. Zeller volunteered his services as teacher. Later a professor was again engaged but without success. The school was permanently closed April 3, 1893.

The 25th anniversary of the founding of the church was celebrated in September 1887. The entire council acted as anniversary committee. \$1000⁰⁰ was paid off on the church mortgage. Rev. Bank (probably from Palatia) preached the anniversary sermon Sunday morning September 25th. The Sunday School sponsored a reli-

gious program in the afternoon and in the evening a mission service was conducted in the church sanctuary.

The anniversary year also marked the ordination of Rev. Zeller's son, Paul, into the Christian ministry.

The year 1888 brought deep sorrow for the pastor, his children, and St. Paul's congregation. Mrs. Zeller, a devoted wife, loving mother, and a kindly friend of St. Paul's parishoners, was taken from their midst by death. The memory of her pleasing personality lingered long in the minds of all who held her in high esteem.

Three societies were organized during Rev. Zeller's pastorate. They were the Young Ladies Society, Trauer Verein and Men's Benevolent Society.

The Trauer Verein, a sick and death benevolent organi-

zation, was brought into being August 24, 1884. Fifteen ladies were present at the first meeting. A constitution was adopted. Eligibility to membership required being a pew holder and also a member of the Altar Society. Meetings were held four times per annum. Dues were 5¢. 10¢ was collected in case of death of a member or a member's husband. In later years this amount was increased. The following items of general interest were gleaned from the secretary's minutes.

August 23, 1885 the society's membership totaled 36 ladies. The officers were Mrs. Fredericks Tank, president; Mrs. Louise Vagels, vice president; Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, secretary; Mrs. Johanna Krase, treasurer.

May 23, 1886 - Mrs. Tank, president of the Society, was the

first member to receive a benefit. At the death of her husband she received \$25.50.

August 1886 - The Society opened an account at the Rochester Savings Bank.

March 1887 - Meeting was opened with prayer by Prof. Frank, teacher of the day school.

The brave, cooperative group of Truett Verein ladies did effective mission work among St. Paul's members for many, many years.

The Men's Benevolent Society was organized April 6, 1887. The following men served as officers; Joachim Vagels, president; Friedrich Reuschle, vice president; Rudolph Jansen, corresponding secretary; Gottlieb Dabreiner, finance secretary; Johann Arend, treasurer. Any St. Paul's pew renter over eighteen and under fifty-five years of age was eligible to mem-

bership. The society was a sick and death benefit organization. Meetings were held monthly. This organization grew in numbers and prospered for many years bringing cheer and financial aid to scores of St. Paul's families.

The Altar Society, which had been organized in 1866, was now in very good standing. Better planned minute books were demanded. Aid was willingly and generously given by this ladies' organization whenever the trustees were forced to seek assistance to meet financial crises.

In the early nineties all kinds of troubles arose. Peace and harmony were gradually being replaced by unrest and discord. Unity and cooperation were waning. Finally, in 1892, the question arose, "Shall Rev.

Zeller remain or not? There is no longer peace in our congregation!" Time marched on and in January 1894 the beloved president, Mr. Adam Schake, died. In the autumn (October) of the same year Rev. Zeller presented his resignation to the congregation. It was accepted. Rev. Zeller had served St. Paul's congregation longer than any of his predecessors.

From Rochester the departing pastor went to Town Line, New York, where he remained until 1896 when he accepted a call to Newstadt, Canada. This new parish he served for twelve years. Retiring from active service he spent the remaining years of his life at the home of his daughter in Town Line. Rev. Zeller died April 2, 1921. His body was brought to Rochester for burial in Mt. Hope cemetery.

1895-1904

Rev. W. Baur

January 1895 St. Paul's members welcomed Rev. and Mrs. William Baur and infant daughter Röschen into their midst. The new pastor was no stranger in Rochester. He had, after graduation from Eden Seminary, been called to Salem Evangelical Church, on Franklin Street, to assist Rev. Siebenfeiffer. During his short, successful career as assistant pastor he won the admiration and friendship of hosts of Rochester's Evangelical church folk. After his ordination he accepted a call to Waco, Texas where he remained until his acceptance of our St. Paul's pastorate. October 4, 1892, while in Texas, he married Miss Elizabeth Mohr. Godliness, constancy and self sacrifice characterized the beautiful lives of

this devoted couple through-
out their blessed union.

With discernment, energy,
and faith Rev. Baur attacked
the work of his new parish.
He gave deep study to the
workings of all phases of
the church life. Carefully
worked out plans were
rapidly promoting the
church's development. Mu-
tual understanding and
cooperation existed between
pastor and church coun-
cil. Matters were frankly dis-
cussed and differences of
opinion easily adjusted.
Spiritual advancement and
financial gains were rated
high in importance. Cher-
ished enthusiasm now re-
placed undesirable indif-
ference.

No Sunday School da-
ta prior to 1885 can be
found in our church rec-
ords. Perhaps former pas-

tors deemed it unnecessary to organize a Sunday School since religious instruction was stressed in the daily church school. When Rev. Baur arrived in our parish he found a small, poorly organized Sunday School. He immediately set to work to re-organize and soon encouraging results were apparent. The school grew rapidly in numbers and in enthusiasm. Rev. Baur stressed the importance of fervent singing. He explained that it caused the heart to rejoice and the spirit to be uplifted. Scores of new songs were learned and memorized. A new parlor melodeon was purchased. Rev. Baur conducted semi-monthly teachers' meetings, which he expected to be attended regularly by all instructors in his school.

Attendance records reveal that seldom was a teacher absent from one of these instruction classes. Children attending Sunday School during this pastorate were the recipients of better instruction as the result of their teachers receiving valuable teaching aids, and the biblical knowledge necessary for a satisfactory presentation of the lesson. A Bible Class was organized in 1895 and later a Primary Department was started. Both flourished under Rev. Baur's constant vigilance. In 1902, St. Paul's fortieth anniversary year, there were 44 children in the Primary department, and 87 intermediate pupils. The Bible Class, taught by Rev. Baur, registered a membership of 42 young men and women. Our Sunday School was a charter member of

the Rochester German Sunday School Union. From 1897 to 1902 our council received \$658.06 from the school to help defray church expenditures and \$320⁰⁰ was sent to missions. Each year our teachers sponsored Children's Day and Mission Sunday services. Rev. Baur urged his Sunday School members to attend church services regularly. Our pastor often remarked that among the happiest hours of his pastorate in St. Paul's were those spent in the Sunday School and semi-monthly meetings of his teaching staff.

A Young Ladies Society was still in existence when Rev. Baur became St. Paul's pastor. The first year of his pastorate he aided in organizing a young men's society. This organization dissolved in 1898 and united with the Young Ladies thus forming a Young Peoples Society. Men members

were always in the minority. The object of the formation of this society was "to improve the social welfare among the young people in a religious and spiritual way, and to work for the interest of the church." Bible study was conducted. The meetings, which in the beginning were held the third Sunday afternoon of each month, were later changed to the third Monday evening. Committees were appointed to scatter sunshine among the sick, needy, and shut-ins. The membership totaled around eighty. Our St. Paul's society was always well represented at the young peoples annual conferences of the New York district.

In the early years of its existence the Altar Society conducted many Fairs, Sales, and Festivals. During Rev. Davis

pastorate the method of money raising was changed.

After 1898 ticket selling was abandoned and an Envelope System was inaugurated. The new pastor said, "Giving is holier than receiving." Throughout all the years of Rev. Kaur's St. Paul's ministry the society had sufficient funds to meet all expenses and a surplus to give generously toward the upkeep of the parish. This society was most unselfish - always thinking of the welfare of the church. The following are a few of her many gifts given at various times up to 1902; Church Bell Fund \$200⁰⁰, Debt Fund \$1400⁰⁰, Altenheim \$57.25, Missions and Seminary \$35⁰⁰, Repairs and New Furnishings \$311.91 and Street Assessment \$156.00. Monthly sociables at the homes of members, were conducted primarily for the purpose of "getting

better acquainted." These gatherings enhanced a feeling of good will and closer friendship among the members, their families, and friends of the congregation. A free will offering was customary at these "Get-togethers". Mrs. Emma Bornkessel submitted encouraging reports for the Altar Society at the yearly congregational meetings. She and the society over which she presided so ably for many years were always true to their beloved church.

To create deeper interest in missionary work the society started (1897) a specific home and foreign mission fund. Monthly free offerings were placed in a special treasury which necessitated the appointment of a mission treasurer. The importance of this undertaking was clearly recognized and the

splendid results were most gratifying.

Mr. Henry Betz, succeeding Mr. Craemer, assumed his responsibilities as choir director and organist October 1901.

A choir was not existing at that time. A quartette, composed of Miss Louie Pagels, soprano; Miss Emma E. Pagels, alto; Mr. Rudolph Zander, tenor; and Mr. Edward Wilcowski, bass - which had been faithfully serving the congregation for many months under Mr. Craemer's leadership - volunteered to continue until the new organist could assemble a church choir. He immediately set about this difficult task and soon a superior choir of approximately twenty voices was beautifying the worship services with the singing of appropriate anthems. At the request of Mr. Betz the above mentioned quartette con-

tinued its work in conjunction with the new chorus. Appreciative of the extra work rendered by the choir in 1902, 40th anniversary year, the church council defrayed all expenses of a picnic held by choir members at Manitou Beach on Lake Ontario August 16, 1902. Mr. Betz wrote a very interesting article, "Our Choir Picnic," which was printed in St. Paul's 1862-1902 Anniversary Bote.

Disability and death claims paid by the Men's Benevolent Society from 1887 to 1902 totaled \$3,121.36; \$180.00 was given the trustees for "local miete"; \$578.79 was the amount in Society's treasury April 1902; membership of organization in 1902 was forty-four.

The Frauen Verein continued, throughout pastor Bauw's pastorate, to carry on its

benevolent work untiringly and efficiently.

The first edition of "St. Paul's Bote" was issued January 19, 1896 by the church council in the interest of the people of St. Paul's congregation. The editorial staff consisted of Rev. Baur, editor; John Schake, business manager; Albert Seegler and Joachim Pagels, committee. The messenger was published monthly. It consisted of 4 pages, 9 by 12 inches. This size church paper continued until January 1901 when it was changed to 8 pages, 7 by 10 inches. The Bote was financed by voluntary contributions and proceeds from the advertisements. Sincere pleasure was experienced by our members with the arrival of the first messenger. A long wished for desire

had materialized. The content of this paper was cleverly and interestingly compiled by the editors. All important church news was found between its covers. Words of consolation were found therein for those in bereavement. Beautiful original poems and stories were written by Rev. Baur for the enjoyment and spiritual upliftment of his parishioners.

Another constructive attainment which brought joy was the enlarging and remodeling of our church edifice. Fitzhugh Street front entrance was completely rebuilt. Dedictory exercises were held September 20, 1896.

A new church bell was badly needed so in December 1897 a free offering bell fund was started. Soon a substantial sum was on hand.

February 13, 1898 a bell committee was appointed, with the authority to purchase the tower bell when sufficient funds warranted full payment of same. January 23, 1899 the bell committee mailed an order to the Meneely Bell Foundry in Troy, New York for a 2000 pound bell. March 7, 1899 the bill of \$500.00 (this included shipping and installation) was paid. Psalm 96 was read by Rev. Baur at the dedicatory exercises, March 13, 1899. Christ Lutheran Church, Central Park, was the happy recipient of the best of the three old bells.

A church edifice improvement which brought continued pleasure to our congregation was the replacement of our plain glass windows with beautiful stained glass ones, donated by individual members or by the various orga-

nizations of the church. The dedication took place April 17, 1904.

Rev. Baur always urged his parishoners to send their children to summer school which he conducted in the basement of our church building three mornings (8 to 12 o'clock) each week during the vacation months. Reading, (German) Writing, (German script) Catechism, Biblical Literature, and Vocal Music were the subjects taught. Throughout the remainder of the year these pupils were expected to be registered in the Saturday morning instruction classes which were sponsored by the church council. Rev. Baur was the efficient director and much loved and highly esteemed teacher. During the anniversary year (1902) an enrollment of 45 children was recorded.

The writer feels that the following miscellaneous notes found in various records are of sufficient importance and interest to warrant space in this sketch.

1. 1895-1897 Rev. Baur's salary ranged between \$900⁰⁰ and \$1000⁰⁰.
2. Thirty-five children were baptized in our church in 1896.
3. Rev. Baur's 1901 New Year Greeting to his congregation:
"Start the New Year with God and by looking forward in true faith to the Lord we surely will accomplish the work which lies before us."
4. A "Surprise Party" was given in honor of Mrs. Emma Barnkessel, beloved president of the Altar Society, June 16, 1901.
5. The Evangelical Synod erected a Home for Epileptics at St. Charles, Missouri in 1901. Our St. Paul's congregation sent a \$25⁰⁰ donation.

6 Rev. Baur was chosen delegate to the Evangelical General Conference held in St. Louis, Missouri, September 1901. Enroute he spent a day at the Pan American Exposition, Buffalo, New York. A day or two later occurred the assassination of our highly respected President of the United States, William McKinley.

7 St. Paul's current expenses, 1895-1902, were met through pew rental, Sunday offerings, yearly house collection, and specified donations from church organizations.

8. 1903 - A new fund was started that could be used in future years when needed for enlargement or repairs of the church.

9 Rev. Baur warned his congregation never to stand still in Christian work and service for that means and spells "Retreat."

10 Our church picnics, always

well attended, by young and old, were held at Sea Breeze on Lake Ontario.

11 Two church presidents served during this pastorate - Rudolph Johnson 1895-1899, and Joachim Pagels 1899-1904.

When Rev. Baur entered St. Paul's pastorate there was a church indebtedness of \$4500.00. Notes amounting to \$500.00 were wiped out within a short time. Then a zealous effort was made to lower the mortgage. The following table gives a clear picture of the regularity of payments:

March 1899 -	\$1100.00
January 1900 -	900.00
February 1901 -	600.00
February 1902 -	800.00
August 1902 -	600.00
Total	\$4000.00

St. Paul's members rejoiced! Rev. Baur remarked, "Where there is a will, there is

away." The pastor and members cooperated beautifully and worked harmoniously. They were fervent believers in the old adage, "In unity lies strength."

Rev. Baur stressed the point that altho we were happy and thankful for our financial successes a great task still lay before the congregation - we must continue to work peacefully together in God's kingdom; we must strive each day to perform some kind deed which would benefit our fellow-men. He admonished his congregation thus: "Look after the spiritual and give willingly of your time, strength, and talents."

The fortieth anniversary committee consisted of Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, William

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Krase, Mrs. Marie Butz, Miss Mary Fisher, Rudolph Zander, Christ Bartzel, August Poggendorf, Edward Milcowski, Rev. Baur, and Joachim Pagels, president of the congregation.

Anniversary worship services were conducted in the sanctuary Sunday September 21, 1902. Rev. August Grothian, a former pastor of St. Pauls, and Rev. J. F. W. Helmkamp, vice president of the New York district and pastor of our local Salem Church, addressed the congregation at the ten o'clock morning service. Pastors and congregations, whose Sunday Schools were members of the Rochester German Sunday School Union, were guests of St. Paul's congregation at the 7:30 evening service. Pastors Baltzer, Heck, and Schnatz, representing their respective churches,

namely, Trinity Evangelical, First Methodist, and Immanuel Reformed, delivered brief sermons in the German language. A large jubilee choir, under the direction of Mr. Henry Betz, rendered inspirational anthems which enhanced the beauty of the service.

Monday evening September 22d the Altar Society sponsored an anniversary party in the basement of the church. The Young People's Society was in charge of the program. The entire congregation was invited to be present.

The Anniversary St. Paul's Bote (1862-1902) was cherished by all its recipients. The thoughts expressed therein were beautiful in quality and many in quantity. Rev. Baur wrote a complete history of St. Paul's church.

from its beginning. Pictures of the church council, Sunday School teachers and of ficers, choir, officers of the Altar Society, and Young People's Society were found within its covers. The book, containing 24 pages, measured 9 by 12 inches.

The total anniversary collection soared to the unexpected sum of \$280.00. Thus through love, sacrifice and generosity, St Paul's ardent hope, "Debt Free in 1902", was realized.

The harmonious cooperation between pastor and congregation continued to exist. The tie of friendship was also continually growing deeper. In the spring of 1904 our beloved Rev. Baur received a call to the chair of rhetoric and church history in Eden Seminary, St.

Louis, Missouri. After a lengthy and prayerful meditation he accepted the professorship offered him. He said, "It was a difficult matter to decide. I have come to love my people and my work here and I believe my congregation reciprocates the feeling. It is not that I love my people the less but that I feel my duty calls me to the other work." The Church Council, sadly and regretfully, accepted Rev. Baur's resignation May 2, 1904. Its announcement came as a shock to the entire congregation.

Rev. Baur preached his final sermon August 28, 1904. It was a sad service for both the kindly shepherd and his faithful flock. He requested all St. Paulites

to be as loyal to his successor as they had been to him; also to continue to work for the future expansion of dear old St. Paul's. He pleaded thus: "Place your trust in God, Who is your refuge and strength."

August 30, 1904 the Altar Society sponsored a farewell reception. Rev. Baur was the appreciative receiver of many gifts. All able bodied members of St. Paul's were present to bid their friend and spiritual adviser a fond adieu.

Rev. Baur's departure from Rochester was unique. He remained at his post until the arrival of his successor. The departing and arriving pastors met for

a brief exchange of greetings in the New York Central Railroad Station before the former boarded his train en route for St. Louis. Rev. Grotenfend had arrived on the train from Auburn, New York, but a few moments before. Thus no lapse of time existed between Rev. Baur's and Rev. Grotenfend's pastorates. Our congregation appreciated and has kept in memory this last act of thoughtfulness by Rev. Baur in behalf of St. Paul's welfare.

1904 - 1910

Rev. H. Grotefend

Rev. H. F. W. Grotefend came to Rochester from Auburn, New York, in the late summer of 1904. He and his family lived at the Joachim Pagels home, 22 Boardman Street for a few weeks until a suitable parsonage could be located.

Rev. Grotefend was happy to find St. Paul's congregation in a flourishing condition. He preached his first sermon in his new parish on the first Sunday in September. The following Sunday he was formally installed as pastor by Rev. J. F. W. Helmkamp, president of the New York district and minister of Salem Evangelical Church, Franklin Street.

Loyal support was

given Rev. Grotefend by his church council. He quickly won the love and confidence of his young people. The members of the congregation enjoyed his well delivered and inspirational sermons. It was to be regretted however that due to lack of knowledge of the German language a large number of the young people were unable to grasp the full meaning of the forceful sermons. The language question - German or English - was a subject of vital importance which began to cause much anxiety during this pastorate.

A Christian Endeavor Society was organized in our St. Paul's parish Sunday evening, November 13, 1904. The following

persons were elected to office: President, Rev. Grotfend; secretary, Miss Anna Weber; treasurer, Miss Anna Freund. The charter members, numbering 16, were: Rev. Grotfend, William Oslager, M. L. Lorton, and the Misses Christine Wahl, Gertrude Weber, Christine Danzer, W. Doberiner, Anna Weber, Louise C. Pagels, Emma E. Pagels, A. Ruckty, Anna M. Freund, Carrie Braun, Louise Penckle, Mary Fisher, and Amalia Baechle. The Christian Endeavor motto read, "For Christ and the Church." June 1905 this organization had a membership of 23. Any reader of this sketch interested in knowing the "Covenant," which every C. E. member conscientiously endeavored to follow, can find a printed copy of same in the May, 1907 St. Paul's Bote. Rev. Grotfend pleaded thus: "Learn to become better

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acquainted with Jesus and his teachings and thereby live nobler and richer lives."

At eight o'clock on the evening of January 9, 1905 President Joachim Pagels called the first annual congregational meeting in the new pastorate to order. The finance committee's report read as follows: Receipts from July 1, 1904 to January 1, 1905-

Rew Rentals	\$460.06
Offerings	198.43
House Collection	359.75
Miscellaneous	74.05
Bank Interest	4.70
Amount in Treasury	532.76
Total	1639.75

July 1, 1904

Expenditures	1148.03
Amount in Treasury	\$491.72

Jan. 1, 1905

A most important subject, "Erection of a new Parish House" was discussed at length. Everyone realized that new

Sunday School quarters were imperative. The old dingy basement was no longer large enough to comfortably accommodate the children. The pastor's study and the Church Board room were damp, dark, and not sanitary. A housing crisis had arisen and had to be handled immediately and as efficiently as possible. The congregation agreed with Rev. Grotefend that, altho there was little money in the church treasury, the erection of a new Sunday School building was a necessity and that definite action should be begun at once. The motion was made, by Mr. John Pagsch, that a two story building be erected during the spring and summer of 1905. Carried. Christian Baetzel moved that a building

committee of five members be appointed to work in conjunction with the trustees. The following persons were named: Frederick Keller, chairman; John Schake, Christian Bartzel, William Storaandt, George Røth, Joachim Pageli, William Kræse, John Eutin, Rudolph Zander, Frederick Bauer, John Eismann comprised the board of trustees. Rudolph Zander was chosen secretary of the building committee.

The members of this committee worked diligently. They won the confidence of all church organizations and soon they had at their disposal \$300⁰⁰ from the Altar Society, \$100⁰⁰ from the Young People, and \$125⁰⁰ from the Sunday School. A "Building Fund" was created and persons pledging over \$25⁰⁰

were given a three year term for payments. The pledges were many and generous.

The corner stone of the new building was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, July 16, 1905. German addresses were made by Rev. Grotefend, Rev. J. F. W. Helmkamp of Salem Evangelical Church and Rev. Adolph Baltzer of Trinity Evangelical. Mr. Mills Platt was the architect.

Enthusiasm reigned supreme. The following members and representative organizations made possible the erection of the \$15,000⁰⁰ structure. Joachim Pagels, president of the congregation of 150 families; Fred Keller, chairman of the Building Committee; Rudolph Zander, Superintendent of the Sunday

School of 200 members; Miss Christine Danzer, director of Primary Department; William Oplager, president of the Young Peoples' Society of 135 members; Mrs. Emma Kornkessel, president of the Ladies Altar Society of 135 members (largest number in its history); the Christian Endeavor Society of 23 members and the Choir. The Rochester Savings Bank held the mortgage and several loyal St. Paulites pledged themselves as bondsmen.

Dedication of the new Sunday School building took place February 25, 1906. Rev. Grotelund presided at both the morning and evening dedicatory services. Rev. J. F. Bode, of St. Peter's Ev. Church, Buffalo, preached the sermon at the morning worship.

Rochester clergymen, Rev. J. F. W. Helmkamp, of Salem Ev. Church; Rev. Adolph Baltzer, of Trinity Ev. Church; Rev. C. J. Hauser, of Emmanuel Reformed; and Prof. L. Kaiser, of the Baptist Theological Seminary, participated at the evening service. St. Paul's choir, under the direction of Mr. Henry Betz, sang at both services. An orchestra furnished appropriate music.

The new building consisted of a large Sunday School auditorium with a seating capacity of more than 500, a choir room, pastor's study, and choir loft on the second floor; a dining room, a kitchen, large pan-

tries, Sunday School room, and large corridors on the first floor. Modern heating and ventilating systems were installed. Stained glass windows intensified the beauty and dignity of the Bible Study rooms.

Mr. Edward Strauchen was in charge of the masonry work and Mr. Henry Hassmann was the carpenter contractor.

Two large lavatories were installed at this time in the basement of the main church building.

Church records reveal that all organizations worked untiringly to raise funds to defray the expenses of furnishing the new building. The choir

room was completely and appropriately furnished by its own members. The Altar Society contributed generously to the beautifully equipped culinary department. The Young Peoples Society purchased a new piano. The Christian Endeavorers gave a desk for the pastor's study. The various Sunday School departments carried the major responsibility of providing funds for the new equipment needed by them. During these days of financial obligations the members of St. Paul's continued however to give generously to St. Paul's Bote and subscribe for Friedensbote,

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Messengers of Peace, Missionsfriend, and Jugendfriend.

St. Paul's needed a new organ. Undauntedly the congregation set to work on this new project. An organ fund was established. It grew with surprising rapidity. When it had reached the sum of \$1600.00 (November 1907) the Church Council appointed a committee, which, with representatives from the Altar Society, Young Peoples Society, and Sunday School, was asked to make inquiries and give an informative report at the annual congregational meeting, January 1908. This materialized. Within two months (Nov. 1907-

Jan. 1908) the organ fund had been augmented to \$2000⁰⁰. Permission was then given a committee of fifteen members to purchase the new instrument. A beautifully toned organ was bought from Steere and Son, Springfield, Mass., at an approximate cost of \$4500.00. What had been so earnestly striven for was now realized and it brought untold joy not only to Mr. Betz, organist, and his choir members but to every St. Paulite. The placement of the organ (in the front of the sanctuary) met with the hearty approval of all. From the founding of the church (1862) the organ had been

located in the rear of the edifice and as a result our parishoners had for forty-six years only heard, never seen, (without neck craning) our choir. Now with the installation of the new organ the long anticipated desire, seeing organist and singers, was realized.

June 28, 1908 the costly new organ was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. Rev. J. F. Bode, pastor of St. Peter's Ev. Church, Buffalo, and president of the New York district of the German Ev. Synod of North America, was the guest speaker at two services. He preached a German sermon at the morning worship and delivered an English

address in the evening. The newly decorated and recarpeted auditorium was filled to overflowing with delighted members and sincere friendly guests. The combined morning and evening offerings mounted to the astonishing sum of approximately \$500⁰⁰. Happy news for St. Paul's family!

A dedicatory recital on the new organ by Prof. Frank H. Pohl brought hosts of music lovers to our St. Paul's sanctuary Monday evening, July 6, 1908. He was ably assisted by two guest singers, Miss Emma Lotz, soprano, and Mr. Gurnsey Curtis, baritone.

The following spring, on March 28, 1909, our St.

Paul's choir, assisted by friends from other Rochester churches, sang admirably "The Crucifixion" by John Spainer. The organ accompaniment was beautifully executed by our organist, Mr. Henry Butz.

During this pastorate our Young People's Society continued to grow in numbers and enthusiasm. A membership of 72 in 1904 had increased to 150 in 1906, making St. Paul's Society the largest of all such organizations in the German churches of Rochester.

A richer and fuller spiritual life manifested itself also. Our society was an active member of the Young People's League of the New

York district of the German Ev. Synod which had its beginning in the summer of 1904. A large representation of our young people was always to be seen at the annual conventions of the above named league. In 1906 a large delegation accompanied Rev. Grotefend to the Auburn conference where he preached the convention sermon. Text, Luke 24, 36 - at the opening session on Thursday evening August 16th. The Convention Motto, "The Cultivation of a Deeper Spiritual Life Among our Young People," was discussed and its importance stressed at all sessions throughout the conference.

The fifth annual

convention of the League was held at our beloved church August 6-9, 1908. Mr. John Ofslager was chairman of the General Arrangements Committee and Mesdames Sophie Pagels, Louise Eismann, and Louise Pagels, cochairwomen, directing the important task of preparing and serving meals to more than 400 guests. The convention was opened with a song service conducted by Rev. Grotefend. This was followed by our pastor's address of welcome. The Convention Sermon was preached by Rev. H. A. Baemes of Buffalo, N. Y. The young people were urged to live up to the League's 1908 motto, "Whole-souled Service to God." Keen interest and enthusiasm reigned

at worship services, round table discussions, and business sessions. Seven excellent essays were prepared and read by members of the various Young Peoples' Societies. (Copies of these compositions can be found in church historian's memory book.)

Miss Emma E. Pagels, member of our St. Paul's society, was selected treasurer of the League, which office she held for many years. Our happy and contented guests told us that St. Paul's had been an ideal host.

They departed refreshed and strengthened physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Beginning Feb. 1908 minutes of the Y. P. S. were

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written in the English language.

Our Young Peoples' Society was often spoken of as "the heart of the church." Some of its members served on the Church Council. Large gifts of money were given to help defray the expense of the various projects undertaken during this pastorate. The Altar Society depended on this young people's organization in assisting them on social programs, and in other capacities too numerous to enumerate. This society also strove to keep abreast of the times. Many famous lecturers, musicians, and educators were brought

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into St. Paul's circle. Space allows me to make note of two only.

A charming lecturer was Miss Maria Lydia Winkler, traveling secretary of the Y. W. C. A. of Germany. She was the representative of the German National Commission for the suppression of the "White Slave" traffic and representative of the association for the care of girls and young women under the protection of the Empress of Germany. Subjects discussed by Miss Winkler were "Die Jugend unser Kreuz und unsere Krone", and "The Perils of a Woman's Path and her Protection." Much valuable knowledge was given at this lecture May 8, 1907.

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Mr. Myron J. Bly gave an illustrated lecture on "The Life of the Southern Mountaineers," June 21, 1909. The pictures shown were taken by Mr. Bly himself and as the life of these natives was personally familiar to him the lecture was doubly interesting and instructive.

The years 1904-1910 marked an epocal period in the social life of St. Paul's Y. P. Society. Entertainments, parties, and banquets were many and superior in character. Much excellent talent, both musical and dramatical, was found in its membership. As a result high grade entertainments were staged. Beautiful

annual banquets were enjoyed by these young, enthusiastic people. Much time and money was spent to make each one as lovely as possible. Attractive, by printed booklets, containing the songs to be sung, program, the menu, names of the officers, and the committee, were cherished as keepsakes and reminders of the happy times experienced with fellow members and invited friends.

In 1906 St. Paul's Altar Society celebrated its 40th anniversary at which time two of its eight charter members were still living. They were Mrs. Barbara Zorner and Mrs. Katharine Pliffer. The fol-

lowing year, 1907, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st days of November this active organization conducted a "German Sale of Home-made Goods." This great undertaking meant a stupendous amount of work but when the toilers heard the results, "Most successful financially and socially," they felt happy that they had been privileged to serve. In the spring of 1908 this thoughtful and generous body of ladies presented Rev. Grotefend with a beautifully made new gown. He was grateful and joyous for this act of kindness bestowed upon him. This society, in 1908, had a membership of 123. The income and expenditures, \$1292.39 and \$1083.27, respectively, were

the largest in the history of the society. A profit of approximately \$180⁰⁰ was realized at the "Annual Sale," November 18-19, 1908.

January 28, 1909 a Ladies Sewing Circle was organized with 45 ladies present. Meetings were held monthly on the fourth Thursday afternoon. The members paid 10¢ when joining and 5¢ monthly dues thereafter. They planned, bought material, cut, sewed, and stitched faithfully for ten months of the year in preparation for the Annual November Sales. The ladies cooperated and worked beautifully under the guidance of their energetic and efficient leader, Mrs. Louise

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Eisemann, who had been instrumental in bringing about the founding of this church circle. The larger part of the proceeds from the sales was placed either in the organ fund or in the church treasury.

Mr. Rudolph Zander was the dearly beloved and highly esteemed Superintendent of St. Paul's Sunday School which convened every Sunday morning for one hour beginning at 9:15 o'clock. Miss Mary Fisher, who had been an able and faithful secretary for many years previous, continued her splendid work throughout this pastorate. The teacher of the organized "Young Peoples'

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Bible Class" was our pastor, Rev. Grotefend. He often remarked, "I do not only like but truly love the work in the Sunday School." During his first year as minister in St. Paul's he introduced a Cradle Roll Department. Toward the end of his pastorate he felt sad when he realized that many of our Sunday School members, children and young people, were leaving our School and enrolling elsewhere. Lack of understanding and speaking the German language was the cause.... Rubber sociables and entertainments drew large enthusiastic audiences. The proceeds, usually large, were used to decrease the new

building debt.

St. Paul's Truau Verein, although attending conscientiously to her obligation, - benevolences. Still found time for recreation. The annual all day (dinner and supper) picnics held at Highland Park, Rochester, with the Altar Society as guests, were, each year, looked forward to with expectant joy by the ladies. Many endearing and lasting friendships were made at these social gatherings. The following officers served the society long and faithfully: Mrs. Johanna Draz, President; Mrs. Emma Cornkessel, secretary; and Mrs. Johanna Mettengel, treasurer.

At the yearly congregational meeting January

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1906 the Weekly Envelope System was inaugurated. This method of money raising was to replace the Autumn House Collection. (Parishoners were asked not to confuse it with the Sunday morning offertory.) Members opposing the new plan were not urged to adopt it but were permitted to continue giving yearly as they had previously done.

The Church Constitution was revised in 1907. Women were given equal rights with men in church membership. The new constitution was printed in both the German and English language. (Changes that were made at the revision can be found in the November 1907 St. Paul's Bote.)
Imprussive Sylvester

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Even services were conducted each year during Rev. Grotefend's pastorate.

Our St. Paul's Church family experienced unexpected joy during the Christmas Holidays of 1909-1910. Our beloved former pastor, Rev. William Baur, who had been chosen delegate to the Students Volunteer Convention convening in Rochester from December 29th to January 2d, was again in our midst. How happy all St. Paulites were to hear the voice of their highly esteemed friend who willingly consented to supply his former pulpit on Sunday morning January 2, 1910. A large congregation, including many friends from other city churches, was present to receive his reassuring mes-

sage. The attendance at Summer School kept waning year by year. In 1908 the average number of pupils attending was 6. Rev. Grotenfend worked faithfully each summer but finally became thoroughly discouraged. He felt badly, when he worked so conscientiously, to find the parents so indifferent. If they were uninterested in their children's advancement (principally, knowledge of the German language) he, or any other pastor, would be unable to continue the directorship of a German school. The last year of his pastorate, 1910, due to too small a

registration and irregular attendance, the summer school was closed definitely.

Not only was indifference noticed in sending children to vacation school but our Sunday School sessions and church services were not as well attended. Rev. Grotendorf was becoming worried. He pleaded with the young people to study the German language and remain loyal to their St. Paul's Church.

"We prefer the English not the German language," was the reply. Naturally, peace of mind, for leader and followers, could not now exist.

This condition of affairs was most discouraging for pastor and his coun-

cil. The language question was now a major trouble - the crisis had arrived and action must be taken. All, pastor and congregation, now fully realized that the English language must receive greater recognition.

Rev. Grotefend had been a conscientious, untiring worker throughout his six year pastorate. Much had been accomplished. The members of the church council appreciated their spiritual leader but knew that if they failed to introduce the English language in our Sunday School, confirmation classes, young peoples organizations and worship services that our congre-

gation would decrease alarmingly in numbers and in spiritual growth. They knew that St. Paul's was now in a quandary - she needed a pastor who could use the English tongue as fluently as the German. Rev. Grotefend also realized fully the gravity of the situation.

Fortunately for both pastor and congregation, Rev. Grotefend received a call, in November 1910, to the pastorate of St. Paul's German Evangelical Church in Trenton, New Jersey. He immediately severed his connections with our St. Paul's church reading his resignation to the congregation at the Sunday morning worship service Nov. 13, 1910. He then sent a letter of acceptance to St. Paul's par-

ish in Trenton. Our church council kindly granted Rev. Grotefend's request that he be allowed to leave Rochester within four weeks, to assume his pastoral duties in his new church. Pastor and Mrs. Grotefend appreciated the council's act of kindness for thereby they were able to be settled in their new abode before the holidays, and also saved the anxiety of moving with their three small children in the hazardous cold of midwinter. Thus ended St. Paul's seventh pastorate.

Our councilmen, now shepherdless, courageously concentrated their attention and gave unsparingly of their time seeking to locate an Evangelical minister well versed in both the German and English languages.

1911-1914

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Rev. F. Oberkircher

The names of three candidates were presented for the election of a new pastor at a congregational meeting held Feb. 13, 1911. The Rev. Frederick S. Oberkircher, pastor of the Evangelical Church in Boston, New York, was the choice of the congregation. The newly chosen young man was present at a church council meeting, March 6th, at which time his acceptance to the congregation's call was received. Rev. Oberkircher was installed pastor of St. Paul's parish April 30, 1911.

In the early days of his pastorate our new leader remarked, "We stand at a critical crisis in the history of our church. The English and German

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languages stand in opposition... are bigger foes than ever before." He requested the loyalty and support of young and old until this great problem could be satisfactorily solved.

The following innovations were sponsored by our conscientious and beneficent church council.

1. An English Primary department was organized in May, 1911.

2. Both languages were used in Sunday School. Parents and children decided in which classes, German or English, they preferred to be enrolled. (By the end of this pastorate all instruction was given in the English language.)

3. Two pages of St. Paul's Bote were addicted to "Our

English Column.

4 Sunday evening English worship services were conducted regularly.

(Rev. Oberkircher said, "It is the first time in the history of our congregation that English services have been permanently decided upon. A long felt want has thereby been satisfied.")

5 Beginning September 1913 English worship services were conducted every third Sunday morning of each month.

6 New English hymnals, published by our Synod, were used at all English church services. (The hymnals were purchased for \$1.⁵⁰ by members.)

7 English Bibles for Altar and Pulpit usage in the church sanctuary were purchased by the Young People's Society.

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8 No German Summer School

9 Confirmands were to be instructed in the English language if parents so desired. (In 1912 four children were confirmed in German and six in English. No German confirmation instruction in 1914.)

10 Constitution of Young People's Society was translated and printed in the English language.

11 Church members were urged to purchase English Evangelical Church Calendar or "Year Book" to become acquainted with work of Synod.

12 Young People were asked to subscribe for and read the weekly Evangelical Herald. (Friedensbote in English)

Throughout the three years of this pastorate

the English services were not as well attended as had been anticipated. Rev. Oberkircher remarked, "Our young people do not attend these services as they ought." He admonished them thus: "Put away your excuses and seek the Lord while He may be found."

Rally Day was instituted in our Sunday School in the Fall of 1941. Invitations were sent to all pupils to be present September 24th. The school underwent a thorough process of reorganization. The parents were thus reproved by their pastor: "We ask that you send your children regularly. Without your personal vital interest in their welfare we can do nothing."

Mr. Rudolph Zander continued to work conscientiously.

tiously and successfully in the office of superintendent of the church school and Mr. Henry Betz, church organist, was the teacher of a large, active, organized Young Peoples Bible Class.

The Cradle Roll Department, under the guidance of a superior committee, made great strides during this pastorate.

The Rubber Socials and Entertainments conducted by the Bible School each year were great successes. In the April 1912 church Bote we read, "most successful social in years! In a financial way we have broken all records. This is due to the untiring efforts of our committee and the willing cooperation of our

members.

September 8, 1912 a Men's Junior Bible Class was organized. Its membership consisted of youths who had been recently confirmed. Each succeeding year St. Paul's boy confirmands naturally became members of this class. Rev. Checkricher volunteered his services as teacher of this new organization.

Our pastor and council were made especially happy to see such large numbers present at the Rally Day exercises September 22, 1912. The attendance was the largest since the dedication of the Sunday School building in 1906. Mr. A. P. Holzer, a student at the Rochester Theological Seminary, delivered the chief address.

In the spring of 1913 the

Sunday School teaching staff voted to abolish the use of "Lesson Leaves" and use the Bible exclusively for class instruction.

Throughout this pastorate, as in former ones, the minutes of the Sunday School teachers' and officers' meetings were written in the German language by our faithful secretary, Miss Mary Fisher.

The Sunday School's 1913 Christmas gift to her church was \$218.37 - this for the reduction of debt. Pupils of the school gave \$52.⁰⁰ for missions in the year 1913. A new piano was bought by the Primary Department in 1914.

The annual church and Sunday School picnics were held each year at Ontario Beach Park. In 1914 one hundred fifty persons

attended. Wonderful cooperations made these outings successful and enjoyable. The expenses were divided among the various organizations.

Five of our faithful Sunday School teachers, the Misses Elizabeth, Sophie, and Wilhelmina Eckert, Miss Emma E. Pagels, and Mr. Henry Trost, after studying with one hundred twenty-five other Rochester Bible School workers of all denominations, many months under the superior leadership of Dr. Frederick Frankenhof, of Salem Evangelical Church, were graduated from Union Class (Training for Service) June 14, 1914. The graduation services were conducted at Convention Hall with Mr. Herbert P. Landedale, presiding. The principal address, "The Educational Ministry of the Church," was delivered by Rev. William Brocock, of Buffa-

Co., New York. Rev. F. Frankendorf, able teacher of the class, awarded the diplomas to his one hundred thirty happy pupils. The service was beautifully termed "Inspirational" by all who were privileged to be present.

A Young Men's Club was brought into being Oct. 17, 1911. Rev. Oberkircher explained thus, "It is the aim of the club to bring our young men into a closer, more intimate touch with the church and with themselves... Athletics, amusements, education, debates, lectures, music, et cetera will be included in the program." He read in the December 1911 Bote, "A Bowling League, 'Jungle League', composed of four teams, was organized since the founding of the Club." Al-

though very active and promising for a short time this club did not become one of St. Paul's permanent organizations.

The Altar Society continued to progress and aid the church financially during this pastorate as in former ones. Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, dearly beloved president, still, willingly and devotedly, held that important office. The average enrollment in this organization was approximately one hundred fifteen ladies. The Ladies Sewing Circle was discontinued. Monthly socials were inaugurated. Every three months the ladies held "a shower" which brought a large supply of aprons which were sold at the annual sale each November.

The Young People's Socie-

ty was active and ever ready to lend a willing hand. Beautiful annual banquets were enjoyed by members and friends. A most successful entertainment was conducted by our young people December 14-15, 1911. In 1912 this organization financed the reupholstering of the Altar chairs for the Church sanctuary and paid one third of the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration expenses. The Y. P. S. had an income of \$4713.80 from 1898 to the Golden Jubilee in 1912.

After lengthy deliberation the young people decided to conduct semi-monthly meetings - one for Bible Study only and the other a business meeting followed by a lecture on Church History. This new experiment proved to be unsatisfactory and was discontinued.

Delegates were sent yearly to the Young People's League Conventions, who returned with interesting reports.

In 1914 the attendance at our St. Paul's Young People's Society meetings was decreasing so rapidly that a membership contest was instigated. The results were discouraging.

The Trauer Verein had a membership of fifty-three ladies in 1911. \$150⁰⁰ were generously given to our Church Council in 1912 as a Jubilee gift. In February 1913 a committee was appointed to meet with the Altar Society to discuss "Consolidation of the Altar and Trauer Vereins." The merger did not occur however during this pastorate. In August 1914 Mrs. Johanna Kettengel, after sixteen years of faithful service, resigned as treasurer of this society.

Our St. Paul's Men's Gleevo-

lent Society celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in November 1912. A special worship was planned in honor of its silver birthday, Sunday, November 24th. The members attended services entering the sanctuary in a body. The church was beautifully decorated and festive music was rendered.

Tuesday evening, November 26th, a bounteous banquet and a splendid program were enjoyed by an enthusiastic assemblage. Addresses were given by Rev. Adolph Baltzer, Rev. Paul Frankendorf, Messrs. Albert Klippel, Joachim Kagele, and Albert Meili. The church choir sang four short anthems and the Society's members and guests joined heartily in singing, "Grosser Gott Mir Loben Dich!" and

"Wie Lieblich ist's hinieden...."
The officers of this society were president, Rev. Cherkircher; vice-president, Rudolph Zander; secretary, William Walch; treasurer, John Eutin. In 1912 this society had \$931.50 in its treasury.

The following men were chosen to serve on the 1913 Revision of the Men's Society Constitution; John Eutin, William Frase, Joachim Pagels, John Oslager, and August Frey. February 1913 the revised constitution, printed in both the German and English languages, was ready for distribution.

At the annual congregational meeting held in January 1912 a decision was reached to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of our church's birthday on May 19, 1912. It was also unanimously decided to raise, by subscription, \$1000.00 for debt reduction.

A list of the subscribers, with amounts pledged, was to be kept posted in the "Trustees' Room" until the anniversary Sunday. (The pastor and his Council set a splendid example by subscribing early in the year.)

When speaking of preparing for the anniversary celebration Rev. Oberkircher admonished his people: "Our gratitude that God has thus far blessed us, should not be clothed in words or in empty promises but by deeds of action and of self-sacrifice."... "Our church debt has been the cause of much worry and anxiety and has materially impeded our growth." He requested his parishoners to give freely. They responded beautifully and great joy was experienced

by St. Paul's family when it was learned that our goal, \$1000.00, had been exceeded by \$1020.00; making a total subscription of \$2020.00. Our church indebtedness (\$10,200⁰⁰) was thereby reduced to \$8,180.00.

The anniversary services Sunday May 19, 1912 were all well attended. A special jubilee program, prepared by the Sunday School began the day's celebration. Parents were invited to attend. The church auditorium was artistically decorated by Keller and Sons, florists. (\$52⁰⁰ was the amount paid) A large jubilee choir gladdened the hearts of all listeners by the rendition of many beautiful anthems. Rev. Fraemer, president of the New York district, preached the German sermon in the morn-

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ing and Rev. A. Baltzer and Rev. F. Frankenfild delivered inspirational English addresses in the evening.

Rev. H. J. W. Grotfend, of Trenton, New Jersey, pastor of St. Paul's from 1904 to 1910, sent greetings and congratulations to his former parishioners. This act of thoughtfulness and kindness brought real joy and was sincerely appreciated by our St. Paul's congregation.

Monday evening, May 20, 1912 members of our congregation were invited to the anniversary banquet given under the auspices of the Altar Society. The spacious Sunday School auditorium was filled to overflowing. Young ladies of the congregation served as waitresses. Our choir furnished appropriate mu-

sic and inspirational addresses were delivered by our pastor, Rev. Oberkircher, our church president, Mr. Joachim Pagels, and Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, president of the Altar Society. Everyone experienced a happy evening and departed for home refreshed physically, mentally, and spiritually.

An eight page white and gold anniversary booklet, printed in the German language, with the exception of a half a page entitled "English Column", and containing a brief history of St. Paul's congregation by pastorates; short treatises on the Sunday School, Altar Society, Trauerverein, Men's Benevolent Society, Young Peoples Society, and our Jubilee Choir; miscellaneous notes; and church income and expenditures from 1862.

to 1912, was presented to all members and friends attending the jubilee services.

St. Paul's Bote committee reported, in January 1912, a deficit of \$2.60. Sufficient subscriptions had not been forthcoming. Indifference and carelessness of the church membership was given for the reason of this shortage of funds. The January 1913 report again showed that during the year 1912 expenditures exceeded income.

As voluntary contributions were not sufficient for the publication of the messenger, no Botes were printed in May or June 1913. The discontinuance of the monthly church periodical did not meet with the approval of our parishioners. Our council, after careful deliberation, decided to again

publish a monthly church magazine but due to lack of necessary funds its size was decreased to four pages. Also in the future the expenses of printing the Bote was to be met entirely by subscription as the soliciting of advertisements was to be abolished. The new four page St. Paul's Bote, usually three pages in German and one in English, continued to be published monthly throughout the remainder of this pastorate.

The following miscellaneous items were important happenings in the life of St. Paul's from 1911 to 1914.

1 The organ debt was wiped out of existence in 1911.

2 A new Altar for the church sanctuary was purchased in September 1911.

3 November 1911 Rev. Oberkirch-
er's mother and sister came
to reside with him.

4. Our choir gladdened the
heart of Mr. Henry Betz on the
evening of November 3, 1911 by
staging a surprise party
in honor of his 10th anni-
versary as St. Paul's orga-
nist and choir director.

5. In 1911 Mr. Albert Seegler, a
faithful member of St. Paul's,
gave a gift of \$200⁰⁰ to his
beloved church.

6. English Lenten services
were conducted each Sun-
day evening during the 1912
Passion Season.

7. The church treasurer re-
ceived \$50⁰⁰ in December 1912
from Mr. Betz's Bible Class and
\$200⁰⁰ from the Altar Society.

The council was most grate-
ful for these unexpected and
generous Christmas gifts.

* → 8. The individual glasses
for Holy Communion were used

for the first time in our parish on Easter Sunday 1913.

9 Rev. Oberkircher married Miss Caroline L. Braun, one of our outstanding, faithful, and highly esteemed members, July 26, 1913. This date also marked the 3rd anniversary of Rev. Oberkircher's ordination into the Christian ministry.

10 Pastor and council continued, throughout this pastorate, to urge the unanimous adoption of the weekly envelope system but without complete success. Some of St. Paul's members still preferred contributing annually.

11 January 1914 the church treasurer reported \$322.28 in the church treasury.

12 No Sunday evening worship services were conducted in 1914 except during the Lenten season and they were in

the German language.

13. Rev. Oberkircher often remarked, "So many of our young people go to neighboring English churches instead of attending our own."

14 Every third Sunday morning of each month in 1914 our council sponsored an English church service. (Small attendance did not warrant having them oftener.)

15 The Easter offering in 1914 was \$137.26.

16 Sylvester Eve Services were conducted each year of Rev. Oberkircher's pastorate.

May 25, 1914 a special congregational meeting was called by our church president, Mr. Joachim Pagele for the purpose of voting on the resignation of Rev. Oberkircher which he had tendered to our church council a few days prior. (Our church constitution.

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stated that the members of the congregation and not the church council should decide on the acceptance or refusal of a pastor's resignation. Pastor Oberkircher's wish was granted. He remained with his congregation for three months. A friendly farewell article was written by Rev. Oberkircher which can be found in the August 1914 St. Paul's Bote. He preached his last sermon in our church sanctuary Sunday morning August 23, 1914. His fervent prayer for the congregation he had served for more than three years ended thus: "God be with you and Bless you."

Rev. Oberkircher went to Buffalo, New York, to begin pastoral duties in ? church

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1914-1922

Dr. Richard Stave

St. Paul's congregation extended a call to Dr. Richard Stave in the year 1914 at which time he was serving as pastor of Christ Evangelical Church, a mission in the north-eastern section of our city. At a congregation meeting held in our church on North Fitzhugh Street August 17th Dr. Stave was elected to St. Paul's pastorate.

Sick visitations and duties that arose needing pastoral attention were willingly done by Dr. Stave from the day of his election until his formal installation in the late autumn.

In the September church paper, St. Paul's Bote, Dr. Stave wrote: "The future of St. Paul's will largely depend upon the success or failure of the Sunday School. This argument is true of every church. In proportion to the desirable

development of our future, our Sunday School should treble in numbers and in capacity and efficiency for service."

We are all aware of the physical obstacles in the way of gaining this desired end, obstacles which are due principally to the fact that the homes of our children are too far removed from the church. Nevertheless we'll make a determined effort to build up our Sunday School."

The above paragraphs written in 1914 give the readers of this historical sketch just a glimpse of the general trend of thought among the big majority of our parishioners at that time. Our far sighted members realized that a new site for St. Paul's would soon be imperative if we wished to increase in numbers and progress as is befitting God's children to do.

St. Paul's has always been ready to do her bit for benevolences. In the summer of 1914 the German American Alliance sponsored a movement in Rochester to send aid to the families of German soldiers who had been left destitute by the war. Many of our loyal parishoners' names appeared on the subscription lists.

We were happy to note that St. Paul's men entered enthusiastically into the organization of an Evangelical Brotherhood of Rochester. William Gslager was elected to the office of First Vice President and William C. Walch, Secretary. Mr. Albert G. Klippel was chosen a member of the Executive Committee.

Dr. Richard Stare was formally installed, by Rev. Frederick Frankenfeld, as pastor of St. Paul's church at a Union Reformation Serv-

ice Sunday evening November 1, 1914. Trinity, Salem and Christ Evangelical congregations were our guests. Every pew in the large church auditorium was filled. Rev. J. C. Kramer, assistant pastor at Salem Church, addressed the congregations in German and Rev. A. C. G. Baltzer, of Trinity Ev. Church, preached the English sermon.

Monday evening, November 2nd, a reception was given, by the Altar Society, in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Starn and family, in the church parlors. The entire congregation was invited to be present. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Mr. Joachim Pagels, president of St. Paul's congregation, and Mrs. Emma Bunkus, president of the Altar Society. Refreshments - ice cream, cake, and coffee - were served. A happy evening was enjoyed by young and old.

The following paragraphs taken from the November "Bote" 1914 are worthy of duplication.

"The history of St. Paul's shows well directed and constant activity through many years; she has safely outlined many a crisis: her failures and short comings have not discouraged her and her successes have not made her over confident and proud. Many of her sturdy and loyal friends have gone to their reward, the ranks of her veterans have thinned perceptibly, but the work has gone on without wavering or hesitation. There is no denying the fact that the question of safeguarding the future of St. Paul's is becoming increasingly acute and momentous. If we would not let our

hearts be troubled about the
future of St. Paul's we must
not let our hands be idle.
The Lord is certainly with us
and, therefore we cannot
fail."

In our Sunday Services, in
the Sunday School, (includ-
ing the Cradle Roll Department)
the Bible Class, Ladies Junior
Bible Class, Young Peoples Society,
the Boys Club, the Altar Verein,
the Men's Benevolent Society - sure-
ly, there is no lack of oppor-
tunity for participation in nec-
essary and important work
for the extension of the Lord's
Kingdom and for the wel-
fare of dear old St. Paul's."

Rev. Starr's 1915 New Year's
greeting to his congregation
read in part thus: "It is a
wonderful and beautiful world
we are living in. May this
year bring us into closer fel-
lowship, than ever before, with
the living God. May we all learn
in the year to come new secrets

of sympathy, of patient understanding, of brotherhood."

The first worship service of the year was held at 10:30 A.M. New Year's Day. It was conducted in the German Language.

An English worship service every Sunday A.M. introduced in 1915, necessitated the formation of another choir. More than twenty of our young people responded to the appeal of the council and a Junior Choir was organized. Mr. Henry Betz now served as choir master for both Senior and Junior Choirs.

Catechetical Instruction was given twice each week. Tuesday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 and Saturdays mornings from 9 to 10 o'clock. This first class of confirmands in Dr. Stave's pastorate consisted of eighteen girls and one boy. The catechetical instruction and examination were con-

ducted in the English language. They received the rites of confirmation March 28, 1915.

It was in the year 1915 that our St. Paul's congregation decided definitely that a change of location was a necessity.

Our congregation adopted the following resolution, sponsored by Mr. William Offslager, July 12, 1915.

"Resolved that the congregation, convened in its regular semi-annual meeting, has become convinced that the conditions as they have prevailed for years in our present locality preclude further satisfactory and progressive development. In order to safeguard the future of our congregation for us and our posterity, the location of the church must be changed."

Resolution, by Mr. Wm.

Walch, directing the president of the congregation to appoint a committee, consisting of seven members, "empowered to act in bringing about a suitable change of location," was also adopted. The committee consisted of Rudolph Zander, William Kase, Albert Meili, John Eutin, William Walch, Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, and Miss Emma E. Pagels.

The appointment of the above committee was one of the last official acts of President Joachim Pagels, a man of unusually fine personality. He was called home August 23, 1915."

Dr. Stave wrote: "For more than forty years Mr. Joachim Pagels was a faithful member of our church which he served as president for 16 years. Our congregation has suffered a

great loss through the death of this faithful man. May his memory always be honored in our midst."

September 7, 1915 at a special congregational meeting, William Walch was unanimously elected President of St. Paul's church. The following Sunday he was formally installed. Rev. Stave spoke very highly of our new young president. He said that Mr. Walch had been baptized and confirmed in St. Paul's and had always worked untiringly for her welfare and had gained the full confidence of St. Paul's members. Our pastor prayed to God that Mr. Walch be given strength to "carry on" and that the congregation would uphold and willingly assist him in his new responsible

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work.

The "welfare committee" with Mr. William Walch as chairman, and Mr. William Kase, secretary, worked diligently. Three important phases of its work were selecting a suitable site, starting a Sunday School in the new field, and lastly to dispose of the Fitzhugh Street property.

By September 1915 the location was decided upon - St. Paul Street corner of Northview Terrace. Also the Garfield Real Estate Co., was chosen to have charge of the disposal of the Fitzhugh St., property which was then valued at \$50,000.00.

In October the congregation granted, at the request of the committee, permission to begin the erection of a chapel. Robert Walch and Son were the Contractors

chosen. Fish and Horton did the electrical work and the Gas Heaters were purchased from the Rochester Railway and Light Co. The total cost of our new Chapel was \$1,406.44. It was insured for \$1,500.00. "The committee signed a contract with Mr. Koeser for the use of Lot #5 Northview Terrace, without any charge, until March 1, 1916. "A loan of \$1,400.00 from two members of our congregation made the building of the adequate structure possible. Our Canvassers visited nearly every home in the 17th Ward and extended invitations to our first service in the Chapel, Sunday November 14th (1915)

Dr. Stares wrote in our St. Paul's Bote: "To all Christian friends in the community we will say at the outset that, while we shall endeavor to render our services attractive and inviting to them all, we are nevertheless committed to those principles which will neither dictate

nor permit a conscious attempt to alienate any person from the church of which he or she is a rightful member. None will be barred, all will be received, cordially, and full membership will be granted to those who will seek it voluntarily and in conformity with the constitution of St. Paul's."

The new Chapel was formally dedicated December 12, 1915.

I quote Rev. Stave: "Today we are in the happy position to state that there are abundant evidences of the wisdom of our undertaking and what is most gratifying - of the loyalty and support of the rank and file of our members. We have every reason to be grateful to God for His wonderful guidance."

In the December Bote 1915 we find "Our Holiday Calendar." After reading it through thoughtfully one began to realize the more fully how difficult it was for Dr. Stave and his church council to successfully serve two fields. I copy in part for the interest of the reader of this sketch.

Sat. Dec. 25 - German Service 10 A. M.

Communion following this service

Sunday School Service 7:30 P. M.

Sun. Dec. 26th

Sunday School 9:00 A. M.

English Church Service 10:30 A. M.

Sunday School at Chapel 2:30 P. M.

German Service at " 7:30 P. M.

Communion in both English & German following the evening service.

Wed. Dec. 29th

Christmas Service of S. S. at Chapel at 7:30 P. M.

Thurs. Dec. 30th

Christmas Celebration of Cradle Roll at Chapel at 3:00 P. M.

Fri. Dec. 31st

Sylvester Service at Church
8:00 P.M. followed by social
gathering and midnight de-
votional.

Sun. Jan. 2nd

Sunday School 9:00 A.M.
German Church Service 10:30 A.M.
Sunday School (Chapel) 2:30 P.M.
Church Service (Eng.) 7:30 P.M.

Shortly after the comple-
tion of the Chapel it was discov-
ered that the property on North-
view Ter. was restricted reserved
for homes only. This meant more
work for the "welfare committee"
secure a new site. The proper-
ty at the corner of Norton and
Jewel Streets was finally decid-
ed upon and was purchased
by the congregation March 1916.
As there was a suitable house-
this house, still in sound con-
dition, was built by a Wilson
family during the days of the
American Revolution - for a

parsonage on the Norton Street property Dr. Stare and family moved into this spacious home in April 1916. In June 1916 the Chap. 1 clu was moved to this new location. The first worship service was held June 25, 1916.

The work in the new field proved very successful. The Sunday School grew in leaps and bounds and the church services were well attended.

The church council, seeing how extremely trying it was for Dr. Stare to serve two fields, made a heroic effort to secure aid. Mr. William Frause, a student at Mc Cormack Theological Seminary, Chicago, gladly accepted the position of assistant pastor for the summer of 1916. He proved to be a real help and Dr. Stare's burdens were, for a time, considerably lessened. In September Mr. Frause left to resume his studies in

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Chicago.

Wednesday afternoon, March 1, 1916, the ladies of St. Paul's who were interested in the growth of our work in the New Field organized a "Sewing Circle." Meetings were held at the Chapel the 2nd and 4th Thursday after-noon each month. This corps of ladies worked diligently, and it was through their untiring efforts that the 1916 aim of the chapel - the chapel should be self-supporting - materialized.

Mrs. R. Star's Sunday School class sponsored the first sale at the chapel. There were quantities of baked goods and many useful hand-made and fancy articles. The proceeds, \$25.⁰⁰, were used for the promotion of the work in the new field. "The Resurrection" Cantata,

said by some members to be "the most pretentious entertainment ever presented in our church - gorgeous costumes and beautiful stage effects" - was given in the Fitzhugh Street Sunday School auditorium before an unusually large audience Tuesday and Wednesday evenings April 25th and 26th. The receipts were \$94.10, expenses \$33.69 - a net profit of \$60.41.

The annual Sunday School picnic was held at Ontario Beach Park Thursday, July 13, 1916. Dinner was served at 12:30 and supper at 5:30. A program of games was run off in the afternoon. Two hundred persons attended the picnic.

The Rally Day programs September 17th in both Sunday School and Church were outstanding. The Chapel Sunday School united with the Church S. S. at a 9:15 A. M. session.

Two hundred eighteen attended. The morning worship service was conducted at the Church also and the evening service at the Chapel at 7:30. The English and German languages were used in both services.

The Auxiliary Church Council of St. Paul's Chapel held its first meeting at the Chapel Monday evening October 23, 1916. Dr. Stave opened the meeting with prayer and volunteered to act as temporary chairman. Election of officers resulted thus: President, Mr. William Flad; Secretary, Mr. William Schnackel; Treasurer, Mr. John J. Meyer.

"The administration of all business affairs and matters of expediency affecting the work at the Chapel until the time of its consolidation with the moth-

er church is to be in the hands of this board. Extraordinary appropriations and questions affecting the general policy of the church shall be considered and settled in cooperation with the board of the mother church."

The meetings took place the third Monday evening of each month. The members of the board were: Messrs. William Flad, William Schnackel, John J. Meyer, Richard Varch, Leo Deuter, William Oslager, William Walch, Gustave Barron, Fred Bopp, and the pastor, ex officio.

During the latter months of 1916 a feeling of unrest was making itself felt at times in our St. Paul's congregation. Often one would hear the remark: "It is too bad that our expectations with respect to the sale of our

property on Fitzhugh Street have not as yet materialized, because it imposes a severe trial upon our patience."

Rev. Stave explained conditions and reasons thus:

If our efforts in disposing of our church property and in erecting a new edifice have not met with success for more than a year past, it is because He who directs and governs all things has not considered conditions ripe for the contemplated change. He demands a test of our faithfulness and absolute reliance upon Him, before He can entrust to us the all-important work of the future. The Christian viewpoint admits of no other explanation or attitude. Taking everything into consideration, it seems clear that there is but one course for us

to pursue in the immediate future, and that is, to continue our work along the lines adopted and to possess our souls in patience. Let us endeavor to do our part and God will not withhold from us His blessing."

Members of St. Paul's who had had the opportunity of knowing Mr. Albert Seegler, a highly esteemed and loyal member of St. Paul's on Fitzhugh Street, were happy to read the following announcement in the December 1916 St. Paul's Bote: "We wish to announce a welcome Christmas gift of \$300.00 bequeathed to our congregation by the legacy of Mr. Albert Seegler, who died three years ago."

The "Financial Reports" sheet will give the Reader accurate information as to the financial condition of our church January 1, 1917. (See page 138A)

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St. Paul's Evangelical Church

Dear Friend:—

At the largely attended Annual Meeting of the members of St. Paul's Church it was unanimously decided to introduce the "Budget-System," and it is the aim and purpose of this letter to make you see the advantages of this system for both yourself and your church.

The "Budget-System"—what is it?

It is an effective method by which it is possible to manage the financial affairs of the church as they should be managed—in a business way.

The expenditures of the church for the coming year are planned wisely, the members are made familiar with these and an organized effort is made to secure from them pledges sufficient to cover the expenses.

The general *advantages* of this system are these:

- (1) Every member of the congregation is fully informed concerning the needs of his church. He has a right to know them.
- (2) It does away with the uncertain, haphazard, slipshod management of the past with its humiliating begging and worrying on the part of the responsible officers of the church, when payments are to be made and no funds available.
- (3) It simplifies and facilitates the work of the financial secretary and the treasurer.
- (4) It removes the danger of a deficit in the treasury at this end of the year.
- (5) It equalizes the task of maintaining the church, because it makes it possible for *every individual* to share in the responsibility without imposing an excessive burden upon any one.
- (6) It will be easier for most of us to pay \$15.00 or \$20.00 per year *in weekly payments* of 30 cents or 40 cents than \$15.00 or even only \$12.00 per year in one or two or three payments.

The special features of our system are these:

- (1) In the task of maintaining the church there will be but *one method for all*.
- (2) Our only method of contributing will be weekly and by means of envelopes.
- (3) Our present envelope system will be discontinued, also the renting of pews and all extra collections. The "Easter Offering" will remain the only special Offering during the year. Renting of pews will be discontinued on April first when the new system will go into effect. Amounts paid for pews beyond April first will be credited.
- (4) A copy of the "Bote" will be delivered gratis to each family.
- (5) The financial secretary will forward a statement to each contributor for the purpose of detecting any errors and avoiding possible misunderstanding.

On Sunday, February 4th, a committee of canvassers will call at your home and submit to you a pledge card upon which they will request you to state the amount of your weekly contribution for the coming year; they will urge you to increase, if possible, the amount of your former contribution. Only if you are willing to do this—and do it cheerfully—can we hope to meet our current expenses for the year. Remember, however, that there will be no remarks, no criticism, if for reasons best known to yourself, you cannot possibly increase your contribution. The Lord will know the reasons—that is sufficient.

In conclusion we would urge you to read attentively the articles in the January issue of the "Bote" of which every one may obtain a copy.

Appended below is the budget for the year 1917 as submitted to and approved by the congregation.

For Salaries	\$2060.00	For Bote-Fund	250.00
" Interest on Mortgage	400.00	" Miscellaneous	50.00
" Fuel and Light	400.00	" Insurance	100.00
" Repairs	200.00	" Music	75.00
" Printing and Postage	100.00	" Street Assessment	107.00
" Benevolence	200.00	Total	\$4942.00
" Debt-Fund	1000.00		

Trusting that we will have your hearty co-operation in our work of introducing the "Budget-System," we remain in Christian fellowship,

The Committee:

WM. OFSHLAGER

HY. TROST *John E. Linn*

GUST. BARRON

HY. HIEB, Jr.

WM. WALCH, ex-officio

PASTOR STAVE, ex-officio

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FINANCIAL REPORTS

"BOTE" COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1916

Receipts	
Subscriptions and donations	\$98.75
Advertisements	72.50
	<u>\$171.25</u>
Disbursements	
Printing and postage	\$222.01
Deficit in "Bote Fund" Jan. 1, 1917...	\$50.76
WILLIAM C. WALCH, FRED W. BOPP.	

DONATIONS TO THE "CRADLE ROLL"

60 Cents—Mrs. Trost.	
50 Cents—Mrs. Lau, Mrs. Luedecke, Mrs. Meili.	
25 Cents—Mrs. Erbacher, Mrs. Hahn, Mrs. Klemm, Mrs. Reuschle, Mrs. Walch, Mrs. Wilczewski.	
10 Cents—Mrs. Miller.	
Collection at Christmas exercises, \$3.22.	
Total, \$6.92.	

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

On hand January 1, 1916.....	\$26.95
Income from classes	171.56
	<u>\$198.51</u>
Expenses	149.81

Balance on hand January 1, 1917.... \$48.70

Contribution for "Children's Day".....	\$146.60
Contribution for Christmas Day	\$200.00

Christmas Offering

Bible Class	\$50.00
Ladies Bible Class	25.00
Class of Miss M. Eckert	11.00
Class of Miss L. Hoffmeier	10.00
Class of Miss M. Beldue	2.75
Class of Miss M. Peters	2.00
Class of Miss M. Fisher	2.00
Class of Mr. H. Hieb	2.00
From Daisy envelopes	20.32
From Birthday Fund	15.00
From Calendars	1.00
From Interest on deposit	4.75
From Treasury	54.18

Total \$200.00

HENRY W. TROST,
Treasurer.

ELDERS' REPORT

(a) Poor Fund:

Receipts	
Balance on hand July 1, 1916.....	\$1.10
Donations (July to December)	5.88
	<u>\$6.98</u>
Disbursements	6.50

Balance on hand January 1, 1917.... \$.48

(b) Mission Fund:

Receipts	
Balance on hand July 1, 1916.....	\$5.30
Donations (July to December).....	1.10
	<u>\$6.40</u>
Disbursements00

Balance on hand January 1, 1917.... \$6.40

HENRY ECKERT,
MINER S. HORTON.

SEMI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Of the Church Treasurer from July to December, 1916

Receipts	
Balance on hand July 1, 1916.....	\$ 24.57
Received from pew rent	361.99
Received from weekly envelopes	550.90
Received from plate offerings	190.13
Received from Debt Fund	2.38
Miscellaneous	562.00
	<u>\$1,691.97</u>

Disbursements

Pastor's salary	\$699.90
Organist's salary	150.00
Janitor's salary	180.00
Treasurer's salary	1.00
Interest on mortgage (Rochester Savings Bank)	198.75
Electricity	29.92
Gas	15.77
Telephone	13.15
Printing and publicity	24.80
Expense account "Rally Day"	53.95
Miscellaneous	275.63

\$1,642.87

Balance on hand January 1, 1917.... \$ 49.10

CHAPEL REPORT

Receipts

Received from Church service collections	\$ 27.84
Received from Sunday School collections	11.96
Received from rent of garage.....	16.00
Note of Jacob Kern	400.00
Received on church property mortgage	3,000.00
	<u>\$3,455.80</u>

Disbursements

Deficit on July 1, 1916.....	\$ 17.07
Interest on mortgage (National Bank of Commerce)	210.00
Interest on mortgage (Rochester Trust & Safe Deposit Co.)	37.50
Interest on note of John Fischer.....	18.00
Note of Jacob Kern, with interest....	417.00
On note of National Bank of Commerce	1,000.00
Loan of Two-Cent Club with interest	103.00
Expense for loans and mortgages, and city taxes	223.10
Account-moving chapel	225.00
Gas and electricity	6.84
Water	10.72
Repairs and furnishings	56.17
Repairs to parsonage	40.30

Balance on hand January 1, 1917.... \$1,091.10

Summary—January 1, 1917

Balance on hand in regular treasury..	\$ 49.10
Balance on hand in chapel treasury...	1,091.10

Total on hand \$1,140.20

HERMAN POMMERENNING,
Treasurer.

The annual congregational meeting held Monday evening Jan. 8, 1917 was one of the most memorable meetings held in our St. Paul's church. "The spirit which animated all the fifty participants and the results accomplished justify this statement."

1 After much discussion it was unanimously voted to introduce "The Budget System" and the officers were authorized to put the same into effect April 1st. Prior to this date letters explaining the advantages and special features of this system were sent to all members. (One of these printed letters is attached to this sheet) Page 138
Also an Every Member Canvass was conducted Sunday February 4th, by about thirty-four men to solicit pledges for this budget.
(Rear Rental discontinued Apr. 1, 1917.)

2 The second important transaction was the appoint-

ment of a committee, composed of Messrs. William Offslager, Gustave Barron, Henry Kieb Jr., and Theodore Pagels, to devise ways and means for the immediate erection of a Sunday School and Church building on the new Horton and Jewel Street property.

3 Thirdly a committee consisting of Messrs. William Brase, Fred Solberger, Albert G. Klippel, Miss Emma E. Pagels, and Mrs. Louise Eisman and Rev. R. Stare, ex officio, was chosen to make proper arrangements for the celebration of our church's 55th birthday anniversary.

At the annual meeting of the Young Peoples Society held Monday evening January 15, 1917 the following five important motions were adopted. (1) "That the Society disband" (2) That the

funds be turned over to the church treasurer. (3) That the books be kept open and the officers held over for one month to allow for payment of back dues. (4) That the members be notified of the Society's disbanding and a statement sent to each one. (5) That necessary expenses be allowed the Secretary for this purpose.

Another change in January 1917 affected the Bible Class. It was decided to have the male members of the Class withdraw and form a new class to be known as the Men's Bible Class.

The annual meeting and banquet of the Rochester Evangelical Brotherhood was conducted in our church parlors, North Fitzhugh Street, February 22nd. The Reverends A. Baltzer, F. Frankenfeld, and our pas-

tor, R. Stave, were present. Mr. William Brown of Salem church led in the discussion "Why Men Ought to Go to Church." Among officers elected that evening two were St. Paulites; William Oslager, recording secretary and Fred H. Bopp, treasurer. Messrs. William Kalch and August Frey were among those chosen to serve on the Executive Committee.

March 12th to March 17th (1917) marked important days in the history of St. Paul. Our congregation conducted a \$10,000.00 campaign. This was necessary to make possible the erection of a \$35,000.00 church building at Norton and Jewel Streets.

The campaign was under the superior management of Mr. H. H. Patterson of Cleveland, Ohio. The headquarters were in the social room, first floor of the Sun-

day School building, North Fitzhugh Street. Monday night, March 12, 1917, marked the formal opening of the campaign. Mr. Patterson remarked that he felt unusually optimistic because he had heard from outside sources, since in Rochester, that "when St. Paul's folks undertake anything, they usually make it come to pass."

The plan of the campaign was as follows: "Eighteen Captains of teams in the men's division and twelve Captains of teams in the ladies division (each team to consist of four persons with the captain) constituted a working force of about one hundred and twenty people who met each night from six to seven o'clock for a free luncheon in Campaign Headquarters during the five nights from March 12-17th; this luncheon each day constituted the business session when the progress of the campaign was noted and when the new prospects for each

evening's work were given out and where was created the inspiration and enthusiasm which made the Campaign a success. Mrs. Louise Ciceman, as Vice Chairman of the Ladies Division, with other ladies of the church, had charge of the luncheons.

The Campaign Organization consisted of Fred Keller, General Chairman, and Henry Hieb, Jr. Treasurer. Mr. William Walch was Chairman of the Men's Division and was assisted by eighteen Captains. Miss Emma E. Vagels, Chairman of the Ladies Division had the assistance of twelve Captains.

The highly spirited final supper, March 17th at 8:30 o'clock was given to celebrate properly the happy and successful outcome of the campaign. At the urge of our chairman, Mr. Fred Keller, many of the canvassers narrated their experiences, which brought added interest and also caused much

laughter and merriment. Dr. Stave spoke thus: "The enthusiasm, tact, and magnetism which Mr. Patterson possesses make him a leader whom everyone was willing to follow. For his personal interest combined with rare experience, and the faithful work of his associate, Miss Oriatt, we of St. Paul's feel deeply grateful and appreciate." Miss Oriatt and Mr. Patterson responded. They spoke of the loyalty of our St. Paulites and also of the support shown them.

The total pledges of this \$10,000.00 Campaign amounted to more than \$12,000.00. A wonderful financial success! The following sentence written by Dr. Stave and printed in the March Bote expresses perfectly the feeling of the writer and all those who had a share in this great campaign.

"Aside from the financial results, the Campaign was worth many times what it cost in the pro-

motion of mutual acquaintance and fellowship among our members, here and in the new field, in the opportunity for a definite, valuable Christian service which it afforded, and in the general stimulation of our church life. The spirit of unity and sociability existing was very noticeable and gratifying."

The Ways and Means and Building Committees were busy for many weeks following the Campaign. They spent many hours looking over plans, submitted by the architect, and later, studying the contractor's bids. Their sincere intention was to have construction begin immediately when finances would permit. Mr. Henry Lieb, Treasurer of the Building Fund Committee, gave notice that the first quarterly payment on pledges was due April 1st.

April 1, 1917 also marked the 30th anniversary of the Men's

Benevolent Society. Sunday April 29th the members attended church service in a body. The annual banquet sponsored by the Society, in the church dining room, Tuesday evening May 1st, was reported "a big success."

At a special meeting of the congregation Monday evening April 23rd the following resolution was passed. "Resolved, That the members express their approval of the style and general construction of the proposed church building as submitted by the Building Committee, and that they hereby instruct and authorize said Committee to proceed with the execution of the adopted plans as speedily as conditions will warrant."

It was decided that the sale of the Fitzhugh Street property be placed in the hands of all Rochester real estate agencies.

The motion was passed that

the congregation purchase an automobile for Dr. Staves whose work had greatly increased with the acquisition of the new field.

The following item found in the April Bote 1917 is important and of interest.

"Effective with this issue, the soliciting of paid subscriptions for the "Bote" will be discontinued, as hereafter its finances will be provided for by the new budget system. Under the new arrangement, one copy will be mailed monthly to every family in the congregation contributing to the church budget."

May 1917 brought disappointment to St. Paul's congregation. After careful investigations our council and committees discovered and were advised that it would be perilous unless our Fitzhugh Street property could be

sold) to proceed with the erection of the new church and Sunday School building. It was deemed inadvisable however to abandon building operations altogether. Our Sunday School - "the most important medium in building up a new congregation" - in the new field had already outgrown the chapel accommodations. Everyone by now realized that our future lay in the new field and something must be done without delay. The Building Committee was therefore instructed to make immediate arrangements for the erection of the Sunday School building. June 18th 1917 the trustees were authorized to secure a loan of \$6,000.00 for its prompt erection. Dr. Stare remarked, "It is a most comforting and encouraging thought that the critical hour in the life of St. Paul's finds mem-

bers and friends, with very few exceptions, united in the onward march."

In June 1917 St. Paul's was fortunate in securing Mr. Fred W. Wilkens, a senior at the Rochester Theological Seminary, as her assistant pastor. Mr. Wilkens was an active Y. M. C. A. worker and a superior playground instructor. We were happy to have this genial and enthusiastic young worker in our midst.

Also in June 1917 one of our former pastors, Rev. H. F. W. Grotfend was sent from Buffalo, N. Y., as a delegate to the New York District Conference convening at Trinity Ev. Church, Rochester. Sunday June 10th Rev. Grotfend spoke briefly at our St. Paul's worship service. He who had been members during his pastorate in Rochester were made very happy to have him in our midst again.

The Building Fund report revealed that from March 13th to June 26th \$3786.90 had been paid to our church treasurer.

In September the members of St. Paul received a letter from the Building Committee of our church explaining the reasons for a delay in the erection of our new edifice. As it is important and of real interest to all loyal St. Paulites I'll herewith attach a printed copy. (See page 152)

The Sunday Services at the Chapel during the winter months of 1917-1918 were conducted alternately in the English and German languages.

The Altar Society's Sauerkraut Supper and Sale, October 10, 1917, was judged by all present superior to the former year which had been termed "the banner year." Good reason for rejoicing!

The opening service of the celebration of the 55th anniver-

Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 24, 1917

Dear Friend :

The present unfortunate world situation is affecting every phase of our industrial, political and social life. Even the church is not escaping her share of suffering. We are told our country demands sacrifices of its patriotic citizens ; let us not forget our duty toward the church.

St. Paul's Evangelical Church has not as yet been able to make satisfactory arrangements for erecting the new edifice, much to the disappointment of many eager friends. Prospects of the sale of the property on N. Fitzhugh street have been unfavorably affected by existing conditions ; the abnormal increase in the price of labor and material is a very vital factor in building operations involving an expenditure of about \$45,000 ; therefore the Building Committee have deemed it the better part of wisdom to defer the execution of the original plans until a more opportune time. However, owing to the uncertainty of the duration of the present situation and because of the ever growing demands for space in our chapel, particularly for Sunday School work, it may be necessary that immediate provisions be made to meet this demand.

We trust that our friends everywhere will fully understand and appreciate our cautious attitude, and we assure them that everything possible will be done to safeguard our and their interest in the matter of developing our work in the 17th ward. We should be glad to receive and give due consideration to any suggestions.

In the meantime, however, we must direct our conscientious attention toward that which shall insure the success of our work when the proper time has arrived : **the prompt payment of our pledges for the Building Fund.**

By bearing in mind that our obligation to the church is an obligation to the Lord, we shall find the strength and joy necessary for that which otherwise we would consider a hardship.

Trusting that we shall receive your remittance in the care of Mr. Henry Hieb, Jr., No. 47 Conkey Ave., the treasurer of the Building Fund, and thanking you for your manifestation of good will and loyalty in a cause which is surely deserving of our noblest sacrifices, we remain in Christian fellowship,

Very sincerely yours,

The Building Committee of St. Paul's Evangelical Church

sary of the founding of our St. Paul's church was conducted in the church auditorium, Fitzhugh Street, October 7, 1917. Rev. O. D. Hempelman preached the anniversary sermon. Dr. Stave delivered a short address in German. The male quartette of the First German Baptist Church sang.

Rev. F. Frankenfeld of Salem Church, Rev. A. Baltzer of Trinity church, and Mr. Fred Wilkins gave short addresses at the union evening service. The church was appropriately decorated with American flags, palms, and flowers.

In November 1917 the official appointment of Mr. Fred Wilkins as assistant pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical church was enacted. Mr. Wilkins was unable however to perform his duties in full until the spring of 1918 when his course at the Theological Seminary was completed.

All members of St. Paul

were urged, in November 1917, by Dr. Stave, to remember our boys, in the various war camps, in our prayers and also were requested to contribute if possible to the War Relief work, especially among the suffering Armenians and Syrians. A receptacle for war aid was placed in the church vestibule.

Sunday, November 18th marked the third anniversary of the Ladies Junior Bible Class. Flowers were placed in its honor on the church altar.

One of the outstanding social events in December 1917 was the Young Men's Bible Class banquet. Mr. John A. Wells, of our Y. M. C. A., principal speaker, addressed the men on his experiences in the military camps. Mr. Fred Wilkins, our assistant pastor, acted as toastmaster.

Dr. Stave was host, at the parsonage, to all council.

men from the church and from the chapel Friday evening December 17, 1917. It was the first joint meeting of the two councils. Rev. Stave's characterization of the gathering reads thus: "This meeting has served the very profitable purpose of strengthening the ties of fellowship between the members of these two bodies, of bringing to a better understanding the common basis and general scope of work and of discussing special matters of importance requiring joint attention."

Christmas was observed at both church and chapel Sunday schools with appropriate festivities.

New Year's eve a worship service was conducted in our church from 8 to 9 o'clock. This was followed by a two hour Sociable under the direction of our assistant pastor, Mr. Fred

H. Wilkens. At eleven o'clock the religious service was resumed and the year 1918 was ushered in in a manner befitting an assemblage of Christian people.

In the year 1918, because economy was a necessity, St. Paul's Bote was diminished in size and issued quarterly instead of monthly.

Another regretful step of economy necessitated dispensing with the services of our able assistant pastor, Rev. F. Wilkens. At his departure, Mr. William Walch kindly agreed to accept, at the call of the church council, the spiritual leadership of the Sunday School at the Church. Rev. Stave continued his directorship of the Chapel Sunday School.

The Conference of the New York District was held in the late spring at St. Luke's

Ev. Church, Auburn, New York. Dr. Stave delivered the synodical sermon in the German language on Wednesday evening and Rev. H. F. W. Grotzfeld, pastor of our church from 1904 to 1910, preached the sermon on Sunday morning.

At the Children's Day service, which was held at the Chapel Sunday June 23rd special prayers were offered for our young men serving their country in the World War. Our service flag showed 21 stars.

The following extracts are taken from Dr. Stave's report read at the semi annual congregation meeting July 1, 1915.

"It is well for us to remind ourselves of the enthusiastic determination with which we decided and set out to effect a change of location three years ago. That our plans have not materialized in the manner we had hoped

and wished and that sacrifices were required of us should in no wise be charged to the discredit of anyone. As for the officials of our congregation they have done their best to meet an extraordinary situation and are entitled to the gratitude of the members.

"Let us never forget to remember that it is not our strength which can hope to bring about the desired results. Let us give profound praise to our Father in Heaven who has blessed us so richly in the past and whose mercy is sustaining us in the hour of trial and difficulty."

Due to the absence of an assistant pastor it was necessary, during the summer and autumn months in 1918, to alternate the worship services between the church and the chapel. These

services were conducted in both languages, a German service following the English.

Our beloved congregation entered the year 1919 with a debt of \$19,565.40. This was a most discouraging condition but the large majority of our St. Paulites who had faced obstacles courageously in the past were filled with renewed faith and ready to enter the new year unflinchingly. Our pastor, Dr. Stave wrote: "Our disappointments, arising chiefly from the unalterable war conditions, have tended rather to strengthen than to weaken our determination."

At the annual congregational meeting in January 1919 Mr. William Walck, who for four years had served faithfully and efficiently, refused reelection as President of St. Pauls. Mr. Adolph G. Fauth was then unanimously elected to this important office.

The Duplex envelope system was introduced in our church in 1919. This new method provided two pocket envelopes - one for the maintenance of our congregation and the other for benevolences - Home and Foreign.

Our church property on North Fitzhugh Street was sold in the autumn of 1919 to Joint Council #6 of the United Shoe Workers of America for the sum of \$40,000.00. Our prayers had been answered in God's known time and our church was now free of debt.

Moving from the old to the new field involved much work. In November 1919 Messrs. William Oeflager, William Walch, Henry Lieb, and Gustave Barron sponsored a complete Inventory of Church and Chapel Furnishings. The total valuation, including pipe organ and church bell, was

#13,723.25. Our costly organ was dismantled and put in storage covered by \$6,400.00 Insurance. The beautifully toned bell, also in storage, was insured for \$1,000.00.

The committee appointed in 1919, which was to supervise the erection of a new church building, consisted of the following: Dr. Richard Stave, Adolph G. Fauth, William Kalch, George Leopold, Henry Hieb, Herman Thiem, William Ofslager, Frank Reiman, John J. Meyer, William Rocktaschel, Mesdames Emma Bornkessel, John Eiseman, George Stiehler, Adolph Fauth, Richard Stave, Rudolph Kolb, and Misses Louise Pencline, Emma E. Page, and Lillian Hoffmeier.

The above committee worked cheerfully and faithfully during the year 1920 but due to many unexpected obstacles the immediate erection of a new church building did not materialize.

At the unusually well attended annual congregation meeting held Sunday afternoon Jan. 9, 1921 an enthusiastic and kindly spirit prevailed. A Finance Committee was appointed to work out a method for the raising of funds. These, with the funds already available, could be used for the complete erection of the new church and Sunday School edifices.

Throughout the year 1921 St. Paul's congregation again faced disappointment - no new church building! Sufficient funds were not available. But our small group of staunch members remained steadfast and did not lose faith in their important task.

January 22, 1922 our St. Paul's congregation decided definitely to begin the erection of a new church. "On-

ward Christian Soldiers" was sung fervently by 64 members present at that memorable meeting. The committee which had been appointed in 1919 was instructed to supervise the erection of the new structure.

A building fund campaign, under the able leadership of Dr. F. H. Divine of Brooklyn, New York, was conducted in our Chapel May 23rd to May 28th 1922. \$41,000 were pledged by members and friends of St. Paul.

Three o'clock Sunday afternoon June 4, 1922 the Corner Stone of our New Church Edifice was laid with dignified and impressive ceremonies.

August 27, 1922 the Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution. "President Adolph Fauth is hereby directed to obtain on behalf of St. Paul's United Evangelical Church of Rochester, New York, a loan in

the amount of \$50,000.00 for the purpose of completing the construction of the church building - - - and authorized and directed to execute and deliver a bond as evidence of indebtedness in the amount of \$50,000.00 and to execute and deliver a mortgage upon said church premises, as security for the repayment of said loan."

Autumn days of 1922 proved to be busy ones. St. Paulites were working diligently at numerous tasks to promote the spiritual and material growth of St. Paul's.

Three outstanding services in October 1922 were Rally Day, Harvest Home, and Reformation.

Our Altar Society sponsored a Sausage Roast at the Kern farm on Chili Road which netted \$53⁰⁰. Also a successful Rummage Sale was held by our ladies October 18th.

Three of our St. Paul's organizations were discontinued. Their members decided to have the following amounts placed in the Building Fund Treasury.

Men's Benevolent Society \$1,000.⁰⁰

Two-cent Club \$491.05, and the

Sewing Circle \$325.52.

St. Paul's men were striving untiringly to bring into existence a Men's Bible Class.

In the midst of all these undertakings our beloved St. Paul's congregation unexpectedly found herself in a critical exigency. Her leader, Dr. Richard Stave, tendered his resignation as pastor of St. Paul's. This occurred in November 1922. Rev. A. C. G. Baltzer, a loyal friend, kindly answered St. Paul's summons and willingly and devotedly filled the vacancy until the installation of Rev. H. E. Koenig June 1923. He was fired!

1923-1928

Rev. Herman Koenig

Rev. Herman E. Koenig was St. Paul's tenth minister but he had the honor of being her first pastor in the new church located at the corner of Norton and Jewel Streets.

The Installation Service was conducted Sunday morning June 10, 1923 at ten o'clock. Rev. A. C. G. Baltzer, former minister of Trinity Evangelical Church, Rochester and a faithful friend of St. Paul's congregation, conducted the Installation Service. Rev. Koenig delivered the sermon and led in prayer. St. Paul's choir sang two anthems. The service was closed by the congregation fervently singing the hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

St. Paul's was especially happy to greet Mrs. Koenig, the former Miss Martha Baur, daugh-

ter of our dearly beloved former pastor Rev. William Baur. Although Mrs. Koenig had left Rochester as a child, when her father was called to the professorship at Eden Seminary, fond memories of the much loved Baur family made the reunion after so many years one of great rejoicing. The older members, who well remembered the dear old Fitzhugh Street church going days, felt deeply joyous because we could now renew our friendship with the daughter of our highly esteemed and deeply loved Rev. and Mrs. Baur.

God works mysteriously. So we members of St. Paul's who had had the opportunity of knowing Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, president of the Altar Society for years thought. Mrs. Bornkessel, although very elderly and in poor health, worked faithfully for the accomplishment of the erection of a new church

and Sunday School building. She anticipated the reward of being present at its dedication. This was not God's will however. She was called to her eternal rest the week preceding the dedication. Although the newly erected edifice had not been formally opened, the Church Council decided to honor our dear friend by conducting her funeral service on Saturday afternoon, the day preceding the dedicatory services, in the church sanctuary. Her loyalty to St. Paul's will never be forgotten by her host of sincere friends. Prof. Wm. Baur, her former pastor and sincere friend, conducted the last rites. "Yea, saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labors; for their works do follow them."

Our St. Paul's United Evangelical Church dedicated her new church and Sunday School building at ten o'

clock Sunday morning June 17, 1923. Rev. G. C. G. Baltzer conducted a brief farewell service at the entrance to the chapel which the congregation had built eight years prior for a temporary place of worship. At the conclusion of this service the pastors, members, and friends marched in procession to the entrance of the new church where brief appropriate exercises were held. Mr. Adolph Fauth, president of the church, then stepped forward and unlocked the front entrance church doors and the assembly entered with joyous expectant and reverent hearts. Dr. William Baur, pastor of St. Paul from 1895 to the summer of 1904, now professor of church history at Eden Seminary, and father-in-law of Rev. Herman Koenig, preached the German dedicatory sermon. Rev. Koenig, our new minister delivered the English sermon.

The choir sang beautiful inspiring anthems and the church auditorium was appropriately decorated.

A Young Peoples' and Children's Service began at three o'clock. Rev. H. H. Lohans, director of religious education at Salem Church, delivered an address as did also Mr. Henry Hieb, Sunday school superintendent, Miss Alma Hieb and Mr. Herbert Krause spoke briefly.

A Communion Service at 7:30 P.M. concluded the day's services. A fifteen minute organ recital opened the evening's program. Rev. Theodore Code, pastor of St. Peter's Evangelical Church at Buffalo, preached the sermon. Five minute greetings from their respective congregations were brought by our Evangelical local pastors. Rev. J. O. Keller of Trinity, the Rev. F. Frankenfeld of Salem and the Rev. B. J. Tepas of Christ Church.

Four evening services were held during the week; Monday, June 18th, Men's Night, the Rev. Carl Loos, of Buffalo, president of the New York District, was the speaker. This service was not restricted to men however - everybody was welcome. Tuesday evening was Ladies Night. The speaker, Prof. William Baur, D. D., our former highly esteemed pastor, brought an inspiring message. Confirmation Reunion and Old Home Night was celebrated Thursday June 21st at 7:45 o'clock. Dr. Baur was again our speaker. He was greeted by a large congregation, many of whom had been confirmed by Prof. Baur while he was pastor of St. Paul's on Fitzhugh Street. The last evening, Friday June 22nd, a community service was held in the church auditorium. Dr. Orlo Rice, secretary of the Church Federation, brought the message to a large audience.

A social hour, held in the

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Sunday School basement, was enjoyed after each of the four evening services. Refreshments were served.

Sunday morning, June 24th at ten o'clock Children's Day Service was celebrated. Holy Baptism was administered. This was the final service of Dedication Week.

All members, friends or persons interested in the welfare of St. Paul's were cordially invited by the pastor, Church council, and William Walch, chairman of the dedication committee, to attend any or all of the dedicatory services.

The Monday morning following the dedication of our new church marked the opening of Daily Vacation Bible School. Rev. Koenig said, "To serve this community is the aim of St. Paul's. All children, regardless of race or creed, from 4 to 14 years of age, are welcome."

Rev. Koenig and his faculty felt that the value of the school was definitely recognized by the community.

A small fifteen page printed booklet entitled "Constitution of the German-United Evangelical Church of St. Paul of Rochester, N. Y." was given to each member of our congregation in 1924. January 13th marked the date of its adoption. Section 13 "An Amendment to the Constitution" was passed in the regular annual business meeting. It reads thus - "We herewith create a Board of Deaconesses which is to consist of nine women who must be voting members of the congregation."

"Three members of this Board are to be elected each year for a term of three years."

"Whenever a vacancy occurs, the members of the Board shall appoint someone to serve un-

til the next congregational meeting.

"As soon as possible after the annual business meeting, this Board shall organize by electing a chairman and a secretary.

"In connection with the installation services held for the Church Council, the members of this Board shall also be installed.

"The Board shall meet as often as deemed necessary by the two officers, the chairman ordering and the secretary extending the call for a meeting.

"It shall be the duty of the Board of Deacons:

a. "To help the pastor in his spiritual ministrations to the members of the congregation.

b. "Furthermore, the members of this Board shall assist the pastor in winning new

members for the church.

c. It shall be their duty to look after negligent or delinquent members of the church, seeking to win them back to an active interest in the affairs of the congregation.

d. "And finally it shall be their duty to assist the Church Council and pastor in all work for which women are peculiarly adapted."

A parsonage located at 96 Saranac Street was purchased by our congregation in 1924 for \$9,500.00. Rev. Foenig smilingly remarked, "The pastor and his family now have a fine home which is a credit and a valuable asset to St. Paul's."

Rev. Foenig admonished his congregation thus at the beginning of the year 1925:

"Have you an altar in your home?" I quote in part, "One

great mistake made all too frequently in our hurrying age is the neglect of our spiritual life through the week. He may be ever so faithful in coming to the House of God for every service - that is not enough. You would not think of feeding your body only on one day each week; then why treat your soul so indifferently? Perhaps you would like to erect an altar in your home but do not know just how to start. Talk to your pastor about it - he will assist you in this important matter, for it would mean the development of your spiritual life."

The annual business meeting of our congregation was held Sunday afternoon January 11th. It was called to order by our president, William Thalch, who led in prayer. Thirty-seven

members were present or twelve more than required for a quorum. The following "Note by the Pastor" is of interest.

The 1924 Christmas fund has reached the sum total of \$1588.48. This money was given to reduce the deficit on our budget so that in all fairness this sum ought to be considered a part of the budget income. By adding this sum to the budget we get the fine sum of \$7531.96; not including \$11.50 for benevolences contributed in 1924, compared with a budget income of \$5,502.46 for 1923, and \$3,889.99 in 1922, a gain of \$2020.50 and \$3641.97 over 1923 and 1922 respectively. The total amount contributed by the members and friends of St. Paul's Church in 1924, including building fund, benevolences, and budget income is \$15,187.22. Add to this

the Sunday School income and the figures will be still larger by several hundred dollars."

"These figures, even though preceded by the dollar sign, prove convincingly that a spirit of love, loyalty, and willingness to sacrifice for their church, prevails in St. Paul's which is not often paralleled in church work."

After all business for the welfare of the congregation was discussed and settled the meeting was closed with a prayer by Rev. Foenig and those present saying the Lord's Prayer in unison.

Lent was observed, as in former years, with a Wednesday evening service each week at 7:45 o'clock. Rev. Foenig preached a series of sermons on the "Seven Words

of Christ "on the Cross.

The confirmation reunion service held Palm Sunday evening in our sanctuary was attended by a large number of former confirmands. Letters received from former pastors, who had been requested to send Greetings to St. Paul confirmands, were read at the service. Letters were sent by Professor Wm. Baur D.D., Rev. H. F. W. Grotfend, and Rev. J. Baltzer. A telegram from Rev. F. Oberkircher was also read.

Our Young Peoples' Department conducted two Sunday evening services during the Lenten season. March 8th Rev. Mr. Johans, Director of Religious Education at Salem Church, Rochester, was the speaker and Easter Sunday evening Dr. F. Vichert addressed the audience.

The Palm Sunday and Easter services were attended by large numbers. The total at-

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tendance in Sunday School and church service Paul Sunday was 936. Easter's Sunday School attendance was a record breaker - 247.

247 persons partook of Communion Good Friday and Easter - 90 in German on the former day and 157 in English Easter Sunday. 28, including 8 confirmands, were received into St. Paul's membership Easter day. Rev. Zoenig said, "We welcome these friends into the fellowship of our church and trust that we will be privileged to help them serve their Lord acceptably and that they will find a place of constructive service in our ranks."

St. Paul's had the honor in June 1925 to serve as host to the 39th annual conference of the New York district. This was the first time in the history of our church

that our sister Evangelical churches of the district were privileged to gather in St. Paul's old or new sanctuary. Lodging was found in the homes of our members for about one hundred guests. Rev. Koenig said to his congregation: "It is always a privilege to serve St. Paul's will gain in efficiency and above all in spiritual growth through this conference. In later years we shall recall with pleasure the occasion which brought to our homes men who are interested in the Kingdom of God and give their time and means to its advancement. Many pastors and delegates have made a lasting impression for good in the homes of their conference hosts."

Pastor Loos, president of the New York district had

written thus to Rev. Koenig-
"Please impress upon your
people that all sessions
of the conference are open
and anyone is welcome."

Mr. William Oslager was
general chairman of this
great undertaking.

The first evening of the
conference Rev. F. D. Oberkircher,
former pastor of St. Paul's, now
minister of St. Paul's Evangel-
ical church in Erie, Pa., preached
the sermon. A large congrega-
tion was present to welcome
and extend greetings to Rev.
Oberkircher. The leader of the
program was Rev. R. H. Keller,
of Gowanda, New York. Address-
es of welcome were given
by Rev. H. E. Koenig and Mr. Wm.
Oslager. Rev. Carl Loos, presi-
dent of the conference gave
the Response. Holy Communion
was administered by Rev.
Koenig and Rev. Keller.

Friday evening June 12th

at 7:45 o'clock Rev. Schauer of Lockport, New York acted as leader at the Young People's Service. Rev. Gottlieb Siegenthaler of Buffalo, N. Y., delivered the sermon and spoke the Benediction.

Sunday afternoon at half past two the New York District Brotherhood sponsored a Rally of Evangelical men. Dr. Philip Vollmer, professor at Eden Theological Seminary, was the speaker. He also led in devotions at the Friday, Saturday and Monday morning meetings.

The Mission Service, Sunday evening was undoubtedly the most important of the evening services. Dr. Paul G. Menzel, Executive Secretary of our Foreign Mission Board, gave a splendid report of the International Mission Conference held in the spring and attended by more than 6,000 delegates from all parts of the world. "This conference was probably the

most important and significant gathering of Christians held in modern times." Dr. Menzel's son, the Rev. Emil Menzel, who was to leave for India in the Fall of 1925 to direct Educational activities in our mission field there, led the devotions.

Pastors and laymen addressed the different departments of the Sunday School Sunday morning, June 14th. Rev. A. H. Becker of New Orleans, La., the Vice President General of our Synod, addressed the congregation at the English church worship service at 10:15 o'clock. A German worship followed at which service Dr. Philip Kraus of Meadville, Pa., preached the sermon.

Rev. Koenig told his people, "From many sides your pastor was assured that St. Paul's church proved an accommo-

dating and efficient host to our conference-guests."

Pastor and congregation were happy to have had the convention convene in their church. It brought an abiding blessing to all who took an active part.

A course in Teacher Training work was successfully completed by six of our faithful Sunday School teachers. They received a certificate of recognition which was granted by our Board of Religious Education. The presentation took place at the Children's Day exercises June 14th. "They blazed the way in this important work, this group comprising the first Teacher Training Class which successfully completed a course of this nature."

This encouraging report was read to the congregation in July 1925.

"On July 1st, our Treasurer,

Mr. H. Hib, paid off another thousand on our debt. This sum, the five hundred paid off on the parsonage, and two thousand paid in April, makes a total of three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) paid off on our debt, the first six months of this year." Needless to say there were many happy listeners with faces beaming radiantly.

The St. Paul's Herald, a church booklet published in the interest of our St. Paul's Evangelical Church, continued to be printed monthly in 1925. The pastor, Rev. Koenig, was the editor. Each month the members of St. Paul found within its covers a "Church Calendar" announcing the customary and special services; special dates to be remembered; items of interest; reports of

the Sunday School, Altar Society, Brotherhood and Young People's Department; parish records, namely weddings, baptisms, deaths; financial reports of treasurers; Church Council meetings, and names of all persons contributing to the Herald. Four or five pages were devoted to interesting articles written by the editor. It contained important data. Every home received a copy of the Herald each month. Rev. Koenig wisely said, "As a depository for permanent records, the Herald is of real value."

Our Church Council granted Rev. Koenig five weeks' vacation in July and August. Laymen from St. Paul's and other city churches willingly gave of their time and talents to carry on the parish work during our pastor's absence. The following churchmen acted as leaders and speakers at five Sunday

morning services; Mr. William O'Slagh, Mr. A. J. Gosselin, Mr. A. Heili, Mr. Henry Hieb, Mr. William Welch, Mr. William Ridgion, and Dr. H. M. Finch.

Rev. Koenig had beseeched his parishoners to attend the worship services regularly to show their appreciation to these gentlemen who so kindly accepted when asked to aid in the program of the church.

We'll now enumerate a few of the social events occurring in 1925.

1 The Brotherhood Bible Class sponsored a "Fathers' and Sons' Banquet" Friday evening February 17th. We were happy to learn that it was a big success. Mr. Henry Betz, our choirmaster, acted as toastmaster. A German quartette, friends of Mr. F. Peters, sang songs that "touched the heart." St. Paul's orchestra was most generous - willing to respond as often as called upon. Rev.

Koenig characterized the banquet by saying, "It was good to have been there."

2 It made us happy to learn that our Brotherhood Class is now represented in the Maplewood Inter Church Bowling League. Our Best Wishes to the newly chosen team.

3 Dr. Erlo J. Rice, secretary of Rochester Federation of Churches, was the speaker at the Mothers' and Daughters' Banquet Friday evening, October 23rd. There were more than one hundred seventy ladies present. "Dr. Rice's words of warning, encouragement, admonition, and advice are sure to yield a rich fruitage in the hearts and lives of our mothers and daughters" was Rev. Koenig's statement at the conclusion of the evening's program.

4. Our Young People presented a play entitled "Back to the Farm." It proved to be a wholesome comedy. A large

appreciative audience was present at its presentation.

We were happy to read this article in our Rochester Times Union daily newspaper. "The Brotherhood Bible Class of St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Norton and Jewel streets, has secured the services of Mr. Lane to advise and assist the troop committee and scout master, Licquary, in the activities of Troop 39, for which the class is responsible. Mr. Lane, who is a student at the Rochester Theological Seminary has had considerable experience in working with boys. His influence will be of great value in advancing the troop. The boys are eager to advance their organization so that it may soon rank with the best."

Our St. Paul's Brotherhood joined the New York District Federation of Brotherhood Classes. They also sent a delegate to the convention at Elmira in

September.

The Young People's Department was represented at the Young People's and Sunday School Convention in Dunkirk in the late summer.

Our Sunday School has been carefully graded. Public school grades form the basis of promotion. This new system began to operate the first Sunday in October at 9:15 o'clock. A Young People's Sunday School Class was organized. Rev. Koenig was chosen its teacher. He said, "Every one is in need of the instruction in the principles of the Christian religion as offered by the Sunday School. No matter how young or how old you are, we can accomodate you so as to meet your requirements."

The Primary and Beginners Departments of our Sunday School adopted an orphan girl in India. Rev. Koenig of India, brother of our pastor, made the assign-

ment of this nine year old child. The Department will pay \$25⁰⁰ yearly for her board and education.

Space does not permit me to enumerate the many acts of benevolence carried through by the various departments in our Sunday School and by our other church organizations.

The St. Paulites were joyous and grateful when we read in the December 1925 Herald; "Every Member Cans" — "The pledge total approximately \$2000⁰⁰ more than the members and friends of St. Paul's ever pledged before for current expenses in any of the 63 years of the congregation's history."

At a meeting of the Church Council in November 1925 it was definitely decided to pay our Financial Secretary \$50⁰⁰ per year. Heretofore this was not a paid office.

There were 37 members present at the December meeting of the Altar Society. Much important

business was transacted. It was reported that the Sauerkraut Supper and Sale was a big success. After deducting all expenditures \$359.59 remained. A goodly sum!

The Building Fund Campaign sponsored by the Ladies netted \$370.30. A total of \$1000⁰⁰ was paid by the Society in 1925 on the Building Fund Pledge.

The year 1925 stands out prominently in the history of our Theological Seminary. October 11th St. Pauls held a special service commemorating the 75th anniversary of this institution and also celebration of the dedication of the new seminary.

Our quota for New Eden was \$840⁰⁰ payable within three years. It was decided by our church council in 1924 that \$200⁰⁰ should be paid that year; the same amount in 1925 and and \$300⁰⁰ in 1926; the balance to be raised through personal contributions.

Rev. Koenig wrote an instructive article in the October-November Herald 1925 which I shall copy in part.

"Dedication of New Eden Seminary"
"Sunday, October 11, 1925, will be a day long remembered in the history of the Evangelical Church, for on that date the beautiful new buildings of Eden Seminary, on the new site at Webster Groves, Missouri, will be dedicated."

"It is the dream of years come true. For a long time men of vision had dreamed of and prayed and hoped for a new and better Eden. They were the spiritual sons and grandsons of the band of faithful few who erected, at an enormous sacrifice, the first Evangelical seminary in the wooded valley near Marthasville, Missouri. They wanted a new and larger Eden because they wanted to be better able to train the young men of our day for the Master's service. They believed they could build the kind

of Eden they needed because it was needed. There are always found some men and women who believe that what is needed can be done; that when God gives us a duty to perform He gives with it the necessary strength to carry it to successful completion."

"New and better Eden deserves all one can give it. It is a monument worthy of the very best one can put into it. It is a cause which no one can support without feeling the happier for having done so."

"It is a privilege to be called to share in the building of a new Eden. It is an opportunity without equal for carrying one's name where it will never be erased."

"For New Eden Seminary is your institution. It is the spiritual power-house where new and greater power is generated for the years ahead. It is the one institution in our Evangelical church where

the spiritual leaders and shepherds of generations yet unborn are trained, whence come our pastors of the future. Close down Eden and you will dry up the life-giving stream at its source. Build and enlarge Eden and you will increase the power of that stream to bring the gospel of life to ever greater numbers."

"Eden is built by the hundred thousand loyal Evangelical folk who believed and obeyed the vision. Each stone in the new Eden might tell its own story of how it was brought into place."

"Dear reader, God alone knows whether or not you have done your full share toward the building of a new and better Eden. It will increase your joy on the day of dedication of the new Eden seminary to know that you have given to the utmost and that part of you is incorporated in the spiritual powerhouse of our church."

The last worship service held in our church auditorium in 1925 was on New Year's Eve at 8 o'clock. This service was followed by a joyous "Get-to-gether" in the Sunday School building. The Young People's Department was in charge of the entertainment. Refreshments were served. At midnight a short service was conducted by Rev. Koenig in the sanctuary where many St. Paulites assembled to watch and pray - a most beautiful way to end the year 1925 and enter the new 1926.

1926

Rev. Herman Koenig, in the beginning of the year, wrote thus to his parishioners.

"At the beginning of every New Year Christians have been wont to observe a week of prayer and penitence. Humble yourself now before God, confessing your sins, acknowledging your weakness and seeking his forgiveness. Then only may you experience

the renewal of your strength for life's daily battle. Then only will you know the truth of the words, "His grace abounds above my guilt."

The annual congregational meeting was held at two o'clock Sunday afternoon January tenth. President William Walch presided. Mr. Albert Meili, Sr., led in prayer. The roll call of members, as had been the custom in previous years, was dispensed. A decision was made to appoint a committee of two to take count of members in attendance. Mr. William Oslager and Mr. William Donish reported forty-three parishoners were present. The following men were appointed to serve as councilmen for a three year period.

Mr. W. Walch - Trustee;
Mr. Henry Pagels - Elder; Messrs.
George Hoffman, Oscar Stephany.

and Earl Gommenginger - Deacons. Mr. John Eisman was chosen delegate for St. John's Home for the Aged. Mr. William Kase was elected delegate to the District Conference at Erie, Pa.

The following nine deaconesses were appointed. Mrs. R. Holb, Mrs. Geo. Hoffman, Mrs. H. Finch, Mrs. R. Lutz, Mrs. C. Stiehler, Miss A. Weber, Mrs. H. Schaeffer, Mrs. O. Stephany, and Mrs. Henry Pagels.

Rev. Koenig's report was accepted with thanks and the program he had outlined was left to be discussed at a meeting in the near future.

Our secretary was asked to send a letter to the Altar Society thanking them for \$1000⁰⁰ donation to the church.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Sunday evening January 31st the Young People's Department conducted a Missionary Service. Rev. M. P. Davis, of Raiput.

India, home on a furlough, was the speaker. He spoke on our Evangelical work in the foreign field.

He read the following paragraphs of interest in our Lenten Bulletins.

"In order that we may know 'The strangers within our gates', who worship with us this evening we ask them to record their names in our Guest Book which is placed in the front vestibule. One of our deaconesses will be glad to accomodate you and the pastor should like to extend the hand of Christian fellowship."

"This program was produced with an A. B. Dick Mimeograph, which the Primary Department of our Sunday School purchased for our church. It cost \$150⁰⁰ but it is worth it. Before the end of 1926 we shall have saved that amount in our printing bill. Thank you."

"Our Lenten services have been

unusually well attended. 158 were present at our service last week. Our goal is 155."

Method of Benevolence Giving
"All our plate offerings are used for the extension of the Kingdom at home and abroad. They have been larger than ever."

"Nineteen young people will be presented to the congregation Palm Sunday as candidates for church membership. This is the largest class since 1908."

"The total attendance in Sunday School and church services Palm Sunday was 1024. This is probably the largest number of people ever assembled in St. Paul's on one Sabbath. Surely all who made such great sacrifices to make possible our new building were happy to note that St. Paul's has a splendid future."

Mother's Day Evening Service,
May 9th, was conducted by

our Young People's Department. Miss Lucille Reuschle offered prayers - The Misses Erna Priety and Margaret Lyons rendered an antiphonal Scripture reading and Messrs. Ernest and Otto Hahn played a musical selection, "Ave Maria". The sermon, "Home, Sweet Home," was preached by Rev. J. Otto Keller of Trinity Ev. Church. The choir sang two anthems: "Praise Ye the Lord" Homack, and "Nature's Anthem of Praise" by Sullivan.

Large audiences enjoyed "The Fascinating Fanny Brown", a delightful comedy presented by our Young People Tuesday and Wednesday evenings May 25th and 26th.

Forty-two members were present at the June meeting of the Altar Society. It was decided to give Mr. Fieb \$100.00 toward the Building Fund. Mrs. Schaeffer extended an invitation to all members to be guests at a

towel and apron shower at her home June 16th. Mrs. S. Reiman invited the ladies to her home for a pillowcase and variety shower July 29th. It was decided by the ladies to sponsor a Pummage Sale in October and a Sauerkraut Supper and Sale in November. The membership committee, under the leadership of Mrs. Skalch, was heartily congratulated for its splendid work. Through its untiring efforts thirty-two names were added to the list of members. Never in the history of the Society has so large a number been received into membership at one time.

A few of many of our church organization outdoor events were: The annual Sunday School picnic, which was better attended than for many years; Brotherhood Bible Class steak dinner; choir picnic; Young People's

outings; Altar Society picnic - more than sixty ladies present.

I copy the following paragraph from "Items of Interest" found in the September 1926 Herald.

"Since we are issuing our weekly church worship programs with their timely and interesting announcements, the need for a parish - monthly paper is no longer as obvious as heretofore. In order, therefore to curb expenses, the Church Council decided to have the "Herald" printed but four times a year, Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter."

An important announcement found in the Church Calendar, Fall of 1926 reads thus: "German service on the first Sunday of each month, beginning at 11:15." This statement signifies that German worship services are not well attended and shows that in St. Paul's there is the urge for the Ger-

man Language is waning.

He read these brief references to our finances in the September Herald.

"Our treasurer was able to pay all debt interest due on our loans for church and parsonage. Owing to the fact that we now pay only $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ interest the amount saved was about \$125⁰⁰ for six months. In addition to this \$500⁰⁰ due on the second mortgage on the parsonage were paid so that there still remains a debt of \$8000⁰⁰ which requires \$480⁰⁰ interest a year. \$500⁰⁰ were also paid off on the Church debt, reducing this to \$48,500. All these payments could be made without disturbing the interest account which had a balance of \$788⁰⁰ July first. Mr. Hieb was in a position to pay all salaries from the income in current expenses. Soon the time will again be here for another canvas!

We trust that all will be in a position to add to their present pledges since a number of items had to be added which make our budget bigger than ever before."

Rally Sunday, September 26th, promotion exercises for various grades of the Sunday School were conducted. At the church worship service we had the privilege and joy of seeing and hearing the Rev. William Baur, Jr., son of our former highly esteemed minister, Rev. William Baur, Sr., and brother of our present Mrs. Martha Baur Roenig. Rev. Baur Jr. was baptized in our St. Paul's church during his father's pastorate in Rochester. The impressive sermon preached by Rev. Baur was the last sermon he delivered in America. The young missionary and his bride spent the week-end in our city enroute for New York & India. They are commissioned for

work in our Evangelical Synod's Central India foreign mission field. May strength be given these young people to carry on the noble work they have chosen.

Sunday evening October 24th at 7:30 o'clock the 25th anniversary of Mr. Henry Betz as organist and choir director was commemorated in his honor in our church sanctuary. Miss Betty Matter, soprano soloist, sang, "Thanks Be To God"; - a duet, "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" was sung by Mrs. Cecan Stephany and Miss Emily Meyer. Two anthems, "Praise Ye the Lord, Molitor, and "Great is the Lord, Komack, were beautifully rendered by the choir. Rev. Jochenig's address was entitled "A Word of Appreciation". The sermon, "The Place of music in the Worship of the Church," was preached by the Rev. Carl Betz, brother of our choir master.

I feel that the following

items which I read in the Anniversary Bulletin are worthy of duplication.

"It is today, the fourth Sunday in October, probably exactly 25 years since Mr. Betz began his ministry of music in St. Paul's. It is also a noteworthy coincidence that the men who were mainly responsible for securing his services are still members of the choir. Mr. Zander has served over 40 years, and Mr. Krause over 30."

"St. Paul's is deeply indebted to the organist who served her so ably for 25 years and also acknowledges its heartfelt appreciation of the services rendered by Messrs. Zander and Krause who have been members of the choir even longer than their leader."

I shall close my 1926 Historical Sketch with an article written by our pastor, Rev. Koenig, which I think every member of St. Paul's should not only

be interested in but should study its content.

"Origin and Organization of Our Church."

On the 15th day of October, 1840, six pioneer Missouri pastors met in the log parsonage of Grovois Settlement (now Wehlville) St. Louis County, and banded themselves together in a new church organization which they called the Evangelical Church Society of the West.

These men, with two pastors, who could not be present at that meeting, were moved to such a venture of faith by a feeling that there existed at that time in this country no church which really embodied the principles of the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century. An unfortunate division had come into the Christian church after the Reformation, and this division was made more serious through the bitter con-

tention between the opposing sides.

Believing that the keynote of Christ's Gospel is the unity of all believers, these pioneer Missouri pastors felt the need of a church organization where such a unity could become a reality. Consequently they formed a doctrinal statement based upon the one adopted by the Evangelical Church abroad, in which the Holy Scriptures are acknowledged as the Word of God, the sole and infallible guide of faith and life, and in which the interpretation of the Holy Scriptures as given in the symbolic books of the Lutheran and Reformed churches are accepted in so far as they agree: "but where they disagree the Evangelical Church Society of the West adheres strictly to the passages of Holy Scriptures bearing on the subject and avails itself of the liberty of conscience prevailing

in the Evangelical Church."

This small organization grew steadily until now there are 1212 pastors and 17 lay workers belonging to it, and about 1300 churches are affiliated with it. The total membership of these churches, located in 34 states and two Canadian provinces, is over a quarter of a million.

In order that you might know more about your church, the Evangelical Synod of North America, we suggest that you order a copy of "Evangelical Fundamentals, Part 1" either direct from Eden Publishing House or through your pastor."

1927

The Lenten Season began March 2nd and ended April 17th. Wednesday evenings at 7:45 o'clock a worship service was conducted. Each weekly bulletin's cover was illustrated - a peaceful landscape with a shep-

herd and his sheep. Beneath the etching we read

"And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also must I bring, and they shall hear my voice; and they shall become one flock, one shepherd."
John 10:16

The topic discussed by Rev. Koenig the first Wednesday evening was entitled "The Upper Room" or "What Jesus Offered the Nations". March 9th "Men's Night", the service was conducted by the Brotherhood Bible Class with Albert Meili, Sr. presiding. Rev. Koenig preached on "Gethsemane" Matthew 26:36. "What Shall I Do with Jesus" was the subject of the sermon delivered by our pastor March 16th. "Altar Society Night", March 23rd, Rev. Koenig chose for his subject "The Lamb of God". The three final discourses treated by Rev. Koenig were entitled "The Via Dolorosa", "The Inscription", and "The Cross of Christ". At the end of the Lenten Season we were happy to

hear our pastor say, "The attendance at our midweek services was better than in any previous year since we have our new church. This makes us very happy, especially as we consider that without any special campaign, relying solely on the drawing power of the Gospel, this has come about."

Rev. Koenig preached a series of three sermons beginning Sunday morning March 20th on the "Good Shepherd."

Holy Communion was administered Good Friday evening at a German Worship Service and Easter morning at an English service.

During the 1927 Lenten season an Inter-City and Inter-Church Attendance Contest was conducted by our Evangelical Sunday Schools. Our St. Paul's school defeated her opponent, St. James Church Sunday School, Buffalo, New York. The combined Rochester Sunday Schools' final score exceeded that of the Buffalo schools. Rev. Koenig felt that the con-

test helped greatly in strengthening the morale of all the participating churches.

The District Conference was held at Bethlehem Church, Buffalo, New York in 1927. Mr. William Kease was St. Paul's official delegate.

The Quadrennial Sunday School Convention convened from August 4th to 10th in Baltimore, Md. Our Sunday School staff elected Rev. Penig and Miss Louise Penline as delegates. Other members of our staff attended the conference.

Wednesday July 27th was the date set for our Annual Sunday School and Church picnic. It was held at Sea Breeze Park. The children's program began at three o'clock. Dinner was served at six and sports for the grown ups started at 7:00 P. M. Everybody seemed to have an unusually good time.

I think the following Building Fund Report, June 1922-June 1927 will be of interest to all St. Paulites. I shall copy the report

as submitted by Rev. Koenig and Mr. Henry Kieb June 1927.

Two hundred forty-eight individuals pledged \$34,102.50; eleven societies and Sunday School departments or classes pledged \$6,730.80 and from miscellaneous sources (such as personal contributions, choir for organ stop, Altar Society for carpet, sale of chapel, etc.) the sum of \$2,623.53 was added since the campaign. The grand total being \$43,456.83.

But not nearly all of this has been paid. To date, end of June 1927, 165 individuals have paid their pledges in full the total amount being \$17,903.50. Fifty-nine individuals have paid part of their pledge or a total sum of \$7,107.90. The societies have paid \$6,277.90 and miscellaneous donations and additions total \$2,623.53 or a grand total paid in cash by end of June \$33,912.83. This leaves the sum of \$9,544.00 on the books unpaid. \$452.90 not paid by societies and the balance unpaid

obligations assumed by individuals. A tidy sum!

A very liberal estimate made by our treasurer and the pastor would indicate that of the sum still outstanding \$5,511.80 will probably always remain on the books uncollectible.

What of the future many may ask? It was indeed fortunate for our congregation to have had so fine a building fund as the figures in the above article disclose. It helped the congregation to finance successfully the very hardest five years in the sixty-five years of its existence. Your pastor has every confidence in the loyalty and devotion of the members and friends of St. Paul's to believe that you will carry on as faithfully in the years to come as you did in making and redeeming your building-fund pledged."

Our beloved St. Paul's Church celebrated her sixty-fifth birthday in 1927. September 11th

to 18th were busy, happy days for the members and friends of St. Paul.

Sunday morning September 11th marked the opening of the anniversary celebration. Prof. William Baur of Eden Seminary, Webster Groves, Mo., was the speaker at both the English and German worship services. A large congregation was present to hear Dr. Baur's inspiring messages.

A "Second Anniversary Service" was conducted in the evening at 7:30 o'clock. Our sister churches, Trinity, Salem, and Christ were invited to this service. Dr. Frederick Frankendorf was leader. Rev. Adolph Baltzer offered prayer and Rev. B. J. Tepas led in Scripture Reading. Greetings from Sister Churches were extended by Rev. J. Otto Keller. The Rev. John Baltzer D. D. of St. Louis, Mo., President General of the Evangelical Synod of North America delivered the sermon. The congregation sang three hymns,

"The Church's One Foundation," "Faith of Our Fathers," and "God Be With You." Two anthems "Hallelujah" and "Give Unto the Lord" were efficiently rendered by our choir.

Tuesday evening September 13th was the date chosen for Church Organization Service. The Rev. Adolph Baltzer's topic, "Once Upon a Time," was interesting and humorous. Church organization leaders participated in the service. A social hour with the serving of refreshments followed.

Rev. Whitney S. Yeaple, assistant pastor of Lake Avenue Baptist Church, was the speaker "Community Night" Thursday, September 15th.

Sunday, September 18th, was annual Rally Day in both Sunday School and Church. Rev. H. H. Lohaus, pastor of religious education at Salem Church, delivered the sermon at the church service.

The final anniversary service, held in the evening of the same day, was a Confirmation Reunion.

The speaker was Rev. F. Oberkircher of Erie, Pa., pastor of our St. Paul's from 1910 to 1914. Many Old Timers were present to greet their former pastor.

Our congregation published a twenty-seven page anniversary booklet to commemorate our Church's sixty-fifth anniversary celebration. Every member and many friends were given a copy of this valuable little St. Paul's History, 1862-1927. The beautiful "Foreword" was written by Prof. J. M. Baur D.D. of Eden Seminary, Webster Groves, Mo.

The contents of this illustrated booklet are too numerous to mention in this sketch but several copies are kept on file by the church historian, who would be pleased to loan a copy to anyone wishing to seek information found therein.

All offerings received during Anniversary Week were used to defray expenses of the celebration. The surplus was added

to the Special Anniversary Offering.

At the conclusion of the festivities Rev. Foenic expressed himself thus: "We pray that God may richly bless us, renew our strength, and increase our loyalty for better and more consecrated work in His vineyard."

1928

It was decided by our Church Council that the 1928 Wednesday evening Lenten offerings be used as St Paul's contribution to the Pension and Relief Fund of our Evangelical Synod. I quote the following "Facts and Figures" by Rev. Foenic.

"During the year 1926 the retired pastors, pastors' widows and minor orphan children of ministers, 353 in number, received a grand total of \$78,961.74 from the Pension Board of our Synod. That was an average of \$233⁴² per pensioner. The sum distributed in 1927 was \$83,000, an average of \$230⁰⁰

for 360 pensioners. While the members of the Pension Board are thankful that they could give at least that much help these small sums are actually not a fitting expression of gratitude for the services these men have rendered. Our congregation is asked to make liberal contributions toward the Endowment Fund which it is hoped will be increased to \$1,500,000 through the special ingathering planned for this and next year."

"Our Federal Government pensions its faithful employees, so do many responsible firms. The Christian Church cannot do less and retain its self-respect."

"The Episcopalians have \$20,000,000; the Presbyterians \$7,000,000; and are now gathering \$15,000,000 more; - the Missouri Lutherans have \$4,000,000 and the Reformed Church, about as large as our Synod, has \$1,500,000 in their respective Endowment Funds. We, today have \$420,000, which we are trying to raise to \$1,500,000."

"May St. Paul's contributions be generous."

The Apostles' Creed was the theme of Rev. Goenig's Sunday morning and Wednesday evening sermons during the Lenten season. All parishoners who were regular in attendance gained a keener insight and more complete knowledge of the meaning of the various sections of this important document.

The Palm Sunday attendance - 504 persons - was the largest that had ever been recorded at any service held in our new church auditorium. Our choir members, who had worked faithfully for a beautiful rendition of their anthems, were happy to see so large a gathering of people. A pleasant surprise, however, was in store for those attending the service; the choir was robed, for the first time, in their new choir gowns.

Looking over St. Paul's 1928 Budget we discovered the

Interest to be paid on the Church Debt to the Monroe County Bank was \$2,475⁰⁰. The question was raised, "How shall we continue to reduce our debt?" Our pastor replied, "Let's pay building-fund contributions monthly just as we have been doing for the past five years."

It was with deepest sorrow that St. Paul's congregation learned of the death of Mrs. Koenig's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Baur, February 26, 1928. Sincere sympathy was extended by members of St. Paul, to the grief-stricken daughter and also to her pastor, Rev. Koenig, who held Mrs. Baur in high esteem.

The older members who knew Mrs. Baur personally and who remembered her as a gentle, cultured, and kind Christian lady, when she resided in Rochester, during her husband's pastorate, felt keenly the shock of the news of her passing. A few months previous we had been privileged to renew our friendship when she and Dr. Baur were va-

cationing in Rochester. The memory of that last visit will be cherished by all Old Timers who had the highest admiration and deepest affection for our faithful friend.

Mrs. Baur's funeral service was held in the Eden Seminary Chapel at 2:00 P. M. March 1, 1928. The service was conducted by Dr. Pegg, president of the Seminary. The committal service, at St. Peter's cemetery, was conducted by Dr. H. Bode.

Anyone wishing to read Mrs. Baur's obituary can find a summary in our Church Clipping Book.

When Rev. and Mrs. Koenig and family returned from their summer vacation in 1928 St. Paul's congregation was shocked to learn that her pastor had definitely decided to sever his connections with St. Paul within the remaining months of 1928. There were many heavy hearts but after reading the letter of resignation written

by Rev. Koenig to his congregation and knowing that their pastor had studied at the Colgate Rochester Divinity School during his pastorate here and wished to continue his studies in Chicago the majority of St. Paul's parishoners began to understand and they felt kindly toward their pastor who had served them untiringly and faithfully for five years. Rev. Koenig will always be remembered as a conscientious, kindly, self-sacrificing and God-fearing pastor of St. Paul's Evangelical Church.

On the next sheet is a copy of Rev. Koenig's resignation as presented to the members of our congregation September 1928.

Rev. Koenig delivered his farewell sermon, entitled "God, Our Help and Our Hope" in November 1928. He, Mrs. Koenig, three small sons, and an infant daughter, leaving a host of devoted friends in Rochester, de-

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parted the same day for Barrington, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. Here he will serve as pastor of the Evangelical church while doing post-graduate work in the University of Chicago Divinity School.

Ida S. Page
Church Historian

Rochester, N. Y.
September 10, 1928

To the Members of St Paul's Evangelical Church,
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Friends:-

Fully expecting that God intended our work at St Paul's to be the major task of our ministry, we assumed the pastorate of your congregation a little more than five years ago. Today we are convinced that it is advisable for us to terminate our official connection with St Paul's, that we may accept a call extended to us by St Paul's Evangelical Church at Barrington, Ill. This congregation is so situated as to enable us to do graduate work at Chicago University, a course which good friends have strongly advised us to pursue. We believe that God is again pointing the way.

Our decision to resign is definite. Yet, it is very hard for us to take this step. The ties of love and friendship have knit so closely! Moreover, we fear that some friends may consider us somewhat selfish.

In view of this latter possibility, permit me to state very frankly that sooner or later the break would very likely have come anyway. When we came to our present charge we agreed that the finances of the church were to be raised through free-will contributions from members and friends. Whether the congregation as a whole was fully aware of this at the time I do not know. Be that as it may, the fact remains that some actively interested church-workers have advocated introducing methods of raising funds which I cannot approve. Our leaving will clear the way for a free and frank discussion of the whole problem of finance confronting our church. I advise the congregation to get clear on this before calling a new man. This will enable him to assume his ministry without facing the danger of incurring the disfavor of church members when called upon to take a stand in this vexing problem.

Your pastor and his family will always take a vital interest in the welfare of St Paul's. The years spent in your midst have been among the very happiest of our life. We love our congregation and its members. Should you feel inclined to ask for any advice or help in the present crisis, we shall be glad to serve to the best of our ability.

We are, of course, ready to continue our service three months from date, as the constitution provides. Should you, however, be willing to release us with the last Sunday in November, such courtesy would be greatly appreciated.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

Hermann E. Koenig

We most cordially greet and WELCOME all members and friends to this our Anniversary Rally Day Service. May the spirit of the day inspire us afresh to loyalty to Christ and to His church, in worship and service.

Especially do we welcome the Rev. Wm. Walch, who was baptized, confirmed and ordained in St. Paul's and who now is pastor of Calvary E.R.Church, Buffalo. It is a privilege to have him bring us the message today.

We express our sincere SYMPATHY to the family of Mrs. Herman Matter, 84, for long years a member of St. Paul's, who entered into rest on the 20th with burial services held on last Tuesday.

TONIGHT 7 P.M. Our Youth are invited to a Planning Session to arrange program and activities for coming months.

MONDAY 6:15 - Meeting of our St. John's Home Board.

TUESDAY 8 P.M., at the EASTMAN THEATRE - A Great service commemorating the new English translation of the Bible. Tickets available in the office - Free.

THURSDAY 12:30 - All ladies invited to our Women's Guild Luncheon Meeting. Get acquainted and work with our ladies. Bring some gift for the Fall Bazaar.

FRIDAY 7:30 - All folks, young and old invited to come to our Anniversary Fellowship Fun Night. Enjoy the skits and presentations and some of our church movies. Mingle with our members. Refreshments. A happy evening.

SENIOR CHOIR meets at 7 P.M.

NEXT SUNDAY - Our service of HOLY COMMUNION. All members should come with open hearts seeing the love and mercy of our God in forgiveness.

SATURDAY 9:15 - Confirmation Class meets.

Birthday Offerings for our India Mission received from Miss Eleanor Hoffmeier, Joan VanDePutte, Mrs. F. Wilson, Mrs. L. Kleinhenz, Mrs. Wm. Shell, Mrs A. Groth, Jr., Mrs. H. Stuver, Mr. Rudolph Kolb and Irene n.n.

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FRIDAY AND SATURDAY TO VOTE.

Tell us if you would like to become a member of St. Paul's.

Our President's Lenten Devotionals.

ROCHESTER TIMES-UNION
Thurs., Mar. 14, 1963

A Lenten Guide

Matthew: 11:28—Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Miss Lucille E. Reuschle, 72 Browncroft Blvd., Monroe High School mathematics teacher, president of the church council of St. Paul's United Church of Christ.



"During Lent, Christians concentrate upon the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

"Ordinarily, on the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, I would be in my customary place in my church, worshipping. This year, I was occupying the bed in Room B 228 at Highland Hospital. The preceding day, I had an operation which could have been very serious.

"As I lay in bed, I often thought of the Bible verse printed above. God never promised that His followers would not suffer or have trials and tribulations, but Jesus said, 'Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.'

"Isn't that a wonderful promise? Believe me, anyone who is facing an operation is heavy laden. To have a friend who is willing to share our burdens makes them much lighter and more bearable. He gives us the courage and strength to meet all our problems.

"It is comforting to know that Jesus said, 'Lo, I am with you always . . .' It makes no difference where we are; Jesus will be with us and help us, if we call upon Him."

REV. HOEFER'S PASTORATE 1929 -

ST. PAULS' 1929 HISTORY

The first two months of 1929, while our St. Paul's was awaiting the arrival of her newly elected pastor, Rev. Elmer Henry Hoefer of Papineau, Ill., her pulpit was supplied by Henry C. Walch, a graduate of Elmhurst Jr. College, McCormick Theological Seminary, and while serving as our acting pastor, a senior at the University of Rochester.

Rev. Adolph C. Baltzer, former pastor of Trinity Ev. Church, Rochester, was in charge of the confirmation instruction and also served the spiritual needs of the sick and shut-ins.

St. Paul's was very grateful to both of these sincere and helpful workers.

When Rev. Hoefer arrived in Rochester in February, he was taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Lutz, loyal members of St. Paul's. Here he remained until March 4th. He then moved into St. Paul's parsonage, 96 Saranac Street.

Rev. Hoefer came to our parish with an excellent background. He was graduated from Elmhurst College, Eden Seminary and the Washington University of St. Louis. After graduation, he spent one year abroad in travel and study. While in Germany, he worked under Harnack, Richter and Heim.

Rev. Hoefer delivered his first sermon in St. Paul's Sunday morning, March 3, 1929. The text used was Romans 1:16 and the topic of his sermon was, "A Motto for Our Masthead". Two anthems, "Gloria" and "The Voice in the Wilderness", were sung under the supervision of Henry Betz, choir master and organist.

William Ofslager, chairman of the board of deacons, and Rudolph Kolb, chief usher, were in charge of a reception which followed the morning worship service.

The formal installation of Rev. Hoefer as pastor of our congregation took place Sunday evening, March 3rd. The service began with a processional by the choir and Mr. Albert Meili, Sr. escorting Rev. Hoefer. They were followed by the church council and visiting clergymen.

The pastors of our three sister churches, Trinity, Salem and Christ, participated in the service. Rev. Dr. Frankenfeld, Minister of Salem Church, presided. He was chosen by the president of our Ev. Synod to install Rev. Hoefer because of the close friendship that had existed for many years between Dr. Frankenfeld and Rev. Hoefer's father, Rev. John Hoefer of Lincoln, Ill. Dr. Frankenfeld, who also preached the sermon, chose for his theme the Scripture verse, "If ye have not the spirit of Christ, ye are none of His". Rev. J. O. Reller of Trinity Church brought the charge to the pastor, and Rev. A. Baltzer, former pastor of Trinity, the charge to the congregation. Rev. B. Tepas of Christ Ev. Church offered prayer, and Mr. Henry Walch, acting pastor, read the Scripture Lesson.

The musical program, arranged by Mr. Betz, included an organ prelude, "The Angelus" by Massenet; two anthems, "Sing to the Lord", Thompson, and "Jehovah's Praise Prolong", Wooler; contralto solo, "O Rest in the Lord", Mendelssohn, by Miss Emily Meyer; and prayer song, "Lord Whom My Heart Holds Dear", F. Hiller, sung by Mr. Theodore Curtis. The congregation sang three hymns, "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord", "Faith of Our Fathers", and "The Church's One Foundation".

St. Paul's congregation was grateful to the pastor and friends who had a part in making this service beautiful and inspirational.

On Palm Sunday a slightly changed order of church worship, presented by Rev. Hoefer and approved by the council, was followed for the first time. A class of eighteen confirmands was presented to the congregation. Due to a change in pastors, these young people had been under the instruction of three ministers; Rev. Koenig, Rev. Baltzer and Rev. Hoefer.

An informal reception on honor of Rev. Hoefer was conducted after the Lenten service, Wednesday evening, March 6th. The program, which was held in the church auditorium, included short addresses by the various organization presidents. An entertainment in the basement of the Sunday School building, where refreshments were also served, closed the evening's program.

Mid-week Lenten services were conducted each Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. A series of sermons, "Portraits from Calvary's Gallery", were preached by Rev. Hoefer. Holy Communion was administered at the German service on Good Friday evening.

At six o'clock on Easter morning a meditation and communion service was conducted. The Brotherhood Class with their teacher, Dr. Finch, partook of Holy Communion. After the service, a breakfast of coffee and kuchen was served by members of the class to those persons wishing to remain for the Sunday School session at 9:15 o'clock. Holy Communion was celebrated in the English language at the 10:15 o'clock Easter worship service. The following people were cordially received into St. Paul's membership:

Mr. & Mrs. William Vahl, Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Chard, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Otto, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Barth, Mr. Henry F. Meyer, Mrs. B. Schroeder, Mrs. Charles Hoffmeier, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Brahse, Mr. & Mrs. Sohn, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Smith, Mr. Ray Rockteschel, Mrs. R. Hallings, Mr. Frank Druselman.

The Sunday School staff directed an Easter evening service. Prof. Oliver Hutchinson of the University of Rochester, who is a friend of Rev. Hoefer, was the guest speaker. Special mention was the honor accorded the classes with 100% attendance.

Sunday morning, April 21st, our pastor asked his congregation to make note of the following announcements:

"We want our worship not only to be helpful and inspiring, but also dignified and impressive. You can help by being On Time; Silent after the bell has announced the beginning of the worship; Reverent during the reading of Scripture and offering of prayer".

"With today we are inaugurating Nursery Service so that mothers with small children may attend the preaching service. Leave the little ones in the Beginners' Room where they will be well entertained and cared for".

Three outstanding services in May were Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day and Family Day. The Ladies' Bible Class directed the first service and the Brotherhood participated on Fathers' Day. As Pentecost fell on this date, Holy Communion was observed and new members were received into St. Paul's fellowship. We read the following quotation on our Family Day bulletin:

"Every family of St. Paul's is as a link in a chain. The chain is not stronger than its weakest link. Keep the chain strong by regular attendance and sustained interest!"

Ascension Day, May 9th, many of our parishoners were present at the Union Prayer Service for missions at Salem Church. This day marked the tenth anniversary of the Rochester Church Federation.

Rev. Hoefer and nine members of our congregation were present at the annual Church Federation banquet held at Central Presbyterian Church. Rev. Sockman of New York City gave the address.

The first Sunday of each month Rev. Hoefer conducted a German service immediately following the English worship.

Sunday morning, June 9th, Prof. Albert Bretschneider of the Rochester Colgate Divinity School was our guest speaker. Rev. Hoefer and Mr. William Krase were in Neustadt, Ontario, at the New York district conference.

The Beginners and Primary Departments were responsible for Children's Day exercises in June. A baptismal service was conducted by our pastor. The upper departments of the Sunday School participated in the evening worship. Rev. Hoefer spoke on "My Experiences Among Children of Other Lands".

Rev. Hoefer's parents, Mr. & Mrs. John Hoefer, and sisters, Laura and Ruth, of Lincoln, Illinois, and an uncle, Rev. Theodore Hoefer of Elberfeld, Indiana, were guests at the parsonage in June. We were happy to have them here in our Flower City and also as guests of St. Paul's.

Sunday, June 30th, Rev. John Hoefer delivered the sermon, "True Patriotism" at the morning worship service. This was followed by a German service at which Rev. Theodore Hoefer preached the sermon. It was a real treat to our St. Paulites to have such close relatives of our beloved pastor bring messages to them. All present were inspired and were grateful to the speakers for the services rendered.

Sunday, September 22nd, was Homecoming Sunday in St. Paul's. The sermon, "For the People Had a Mind to Work", Nehemiah 4:6, was attentively listened to by an unusually large number of parishoners. Many new members were welcomed into our St. Paul's family.

Sunday, October 6th, was Harvest and Mission Festival. As in previous years, the altar platform was decked with fruits, vegetables and flowers. At the conclusion of the morning service, a memorial Baptism Font was dedicated in memory of Edward Pfitsch. Rev. Hoefer said, "The beautiful marble font we are today consecrating to the Sacrament of Holy Baptism is a memorial gift of Mrs. Emma Pfitsch in memory of her departed husband. The gratitude of St. Paul's Church is herewith expressed to the thoughtful and generous donor". At eight o'clock in the evening, Mr. Theodore Mueller, former medical missionary to the Gold Coast of Africa, delivered a missionary address. He used lantern slides to illustrate his lecture.

The General Conference of our Evangelical Synod of North America convened in Rochester from October 8th to 16th. Our congregation found within her own membership reservations for her quota of 45 delegates. Conference as Neighborhood Night was observed in our church auditorium Thursday night, October 10th at 7:30 P.M. Rev. H. W. Dinkmeyer, member of the Synod's Board of Education and pastor of Bethany Evangelical Church in Chicago, read the Scripture lesson and preached the sermon. Rev. Timothy Lehman, president of Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill., led in prayer and delivered an interesting address. Both speakers were concerned with the administration of our preparatory college in Elmhurst. St. Paul's extended a hearty welcome and greetings to her Conference guests.

General Conference Sunday, October 13th, Rev. Reinhold Niebuhr preached the sermon in our sanctuary at the morning worship service. A goodly number of St. Paul's members and friends were present to greet our guest. We had the pleasure of having four visiting clergymen address our various departments in Sunday School. Rev. G. Bode of Plymouth, Nebraska the Primary Classes; Rev. A. Mayer of Danville, Illinois the Young People's Class; Rev. H. J. Scheick of Chicago the Brotherhood; and Rev. A. Zimmerman of Pekin, Ill. the Ladies' Class.

Holy Communion was administered at the Reformation Festival October 27th.

November 10th was designated as St. Paul's Annual Ingathering or Pledge and Canvass Sunday. The text used for the sermon was, "The Ruby in the Crown of Life-Friendship", Proverbs 27:17. Organized teams of workers made visitations to the homes of members on that day and continued their work through November 17th when the campaign for \$11,232 for current budget of our church for the year 1930 concluded. Our finance committee used the following quotation: "Selfishness with much can do little, but love with little can do much".

A Sunday evening service November 17th was conducted by the 3-G Class, young women taught by Miss Lucille Reuschle. A mission play, "Just Suppose", was efficiently staged by the class.

November 24th, Memorial Sunday, marked the close of the church year. In the morning worship service, Rev. Hoefer paid homage to the memory of our members who had died in the past year and discussed the question of Eternal Life, I Corinthians 15:13. The text used for the sermon was, "Watch: Stand Firm; Be Strong". In the evening the four Evangelical Churches of Rochester had charge of the Fortieth Anniversary Service of the Rescue Mission. Rev. Hoefer delivered the sermon and our St. Paul's orchestra furnished music.

December 1st, the first Sunday in Advent, was observed as Youth Day in our church. This was due to our St. Paul's recently organized Evangelical League of Young People. The service, which was well attended, was unique and inspiring.

In the evening, Rev. Hoefer began a series of Sunday evening Travel Chats reminiscing about his "collegiate vagabond days abroad". He said, "Tonight we begin our jaunt across the Atlantic for a winter's sojourn in the Old World and the Holy Land. A "Sing" of your favorite hymns will open each of these informal Sunday evening services which are dedicated to the ideal of world friendship and understanding. World peace will become a permanent fact only when men and women of the world get acquainted with each other".

The second Travel Chat, December 8th, was an illustrated lecture on Germany. Rev. Hoefer's discourse was humorous and educational. Our organist, Mr. Henry Betz, chose organ selections by German composers. He told interesting facts about each composer and also about the selections played. The attendance was large, the church auditorium being filled to the last seat.

Luther Cities and German Student Life was the topic of the third and last 1929 Sunday evening Travel Chat. Mr. Betz rendered selections composed by Mozart, Handel and Gluck, three famous German musicians. Mr. John Schaeffer, choir member, sang several student songs. An unusually large congregation was in attendance.

At the Sunday morning worship service December 22nd Holy Communion was celebrated and new members received. A surprise Christmas present; two sanctuaries representing the Sacraments, Baptism and Holy Communion, were dedicated. Rev. Hoefer thanked the donors, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Schaeffer, for their generosity. He said, "They add much to the beauty of our church and shall stand before us as reminders of loyalty to these sacred ordinances". At four o'clock the Vesper Program was in charge of the Sunday School. Christmas morning communion was administered in the German language at a 10 o'clock service.

As there was no service in our sanctuary New Year's Eve, Rev. Hoefer's parting words to his congregation at the Sunday morning service December 29th were, "Wherever you may be Sylvester Eve, remember to thank God for the blessings of the old year and pray for His continued guidance in the new. To all and to your beloved St. Paul's church a blessed New Year".

The total church attendance at worship services in 1929 was 17,578; 17,032 persons attended English service and 546 German service.

At a meeting in March, our Church Council elected Mr. Rudolph Kolb to be Chief Usher. This new office was considered to be a present necessity. "Mr. Kolb is to be responsible to the chairman of the Board of Deacons and the Council for the proper ushering and receiving of our members and friends to our services and other meetings".

Our Altar Society, ever ready to introduce new and progressive ideas, appointed a Flower Committee. "Its function is the beautification of the services with appropriate floral pieces". Containers have been placed in the front and rear vestibules for those wishing to contribute to this project.

In November, thirty of our young people met and organized a Young People's Evangelical League. "This group will seek to foster the devotional and social life of St. Paul's youth convening each first and third Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock for a forum meeting". Young people over fifteen years of age are invited to membership. There will be a recreational night each month. The following officers were elected: Miss Lucille Reuschle, president; Otto Hahn, membership chairman; William Walch, Jr., chairman of devotional meetings.

AT DUNKIRK CAMP

Our church was well represented at the young people's and Sunday School workers annual convocation held in September. Nine of St. Paul's ladies were present at the Fall Institute sponsored by the Evangelical Women's Union. We were happy to learn that ours was the largest single church delegation represented.

Rev. Hoefer and eight of our St. Paul's boys had "a great time, with plenty of fun, inspiration and learning" at the boys' camp supervised by our Evangelical Board of Religious Education.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The new members received into our St. Paul's on Easter and Pentecost Sundays were entertained at a banquet by the church council and representatives of the various church organizations on Wednesday evening, May 22nd.

Our men who participated in the "Dixie Minstrel" sponsored by the Brotherhood are to be congratulated. A large audience was given an unexpected type of superior entertainment. It was very kind and thoughtful of the performers to repeat the same at a later date for the patients at Iola Sanitorium.

The Altar Society held its annual picnic at Ontario Beach Park. A happy time was enjoyed by all. Supper was served at half past five.

On July 10th our energetic ladies served a cafeteria supper on the Jewell Street church grounds.

Ontario Beach Park was the site chosen by our Sunday School staff for the annual picnic. This year the supper was served by a caterer.

In August a sausage roast was sponsored by the Brotherhood Class at the home of one of its loyal members, Louis Schaeffer, 2680 St. Paul Blvd.

Many members and friends of St. Paul's were present in September at the Altar Society's successfully planned sausage and corn roast. Our loyal and generous Mr. Jacob Kern donated ample space on his Chili Avenue farm. An afternoon of happy fellowship was enjoyed.

PROJECTS

The Brotherhood wanted a large classroom of their own. After much discussion and planning, they decided that, by means of excavation, space could be found in the basement under our church auditorium. Soon work was under way, and by October the spacious room was completed. An invitation was sent to all members and friends of St. Paul to be present at the formal opening of their new room Thursday evening, October 17th. Men from the Irondequoit Presbyterian Church and the Elks Glee Club assisted in the entertainment.

The Altar Society sponsored a very necessary project - the erection of a garage at the parsonage. We as a congregation congratulate them for their success in this big undertaking.

GIFTS

A new gas and coal range was installed in the parsonage. We thank the Primary and Beginners Departments of the Sunday School for making this possible.

The various organizations of St. Paul's have been busily working, determined to see the purchasing of the following equipment materialize: Piano, 150 chairs and coat rack - Sunday School; Piano - Primary Department; Toy Case - Beginners' Dept; vacuum sweeper and rail curtains for balconies - Ladies' Class. We thank all who had a part in this great work, and also all who gave so generously for the Building Fund and special collections throughout the year or assisted in any other way toward the financial upkeep of their beloved church.

TREASURIES

St. Paul's system of finance includes three separate treasuries:

1. Current Expense - Met by the envelope offering for the receiving of which there are special containers in the vestibules.
2. Benevolence - We ask our members to contribute to this cause through the basket collections lifted in the services.
3. Building-Fund Treasury - Envelopes for this purpose are found in the pew racks. The present plan for reducing the debt resting on our church building calls for regular monthly contributions by members, that the debt may gradually be reduced.

A large majority of our parishoners are generous givers. We are thankful that we have so many loyal and untiring workers within our folds.

We St. Paulites who were without a leader at the opening of the year 1929 give thanks daily to our Master for having sent to us our efficient Rev. Hoefer. He has, by his sincerity, friendliness, enthusiasm and kindness won the love and respect of young and old. We pray God that he may be happy in his new parish here in Rochester and that he will remain with us as our shepherd for many, many years. We'll trust in God who we know will hear our earnest prayer.

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH HISTORY - 1930

The first week of the year 1930 was designated as Universal Week of Prayer. Our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, entreated the congregation thus: "Deepen your spiritual life in these opening days of the new year by meditation and communion with God".

Our annual congregation meeting was held Sunday afternoon, January 26th. Plans for the year were discussed and 1929 reports were read by the chairmen of the many church organizations. The goal for 1930 church attendance was set for 20,000.

The first of the 1930 Sunday evening Travel Chats dealt with Switzerland. Miss Betty Matter sang a group of Swiss songs and Mr. Albert Meili, Sr. who spent his childhood in Switzerland related stories on national heroes.

In January, Rev. Hoefer and our choir participated in services at the Rescue Mission.

The second Sunday evening Travel Chat centered around Sunny Italy and Venetian Nights. Mr. Betz, our organist, played Italian music and gave brief talks on Italian composers. Rev. Theophil Menzel rendered several cello selections.

The pig roast January 29th, sponsored by the Brotherhood, was an outstanding social event of 1930.

On February 2nd St. Paul's dedicated two hundred new hymnals. (\$1.20 was the group selling price.)

The 1930 Church Council consists of Dr. H. Finch, President; William Ofslager, Vice-president; William Lohler, Secretary; Henry Hieb, Financial Secretary; Herbert Krase, Treasurer; William Ofslager, Superintendent of Buildings and Director of Activities; Rudolph Hoffmeier, Chief Usher.

"In the Footsteps of the Master", or "A Visit on the Sea where Jesus' Disciples Flied Their Trade", was the topic of Rev. Hoefer's third Sunday evening Travel Chat.

Miss Lucille Lowden succeeded Miss Louise Penclein as Superintendent of the Primary Sunday School Department. Miss Penclein accepted a position out of town.

St. Paul's discontinued the double envelope system this year. Our cash offering used to carry out the world service program of our church is to be deposited on the collection plates. Our contribution for current expenses must be placed in single envelopes provided for same and deposited in chests either in the front or rear vestibules.

The 1930 Lenten season began Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Each family of St. Paul's received a Lenten letter of greetings and good wishes from Rev. Hoefer. He wrote in part, "Let us all make these solemn days from Ash Wednesday until Easter a period of quiet rededication to the Christ and His way of life. We will study together the story of Christ as the great artists of the world have sought to portray it. Copies of famous paintings will be given to each family present. Seven paintings will be preached upon. There will also be special music by St. Paul's choir". (A booklet of Lenten prayers and devotions, one for each day, was inclosed in the letter.)

These Lenten services were beautiful and uplifting. Rev. Hoefer considered the life of the artist, the technique of the paintings and the spiritual challenge it sought to convey. Among the outstanding subjects for study were Leonardo DaVinci's famous "Last Supper", Munkacsy's "Christ Before Pilate", Flockhorst's "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem", Hoffmann's "The Temptation", Flockhorst's "He is Risen", and Ruben's "The Descent from the Cross". More than three hundred persons were in attendance at each of these inspiring services.

March 2nd we celebrated Loyalty Day in St. Paul's. There was a large attendance to honor our highly esteemed pastor, Rev. Hoefer, who celebrated his first anniversary as minister of St. Paul's. Secondly, a recognition service was held in honor of Rudolph Zander and William Krase. Both of these loyal members completed lengthy services in our church choir. The former served forty-seven years and the latter forty years. Each was presented with Honor Awards in recognition of loyal service. Mr. Betz, our choir master, under whom Mr. Zander and Mr. Krase served for many years, delivered beautiful words of appreciation. He spoke of their courage, loyalty and talents. At the conclusion of his remarks he gave recognition to another of his past choir members, Miss Emma E. Pagels, who served St. Paul's choir for twenty-five years. He thanked her for her whole-hearted and untiring service over the span of so many years. Nine new members were taken into membership at this Loyalty Service.

At the evening service the theme of the Travel Chat, "Easter in Jerusalem", was treated most uniquely by our pastor who was garbed in Arabic costume.

Better correlation of the activities of St. Paul's has been noted since the organization of a new body called the Service Board. Representatives from the Altar Society, Brotherhood, Willing Workers, Young People's League, Choir, Council and Deaconesses have met during the year for discussion. The results gained from such meetings have been most gratifying.

At a Brotherhood meeting last spring, Rev. Hoefer spoke to the men on "The Roman Empire from the time of Christ to Constantine". Refreshments and a frolic followed the address.

Mrs. Mielke's Sunday School class presented the church with an appropriate Altar cover and bookmark to be used during the Advent and Lenten seasons. Mrs. Rothiringer very kindly and thoughtfully gave a white satin console curtain to match.

The second last Travel Chat, "Land of Pyramids and Mummies", was filled with interesting facts about the ancient country. Our pastor, having traveled through Egypt, depicted many scenes in a most vivid way. Many educational slides were shown.

The first Sunday in April our confirmands were examined in catechetical and biblical questioning.

On Palm Sunday fourteen young people were confirmed and received into church membership. At the evening confirmation reunion service, the Young People's League presented a short pageant.

Good Friday evening was devoted to a German communion service.

The Easter services brought the 1930 Lenten Season to a beautiful close with three inspiring and uplifting services. The first was a six o'clock sunrise candlelight communion service. The Brotherhood was host. At 9:15 o'clock the entire Sunday School was in session. The 10:15 o'clock worship service was followed by reception of new members and Holy Communion.

In April our congregation sought to decrease our church indebtedness from \$49,000 to \$29,000. A \$20,000 debt-reducing campaign was launched with one hundred members participating. The campaign organization was headed by Mr. Granger Lederer. He was assisted by the following personnel:

Finance, Publicity & Commissary Committees; ten teams of workers who solicited pledges from members and friends.

Through the cooperation and loyalty of all participants in the campaign, we passed our quota by a margin of \$620.87.

The last Sunday in April was celebrated as Honor Day for our old, loyal and devoted members of St. Paul. This date fell on the birthday of Mrs. Sophie Reich, our oldest present member. They rejoiced with the younger members of the congregation over the victory won in the recent campaign. Mr. Lohler, our official cameraman, took photographs of all members and friends as they left by the front exit.

Our young people held their annual rally and banquet in May. Rev. Norman, a Maunz of Buffalo, was the speaker.

In the late spring we were made happy when listening in over WHEC to hear our pastor's familiar voice. His early morning messages brought to us during the Friendly Fellowship half-hour gave us new hope and courage as we embarked to perform our various daily tasks.

Union services for Evangelical women were conducted in our church auditorium on Ascension Day, May 29th. This day was also known as Day of Prayer for all Evangelical women.

June 8th marked the 1900th anniversary of Pentecost. Communion was celebrated, and new members were received into St. Paul's fellowship.

Our young people showed marked talent in their presentation of a most entertaining play, "Tea Toper Tavern", in June. A large thrilled audience showed their approval and appreciation.

Our Daily Vacation Church School was under the leadership of Miss Stricker from June 23rd to July 18th. We were blessed with a superior teaching staff. There was an enrollment of forty-five children.

St. Paul's Sunday School and church picnic was held at Sea Breeze on August 6th. A good time was enjoyed by old and young.

The Brotherhood sponsored its annual steak dinner Sunday, June 29th at Searle Park, directly following the morning worship service.

The annual Altar Society picnic was served by a caterer at Ontario Beach Park.

Our church treasurer reported in July that \$8,000 in cash had already been received from the debt-reducing campaign subscriptions. This was paid off against the church debt. \$1300 was also paid on interest charges. We are grateful and thank God that our congregation has among its members so many loyal and honest men and women.

Children's Day program, June 22nd, was unique and instructive. The famous Italian paintings, "John the Baptist as a Boy" by Andrea DelSarto and "Mary Magdalene as a Child" by Carlo Dolci, placed on either side of the pulpit, enhanced the beauty of the altar. These two pictures were copies of the famous originals that hang in the Pitti galleries of Florence, Italy, and were sent direct from there.

Rev. Hoefer and Mr. Fred Weigelt of Germany represented our congregation at the International Sunday School Convention and National Youth Conference in Toronto, Canada.

John Schake of Linden Street, St. Paul's oldest male member, died at his home on June 15th in his 87th year. He was a life-long member and for many years served as a loyal member of our church council. Our sympathy was extended to his daughter, Mrs. Halsey Atkins, and to five sons.

Rev. Hoefer left on his vacation July 14th with his friend Frederick Weigelt, a teacher in Berlin, Germany. They motored to the Pacific coast. This trip had been planned five years ago when Rev. Hoefer was traveling with Mr. Weigelt in Europe. How happy they were that their anticipations materialized. While out west, Mr. Weigelt wrote a series of articles relating to his experiences for a Berlin newspaper, the "Vorwaerts".

In Arizona the two travelers turned from their planned course to visit a hermit poet who was also a scout, collector of curios and a man of learning. Rev. Hoefer sent an unusually clever and interesting article, which he wrote soon after his visit to the poet, to the Rochester Times Union editor. We St. Paulites enjoyed reading it in the columns of that evening newspaper. (A copy of that message can be found on page 9 of our church clipping book.)

During Rev. Hoefer's absence, the following speakers occupied St. Paul's pulpit:

July 20th	Rev. F. Wilkins	Federation of Churches
July 27th	Rev. Dr. J. Hutchinson	Times Union Staff
Aug. 3rd & 10th	Rev. A. Baltzer	Ex-Pastor Trinity Ev. Church
August 17th	Mr. H. Witmeyer	Gospel Tabernacle
Aug. 24 & 31	Prof. A. Bretschneider	Divinity School Faculty

Our church has appointed efficient women to care for the little tots in the nursery during the Sunday morning worship. Mothers of young children are now able to attend services while the small children enjoy an hour of profitable contact with other children.

Loyalty Sunday, September 14th, we were all happy to see Rev. Hoefer back in the pulpit after his extended trip to the Pacific coast. The topic of his sermon was, "God Speaks in the Rocky Mountains". On this same Sunday morning those in our parish who could participate in a German worship service had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Fritz Weigelt, Rev. Hoefer's friend from Berlin, deliver the German address. It was a real treat to them to listen to a scholar direct from Germany.

Our church sent representatives from each of our organizations to the regional conference which convened at Trinity Evangelical Church September 23rd and 24th.

We, as a congregation, were happy to hear our pastor's voice over WHEC every Saturday morning in October from 8:00 to 8:30 o'clock. His messages were very helpful to all who listened in, especially to the aged and shut-ins.

Rally Day in Sunday School and church October 12th was a red-letter day in St. Paul's. The children of our school presented a beautiful pageant at the evening service.

November 2nd we celebrated Harvest Festival and reception of new members. In the evening a goodly number of our people sojourned to Salem Church where two of the reformed churches and our four Evangelical churches united in a reformation service.

On the last Sunday evenings of October, November and December, Rev. Hoefer gave a series of addresses, "Travel Chats". The services were made more attractive by the assistance of our choir and the showing of slides and movies which illustrated our pastor's vacation trip.

Memorial Sunday, the last Sunday of the church year, was dedicated to the memory of St. Paul's loved ones who had departed from this earth during the twelve months preceding November 23rd. I quote Rev. Hoefer who remarked at the memorial service, "The best tribute we can pay to those whom we have loved and lost is by loyalty to the noblest and best in their lives".

We were happy to learn that a committee of our Brotherhood worked conscientiously and efficiently on promoting the organization of a Scout troop. Two of their number, Henry Braun and Henry Broadwell, are now in training for Scout leaders.

Thanks is due our Altar Society who undertook the christian task of placing one hundred forty Daily Talks with God in the homes of St. Paul's people.

Another worthy undertaking by our Ladies Aid is the sponsoring of Mission study and service guilds. Guild I has already been organized. These guilds will be named, "The Daughters of St. Paul".

On December 4th all members and friends of St. Paul enjoyed an evening of fellowship with the Altar Society and Brotherhood acting as hosts. Music was furnished by the choir. There were cello selections and Bob Kane, well-known Scotch comedian, entertained. Protestant Chaplain of hospitals, Pastor Palmer, spoke.

The Dramatic Club of St. Paul's Young People's League presented on November 11th and 12th a comedy in three acts entitled, "Her Step Husband". A large and enthusiastic audience gave evidence of the success of the venture.

It is the wish of the Eagles and Owls, competing groups in our Altar Society contest, to better acquaint our members with our synodical church papers, "The Evangelical Herald" or the "Friedensbote". The ladies would be pleased to have any who have not thus far done so subscribe for either or both. After reading these worthwhile periodicals, one becomes better informed of the work our Synod is attempting to do to advance greater Kingdom work.

Rev. Hoefer has urged the members of his congregation to notify anyone of our Social Service Committee, consisting of Clarence Brown, Oscar Stephany, William Ofslager, or Louis Schaeffer, of families or individuals in our parish who are in destitute circumstances. It is the desire of pastor and church council to take care of our needy ones in these trying days of the depression.

Mr. Albert Meili, St. is our representative on the Board of Directors for St. John's Home for the Aged. Annual dues are \$2.00.

Our financial secretary reported that \$11,700 has been paid off on our church debt which leaves an indebtedness of only \$31,800 on our church property. We are grateful that St. Paul's has so many generous souls in her midst.

December 22nd St. Paul's brought Christmas cheer to the many homeless men at the Rescue Mission on Andrew Street. Rev. Hoefer delivered the address. Our senior choir helped to beautify the service.

The last month of the year 1930 we were made glad to receive into our St. Paul's membership Mr. & Mrs. Deyo Snyder, Mr. Ralph Boss, Mr. Nicholas Komet, Mr. Harry Sanger and Mr. Arthur Mehne. Rev. Hoefer desired that these new members would find Christian fellowship, ennobling influences, helpful worship and opportunities for service in the cause of the Lord in this, their new church.

Our pastor urged all his parishoners "not to neglect worship and praise in the sanctuary on Christmas, the day of days". Three beautiful services were administered in our church auditorium on this day. At 7:00 o'clock in the morning was a Candlelight Communion service. At 10:00 o'clock a Christmas Worship Service and communion in the German language was held and at 7:00 o'clock in the evening the Sunday School staff sponsored a children's Christmas program. A pageant, "My Gift to the King", was presented.

We are grateful to Mrs. H. Merritt who gave to St. Paul's as a Christmas gift two very lovely palms which are now beautifying our sanctuary. Also, a friend of our congregation presented our pastor with a costly white stole which harmonizes with our new white altar coverings. Rev. Hoefer and his congregation are pleased with the appropriate gift.

St. Paul's observed Watch Night service December 31st from half past nine until midnight. The 3-L girls had charge of the first or fellowship half of the evening. At eleven o'clock stereoptican pictures depicting "The Other Wise Man" by Henry Van Dyke were shown. This was followed by a prayer and song service at the conclusion of which the church bells ushered in the new year, 1931.

Rev. Hoefer's final 1930 message to his parishoners was, "To All! A Joyous and a Blessed New Year".

Ida S. Pagels
Church Historian

ST. PAUL'S 1931 CHURCH HISTORYJANUARY:

St. Paul's Evangelical Church held its annual congregational meeting Sunday afternoon, January 18th. The following councilmen and deaconesses were elected: William Shell, Edward Weismiller, Granger Lederer, Edward Uehlin, Clarence Brown, Mrs. Clarence Brown, Mrs. Hy Otto, Mrs. John Fisher, Mrs. William Shell, Mrs. R. Lietzan, Mrs. W. Stoehr and Mrs. George Goetz. Presidents of the various church organizations reported on the 1930 accomplishments of their respective groups. The members of St. Paul's were reminded to place all envelopes for current expenses in the vestibule receptacles as the Sunday morning plate collection was to be dedicated to benevolence and world work. Members were urged to place memorial bouquets in the altar memorial vases on the Sunday nearest the anniversary of the departure of their loved ones. All members and friends were invited to visit the Boy Scout troop which was showing marked progress.

The following events took place in January:

Rev. Hoefer began a series of four Sunday morning sermons on the Apostle's Creed.

On the first and third Sunday evenings many St. Paulites enjoyed Rev. Hoefer's "Travel Chat" on the beauties of California and Yellowstone National Park.

St. Paul's was invited to attend a dedicatory service in the chapel of St. John's Home for the Aged on South Avenue. Through the generosity of Mr. Deininger a new wing was added to the Home.

Our congregation was in charge of the Gospel Tabernacle services on Main Street West. Lunch was served by our ladies to all who were present.

FEBRUARY:

On the first Sunday of this month our Young People's League and Sunday School were hosts at a supper meeting to all Evangelical young people of Rochester, Evangelical pastors and many young Evangelical people from Buffalo. Rev. Rodney Heckman of Buffalo delivered an address at the devotional meeting which followed the fellowship hour. One hundred two of our St. Paul's young people were present.

The devotional theme which followed throughout the Lenten season was "Companions of Calvary".

February 22nd was observed by all Rochester churches as "Go To Church Sunday". We at St. Paul's had as our guest singers the junior choir of the Gospel Tabernacle. Four hundred thirty-five persons were present at this service. The offering was divided between the Tabernacle and the Sonyea Protestant Chapel Fund.

Rev. Hoefer was host on February 5th at the parsonage to the Evangelical Student Club of Rochester.

Our energetic ladies of the Altar Society again sponsored an annual "home made" noodle supper. It was a big success and most thoroughly enjoyed by young and old.

The men and boys of St. Paul were fortunate on Lincoln's Birthday evening to have as guests and entertainers at their get-together two of our baseball heroes - Rip Collins and Rabbit Moranville.

On the ninth of this month the Evangelical men of Rochester organized the Rochester Federation of Evangelical Brotherhoods. The executive committee was chosen from members of each of the four Brotherhoods. William Walch, Sr. from our congregation was elected president. Our best wishes to this, our newest Rochester Evangelical organization.

The final Travel Chat, "Homeward Bound Across the Prairies", was educational, inspirational and entertaining. Stops made with the Mormons and a glimpse of the city of Chicago were most fascinating.

MARCH:

The Brotherhood entertained the members and friends of St. Paul by inviting them to be guests at a movie entitled, "A Tour Through the Caribbean Sea and its Islands". This was made possible by one of our Brotherhood, Mr. Louis Schaeffer, who, as a member of the Shrine Tour, took movies as they passed through Bermuda, Haiti, Cuba and Panama.

March 29th St. Paul's confirmands were presented to the congregation. The theme of the sermon, delivered by our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, was entitled, "Taking Over the Helm of Life". In the evening at the reunion services a Cantata, "The Risen King", was sung by our choir.

On Good Friday many of our members attended the three-hour service at Salem Evangelical Church. The devotional service was sponsored by the Federation of Churches. Our pastor participated in the service. In the evening there was a communion service held in our St. Paul's. Rev. Hoefer officiated.

March 22nd - 29th marked Rochester's week for the blind. Rev. Hoefer urged his congregation to show interest by visiting the institution and aiding in any way possible. Our Ladies' Aid Society entered wholeheartedly into the project. They helped to serve meals and sell articles made by their handicapped brothers and sisters.

On March 26th the Sunday School teachers' meeting was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hieb. Topics of discussion and action were "The National Sunday School Convention, Vacation School, Dunkirk and Easter Services". A happy evening was enjoyed by all.

APRIL:

Easter Sunday, April 5th, at six o'clock in the morning a sunrise communion service was sponsored by the Brotherhood who attended communion in a body. The church auditorium was lighted with candles. Sunday School was in session at 9:15 o'clock and at 10:15 o'clock a large congregation awaited the opening of the morning worship at which communion was celebrated and new members were received. The sermon, "The World's Most Glorious Morn", was delivered by our pastor, Rev. Hoefer. The Sunday School extended their Easter greetings to the members of St. Paul's in a unique manner. An attractive Easter cross bookmark was presented to each person present at the morning service. Our confirmation class was thanked by the Sunday School, recipients of a Moffat Bible.

The congregation sent a note of thanks to Mrs. Herman Thiem who gave to our church a beautifully painted autumn scene, the work of her husband, a former member of St. Paul's.

In the month of April, our Brotherhood was host to the Evangelical Brotherhood Federation of Rochester. Rabbi Bernstein of Temple Beritti Kodesh spoke on "A Common Basis for Good Will Between Jew and Christian" on Church Night, April 15th. Our Altar Society and Brotherhood entertained and served refreshments. We rejoice with the Brotherhood who burned the note representing their last indebtedness on the "Brotherhood Room".

Pioneer Day was celebrated Sunday, April 26th, in honor of our pioneer members.

MAY:

Four impressive Sunday morning worship services were conducted in May. The first was "Mother's Day". The "Mother" selections read by the pastor and congregation were most beautiful and uplifting. The sermon topic, "The New Mother and the Old Ideal", gave much good food for thought.

The second service, May 17th, was "Home and Family Day". The lighting of the home - dedication candle was most unique and impressive. The base: olive-wood from Mt. of Olives, reminding of the first Christian homes in the Holy Land. The Candle: red, symbolizing love. The Flame: sacrifice and service. After Rev. Hoefer had quoted several beautiful thoughts, the people responded by reading in unison the following lines:

"God's candles we, some burning high, some low. We see the flames as sould where'er we go. God's candles we. If set where dark or light, it matters not, if we but keep His altar bright."

The topic of the sermon was "The Inner Circle".

The Hoffmeier and Pommerening families tied for honors, as they represented the largest groups present.

Pentecost Sunday marked the third of the series. We were asked, upon entering the church, to meditate upon the following lines:

"As Thou didst send Thy Spirit to revive and comfort the disciples, so wouldst Thou also do unto us, O Lord. Help us as we try to make our lives more fit temples for the indwelling Christ".

The Sacrament of Holy Communion was observed. Added to the membership of our church were Mr. & Mrs. Herman Baumer, Mr. Kenneth Williams and Mr. William Saunders.

Memorial Day was celebrated the last Sunday in May. Our Sunday School purchased the responsive reading sheets which were used in the church service. These pamphlets were arranged by Prof. Fred Eastman. Section I was dedicated to the founders of our Republic. Section II was dedicated to those who fought against slavery, and section III to those who sought to end war forever. Anthems were sung by both of our choirs, Junior and Senior.

Ascension Day was marked by an appropriate service at Trinity Evangelical Church. It is satisfying and encouraging to note, as the years pass, the increased numbers of participants from each of our women's organizations.

On St. Paul's night at the Rescue Mission a group of our members accompanied Rev. Hoefer. The choir helped to beautify the service.

The young people of our four Rochester Evangelical Churches sponsored a concert given in May at Salem Church by the Eden Seminary Glee Club.

JUNE:

June had its share of beautiful Sunday morning services. They were Mission Sunday, Children's Day and Education Sunday.

Rev. Hoefer and William Walch, Sr. represented St. Paul's at the New York District Conference, June 7th to 10th. Pilgrim Church, Buffalo, was host.

Our young people were guests of the Benz family at their home on Conesus Lake Sunday afternoon and evening, June 14th. The League expressed its gratitude for the Benz hospitality.

No Daily Vacation Bible School was conducted this year, due to the interior painting and decorating of our church edifice.

Our Sunday School's annual picnic was held Saturday, July 25, at Sea Breeze Park.

Four of our strongest and most efficient organizations took charge of our Sunday morning services in the absence of our pastor from June 28th to July 19th. On the last Sunday in June, the Brotherhood conducted the service, July 5th the Altar Society, July 12th the Young People's League and July 19th the Sunday School staff.

During the absence of our pastor, a most important event occurred on June 30th; namely, the marriage of Rev. Hoefer and Miss Thekla Stoll in Lincoln, Illinois. We, as a congregation, rejoiced, for we knew it meant untold joy to our leader. Secondly, we knew he would bring back to us one whom we would all learn to love, serve and work with in God's Kingdom here in St. Paul's. The wedding ceremony was performed by Rev. John Hoefer, father of our pastor, in St. John's Evangelical church, Lincoln, Ill., where he is pastor. Two uncles, Rev. Martin Hoefer and Rev. Theodore Hoefer assisted in the ceremony. Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer motored to Saranac Lake, New York State, where they spent a happy honeymoon. (A detailed account of the wedding and other news pertaining to the marriage can be found in the "Church Clipping Book", page 9.)

AUGUST:

Sunday morning, August 2nd, St. Paul's reconsecrated their House of Worship to the service of mankind and the glory of God. The church auditorium had been closed for services during July due to redecoration. (A full description of the work and the names of committee etc. can be found on page 9 in the Clipping Book.) A rededication ritual was read by Rev. Hoefer, and the congregation. The choir, under the direction of Henry Betz, sang two anthems. Our pastor, in his sermon, "The Testimony of the Symbols of our Sanctuary", told the history, original purpose and present challenge of various symbols used in the architecture and windows of the church.

At the close of the service, Dr. H. M. Finch, president of the church, welcomed Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer on behalf of the congregation and presented them with a box of toy blocks. As Rev. Hoefer attempted to open the blocks, out tumbled gold pieces, amounting to \$175. Our beloved pastor said, "Mrs Hoefer and I find words inadequate to express our gratitude for the generous golden shower". Immediately after the morning service a welcoming dinner party was given Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer by the Sunday School staff. Addresses were made by Dr. Finch, Henry Betz, Albert Meile, St., Mrs. H. Heim and Miss Lucille Reuschle. Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer were presented with a dinner set. Rev. Hoefer remarked that the Sunday School had insured the pastor against eating from dime store dishes for a long, long time. He also wrote in a Sunday bulletin, "Collectively and individually you have been wonderfully good to us. Bless you for it".

Sunday, August 9th, Rev. Hoefer began a series of sermons on "Vacation Inspirations". The titles of these sermons were, "Meditation Rock", "A Lesson from Boats", "Bluff Island" and "Dream Possessed". All of these discourses were interesting, instructive and original in character.

SEPTEMBER:

"The Owls" of the Altar Society won the Bible question and church paper subscription contest. The opposing team, "The Eagles", entertained and served a luncheon for their opponents.

Thirty-four registered delegates and forty-five St. Paulites journeyed to Dunkirk Camp for over Labor Day. The annual New York District Sunday School and League Convention was in progress. Our young people won the "Dunkirk Donkey" - the award for the best representation. It was "the chief cargo in the pastor's ecclesiastical chariot" on the homeward trip.

Our young people celebrated the winning of the donkey by motoring to Durrant Eastman Park Monday evening September 14th for a beach supper.

September 20th the Kern family on Chili Road invited the Leaguers to be their guests. Reports of the Dunkirk convention were given.

Rev. Theodore Trost, a graduate of Eden Seminary, June 1930, delivered the Labor Day address in the absence of our pastor who journeyed to Dunkirk to help win the Dunkirk Donkey.

The Second week in September, William Walch, Jr. left Rochester to enter Elmhurst College in preparation for the Christian ministry. St. Paul's has never had the honor of sending any of her young men into the ministry. It is the hope of the pastor and the congregation that William will be ordained at our Diamond Jubilee in 1937. William was baptized and confirmed in our parish and at the time of his departure for college he was president of the Young People's League. We wish him God's blessing.

Six representatives from our church attended the Regional Conference of the Rochester Area of the Evangelical Synod at Christ Evangelical Church, Rochester, N.Y.

The Union Councils met in our church parlors Thursday, September 24th. The deaconesses served. The program included plans for the Union Reformation and a Forum discussion led by Glen Jackson of the Y.M.C.A. on "Church, Religion, Belief".

OCTOBER:

Rally Day in both Sunday School and Church was celebrated the first Sunday of this month. Rev. Hoefer told the congregation that the work of the church and of the Kingdom could advance only as each member put his good intentions into practical service. As our Synod's emphasis for this year was on Religious Education, our pastor hoped that a large majority of our members would (1) Join one of our adult classes, or (2) Take the teacher training course, either in our own Sunday School on Sunday mornings, taught by Miss Lucille Reuschle, or the Federation course, taught each Tuesday evening at Central Presbyterian Church. (Rev. Hoefer was a faculty member.) (3) Enter the children in some week-day school of religious education, (4) Reading the Bible for enlightenment and inspiration.

Guild #2 of the Daughters of St. Paul organized in October at the home of Mrs. John Eiseman. It is a requisite of all Guilds formed in St. Paul's that their members be affiliated with the Altar Society. Rev. Hoefer says, "Our Guilds are instruments of good in the service of our church and our Master".

Rev. B. Tepas was the speaker Church and Family Night. Movies taken of the year's church activities were shown. Refreshments were served by the Ladies' Aid Society.

On Sunday evening, October 18th, three hundred persons were present to enjoy the Shrine Chanters under the direction of Stanley Hawkins. There was a drama sermon on the movie "Ben Hur" and slides were shown. This was the first of a series of special Sunday evening services.

Immediately following the morning service on October 25th, the church finance committee and church council presented the 1932 church budget to the congregation. Local expenses \$11,285; Synod, \$1050.

An annual sauerkraut supper was served by our ladies. As always, it proved to be a marked success.

Our people responded generously to the "Pantry Shower" for the needy of the Gospel Tabernacle.

At the Young People's Devotional Hour, October 18th, Rev. Hoefer had charge of the installation of new officers. Albert Meile, Jr. is president of the League.

Evangelical women from Rochester met in North Tonawanda this year for the annual New York District Convention. Miss Danzer and Mrs. Talbot were our official delegates.

NOVEMBER:

On the first Sunday of November our church celebrated the birthday of Protestantism. Communion was administered following the reformation worship service. In the evening all Evangelical churches sponsored a Union Service. The united choirs sang and the Brotherhood Federation marched into the sanctuary in a body, singing, "A Mighty Fortress is our God". Rev. J. P. Meyer of St. Louis was the guest speaker.

The second church night of the fall season fell on Wednesday evening, November 18th, when the Willing Workers (Ladies' Bible Class) brought into our midst Mr. Beebe, County Probation Officer. He gave us much valuable information as to the work done by the courts and crime prevention agencies.

November 8th, Stewardship and Ingathering Sunday, members turned in their pledge cards which they had received during the previous week. Delinquent members were the only ones to be canvassed. This system has worked out satisfactorily for the past two years.

St. Paul's has 42 members in the St. John's Home for the Aged Association. The annual worship service for those interested in the Home was held in our auditorium at 3:00 o'clock, November 8th. Rev. K. Thiem and Rev. C. Haas were the speakers. A seminary male chorus sang assisted by Mrs. Rose Lehle as solo artist.

November 05th "Men and Missions" Sunday, 256 persons were in attendance. In the evening, scenes from the Peace Film, "All Quiet on the Western Front", were shown. Music was furnished by the Teutonia Liedertafel. The evening attendance registered 375 persons.

Many mothers met Wednesday afternoons with Mrs. Fred Wilkens to discuss pre-school-age child problems. These get-togethers were in charge of Mrs. Herbert Goeth.

A new magazine rack and "Broadcast Board" seen recently in the Kozy Korner of the Brotherhood Room were the gifts of the Sunday School. Mr. Oscar Stephany was the designer and maker of both. Many thanks.

Guild #2 sent clothing to our mission in Biloxi, Miss. where the distress was acute. Miss Danzer was in charge of this worthwhile undertaking.

A number of our Sunday School classes prepared baskets to be sent to needy families on Thanksgiving Day. Our pastor urged members to attend the Union Thanksgiving Service at the Eastman Theatre, there being no service in our own parish.

The "House Beautiful" was the subject of the drama-sermon Sunday evening, November 29th. 251 members and friends were present. Our choir sang an anthem, and instrumental selections which enhanced the beauty of the service were rendered by three Eastman School of Music students.

DECEMBER:

Wednesday evening, December 9, our Young People's League presented two one-act plays - "Not Quite Such a Goose" and "Cabbages". Our Mrs. Hoefer was the capable director.

The fourth of the drama-sermons, "King of Kings" was preceeded by a concert given by the A-Capella Choir of Benjamin Franklin High School. A large, appreciative audience was made happy in mind, body and spirit by this inspirational and beautiful service.

All members of our church should feel free to place, when they so desire, any constructive suggestions in the Suggestion Box found on the Sacristy door. Rev. Hoefer will be very glad to ponder and make a study of each.

St. Paul's welcomed home for the holidays William Walch, Jr. who had been studying at Elmhurst, Otto Hahn, teacher at Oneida High School and William Rocktaschel, studying medicine at Buffalo University.

Our parish did much to brighten the lives of many during the Christmas season:

1. Our Jr. Choir's carolling and the giving of "Lebkuchen Maennchen" (Made possible by the Brotherhood) brought cheer to our sick and shut-ins.
2. The Young People's Class presented an electric clock to the church.
3. Sixteen Christmas baskets were distributed to unfortunates.
4. Money was given for the delivering of other baskets through city missions.
5. Sweaters were sent to the Rescue Mission.
6. A box of clothing was sent to Mississippi.
7. The Sunday School sent money to India.

At the morning service December 20th St. Paul's accepted happily into its membership nine new members.

St. Paul's conducted two services on Christmas Day. German communion was celebrated in the morning. In the evening there was a Song Service and the dramatization of a Christmas play entitled "Why The Chimes Rang". It was a play of service and sacrifice by Elizabeth A. McFadden. It was beautifully presented under the direction of Mrs. Hoefer.

The year 1931 was brought to a close in a most fitting way by our beloved church. A drama sermon, "The Servant in the House", was presented from eleven to twelve o'clock. It was beautiful and inspirational. The year 1932 was ushered in by our pastor conducting a brief prayer service, at the conclusion of the drama sermon. All persons present felt strengthened in mind and spirit as they entered the new year.

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST. PAUL'S 1932 HISTORY70th Anniversary
Year

We read in our first 1932 Sunday Bulletin, "A New Year of happiness is St. Paul's wish for all of her members and friends". 1932 marked the 70th anniversary of our spiritual mother and was in all truth a year filled with joy, inspiration and blessings for St. Paul's family. We'll now reminisce on the outstanding events as they occurred, month by month.

A third term Teachers' Training Course opened at Central Presbyterian Church Tuesday evening, January 12th, under the Federation of Churches. Our Pastor, Rev. Hoefer, taught a course on "The Program of the Christian Religion".

During the months of January and February, Rev. Hoefer preached the last three of the series of 1931 - 1932 Sunday evening drama-sermons - "The Ten Commandments", "Quo Vadis" and "Lincoln". At the last service Rev. Theo. Trost sang several selections and Miss Marjorie Benz was guest cellist. All sermons were inspirational in character.

Wednesday evening, January 20th, marked the annual congregation meeting in the church parlors. 100 members were present. A short musical program was followed by reports of the church work of 1931. Plans for the observation of our 70th Anniversary were outlined. Members of the Council and the Board of Deaconesses were elected. "Faith and courage, rather than despondency of our times were reflected".

The following report on attendance at services for the year 1931 was of interest to all:

<u>Service</u>	<u>Total Attendance</u>	<u>Average per Sunday</u>
Morning Services (53)	13,873	262
Evening services (19)	4,682	247
German Services (10)	247	27

Number of Services in 1931 - 82

Total No. of Worshippers - 18,825

Sunday School

Total attendance in 1931 - 10,052	Average - 205
Total attendance in 1930 - 10,677	Average - 212

Sunday morning service January 23rd was a most impressive one. Rev. Hoefer laid stress on the need of constant renewal of loyalty and devotion to a purpose. "The Church of Christ is dedicated to the great ideal of bringing the Kingdom of God on earth", said Rev. Hoefer. "It pledges itself to be the tool which God may use to bring about His will". Following the sermon the congregation was asked to renew its Covenant with God and give its full support to the newly elected church council. At this evening service Mrs. Hoefer read the story of the Christian Church in Rome during the first century.

Death came in January to our oldest member, Mrs. Sophia Reich, 225 Gregory Street. She was 99 years 9 months old when she died. She had been a member of St. Paul's for 70 years. Burial was in Mt. Hope cemetery. She left to mourn her loss one son, John C. Reich, and two daughters, Mrs. Stoll and Mrs. F. Weitzel.

On February 12th, "The World Day of Prayer for Missions", a children's hour of prayer was conducted from 4:30 to 5:30 o'clock in our church. Miss Eleanor Hoffmeier was in charge of the program and order of worship.

Lenten services were conducted every Wednesday evening, as is the custom in St. Paul's, from Ash Wednesday until Easter. Six visiting pastors were with us on six successive Wednesday evenings.

February 17 - Rev. Spencer Owens
 February 24 - Rev. Frederick Reissig
 March 2 - Rev. Theophil Menzel
 March 9 - Rev. Theodore Trost
 March 16 - Rev. John Dennis
 March 23 - Rev. A. J. Nies

The Council and the following committee met Sunday afternoon, February 28 at the church to prepare plans for the 70th Anniversary Celebration: Mr. John Schaeffer, Mr. Albert Meili, St., Miss Christina Danzer.

In March our Ladies Altar Society held its annual social at St. John's Home for the Aged, and our congregation conducted services at the Rescue Mission.

Sunday, March 13th, at the morning service eleven confirmands were examined.

Palm Sunday, March 20th, these young people, who had been instructed over a two-year period by Rev. Hoefer, were taken into membership through the rite of confirmation.

"Could earthly music penetrate the beyond, Mrs. Magdelene Eckert would have heard what she wished to - chimes in her own church, dedicated Palm Sunday evening to the memory of herself and her late husband". Rev. Hoefer received and dedicated the gift. Henry Betz, organist, played "The Minster Chimes" and "Ave Maria" with the chimes. Children of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Eckert gave these chimes as an organ attachment. The gift was announced at the celebration of Mrs. Eckert's 80th birthday, January 1, 1932. Death overtook Mrs. Eckert suddenly a short time before she could realize her wish to hear chimes. Following the Eckert Memorial Service, the congregation and friends were privileged to listen to a large chorus sing a Lenten Cantata, "Hail the Victor".

Thursday evening preceeding Easter a beautiful American flag was presented to our scout troop by a junior order of the Women's Relief Corps.

Good Friday evening both English and German communion was administered.

A candlelight dawn communion service on Easter morning took place at six o'clock in our church auditorium. The Brotherhood was host to the congregation at an eight o'clock breakfast. The Easter offering in the Sunday School was sent to support children's work in Honduras and India. The church worship offering was used to reduce our church debt and to repair and beautify the church property where needed, in preparation of our 70th anniversary celebration September 25 to October 2.

Our Sunday School teachers presented St. Paul's family with new collection plates as their Easter gift.

Rev. Frederick Frankenfeld of Salem Evangelical Church announced that plans for a union of the reformed church in the United States with the Evangelical Synod of North America had been drawn up and would be submitted to the various churches for ratification. The reformed church has a membership of 347,698, mostly in the eastern section of our country. The Evangelical Synod has 325,000 members and is strongest in the west and midwest.

"How We Got Our Denominations" was the subject of a series of studies given by Rev. Hoefer in the spring during the Sunday School hour.

April 17th was Pioneer Sunday in St. Paul's. A bronze perpetual membership tablet was unveiled. The names of Mr. & Mrs. John Schutt were engraved thereon thru subscription to an endowment fund which made them perpetual members of St. Paul's. The tablet was designed and cast by two of our faithful members, Arthur Koch and William Hahn. The latter donated this valuable gift to our church.

A standard upon which are recorded the names of the charter members of the "One-Half Century Club" was also dedicated. The names of more than forty members, eligible because of active membership of the church for fifty years or more, were read to the congregation by Mr. William F. Krase, elder of the church and one of its half-century members. Rev. Hoefer remarked, "The highest tribute is due our pioneers upon whose shoulders the achievements of the present rest".

Rev. Andrew Rauth of Gates Presbyterian church and schoolmate of Rev. Hoefer at Elmhurst College spoke to the Young People on Sunday evening, April 17th. His topic was "Demons in Empty Houses". May 1st Rev. Nobio Tokita of Japan addressed this same group.

German service was held the first Sunday of every month. This service followed the English morning service.

The United Brotherhoods of the Evangelical Rochester churches met in our church April 18th to hear Rev. D. R. Williams, eminent authority on Russia, discuss "Status of Religion in Russia".

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" was presented under the direction of our Mrs. Hoefer and through the cooperation of the four Evangelical churches April 23rd at Salem Parish Hall as a contribution to Drama Week in Rochester. Congratulations were extended to Mrs. Hoefer on the success of the drama, made possible through her efficiency and perseverance.

Annual Brotherhood bowling banquet took place in May at Maplewood Y.M.C.A.

Anniversary banks were distributed in May to all members and to friends of St. Paul's.

Our Beginners' and Primary Departments gave an anniversary supper in May.

The Evangelical Student Club is an organization sponsored by the youth department of the Evangelical Synod in college centers where young people of the denomination are studying. The past year our pastor served as its student minister. Meetings were held in the homes of members. The final symposium was in the form of an outing at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Herman Genhart in the Bristol hills.

Last May Rev. Hoefer announced a series of four sermons, "Hands", "Eyes", "Ears" and "Tongue", mediums of spiritual exchange. He sought to show that ultimate joy and success would depend upon the correct use of these media.

June 5th Rev. M. G. Daniel, PhD, a former missionary among the Mohammedans, and now arch-deacon of the Assyrian church in the United States and minister of the church for foreign-born in Philadelphia, described the persecution of Christians by Russians and Mohammedans. He told of the life and fanatic religions of the Orient. Rev. Daniel appealed to St. Paul congregation for greater needed funds. Our people gave generously. Rev. Hoefer spoke briefly, and his closing sentence was, "May Rev. Daniel's message make us appreciate the tolerant attitude, characteristic of America, and make us revere the spirit of the foreign missionary the more".

News reached St. Paul's of the death of one of her former pastors, Rev. H.F.W. Grotefend. He was called suddenly from his home in Okeene, Oklahoma Sunday evening, June 5, 1932, just as he was preparing to attend a young people's meeting. His death was caused by cardiac trouble. He had preached at his church in Loyal, Oklahoma in the morning. During the 33 years of his ministry, he served many churches, both in the east and the west. Our sympathy was extended to those who most deeply mourn his loss; his widow, Johanna Grotefend, and three sons, Alfred, Emmet and Archibald.

In June another permanent endowment was established for Mr. & Mrs. John Eutin by their daughter, Mrs. William Donish.

Rev. Henry Walch of Grace Presbyterian church, interim pastor in St. Paul's three years ago, spoke to the Brotherhood on "Seven Day Religion".

During the summer of 1932 the entire church building and also the parsonage received, as our pastor described it, "new dresses". The Easter offering was used to defray the expense of the painting of the church and the Sunday School defrayed the cost of the parsonage as its 70th anniversary gift.

Fifty pupils enrolled in Daily Vacation Bible School. The ages ranged from 6 to 13 years. It opened June 27th and continued to July 15th. The morning session began at 9:00 o'clock and closed at 11:30. Mrs. Sophie Lemon was in charge of the Juniors and Mrs. Harry Heim of the Primary Department.

The Evangelical Churches of Rochester united in a vesper service at Camp Salem, Conesus Lake, July 17th. The speaker was Mr. W. H. Anderson of London, England, international secretary of the Missions of Lepers. Mr. Anderson was once superintendent of our own leper home in Chandkuri, India. On August 14th Rev. Hoefer conducted vesper services at this same camp.

August 21st Rev. Hoefer was speaker at Vesper Services at Genesee Valley Park. His topic was "Men and Boats". These services were conducted by the Protestant Churches of Rochester.

All St. Paulites who attended services Sunday morning, Sept. 4th., were overjoyed to read announcement I on the church program:

"The pastor and Mrs. Hoefer wish to acknowledge their gratitude to a loving Heavenly Father and to the many kind friends of St. Paul's our hearty thanks for all expressions of interest during the past week when Rosalyn Thekla decided to make "All good things - three" at the parsonage. We hope she will en-

joy her stay with us and grow up to be a blessing to her parents and friends".

September 1932 marked the seventieth anniversary of our St. Paul's Evangelical Church. Our much loved pastor, Rev. E.H. Hoefer, asked the question: "Why are we celebrating"? I copy his answer in part: "We are mobilizing our spiritual and material resources because the Lord has even greater tasks and achievements for St. Paul family in the years that lie ahead".

All of the anniversary church services were very well attended. The many and varied addresses and the music, vocal and instrumental, were inspirational and brought rich blessings to all who were in attendance. It gladdened the hearts of all to have with us as guest speaker on Rally Sunday, October 2nd, our former highly esteemed and much loved pastor, Rev. Herman E. Koenig of Barrington, Illinois. He was pastor in St. Paul's from 1922 to 1929.

"Old Timers" Night was a night for reminiscences and laughter. William Krase gave the address of welcome. The banquet on Friday evening was enjoyable for two reasons - good menu and splendid program! Our pastor acted as toastmaster. We were all glad to have in our midst Rev. J. C. Koenig, missionary enroute to India. At the close of the program, all who were assembled formed a human chain about the walls of the room and sang, "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds". It was a most impressive closing.

The following is a complete outline of the 70th anniversary activities:

Sunday, Sept. 25 - A.M. - Worship Service - Pastor Preaching
P.M. - Evangelical Night - All Ev. pastors of Rochester partici-
pating

Tuesday, Sept. 27th - Old Timers Night - Old Timers Choir

Wednesday, Sept. 18 - Community Night - 8 pastors of the neighborhood participating

Friday, Sept. 30 - Banquet

Sunday, Oct. 2 - Rally Sunday & Ingathering of Anniversary Chests - Rev. Koenig
P.M. - Confirmation Reunion - Old Timers Choir singing

Rev. Hoefer wrote an article on the activities of the 70th anniversary which was printed in the Evangelical Herald, St. Louis, Mo, November 10, 1932. As it gives a vivid picture of the week's doings, I shall cease writing at length about the anniversary celebration and attach the printed article to this 1932 historical sketch. There is also much interesting material to be found in our St. Paul's newspaper clipping book. Our 1932 70th anniversary booklet is also rich in valuable church history material.

In October our mother church, Trinity Evangelical, celebrated her 90th birthday. We of St. Paul's were happy to share in her joy by attending services Evangelical Night. October 23rd. Dr. S. D. Press of Eden Seminary delivered the main address.

Five delegates from St. Paul attended the regional conference in Elmira. According to the Synod's constitution, "Representation from every major organization of the church shall convene in annual conference session".

Harvest Festival was observed in our church October 16th. The title of the sermon was, "Give Us Bread". Fruits and vegetables used in decorating the church and later taken to homes of the needy were gratefully received from Jacob Kern, Clarence Smith and Lloyd Smith.

Rally Day and Promotion Sunday in Sunday School meant the promotion of many pupils. Miss Lucille Lowden resigned as superintendent of the Primary Department which office she efficiently held the past two years. Mrs. Herbert Geoth was selected in her stead. A warm welcome was given to Adolph Fauth, William Walch, Sr., Miss Ruth Heim, Mrs. Sophie Lemon and Miss Mildred Widmer, new teachers and helpers in the school.

The entire Sunday School engaged in a "Christian Crusade" in which all pupils pledged themselves to more and regular Christian activity, including attendance at church every Sunday. The Crusade will extend through 1933. Those who persevere will receive beautiful Crusade Shield pins of gold.

Monday night, October 24, Rev. H. L. Streich, executive secretary of the Evangelical Brotherhood, addressed the United Brotherhoods of Rochester. The meeting was held in our church.

A report by our pastor, membership secretary of the St. John's Home for the Aged, stated that 45 members of our church were members of the Aged Home in 1932. Dues are \$1.00 a year.

November 13th. Rev. Krohne and his young people from St. Peter's Church in Buffalo were supper guests of our Young People's League. Rev. Krohne gave an address.

Miss Adele Wobus has returned from India to celebrate her 25th anniversary as missionary. She gave an illustrated lecture in our church auditorium Wednesday evening, November 9th.

November 13th was celebrated as Stewardship and Pledge Ingathering Sunday in our church. Literature and pledge cards were mailed to all members during the previous week. The signed pledge cards were brought to church and collected by the ushers after the sermon. The following week, teams of canvassers visited the homes of those who did not respond by handing in their cards Stewardship Sunday.

November 20th, the last Sunday before the Advent season, our church observed Memorial Sunday. This was in commemoration of the lives of 22 persons who had died during the past year and of those who had become perpetual members. The sermon, "Light on a Highway of Darkness," treated of life lived for eternal values. Members who are living on through perpetual membership are: Mr. & Mrs. John Schott, Mr. & Mrs. John Eutin, Mr. & Mrs. Joachim Pagels. "Thanks be to God that such have been, although they are no more"!

November 20th marked the 30th anniversary of the Young People's League of our Synod. The devotional committee of our St. Paul's League directed a youth service at 7:30 o'clock. Candles symbolized the activities of our young people of the Synod during the past 30 years. The candle ceremony, "The March of Years", was conducted by 6 young people of our League, each one representing a span of five years in the history of the organization:

1902 Laura Hoefer 1907 Edward Stephany 1912 Marie Kothiringer

1917 Harriet Fauth 1922 George Meyer 1932 Albert Meili, Jr.

Rev. Hoefer delivered the address, "Lighted to Shine". The national convention theme, "Once to Every Man and Nation", was sung by the entire congregation. About 100 persons attended.

A Thanksgiving service was held in our church auditorium Thanksgiving morning from nine until ten o'clock.

November 27th Rev. James Rose of Mt. Olivant Baptist Negro Church addressed the congregation at the first of the 1932-1933 Sunday evening community services. These biographical sermons were entitled "Walking with Giants". Rev. Rose gave us many interesting facts on the life of Booker T. Washington. Curtis Saulsbury, famous negro tenor, entertained by singing negro spirituals.

Rev. Hoefer represented the Home Mission Board of the New York District at a service in Kenmore Evangelical Church, December 4th.

The young people sponsored the program Church and Family Night, December 6th. Movies of the Brotherhood steak dinner, Sunday School picnic, 70th Anniversary and of other activities were shown.

The aged people at St. John's Home for the Aged were made happy when our confirmation class made them a visit. Rev. Hoefer felt that youth should see what Christianity does as well as to grasp what it preaches about.

Our St. Paul's Christmas pantry and wardrobe received a bounteous supply of fruits, groceries, canned goods and clothing. The choir and Altar Society made additional purchases, assisted the Sunday School in the preparation of the Christmas baskets which were distributed to grateful families December 24th.

Christmas Day was a busy blessed day for our church family. At 9:30 A.M. there was a combined Sunday School and church worship with reception of new members. Rev. Hoefer delivered a sermonette, "A Christmas Gift" and the regular Christmas sermon, "The Quest for a King". The combined junior and senior choirs sang two anthems. At 11:00 o'clock there was a German communion service. Our altar lecturn (missile stand) was dedicated during the service. At 4:00 o'clock a Christmas pageant, "The Star of Bethlehem", was presented by the Sunday School. It was directed by Sherman Judd. The Jr. choir under the direction of Marie Rothringer sang the musical accompaniment to the pageant with Mrs. Rose Lehle singing the solo parts. Carols were sung by the congregation during the course of the pageant.

All the expenditures of 1932, save an \$850 interest item, were kept within St. Paul's income. The following gifts, gratefully received, were used to decrease the \$850 payment: Altar Society - \$150; Young People's League - \$10; Pastor's Young People's Class - \$15, and Guild I - \$20.

I chose for my closing paragraph a message written by our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, in the last church bulletin of the year 1932: "At the end of the year, your pastor is mindful of the fine services rendered to and through this church and the spirit of cooperation that was usually forthcoming in every adventure for the Cause. For these and all other expressions of regard at this happy season, humble thanks. Bless you all!"

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST PAUL'S 1933 HISTORY

The year 1933 was ushered in on a Sunday. St. Paul's services that morning were most impressive. Holy Communion was observed. The topic of the sermon by Rev. Hoefer was, "Turn to Page 1933", the text Jer. 18:4 Ex. 33:15. The congregation sang, "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" in honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of our esteemed pioneer members, Mr. & Mrs. William Volz, Sr. At 3:00 o'clock the pastor and junior choir journeyed to St. John's Home on South Ave. where they brought cheer and New Year's wishes to the aged. At 7:45 PM a Christmas Echoes service was conducted. Still pictures from famous paintings depicting the Christmas story were shown. Rev. Hoefer gave the message each painting sought to convey. These were the happenings of the first day of 1933 in our beloved church. I feel certain that the following prayer which I read recently in the "Daily Talks With God" symbolizes the feelings of our members as they departed from their church that first day of 1933:

"Be our strength in hours of weakness,
In our wanderings be our guide;
Through endeavor, failure, danger,
Father, be thou our guide.
Let our path be bright or dreary,
Storm or sunshine be our share,
May our souls in hope unwearied,
Make thy work our ceaseless prayer."

Let us now reminisce. First, let us call to mind a few of our outstanding services.

January 8th we all profited by the sermon entitled, "A Return to Rest". This was given that proper balance might be obtained for our church after the excessive excitement of the Christmas season.

January 15th Miss Elsie Goeparth enroute to Honduras spoke on "Mission Evaluation".

January 29th - evening - A rare treat for young and old - the Seth Parker Group - remember First - kerosene lamps, rockers and melodian, Second - the male quartet consisting of Ev. Bernard Tepas, Rev. Carl Haas, Rev. Theodore Trost and Rev. Elmer Hoefer; Third - evening offering received in tin cups. We'll all agree it was most unusual.

In February an illustrated address on the Life of Lincoln. Our Boy Scouts with Mr. Henry Braun and scoutmaster Albert Groth, Violinist, Rev. Hoefer, native of Lincoln, Ill. told of landmarks in that vicinity.

At an evening Community Service in March we learned of the life of John Calvin, founder of the Reformed Church. The last of the series of "Walking with Giants" was an illustrated sermon on the Apostle Paul.

Palm Sunday evening all enjoyed hearing, at the Confirmation Reunion Services, the Old Timers Choir - also the New Timers salute to the Old Timers thru Mr. Edward Uehlin.

Good Friday - 7:30 P.M. German Communion Service
 8:30 P.M. English Candlelight Communion Service
 Easter Sunday - 6:00 A.M. Lily Memorial Service & Holy Communion
 10:30 A.M. Sermon and English Communion
 7:00 P.M. Easter Play, "The Legend of the Grail" by
 Young People's League.

In May we celebrated Home and Family Sunday. Try to recall the large candle, lighted on the altar, symbolizing the church and home. The families who won honorary mention for largest family groups, Mrs. Leo Kolb, Mrs. Barbara Krautwort, and Mr. Herman Pommerehne.

Sept. 17th Miss Hedwig Schaeffer, missionary to India, brought greetings.

Rally Sunday! A service was sponsored by our Brotherhood. The same enthusiasm as was shown in the N.R.A. parade the previous week was shown - loyalty, faith, spirit. Mr. Robert Frerich of the Colgate Rochester Divinity School was introduced at this service.

October 1st Rev. Hoefer began a series of ten dissertations on "A Century of Progress".

October 5th - "Halls of Science" - We who were unable to be in Chicago last summer gained a wealth of knowledge from this discourse.

October 29th. - The Union Reformation Festival was sponsored by United Lutheran and Evangelical churches of Rochester at Central Church. Rev. John L. Ernst of Detroit delivered the sermon. St. Paul's was particularly interested in the service, as Rev. Hoefer was a participant and Mr. Clarence Brown, one of our faithful members, acted as head usher.

November 12th marked the first communion service in St. Paul's without any preaching and liturgy.

November 19th - sacred concert by University of Rochester Glee Club. Address by Rev. Hoefer - "Religion During the Century".

December 10th at 7:45 P.M. - Choral Service by Choir of Benjamin Franklin High School, Marlowe Smith directing. "Songs of a Century" - pastor's topic.

December 24th. - Christmas Vesper Service - candlelight processional by both choirs - miniature Nativity scene before the Christmas tree was most unique. There was a Pilgrimage to the altar where offering was laid in the cradle. Robert Frerich and William Walch, Jr. participated. After the service, carolers visited homes of sick and shut-ins.

Christmas morning - general communion service.

The last service of the year was held from eleven to twelve o'clock Sylvester Eve. A most appropriate closing for 1933.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

First: Church and Family Night was in the form of a campfire service. Business of the annual congregational meeting was enacted.

Second: Church and Family Night - Washington's Birthday - Altar Society sponsored it - play was presented by ladies - dramatic sketches by some of our little folks directed by Mrs. Hoefer - slides of mission work in Mississippi were shown.

Third: Church and Family Night - big sing and Rev. Hoefer addressed members on "What I Like and Dislike in the Ministry".

Adults taken into St. Paul's membership Easter and Pentecost were dinner guests of the church Council June 11th at Hemlock Lake. From all reports a most enjoyable day was experienced by all.

Mr. Albert Meili, Sr. and Rev. Elmer Hoefer represented St. Paul's at the New York District Conference of our Synod at St. Paul's - St. Mark's Evangelical Church, Buffalo, New York.

Let us now stop for a second and recall to mind the gifts received by St. Paul's in 1933:

I. Perpetual Memberships:

Mrs. Anna Huber Dedicated at Lily Memorial Service
Mary & Rose Deer

Mr. Henry Pagels - Home and Family Sunday

Mrs. Christina Bauer - Pioneer Sunday

II. On Mother's Day, May 14th, a gift of three evergreen trees from Mrs. Arthur Curtis in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Pagels and Miss Alice Pagels.

III. Beautiful bronze depicting the Lord's Supper given by Mr. Kreck - many thanks to Mr. Arthur Koch for the framing of same.

IV. Library table - Mr. & Mrs. Leidick.

V. Chair in lounge - 1933 confirmation class; also blue spruce to beautify church grounds.

VI. Window ventilators - thanks to Messrs. Earl Gommenginger and Rudolph Kolb.

VII. Screens for kitchen windows - junior choir

VIII. Fruit tree planted at the parsonage by Mr. Rudolph Lutz.

(St. Paul's is grateful to all givers.)

Let us take a peep at our organizations:

I. In January the Old Timers Club of St. Paul's was organized. The club seeks to help keep alive the memories and traditions of old St. Paul's, in order that new St. Paul's might grow the stronger. It now has a membership of over 200.

II. St. Paul's Brotherhood celebrated its 10th anniversary October 8th. The purpose of this organization was to promote better fellowship among churchmen and assist more effectively in the work of the church. Our Brotherhood is to be commended on its many worthwhile accomplishments in 1933.

1. Many gained spiritual blessing at Men's Retreat at Dunkirk last July.
2. "The Board of Exchange" is helpful to many.
3. The Brotherhood was host at a supper in our church with Elmhurst Glee Club members as guests. The host was proud to welcome William Walch, Jr., former president of our Y.P.L. as one of its guests.
4. Annual steak dinner at Ellison Park - a big success.
5. The "Brotherhood News" made its debut March 14th.
6. Organ motor and blower were moved to church basement by willing volunteers.
7. Exhibition of unique "Hobby Show".
8. Turkey dinner
9. Minstrel Show - many fine talents shown.

III. Altar Society ("Old Faithfuls") - Our ladies have done splendid work along so many lines that I haven't time or space to enumerate, but a very few:
 Visitation to homes of needy and sick
 Delegates sent to conferences at Dunkirk and Buffalo. Splended helpful reports were read by Mrs. Lemon and Mrs. Herbert Geoth.
 Visitation to Aged Home
 Many successful suppers.

IV. Our Young People's League: It makes us very happy and proud that two of its members are now studying at Elmhurst College. Mr. Wm. Walch and Miss Thelma Meihle. Many of our young people motored to the Y.P.L. convention at N.Y. District in Dunkirk. The Y.P.L. acted as host to our 1933 confirmands.

St. Paul's Sunday School is to be congratulated on the work it has accomplished during the past year.

We say "Thank You" to our loyal deaconesses who have worked so untiringly throughout the year. The fruits of their labor are very noticeable.

Many thanks and congratulations for the splendid work done to the branches of our church not mentioned in this report.

A teacher training class was graduated from a two-year course under the superior leadership of Miss Lucille Reuschle.

Three new names were added to our Half-Century Club - Mrs. John Eiseman, Mrs. Henry Zimmer and Mrs. William Walch.

Through the efforts of our pastor, the 1933 confirmation class gained much knowledge through visits made to various institutions.

We were privileged to participate in the 20th anniversary of Christ Evangelical Church. Rev. Hoefer delivered the sermon.

It has given St. Paul's family great pleasure to welcome into its midst this year Mr. Robert Frerich who has been chosen leader of our young people's work, also to assist our pastor in the services of the church. As time goes on, we know that Mr. Frerich will learn to love St. Paul's as all must who have worked among its loyal flock.

Rev. Hoefer supervised a Daily Vacation Bible School for two weeks last July.

Our pastor left for Lincoln, Ill, August 1st. At the World's Fair he sought to glean ideas for the series of special Sunday evening services conducted in our church this winter.

March 1933 marked the beginning of the fifth year of Rev. Hoefer's pastorate in our church. We extend our hearty congratulations and pray that he may be St. Paul's leader for many multiples of five.

I, speaking for my pastor and St. Paul's congregation, close with these words: "We, St. Paul's, are trusting thee, Jehovah; guide us; thou alone shalt lead; every day and hour supplying all our needs".

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST. PAUL'S 1934 HISTORYLIFE'S PURPOSE:

"There is no doubt that we are here
 To do the work God wishes done.
 For some wise purpose, have no fear,
 God put life's breath in everyone.
 We are not born haphazardly
 To drift like chips upon the sea;
 It matters not what task is mine,
 Nor what the work you're called to do -
 Behind it is the will divine
 That governs things for me and you.
 Each of us now is at his post
 Exactly where he's needed most.
 The humble and the great are just
 Fulfilling God's especial trust.
 And so, contented with our work
 Along life's road we ought to plod,
 Fulfilling God's especial trust.
 Our sin is in deserting God.
 We ought not willingly to rest
 Until we're sure we've done our best."

As I sat meditating on the 1934 history of St. Paul's, I was strongly convinced that the big majority of our people had grasped the true significance of life's purpose. I have made a special effort during the past 12 months to study the workings of our various organizations. In each of these I have discovered a large percentage of members who are trying to do their very best and use the talents God has blessed them with. St. Paul's ship cannot help but make great progress spiritually and materially in 1935 with such a splendid crew ready to cooperate with their most efficient, conscientious and God-fearing Captain, Rev. Elmer Hoefer.

I shall divide St. Paul's 1934 happenings into four divisions; Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn. First we'll consider together the outstanding events of the winter season.

1934 was begun in a Christian manner. We observed with all other Protestant churches National Week of Prayer. United prayer has done much for the success of our religious work.

At the annual congregation meeting in January splendid reports were read by a representative of each church organization. Plans for 1934 were formulated, many of which materialized during the succeeding months of the year. The Council elected from its midst the following officers: President - William Ofslager; Vice-president - Earl Gommengerger; Secretary - Ralph Beas; Treasurer - Adolph Fauth; Financial & Debt Fund Secretary - Henry Hieb; Chief Usher - Albert Meili, Jr. These have proven to be a loyal, efficient corps of men.

The first week in January a most enjoyable evening was built about the thought of gardens. Fred Raetz, New York photographer and brother of one of our members, Mrs. Fladd, showed views and lectured on "Flowers and Flower Gardens Around The World". All who were present are hoping Mr. Raetz will return to Rochester in 1935 and again be St. Paul's lecturer.

Old Timer's Club of St. Paul's celebrated its 1st birthday by an anniversary supper. A large crowd enjoyed a social hour which followed an important business meeting. Patriarch William Krase presided. Under Brotherhood News, we were all pleased to read that Albert Meili, Sr. was elected vice-president of the New York Brotherhood Federation. We extend our congratulations.

We note with joy that our young people were successful in securing for one of their speakers in the winter season such a well-known man as President Lehman of Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill.

Five Sunday evening community services, conducted by Rev. Hoefer, were most unique in character. They were a review of the Chicago Exposition, the theme of which was "A Century of Progress". Space or time does not allow me to give even a synopsis. I shall, however, call to mind the topic of each. First "100 Years of Fun"; Second, "Gardens Thru the Years" (Bird slides from the Frederick Rastz Library in New York were shown at this service) Third, "Houses of Tomorrow"; Fourth, "The Parade of States"; Fifth, "The Judgment of a Century". Those who were unable to be in Chicago gained much knowledge from these informal talks.

Palm Sunday evening our choir, under the direction of Henry Betz, presented Maunder's "From Olivet to Calvary". The Old Timers' were guests. Their patriarch, William Krase, extended greetings.

February, 1934, marked the 50th anniversary of Foreign Missions and the 75th anniversary of Home Missions for our Evangelical denomination. Scores of our members read "Missionary Horizons", a booklet most suitable and helpful for the Lenten season.

Sunday, March 4, 1934, marked the fifth anniversary of our pastor's ministry in Rochester. At the morning church service Rev. Hoefer reviewed the first sermon he preached in St. Paul's on installation Sunday, 1929. He pointed out what the last five years had given in answer to the objectives outlined in that sermon. The sacrament of Baptism for Johathan Frederick Hoefer, infant son of our pastor, was administered by Rev. Theodore Trost. The Sunday School devoted the entire session to Rev. Hoefer's honor. Addresses were made by Mr. Meili, Sr., Mr. Fauth, and Mr. Walch. Miss Laura Hoefer, sister of our pastor, read the Scripture lesson. Miss Lucille Reuschle, representing the Sunday School, presented Rev. Hoefer with a purse. The teachers decorated the altar with flowers. There was special music. St. Paul's has grown steadily under Rev. Hoefer's guidance. We extend our heartiest congratulations and our most sincere best wishes. May God protect and bless both shepherd and his flock of St. Paulites and may we be able to work together harmoniously for many years to come.

Lenten Services: General devotional theme for the entire series of midweek Lenten devotionals was "The Christian Life in the Light of the Cross". Each address asked and sought an answer to a question. For Ash Wednesday the question theme was, "What Wilt Thou Have Me Do Unto Thee?" Two of our guest speakers at these services are well known to all of us - Rev. W. Saunders, Secretary of Federation of Churches, and Rev. F. Wilkins, former assistant pastor in our St. Paul's, now residing in Pittsburgh, Penna.

The last of the winter evening services, a candlelight service, was observed Good Friday evening. Holy Communion was administered in both the German and English languages.

SPRING

The first service conducted in the spring season was in the form of a "Lily Memorial and Communion Service". The altar was decked with lilies placed in memory of departed loved ones. A perpetual membership was dedicated to Mr. & Mrs. John Krase by their children, William Krase and Mrs. John Eiseman. An Easter breakfast was served by the Ladies Willing Workers Bible Class. At 9:15 the Sunday School held worship service in the church sanctuary. A pageant was presented by the primary and beginners groups. At 10:30 English communion was administered. New members were received at this service.

Pulpit Exchange Sunday was sponsored by the Federation of Churches in April. Rev. Hoefer exchanged with Rev. William Dowler of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer. More than 80 protestant pastors exchanged pulpits. St. Paul's, as others, fostered good will and a spirit of unity.

An evening musicale was presented by our young people under the direction of Mr. Frerich, who also gave an address. We had as guest musicians Rev. B. Tepas, Prof. T. Trost, Mr. Charles Boddie, negro organist and Roger Kent, cornetist.

Ascension Day services for Evangelical and Reformed women of Rochester were held in our church this year.

Mrs. Clarence Hall, Elizabeth Kelly, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sholes, Daniel Fowler, Mrs. Fowler, Mr. & Mrs. Stuver, Leonard Metzger and Harris Webster were received as members of our family at a communion service Pentecost Sunday. At this service a perpetual membership was dedicated to Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Peters by their daughter, Mrs. Ed. Weismiller.

Children's Day and Centennial Sunday of the city of Rochester, was appropriately observed. Allow me to call to mind the following sentences quoted by our pastor at that service: "Let us not only think of the duties the church has toward the child, but toward the community of tomorrow in which our children must grow up. A better Rochester for the children of today - the men and women of tomorrow".

Family and Home Dedication Sunday was most impressive. As we recall the lighting of the home and family candles, we can see the blue candle which was the symbol of the larger family - the red candle, symbol of parenthood - and the white candle, symbol of childhood. Beautiful thoughts pertaining to each were given us by Mr. William Krase, Mrs. Elmer Hoefer and Miss Adele Kummer.

Sunday, April 22, Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Kern observed their 50th wedding anniversary. Their grandchildren placed a bouquet of 50 Rochester roses on our St. Paul's altar for the morning worship service. Mr. & Mrs. Kern are members of our half century club, having been active for more than 50 years. We members of St. Paul's offer our heartiest congratulations and most sincere best wishes. May God spare them to us for many years to come!

The annual Youth Rally and banquet was held in the spring. The young people had for their guests the 1934 confirmation class who, at a later date, were initiated into the fellowship of the Y.P.L.

Our church council sponsored Church and Family Night in April. The Rochester Gas & Electric Ladies Glee Club presented the program. Mr. Charles Finch, then director of radio school hour in Rochester, was the speaker. Our council also ordered the publishing of an Honor Roll in which the names of all those whose pledges were paid up to date would appear.

The New York District Conference was held in Bethlehem's Church, Buffalo. Rev. Hoefer and Mr. A. Meili, Sr. represented St. Paul's. Final ratification of the union of our Evangelical Synod with the Reformed Church in the United States constituted the most important order of business.

The Mile of Pennies contest between the men and women of our church for the reduction of our church debt and interest fund was a great success. Through this project we were able to reduce our church debt by \$800.

Our good ladies served a roast beef supper and sponsored a Mothers' and Daughters' Banquet. Miss Elizabeth Mertz of the Big Sisters Council was a most able guest speaker at the banquet.

In early June a lawn fete was undertaken by Sunday School workers. The proceeds were used to help send boys, girls and young people to a christian recreation camp. June, graduation month, had among its graduates many from St. Paul's. We congratulate all. Two deserve special mention. William Rocktaschel, now Dr. Rochtaschel, was graduated from the School of Medicine, Buffalo. He is interning at St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester. William Walsh, Jr., who is now in Eden Seminary, was graduated from Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill. We are proud that William has decided to enter the Christian ministry. Our best wishes are extended to both these boys, each of whom has chosen a noble profession.

Mr. Robert Frerich completed his freshman year at Colgate Rochester Divinity School. He also of necessity had to sever his connections with St. Paul's. We miss him and wish to extend thanks for the various services he has so courteously and willingly rendered.

SUMMER

St. Paul's can proudly say, "We do not close our doors during the summer months as some Protestant churches do". Although naturally the summer season is leaner than the other seasons, we find that much good is accomplished.

St. Paul's conducted a ten-day vacation church school. About 40 children between the ages of 9 and 13 were enrolled. Linden Schwab directed the construction of a miniature theater with a troupe of marionettes. At the closing exercises of the school bible stories of David & Goliath, Ruth & Naomi, carrying the thought of peace and good will, were presented.

Thirty-five years ago Rev. John Hoefer, pastor of St. John's Evangelical Church, Lincoln, Ill. and father of our pastor, was ordained into the ministry. On reflection we find that to be seven times the length of his son's services as a pastor of the Christian church. We at St. Paul's had the rare opportunity and pleasure of hearing Rev. John Hoefer deliver his anniversary sermon in our sanctuary on June 24th. He spoke on the abiding and changing tasks of the Christian minister. The following Sunday Rev. Hoefer, Sr. preached in the German language. We offer our thanks for the services rendered and our congratulations and best wishes. Rev. John Hoefer will always be a most welcome visitor to St. Paul's.

Two hundred fifty people attended Park Vespers July 8th at 5:30 P.M. at Maplewood Park. Seneca Methodist and St. Paul's churches were in charge of the service. Rev. Hoefer, the speaker, called prosperity, fame, health and friendship ephemeral compared to the love of God, which never fails to give man strength and help. It was a most inspiring Vesper service.

On July 15th Rev. Kenneth Estey supplied in the absence of our pastor who assisted Friedens Evangelical Church in North Tonawanda celebrate its 45th anniversary.

Summer time is picnic time. St. Paul's had its share of them. Four of the outstanding picnics were Ladies' Aid at Genesee Valley Park, Sunday School Basket Picnic at Ontario Beach Park, Old Timers' Picnic in July at Kern's Grove and a chicken dinner served by the Brotherhood at Ellison Park. This last event was followed by a vesper service.

1934 seems to be a year of anniversaries for St. Paul's. Our kindly president, Mr. William Ofslager and Mrs. Ofslager celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary in June. Our best wishes and God's richest blessing.

At the end of the summer the Young People's League participated in the convention of New York State District Young People at Lake Erie Camp. The convention theme was "Our Relationship with other Races". Rev. Hoefer conducted the High Council Fire Ceremony Sunday evening, September 2nd.

It was a great joy to the people of St. Paul's to learn that such a large delegation of our men attended the third annual churchmen's retreat at Dunkirk, N.Y. at the close of the summer season. Many beneficial results have been observed.

AUTUMN

Autumn seems to be the busiest season of the year for St. Paul's people. In last September a group of young people between the ages of 14 and 18 formed a Youth Chorus. They assist the senior choir the last Sunday of each month. They also make a study of the religious drama.

St. Paul's Symposium is the name given to our newest church organization. Any person over 21 years of age is eligible to membership. The last Sunday of each month a supper meeting and symposium is conducted at 5:30. Mr. William Ordway is its first president. We hope that the youngest of our organizations will succeed and prosper.

September 30th marked annual promotion day in the Sunday School. It proved to be very unusual, due to the number of changes in the staff. Mr. William Walch succeeded Superintendent Henry Hieb whose resignation brought to a close a term of nineteen years of unbroken faithful service. It is a rare distinction never to have missed a Sunday. St. Paul's congregation thanks Mr. Hieb for his untiring efforts and loyalty throughout such a long term of years. Miss Anna Weber, Mrs. Heim, Mrs. Judd, Miss Eleanore Hofmeier and Miss Emily Meyer completed various lengths of years of satisfactory service. Theirs have been exemplary lives for the youth of St. Paul's to follow. We thank them for their efficient work. Mr. Wehlin was chosen vice-president and Mrs. George Hoffman principal of the Beginners' Department.

Rally Sunday attendance went beyond our expectations in both Sunday School and church worship. We welcomed into our membership nine new members.

Six churches of the Evangelical and Reformed denomination decided to conduct their ingathering for pledges of church support as a simultaneous venture. We, with the five other churches, were solicited by our budget committee. The combined contributing membership of the six churches is approximately 4200.

Our three Guilds have been busily working during the year for the interest and good of St. Paul's. The deaconesses as in the past have worked untiringly for the upbuilding of their church. Our choirs are to be congratulated for the splendid service they have rendered. We thank the Tree & Shrubbery Committee for their part in helping beautify our church grounds.

Circus days proved to be happy days for young and old. The Circus parade was enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to be able to view it. Shall we ever forget Brown's Brass Band, the tight-rope walkers, fearless bare-back riders, fireeater, unsurpassed clowns, museum, picture and shooting gallery, ferocious wild animals, trapeze performers, stage coach hold-up and rescue, Siamese twins, fat lady, fortune tellers, eats, pink lemonade, movies, doll show, young popularity contestants, winged bat and other talented performers too numerous to mention? Thanks to Mrs. Hoefer, Mr. Schwab and their able helpers for their untiring efforts to make this new venture such a real success.

Another anniversary - Rev. Hoefer was anniversary speaker at the Golden Jubilee celebration of his former church in Papineau, Ill. October 21st. Rev. K. Estey had charge of our services in his absence.

Mrs. R. Meinhart is St. Paul's oldest member. She celebrated her 92nd birthday Wed. October 24th. Congratulations and best wishes!

One Sunday each month a special service was held at 7:45 o'clock in our church auditorium. A question box received inquiries which our pastor sought to answer. 15 minutes was allotted to this part of the service. "This Sport of Living" was the topic discussed at the first service. An exhibit of sport articles was one of its features.

Bibles of all sizes, age and language were gathered by our members for a Bible Sunday service in December, marking the 400th anniversary of the Luther Bible translation. Some of the books were heirlooms, having been in the family use for four generations. Luther's translation made the Bible accessible to all and the Lord's supper was made an open sacrament.

Services were conducted in our church Thanksgiving morning at 9 o'clock. The sermon topic was "Thanksgiving - a Holiday or a Holy Day". Baskets were distributed which gave happiness to the unfortunate.

1934 Christmas season was an unusually cheery one for our congregation. The secret lay in the following out of the old adage - "Giving is more blessed than receiving". Ours being a giving Christmas, we rightly called it a White Gift Christmas.

Let us enumerate a few of our gifts:

1. Christmas carols were sung on Christmas eve to the sick and shut-ins.
2. Christmas music was broadcast from our church tower during the holiday season.
3. Members were privileged to give a Christmas offering for the upbuilding of their church.
4. White Gift presentations were given by all departments of the Sunday School for home and foreign mission work of our denomination.
5. The Christmas choir gave of its time and energy - the Christmas Story was sung, with Mr. Betz directing.
6. Large Christmas baskets went from St. Paul's to bring cheer to eight families of our church.
7. The Christmas tree was also a gift. The Stephany family gladdened the hearts of all by presenting such a large beautiful evergreen to their church for the beautification of the sanctuary.

This year the pastor and council gave the German-speaking members of our congregation the rare treat of singing a German Christmas song - "O Du Froliche". It brought back fond memories of some of us "Old Timers".

Our giving brought us a rich reward. We received into our church family eight new members at the close of the year. The year 1934 was closed with a beautiful and inspiring evening service; the theme being "The Life of Christ". After seeing and reviewing carefully the motion pictures on our Savior's life, loaned to us by the Rev. Henry Erbes of Trinity Lutheran Church, an open forum, conducted by Rev. Hoefer, was enjoyed by many participants. Thus ended a happy, blessed year for St. Paul's family.

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST PAUL'S 1935 HISTORY

Let us consider briefly a few of the many happenings in the 73rd year of St. Paul's active life. We'll call to mind some of the contributions made by each of the 12 months.

January had the distinction of celebrating "Everybody's Birthday Party". This was a banquet of the months. The celebrants in each month provided entertainment for the entire group. Shall we ever forget this joyful occasion? Remember - "The Snowball Fight", "Father Valentine", "The Lion and Lamb", "April Showers", "May Pole Dance", "June Wedding", "Fourth of July Fireworks", "August Camping Party", "September Schooldays", "Thanksgiving Tales" and last but not least good, old, generous Santa with his bag of gifts. Let's hope each January in the future will have such a treat in store for St. Paul's family.

At the annual congregation meeting councilmen and deaconesses were elected. Reports from all organizations were read. A pastoral report and an historical sketch were given. The congregation voted to grant our pastor a 6-months leave of absence, beginning in the spring of 1936. Refreshments were served. A goodly number of members were present.

The debate, "Resolved that the Townsend Old Age Pension Plan is desirable" was an outstanding Brotherhood event for January.

The following were elected to the presidency of our various organizations:

Altar Society - Mrs. Hubert Groth
 Brotherhood - Mr. John Bareis
 Young People's League - Miss Marie Kothiringer
 Symposium - Mr. William Ordway
 Senior Choir - Mr. Harris Webster

"Quiet Hour", to be conducted by-monthly, was instituted by the Young People's League.

The following pledged allegiance at an installation service January 20:

Elder - Adolph Knoll, Trustee - Herman Howelsen
Deacons - Messrs. Gross, Bareis, Brown
Deaconesses - Mesdames Weismiller, Goetz, Kitts, Gardner, Chard,
 Dutchess and Miss B. Pagels.

FEBRUARY: The Old Timers' Club celebrated its second anniversary on Lincoln's Birthday at a supper meeting. An evening of fellowship was enjoyed by more than 100 members.

On Sunday morning, February 10th, the Adeline Yaucld altar hangings were dedicated. They represent a memorial to the late Adeline Yaucld and were given by her sister, Mrs. Harry Merritt.

The Joash or Penny-A-Meal boxes arrived in February.

First Church and Family Night took place in the church parlors February 20th. A clam chowder supper was enjoyed by all. Later in the evening slides of Dunkirk family week were shown as was the famous Log Book.

An unusual service took place Sunday evening, February 17th, when Rev. James C. Taylor and his colored choir were presented.

The Brotherhood gave much pleasure to St. Paul's when they staged the "Vodril Show". John Baries was the efficient manager.

The following officers were elected to serve in St. Paul's church council for 1935:

Albert Meili, Sr., President; Earl Gommenginger, vice-president;
Ralph Boss, Secretary; Adolph Fauth, Treasurer; Henry Heib, Financial Secretary; Adolph Knoll, Benevolent Treasurer.

MARCH: March was the month when our Altar Society visited St. John's Home for the Aged. The people at the home were made happy by this annual gathering and by the partaking of food.

Our Lenten worship services began in March. The worship attendance far exceeded our expectations. The average attendance for the mid-week services was 322.6 and for the Sunday morning services 380.1.

The Sunday School worked diligently, and by March had equipped (within two dozen) the rear auditorium with oak chairs which match our church furniture. The contributors deserve a big "thank you"!

Over \$100 was received in March from the Penny-A-Meal boxes.

APRIL: It was with sorrow that the family of St. Paul's heard of the passing of its oldest member, Mrs. R. Meinhart. She departed this life April 10, 1935 in her 94th year.

The annual confirmation reunion service on Palm Sunday evening was in charge of the Old Timers' Club. A 12-candle candelabrum was placed on the altar, one candle for each of the pastors who had confirmed classes in St. Paul's during the 73 years of her history. Representatives of confirmation classes of all pastorates except the first were present to light candles in honor of the pastors who confirmed them. President Meili brought greetings and Patriarch Krase conducted a portion of the worship. The Old Timers' Choir sang.

Holy Week in St. Paul's was a most impressive one. On Wednesday evening there was a preparatory communion service. Good Friday evening German and English communion service was held. On Easter Sunday morning the following services were held:

7:00 A.M. - Lily Memorial and Communion
8:30 A.M. - Easter breakfast for all, served by the Willing Workers
9:15 A.M. - Sunday School service in sanctuary
10:30 A.M. - Easter worship, communion and reception of new members (10).

Our hearts were gladdened by the numerous gifts received during the Easter season. More than 2 dozen chairs for our auditorium were given by individual members in memory or honor of some loved ones. Our 1935 confirmation class presented two flood lights to be used to illuminate the altar for evening worship service. The Ruth Guild of the Altar Society was faithful in caring for the altar and providing flowers during the Lenten season. Space does not allow the enumeration of the many other gifts for which St. Paul's is most grateful. Many thanks to all.

MAY: May 15th the Rochester Ministerial Association considered the question of church publicity and elected officers. The meeting was held in the Colgate Rochester Divinity School. We from St. Paul's were happy to learn that our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, was elected to the vice-presidency of that association. Congratulations to our leader.

Wednesday, May 22, a cafeteria supper was sponsored by the Sunday School for the purpose of raising funds to help with the expenses of sending pupils and teachers to the Evangelical Leadership Training School and to the Dunkirk Camps.

JUNE: On Pentecost holy communion was celebrated.

The New York District Conference convened in Salem Church, North Tonawanda, June 11 - 14. Rev. Hoefer and Mr. Herman Pommerening represented our St. Paul's. "A Church that would redeem the world must first redeem itself in a spirit of repentance" was the outstanding conviction of the group.

Wednesday evening, June 12th, St. Paul's family and friends spent "An Evening in Japan". It was most unique and everyone enjoyed his short stay in the island country.

We were happy to have with us on Children's Day William Walch, Jr. who is preparing himself for the ministry in Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis.

The Vacation Church School held morning sessions again this year as in previous years. Rev. Hoefer was the director, assisted by young ladies of the church. There were appropriate closing exercises as in past years.

JULY: On the first Sunday in July, in the absence of our pastor, William Walch, Jr. conducted the worship service. This was the first sermon preached by William in his home church. It also was the first time in the history of St. Paul's that the pulpit was occupied by one of the native sons of the church. The topic of the sermon was, "Whom Do We Serve"?

July 14th marked the 10th anniversary of the ordination of our pastor into the Christian ministry. The anniversary was observed with a special sermon, "Reflections After a Decade in the Ministry".

The annual retreat for Evangelical and Reformed men was held in Dunkirk July 20 - 21. Mr. Walch and Mr. Meili were the leaders. We regret that St. Paul's did not have the distinction, as in previous years, of having the largest delegation.

Genesee Valley Park was the playground chosen for our annual Sunday School and church outing. The date was Saturday, July 27th.

Five of our young ladies attended the Evangelical Leadership Training School at Dunkirk July 22 to August 2. Rev. Hoefer taught a course in Home Missions at the school.

One of St. Paul's faithful sons, William Rocktaschel, was in line for congratulations. It made one and all of our family very happy to know that we had an efficient physician, with offices of his own, in our midst. We extended our best wishes to Dr. William Rocktaschel.

AUGUST: Our congregation was happy to again greet Rev. and Mrs. John Hoefer, parents of our pastor. Rev. Hoefer, Sr. preached the sermon Sunday morning, August 18th. St. Paul's was most grateful for this service. The following day the two Hoefer families started on their way for Dunkirk Camp where they enjoyed a week of fellowship and rest. Although Family Week at Dunkirk held many attractions for the vacationist, not many of our people availed themselves of the splendid opportunity. Those who were present at the camp returned home with pleasant memories and intentions of repeating the journey in '36.

SEPTEMBER: Mr. Herman Howelsen, our new sexton, assumed his duties September 1st.

The young people of the New York District gathered at the Lake Erie Conference grounds, Dunkirk, for their annual convention. Many of our young people attended.

Youth Sunday was observed in our church September 8th. A splendid program was prepared under the direction of Thelma Mielke. Every autumn St. Paul's conducts a youth service in which the ideals for a Christian philosophy of life are stressed.

The Women's Union of the District convened at Dunkirkⁱⁿ September. Our Altar Society was well represented. Mrs. Herbert Groth was official delegate.

Confirmation instruction, as is customary in St. Paul's, was begun in September.

The Rochester Regional Conference met in St. Luke's Church, Auburn, N.Y., September 24 and 25. Our various organizations sent representatives.

Rev. Hoefer planned a helpful series of worship services and sermons for the Sundays of September and October. They were entitled, "A Christian in Action".

September 29th was again time for the Penny-A-Meal boxes to be emptied. More than \$400 had been dropped into the Joash chests up to that date, a substantial sum toward the reduction of the church debt.

The Mission Boards of the Evangelical and Reformed church published an attractive booklet called "New World Horizons". Our members, interested in the Union, purchased one at the small cost of 5¢ and gained valuable information.

Mr. Max Volkman, senior student at the Divinity School, became teacher of the Brotherhood Class September 22nd. He signified willingness to assist Rev. Hoefer with the Sunday morning services twice a month and also to give aid, when time allowed, to the different organizations of the church. We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Volkman.

OCTOBER: 1400 Protestant leaders of Monroe County gathered in a great assembly October 1st to usher in the United Church Loyalty Crusade. Nearly every church in Rochester was represented, St. Paul's included.

Church and Family Night was observed October 23rd. All enjoyed a good old-fashioned sing and our pastor spoke on "Hurrah! for What?" The following Wednesday the Old Timers' Club frolicked at a Halloween Social.

The church was most grateful to Mrs. Christine Weick who made and donated the robes for the Elders and also to the choir for giving the organist's gown. Mrs. William Krase donated a fine chair for the Kozy Korner. We thank the kind donor. We appreciate also the generosity of the Talbots, Kerns, Smiths and Druselmans. The vegetables and fruits helped to beautify our Harvest Altar. Thanks to the Ruth Guild for the arrangement thereof.

NOVEMBER: The Loyalty Crusade began November 3rd with Roll Call Sunday. We were overjoyed with the great number present. Our church is grateful to the visitors who called upon our entire membership. The services on the three following Sundays, Family Day, Neighbors Day and Stewardship Sunday, were all inspirational in character.

November brought more gifts for our church; New curtains in the lower auditorium purchased by the Primary - Beginners Departments of the Sunday School and the Brotherhood; jardinieres donated by members of the Church Council for the plants and palms in the sanctuary; a radio for the Kozy Korner secured from friends by Clarence Brown; a jardiniere from Mrs. Kleiner and a large Bible from a friend. Hearty thanks to all givers.

The congregation acknowledged with thanks the receipt of the following gift: A painting by Charles Gruppe in memory of his aunt, Mrs. Emma Bornkessel, who served as president of our Altar Society for 44 years.

Thanksgiving services were conducted Wednesday evening, November 27th. Mr. Max Volkman preached the sermon.

DECEMBER: The first day of December fell on a Sunday. It was Symphony Day in the Loyalty Crusade. In the evening there was an unusual service. Old Hymn Night was observed by the Old Timers Choir. Mr. William Krase served as leader.

December 8th, Recruiting Day, marked the 400th anniversary of the printing of the English Bible. An appropriate evening service was held.

Goal Sunday, the final day of the Crusade, did not reach the high mark held by Roll Call Sunday; namely 447 in attendance. Nevertheless, St. Paul's did have a higher average for November and December than in previous years. It proved that a united effort can produce results or in other words, "In unity there is strength".

The new membership class of December 15th included 15 persons. A hand of hearty welcome was extended to all.

A Christmas program was presented by the Primary Section of the Sunday School on Sunday afternoon, December 22nd. The inspiring beautiful Bethlehem Scene was painted by William Ordway and wired by Arthur Koch.

A Christmas meditation at 10:00 A.M. followed by a communion service in both the German and English languages marked the worship on Christmas Day. A Christmas program by the Sunday School took place December 29, at which time Christmas carols were dramatized.

December, the last of the months, brought untold joy to the hearts of all members of St. Paul's. Words failed when we tried to express our feelings of gratitude and appreciation. A gift of \$10,000 was given in memory of Elizabeth Fisher by her brother, Philip Fisher. St. Paul's extended heartfelt thanks to this generous, loyal member.

The following gifts were also deeply appreciated:

A piano for the Primary Room of the Sunday School, donated by Katherine Luedecke.

A new palm for our chancel by Mrs. Harry Merritt.

\$25 from the Willing Workers

\$75 from the Sunday School toward the Christmas offering

The memorial altar flowers added to the beauty of the chancel. The calendar presented by Mrs. R. Kolb will continue in 1936 to offer any member or friend of St. Paul's an opportunity to remember their loved ones.

On Tuesday evening, December 31, the family of St. Paul's met from 8:00 to 11:00 for a sociable get-together. Games, songs and movies were enjoyed. At eleven o'clock all entered the sanctuary for worship. The church council shared in the service. This was a most fitting manner for our church family to celebrate the passing of the old and the entrance of the new.

May God grant that the year 1936 will be a blessed one for pastor and congregation.

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian

ST. PAUL'S 1936 HISTORY

"In Christ there is no East or West
In Him no South or North,
But one great Fellowship of Love,
Throughout the whole wide earth"

Our beloved St. Paul's church shares gladly in this great fellowship of love. We contribute generously and willingly to the larger Kingdom work. We, as a church family, have for many years been commended by our Synod for our unselfishness and our generosity.

Rev. Hoefer, in wishing his parishoners a blessed New Year, said, "May you grow in wisdom, and stature, and in that grace which makes life acceptable to God and your fellow men". He has stressed the idea that we, as a congregation and as individuals, must be conscious of the fact that we have a share in building a Christian world. He has said to us repeatedly, "God will take care of the needs of those who seek first the Kingdom".

Protestants in general are agreeing that more denominations should unite for Protestantism to become more effective.

Our pastor explained to us that we should subscribe for the Messenger - the new three-in-one weekly magazine published by the Evangelical Reformed Church for \$2 a year. Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Robert E. Spear and other learned Christian gentlemen have written some pleasing comments on the new Messenger. Rev. Hoefer feels that all his active church members should read this magazine to keep in touch with the progress that is being made by the merger of Evangelicals and Reformists.

We have been urged to read the Evangelical and Reformed Year Book to obtain a better understanding of the various kinds of work done by our denomination. Our spiritual leader has suggested that every councilman, deaconess and organization leader purchase a book and make a thorough study of it.

A four-page leaflet, "The Kingdom Spokesman", published for the promotion of Christian life and service by the Evangelical and Reformed Church, is filled with inspiration and news. We are advised to give careful thought to this tiny messenger.

Our church participated in the Evangelical Reformed debt elimination campaign October 25 to November 15. Some of our people pledged a tenth of their income for two weeks, others placed their offerings in envelopes, especially provided at Roll Call service, November 8th. The combined pledges and offerings amounted to \$300. We were happy to be able to cooperate with 1200 other churches in this worthwhile Christian enterprise.

The Federation of Churches in the Rochester area launches its annual finance campaign in April. The city was divided into eight districts, each with a sectional captain. Our Rev. Hoefer was chosen captain of Section 8, which included St. Paul Blvd. and Irondequoit section. We were overjoyed when we discovered that our congregation was the first in Section 8 to subscribe its quota in full.

The Preaching Mission, a spiritual re-dedication of Protestant churches in America, was observed in Rochester November 15 - 20. Our church acted as host to the churches in the northern section of the city on Tuesday evening, November 17th.

We of St. Paul's are proud of the fact that we have as our representative on the Board of Directors at St. John's Home for the Aged a loyal, energetic, untiring member, Mr. Albert Meili, Sr. Our membership has risen to 35 which places us second among all affiliating churches. Congratulations and thank-you, Mr. Meili.

Our Altar Society brought joy to the people at the Aged Home when they entertained them with the presentation of the stewardship play, "The Trial of Mrs. E. Z. Going".

Whenever cooperation is displayed among sister churches, it gladdens our hearts. Our Young People of the Evangelical and Reformed Rochester churches made the presentation of a play possible in a unique way. Salem Church furnished the building. Trinity Church furnished the play, St. Paul's the tickets and ushers, Dewey Ave. refreshments, and Christ Church advertising and programs. The proceeds of the venture were given for the beautification of the Dunkirk Conference grounds.

The People's Rescue Mission was remembered by many donations from St. Paul's in its 1936 financial campaign. On St. Paul's night at the mission, March 17th, Mr. Albert Meili, Sr. gave an address. Our Sunday School staff served refreshments. The mission was very grateful for the services rendered.

Our Sunday School staff sponsored a cafeteria supper to raise funds to help send children and young people to the Dunkirk Summer Camps. All young people desiring to attend summer conferences receive financial aid from our church.

A group of our young people attended the Evangelical Reformed Youth Rally at Cedar Springs, near Scottsville. Ruth Stoll of the Young People's League reported on the State Youth Conference held in Rochester.

Mrs. Clem Kummer was St. Paul's representative at the New York District Conference which convened in Salem Church, Rochester. A number of our ladies were present at the annual District Conference of the Women's Union at Dunkirk. Mrs. Sophie Lemon acted as official delegate.

Messrs. Albert Meili, Sr., William Ofslager, Williah Walch and Albert Groth represented St. Paul's at the Brotherhood District Conference in Dunkirk.

Rev. Hoefer, through the Rochester Federation Radio Hour, gladdened the hearts of his parishoners and also Rochester shut-ins when he spoke over WHAM. The narratives of his experiences in Europe were entertaining and inspiring.

I feel that the following lines, which are a few of many printed in a Rochester daily newspaper April 20, 1936, probably escaped being read by many members of our congregation. They ought to be of real interest to all of us:

"Biographies of 23 Rochesterians are included in Volume 2 of America's Young Men, which is scheduled for publication this month. This book, heralded by the publishers as "the official Who's Who among men under 45 years of age", lists 6,010 individuals of "distinguished achievements in industry, government, commerce, economics, science, art, education, agriculture and the professions".

Twenty-two names are recorded who are Rochesterians. Only two of this list are ministers - Rev. Whitney Yeople of Lake Avenue Baptist Church and our highly esteemed pastor, Rev. Elmer Hoefer. Knowing this to be a great honor, I, as church historian, have recorded it in our 1936 church history. Congratulations from St. Paul's, Rev. Hoefer!

Before we take note of a few of many outstanding services conducted in our sanctuary in 1936, let us pause and meditate on a paragraph written by our pastor and found in one of our 1936 Sunday morning bulletins:

"The reverence and dignity of the worship service is often marred by the lack of cooperation on the part of some worshippers. Hymns are to be sung or silently read by everyone; the Scripture Lesson is read that it may be listened to; the Call to Worship indicates the requirement of reverence and silence in the sanctuary."

German worship services were held from 8:45 to 9:15 A.M. on the first Sunday of each month. It was regretted by pastor and council that so few attended these services.

St. Paul's 1936 Lenten devotionals centered about "The Cross". Space and time does not permit me to stop and dwell on the inspiring and soul-uplifting messages, but I shall call to mind the topic of each of the sermon addresses

Ash Wednesday, the first of the services, "A Pilgrimage to Calvary"
March 4 - "The Cross as Truth"
March 11 - "The Cross & Prayer"
March 18 - "The Cross & Daily Life"
March 25 - "The Cross & Divine Love"
April 1 - "The Cross Bearers"
April 8 - "The Cross & Death"

A Communion Preparatory Service was conducted at the last Lenten devotional and the record showed by the Lenten Loyalty Cards at the conclusion of the Lenten season was very encouraging. About 40 cards scored perfect attendance and 70 an attendance of more than 80%. Rev. Hoefer urged our people to attend the noonday Lenten service held every day at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. These uplifting devotionals were sponsored by the Federation of Churches.

The examination of the confirmands in church history, the Bible, catechism and the fundamentals of faith took place Sunday evening, March 29th, instead of during the morning worship service as was the custom in previous years. The presentation of the class to the church was made in the morning.

On Palm Sunday, April 5th., there were two services. The rites of confirmation for 15 confirmands at the morning worship and the reunion of former confirmation classes in the evening. The Old Timers of St. Paul's were in charge of the service. The Old Timers' choir sang and the sermon was delivered by Rev. Paul Schneider, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church. During the rededication service the classes for 10 year periods stood, while a representative of their number read an assigned Scripture verse. There were 513 persons present at the morning service and 194 present at the evening service.

German and English communion services were conducted Good Friday evening.

At the 7:00 o'clock Easter Lily Memorial and Communion Service, there was a roll call of St. Paul's perpetual members. Sunday School session was at 9:15, which was followed by an Easter sermon, communion and reception of new members. 468 persons partook of Holy Communion on Good Friday and Easter. Also, fourteen sick communions were administered. Rev. Hoefer reminded his parishoners that communion is a positive requirement for membership in the church.

The offering received in the Easter envelopes was more than \$200.

Two deaconesses are assigned to greet visitors at the close of each Sunday morning service. Their purpose is to be friendly and helpful to visitors and make them feel at home in St. Paul's.

The Sunday morning service May 17, 1936 was a happy and still a sad occasion. It was the last service at which our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, would officiate before starting on his sabbatical leave. We were sad when we thought of the long separation, yet glad because we knew that Rev. Hoefer was eager to gain real facts, truths and knowledge of world conditions and, if God so willed, return to us and share with us his wide experiences. One of the hymns we sang at that last service, "Be Strong and Trust in God", was heeded by our Leader and his followers. The months slipped by rapidly and now we are happily reunited and again able to work together in God's Kingdom.

During Rev. Hoefer's sojourn in Europe, our summer pulpit supply committed secured the services of the following speakers for June, July, August and September:

Mr. Max Volkmann, senior at Rochester Colgate Divinity School
 Rev. Theodore Trost, Librarian at Colgate Divinity School
 Prof. Theophil Menzel of Eden Seminary, who was acting pastor from
 June 12 to August 14
 Mr. Hubert F. Baker, Supt. of Rescue Mission
 Mr. William Walch, Jr., member of St. Paul's and senior at Eden College
 Mr. William Walch, Sr. who is Supt. of our Sunday School

Communion was celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 31st, with Rev. Trost officiating.

Mr. Max Volkmann who completed his course at Colgate Rochester Divinity School in June is now studying at Yale University. We enjoyed having Mr. Volkmann in our church as Brotherhood teacher and assistant Sunday mornings to Rev. Hoefer. St. Paul's thanked Mr. Volkmann for his kind services and wished him happiness in his new work.

Prof. Menzel and family resided at the parsonage from June 12th to August 16th. During this time - July 20 to July 31- he taught at the E.L.T.S. at Dunkirk.

During the summer months our church services began at 10 o'clock. Sunday school started at the customary time - 9:15 A.M.

All St. Paulites appreciated Rev. Menzel's sincerity in his work and his loyalty to his friend, Rev. Hoefer. His sermons, "The Healing Power of Honesty", "Christianity Against the World", "The Life That Failed", "God the Father", "The Fellowship of Hatred", "Where Do You Live", "Dodging Myself", "Quality First in Religion" and lastly "The Power of Expectancy", showed his eagerness to impart lasting

impressions and to give to us truths that would help us to live nobler lives and combat the many obstacles which confront us daily as we travel through this world of present unrest and confusion. Many members showed their loyalty to their church and pastor, Rev. Hoefer, by attending these soul-uplifting sermons. We were grateful to Mrs. Menzel also who, in Mr. Betz's absence, so kindly consented to be his substitute. Her execution was excellent and the music rendered was planned to work in appropriately with Rev. Menzel's part in the service. Rev. Menzel's last service for St. Paul's was speaking on "God the Supreme Artist" at a vesper service sponsored by our congregation at the Colgate Rochester Divinity School.

A cordial welcome was extended to William Walch, Jr., one of our own church family. William's sermons, "Worthy of Christ", "Strengthening the Soul", "Building Walls" and "Freeman or Slave", contained beautiful thoughts and were delivered in a superior manner. We who heard William's messages were deeply impressed with the sincerity, humility and kindness of the young student. We, as a congregation, and as individuals, are justly proud of William, and we extend our best wishes for a future filled with happiness and success.

Those of our congregation who absented themselves from the summer Sunday morning worship services not only lost the opportunity of hearing worthwhile sermons delivered by conscientious Christian gentlemen, but also the thrill when we opened our folded bulletins and there saw greetings from Rev. & Mrs. Hoefer. The first of these was written, "On Board S.S. Pennland", June 4, 1936 and was printed on June 28, 1936 bulletin. It was filled with interesting facts and humor. July 12th we were pleasantly surprised to find even a longer message from our pastor. This time it was from the land of ice and snow - written while on the steamer "Drowning Maude", June 19th. Again August 2 the message we read said, "Time to leave Norway". On a later bulletin we were happy to note the announcement of a series of Travel Chats to be given by Rev. Hoefer when he returned. Also, the article gave many interesting facts about countries visited.

Rally and Reunion Sunday, October 4th, was one filled with great happiness. Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer were again back in our midst. The service was beautiful. The choir rendered an anthem and our soprano soloist, Mrs. M. Webber, sang "How Lovely are Thy Dwellings". Rev. Hoefer's sermon, "The Eternal Word in a World of Change", Isaiah 40:8, was very impressive and thought-provoking. The hymn of renewed religion, "Let us Brothers, Let us Gladly" was sung fervently by all. The Altar Society Guilds beautified the sanctuary by placing a basket of flowers on the altar. This was an expression of "Welcome Home". Rev. Hoefer said, "God has been good and gracious. To Him be the praise and glory. To us the challenge to ever greater service in His Kingdom. The good ship St. Paul is hardly aware that the captain was off the bridge for a while. This is one of the greatest rewards that a minister can experience; namely, that the spirit of Christian leadership follows through".

Beginning October 11th and continuing every Sunday evening, save two, until the New Year, Rev. Hoefer conducted a series of informal services in the Sunday School auditorium. In these services Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer shared with us many of their European experiences. Pictures, songs, souvenirs, costumes and lantern slides were used to illustrate the travel chats. The trip across the Atlantic was the theme of the first chat. Rev. Hoefer introduced us to many of the passengers aboard the Pennland, through description and screen pictures. Varieties of personalities was the picture we drew. Laughter was at its height

much of the time during Rev. Hoefer's discourse. One day spent in the Land of Tulips closed the evening program. The attendance soared over the 200 mark.

October 18 dealt with Denmark and Sweden. Rev. Hoefer tried to make us understand how these countries are trying through producers and consumers to avoid the extreme in Communism and Fascism.

October 25 the travel chat was omitted. Our church united with more than 30 Lutheran, Evangelical and Reformed churches in a Protestant Reformation Festival in Salem Church. Prof. A. R. Wentz of the Lutheran Seminary of Gettysburg delivered the sermon.

The travel chats November 1st and 8th brought us into the Land of the Midnight Sun. Mrs. Hoefer, charming in her Norwegian costume, narrated interesting facts about Norwegian life and gave a Norwegian reading, accompanied by Mrs. William Lohler as pianist. Second lecture on the Land of Fiords, Rev. Hoefer briefly discussed the International Sunday School Convention at Oslo.

Travel chats five and six were so informative of the present life in Russia that the lecture hour passed far too quickly for the attentive listeners. We were grateful that it was a Rabbi's book of valuable notes and not our pastor's that disappeared so mysteriously.

Germany was the next country to be introduced at travel chats on November 29th and December 6th. "The Lot of the Jew and the Christian in Modern Germany" was beautifully and skillfully handled by our pastor. It was of great interest to hear about Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer's visit to the land of Oberammergau and to the home of Anton Lang. We were privileged to examine a display of Oberammergau wood carvings.

December 13th, the last of the travel chats for the year 1936, we toured with Rev. Hoefer through the Black Forest - southern Germany.

Sunday morning October 25th, Reformation Festival, we celebrated Holy Communion and received into membership seven new parishoners.

November 8th was Roll Call Sunday in St. Paul's. Every member was asked to be present and turn in a Roll Call card. This card was to be signed to signify intention to continue loyal membership in St. Paul's church.

November 15th and 22nd were designated as Pledge Ingathering Sundays. \$3600 was pledged at the first Ingathering but much to our disappointment the hammer did not reach the goal bell. St. Paul's Council must therefore regretfully resort to special collections during the year 1937.

Services were held in our sanctuary Thanksgiving morning from 9:00 to 10:00 o'clock. Rev. Hoefer's sermon was entitled "A Thanksgiving Message from a Russian Pastor in Prison". Those who were unable to be present in their own church were urged to attend Union services in the Eastman Theatre. Rev. Dr. Charles Gilkey of Chicago was the speaker.

The first Sunday in Advent St. Paul's commemorated the 35th anniversary of Mr. Betz as church organist and choirmaster. All former choir members were asked to sit in the front center pews of the church auditorium. Our Council president, Mr. John Bareis, extended a congratulatory message to Mr. Betz. Mr. Clarence

Brown, one of our kindly deacons, presented Mr. Betz with a beautiful fountain pen, a gift of the Council. A gorgeous basket of flowers adorned the organ and carried with it congratulations and best wishes of the Council and members of St. Paul's. A Litany to Song was led by Mr. Carl Hedeon, a student at Colgate Rochester Divinity School and assistant to Rev. Hoefer at Sunday morning worship services. Two anthems were beautifully rendered by a good sized choir. Rev. Hoefer's sermon, "A Singing Religion", Job 38:6-7, was appropriately planned.

December 20th marked the date for the Christmas Program of Songs and recitations by the beginners and primary departments in the church auditorium. The junior carolers brought joy to shut-ins by caroling from six to eight-thirty in the evening.

Christmas Day St. Paul's held two morning services for its members. German Christmas worship was from nine to ten o'clock and English service of Christmas praise from ten to eleven. Rev. Hoefer preached the German sermon, and William Walch, Jr. brought the English message. Rev. Hoefer reminded us that Christmas is the priceless gift of the church to the world. We dare not allow the world to make over this heritage from God into a cheap, commercial Roman Holiday. We can keep the Christ in Christmas by keeping it a Holy Day. A goodly number of St. Paulites were present at these Christmas morning services.

The last Sunday evening in 1936 the Sunday School sponsored a Christmas Carol and Candlelight service in the church sanctuary. The entire congregation and friends were invited to be present at this inspiring service of song and recitation. The Christmas carols which were sung at this service were published by the Federation of Churches of Rochester and Monroe County.

We shall now reminisce on a few of the 1936 social events:

In January occurred the church's birthday party when the "Wooden Man" made its first appearance. He was partly released from his shackles by a questioning audience.

The Old Timers Club commemorated its third anniversary January 30th. A banquet supper was served which was enjoyed by all.

The Old Timers held a get together in November. Mr. Ordway was in charge of the program and Mr. Krase presided. Mr. Henry Betz was its honored guest who was pleasantly surprised by the rendition of several musical numbers by the Old Timers Quartet, all of whom formerly sang in Mr. Betz' choir when the church was located on Fitzhugh Street. Movies of Old Timers were shown by Mr. William Lohler.

The Brotherhood had many exciting, thrilling and merry evenings in 1936. One of unusual interest was the winter drive to Mendon Ponds. Good eats, tobogganing and skiing were enjoyed.

Dads and Lads had a good time at their dinner last spring. James Corbett let the singing and Max Volkmann was speaker.

The Brotherhood gave the rest of the folks a happy time and good eats when they sponsored a sausage roast on the church grounds last summer.

It was just too bad the weather did not permit many of us to attend the Jiggs Supper. Those who were fortunate enough to be present reported the undertaking was a big success.

The Altar Society was more courageous than many of our church organizations were in 1936. They sponsored a picnic at Ontario Beach Park and made a success of it. Congratulations! They also gave everyone good food and an evening of happy fellowship at their sausage roast on the church property - Jewell Street. It was the first picnic supper of the summer season.

The Fall Rally luncheon of the Altar Society gave much joy to many ladies of our church. It was an occasion of much rejoicing. Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer were welcomed back into the fold after a five-months' absence.

In October a chicken supper was served by the Ladies Aid. All guests were urged to remain to hear Dr. Erick Voeringer, Missionary of the Bremen Mission Society. He is stationed on the west coast of Africa. Dr. Voeringer's message was unique. All who remained were happily surprised to hear such an unusual, instructive and still very entertaining lecture.

One of St. Paul's church and family nights was sponsored by the officers of all its organizations. Members and friends of St. Paul were invited. It was a "Bon Voyage" family night in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Hoefer who would shortly sail on the Pennland for a five months leave of absence in Europe. Each organization of the church, from the youngest to the oldest, participated in the program. A fight of currency was presented to Pastor & Mrs. Hoefer. Everyone who was present has memories of an enjoyable evening.

The Symposium, meeting monthly, has been very fortunate in securing the services of many superior speakers. It is the general opinion of all outside the workings of the Symposium that the eats must be on a par with the speakers.

The Young People's League worked out a welcome party for the 1936 confirmation class. The classes of the past three years were also especially invited. We heard that a pleasant evening made the venture a success. The League was privileged to be the recipient of many interesting and instructive lectures by Rev. Hoefer since his return from abroad. This society was reorganized this year. All young people over confirmation age are eligible to membership in the League.

We were happy to read in one of our daily newspapers this notice: "Troop 9 of St. Paul's Evangelical Church held a Court of Honor in troop headquarters in conjunction with the meeting of the church Brotherhood, sponsor of the troop. Robert Fuerst received the Eagle Scout badge". He is St. Paul's first Scout to be thus honored. Robert also received another award, "Bronze Eagle Palm". J.D. Kelley is our scoutmaster".

Our Sunday School presented an interesting program at a pre-Lenten church and family night. A three-act play written by one of its teachers, Miss Alice Gleisle, was presented in the interest of Dunkirk Camp.

Mr. Albert Meili, Sr. Mrs. E. Weismiller and Mrs. H. Howaisen served on the Rescue Mission Council for 1936. They were elected by the Sunday School staff.

All St. Paul's Guilds are to be congratulated on the various undertakings they have so successfully made materialize.

We appreciate the loyalty of the majority of our choir members who help to beautify our services.

Our deaconesses are to be thanked for the many visitations of cheer and good will they have so willingly made.

GIFTS

Mr. Jacob Kern, one of our faithful Old Timers, celebrated his 80th birthday June 23rd. He remembered the "Birthday Fund" with a gift. St. Paul's is grateful for Mr. Kern's generous spirit.

Mr. Christopher Peters, one of St. Paul's oldest members, passed on peacefully Sunday, May 17, 1936. In June a gift of \$25 was given our church in a loving birthday remembrance by his daughter, Mrs. Edward Weismiller.

Mr. Fred Keller, who died June 7, 1936, was a life-long member of St. Paul's. He was an officer of the Old Timers Club at the time of his death. He memorialized his Christian life by leaving \$1000 to his church.

The piano of the late Mrs. Arthur Bush who departed this earth February 12th was donated by her husband and son, Harris Webster, to our church as an Easter gift. We appreciate the giving of so fine an instrument.

The confirmation class presented the church with a new damenport for the Kozy Korner.

The suitable covering on the platform in the Sunday School auditorium was purchased by the Sunday School. We are grateful and also thank Mr. Albert Groth and Mr. Herman Howisen for the laying of same.

The Primary and Beginners' Departments gave an Easter gift of \$50 to the church, to be used for the reduction of the mortgage on our church property. We thank them sincerely for their generosity.

St. Paul's received many Christmas gifts. We are most grateful to the Sunday School for a gift of \$100, the Young People's League for \$10 and the Willing Workers for \$25.

All of the organizations of the church have responded when the Council felt it necessary to ask aid. Among those who have given generously are the Altar Society, \$500 and the Brotherhood, \$75. What would St. Paul's do without her organizations?

St. Paul's Council wishes at this time to thank all the members and friends of St. Paul who have given individually to the many needs of the church and also who responded so generously to the call for the Christmas Pantry and toys for the nursery; to those who have helped to beautify our services by the purchasing of memorial Altar flowers, and to the ladies who had charge of the arranging of same. The many services rendered are too numerous to mention, so a big thank you to everyone for all kindnesses shown.

A new Floor and Debt Reduction Campaign was inaugurated last spring. Pledges were received and recorded on the Diamond Chart in the rear vestibule. Friendly cooperation reigned, but sufficient funds were not forthcoming to lay the floor during the summer months. \$200 was paid off on our church indebtedness however. We hope to report the official dedication of the new floor in the early part of 1937.

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The year 1936 ended in St. Paul's church New Years Eve with an evening of fellowship and a worship service. From 8:30 to 11:30 group singing was enjoyed, five reels of movies of Germany were shown, and Deutsches Gebaeck and Kaffee were sampled generously. A devotional service was conducted the last half hour of the year in the sanctuary. We pray God that 1937 may be closed in as beautiful a manner.

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST PAUL'S 1937 HISTORY

(75th Anniversary Year)

January 21, 1937 St. Paul's Evangelical & Reformed Church held its annual congregation meeting. Plans for the 75th Anniversary of the church were presented and discussed. Monthly German services were to be abolished, due to poor attendance. The trustees, with a committee from the congregation, were appointed to make a study of the desirability of exchanging the Saranac parsonage for a more adequate one.

Rev. Hoefer continued, during January Sunday evenings, his series of travel chats, (Switzerland, the Alpine Paradise; France and Belgium) and also spoke over the radio on his summer experiences in Europe.

A new floor in our church basement was officially dedicated January 13, 1937

Our church observed the Passion of our Lord each Wednesday evening with appropriate services. Rev. Hoefer spoke at the three-hour devotional Good Friday afternoon, united Protestant services at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

The Old Timers Club sponsored the reunion service Palm Sunday evening. Mr. Henry Betz, who has been choirmaster in St. Paul's for 35 years, directed the Old Timers Choir.

At the Lily Memorial Service Easter morning the Frederick Keller perpetual membership was dedicated. Mr. Keller, at the time of his death, was Secretary of the Old Timers Club.

Another faithful member of St. Paul's Old Timers Club, Philip Fisher, who died in June 1937, left a bequest of \$10,000 to his beloved church.

St. Paul's lost a most loyal member in the passing of Elder William Ofslager. He had held important offices in our church from his early youth until the time of his death which occurred in the spring of 1937.

June 20, 1937 one of our highly esteemed young members, Mr. William Walch, was ordained into the ministry, in our church, by our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, assisted by Rev. Carl Haass, President of the New York District. All Evangelical & Reformed clergymen of Rochester participated in the service. Rev. Henry Walch preached the sermon at the ordination of his nephew.

Rev. William Walch conducted services Sunday mornings during the summer in the absence of our pastor, Rev. Hoefer, who was in Illinois visiting his parents and participating in the wedding ceremony of his sister, Ruth.

The Rochester Regional Conference of the Evangelical & Reformed Church was held in our St. Paul's Church in September. The theme of the conference was "The Christian's Responsibility". A series of three addresses was given by Rev. Fred H. Wilkins, former assistant pastor of our church.

September 26, 1937 marked the beginning of the many services commemorating the 75th birthday of our church. Appropriately did our pastor write, "Sing praise unto God, who hath blessed us in countless ways. Unto Him alone be the Glory".

The following services were well attended, much joy experienced and lasting good derived:

Sunday, September 26, 10:30 - Rally Roll Call, Rev. Hoefer preaching
 5:30 - Symposium, Pastors Philbrook, Zeller and Walch, guests
 7:30 - Service for the "Church of Tomorrow", Rev. Ralph Philbrook preaching. Rev. Paul Zeller, ordained in St. Paul's in 1887 by his father who was then pastor of our church, and Rev. William R. Walch, ordained in St. Paul's in June, spoke words of greeting. Our young people assisted in the service.

Wednesday, September 29, - Anniversary Banquet, Dr. Justin W. Nixon, speaker. Prof. Nixon was former pastor of Brick Presbyterian Church, which was next door to our church on Fitzhugh Street.

Sunday, October 3, 9:15 - Old Time and Pupil Day in the Sunday School
 10:30 - Rev. Fred Oberkircher, Erie, Penna., pastor of St. Paul's at the celebration of her Golden Anniversary, preaching
 7:30 - "Sister Churches Night", Rev. Paul Schroeder, Salem Church, Rochester, delivering the message.

Wednesday, October 6 - Old Timers Memory Night

Sunday, October 10, 8:00 - First Communion Service.
 9:15 - Sunday School
 10:30 - Closing Communion service, Rev. John Ketcham, Federation of Churches, preaching the sermon.

An appropriate anniversary book was given to each member Sunday, October 3rd.

The congregation, under the leadership of Rev. Hoefer, dedicated itself anew to its motto, to be "A shrine of devotion; a place of fellowship; an institution of practical Christian service".

Ida S. Pagels,
 Church Historian.

ST. PAUL'S 1938 HISTORY

The first Sunday morning church service in the year 1938 was celebrated with the administering of Holy Communion.

Rev. Hoefer urged the members of our Sunday School staff to avail themselves of the opportunity to unite with the Teachers' Training School held by Rochester's Federation of Churches for five consecutive Tuesday evenings. He said, "Better Sunday Schools demand better trained teachers". Nine of our staff enrolled.

Our pastor also urged the members of St. Paul's to attend the World's Fair of Missions, conducted in Salem Church, Rochester, by the Council of Church Women and the Missions Department of the Federation of Churches from January 19 to 23. A result of the display booth of the American Mission to Lepers and the sermon by its representative in our St. Paul's auditorium was the placing of thirty pig banks among St. Paul's members. The contents of these banks are being regularly sent for Leper work in our Indian station at Chandkuri. Many other deeds of kindness were the outcome of these worthwhile Christian gatherings.

Our Church Council voted that the receipts of the 1938 birthday offerings should be sent as our special gift to the work of Rev. William Bauer (born in Rochester and baptized in our St. Paul's) who is in missionary service in India.

The Old Timers Club held its 5th anniversary banquet Wednesday evening, February 2nd. Rev. Dowler of the Redeemer Lutheran Church was the speaker. Patriarch William Krase presided.

The Symposium enjoyed many happy fellowship hours together and gained much knowledge from the various guest speakers.

The Christian Youth of New York State gathered in Syracuse February 25th through 27th for their 15th annual Youth Conference. Saturday, the 26th, was devoted to commission groups, all considering the same topic, "Implications of Personal Christian Living". One of the commission leaders was our beloved pastor who is an advisor of the Monroe County Youth Federation. A special train carried the delegates to this conference. Rev. Lawrence Butler, our student minister, conducted the services in our sanctuary in the absence of Rev. Hoefer.

February 13, 1938 was dedicated in the Rochester churches to the good will between the races of man. It was named Race Relations Sunday. The topic of Rev. Hoefer's sermon was "Many Hues but One Heart".

Seventy new chairs were purchased by the Beginners and Primary Department of our Sunday School.

A unique series of Lenten sermons, "Spiritual Kinsmen of Jesus", was presented by Rev. Hoefer on Wednesday evenings. The choir was garbed as the Levite choirs of old. Our pastor conducted a class in preparation for church membership in the half-hour following each service.

Mr. Henry Betz, organist of St. Paul's for 38 years, tendered his resignation in March 1938. Ill health was the cause of discontinuing the work he so dearly loved. Throughout his long term of loyal service, the choir cooperated beautifully with the other departments of the church, and it was with deep regret that the Church Council accepted his forced resignation.

Rev. Paul Zeller who was the son of one of our former pastors, Rev. Albert Zeller, died April 19, 1938. He was ordained into the ministry by his father in our church (Fitzhugh St.) September 25, 1887 - 51 years ago. Our St. Paul's was very happy to have Rev. Zeller participate at services during her Diamond Jubilee in the fall of 1937.

Mr. William Volz, whose years of membership in our congregation are longer than those of any other member, acted as delegate to the New York District Conference in Buffalo in May. We are very proud of Mr. Volz's remarkable achievement at the age of 80 years.

Rev. Hoefer wrote in the St. Paul's bulletin, June 26, 1938, "Let us remember in our thoughts and prayers the great gathering of Christians in Columbus, Ohio this week. Our own Evangelical and Reformed General Synod at which final steps in the matter of the merging of the two churches under one constitution will be taken".

During the summer months our Church Council had the choir loft remodelled which included moving of the organ console and the installation of new pews. The choir and Sunday School assisted financially in the undertaking. On Sunday, September 11, the choir loft was dedicated and the choir reconsecrated to its ministry of music.

Jacob Kern passed from this earthly life to his Heavenly reward in November 1938 at the age of 82 years. St. Paul's will miss the presence of this kindly, generous and loyal member.

The last Sunday in 1938 fell on Christmas Day. At the morning service a Family Christmas Service, (Prayer for Family Christmas) written by Pastor F. Reissg and published by the Federation of Churches, was given to each family in St. Paul's by Mrs. J. Kern in loving memory of her departed husband.

Christmas night at 7:30 o'clock a Christmas service of candlelight and song was presented by the united choirs of Westminster Presbyterian Church and our St. Paul's under the direction of the Sunday School. The offering was designated for the work of Christian education through our Sunday School and for new choir robes. The service, which was inspirational and uplifting, proved a great blessing to all who were privileged to be present.

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST PAUL'S 1939 HISTORY

The first Sunday in 1939 was New Year's Day. Holy Communion was administered at the morning worship service.

The annual meeting of the Old Timers Club was held on Wednesday evening, January 25th. An interesting program, including reels of moving pictures taken in Germany, was enjoyed by members and friends of the club. Mr. William Krase, patriarch, presided.

The third annual Evangelical & Reformed Youth Institute was conducted at our church January 29th. "Resources for Christian Living" was the theme chosen for study by the discussion groups. The Federation expressed its sincere thanks thus, "A hearty thank you to our host church, St. Paul's, for the use of its building and equipment, to the women of the church who have fed us both wisely and well".

January 29th St. Paul's regretted bidding farewell to our genial assistant pastor, Rev. Butler. He completed his course at the Divinity School and left Rochester to begin the pastorate of a congregation in Ohio.

Guild I of the Altar Society presented to the congregation a Gothic panel or reredos, which is placed behind the pulpit. Mr. Arthur Koch was the artisan making its completion possible.

March 5, 1939 marked the 10th anniversary of Rev. Hoefer's installation in St. Paul's. Title of the sermon was, "The Motto at our Masthead -- What Has Become of It?" (Subject and text of the sermon preached on Installation Sunday, 1929). On the following Friday evening the entire St. Paul's family was invited to an evening of fellowship in honor of Rev. Hoefer's 10th anniversary. Our pastor was the recipient of a chair for his study and an electric shaver.

William F. Krase, a life-long member of St. Paul's was called from his earthly home February 24, 1939. Our entire congregation mourns the loss of a kindly and faithful St. Paulite. At the Sunday morning worship service, March 19th, an anthem, "Jesu, Friend of Sinners" - Grieg, was sung in memory of Mr. Krase who was a St. Paul's choir member for 40 years. Memorial flowers were also placed by the choir on the altar in his memory. A memorial service was held by the Old Timers at the Palm Sunday Reunion Services. Mr. Krase had been Patriarch of the Old Timers Club for 7 years.

We read in our March church bulletin, "China Relief: We are happy to report that a total of \$31 was sent to the church committee on China relief, expressing our Christian sympathy with those who have lost all because of the terrors of war".

The new choir robes were consecrated to sanctuary service at the Lily Memorial service Easter morning.

"Rev. Modak, third generation of Indian pastors serving a large self-supporting church in India, and his American-born wife, were guests of St. Paul's. They presented, in dramatic fashion, the life of the middle class Indian."

June 11, 1939 marked the dedication of the Friendship Altar on the spacious lawn at the rear of the church building on Jewell Street. This altar was built of stones gathered during the 75th anniversary year (1937). (See dedication service bulletin June 11, 1939 for full particulars of altar and services.) Vesper services were held before the altar on Sunday evening, August 6th, by the Federation of Churches of Rochester.

Rev. & Mrs. John Hoefer of Lincoln, Illinois, parents of our highly esteemed pastor, were guests at the parsonage this summer. St. Paul's congregation was happy to greet them after several years' absence.

The exterior woodwork of the church was painted this year by the same firm, John Luther Sons, who did the work in 1932 - 70th anniversary year.

The W.C.T.U. held its national convention in Rochester in September. Many of our families shared the privilege of acting as host to one or more delegates.

Mr. Harold Steen was elected organist of St. Paul's in August 1939.

A goodly number of our young people shared in the convention program arranged for the youth of the Evangelical & Reformed Churches of Western New York Synod at Lake Erie Conference Grounds at Dunkirk, September 3 and 4.

Three hundred Sunday School hymnals were dedicated Sunday, September 17th at 9:15 A.M. All parents were invited to attend the dedication services.

September 24, 1939 marked the 77th birthday of St. Paul's. It was observed in a worship service. Two membership endowments, honoring Mr. & Mrs. William Krase and Mr. & Mrs. John Wettengel, were dedicated. A birthday banquet was enjoyed by the congregation Wednesday evening, October 18th.

The new administration building on the Dunkirk conference grounds, Lake Erie, was completed and dedicated this year. Gifts of Evangelical & Reformed women made this edifice possible. Our Altar Society met its quota of \$75.

"The offering received during the worship services are designated for St. Paul's benevolence treasury out of which \$1050 annually for Kingdom service is paid".

Mr. Allan Draper began his duties as St. Paul's choir director Sunday morning, October 22, 1939.

Alexander Elsesser of Wisconsin, a theological student at the German Baptist Divinity School, began his work as part-time student minister November 15, 1939. He assisted in young people's work and preached the children's sermonettes.

The Old Timers' Club of St. Paul's held its annual fall frolic under the direction of its patriarch, Mr. William Walch.

Sunday afternoon, December 24th, Rev. Hoefer and St. Paul's choir participated in a Christmas service at St. John's Home for the Aged. After the service, they caroled at the homes of St. Paul's sick and shut-in members.

There were midnight services held in St. Paul's on Christmas and New Year's Eve.

Henry Betz, organist and choir director in St. Paul's from 1901 to 1938, and teacher of the Ladies' Bible Class, passed from our midst after a two-years' illness on December 26, 1939. Rev. Hoefer said, "He was largely responsible for the purchase and care of our fine organ, which for 31 years has led us in our worship and which was his particular pride. We note with saddened hearts the passing of Mr. Betz".

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST. PAUL'S 1940 HISTORY

The year 1940 is the 78th in the life of our beloved St. Paul's church. I shall strive to narrate briefly a few of the major events which occurred during this anniversary year.

Our church was the recipient of many acceptable gifts in 1940. Four of the outstanding ones were:

- 1 - White altar hangings given by Mrs. Andrew Bonnet in memory of her sister, Miss Martha Pfeifer. They were dedicated at the Lily Memorial Service on Easter Sunday.
- 2 - On the same day at the morning worship the dedicatory services of the "Jacob and Lena Kern Singing Tower" were solemnized. ("Mounted in the belfry alongside our large bell, cast in 1898, several large amplifiers will sound organ and chime music from the tower. Controlled from the organ console the volume may be increased or decreased at will. The equipment also includes a microphone and indoor amplifiers for use in the church itself".) We thank Mrs. Lena Kern who was the giver of the generous gift.
- 3 - During the Sunday morning Pentecost communion service, a pair of five-armed candelabra for use in the chancel^{of} our church was dedicated. They are a memorial to Leonard Hallings (who lost his young life in an auto accident) given by his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Ray Hallings.
- 4 - The Sunday School and church presented the new Honduras Mission School with a Bausch & Lomb microscope. The gift was the result of a special centennial (Evangelical Synod) project.

St. Paul's was happy to sponsor four good will friendship vesper services before our unique Friendship Altar on the church lawn every Sunday during the month of July. The public address system, a part of the "Kern Singing Tower" equipment, was used at these services.

Rev. Hoefer spent the month of August vacationing in Illinois and Minnesota. Mr. Alex Elsesses, our student minister, conducted the services in the absence of our beloved pastor.

Sunday morning, September 8th, a hearty welcome was extended to Mr. J. Alfred Casad who began his services as director of our church choir.

Dr. William Bauer, a former highly esteemed and greatly loved pastor of St. Paul's, observed the golden anniversary of his ordination into the Christian ministry at a special service on August 21, 1940 at St. Peter's Church, Billings, Missouri, where his son, Rev. Karl K. Bauer, is pastor. Among the speakers were three sons-in-law, Rev. John Koenig of India, Rev. Herman E. Koenig of Chicago, (pastor of our St. Paul's from 1923 - 1928) and Rev. Arthur Koemer of Coryell City, Texas. Dr. Bauer delivered the address. He based his meditations on Psalm 103.

October 13, 1940 was designated as Anniversary Sunday. It marked the 50th birthday of the Hungarian Reformed Church, the 78th birthday of our St. Paul's, the 100th birthday of the Evangelical Synod of North America and the 215th birthday of the Reformed church in the United States. We St. Paulites, members of the Evangelical Reformed Church, rejoiced with 800,000 fellow churchmen. The offering was used for the debt liquidation of our Evangelical & Reformed church.

A united Centennial Service, sponsored by the six Evangelical & Reformed churches in Rochester, was held at Salem Church in the evening. The United Choirs sang and a children's chorus sang the anniversary hymn, composed specially for the occasion. Rev. H. H. Lohans of Buffalo preached the sermon.

Thursday evening, October 17th, marked the date of the anniversary banquet. Councilmen and their wives were hosts and hostesses. Rev. Carl Haas, president of our District Synod, sketched the significance of the centennial celebration. Proceeds from this banquet were given to help toward the elimination of the Evangelical Synod's debt.

St. Paul's organizations that were active in 1940 were Board of Deaconesses, Choir, Sunday School, Altar Society, Brotherhood, Junior League and Old Timers Club.

Monthly social get-togethers, for some time past, have been known as Church and Family Nights. They are to be renamed in 1940 Church Friendship Circles.

Our choir carolers visited sick and shut-ins on Sunday evening, Dec. 22nd.

Christmas Eve from 11:00 o'clock until midnight, St. Paul's enjoyed a candle and carol service under the leadership of our choir and its director, Mr. Casad. The Kern "Singing Tower" broadcast the singing of the anthems and chimes.

New Year's Eve Party was held in the Brotherhood Room from 9:00 to 11:00 o'clock. A Watch Night Service was conducted in the sanctuary from 11:00 to midnight. Rev. Hoefer said, "Let us end the year in which peace is still our blessing in fellowship with God. A blessed and peace restored New Year to all the world, is our sincerest prayer for our fellow men everywhere".

Ida S. Pagels,
Church Historian.

ST. PAULS 1941 HISTORY

In January 1941, the first of a series of "YEAR-BOOKS", containing the condensed reports of the Pastor, organizations, church council and other active agencies of the church, put in its appearance. The number of members who attend the annual congregation meeting is but a small percentage of the whole membership, so it was voted to publish a Record of the Church each year. The first such report appeared in a blue cover, the "BLUE BOOK". We hope it will be worthy of a long line of successors. Since the Blue Book recorded the activities and reports of 1940, we turn to the RED BOOK for the history of 1941

The darkening clouds of war roll closer and closer from both the Atlantic and Pacific sides. There are those who believe that America can best serve humanity by remaining free of the war entanglements and serving as a mediator. Others, and they are those in places of power, are forcing the issue more and more to involve America in intervention. To say that we are neutral either in thought or act is no longer true. The Church itself is divided on the issue, although in St. Paul's the greater sentiment is anti-war. The line seems to be drawn much as in World War I, with the intellectuals and upper classes crying for war under all sorts of idealistic slogans, such as "Save America by serving the Allies", or "Freedom Vs. Totalitarianism". The fact that Russia has made a truce and treaty with Germany after the division of Poland gives impetus to the notion that Communism and Fascism are step-brothers. France has folded up, and Italy has gotten into the war. America will probably soon follow on the other side. The thoughts of the suffering, slaughter, waste and sacrifice and the multitudinous after-effects that inevitably follow war are not known to the rank and file of flag-wavers, but they weigh heavily upon the hearts of a group of Rochester clergymen, with whom also the Pastor of St. Paul's is in fellowship. It does not take much knowledge even of history to be a prophet in these days. That one is so helpless to avert the catastrophe, and the fact that as the years of war go by the Church and its preaching and teaching will become a major casualty, fills one's thinking and preaching and church work.

On December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, is treacherously attacked, and the United States is at war. Soon will begin the exodus of our finest young men and perhaps young women too into the fray. Now is it really a world at war. A nation will now be more united, to be divided again in the days when reaction sets in.

From the reports the Historian gathers the following items:

Baptisms	9	Pastoral parish calls	986
Confirmands	11	Total communicants	827
Other New Members	26	(Private - 21)	
Marriages	14	Average attendance - morning	210
Funerals	21	Evening average (9)	161
		German services (2)	35

William King lead the record of attendance for the deacons - 98.4%. John Bareis was President of the Church Council; Mrs. George Gardner of the Deaconess Board. William King - Chairman of Deacons; Mrs. Fred Pfeil - Pres. Altar Guild; Raymond Raufeisen - Supt. of the Sunday School; J. Alfred Casad and Harold Steen - Choir Director and Organist; Rudolph Hoffmeier - Pres. Brotherhood; Wm. Walch - Patriarch Old Timers' Club; Don Vogel - President of the Junior League.

Financial Records: William Lohler, who succeeded Henry Hieb after a long term of faithful service as financial secretary, reported as follows:

Total Current Expense Receipts	- (1940)- \$7651	(1941)- \$8219
Benevolent Collections	- (1940)- \$1768	(1941)- \$1665
Expenditures: - current	(1940) - \$7761	(1941) - \$7739
Benevolences	- \$1704	(1941) - \$1615

During 1941, St. Paul's joined the Evangelical and Reformed Church Pastor's Pension Fund, the congregation paying 5% of the pastor's salary, the minister himself 3% in quarterly installments. The congregation paid in total \$150.

DEBT-FREE CAMPAIGN: In the last months of 1941, an offer came from Mr. & Mrs. Harry Merritt to give \$1000 toward the debt on the church, provided the congregation would raise the balance of \$2725. A number of letters were sent out, the congregation accepted the challenge, and the contributions came in weekly. The progress of the campaign was recorded weekly in the bulletin and also by candles that were arranged across the pulpit platform, each candle representing \$100. Week by week; more candles were lighted, and finally on the first Sunday in January a total of \$4225, including the \$1000 of the Merritts', had been collected. It was a day of rejoicing, when on the first Sunday in the 80th anniversary year (1942) the mortgage that had rested on our church since its building in 1923, was brought forward by Henry Hieb and John Bareis and burned before the altar. For the first time since 1890 (2 or 3), during the pastorate of Rev. William Baur, was St. Paul's free of debt. The Monroe County Bank had dealt fairly and generously with our church, and we had been punctual and honest in our discharge of the debt. Pictures were taken of Mrs. Merritt, Mr. Bareis, Mr. Hieb, Mr. Fauth and Mr. Leupold (on the original building committee) and of the Pastor, Elmer Henry Hoefer. These have been filed as a memento of a happy occasion in our Church Photo Album.

New Boiler: The heating system is a fundamental part of church equipment which we realize most when "heat" is absent. Equipped with two boilers, our church should have had adequate and effective heating facilities. Poorly laid out, the system has undergone various and costly repairs. The last, in the early 1930's, cost over \$500, paid by the late Philip Fisher, placed four new sections in boiler one. Late in 1941, this boiler, overheated as the result of a return valve left closed, gave out entirely. A new boiler was installed, two sections larger than the old one, by Mr. Gloeckle. The vestibule radiators were also raised and a new system of returning water from the radiators was arranged to avoid the pocketing of water under the floor. Since then our heating has been much improved. The cost, over \$1000, was met out of current receipts, and a balance of \$500 over-subscribed in the Debt-Free Campaign.

Sextons: Mr. Herman Howisen and his wife, who served us faithfully for over six years moved to Clinton, Michigan. Their ever-willing spirit and kindly cooperation induced the congregation to tender a farewell reception, at which time a purse of \$100 was given from various organizations and from the church treasury. Mr. George Gardner, one of our trustees, was elected to fill the position. He served about a year, finding the responsibility too heavy. Mr. Charles Schmanke came to us in 1942 from St. Matthew's Lutheran Church and has served faithfully until the time of this writing.

Perpetual and Endowed Memberships: The names of Mrs. Carrie Long, Mr. & Mrs. John Smith and Mrs. Frieda Vollmer were added to the Perpetual Membership Fund, and Mr. & Mrs. Herman Pommerening to the Endowed Membership Fund during 1941. Total in the Fund as of January 1, 1942 was \$2814.

Gifts Received During 1941:

New Hangings for the Organ Grille	- 1941 Confirmands
Rug for the Sacristy	- Mrs. Rose Weismiller
Rug for the Choir Room	- Altar Guild
Power Lawn Mower	- Altar Guild
Screen & Koda-Slide Projector	- Bible Class, Brotherhood & Jacob Eckert
25 new steel chairs	- Individual Donors.

Elmer H. Hoefer,
Pastor.

ST. PAUL'S 1942 HISTORY80th Anniversary Year

Founded in 1862, St. Paul's celebrated its 80th Birthday in October of this year. The church was debt-free, so the Anniversary Offering was dedicated to the Perpetual Membership and Endowment Fund. The amount received was \$400. Rev. Herman Koenig of Salem Church, Chicago, Illinois, who was pastor of St. Paul's from the time that the new church was dedicated in 1923 until 1928, was the guest speaker.

Councilmen during the 80th anniversary year were:

<u>Elders:</u> John Bareis (President)	<u>Deacons:</u> Fred Brown (Chairman)
Frank Vogel (Vice-Pres.)	William Robinson
Jacob Eckert	Delbert Groat (Sec.)
	George Elmer
<u>Trustees:</u> Arthur Koch (Treas.)	Earl Forbes (Chairman Service
Fred Huck	Men's Comm.)
Ed Weismiller	William King
	Rudolph Hoffmeier
William Lohler (Fin. Sec.)	Nelson Alderman
Henry Hieb (Bldg. Fund Treas.)	Rudolph Kolb (Benev. Treas.)

Mrs. Frieda Groth, Church Sec.
 Harold Steen, Organist J. Alfred Casad, Choir Director
 George Gardner, Charles Schmanke - Sextons
 Elmer Henry Hoefer - Pastor

Deaconesses: Mrs. Clem Kummer (Chairman)
 Miss Vera Frederick (Sec.-Treas.)
 Mrs. Hallings, Mrs. Lane - District #1
 Mrs. Howorth, Mrs. Reuschle - " #2
 Mrs. Clarence Brown " #3
 Mrs. Kummer " #4
 Mrs. Halsey, Mrs. Schuth " #5
 Mrs. Krase, Mrs. Wagenhalz " #6
 Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Gardner " #7
 Miss Frederick " #8
 Miss Anna Webber, Mrs. Gardner " #9

Elected to serve from 1942 - 45 were: Mesdames Talbot, Killian, Wilson, Luedecke, Stuver, Gommenginer, and Miss Emma Kern.

The Perpetual Membership and Endowment Fund showed the following names at the end of the 80th Birthday Year:

Mr. & Mrs. John Schott, Mr. & Mrs. Joachim Pagels, Mr. & Mrs. John Eutin, Mr. & Mrs. Christ Peters, Mrs. Edward Huber, Rose & Mary Deer, Henry Pagels, Frederick Keller, Mr. & Mrs. John Krase, Frank Druselman, Anna Casper, Elizabeth Fisher, Philip Fisher (\$20,000 was received from the two estates), Mrs. Augusta Hoffman, Mr. & Mrs. August Pasch, Mr. & Mrs. John Smith, Mrs. Caroline Long, Mrs. Freda Vollmer, Mr. & Mrs. Sidgund Weismiller, Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Kern, Mrs. Christine Bauer.

Endowed Memberships - one or more members still living - were:
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Reuschle, Mr. & Mrs. William Krase, Mr. & Mrs. John Wettengel,
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Pommerening.

Total in the Fund as of January 1, 1943 was \$3622, deposited in the Rochester Savings Bank. Interest only is used for current expenses.

During the year, the Evangelical and Reformed Church inaugurated a system of Memorial Wreath Cards. In the hands of all pastors, these cards may be sent to bereaved families and a gift made to any of the following: Dunkirk Conference Grounds, Rochester Missionary Work, St. Paul's Endowment Fund. The response has been slow, but we believe that the success of Catholic Mass Cards and the Lutheran "Minde Kranz" shows that the idea is sound if the people will respond.

Church Attendance: Average for morning services - 197
Average for Evening Services - 141
German services - 2 - Average- 47.

Total attendance for the year was 12,758, a decline from last year.

Pastor's Report: Forty young men of the church are serving in the Armed Forces. America has now been in the war a year. The burdens and costs are not yet felt, but will increase tremendously in the years ahead. The diabolic inconsistency between the Christian Gospel and the Way of War was constantly stressed. The Church is being crucified anew by friends who would have her corrupt her Gospel and by enemies who think she never had one, and that the salvation of civilization lies in the destruction of our present enemies, which this year exclude Russia, due to the treachery of Nazism, and perhaps of Communism too.

Fourteen couples were married; eighteen children baptized (a record for some years - War?); fourteen were confirmed. Fifteen were laid to rest, including some of our faithful-thru-the-years members - Mrs. Rose Weismiller, Mrs. Jacob Kern, (late 1941), Mrs. Catherine Yehen (93 years of age), Mrs. Frederick Knitter, - pres. Bible Class.

Thirty-six new members were received into our fellowship. Communicants numbered 1101, a new high. (Pew Communion was served on Anniversary Sunday for the first time.)

Church Group Leaders:

Church Council - John Bareis	Deaconesses - Mrs. Clem Kummer
Altar Guild - Mrs. Cl. Brown	Brotherhood - Rudolph Hoffmeier
Choir - Mrs. Florence Kelly	League - Jean Hurlburt
Old Timers Patriarch - Fred Reuschle	
Historian - Ida S. Pagels	
Sunday School - Edward Uhelin, Mrs. Bareis, Helen Goetz, Supts.	
	Mrs. R. Kolb, Cradle Roll; Mr. Hieb, Bible Class.
Symposium - George Haupt.	

Eightieth Anniversary Gifts:

New Carpet for Sanctuary - Altar Guild (\$800)
Endowment Fund - The Congregation (\$403)
Grand Piano - in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Knitter by Miss Augusta Knitter.
Perpetual Memberships for Mr. & Mrs. Weismiller - Fred & Ed Weismiller
" " " Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Kern - Mrs. Talbot, Mrs. Benedict, Mrs. N. Brown, Emma Kern.

Pulpit Bible - by the William Donish Family
 Bulletin Board in Rear Vestibule - Mrs. Alvina Hays, Catherine Luedecke
 Curtains for Sacristy & Choir Room - Deaconesses and Choir
 New Hymnals - \$25 for Henry Betz by the Choir; \$15 for Mrs. C. Kleiner
 by Mr. Kleiner and the A. Fauth family; \$5 for Henry Pagels
 by daughter, Mrs. William Lohler; \$5 for George Buchin by
 Mrs. Buchin; \$5 for Mr. & Mrs. John Burkardt by friend,
 Mrs. Hoffner; \$5, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Wagenholz; \$5 by the
 Hurlburt family; \$2 by Mr. Hy Otto for her father; \$1 each
 by Mrs. Alice Holwede, Mr. & Mrs. Edward Schroeder, Mrs.
 Walsh - the New Hymnal fund continues to grow thru 1943.

Financial Statement:

Current Expenses Receipts -	\$9279
Benevolent Receipts -	\$1962
to show how St. Paul's is sharing in Kingdom Service work:	
General Synod Apportionment -	\$1,155 (100%)
St. Paul's Orphanage (Greenville, Pa.) -	\$25
Syrian Orphanage (Jerusalem) -	\$20
Rev. Wm. Baur (India Birthday offering) -	\$10
Dunkirk Conference Grounds -	\$60
Bethel Colored Church -	\$ 5
Rochester Federation of Churches -	\$55
N.Y. State Council of Churches -	\$ 5
Western New York Synod -	\$102
Comm. on Christian Social Action -	\$15
Week-day Religious Education -	\$15
People's Rescue Mission -	\$15
American Mission to Lepers -	\$51.82
War Emergency Relief -	\$127.20
Chaplain Reynolds Communion Set -	\$10
"Widows of Worship" from Servicemen -	\$12
Bibles for Confirmands -	\$32
Total paid in 7 years for Elmhurst-Eden Advance -	\$1380

The Altar Guild and the Bible Class are cooperating in bi-weekly sewing for the American Friends Service Committee. Twenty-eight boxes of renovated clothing, shoes, blankets, quilts, etc. have been sent, making this one of the largest contributions in the city.

The Fellowship of Givers - a directory of members and the amounts of their gifts to the support of the Church, shows fine cooperation on the part of about 90% of the members.

The following are St. Paul's men in the Service, as of the beginning of 1943:

Lt. Albert Groth - Army	A/C. Lewis Schaeffer - Navy
Capt. Ed Stephany - Med. Corps	A/C Robert Uehlin - Navy
Lt. Ernest Hahn - Army	Sea/1 Robert Westfall - Navy
Lt. Wm. G. Rocktaschel - Navy Med. Dept.	Charles Hoffmeier - Coast Guard
Lt. Robert Fuerst - Air Corps	Robert Gilder - Coast Guard
Sgt. Ralph Michelsen - Army	George Paeth - Med. Corps
Pvt. Harold Knitter - Army	Harold Herr - Mc.Ac.
Ed Knitter - Army	Eugene Zettlemeyer - Navy
Sea/2 Jason A. Smith - Navy	Frank Jannsen - Navy

Sgt. Marvin Rauber - Army
A/C Gerald Rauber - Air Corps
Eugene Lane - CAC
William Donksh - Army
Otto Hahn - Army
Sgt. Milton Kulp - Army
Sgt. Fred Meeh - Air Corps
Elmer Keller - Army
Pfc Roland Liquory - Army
Sgt. Gordon Hayes - Army
Cpl. Fred Walch - Air Corps

Miss Helen K~~W~~hmann - Marines

Marlin Shephard - Army
Sgt. Philip Sullivan - Army
George Elmer - Army
Walter Westerman - Army
A/C Melville Bancroft - Army
Burl Bareis - Army
Donald Vogel - Army
Gunther Lange - Navy
Herbert Lindsay - Army
Edward Schroeder - Army
William Schlapfer - Army

Elmer H. Hoefer,
Pastor.