

**A SEVENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY ALBUM**

Zion

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ft OCKP Ftai '1-ANOTS

1883 • 1958

Published by the Zion Congregation



Foreword

It is with deep gratitude to our Heavenly Father that we publish this volume in the observance of our 75th Anniversary Year. In some measure we shall attempt to portray the life of our church as it was yesterday and also as it is today. Our world in 1958 is much different from that in 1883. No like period in history has seen such amazing changes. The church must necessarily adjust its program to the needs of a changing world, but its message is essentially the same which is centered around Him "who is the same yesterday, today, and forever."

The full story of these seventy-five years cannot be told for it is known to God alone. No human hand can record His countless miracles of grace in the hearts and lives of men, women, and children who have entered the gates of our temple. No human scale can measure the riches of comfort, strength, and guidance which the Lord has given through the ministry of Zion. As the Word has been preached and taught, many a soul — unknown to the preacher has reached out to touch the hem of Jesus' garment to receive healing. It would be an exciting and heart-warming story indeed, if all could be told.

However, we trust that the following pages will give the reader many insights into that story. Here are recorded many of the achievements in the history of Zion. They should not be forgotten by succeeding generations for they continue to testify to the Goodness of God and also what can be accomplished by ordinary men and women if they follow in the steps of the Master. The book also bears eloquent witness to what the Lord is doing today in our midst and through His people. I am certain that those founders of the church in 1883 would rejoice if they could step into our sanctuary some Sunday and witness our congregation at worship and also hundreds of children eagerly listening to their teachers.

We are in debt to the past and we look back in order to draw inspiration for our present and future task. It is my earnest prayer that this book will inspire determination within each one of us to meet courageously the challenging opportunities which confront us today and tomorrow. Let us face the future with the sure confidence that God will give us strength equal to our task.

Dr. Joseph E. Conrad, Pastor

Contents

	Page
Church History	5-16
Rev. C. G. Lundell	17
Rev. S. G. Ohman	18
Rev. J. A. Eckstrom	19
Rev. N. P. Sjostrom	20
Rev. G. E. Hemdahl	21
Rev. Carl Solomonson	22
Rev. E. G. Knock	23
Rev. Alf Wattman	24
Rev. Joseph Conrad	25
Interns	26
Missionaries	27
Pastor and Mrs. Lofgren	
Pastor and Mrs. Swanson	
Board of Administration	28 & 29
Music Director Clarence Helsing	30
Choirs	30 & 31
Education Director Helen Marander	32
Custodian Walter Tack	33
Church Secretary Joanne Johnson	34
Sunday School Departments	35 & 36
Church Groups	37-40
Dorcas Society	35
Mary Martha Society	35
Women's Missionary Society	36
Business Women's Missionary Society	36
Swedish Society	37
Churchmen	37
Senior Luther League	38
Junior Luther League	38
Ushers	39
Mr. and Mrs. Club	39
Boy Scouts	40
Explorer Scouts	40
Briefs	41
Parsonage	42
Closing Message	43
Anniversary Events	44

1958 — a joyful year for Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church — marks the 75th anniversary of its founding in Rockford. While this is a time for retrospect, it also presents an opportunity to set sights upon new goals in the church life of Zion. To do this, one first must pause to consider the remarkable and vital forces at work in the Church today.

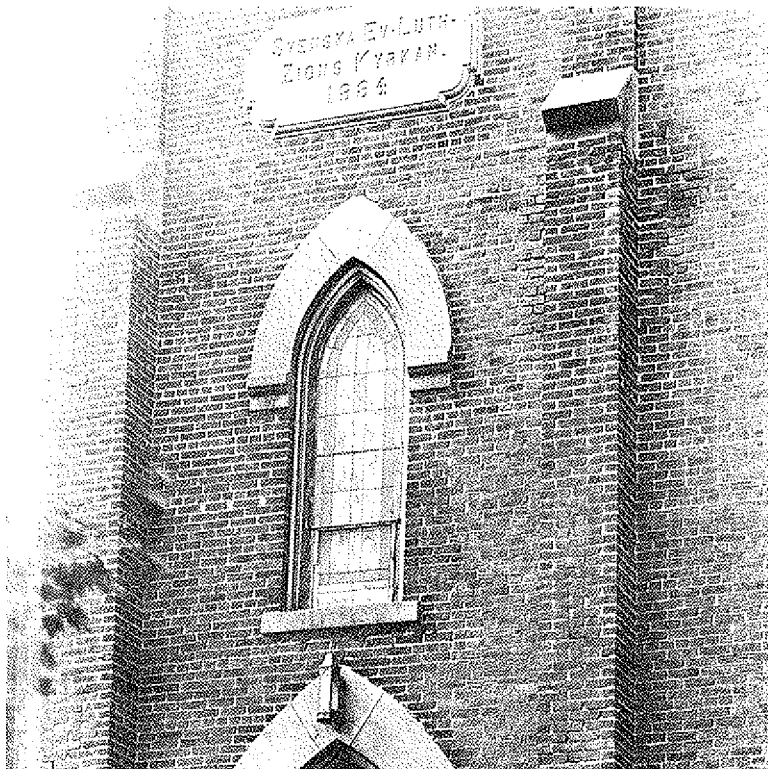
Two Sunday worship services (English and Swedish) have an average attendance of 1049; a radio broadcast each Sunday is estimated to reach 8000 listeners. Special Easter, Christmas Eve, and Swedish Jolotta, services are attended by a total of 3675 worshippers. Fifteen communions held in 1957 served 2872 members.

The educational program reaches a total of 1234 in the enrollment of classes from nursery school to adult Bible classes. In addition, there are confirmation classes for children and adults as well as Vacation Bible School and Saturday Choir School.

In 1957, organization reports were submitted by Mary Martha, Dorcas Society, Business Women's Missionary Society, Women's Missionary Society, Swedish Society, Senior and Junior Luther Leagues, Young Married Group, and Zion Lutheran Brotherhood.

Setting for these church activities is an edifice designed and maintained to give the greatest possible service to the church life. Financially, the Zion congregation has been exceedingly responsive to the needs of its church which is valued at \$632,110.69.

Truly, Zion in its 75th year is the realization of the hopes and prayers of the founders who set forth with determination and prayer to bring about its beginning.

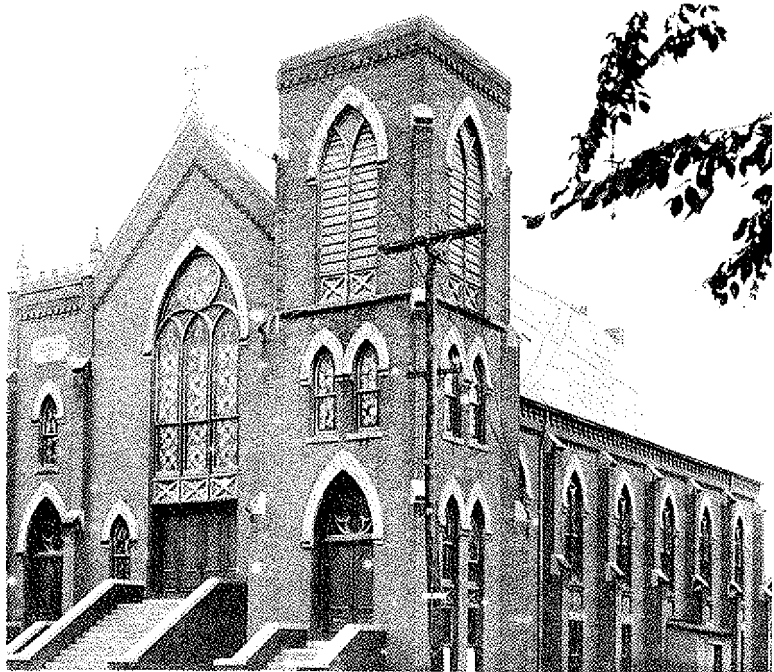


That was in 1883, when members of the First Lutheran Church of Rockford recognized a growing need for the spiritual care of Swedish Lutheran immigrants coming to Rockford. It was felt that a new church ought to be established with the privilege of members of the First Lutheran Church joining if they so desired. Steps were taken to organize the new church when a meeting was held on August 7, 1883, in the Swedish Methodist Church basement, with 146 charter members present.

At this first meeting, a building committee was elected to plan for the new church building; meanwhile, Chick's Hall was rented at \$10 per month so that services could be held regularly. These began the following Sunday at 10:30 a.m. With Mr. Jonas Larson in charge of services until a pastor could be secured, and with Mr. Andrew Kjellgren serving as organist and choir director, Zion was established. Soon after, Sunday School was started, with 25 persons attending the first class. The Ladies' Sewing Circle and the Young People's Society were formed at this time also, and faithful members of both groups worked hard to gather substantial sums during the first years of the church.

One of the early goals was to select and obtain a suitable church site. The Haggquist property at 5th Avenue and 6th Street was decided upon and obtained for \$1,200. After starting a subscription for funds, work began almost at once on a church building 56' x 96', with an 11-foot basement, one tower, and no steeple. Members of the church contributed many hours of labor on the excavation and foundation.

The first annual meeting of the church recorded a total of 200 communicant members and reported the prospect of obtaining Reverend C. G. Lundell as first pastor of Zion. Pastor Lundell accepted the call, and began his duties on July 1, 1884, at an annual salary of \$800. At that time, services still were being held



in Chick's Hall but the weekly congregation soon outgrew its facilities. As soon as the church basement was completed, it was used for weekly services and was dedicated in October, 1884. Although the financial problems of the church were perplexing, enthusiasm was high and hundreds of hours of free labor were willingly given.

The first petition for Zion Lutheran Church to be admitted to the Illinois Conference of Augustana Synod was withdrawn in the face of opposition in March, 1884. However, after Pastor Lundell was admitted to the Illinois Conference, admission was requested and Zion Church became a unit of the Illinois Conference.

Work continued in earnest on the church building, and in October 1885 dedication services were held. At that time, membership was estimated to be 400 communicants and 200 children. In 1886, the Young People's Society was reorganized and became the Earnest Workers; in 1887 the Men's Society was revived.

Pastor Lundell submitted his resignation in September 1887 and left in May the following year. As his replacement, a call was extended to S. G. Ohman, who was then a student at Augustana Theological Seminary. After his ordination to the ministry, he accepted the call and preached his first sermon at Zion in July 1888.

With church life strong and active, improvements to the church and equipment continued. Among them was a replacement for the reed organ which supplied church music during the early years. A pipe organ was purchased and an addition to the church building was built to accommodate it.

In 1892 it was decided to take up a subscription to reduce the church indebtedness. However, the depression of 1893 made payments difficult to collect. In this same period, need for a parsonage was discussed but since it seemed inadvisable for the congregation to assume this added financial responsibility, Pastor Ohman purchased a house across the street from the church on 6th Street. The congregation assisted him by means of a subscription.

Church interest continued to grow in the last years of the 19th century; while Sunday school classes had been conducted in the Swedish language from the beginning of Zion, in 1893 an English Sunday School was organized, as was an adult Bible

Class. Eight months out of each year (later cut to three months) parochial school was conducted in the church basement, with Swedish language as the chief subject and religious instruction also given. By means of fees collected, the school was almost self-supporting. At the annual meeting in January 1894, Reverend Ohman reported 1000 communicant members. Services were well attended; the future looked bright.

The following spring, after six years of service to Zion, Pastor Ohman resigned in order to accept a call as superintendent of Augustana Hospital in Chicago. He was succeeded by Reverend J. A. Eckstrom who became pastor in Zion in November 1894.

Under the leadership of Pastor Eckstrom, in spite of difficult financial times that were affecting the entire country, "The Troop of a Thousand Men" was organized for the purpose of gathering funds to reduce the church debt. In 1899, the church faced foreclosure, but the necessary \$3,000 was raised and by January, 1901, the debt was reduced to \$6,100.

Zion acquired a church bell in 1896 through the generosity of Mr. Jonas Hakanson,

Even with financial difficulties, Zion activities remained vigorous. A Ladies' Aid Society was organized in 7.894 in addition to the Elder and the Younger Ladies' Sewing Circles. A Confirmation Society was organized in 1898; Tuesday evening prayer meetings and Thursday evening preaching services were held each week. A parish paper, "Till Verksamhet" was published for several years, beginning in 1895. The Sunday School supported a native worker on the foreign mission field.

Reverend Eckstrom submitted his resignation in 1900, and Reverend N. P. Sjostrom accepted the call of the congregation to become pastor of Zion.



Church facilities were faithfully expanded and improved after the turn of the century. The Young People's Society gathered funds for chandeliers; the gallery was enlarged to seat almost 300 people. New gas fixtures and a new furnace were installed as well as a new slate roof. A lot adjoining the church on the south side was purchased. Following decision to build a parsonage, the Bildahl property at 920 5th Avenue was secured and plans were completed.

In the summer of 1905, Sister Anna C. Carlson from the Deaconess Institute in Omaha took up the work of teaching and nursing in Zion. After three years of faithful service, ill health forced her return to the Deaconess Home in Omaha.

In 1901 Professor Swenson assumed the position of organist and in 1906 was succeeded by Professor A. D. Bodfors. Working with the choir, he organized larger choruses for special programs and contributed much to the musical development of the church.

Sadness came upon the Zion congregation when, after living in his new home only a year, Pastor Sjoström entered into rest in February, 1912.

Reverend G. E. Hemdahl was called to fill the pastorate, and he accepted the post in October. In the interim, Dr. L. G. Abrahamson of Rock Island served as vice pastor.

The first year of Reverend Hemdahl's service in Zion, the question of women's right to vote was raised. This was tabled because of the church constitution which forbade it. However, a constitution change was ratified at the next annual meeting and women of the congregation were granted the right to vote in 1914. Mission boxes, instituted in 1911, continued during these years with gratifying results. Two more church societies were activated in 1913, when the Men's Society was revived and a Confirmand Society was organized.

That year, the church tower was damaged by a tornado and it was decided that a steeple in keeping with the size and architectural style of the church should replace it.

A new venture began in 1917 with the assistance of Zion members, when the Rock View Sunday School was started. Classes, with an enrollment of 70 pupils the first year, were held in a rented hall at 14th Avenue and 20th Street. The second year,

enrollment grew to 90 pupils. This was the beginning of Tabor Lutheran Church.

The same year, 117 young men from the Zion congregation entered service in World War I, five of whom never returned. Three young women of Zion served as Red Cross nurses.

After presiding over Zion for 5¹/₂ years, Reverend Hemdahl submitted his resignation in April, 1918. The church council called Reverend J. E. Erlander of Anoka, Nebraska to serve as pastor until a permanent pastor could be obtained and in December, 1918, Reverend Carl Solomonson of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, accepted the call to Zion. His initial sermon was held in February, 1919.

That year extensive church repairs were made, amounting to almost \$8,000. In 1920, the church was decorated, paintings were secured for either side of the altar, and art glass windows were installed. Many donations were received from church members including new hymn books, a baptismal font, a new altar, candelabra, missal stand, and altar covering. During this period, Zion contributed about \$9,000 in just a few years for the Pension Fund, Augustana College and Theological Seminary, Augustana Hospital, and European Relief. The envelope system for membership contributions was introduced in 1921, with gratifying results.

That year it was decided that the use of Swedish and English languages should be alternated at the Sunday services. However, the decision was reversed at the next meeting, and instead an English service was held at 10 a.m. in connection with Sunday School. English mid-week services were held during certain seasons of the year. In 1927, an English evening service was instituted the first Sunday of each month; this continued until 1929.

Zion Church in 1923 entertained the Augustana Synod at its 64th annual convention. That same year the Zion congregation celebrated its 40th anniversary.

By the early '20's, the Rock View Mission presented opportunities for expanded work. The Zion Church petitioned the Illinois Conference to place a home mission pastor in Rock View. However, no action was taken and the Rock View Sunday School continued as a Zion project. Since better quarters were needed for this Sunday School, two lots on the southwest corner of 12th

Avenue and 19th Street were purchased in 1922. Plans for a Rock View Chapel were adopted in 1924, and in July of that year the chapel was dedicated. Following this event, the people in Rock View asked to have regular services held there, and services were arranged for the first and third Sundays of each month. A Rock View Dorcas Society was organized and in one year acquired 50 members. Their Junior Mission grew to a membership of 55. Finally, in 1925, the Rock View Mission was turned over to the Mission Board of the Illinois Conference. At this time, the Tabor Lutheran Church was organized. They received the lots and chapel, valued at \$9,000, for \$2,000.

Further interest in local missionary work was evidenced during this period when Dr. Betty Nilsson, on furlough from India, was called by Zion to become a city missionary.

In the summer of 1927, the Luther League of Zion provided funds for a Geneva organ which replaced the one in use since 1889.

The fall of that year, Pastor Solomonson's health began to fail and in February 1928 he passed away at Augustana Hospital in Chicago.

Reverend J. A. Benander served as vice pastor of Zion in the interim following Pastor Solomonson's death, until a successor was obtained.

In November 1928, Reverend E. G. Knock of Denver, Colorado, after accepting the call of the congregation, took up his duties as pastor of Zion.

The following year, at the annual meeting in January, it was decided that all evening services should be held in English, and that the half-hour English service (held in connection with Sunday School) should be extended to one hour. The new Hymnal of the Augustana Synod was obtained so that the complete morning service could be carried out. Regular communion services in English were introduced and individual communion cups were adopted.

By 1929, the Sunday School had grown so large that an addition to the church became necessary. It was determined that expenditures should not exceed \$20,000. A two-story structure, 72' x 36', was built on the south side of the church and was dedicated by Dr. Peter Peterson, President of the Illinois Conference, in November 1929.

In the next two years, further property improvements were made, financed by the Dorcas Society, the Brotherhood, and the Luther League. The basement was renovated, kitchen was enlarged, auditorium was rewired. The church chancel was completely changed, and a choir loft was built. A new altar and pulpit were installed, and a choir room was added. Total cost of these improvements amounted to \$10,000.

Professor A. D. Bodfors, after serving over 25 years as organist and choir director, resigned in 1930. Mr. Allen Elmquist from Moline, Illinois, replaced him that year.

In 1929, Reverend Erlander, then retired from active ministry, was called by the Zion congregation to serve as assistant pastor in visiting the sick and shut-ins. He continued in this work until his death in 1932.

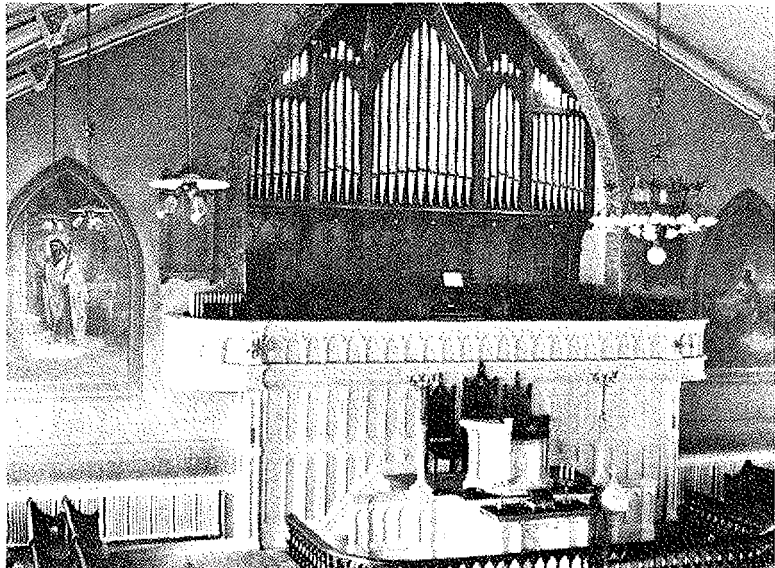
At the annual meeting in December, 1935, the congregation decided to call a theological student to serve his internship year in Zion. The first student intern to serve was Otto Magnuson. Since then, activities in Zion have been assisted each year by a student intern called from the Augustana Theological Seminary.

In the years following, Sunday School enrollment continued to grow, with a total of 1007 in 1938. The baptized membership in Zion that year was recorded as 2349. Church activities flourished, the Luther League was host to the Rockford District Luther League; a Young Women's Missionary Society was organized.

In 1938, Allen Elmquist resigned as organist and music director and was succeeded by LeRoy Urseth. However, the following year Mr. Urseth was called to Los Angeles and Allen Elmquist returned to this post, working with an assistant, Linden Lundstrom.

The Alpine Branch of Zion Sunday School reported a membership of 30 at this time. Pastor Knock reported that the Lutheran Group of the Christian Week-Day School of Rockford was giving instruction in 9 different schools, with an enrollment of 605.

Physical improvements to the church building continued; the basement ceiling was soundproofed, rooms in the new addition were painted. Altar and pulpit hangings and a hand-carved oak



lecturn were among gifts received by the church.

By 1939, the church debt was reduced to \$1,500, and in the next year there was enough cash on hand to wipe out the church indebtedness. A sinking fund was established in 1940 for repairs and additions to the church, goal to be \$30,000.

In 1939, the new proposed constitution for congregations, adopted by the Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod of North America, replaced the old Zion constitution.

In 1941, Alfred Johnson, who served as superintendent and assistant superintendent for over 30 years, and Herbert Quist who served as superintendent for a number of years, stepped down and were replaced by Gust Swanson, superintendent, and Wilbur Gustafson, assistant superintendent.

The following year the Home Mission Board of Augustana Synod assumed the work of the Alpine Branch of Zion.

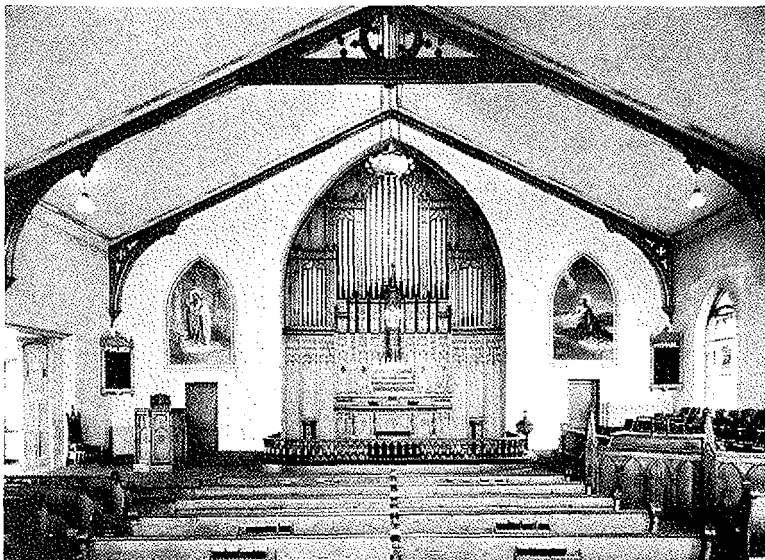
The war years, 1942 to 1945, saw many changes, too. Reverend Alf Wattman, who had served as student assistant to Pastor Knock in 1941, was called as assistant pastor following his ordination in 1942 and served until his resignation in February 1944. Following Pastor Wattman's resignation, Pastor Frank A. Berg of Beloit conducted evening services in Zion. A full-time church secretary was secured in 1944.

In 1943, Zion observed its 60th anniversary with special services from October 20 to 24.

Two hundred young men and women of Zion were enrolled in the armed forces in World War II. In September 1945 memorial services were held for the three young men in Zion who lost their lives in service. They were Gunnard Anderson, Gilbert Johnson, and Brooks Guin.

Recognizing the great need for assistance in world relief, the Zion congregation contributed much in food, clothing, and funds in support of the National Lutheran Council.

In May, 1946, a call was issued to Pastor Joseph Conrad to serve as associate pastor in Zion. He accepted the call and delivered his initial sermon in September. Pastor Conrad had served as



army chaplain during World War II.

That same year, a second parsonage, at 1702 25th Street, was purchased.

By action of the Augustana Synod in June 1947, the college and seminary were separated. The Synod was to own and control the seminary; the Illinois, Iowa, and Superior Conferences were to own and control the college. That year, Zion held an ingathering of funds to aid in improvement of the college buildings.

Pastor Knock, after 20 years of untiring service to Zion, presented his resignation in November 1948. His associate, Pastor Conrad, received a call from the congregation to assume the duties of pastor of Zion, and the call was accepted. Arrangements were made for Swedish services to be conducted by Dr. S. J. Sibelius. That same year, Reverend and Mrs. Melvin Lofgren were commissioned by Zion to serve as missionaries in Tanganyika Territory, Africa.

In the years following, Pastor Conrad reported continued increase in Sunday School enrollment and in attendance at the regular worship services. Effort was made to visit unchurched homes in the community, that more might be welcomed at Zion.

Once again, facilities of the church were being taxed to accommodate the activities and in 1950 a Planning Committee was appointed to study an over-all expansion program. In his 1951 report to the congregation, Pastor Conrad reported an estimated number of 74 organizations in Zion. Average attendance was 899 at the English morning service. With the church becoming more and more crowded, it was decided at the annual meeting in December 1952 to raise \$160,000 for expansion.



One of the activities of Zion in 1951 was to arrange for a DP family to come to Rockford. Thus, Vera Isvekowa and her two children, Edmund and Edith, arrived late in that year.

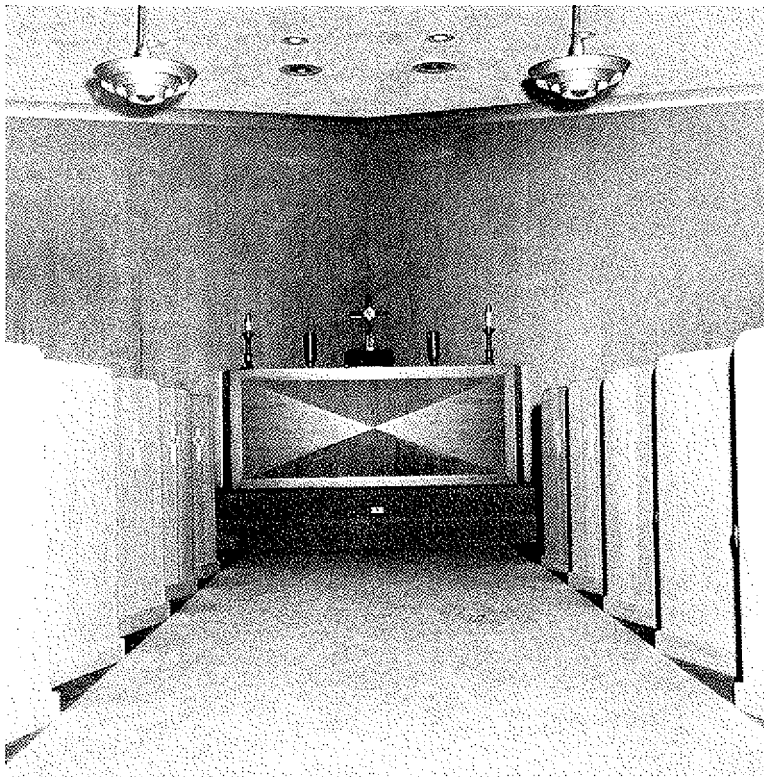
In 1952, Reverend and Mrs. Edwin Swanson, serving as missionaries in Japan, began to receive support from Zion.

With attendance figures rising to 1012 at the Sunday morning English service, and with 1165 members in Sunday School, the Planning Committee submitted its report on the expansion program. Requirements were reported to be: Addition to the church front, additional Sunday School space, rearrangement of present space, relocation of the kitchen, store room for the choir assembly, a working sacristy behind the church altar, rearrangement of church offices, a vault for church records, rooms for youth organizations, office for the director of music, a small chapel for youth group services, necessary modifications of utilities, and additional parking space. These improvements were to be made at a cost of \$300,000.

At a special meeting in 1953, because of the pressing need for adding to the church facilities, the stipulation was rescinded that 50% of the cash be on hand before construction was started. The cornerstone was laid for the church addition in March, 1954, and at the end of the year the new Youth Center and Educational Building was nearing completion.

In March 1953, its 70th year, the church was incorporated in the name of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.

A change in musical directorship occurred that year, when Clarence Helsing succeeded Roger Nyquist who resigned after one year of service.



In his pastoral report for 1954, Pastor Conrad revealed plans for a visitation committee to assist in maintaining closer contact with those who need to be brought into closer fellowship with the church. He also reported that in February 1954 broadcast of Sunday services was initiated over radio station WRRR. The same year a Family Night Fellowship was started and in 1955, a Junior Worship Service, conducted by Youth Director Vernon Ames, was instituted.

Outstanding in 1955 was the Dedication Service, held in September. At the annual meeting that year, the first report from Japan was read, submitted by the Zion missionary, Edwin Swanson.

To meet the financial indebtedness incurred on the new building, the Board of Trustees negotiated with the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company for a loan of \$100,000. After careful consideration, the Wells Fund-Raising Organization was engaged to conduct a fund-raising campaign, and in response to the efforts of campaign workers, \$256,000 was raised.

At the annual meeting in 1956, the congregation approved the hiring of an assistant pastor. It was recommended that the Benevolence Committee give consideration to establishing an old folks' home.

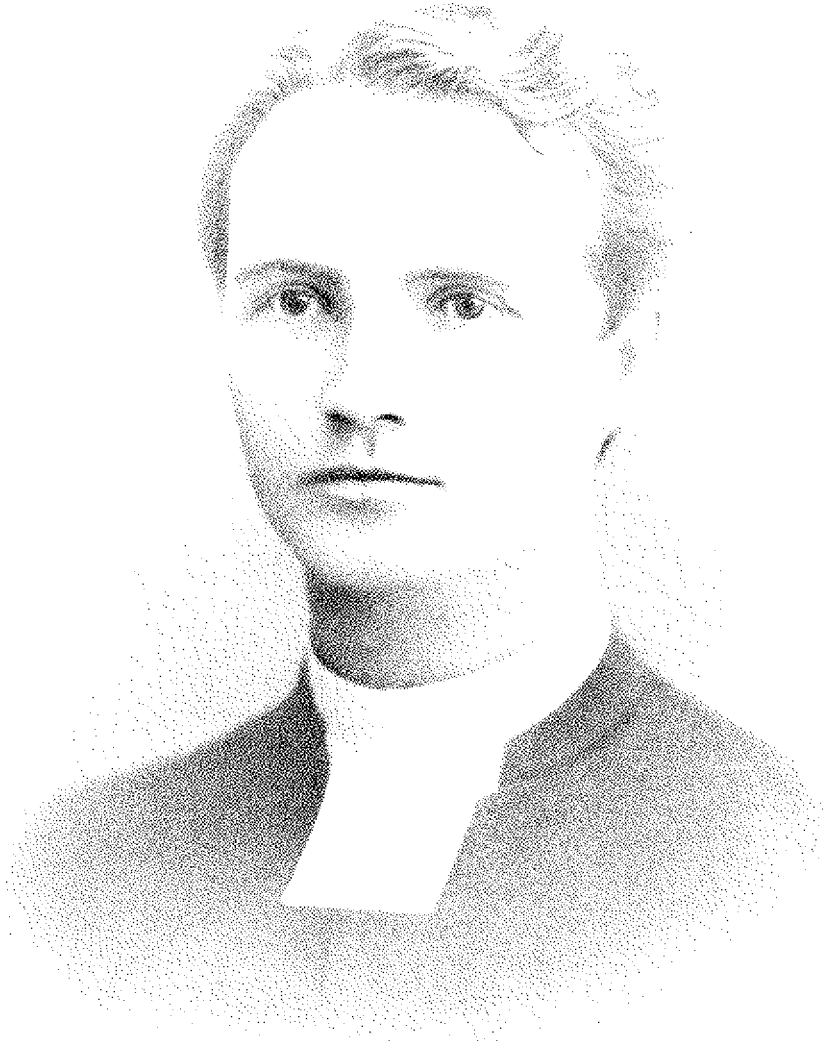
1957, the 74th year of Zion, found final payment of the mortgage on the church building project close at hand. It was proposed that consideration be given to obtaining a new parsonage, with the thought that the present parsonage could be used as an old folks' home or as housing for an assistant pastor or student intern, or for additional Sunday School facilities.

A full-time Educational Director, Mrs. Helen Marander, was secured this year, and Reverend Carl Linder assumed the duties of part-time assistant pastor. Dale Knoteck in 1958 accepted the call to serve as full-time Youth Director, commencing in April, 1959.

Thus, for three-quarters of a century, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church through earnest, prayerful effort has tried with sincerity and devotion to grow with the needs of its congregation. All this was done believing that the high privilege of service to God brings immeasurable rewards. We are confident that this is true today, and that it will be true, tomorrow.



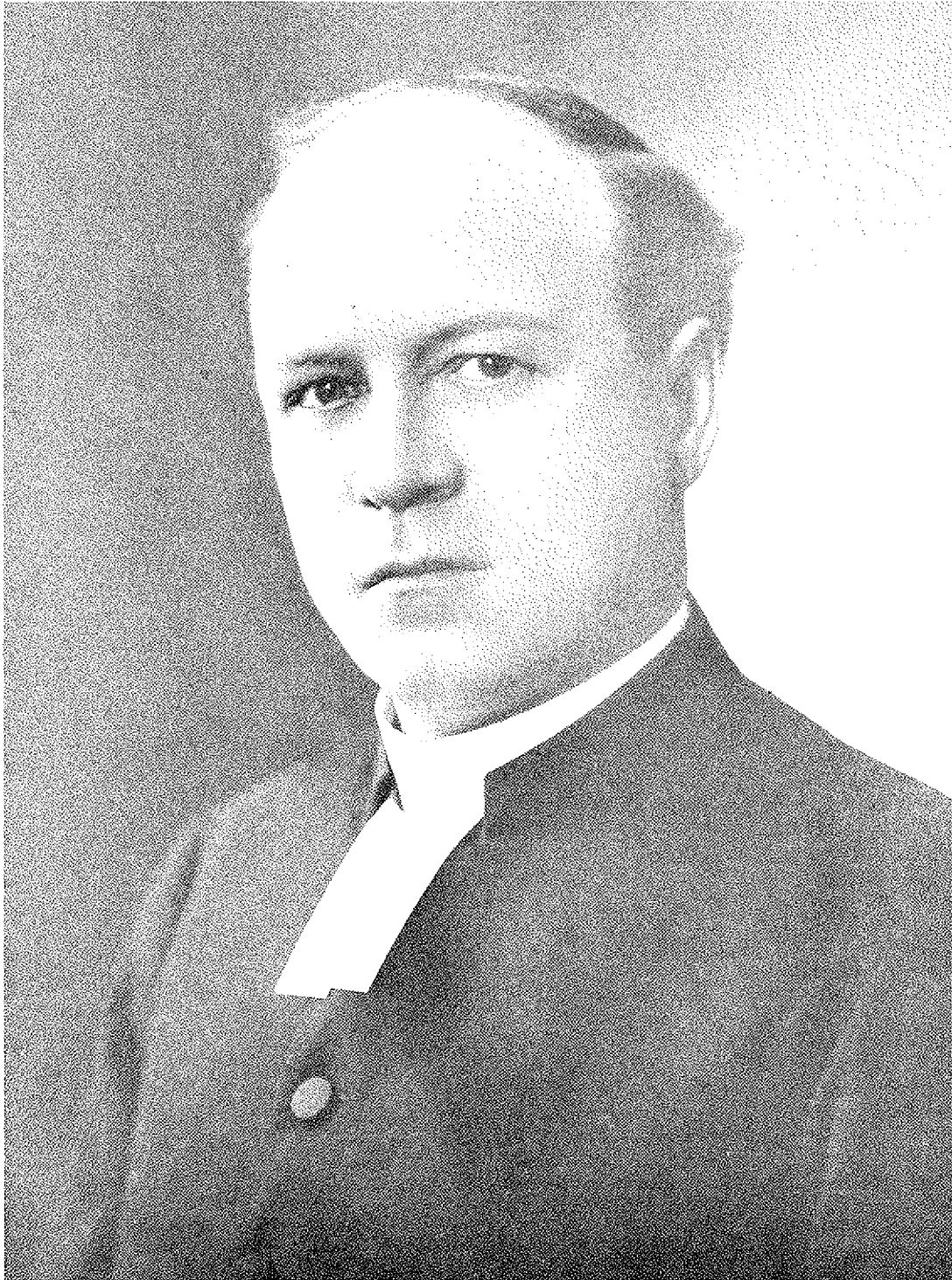
1884 - 1888 —Rev. C. G. Lundell



1888 - 1894 -- Rev. S. G. Ohman



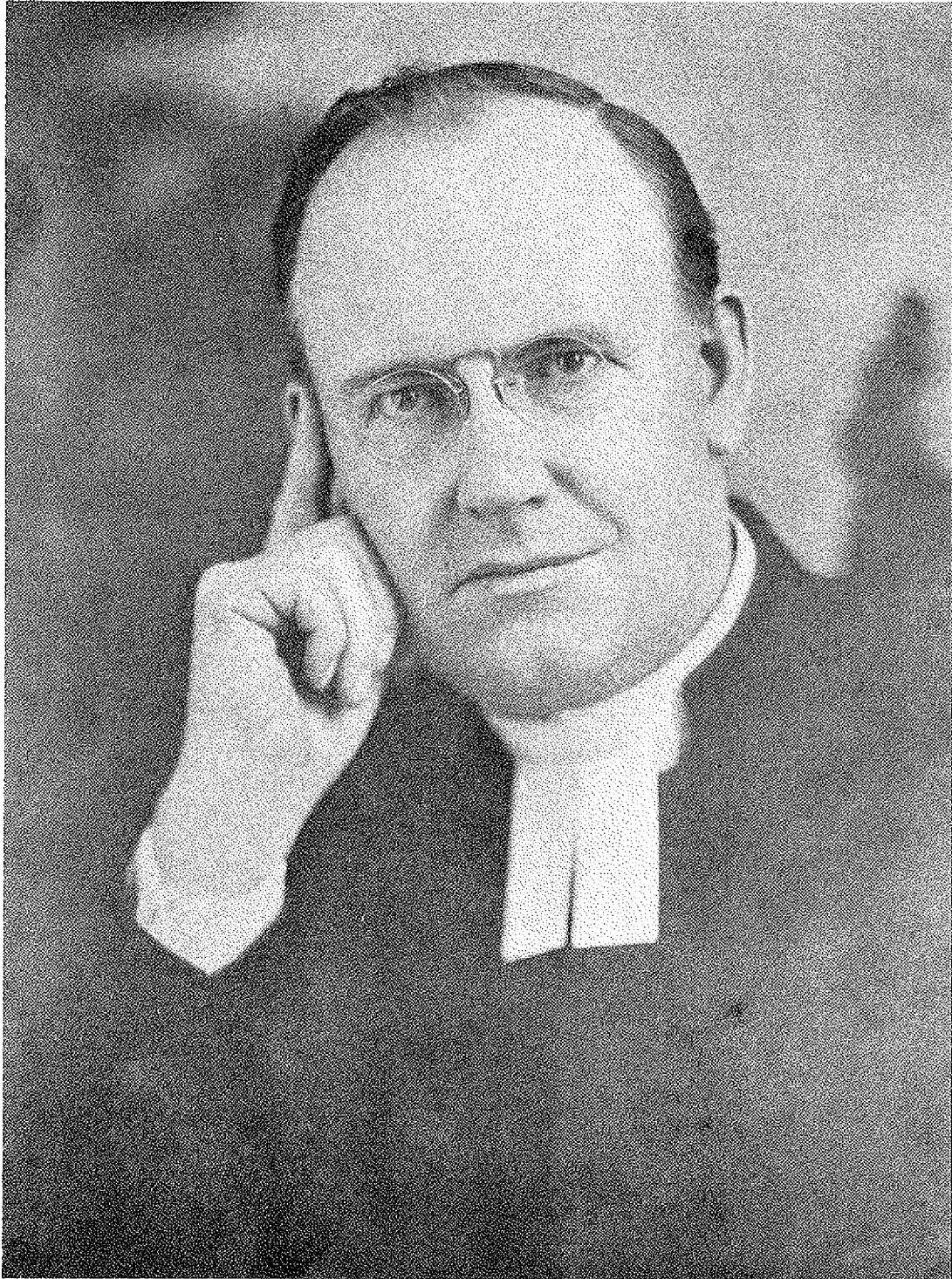
1894 - 1900 — Rev, J. A. Eckstrom



1901 - 1912 -- Rev. N. P. Sjostrom



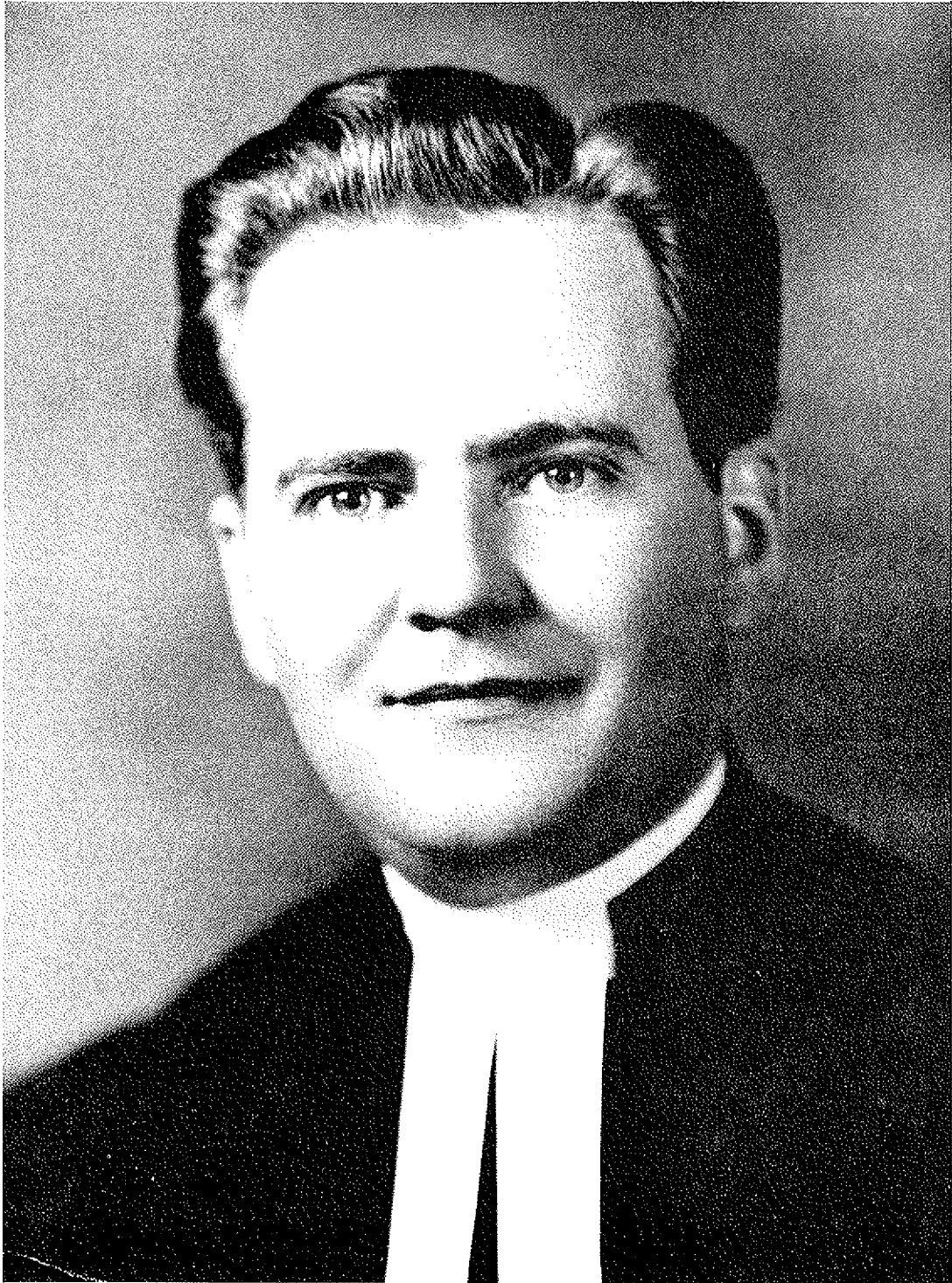
1912 - 1918—Rev. G. E. Heindahl



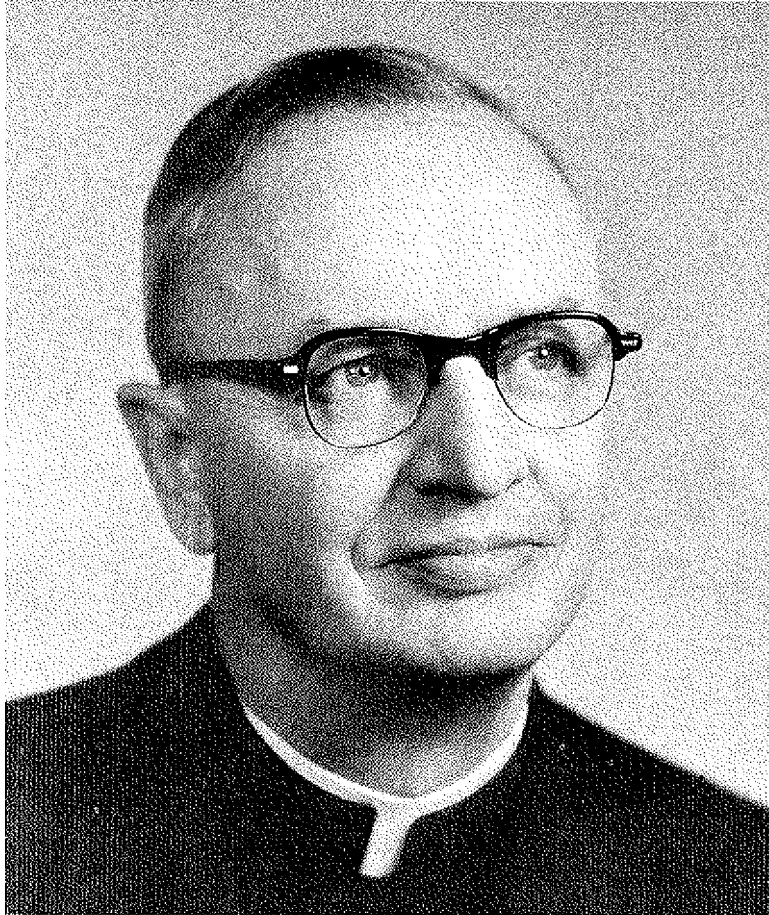
1919 - 1928 Rev. Carl Solomonson



1928 - 1948 — Rev. E. G. Knock



1942 - 1944 — Rev. Alf Wattman



PASTOR JOSEPH CONRAD

Pastor Joseph Conrad son of Pastor and Mrs. Swan Johnson, was born on June 10, 1899. The family made their home for 27 years in Stockholm, Minnesota, where he completed high school and college, receiving a B.A. degree. Following this, he taught high school mathematics and history, and later worked in the office of a Minnesota contractor.

In 1931, after attending Augustana Theological Seminary in Rock Island, Pastor Conrad received his Bachelor of Divinity Degree and served his first parish in Greeley, Colorado.

It was there he met and married Mrs. Conrad. Leaving Greeley in 1935, Pastor Conrad served as pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church in Denver, Colorado. During this time, he conducted a weekly radio broadcast for 3 years.

Entering the army as First Lieutenant Chaplain in 1941, he saw overseas duty, returning home in November, 1945, and left active service with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Pastor Conrad still is a member of the Officer Reserve Corps.

Before coming to Zion in September, 1946, Reverend Conrad served a church in Duluth, Minnesota.

Pastor and Mrs. Conrad have 3 children: Carolyn, now Mrs. Daniel Larson, living in Minnesota; Paul, a student at Augustana College; and Mark, a student at East High School.

Pastor Conrad has served as a Board member of the Blackhawk Area Boy Scout Council for 10 years. Last year, he was a member of the Community Chest Board, and last spring was re-elected to the Board of Lutheran Social Service of the Central Conference for another term of 3 years.

In June, 1957, he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Augustana College.

At the congregational meeting held in December, 1935, it was decided to call a full-time intern beginning in June, 1936. Following are listed those Augustana Seminary students who have served Zion since that time together with their present location of service:

- 1936 Otto MagnusonMessiah Church, Marquette, Michigan
- 1937 Kenneth Farb Bethlehem Church, Gary, Indiana
- 1938 Walter Carlson Pres. Red River Valley Conference,
Moorhead, Minn.
- 1939 Mark Wickstrom. . Sharon. Church, Bessemer, Michigan
- 1940 Alf Wattman Bethlehem Church, Bayport, Minnesota
- 1941 Arnold Olson (week-ends only) ... ;First Lutheran Church,
Hector, Minnesota
- 1942-43 no intern (Alf Wattman, Jr., Pastor)
- 1944 Yngve Nelson (summer only)Lutheran Church of the
Resurrection, Overland Park, Kansas
- 1945 Clifford Johnson (summer only)
- 1946-7-8 no intern Pastor Conrad and Pastor Knock,
associate pastors
- 1949 Edwin Swanson Missionary in Japan (Kobe, Japan)
- 1950 Paul Setterholm. . Missionary in Japan (Yemaguchi Ken,
Japan)
- 1951 Lawrence Carlson Missionary in Formosa
(Kaohsuing Taiwan)
- 1952 Kenneth Arntson. . Augustana Church, Omaha, Nebraska
- 1953 Clyde Norrgard Bethlehem Church, Vinton, Iowa
- 1954 Luther Olson First Lutheran, Port Wing, Wisconsin
- 1955 Bruce Benander St. Paul, East Chicago, Indiana
- 1956 Marshall Gante St. Luke's, Garfield, Minnesota
- 1957 Warren Hollertz . . Senior year at Seminary, Rock Island, Ill.
- 1958 Charles Ledin present Zion intern

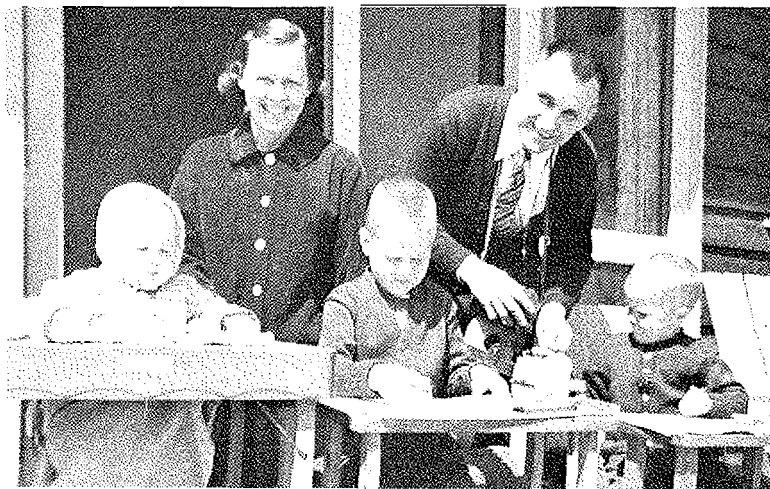
Missionaries

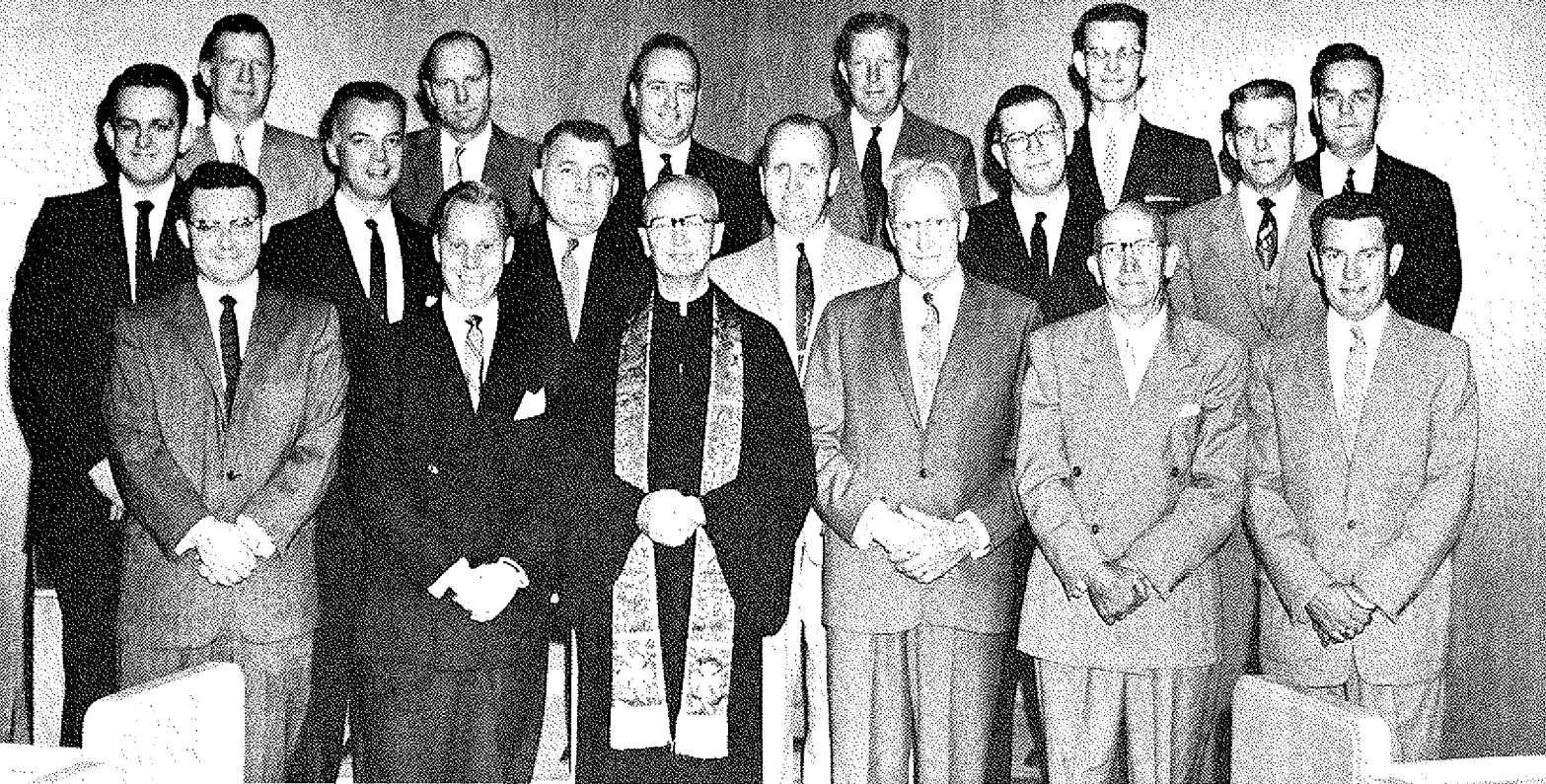


Interest in missionary work has, from early Zion history, been a vital issue. To foster this interest in a very special way, beginning in 1949, salary support was given to Pastor Melvin Lofgren and his wife, Dorothy, for missionary work in Tanganyika, North Africa. Before their marriage, Mrs. Lofgren served as parish worker of Zion. Now on their second term, Pastor and Mrs. Lofgren have been stationed continuously at Ruruma. They are the parents of four children, all born under the sunny skies of Africa.

In 1949, Ed Swanson with his wife, Ruth, came to Zion so that he could serve his internship. Upon his ordination, Pastor Swanson was called to go to Japan where their first term was spent in parish work in the city of Mihara. There, they organized a church called "Little Zion." Following a furlough year, they returned to Japan where Pastor Swanson is now teaching in the Lutheran Bible School of Japan. The Swansons are the parents of 3 boys.

We rejoice as a church that we can provide salary support for these two families. We are convinced that the finished salvation wrought by Christ is intended for the whole world. God gives us grace to be faithful to them in our prayers.





Board of Administration

TRUSTEES

- Andrew Borg, 1883-87
- N. P. Nygren, 1883-84
- C. Rydberg, 1883-89
- G. L. Wennerstrom, 1883-89, 1894-96
- Frank Anderson, 1883-90
- C. O. Nelson, 1883, 1886-88, 1891
- Oscar Peterson, 1884-86, 1891
- Chas. Sohlen, 1885-87, 1891-94, 1900-02
- Chas. Nelson, 1886-87
- M. Nyberg, 1886
- John Bengtson, 1887-93
- Oscar Bergquist, 1887-92
- Albert Anderson, 1888
- F. O. Lind, 1888-90, 1896-1911
- John Ek, 1889-91
- Herman Lind, 1890-92
- Rank Segurd, 1891-1902
- A. G. Nyberg, 1891-92
- Louis Sandine, 1892-94
- David Carlson, 1892-97
- J. A. Bowman, 1893-95, 1897-99, 1901-06
- Olof Erickson, 1893
- Gustaf Pehrson, 1894-97
- Aug. Lundgren, 1894-96, 1899-1904
- C. Dahlgren, 1895-97
- C. M. Danielson, 1895-1904, 1908-10
- John Holmberg, 1898-1900, 1933-35
- Axel Carlson, 1896-1904, 1908-19
- Frank Carlson, 1898-1903
- Chas. Segurd, 1898-1906, 1908-25
- L. J. Swenson, 1898-99
- Andrew Kjellgren, 1903-05
- Chos, Dahlberg, 1903-05
- N. P. Nelson, 1904-09
- Oscar Lustig, 1906-11
- Alf. Wessman, 1906-20, 1930-31, 1933-35
- Jonas Peterson, 1912-14
- A. D. Bodfors, 1907-18
- Oscar Warner, 1907-09
- Frank Nelson, 1910-12
- Joseph Lyden, 1910-12
- Dr. Emil Lofgren, 1911-16, 1930-32
- Louis Bildahl, 1912-14
- C. V. Fforoldson, 1913-21, 1927-29, 1936-38
- Louis Erickson, 1913-15
- Wm. Nordstrom, 1914-16
- Andrew Lindman, 1915
- Lawrence Lundgren, 1916-27, 1938-40, 1943-45
- Louis Nelson, 1916-17, 1920-26
- Henry Lindberg, 1917-22
- C. A. Johnson, 1917-28
- Gust E. Swanson, 1918-19, 1923-25, 1933-35
- Marlin Rosene, 1919-33, 1935-37, 1939-41, 1945-47
- B. C. Harvey, 1920-26
- David Lodin, 1921-29
- Chas. Krans, 1922-27
- George Peterson, 1926-28
- Axel Rosell, 1926-34, 1936-38, 1940-42
- Mauritz Nelson, 1927-32, 1934-36
- Reuben Swanson, 1928-30
- Oscar Norberg, 1928-30
- John Bloom, 1929
- Fred Johnson, 1929-31
- John Anderson, 1930-32, 1934-36, 1938-40

Edward Gustafson, 1931-33
 Ferdinand Fritz, 1931-33, 1941-43, 1946-48
 Minnerd Stork, 1932-34, 1935-37, 1939-41
 Herman Johnson, 1933-35
 Oscar W. T. Peterson, 1934-36
 Ivar Hawkinson, 1935-37
 Harry Carlson, 1936-38
 Frank L. Anderson, 1937-39
 Roy Gustafson, 1937-39, 1952-54
 Joe Swenson, 1937-39, 1941-43, 1946-48
 John Nelson, 1938-40, 1942-44, 1948-50
 Alien Elmquist, 1939-41
 Ernest Carlson, 1940-42, 1945-47
 Wallace Krans, 1940-42
 Lloyd Nelson, 1940-41, 1945-47
 Albert Johnson, 1941-43
 Roy Gustafson, 1942-44, 1944-46, 1953-55
 Arthur Sandberg, 1942-44, 1947-49

Leonard Johnson, 1943-45
 Harold Sheilberg, 1943-45, 1951-53
 Wilbur Gustafson, 1944-46
 Martin Sandberg, 1944-46
 David Aciolphs, 1946-48
 Harold Bargren, 1947-49
 Morris Monti, 1947-49
 Milton Lindstrom, 1948-50
 Axel Gustafson, 1948-50
 Maynard Nelson, 1949-51
 Robert Manning, 1949-51
 Charles Dahlberg, 1949-51
 B. C. Harvey, 1950-52
 Philip Stark, 1950-52
 Robert Rosell, 1950-52
 Maurice R. Johnson, 1951-53
 Richard Mincemoyer, 1951-53
 Harold Anderson, 1952-54

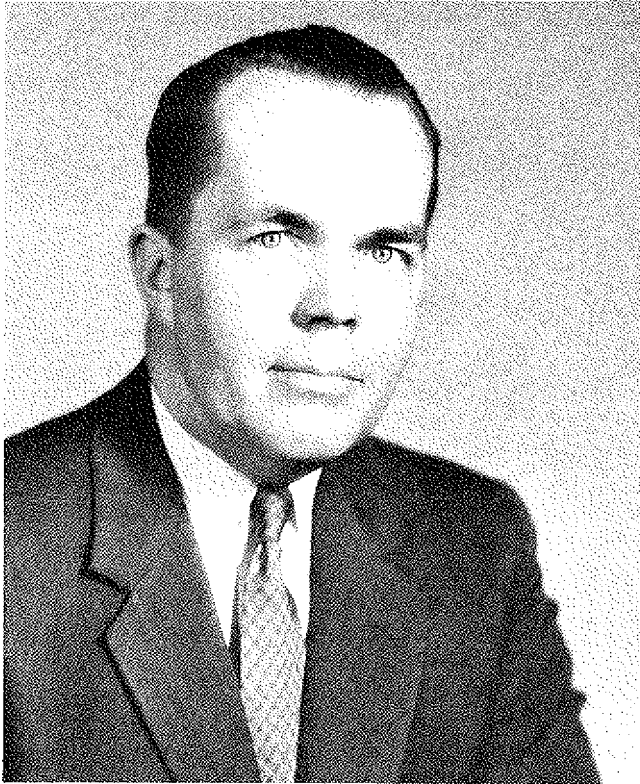
Roland Johnson, 1952-54
 Oliver Nelson, 1953-55
 Palmer Carlson, 1953-55
 Kermit Anderson, 1954-56
 Gunnard Johnson, 1954-56
 Algot Carlson, 1954-56
 Marshall Olson, 1955-57
 Clarence Warren, 1955-57
 Arthur Johnson, 1955-57
 Ray Peterson, 1956-58
 Vincent Monti, 1956-58
 Wesley Mark, 1956-58
 Lawrence Johnson, 1957-59
 Wallace Kordell, 1957-59
 Howard Johnson, 1957-59
 Howard Jenson, 1958-60
 Stanley Bergstrom, 1958-60
 Norman laGrande, 1958-60

DEACONS

C. F. Anderson, 1883-94, 1901-06
 Jonas Hokonson, 1883-84, 1887-95
 J. P. Kron, 1883-86
 Jonas Larson, 1883-91
 J. A. Glons, 1883-99, 1907-09
 Isaac Peterson, 1883-86
 J. M. Wallin, 1885-87, 1908-10, 1911-13
 P. G. Heggquist, 1886-91
 Peter Nelson, 1886-87, 1889-91
 L. Carlson, 1886
 P. J. Larson, 1887-89, 1896-1901, 1904-06
 Andrew Ktelligren, 1887-92
 Peter Rosene, 1888-93, 1899, 1907-18, 1922-24
 Chas. Borg, 1891-93, 1895-98, 1901-15, 1918-26, 1929-31, 1933-35
 John Rodin, 1891
 Fred S. Anderson, 1892-94
 Osca, Larson, 1892-94
 Nels Johnson, 1893-95
 Anton Danielson, 1893-95, 1906-11
 Alf. Swenson, 1894-1904
 John Alander, 1694-99
 John Kullberg, 1895-97, 1899-1904, 1908-13, 1915-20, 1922-30, 1932-34
 Edwin Carlson, 1895-97, 1901-02, 1903-05, 1910, 1912-14
 John Pihl, 1896-1901, 1927-29
 Chas. Stark, 1896-98, 1900-20, 1922-29
 John Dahlin, 1898-1905
 Frank Anderson, 1898-1900
 Claus Swenson, 1898-1900
 B. A. Lodin, 1898-99
 J. N. Johnson, 1898
 S. P. Hawkinson, 1900-02
 Jonas Peterson, 1902-04, 1908-10
 Andrew Johnson, 1906-08

Chas. Sandstedt, 1909-11
 Alfred Johnson, 1911-28, 1930-32
 John Eklund, 1912-15
 Victor Stomberg, 1913-21
 Swan Peterson, 1914-19
 Oscar Peterson, 1914-22
 John Wonfalt, 1916-21
 Oscar Anderson, 1916-17
 Aug. Wicklund, 1919-21, 1924-26
 Louis P. Nicols, 1920-28
 A. J. Stauf, 1921-23, 1931-32, 1935-37, 1941-43
 Henry Lindstrom, 1921-23
 C. J. Carbon, 1923-28, 1930
 C. O. Bloomquist, 1924-27, 1929-31, 1933-35, 1937-39, 1942-45
 Hugo Jacobson, 1925-33
 Hugo Goodin, 1927-33
 Chas. Lindstedt, 1928-29
 Gust E. Swanson, 1929-31, 1941-43, 1948-50
 Philip Stark, 1930-32, 1934-36
 Carl Swanson, 1931-33, 1943-45, 1948-50, 1953-55
 Lawrence Farb, 1932-34, 1936-38, 1940-42, 1946-48
 Herman Svaren, 1932-34
 Chas. Krans, 1933-35
 Chas. Borg, 1933-35
 Alfred Johnson, 1934-36, 1938-40, 1942-45, 1947-49, 1953-55, 1957-59
 August Wicklund, 1934-36
 Anton Danielson, 1935-37
 John Kullberg, 1936-38, 1940-42
 Eberhard Gustafson, 1936-38, 1940-42, 1945-47
 S. P. Hawkinson, 1937-39
 Gust Nyman, 1937-39

Nels Halborg, 1938-40
 Neb Larson, 1938-40, 1942-45
 Herman Johnson, 1939-41, 1944-46
 Wilbur Gustafson, 1939-41
 Oscar Johnson, 1939-41, 1950-52
 Nels Larson, 1939-40, 1947-49, 1952-54
 Carl Nyman, 1941-43, 1946-48, 1951-53
 Garfield Anderson, 1943-45, 1949-51
 C. V. Haroldson, 1943-45
 Armour Carlson, 1944-46, 1952-54
 Palmer Carlson, 1944-46
 Chester Johnson, 1945-47
 Oscar Wallin, 1945-47
 Hilmet Anderson, 1946-48, 1951-53
 Otto Axelson, 1947-49, 1954-56
 Leonard Johnson, 1948-50, 1955-57
 Eric Adolphs, 1949-51
 Ivar Hawkinson, 1949-51
 Edward Rundstrom, 1950-52
 Edward Lundstrom, 1950-52
 Fred O. Widergren, 1951-53
 Paul Farb, 1952-54
 Herbert Fagerstrom, 1953-55
 John B. Johnson, 1954-56
 Richard Peterson, 1954-56
 Fred Wallin, 1955-57
 Roger B. Pearson, 1955-57
 Henry Lindberg, 1956-58
 David Anderson, 1956-58
 Arthur C. Johnson, 1956-58
 Leslie Monson, 1957-59
 Kenneth Peterson, 1957-59
 Ingmar Carlson, 1958-60
 Ronald MacCallum, 1958-60
 Earl Swanson, 1958-60



Music Director

Clarence Helsing came to Zion as Director of Music in September, 1953, bringing with him a background rich in musical training and experience.

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1914, he attended public schools there and received his basic musical education. He graduated from the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, receiving his diploma in organ with honors in 1936. Continuing his studies, he received his soloist's diploma in 1938 and Bachelor of Music Degree in 1940, with honors with distinction. While at the Conservatory, Mr. Helsing was elected a member of the Honorary National Music Society of Pi Kappa Lambda, and held the Samuel B. Carr organ scholarship for five years. Following graduation from the Conservatory, he did graduate study at Union Theological Seminary, School of Sacred Music, in New York, with Homer Humphrey, Clarence Watters, and Dr. Robert Baker.

Mr. Helsing has served as organist and choir-master of Bethlehem Covenant Church of Worcester; Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Providence, Rhode Island; and Emanuel Lutheran Church, Manchester, Connecticut. He served for seven years as the accompanist for the Mendelssohn Singers of Worcester. Mr. Helsing also served as bassoonist in the New England Conservatory Orchestra and the Worcester Philharmonic Orchestra for a number of years, and has performed as flutist in several bands and orchestras.

Married to the former Lillian Olson of Providence, RI., in 1942, Mr. Helsing served for three years in the Chaplain's Division of the United States Navy.

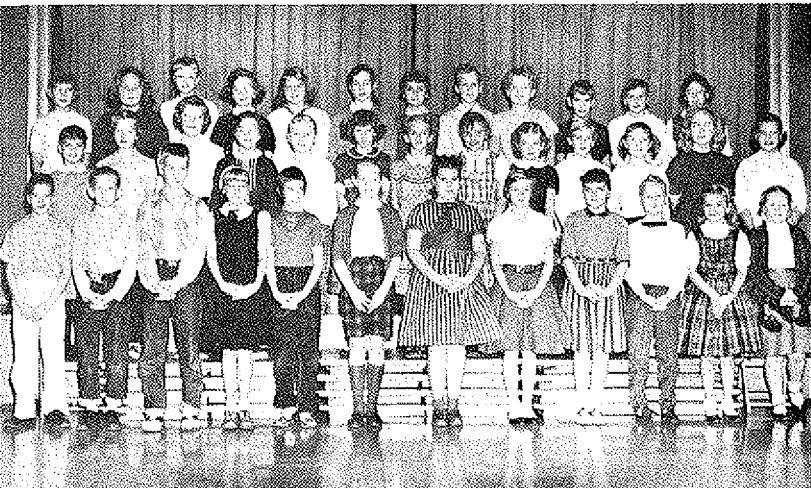
At present, he is treasurer of the Rockford Chapter, American Guild of Organists; director of the Nurses' Chorus at Swedish American Hospital; and accompanist and assistant director of the Rockford Lutheran Choral Union.



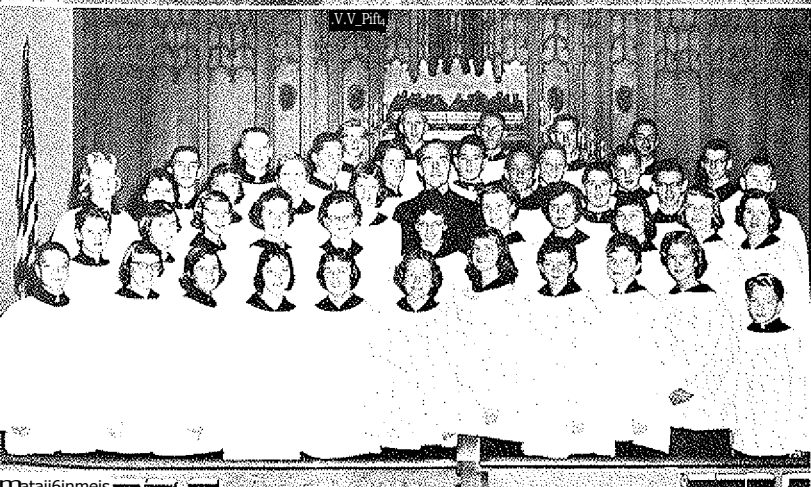
Cherub Choir

Choirs

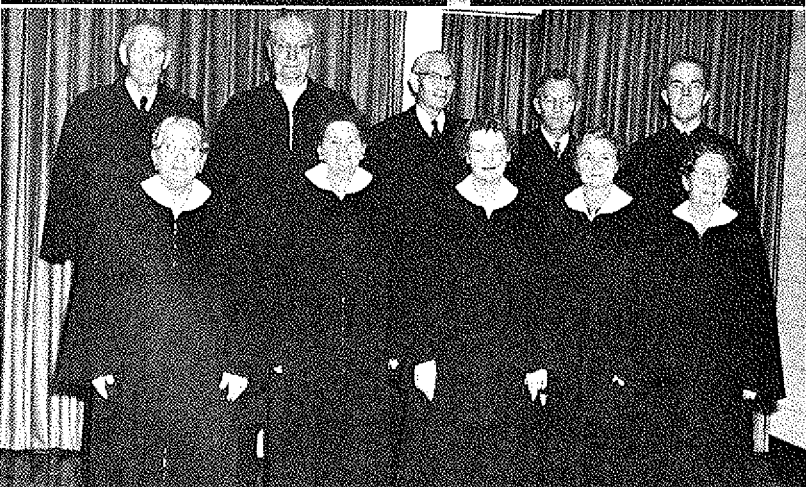
Junior Choir



A Capella Choir



Youth Choir



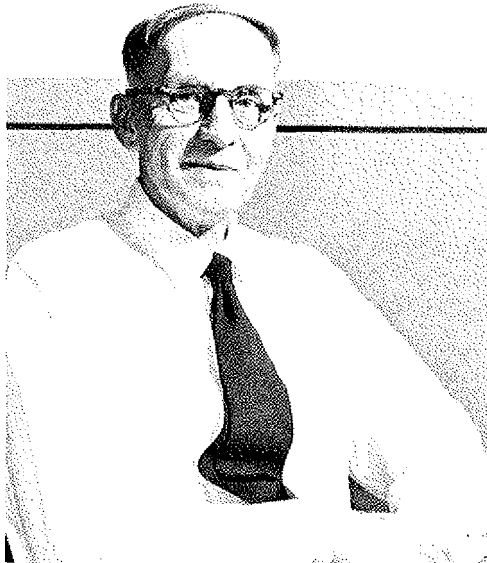
Swedish Choir

Education Director

A native of Rockford, Mrs. Helen Marander graduated from high school and attended the University of Illinois Extension School and North Park College in Chicago.

She has had several years' experience as parish worker, associated with Tabor Lutheran and Irving Park Lutheran in Chicago before coming to Zion following her marriage to William Marander on August 3rd, 1957.

At present, she is serving on the Camp Augustana Board of the Central Conference and is treasurer of the Protestant Big Sisters of Winnebago County. Mrs. Marander has also served on the Illinois Conference Luther League Board.



Custodian

Walter Tack has served as custodian of Zion Church since March, 1951. At that time, he came to Rockford from Cokato, Minnesota, where he had lived all his earlier years.

Mr. Tack was born on October 7, 1894, and spent his younger life helping his father on their farm near Cokato.

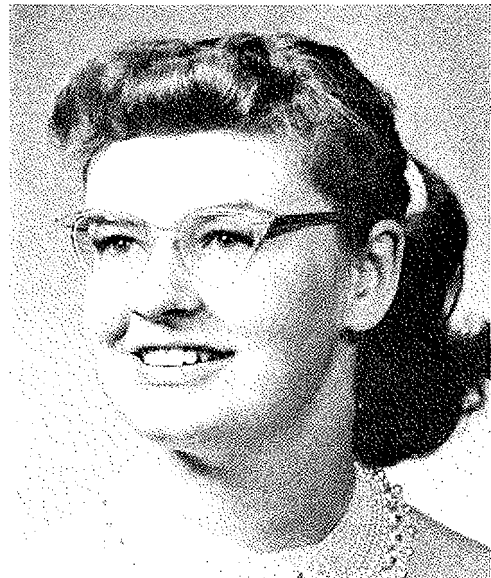
When World War I came, Mr. Tack served in the armed forces and was stationed in France. Following the war, in 1922, he married Rhoda Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Tack have raised a family of five children: Pastor Marvin Tack, who is serving as missionary in Japan; Lois (Mrs. David Maramier); Dorothy (Mrs. William Bjork); Donald, and Paul.

Secretary

Joanne, who has served as church secretary at Zion since September, 1958, has been an active participant in Zion church life since she was seven years old. Confirmed in 1954, she has helped with office duties since then on Saturday, and spent the summer of 1957 on the office staff.

Formerly a member of the Choir, she now teaches Sunday School in the Kindergarten Department. In addition, she is a Luther League counselor and belongs to the Lutheran Choral Union.



Sunday School



Nursery Department — 3-year-olds



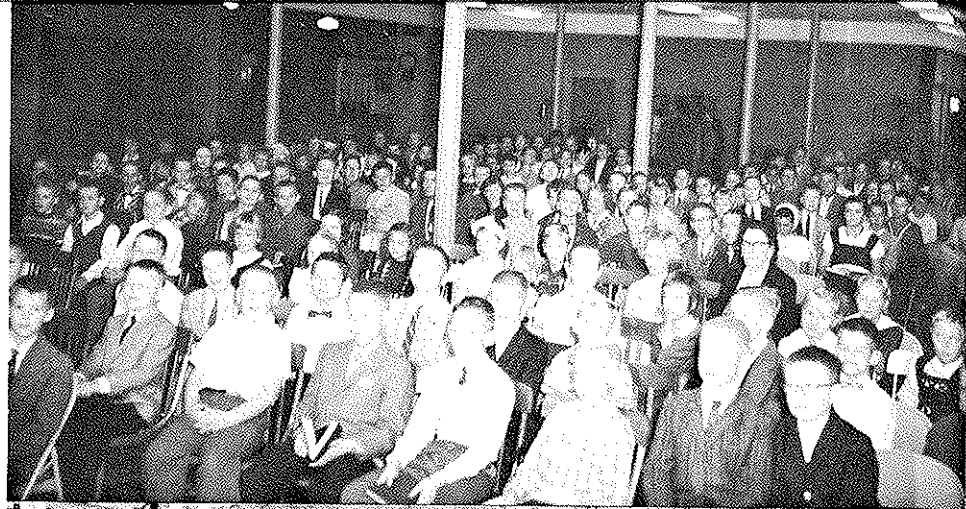
Kindergarten — 4-5-year-olds



Primary — 6-7-8-year-olds

Church Groups

Junior Department — 9-10-11-year-olds



Intermediate — Junior High School Age



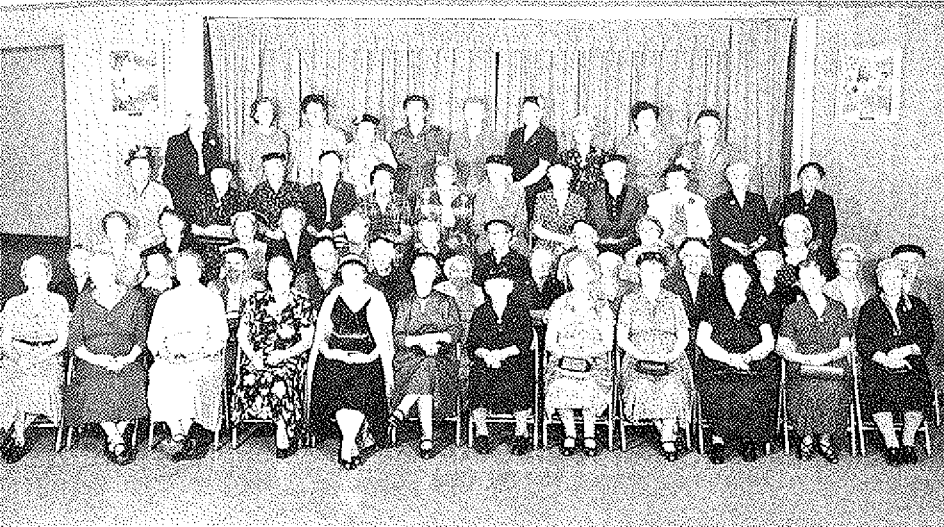
Senior Department — Senior High School Age



Adult Department



Church Groups



THE DORCAS SOCIETY Since its charter meeting in 1894, the Dorcas Society has been one of the most active and loyal organizations in the congregation. Many of the important projects undertaken by the church have been successful because of the support of the Dorcas group. A large part of its income comes from the circles affiliated with it.

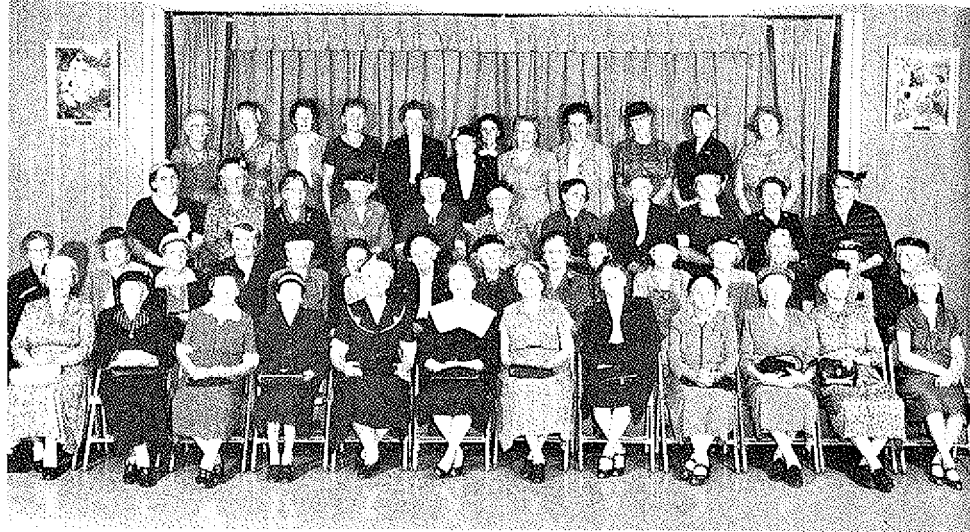
MARY MARTHA — As the Zion congregation grew, many women not of Swedish extraction were taken into membership. Since there was no society for them, Dr. E. G. Knock felt that something should be done about it.

In January, 1934 a meeting was held for those interested in a society to be conducted in the English language. The name "Mary Martha" was chosen for the group. There were 45 charter members, many of whom are still active. Membership has grown to 144, with 15 circles within the society.

The Mary Martha society has given financial aid to the church as well as missionary projects and has helped in its many functions.



Church Groups



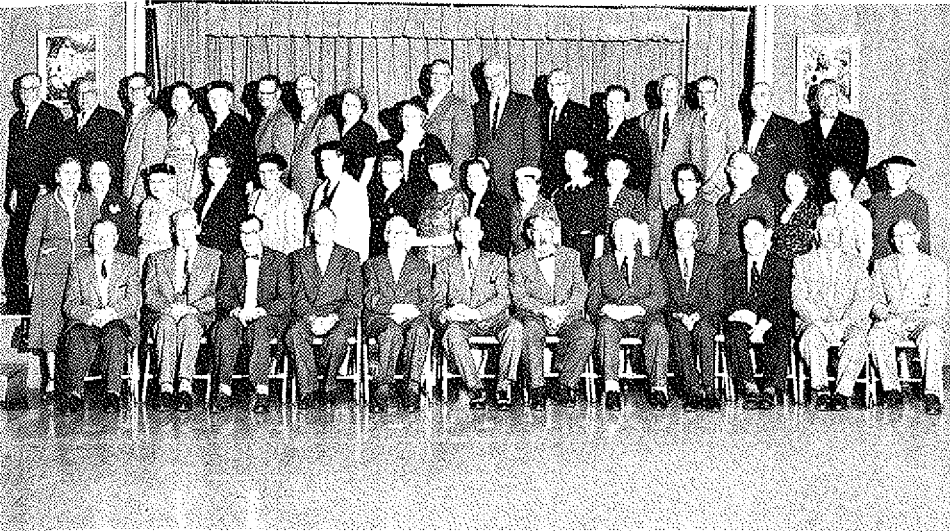
WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY — Under the leadership of Mrs. J. A. Ekstrom, wife of the Pastor, the Women's Missionary Society was organized in 1896, and Mrs. Ekstrom was elected the first president, Affiliated with the Augustana Women's Missionary Society, it has contributed much to the missionary zeal of the congregation by bringing to its attention the needs of missions, and it has also sent monetary support to the synodical organization for its many obligations.

BUSINESS WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY—On November 6, 1938, the Young Women's Missionary Society, an outgrowth of the Daughters of Zion, was organized particularly for working girls who could not attend afternoon meetings. In 1951 the group assumed its present name of the Business Women's Missionary Society.

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month, when missionary projects are carried on through varied programs and practical work nights. During the years of activity, a healthy growth in the organization has been evident.



Church Groups

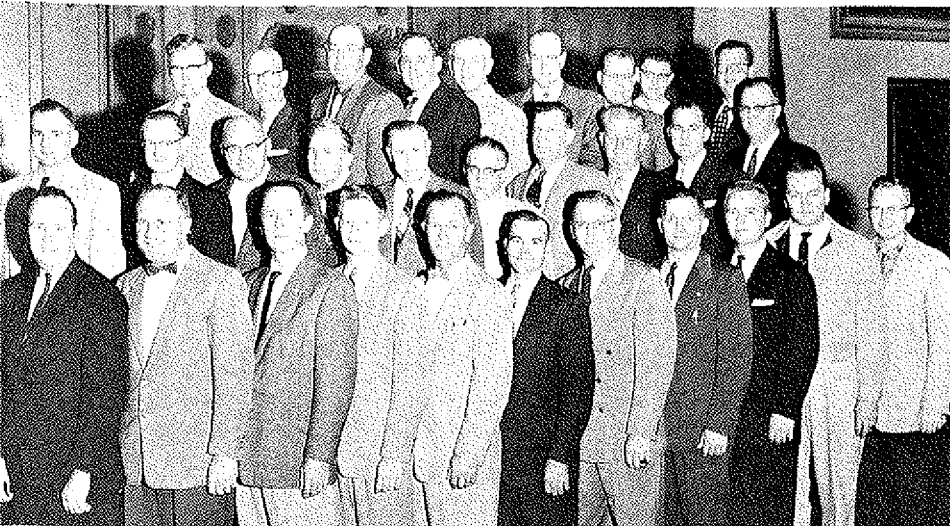


SWEDISH SOCIETY Today, the Swedish Society, with membership of 35 men, is active in many Zion affairs. Organized in January, 1913, as Zion Lutheran Brotherhood, Pastor Hemdahl was their first president.

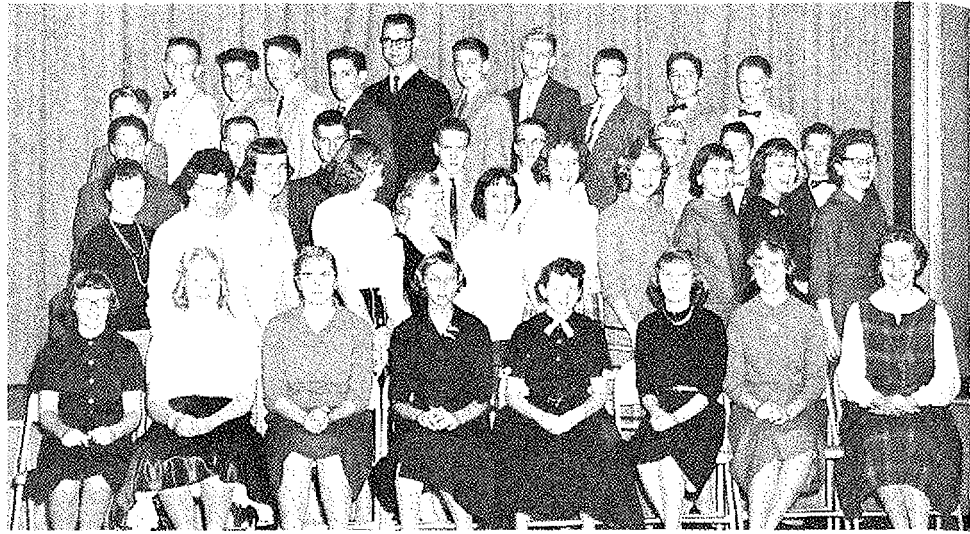
In 1934, an English Brotherhood was organized and Zion Brotherhood was changed to Swedish Brotherhood. In 1955, the name "Brotherhood" was dropped and the Swedish Brotherhood became Swedish Society. The Swedish Society meets monthly in the church for a program of spiritual or educational benefit.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCHMEN—In 1934, the Zion Lutheran English Brotherhood was organized. This group was later named Zion Lutheran Churchmen.

They have aided in many of the church projects and currently sponsor the Church Boy Scout Troop and Explorer post. They support and help in the maintenance of the "Central Conference" Bible Camp at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and each year send two orphan boys to Camp Augustana for boys' week. They also sponsor junior and senior baseball and basketball teams in City Church League.



Church Groups

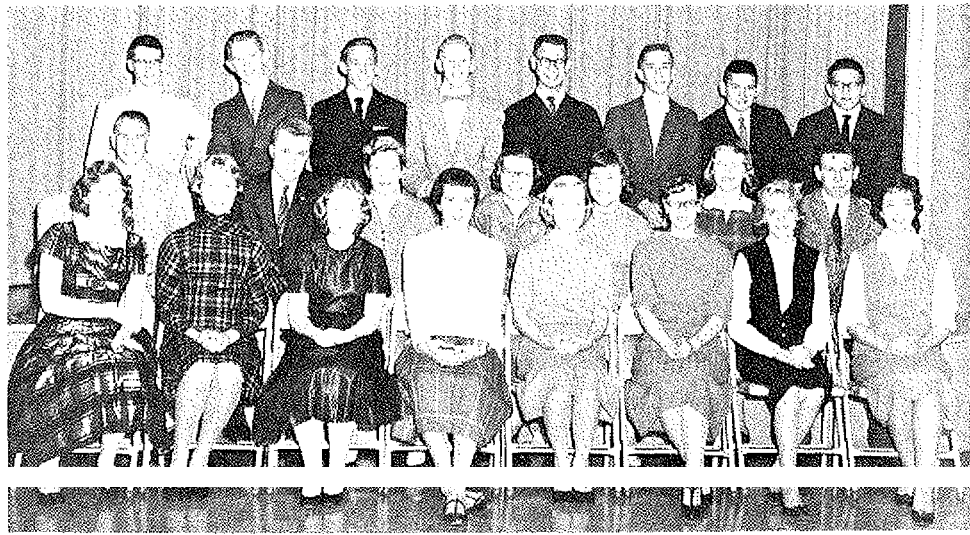


THE ZION LUTHER LEAGUES It was the day following the formation of the Zion congregation the formal organization of the young people of the church took place. It was on August 8th, 1883, that the Zion Aid Society, the name by which the youth group was then known, was organized. It was in 1896 that the name was changed to Luther League.

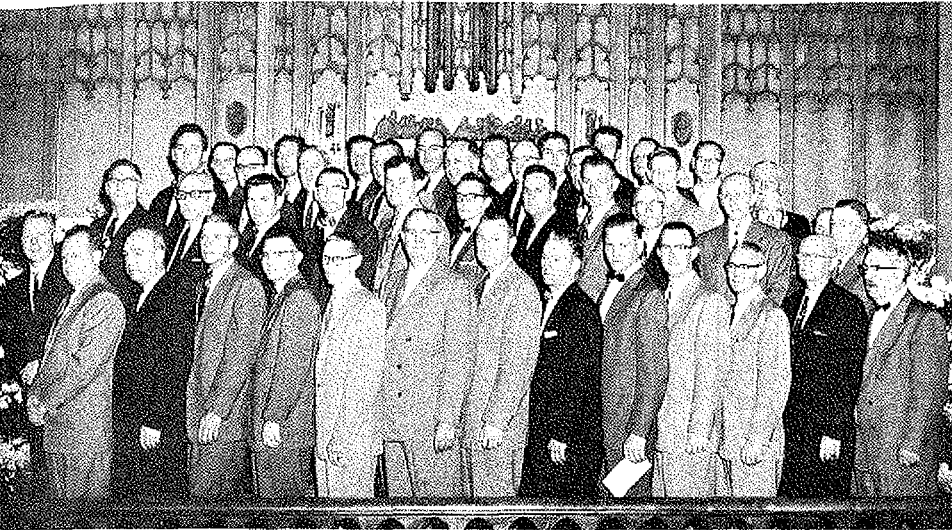
Through the years since then, this organization has done much to keep the young people faithful to Christ and the church.

At present, we have two Luther League groups. The Senior League, composed of high-school students, numbers about sixty, and its officers are Bruce Johnson, president; Dean Gustafson, vice-president; Lynn Nelson, secretary, and Russ Miller, treasurer.

The Junior League, consisting of 9th grade students, has as its president Jim Freed. Other officers are Douglas Nelson, vice-president; Mary Gouker, secretary; Reuel Johnson, treasurer.



Church Groups



USHERS There are records of much tireless devotion found in the records of Zion Lutheran Church, but few have exceeded the faithful service given by the ushers of Zion.

MR. AND MRS. GROUP On December 6, 1952, the Zion Young Marrieds Group was organized for the purpose of fellowship, "To promote and develop this feeling of friendliness and fellowship is a worthy aim which will bind us together in the church and encourage participation in other activities of the church." The first meeting was attended by 36 couples.

The present group, now called "Mr. and Mrs.," averages an attendance of 20 couples at each meeting. Officers are: Mr. and Mrs. Bud Hakes, president; Mr. and Mrs. Dave Anderson, vice-president; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Monti, secretary; Mr. and Mrs. Kenny Goodin, treasurer, and Mr. and Mrs. Herb Fagerstrom, greeters.



Church Groups



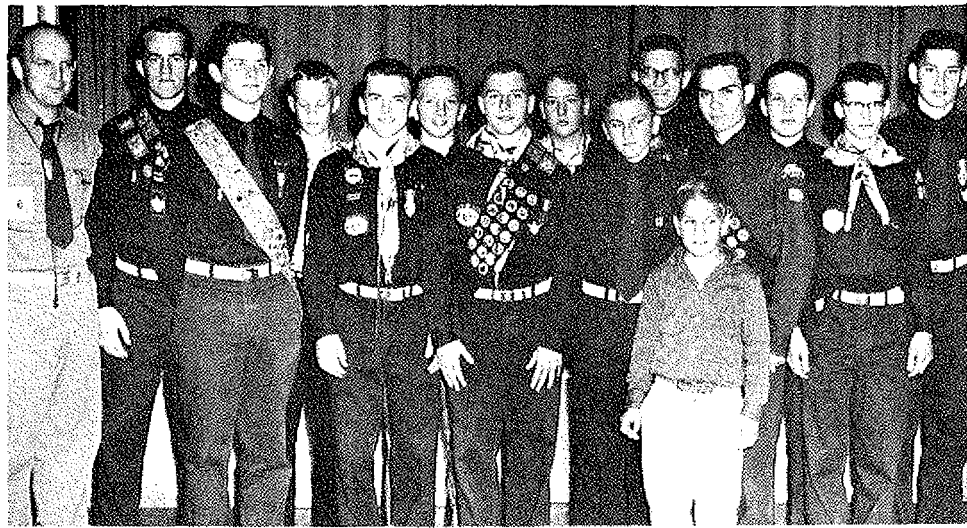
BOY SCOUTS Scouting was first organized in Zion by Clarence Hall (student minister) and Harold Graham, who led the group as Scoutmaster. Originally Troop No. 29, the group was reorganized in 1949 as Troop No. 34. Scoutmaster of this troop was Bill Lofgren.

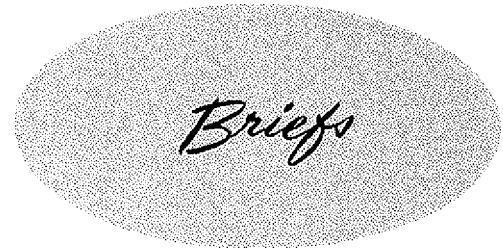
Today, there are about 40 Boy Scouts in Troop 34, led by Kelley Swanson, Scoutmaster. Explorers David Case, Jim Hulls, and Jack Alongi are Junior Assistant Scoutmasters.

Ten Pro Deo et Patria Awards have been made to members of the Zion Boy Scout Troop, and at present there are eight boys working for religious awards.

EXPLORER SCOUTS While an Explorer Post was active in conjunction with the former Boy Scout Troop 29, the present Explorer Post was organized in 1957 with Roger Anderson as Explorer Advisor and Kelley Swanson as his assistant.

Today there are 22 Explorers — one Eagle Scout, seven Life Scouts, six Star Scouts, and eight First Class Scouts. Palmer Carlson is currently serving as acting Explorer Advisor.





Aug. 7, 1883 - Congregation organized.
Sept. 7, 1883 - Lot selected for erection of church.
July 1, 1884 - Rev. C. G. Lundell became first pastor.
July 20, 1884 - Cornerstone of church laid.
Sept. 7, 1884 - First service held in church basement.
Oct. 18, 1884 - Basement dedicated.
Oct. 11, 1885 - Completed church dedicated.
July 1, 1888 - Rev. S. G. Ohman preached his first sermon as pastor of Zion church.
1892 - The first piano for church was bought.
1894 - Ladies' Aid organized.
March 11, 1896 - Church bell dedicated. Donated by Jonas Hakanson.
1900 - Electric lights installed in church by Luther League.
Jan. 1, 1902 - Started drive to pay \$5,000 church debt.
Nov. 9, 1902 - Church debt paid in full. Special observance on Thanksgiving Day, 1902.
1903 - Balcony built.
1904 - Bethany club organized to aid sick and poor.
1905 - Church secured services of Sister Anna Carlsson as deaconess.
1906 - Lot south of church purchased.
Jan. 1, 1907 - Trustees named committee to raise money for a parsonage.
1909 - Stone steps were built in front of church.
1910 - Parsonage built.
Jan. 1, 1910 - John Mellberg elected janitor.
Feb. 6, 1912 - Rev. N. P. Sjostrom died.
Jan. 2, 1913 - Decided to hold English service last Sunday every month.
July 8, 1913 - Roof of church tower blown off by storm.
July 16, 1913 - Congregation voted to erect steeple.
1913 - Zion Brotherhood organized.
1914 - Electric lights were installed in the dining room of the church.
March, 1914 - Girls' Mission band started.
Jan. 1, 1915 - Women have first opportunity to vote at congregational meeting.
Jan. 27, 1915 - Decided to install motor to pump organ.
1915 - The garage on parsonage lot was built.
June, 1916 - Church steeple hit by lightning.
Jan. 1, 1917 - Congregation voted to support Sunday School work at Rock View. Sunday School started immediately at 14th Ave. and 20th St.
Feb. 9, 1919 - Rev. Carl Solomonson preached his first sermon at Zion.
1919 - Cradle roll organized.
Jan. 1, 1920 - Envelope finance system voted by congregation. Adopted for use Jan. 1, 1921.
March 1, 1922 - Double morning service started; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; English service, 10 a.m.; and Swedish service, 10:45 a.m. Evening services were in Swedish.
1922 - Baptismal font still in use donated by Charles Segurd and Martin Rosene.
Oct. 22, 1923 - Archbishop Nathan Soderblom of Sweden guest at Zion.
1923 - Daughters of Zion organized; also Junior Luther League.
April 8, 1925 - Congregation voted to give Rock View Sunday School and chapel to Tabor Lutheran Church.
January 27, 1926 - The congregation adopted the 1915 constitution.
Oct. 7, 1927 - Dedication of new Zion organ, paid for by Luther League.
Feb. 5, 1928 - Death of Dr. Carl Solomonson.
Nov. 8, 1928 - Rev. E. G. Knock and family arrived from Denver.
Nov. 3, 1929 - The Sunday School building was dedicated.
May 10, 1931 - The new altar was dedicated.
1933 - Fiftieth anniversary celebrated.

Dec. 11, 1935 - Congregation decided to call a theological student to serve his internship in Zion.
Dec., 1938 - Young Women's Missionary Society organized.
April 26 - May 1, 1938 - Zion congregation was host to the Illinois Conference.
September 17-18, 1938 - Luther League was host to Rockford District Luther League.
1938 - Basement ceiling soundproofed, rooms in new addition painted.
June, 1939 - New constitution adopted by Augustana Synod.
Dec., 1939 - New constitution adopted by Zion congregation.
Dec. 11, 1940 - Sinking fund established for repairs and church building.
Dec. 11, 1940 - English Lutheran Brotherhood submitted first report at annual meeting.
1942 - Home Mission Board took over work of the Alpine Branch.
July 1, 1942 - Assistant Pastor Alf Wattman called.
1943 - Full-time church secretary secured.
Oct. 20-24, 1943 - 60th anniversary observed.
Feb. 1944 - Assistant Pastor Alf Wattman resigned.
Sept. 8, 1946 - Pastor Joseph Conrad called as associate pastor.
Sept. 29, 1946 - Memorial Service held for three young men of Zion who lost their lives in World War II.
1946 - Second parsonage (at 1702 - 25th St.) purchased.
1947 - By action of Augustana Synod, college and theological seminary separated. College to be owned and controlled by Illinois, Iowa, and Superior Conferences.
Nov. 1, 1948 - Pastor E. G. Knock resigned.
Nov. 7, 1948 - Rev. Joseph Conrad became pastor.
Dec. 14, 1949 - Missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Melvin Lofgren commissioned to serve in Tanganyika Territory, Africa.
1950 - Planning Committee appointed to study overall expansion program.
1952 - Rev. and Mrs. Edwin Swanson supported by Zion as missionaries in Japan.
June 10, 1952 - Special meeting called to discuss need for additional Sunday school space.
Dec., 1952 - Plans made for 100th anniversary of Illinois Conference to be held in 1953.
March 25, 1953 - Church incorporated in name of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.
Dec. 14, 1953 - 70th anniversary celebration held.
March, 1954 - Cornerstone laid for new addition.
1954 - Family Night Fellowship started.
Feb. 21, 1954 - Started broadcast of Sunday services over radio station WRRR.
Sept. 19, 1955 - Youth Center Dedication services.
1956 - Wells Fund-Raising Company directed financial campaign.
1957 - Part-time assistant pastor, Rev. Carl Linder, called to Zion.
1967 - Mrs. Helen Marander called as full-time Education Director.
1958 - Dale Knoteck called as Youth Director.



Mark, a student at
East High School



Paul, an Augustana
College student



Carolyn, now
Mrs. Daniel Larson
of Minnesota



Mrs. Conrad, who
has consistently
taken an active part
in church affairs

Two factors entered into the decision to purchase the new parsonage at 1310 Arden Court, which was accomplished in 1958. The old parsonage, used for many years, was in need of extensive repair and remodeling, and at the same time, Sunday School facilities were hard-pressed. After careful deliberation it seemed that the interests of Zion could best be served by remodeling and using the old parsonage for needs of the Sunday School, and to invest in a new parsonage which would be suitable for use as a parsonage for many years to come.



Epilogue

*"And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one
but Jesus only" Matthew 17:8*

As you look through the foregoing pages you will note that the most important picture is missing — a picture of our Saviour. The reason for the omission is that He can best be seen through the eyes of faith. Those who love Him and trust in Him can see and appreciate His loveliness — and then only in part. "For now we see in a mirror dimly."

As we write the closing message in this book we wish simply to direct your attention to Him. Whatever has been achieved is due to Him and His Grace so freely given. As God's children, saved by grace, we must bow at the foot of the cross and pray with the psalmist, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy Name give glory." At the same time let us remember that He builds His church through us frail creatures, or otherwise it will remain undone. He needs every one of us in the fulfillment of His plans.

Looking to Him, then, we anticipate a glorious future for our beloved church. May each one of us, including those who follow in our steps, serve Him so wholeheartedly that when life's journey is over He will say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Anniversary Events

Throughout its 75th year, the Zion congregation has many activities planned in celebration of this memorable occasion. It is hoped that friends and members of the Zion Lutheran Church will join in fellowship to observe the scheduled events which are as follows:

- 1958
- August 10 Anniversary — family celebration
- October 12 Confirmation Reunion Pastor Wattman
- November 9 Memorial Sunday — O. B. Anderson
- December 4 and 5 St. Lucia Festival — Pageant and Play
- 1959
- March 15 Organ Dedication — Roger Nyquist
- April 12 Choral Concert

