

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Historical Notes
Pastor 26, 1962-1970

26. RALPH RYBERG (1962-1970)

Ralph Ryberg was installed as Trinity's pastor only two months after Pastor Cooperrider concluded his pastorate (17 June 1962). He was installed by Ralph E. Eckard on 19 August 1962. After interviewing four candidates recommended by the Synod President, the Pulpit Committee, chaired by Phil Orr, unanimously recommended calling Ryberg, who was pastor of Mt. Moriah Church, in Anna, IL, at the congregation's present salary and benefits (\$5,980, 10-cents per mile, three Sundays vacation, and pension and hospital insurance for his family). On July 8, following a service in which he had preached, the congregation by a vote of 211 to 16 called him to be its next pastor, and he accepted the call contingent on acceptance of his resignation in Anna. In his first Annual Report, Pastor Ryberg said he remembered Pastor Stone from his Examining Committee and Pastor Cooperrider from his seminary days. He credited his predecessor with leaving the records and Register in fine shape, noted the significant progress of the congregation from 1955-1962 (baptized membership increased from 922 to 972, confirmed from 656 to 706, communing from 513 to 630; 306 persons were received as confirmed members and 234 children as baptized members). The congregation had liquidated all its indebtedness and was the only congregation in Illinois, and one of five in the ULCA, to give more for benevolences than for local expenses in the past few years (it had the highest per capita in benevolent giving). It had given \$30,931 to the UFCT (United for Christ's Tomorrow) Campaign: fair share was \$18,630, venture goal was \$31,724).

The years ahead seem to have been years of some agony for both congregation and Pastor. The congregation agonized to find that the religious revival of the 1950s did not continue and that the high level of enthusiasm and commitment generated by the building program of the 1940s and 1950s were difficult to sustain. They had a pastor who tried very hard to do it all and found it was too much. He agonized to keep the statistics up, to see that the budget was met, to get all the work done, and to find and develop new leaders to fill the shoes of those who had lived through the golden years of the Stone Age. Pastor Ryberg was frequently fretful about his inability to do all that needed to be done (cf. 1963 and 1964 annual reports). He searched for reasons to explain the declining statistics. For 1965 he listed as reasons an ice storm, 60 members away at school, fewer pastoral calls (due to his graduate study), and a summer slump that began earlier and lasted longer. For 1968 he said, "I had felt that our decline in church attendance would level off. However, such facts of community life as overtime work through the weekends of a good part of 1968 meant more offerings but lower attendance for many who otherwise would have been in their places at Sunday morning worship." For the 1969 statistics he asked, "Why the drop? The Pastor? The fewer high school youth confirmed? More overtime at Kable Printing Company? More leisure enjoyments that take you out of town over weekends? Less concern about the life of the Spirit, about Christ and His Church? A way of protesting the LCA's involvement in various social mission projects? (You might probe your own commitment to Christ in your willingness or lack of willingness to serve Him through His Church.)"

In September 1968 the Stewardship Committee came with analysis and recommendations from a congregational survey (211 of 600+ questionnaires were returned) the preceding year and said:

The results of the survey show that our members basically have a good Christian attitude, that TLC is highly important to its members and worship is the predominant reason for church attendance. Much concern, however, has been expressed by both lay and clergy about declining membership and declining church attendance. It seems likely that a budget that is already strained will become even more difficult to fulfill, unless methods and means are developed to meet the needs of our congregation as evidenced by the survey.

Three dominant needs were identified: 1) more active involvement and commitment on the part of the members, 2) concern for the youth, and 3) strong effective leadership. Members sought help from preaching, teaching, and counselling, and they had a desire to reach the unchurched in the community; they did not expect any significant help from the church in the way of purely social activities. The pastor, they said, should be a good administrator (as well as preacher, teacher, and counsellor); the members were not interested in having the pastor involved in community activities and denominational affairs. Most did not expect routine visits in their homes. They wanted well-prepared, biblical sermons. They sought pastoral empathy and understanding. "There is deep concern about the church and about its related business, with a desire for more information about the mechanics of its operation...very little interest in the effort to provide 'social' opportunities." The Bible was being read by 30.2% of the respondents and The Lutheran by 77.2%, pointing to "a hard core of dedicated and dependable members." Pastor Ryberg clearly worked very hard to serve this people.

In 1967 he wrote some "Pastor's Reflections After Five Years," which he presented at the Council meeting on September 11. He noted successes and failures (and the tentativeness of one's judgment about each) and expressed gratitude for allowance to complete his work on a master's degree in guidance and counseling. After some reflection on the experience of three interns and an administrative assistant (1964-67) ("We all discovered, haven't we, that a young unordained person who stays only nine months or a year cannot be expected to be an assistant pastor"), he listed reasons for two pastors at Trinity: greater variety of strengths and involvement, time for reflection and leisure, congregation's ability to afford it, and 500 as the maximum number of communing members one pastor can serve. He said, "I freely admit my need for help!" "...this parish of ours needs and can have and should have a two-pastor team for optimum pastoral leadership." He concluded by noting two accomplishments of his five years: realistic budgets (with increase in pledge receipts and benevolences) and completion of a \$14,000 pledge to the Lutheran School of Theology Development Fund.

In 1964 the congregation began seeking an intern. When none was available and decision was made against calling an assistant pastor (Gerald V. Goodrich was interviewed on 4/13/64), the Pastor was authorized to seek an administrative assistant. Mr. Vernon Lentz came from Moline and served for six months (1 July 1964 to 13 January 1965). He once had thought of going to seminary but decided against it even before coming to Mt. Morris. Here he made calls at the hospital and at Pinecrest, called on the high school youth and other members, attended meetings of Council, committees (especially evangelism, education, and

stewardship), auxiliaries, and Luther League, made survey calls, called on new people in town, and occasionally led morning devotions at Pinecrest Manor. He was responsible to the Pastor alone. He was paid \$2,080/year plus \$2,600 for room/board/transportation expenses and was allowed one month's vacation. The northwest room off the nave was redecorated for his use. In November the Council rejected his request for a salary adjustment, and in December he announced he would leave in order to do graduate study in English at Iowa City...and to allow the congregation to take advantage of the availability of an intern.

Robert E. Van de Ven was that intern. He and his wife Claudia came for 6½ months (1 February to 15 August 1965). A baby shower was held for them in April, and he returned to be elected president of the senior class.

George R. Kaiser was the second intern - 25, a native Chicagoan, single, graduate of North Park College, member of Luther Memorial Church, Chicago. He was here from 15 September 1965 to 15 August 1966.

James H. Beaty was the third intern, from 11 September 1966 to 31 May 1967 (he then went to work at Kable Printing for four months). He was a native of Iowa and a 1964 graduate of University of Illinois (his father was professor of agricultural engineering there). He married Raye Ellen Witt, of Chicago, also a University of Illinois grad. He was paid in the form of a grant (for income tax advantages) from the benevolence fund.

These three had completed their second year at LSTC when they came as interns. They assisted with preaching and liturgy, calling on shut-ins and the hospitalized, members and non-members, attended meetings, taught catechetical and Sunday School classes, etc. But on 31 May 1967 the internship program at Trinity was terminated, Pastor Ryberg clearly upset with the program, when a student who had completed only one year at the seminary was assigned. "I should not, I will not expect that a young man fresh from two years of seminary training \[not to mention one year\] can or will be an 'assistant pastor'.... I feel that I am not capable of helping a seminary student become an adequate 'assistant pastor' in nine or twelve months." Earlier, on April 11, in a letter to Professor Axel C. Kildegaard, at Maywood, withdrawing from the internship program as a pastoral supervisor, Ryberg said: "I have neither the time nor the image of myself as a teacher of seminarians, at least at this point in my career."

Now thought turned serious toward calling an associate pastor. In December 1967 the Council decided to recommend it, and in January 1968 the congregation agreed (107 to 54). On 24 March 1968 Robert E. Van de Ven, the first intern at Trinity, was elected (133 to 17). He was then pastor (of short tenure) of Dongola Lutheran Parish, in Dongola, IL. He found reasons within himself for leaving Dongola, though Synod President Marshall had reservations about the move. He assumed responsibilities here (at the age of 28) on 3 June 1968, though his installation by Synod President Gerald J. Johnson was delayed until September 15. He lived with his family in the second parsonage at 305 Emily St. (rented from Lawrence and Mildred Lamm @ \$135/mo. beginning 1 September 1968). He worked at all aspects of the ministry and especially with youth, evangelism, and a newly-formed Couples' Club. But he stayed only 15 months. On 11 August 1969 he resigned (as of September 15) to go to the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cambridge, in Cambridge, IL; his

resignation was accepted with regrets and best wishes.

Associate Pastor Van de Ven's resignation was implicated in Pastor Ryberg's own resignation, which was received and accepted by the Council on 27 October 1969, though he served until 18 January 1970, when a farewell was held in the Fellowship Hall from 3 to 5 PM. On 1 February 1970 he became pastor of Pentecost Lutheran Church, in an increasingly black neighborhood of Milwaukee. Pastor Ryberg tells the story of his resignation in his last annual report (1969) this way:

The statistics on the next page indicate why I felt my time was up in Mount Morris on the day in January, 1969, (when) the President of the Illinois Synod indicated to me that my Associate no longer wished to serve in that capacity. For the sake of Trinity Church, primarily, I suggested that we both make ourselves available for calls to other parishes. It took nine months for Associate Pastor Robert E. Van de Ven to have the process completed to become Pastor of the Lutheran Church of Cambridge, Illinois. It took a whole year since that fateful January 9, 1969 "word" from Dr. Gerald K. Johnson before an Illinois Synod Worship Committee meeting, "Well, I guess it's all over, Ralph," for me to have the process completed to become Pastor of Pentecost Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on February 1, 1970.

Now that it is all over, I look back with satisfaction to the level of \$24,000+ a year in Apportionment Benevolence we of TLC achieved from 1964 through 1968, to the successful LSTC Development funding effort of \$14,000+ we made together, to the internship program we all shared that genuinely helped seminarians Robert E. Van de Ven, George R. Kaiser and James H. Beaty have a parish experience before they completed their seminary training, and to the program of financial support with which we helped Tanzanian Immanueli A. Ndosi not only to complete his studies at LSTC but also have his wife and three of their children with him as he completed his final academic year!

Perhaps the finest experience of all for me has been the real forgiveness expressed to me since my resignation by some of you whom I have let down in various ways. The hardest part of the Gospel Ministry to me is the burden of "unfinished business."

If God has helped you through me and through Trinity Church these past seven years, that's wonderful! For those of you who have heartily cooperated in carrying on the often intangible yet always desperately needed ministry of reconciliation, do pitch in and help with the next pastor as you have with me. For those of you who have grown careless or even bitter, give the next pastor the kind of help you would wish to be given if you were called to the Office of the Word and the Sacraments at Trinity Church! Who knows, the life Christ saves may be your own!

His agony evident, Pastor Ryberg left with remarkable spirit! One has the feeling that Trinity was hard on Pastor Ryberg...and perhaps he was hard on himself.

Armin Weng, Oregon pastor, served Trinity as Vice Pastor from 19 January to 1 June 1970, and on 7 June 1970 Pastor Richard Swedberg was installed. (Previously, on 12 January 1970 the Council voted by a two-thirds majority to call Delno Sahs.)

Pastor Ryberg continued his studies while at Trinity. He studied at NIU and for two summer months (1965) at SIU/Carbondale, where he received his master's degree in guidance and counseling in 1965.

He was noted also for his active community work. He joined member Clarence Sandstrom in bringing the Freedom Bell to Mt. Morris and developing the "Let Freedom Ring" Fourth of July ceremony each year in Mt. Morris with the ringing of the freedom bell. He was a strong supporter of CROP. And he "led the opposition to the Sunday opening for liquor sales in the county." This is only a sample of his involvements.

From his own hand in 1970 we have the following autobiographical sketch:

"Ralph Ryberg was born on September 28, 1925, the fourth of five children of Gottfrid and Selma (Bengston) Ryberg, who had immigrated years apart from Sweden and had married in America. Reared on the far north side of Chicago in Rogers Park, he graduated in 1943 from Lane Tech, the all-boys high school with 6,500 students, where he lettered in football and track.

"He spent 7 of his 8 college semesters in the Navy V-12 Officers Training Program during World War II at the University of South Carolina and Duke University studying to be a chaplain and graduated from USC in 1946.

"After two years at the Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary, he became the first intern from that seminary when he spent a year (1948-49) under the supervision of the former CLTS President, Dr. Charles B. Foelsch, at Holy Trinity Church, 65th and Central Park West, Manhattan Island, New York City, the church where the ULCA was formed in 1918.

"After graduation and ordination in 1950, Pastor Ryberg served Gladstone Park, Chicago (1950-53), Trinity, Fort Wayne, Indiana (1953-56) as Assistant to Dr. Paul H. Krauss who retired two years after serving for 47 years as Pastor of that 2,500 communing-member congregation (then the largest ULCA congregation in the country), Reformation, Columbus, Ohio (1956-60) as mission developer and first Pastor, leading in the building of the first unit of their building while there, Mount Moriah, Anna, Illinois (1960-62), and Trinity, Mount Morris, Illinois (1962-70), a congregation of 575 communing members in a village of 3,200 thirty-five miles southwest of Rockford with a budget of \$61,000 of which \$24,000 to \$30,000 goes to benevolences each year. The Kable Printing Company, employing 1,300 persons, is located in Mount Morris.

"Pastor Ryberg was awarded a master's degree in guidance and counseling from SIU in 1965.

"He is married (1949) to the former Margaret Emily Sandberg of Cloquet, Minnesota, a graduate of St. Olaf College and of Columbia University, with a master's degree in social work.

"The Rybergs have four children - Eric, a freshman at Carthage College; Christine, a high school sophomore; Jon, a 7th grader; and Karen, a 4th grader." Karen Ryberg died tragically in an apartment fire in Milwaukee on 2 September 1990.

Additional biographical notes for Ryberg:

1946 Univ. of S.C., Columbia, SC (BA)

1950 CLTS, Maywood, IL (MDiv)

1965 SIU, Carbondale, IL (MEd)

2/70-7/80 Pentecost, Milwaukee

8/80-1/82 New Life, Pembroke Pines, FL (pastor developer)

2/82-9/87 New Life, Pembroke Pines, FL (pastor)

ROBERT E. VAN DE VEN returned to Mt. Morris, from Culver City, CA, where he was pastor of Grace Church, on 28 April 1996 as a preacher for the 150th anniversary. On 10 April 1997 he died, and the May 1997 issue of Trinity Tidings contained the following biographical article:

"Robert Edward Van de Ven, b. 11/5/1939, d. 4/10/1997

"Robert Van de Ven was born in Oak Park, IL. The youngest of three sons, Van was educated in the community of Austin, Chicago. After high school he attended the University of Illinois at Champaign and at Navy Pier. He graduated from Parsons College, Fairfield, IA, in 1962, after which he attended the Lutheran School of Theology in Maywood, IL. He served as president of his seminary graduating class, and was ordained into the ministry of the Lutheran Church in America in 1966.

"Pastor Van was called to serve his first parish in Dongola, IL in 1966. This dual parish included St. John's, the oldest Lutheran church in continuous existence in the state of IL. His second calling was to serve as Associate Pastor of Trinity Lutheran in Mt. Morris, IL, where he had also served as an intern in 1965. In August 1969, he was called to serve as Pastor of Cambridge Lutheran Church, Cambridge, IL, remaining there as Pastor until accepting a 1981 call, as Co-Pastor at First Lutheran Church, Decatur, IL.

"In January, 1985, Pastor Van received and accepted the call as Pastor of Grace Lutheran, Culver City, CA. He served the people of Grace faithfully until October 1994, when he was unable to physically continue full-time due to treatment of Plasma Cell Leukemia, which had been diagnosed in May, 1994. After treatments and stem cell transplant, Pastor Van resumed his full-time ministry at Grace. In September 1996, he came out of remission and went on a 25% disability in October. His last sermon was delivered in his extraordinary style on Easter, 1997.

"An involved Pastor, Van served in Illinois as: director of national Youth Ministry Encounter at Anna State Hospital; staff member and coordinator of the Illinois Luther League Youth Leadership School; Pastoral Advisor to the Illinois Luther League Unit; IL Synod Youth Ministry Emphasis Task Force; IL Synod Worship Committee member; on the Camp and Conference Committee; founder of the Andover Cluster Confirmation Camp and School, designing the curriculum; Vice Pastor to five congregations; Dean of the Central District in Illinois; representative of the Committee of Deans on the IL Synod Council, plus other more minor duties.

"In California he served on the Synod Finance Committee, stewardship visitor, Camping Pastor at El Camino Pines and Yoli Jawa, Conference Minister Coordinator. He was proud to serve on the 1989 Synod Assembly Planning Committee and in 1990 was named Coordinator for Mission 90.

"Pastor Van de Ven was also involved in many community commitments such as Scouting, Kiwanis, Rotary, CROP, and YMCA to name only a few.

"Robert Van de Ven married Claudia Hutton and they are the parents of two children, John Mark and Mara Kay. Van and Claudia celebrated 34 years of marriage on April 6, 1997. During their marriage they were involved in many activities, mainly opening their home for emergency foster care for over 30 teens. This consumed many hours of love and care as some of the teens remained for long periods. One of the teens, Karen, is loved as a daughter and her daughter is Van and Claudia's godchild, baptized by Van.

"Claudia is employed as a secretary with the Los Angeles Federal Bureau of Investigation. Son John is employed by Northern Telecom and daughter, Mara is employed by Great Basin College in Elko, NV. They greatly feel the loss of their husband and father, but are so blessed to have known and loved him.

"A memorial Service was held Sunday, April 13 at 2:00 PM at Grace Lutheran Church, Culver City.... Another Memorial Service will be held in Cambridge, IL on May 17."

GEORGE R. KAISER, son of Arthur J. Kaiser, was born on 14 April 1939 in Chicago, where he was a member of Luther Memorial Church (baptized in 1951, confirmed in 1953). He graduated from Amundsen High School, Chicago, in 1958. He attended Chicago City Jr. College and North Park College (BA, 1963). He had been a weekend vicar at Trinity, Chicago, and St. Mark's, Waukegan, and a summer vicar at Bethlehem, Portage, WI. Previously he had been a full-time clerk for the C & NW Railway and a part-time inspector for Rauland Electronics Corp.

The membership statistics of these years look like this:

end of	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
baptized	945	945	970	958	965	960	972	987	889	894	873
confirmed	662	709	706	702	721	715	724	740	687	690	680
communing	607	633	630	621	623	585	586	595	565	517	
avg. attend.	317	306	320	349	345	323	290	276	262	241	
avg. SS att.	209	202	196	190	191	175	152	146	143	126	

(variant statistics can be found for 1960-62 but these seem best)

The treasurer's financial reports show the following:

	recpts	expend	%s	apport	UFCT	LWA
1962: general	28,569	26,831	52.8			
benevol	25,515	36,026	47.2	19,000	9,282	1,090
	54,084	62,857				
1963: general	27,620	27,335	50.			
benevol	23,753	24,214	43.	22,100		60
cap&dep	3,867	2,249	7.			
	55,239	53,798				
1964: general	30,777	31,067	52.			
benevol	25,232	25,812	43.	24,000		
cap&dep	3,414	809	5.			
	59,423	57,688				
1965: general	32,824	32,446	55.			
benevol	32,385	30,614	43.	24,400		
deprec.	1,100	1,645	2			
	66,309	64,705				
1966: general	33,592	31,781	54.5			
benevol	25,564	25,564	43.	24,000		
deprec.	1,500	810	2.5			
	60,656	58,155				
1967: general	30,275	29,170	47.5			
benevol	31,037	31,151	50.	24,000		
cap&dep	1,757	1,912	2.5			
	63,069	62,233				
1968: general	34,220	36,009	56.			

benevol	26,224	26,224	41.	24,000
cap&dep	2,016	1,839	3.	
	62,460	64,072		
1969: general	39,258	36,450	65.	
benevol	20,377	20,377	32.	18,198
cap&dep	2,261	2,672	3.	
	61,896	59,499		
1970: general	34,018	31,550	60.	
benevol	19,603	19,603	35.	18,175
cap&dep	3,200	3,880	5.	
	56,821	55,033		

Salaries Paid:	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Pastor	5463	5980	6240	6500	6750	6750	7000	7280	7331
Organists	518	585	570	475	520	288	543	428	429
Choir Directors	558	540	505	499	558	414	354	276	226
Sextons	1950	2135	2287	2023	1875	2312	1975	1918	2404
Secretaries	3933	3535	3430	3572	3467	3868	3806	3960	4425
Fin. Secretary	695	610	600	600	600	600	720	720	720
Interns				4019	3701	2701			
Associate Pastor							3033	3825	
							(6 mo)	(7 1/3 mo)	

Benevolences:	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Apportionment	19000	22100	24000	24000	24000	24500	24000	18198	18175
UFCT	9282	(= United for Christ's Tomorrow)							
LWA	1090	60	(= Lutheran World Action)						
Carthage	675								
Chicago Luth. S	675								
Il.Syn.Rev.Loan	1275								
Nachusa	289	170	173	145		269	137	127	
Dolores Dohlen	2340	700	600	625	119				
Sher.Nelson Aid	446								
Gideons	25	25		50	25	25	25	25	25
Dowry Gift	245								
DeKalb Stud.Work	100								
WRE	500		519	500	514	512	525	608	600
Luther League		120	120	120	120				150
Pinecrest			300	1260	390	600	600	600	600
LSTD Fund				3327	6230				
Overseas Stud.Fnd.						1000			
Belvidere Tornado Fund						489			
Racial Reconciliation Appeal							656		
Wolken Kidney Fund								605	
Ethel Dohlen Travel Fd	500								

Capital Funds Investments at the end of 1969 included:

Miller Legacy	1,000 (10/68)
August Pieper Estate	5,000 (1965)
C.A. Wishard Estate	11,000 (1965 ff.)

Proposed budgets looked like this:

budget	generl	benev.	rep/dp	percents	plgs	pledged
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1963	\$54,870	27,435/23,425/4,010	(50/43/7%)	302	\$48,666/89%
1964	58,805	29,960/25,845/3,000	(52/43/5%)	330	54,365/92%
1965	58,225	31,880/25,245/1,100	(55/43/2%)	314	53,633/92%
1966	58,860	32,090/25,270/1,500	(54½/432½%)		50,300/85½%
1967	60,710	28,940/30,270/1,500	(47½/502½%)		51,935/85½%
1968	61,100	33,830/25,270/2,000	(56/41/3%)		53,542/87½%
1969	61,066	39,641/19,425/2,000	(65/32/3%)		55,125/90%
1970	55,420	32,995/19,425/3,000	(60/38/5%)		

Stewardship notes:

1. In 1963, the Congregation responded well to group meetings at the church rather than the total every-member visitation.
2. July 1964 - Council requested Synod to put a ceiling of \$24,000 on Trinity's apportionment for the next three years. For 1966, it was increased to \$26,000.
3. In 1967 Every-Member Response meetings were held, and only those who didn't attend were visited.
4. In November 1966 Trinity completed its \$14,000 goal for the LST Development Fund (3/2/64 = letter of intent).
5. In 1968, two services were held on Loyalty Sunday, at 8:15 & 9:30. In 1969 they were at 8 & 9:15, and a special filmstrip was prepared.
6. In 1969, Council said all special (\$900) and communion (\$1,000) offerings over \$1,900 should go to the Benevolence Fund.
7. In 1969, Trinity accepted a YES (Youth Educated To Serve - Synod campaign for Augustana College, church camping, and campus ministry) campaign goal of \$14,450. The campaign was set to begin in January 1971.
8. After Pastor Cooperrider left, Council and Ryberg adjusted the benevolence budget since there was a 19½% shortage (\$9,048) on the budget. And they set a 1963 budget of \$58,770.
9. Stewardship themes:
 - 1963 & 1964 - We all could do better...for Christ and His Church!
 - 1965 - We grow as we give
 - 1969 - S-T-R-E-T-C-H

Council members during these years were:

1963 - Wayne Bearman, 8	Warren Burstrom*,1	Mark Crawford, Secy 10
T. Castle, 3	Les Lundgren, Tr.,4	Ernest Hachmeister, 7
Gerald Wallace, 3	Chas. Wean, 11,12	Phil Orr, VP 6
Elwin Zumda hl, 2	Marvin Moring, 7,9	Irvin Zumda hl, 5
(Burstrom resigned in Nov. due to working hours, was replaced by Robert Urish)		
1964 - Wm. Doerrfeld 7	Wayne Bearman 8	Robert Urish, VP 1,13
Donald E. Dusing 5	T. Castle 3	Les Lundgren, Tr 4
Wm. Unger, Sr.8/10	Gerald Wallace Sec,3	Charles Wean 11,12
Ralph Zickuhr 6	Elwin Zumda hl 2	Marvin Moring 9
1965 - Walter LeFevre 3	Wm. Doerrfeld 6,13	Wayne Bearman 11,12
Gerald Powers,VP9	Donald E. Dusing 5	T. Castle 3
Warren Reckmeyer7	Wm. Unger Sr. 8,10	Gerald Wallace Secy,6
LeRoy Toms 1	Ralph Zickuhr Tr,4	Elwin Zumda hl 2
1966 - Mrs. Ben Colvin5Sec	Walter LeFevre 2	Wm. Doerrfeld 6
Charles Diehl 8	Gerald Powers VP	Donald E. Dusing 9
Donald Horst 7	Warren Reckmeyer 1	Wm. Unger Sr. 11,12
Wesley Witt 3	LeRoy Toms 10	Ralph Zickuhr Tr,4

(Colvin presides at special Cong. Meeting on 12/4/66 in
absence of VP and Pastor)

1967 - Dallas E. Blume 2 W. Colvin, Sec, 5, 7 Walt LeFevre 11, 12
Mrs. Em. Borneman 10 Charles Diehl 3 Gerald Powers VP
John M. Dona 6 Don Horst 9 Warren Reckmeyer 1+8
Ern. Hachmeister 1+8 Wes Witt 1+8 LeRoy Toms * 4
(Christian Ed. and Youth combined) (Floyd Markham TR)
(Toms resigned in Feb., moved to Polo, transferred in
July-August, was replaced by Markham)

1968 - Fred O. Hand 8 Dallas Blume 2 W. Colvin Secy, 7
Wm. Hiteman 9 Mrs. E. Borneman 10 Charles Diehl, VP
Les Lundgren Tr, 4 John M. Dona 6 Donald Horst 5
Floyd Markham 11, 12 E. Hachmeister 3 Wesley Witt 1

1969 - Don Cornelius 3 Fred Hand 8 Dallas Blume 9
123 Mrs. R. Park Sec, 5 Wm. Hiteman 6 Helen Borneman 10
bal- Everett Lundin 1 Les Lundgren Tr, 4 John Dona 3
lots David L. Rahn 2 Floyd Markham 11, 12 E. Hachmeister VP 7

1970 - T. John Condit Don R. Cornelius Fred O. Hand
Mrs. C. Tuttle Mrs. R.O. Park, Sec Wm. Hiteman, VP
Robt. A. Urish Everett E. Lundin Leslie Lundgren, Tr.
Philip J. Orr David L. Rahn Floyd W. Markham

Code numbers for committees:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Christian Education | 8. Youth |
| 2. Church Property | 9. Ushering |
| 3. Evangelism | 10. Memorial Fund |
| 4. Finance | 11. Service to Servicemen |
| 5. Social Ministry | 12. Community Relations |
| 6. Stewardship | 13. Long-Range Planning |
| 7. Worship and Music | |

1. At least by 1965, Council selected the committee chairmen, who then selected members for their committees - no longer appointed by Pastor.)
2. Council met regularly on the second Monday at 7:30 PM in the Chapel.
3. Annual Meetings were held on a January Sunday following the service, e.g. at 10:45 (1963). In 1967, it was Jan. 15, the meeting was at 7, preceded by a pot-luck dinner at 6 in the FH. There were 75 present, 60 ballots. In 1968 it was on the third Sunday at 9:45 (service at 9, SS at 10:45, attempting to enable SS staff to attend meeting); there were 159 ballots.
4. Retiring councilmen hosted their last meeting (in 1963-1967 and 1970 at Ganymede's, in Oregon). In 1968 the Rybergs hosted it at their home to show the remodelled parsonage. In 1969 the Pastors hosted it at the Van de Vens to show the second parsonage.
5. Council meetings typically concluded with all praying the Lord's Prayer.
6. In 1965 it was decided that committee membership and program should continue through February each year to afford a smoother transition.
7. Council generally organized itself in a meeting following the annual meeting (often that afternoon or on the following day).
8. Note that the first women on the Council in this era (late 1800s saw other women - see those notes) were Wilma Colvin (1966-9), Helen Borneman (1967-70), Ruth Park (1969-72), and Catheryn Tuttle (1970-73).
9. Synod Convention delegates were

1963 - Adam E. Hecker
 1964 - Philip L. Orr (Evanston)
 1965 - Gerald Wallace
 1966 - Wesley C. Witt
 1967 - Melvin Kitzmiller (St. Louis)
 1968 - Charles Diehl
 1969 - Ernest H. Hachmeister

In 1963 a new constitution and by-laws were adopted to bring it in line with the newly-merged LCA. The first reading was on 9 December 1962 following a pot-luck supper. On 27 January 1963 it was adopted at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation...with this amendment: that no Councilman may succeed himself for a period of three years. Other provisions:

- + if a member does not commune or contribute for three years, that member is not in good standing, is removed from the roll of confirmed members, and may be restored by resuming activity
- + the Council was increased to 12 members plus the Pastor
- + secretary and treasurer need not be councilmen
- + both congregation and Council nominate members for Council
- + the Pastor is the ex officio president
- + Standing Committees: Christian Education, Church Property, Evangelism, Finance, Social Ministry, Stewardship, Worship and Music
- + the annual congregational meeting is held in January, the day of the monthly Council meeting is not specified

Service Times

9/9/62	- return to 10 AM	`63 summer - 8:30 & 10:30 (9:30 SS)
10/28/62	- changed to 9:45 AM	2nd S. of June thru 1st S. of Oct.
9/63	- 9:30 (10:40SS)	`64 summer - same, June 7-Sept. 7
		`65 summer - 8:15 & 10:30 (9:15 SS)
		`66 summer - 8:15 & 9:30 (9:30 SS)
		`67 summer - 9 AM only (10 SS)
		`68 summer - 9 AM (10 SCS, none in Aug)
		`69 summer - same; 7:45 too when h.c.
		`70 summer - 9:15

Lent -

`63 - 5 C. of C. Sun eve 3-hr GF	TLC - Thurs., 7-7:45 (none in `62) AW h.c. - 1 & 7 GF - 7 PM (none in `62) Easter - 6 & 9:45
`64 - 5 C. of C. Sun eve 3-hr GF	TLC - same as above except Easter at 6 & 9:30 with 7 AM breakfast by LL
`65 - C. of C. Sun eve incl. Sherwood Nelson	TLC - same except GF Tenebrae at 7 with Child. & Sr. Choirs
`66 -	h.c. moved from AW to Lent 1 at 9:30 & 4:30
`67 - 4 C. of C. Sun eve GF - 3-hr service	TLC - 5 Thurs. eve. svs. AW at 1 & 7, MT, GF Tenebrae
`68 - GF 3-hr comm. svc.	Area pulpit exchange for Lent at TLC - Thurs. at 1 & 7

Christmas

`62 - Christmas Eve - 7 PM Family (107)

9 PM Carolling (215)
 (candlelighting too much trouble, cf. note of 11/12/62)
 `63 & `64 - Christmas Eve - 7 & 11
 Candlelight sponsored by Luther Lg. (set up and cleaned up)
 `66 - 11 PM Christmas Eve
 `67 - SCS Christmas Program on Sun., 12/17,
 following pot-luck supper at 6 PM
 `68 - Christmas Eve - 7 PM Family Service
 (Ryberg wanted it Christmas Day at 10:30 AM)
 11 PM Candlelighting & Carol Service

+ 7/3/66 (Sun. eve.) - MM Worship Service at Bandshell
 July 4 - bell dedicated with Eric Hatch and Eric Sloane, originators
 of renewing ringing of bells on Independence Day
 + 1966 - Community Thanksgiving Service at TLC
 + 1967 - 9 AM C. of C. Community Thanksgiving Service

Staff

Pastor's Secretary

Marjorie Ziegfeld - 1962-Oct. 1963
 resigned after 7 years to work as secy at Pinecrest Manor
 Ruth Myers - p-t `62 & `63
 f-t as of 10/63...through 1970
 `69 = loyal, hard-working, able
 `70 = a gem
 1/65 - raise from \$1.75 to \$1.85
 1/70 - raise from \$2 to \$2.15 (asst. help = \$1.85)
 six paid holidays: Mem. Day, July 4, Labor Day,
 Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year
 two weeks vacation
 ca. 35 hours: 9-11:30, 1-5 or 5:30
 Mirdza Kalnins assisted some in 1967-69

Custodian

Ralph Schell (interior) - 1962-70 (retired 1/70)
 `63 Schells were seriously injured in auto accident, Fletcher
 replaced for a while in late `63 and first two months of `64
 Robert Fletcher (outside/grounds) - 11/62 to 1966, 1968-70
 beginning 2/70 = interior and outside
 Donald & Linda Hundertmark (replacing Fletcher) - 1966-67
 raise in `67 from \$1.75 to \$2 per hour
 Carl Personette - filled in a short time in 1962

Financial Secretary

Ann Deuth Powers - 1962-65 - FS more than 25 years
 letter of appreciation 8/16/65, died in 10/65
 2/65 Fin. Secy empowered to write checks in absence of treasurer
 Helen Borneman - July 1965 through 1970 (still in `97)
 4/66 may sign checks in absence of treasurer

Organist

Mrs. Richard A. Gates (Phyllis Horst) - some in `62
 Arlene Dohlen - 1962 to Aug. 1965 (continued as asst. org.)
 Mrs. Warren Reckmeyer - asst. 1962-65, 9/65 thru 1970 regular
 Mrs. Gerald L. Wallace - second asst. 1963
 Christy Horst - asst. as of 11/13/67 @ \$3/Sun. thru 1970

Senior Choir Director (high school & adults)

Warren Reckmeyer - 1962, 1965, 1966

Carol Reckmeyer - 1963, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968

Maryalyce Dusing - 1967, 1968, 1969 (till fall)

Mrs. Doris Kuntzelman began to accompany in 1970

Youth or Junior Choir (grades 6-8)

Mrs. Donald T. (Maryalyce) Dusing - 1962, 1963 (resigns in May)

Miss Venita Swanson - 1962

Mrs. Gerald L. Wallace - 1963 (replaces Dusing), assists '64 & '65,
full-time 1966-69

Warren Reckmeyer - 1964, 1965 (with Wallace)

Mrs. Swedberg - 1970

Note: In 1969 Senior and Junior Choirs merged, and Carol Reckmeyer
became The Choir Director, 1969-70
Special Music in the Summer was developing as a tradition,
also Cantata Sunday as Choir Sunday

Children's Choir Director (grades 3-5)

Mrs. Wm. C. Myers - 1962-1964

Jane Schell - 1964-1966 (asks to be replaced in June)

Sharon Wallace - 1966 (fall but briefly)

Donna (Mrs. David) Jacobs - 1966 (begins in Nov. @ \$16/mo.), 1967

Maryalyce Dusing - as of 11/1/67 (after Jacobs), part of 1968

Carol Reckmeyer - 1968-1969

Mrs. Richard Short - 1970

Vacation Bible School -

1963 - Trinity had a one-day (one-week?) VCS in addition to the Council
of Churches'.

1964 - Trinity had a two-week VCS (first two weeks of August) led by Mrs.
Richard Park.

1965 - 70-80 Negro children, plus 6-10 adult leaders, from the West Side
Christian Parish of Chicago were invited to VBS at Trinity to give
the children an opportunity to relate to children of another
race.

1966 - 35 children (grades 4-9) came in July from the Northwest Lutheran
Parish in Chicago - they are pictured at end of annual report.

1967 - Council of Churches' VBS in June had 161 pupils (cp. 328 in 1959).

1968 - Trinity had VBS, Mrs. John Dona, Supt., 56-63 students, 16-18
teachers and helpers

1969 - Council of Churches' VCS, chaired by Mrs. John Dona, July 28-
Aug. 2, had a \$2 fee, Trinity decided to pay half

1970 - VBS led by Mrs. Wilda Lundin

Dolores Irene Dohlen (Henzler - Stykel) -

+ her picture is on the cover of the 1965 annual report

+ Trinity's missionary to South India

+ in 1965 she had a one-year furlough after her second 5-year term in
Rajahmundry

+ On 12 September 1965 she spoke at Trinity (five paragraphs are
transcribed in the annual report)

+ In January 1967 Council sent a letter of appreciation for her many
years as missionary to India

- + she had been employed by the Board of World Missions of the LCA as an industrial trades teacher at the Industrial School, in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh, India
- + she resigned to marry
- + see Trinity Tidings, November 1996

Long-Range Planning Committee (to study future church facility needs) -

- + 2/63 - Ryberg is authorized to appoint
- + 3/63 - 15 members to be appointed: Calvin Balluff, Mrs. Ed Balluff, Mrs. E. Borneman, Mrs. P. Brinker, Wm. Doerrfeld, Ralph Zickuhr, Jack Vye, Eleanor Stevens, Philip Orr, Gerald Powers, Mrs. W. Schelling, Mrs. Earl Unger, Robert Urish, Pastor
- + 10/65 - the possibility of purchasing a house for Sunday School room is considered by the Council

Pinecrest Manor was built in 1963 to replace the Old Folks' Home built in 1893 (razed in 1975); it was dedicated on 13 October 1963. The new facility had room for 122 residents, the old one only 25. See Pinecrest's History Booklet. Trinity gave strong support and bought a room (2 beds). A May 1962 letter provides for designation of occupants by congregation. In June 1962 two occupants were named: Miss Bessie Baker, Mrs. Alda Curley. In October 1965, Benj. S. Royer and Mrs. Harry Olson were named. In February 1967 Clara Zumdahl, of Polo, was designated. In May 1968 it was Elsie Floto. In October 1968 it was Mr. & Mrs. George Doyle (Raymond's parents). Periodic devotional and holy communion services developed at Pinecrest. In 1965, the congregation gave \$80/mo. to Pinecrest (the difference between state aid and the cost for two members).

The Annual Reports developed into a rather consistent and neat format during these years. Members who had died were listed "in memoriam" and said to have "passed on to their eternities."

In 1962, Ryberg's idea of mailing a weekly parish newspaper to all members was approved. The Sunday bulletin was sent only to the sick and shut-ins. In 1963 and 1964, Trinity Tidings was the name of this weekly newspaper. In 1965 it was referred to as the advance Tidings: the Sunday bulletin with essential news items was sent out in advance and included the Pastor's, Intern's, and Council's monthly reports. For a brief time the Sunday bulletin was only an order of service on the back of the lectionary, but in September 1965 the bulletin was changed back to the four pages and the lectionary was eliminated. In November 1965 Tidings was mailed only twice a month; it was still that way in 1968. In 1967, Sunday bulletins with sermon emphases (soon called Nugget of Power and distributed after the service) were sent to members not present on Sunday morning.

On 16 September 1962, Trinity celebrated the 10th anniversary of the dedication of its church building. Pastor Stone sent taped remarks which were played and later transcribed (copies available).

On 9 October 1966, Trinity celebrated its 120th anniversary. At the 9:30 service Synod President Dr. Robert J. Marshall preached on "The Blessings of Memory." (He had earlier spoken at the Men's Club Couples' Dinner on 25 March 1963.) The anniversary committee, appointed in August, included Don Horst, Don Dusing, and Wilma Colvin. All three choirs sang. Tables downstairs contained pictures and brochures of earlier days. Mrs.

Charles Diehl, president of TLCW, poured the coffee at the reception for Dr. & Mrs. Marshall. James Beaty was intern at the time. Mrs. Reckmeyer played the organ and directed the Senior Choir. Mrs. Gerald Wallace directed the Children's and Junior Choirs. Mrs. Alfred Poppen was guest pianist. Notes in the service folder included the following: "TLC has been the leading Illinois Synod congregation in benevolence giving per person for a decade. At present, the membership of TLC is over 960 Baptized Members, with over 600 adult Communing Members."

Building improvements during these years included the following:

1962 new concrete slab installed at Tower Entrance to make it safer,
also a new hand railing and grate
1962 new garage and storm-screen windows for Parsonage
3/63 aluminum siding for parsonage and garage authorized (\$1,844)
4/63 insurance on parsonage increased to \$15,000
6/64 Council studied three parking plans for east of church
9/27/64 stained glass south entrance window dedicated - Benjamin and
Grace Horst memorial
10/64 Ladies' Aid agreed to provide 14' of hat and coat racks in FH,
Council to remove drinking fountain from east wall
10/64 church doors were to be painted red (probably not done)
1964 defective speakers in church replaced
1965 dossal curtain purchased
10/65 Bell & Howell Specialist Autoload, Model 552, Screen, Speaker
5/66 Mr. & Mrs. Art Sorensen gave electric range for parsonage
9/66 painter hired to re-varnish outside doors @ \$195
1966 sidewalk on north side of church approved
1966 water cooler for belltower hall approved (\$206)
1967 three new fire extinguishers
1967 stained glass windows installed in cloak rooms
9/67 extensive remodeling at parsonage completed
4/68 remote light switches installed in FH
7/68 property insurance value increased from \$378,000 to \$415,000
1968 IBM Electric typewriter and Simplicity Riding Lawn Mower bought
1969 Chapel and Pastor's study carpeted (\$1,153) - red nylon
1969 two folding conference tables purchased for Chapel with memorial
money
1970 Parsonage refurbished - carpet, drapes, basement shower, etc.

Committees

Church Property -

1962 removed old garage, built larger garage at Parsonage (\$1,080
repainted exterior of parsonage, installed new storm-screens
new step and handrails at belltower entrance
1963 installed aluminum siding on parsonage and garage
painted outside of parsonage and garage
roof repair at church and parsonage, also heating systems
Ralph Schell - auto accident in Sept., still out
Robert Fletcher doing his work as well as outside work
1964 Willett Engineering advised against using property east of church
for parking, cost of grading too high
can't find durable varnish for outside doors
congregation objects to painting them red
Ladies' Aid purchases new coat and hat racks for FH
1965 apartment rented at Watt Apt. Bldg. for intern
SCS office moved to a double store room

- 1966 new ceiling put in main entrance hallway
water softener and kitchen range at parsonage
church doors varnished
new sidewalk on north side of church
front section torn up and replaced
additional SS room fixed up at top of belltower steps
- 1967 fire extinguishers
dead trees removed
new curtains in FH and nursery
plaster around windows above altar repaired
parsonage first floor repainted
new sink and disposal and countertop, cabinets repainted
- 1968 Ole Hiteman built additional shelves for library
Frank and Kevin Balluff installed new coat racks on 3rd floor
- 1969 carpet installed in Chapel and Pastor's study
secretary's office broken into - police recovered IBM typewriter
complete cleaning of narthex, nave, and chancel
several small pines planted
repair to parsonage ceiling
- 1970 parsonage remodeling detailed in annual report
new double doors for SW and belltower entrances
purchased but not yet installed

Finance -

- 1963 met all obligations and had small balances
- 1964 slightly under budget
beyond budget: \$4,443 LSTC Development Fund
(intent = \$14,000; over \$12,000 pledged)
172 Nachusa Lutheran Home for Children
1,500 Special gifts
- 1965 almost made adjusted budget (stew. com. says budget was met)
generous response to tornado victims of sister church (Crystal Lake)
Ann Powers died
- 1966 slightly over budget of \$58,860
completed \$14,000 to LSTC Development Fund
- 1967 surplus of over \$3,000 (noted in 1968 report)
- 1968 met obligations, very little surplus
- 1969 \$60,226 of \$61,066 received (\$840 short)
Helen Borneman keeps financial records

Worship & Music -

- 1962 two choirs came: Culver-Stockton College & Carthage College
paid from benevolent fund - \$125, \$151
- 1963 Sr. Choir = Warren, then Carol, Reckmeyer
Youth Choir = Mrs. Donald T. Dusing, Mrs. Gerald L. Wallace
Children's Choir = Mrs. Wm. C. Myers
organist = Mrs. Norman E. Dohlen, assisted by Mrs. Reckmeyer
and also Mrs. Wallace
choir personnel listed
- 1966 relocation of organ console and major organ improvement
by H.A. Howell, Dixon
decided to discontinue recessional by choirs
- 1967 H.A. Howell, Dixon, continues to service organ
present organ = 40 years old - consider new one
Children's & Junior Choirs practice Thursdays at 6:10 PM,
Senior Choir Thursday at 7 PM
- 1968 special music for summer months = a developed tradition
Howell services organ, W. Reckmeyer tunes 6 pianos

without remuneration
 studying purchase of new organ
 carillons repaired
 Second Setting of liturgy used during Advent and Lent
 Lectionaries used for Gospel reading in unison each Sunday
 congregation and Pastor, suggested by O.A. Hanke after
 visiting a Madison church
 Practices - Thurs, 6:10, Children's & Junior; 7 PM, Senior
 Children's Choir = Mrs. Dusing & Mrs. Reckmeyer (grades 3-5)
 Choir Mothers program reactivated
 mothers attend rehearsals and help with robes
 Junior Choir = Mrs. Gerald Wallace (grades 6-8)
 Senior Choir = Mrs. Reckmeyer & Mrs. Dusing (h.s. & adults)
 1969 Special services on Cantata Sunday
 folk liturgy in December
 acolyte program = 4 young people
 1970 nothing done toward replacement of organ

Education & Literature -
 1962 LCA introduces new education program
 Adult Education Program by C. of C. at Christian Church, 1/20/63
 1963 prepared for new SS curriculum in 1964
 The Lutheran received in all homes
 1964 six meetings
 Sept. - introduced LCA curriculum, gratifying response
 weakness = lack of adult interest and participation in SCS
 WRE Committee: Calvin Balluff, Mrs. Ralph Ryberg, Mrs. Fred Hand
 1965 two meetings, new a-v equipment, lack of adult response & partic.
 1967 now = Christian Education, Literature, and Youth Committee
 community VBS = June 19-30
 intern and Pastor worked with youth organizations
 L.L. - Easter breakfast, decorated Christmas tree and nave,
 pot-luck Dec. 17
 Chi Rho Upsilon - banners for Christmas program
 1968 now = Christian Education
 Mrs. Donald Saxby taught a teacher-training class
 the last several years
 Aug. 5-9 = TLC VBS, Mrs. John Dona, supt.
 56-63 students, 16-18 teachers and helpers
 Dec. 15 - Advent-Christmas SS program at 7, preceded by pot-luck
 supper at 6, led by Mrs. Ray Oleson, band by Warren Reckmeyer
 devotion booklets = Home Altar, Light for the Day, Portals of Prayer
 1969 community VBS chaired by Mrs. Dona
 no SCS in August
 first year catechetical class studied on their own,
 then went to camp with Pastor Ryberg to discuss it
 1970 still = Christian Education
 VBS led by Mrs. Everett Lundin
 Wes Witt resigned as SS supt. 9/1/70,
 John Sundvall accepted for one year
 Campfirmation in August for 7th and 8th grades
 Dec. 20 - SCS Christmas program re-instituted
 by Mrs. Swedberg, poor turnout

Stewardship & Benevolence - (later = just Stewardship)
 1962 theme = We Can All Do Better
 \$48,775 pledged - short of goal
 1963 \$54,365 pledged on budget of \$58,805 - gratifying response

1964 Tithing...one good answer = theme
 1965 letters to congregation in July, August, September
 budget was met (Finance Committee says "almost")
 1966 theme = Increased percentage giving aiming toward tithing
 \$7,770 to LSTC Development Fund
 1966 1967 theme = You Can't Outgive God!
 1967 congregational survey made
 1968 theme = Set The Work Forward
 1968 Ryberg advises
 studied 1967 congregational survey - 3 areas of concern
 more active commitment and involvement, concern for our youth,
 strong leadership
 1969 theme = To Love Is To Care Is To Act - S-T-R-E-T-C-H (our
 giving) - first part is LCA theme
 temple talks on Sundays preceding Loyalty Sunday
 pledging level up a bit
 1969 temple talks before Loyalty Sunday
 Ernest Hachmeister, Dolores Henzler, Jack Vye
 drive fell far short of 1970 budget
 1970 temple talks: Ernest Hachmeister, Pauline Brinker, Dick Park
 unable to reach 1971 budget goal
 YES Campaign - \$14,000 goal set two years ago
 (Youth Educated to Serve: Synod campaign for Augustana College,
 camping, and campus ministry)

Membership & Evangelism - (1963ff = just Evangelism)

1962 organized a District Deacons Corps
 27 in-town and 11 outlying districts
 deacon for each (EMV, new families, shut-ins, prolonged absence)
 1963 added 6 zone captains to District Deacon Program
 each having ca. 7 district deacons
 an evangelism secretary informs of church absences
 and prospective members
 1964 District Deacon Program is administered by Vern Lentz
 1965 District Deacon Program continues
 1966 deacons should make better use of their time
 1967 District Deacon Evangelism Program discontinued, ineffective
 1968 Van de Ven advises
 visited new and inactive families
 1969 led by Van de Ven until he left
 visited new and inactive families

Christian Service - (beg. 1963 = Social Ministry)

1962 visiting sick and shut-in, transportation to church
 annual caroling service to sick and shut-ins
 on Sunday evening before Christmas
 1963 annual caroling to sick and shut-ins on Sun eve before Christmas
 1964 Pinecrest Manor, Dixon State School
 Caroling service to sick and shut-ins on Sunday before Christmas
 transportation
 1965-67, 1969 reports but nothing to note
 1968 promoted Appeal for Racial Reconciliation, \$712.15

Youth -

1962 LL advisers: Mr. & Mrs. David L. Rahn, CRU
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton H. Brown, freshmen and sophomores
 Mr. & Mrs. Wayne E. Bearman, juniors and seniors
 1963 CRU advisers = Rahns - thru 6/63

H.S. group = Mr. & Mrs. Marvin F. Moring and Bearmans
 two high school groups united into one
 1964 "we were unable to obtain advisers for our youth"
 Ryberg and Lentz worked with youth
 1965 Pastor and interns worked with youth
 1967 Youth is combined with Christian Education & Literature
 1968 Van de Ven advises, large and strong adult committee
 LL = annual Easter breakfast, Christmas trimming, etc.
 CRU = talent show at Pinecrest
 1969 LL - retreat at Lake Geneva, Easter breakfast and
 Christmas tree trim, UNICEF canvass
 CRU - skating, swimming, hiking
 1970 reorganized in September
 LL = all high school, second Sunday
 CRU = 6th-8th grades, third Sunday
 purchased Christmas cards with picture of Nave

Service to Servicemen -

1962 9 men in armed forces
 1963 14 men in armed forces
 Tidings, devotional booklet, Mighty Fortress sent
 1964 11 men
 1965 15 men
 1966 23 men, 10 overseas
 1967 23 men
 1968 23 men in Jan., 28 men in Dec. in armed forces
 1969 25 members in armed forces, half overseas
 1970 22 men receive Tidings each month

Ushering -

1962-66 reports but nothing to note
 1967 3 teams of 2 each secured ushers for 4 months
 1968 Ryberg advises
 4 teams of 2 each get ushers and greeters for 3 months
 1970 12 monthly leaders
 begin wearing ushering patch

Community Relations -

1962 Community Chest has become United Fund
 1963 bulletin board, Lenten cross, United Fund Board
 1964 United Fund, Cross, taped Sunday services
 provide acolytes and communion assistants
 Clarence Sandstrom - rep. to 4th of July Festival Committee
 1965-70 Cross, 4th of July, United Fund
 Note on Cross (from Mt. Morris Index, 4 April 1968, p.1, with photo):
 "The stark cross that stands before Trinity Lutheran church of
 Mount Morris was placed there last Sunday to signify the beginning of
 the Passiontide season of the church or Christian year.
 "Fashioned by Floyd Markham and Ben Miliano in 1956, the rugged
 timber was cut from a telephone pole and left in rough form to
 symbolize the horror of the crucifixion of Christ.
 "On Good Friday afternoon, after the 12 noon to 3 p.m. community
 service, the cross will be in front of the altar. During the 7 p.m.
 service of remembrance, after each of Christ's "Seven Last Words" are
 recalled in hymn form, a candle will be extinguished until all are
 no longer burning.
 "Then, on Saturday evening after dark, Markham and his helpers of
 the TLC community relations committee will take the candles from the

cross, wrap it in aluminum foil, put it back into the 'Trinity triangle' flower bed and place a realistic crown of thorns at the cross-...(omission)...hope of each Christian, that in the resurrection, the bonds of death have been broken and the fullness of eternal life is offered each believer.

"The cross will remain in place throughout the whole first week of the 40-day Easter season and then be taken down and stored until next Passion Sunday, March 23."

Memorial Fund -

- 1962 belltower bulletin board, rack & offering table, stand,
hymnals (Mr. & Mrs. Sol Avey)
30 hymnals for DeKalb Student Center
(Kenneth H. Brooks, Cynthia S. Coffman, Nels Hanson)
UFCT Special Gift (Ellen Rosbrook, Cooperrider's mother)
books for church and SS (names listed)
picture frames used in Chapel (Louis Sickinger)
- 1963 met once
pulpit and lectern Bibles, A.B. Dick mimeo, transcept window for
south entrance, creche scene for front of church
- 1964 stained glass window over south door of education wing
(Benj. & Grace Horst Memorial Window)
Mary Royer Memorial clocks - in sanctuary and Chapel
- 1965 Motion Picture projector and screen for FH
red dossal curtain
- 1966 2 meetings
3 copies of Daily Office
plaque: Prayer of St. Francis
clock for FH
belltower water cooler fountain
office folding machine
- 1968 new choir robes for Children's Choir
stained glass windows in 2 cloak rooms (\$175 ea.)
coat racks for primary dept.
chime rolls replaced
slide projector
- 1969 timer to light Good Samaritan window
- 1970 candle tube and spring assemblies
replating of offering plates

Long Range Planning -

- 1963 organized May 1963
14 members, met 4 times
will be reorganized February 1964
- 1964 one meeting - studied statistics
Robt. A. Urish, chair
- 1965 not active

Auxiliaries & Organizations

Men's Club -

- 1962 6 meetings, interesting programs and speakers
- 1963 6 meetings, 29 members
speakers: Ill. Syn. Pres. Robert J. Marshall
Carthage College football coach Art Keller
- 1964 guest speakers listed
- 1965 failed to get more men interested

1966 had a few meetings at beginning of year
difficult to get many to attend
(last report - none through 1970)

Trinity Women's Cabinet -

- 1962 2 meetings (Jan., June)
members: pres. & 1st past pres., Pastor, church secy, rep. of
unaffiliated, chairmen of Christian Service, Education,
& Membership
to coordinate work of women
spring housecleaning of church - areas assigned to auxs. & orgs.
Christian Service activities: to 11 bereaved families
Dixon State School volunteer work
- 1963 2 meetings (Jan., June), plus Sept.
continues past composition and purpose
Trinity LCW Constituting Meeting - 24 Sept. 1963, 7:45 PM
3 participating organizations
concludes activities of Women's Cabinet
- 1964 TW Christian Service Report = activities of TLCW, C&A, LA, Glad Hand
- 1965 TW CSR - nursery workers, service to bereaved and ill, LWR,
Tidings mailed twice monthly
- 1966 TW CSR - 35 Chrismons made
- 1967 TW Christian Action Report - same 4 orgs.
volunteers to Dixon State School monthly
bereavement, nursery, Tidings
- 1968 now called Cooperative Women's Work
volunteer workers monthly to Dixon State School
for 11 years, in Dec. have entertained Dixon State School Protestant
Choir and directors
birthday cakes at Pinecrest, bereavement service, Blanket Sunday,
church mailings
- 1969 same as above
TLCW, C&A, LA
- 1970 Christian Action Report now becomes part of TLCW Report
no longer cooperative? nursery workers, LWR, bereavement, Nachusa,
Pinecrest, Dixon State School Choir

Chancel & Altar Society -

- 1962 met on 3rd Tuesday, 74 members, 24 avg. attend.
- 1963 65 members, avg. 27
members of United Church Women of Mt. Morris
- 1964 64 members, avg. 21
- 1965 68 members, avg. 29
folded and mailed weekly Tidings (Feb.-Dec.)
- 1966 61 members, 22 avg att.
since 1954 has sponsored a Nachusa child
purchased new drapes for FH
- 1967 64 members, 22 avg att
sponsored Nachusa child
got city council to install street light north of church
still need spotlight and timers at rear
purchased new refrigerator for church kitchen
- 1968 60 members, 22 avg. att.
purchased pair of candleabra on sides of altar
for weddings and other select church days
purchased new cassock for Ryberg
service to Boys' Farm School, Durand, IL (3rd year)
sponsored child from Christian Children's Fund (2nd year)

from Seoul, Korea
1969 60 members, 24 avg. att.
1970 57 members, 20 avg. att.

Dolores Dohlen Missionary Society -
1962 met on 3rd Thursday, 8 PM, Chapel, 21 members (best att. = 18)
foreign and home themes
1963 assisted in organizing TLCW

Mission Circle -
1962 met on 4th Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Chapel, 23 members, 17 avg. att.
1963 22 members, 15 avg. att.
joined in TLCW, disbanding after 49 years

Ruth Circle -
1962 met on 4th Thursday, 9 AM, Chapel, avg. att. = 12
1963 avg. att. = 11
disbanding 1 January 1964 to join LCW

Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) -
1963 Constituting Meeting 24 September 1963, 7:45 PM
3 participating organizations
1964 1st year, 75 members, 4 monthly groups
Naomi - 3rd Wed. eve., Chapel, avg att = 9
Miriam - 4th (or 3rd) Thurs. morn., 9-11, Chapel, 15 members
provides nursery for its members
Dorcas - 4th Tues. eve., Chapel, 21 members, 16 avg att
Esther - 4th Wed. aft., at homes or church, 10 members
quarterly meetings - 2nd Wed. eves. (Jan. Apr. July Oct.)
contact with Dolores Dohlen
member of United Church Women of MM
mailed Tidings weekly
provided nursery workers
Lutheran World Relief, Dixon, Nachusa, Pinecrest
Bible Study - 2nd Tuesday, 9 AM, Chapel, beg. January 1965
led by Pastor, sponsored by daytime groups (Miriam, Esther)
1965 67 members
Dorcas - 22 members
Esther - 12 active members
Miriam - 17 members, 3rd Thurs.
Naomi -
1966 64 members (Dorcas 9 avg., Esther 12 members, Miriam 17 members,
Naomi ?)
1967 Esther & Miriam = 12 active members each
Mother-Daughter Banquet - April 12
1968 Mother-Daughter Banquet - May 8, in FH
nursery workers for all church services
clothing et al. sent to LWR
1969 60 members (Dorcas 8 avg., Esther 11 members, Miriam 11 members,
Naomi ?)
1970 Mother-Daughter Banquet - April 8
Dorcas - 4th Tuesday, 7 avg. att.
Esther - 4th Wed., 10 members
Miriam - 3rd Thursday morning, 12 members
Naomi - 3rd Wed., 17 members
Christian Action Report - no longer cooperative?
nursery workers, LWR, bereavement, Nachusa, Pinecrest, Dixon Choir

Glad Hand Club -

1962 met on 4th Wednesday, 15 members, at church
discontinued clothing a Nachusa child
1963 14 members
1964-66 report but nothing to note
1967 12/27/67 discontinued after 54 years, sadly, few active members left
org. in 1913 in home of Mrs. Grace Baker
Mrs. Lillie Zimmerman = first president

Ladies' Aid Society -

1962 met on 1st Thursday, FH, 35 active, 5 honorary, avg. att. = 22
1963 35 active, 4 honorary, 25 avg att
dinners, Nachusa child, Tidings, cookies, sewing
1964 36 members, 4 honorary, 21 avg att
1965 30 active, 3 honorary, 20 avg att
1966 29 active, 3 honorary, 21 avg att
supported child at Nachusa, mailed Tidings
1967 1st Thursday, 1:30 PM, FH, 26 active, 6 honorary, 18 avg att.
1968 26 active, 5 honorary, 18 avg att
1969 26 active, 4 honorary, 15 avg att
1970 16 avg att

Luther League -

1962 Chi Rho U - 2nd Sunday, avg. 24-25, junior high (gr. 7 & 8)
devotions/refreshments/recreation
advisers = Mr. & Mrs. David L. Rahn
Freshman-Sophomore L.L. - new, attendance = 25-55
balance recreation and business
advisers = The Milton Browns
Junior-Senior L.L. - ca. 35 members
formed 2 separate leagues (F-S & J-S)
1963 international exchange student at Saxbys
CRU = monthly, avg att = 25
1964 decorated inside and outside for Christmas
sponsored Christmas Eve candlelighting service
1 November 1964 Trinity's charter in the Luther League of America
Robert N. Perry, Jr., president; Bonnie Fraser, secretary
1965 soph., jr., sr. - sponsored Easter breakfast, hootenany in May,
decorated church for Christmas, sponsored candlelight service
CRU - intermediate L.L., 8th & 9th gr., every other weekend
picking up bulletins and debris from church
1966
1967 CRU - active year
LL - 9/24 kickoff supper; 11/12 A Time for Burning;
12/17 decorated church
1968 LL Forum Night every other meeting
movie, speaker, or pizza-discussion of problems today
CRU Talent Show for Pinecrest Manor
scavenger hunt for wounded servicemen
1969 LL caroling; served 140 at Easter breakfast
CRU fun; garage sale for UNICEF
1970 LL - 73 members, looking for new areas of service
CRU - idle during vacancy; 38 possible members; monthly meetings

Couples' Club -

1968 first meeting = 14 December 1968 - Progressive Supper, 11 couples
no age limits
leaders = Gerald Wallaces, Lloyd Helgelands, Donald Corneliuses

1969 now called Merry Mates
social and caroling
met on 2nd Sat., 8-42 attend
1970 second year, second Saturday, 6-20 attend

Over-35 Group -

1968 first meeting in November, 30 persons
leaders = Mr. & Mrs. Ray Oleson
couples and individuals
1969 now called Lutheran Adult Fellowship (LAF)
met on 3rd Sunday, primarily social

Sunday School -

1962 Mrs. Harry Conrad, supt. (Lester Mayes, asst.)
Christmas Program (nursery thru junior depts.) - on Advent 3
following church service
365 enrolled, 196 avg att
652 books in library, 42 new
1963 John Sundvall, supt. (asst = Wilma Colvin)
332 enrolled, 190 avg att
librarians = Lucy Urish & Thelma Unger
1964 John Sundvall, supt.
Christmas Program on Sunday before Christmas
by nursery, kindergarten, primary, and junior depts.
339 enrolled, 191 avg att
1965 Patrick Gerald Cassidy, supt.
313 enrolled, 175 avg att
1966 Patrick Cassidy, supt (until Sept. 1), then Wesley Witt
255 enrolled, 152 avg att
1967 Wesley Witt, supt.
246 enrolled, 146 avg att
1968 both pastors advise, Wesley Witt, supt.
201 enrolled, 143 avg att
1969 Wesley Witt, supt.
171 enrolled, 125 avg att
1970 John Sundvall, supt.
211 enrolled, 110 avg att

Council of Churches -

1968 restructured - now only four churches (maybe throughout this period)
pastor and one top elected lay leader
met quarterly
revolving presidency, secretary to be paid

Miscellaneous Notes:

1. 1/62 \$5,307 given thru UFCT to Carthage College from Middlekauff (\$3,592) and Wyatt (\$1,714) estates
2. 11/25/63 Three services at Trinity "in Memory of Martyred President John F. Kennedy"
3. 1964 set catechetical program for 2 years (8th & 9th grades) -
LCA practice - classes on Sat.
1965 no confirmation since it was moved up to 9th grade
1967 3-yr. program adopted (grades 7,8,9) to be taught during SCS
but Christian Education Committee recommends Pastor teach all
freshmen = Sun.; 7th & 8th grades = Sat.
Ryberg prepared Connie Beard and Terry Jacobson to teach
7th and 8th grades, but Council approved committee recommend.

4. 1964, 1965 Council said no auxiliaries may sponsor hayrides due to risks and legalities
5. 1965 Bob Richards spoke at C of C's 4th of July program
6. 1966 \$10 subsidy for each youth attending summer camp - none in 1967
7. In Oct. 1966 smoking in the church was confined to the FH
8. In 1967 the congregation celebrated the 450th anniversary of the Reformation
9. In 1967 Trinity hosted the Carthage College A Cappella Choir on Palm Sunday
10. In 1967 O.A. Hanke was elected president of the Ogle County Mental Health Assn.
11. In July 1967 Dave Dillehay Park was dedicated - Dillehay was TLC member and MM village clerk for many years
12. On 10 June 1963 a new way of administering communion (unspecified) was approved
 On 8 May 1967 the congregation accepted the practice of using wine for holy communion (moved by Warren Reckmeyer)
13. In 1967 no SCS was held in August or on first Sunday of September
14. 11/67 Worship & Music Committee discouraged monthly communion, saying "it would be too often and cease to hold importance," but if we do it, let's alternate between early and late services
15. In 1967 annual outdoor worship (in Aug.) with pot-luck picnics and recreation at Camp Emmaus began, sponsored by Men's Club (100 attend, due to bad weather). This continues in the next years - 9 AM service at church, 10:30 service at Camp Emmaus, 12 noon picnic
16. In 1967 & 1968 Trinity supported the study at LSTC of Immanueli Ndosi (from Tanzania) and was instrumental in bringing his entire family to Chicago for his last year, 1968. On 6/16/68, he preached at Trinity
17. On 6 June 1968 Franklin Clark Fry died (1900-1968). In 1968 Ill. Syn. Pres. Robt. Marshall became president of the LCA. Marshall was succeeded as Synod president by Gerald K. Johnson, who was inducted 10 November 1968 at Rockefeller Memorial Chapel
18. In 1968 \$1 per active member was assessed to support WRE
19. In 1969 Council and Pastor studied "Confirmation and First Communion"
20. In 1969 the LCA lectionary series for bulletins was adopted for the sake of unison reading of Scripture
21. In 1969 special offerings for Nachusa were discontinued because apportionment benevolence provided for them
22. In 1963 the Illinois Lutheran (LCA) replaced The Gleaner (ULCA) as the official Synod publication
23. A blanket fidelity bond up to \$500,000 was given through the church body
24. Secular wedding music was discussed 11/11/63 and 12/9/63 - no stand taken
25. 1/13/64 Mrs. Thelma Unger was authorized to be hired as research assistant for two-month trial
26. 2/9/64 Ryberg was given permission to send out Voobus' letter (anti-communist) but not on letterhead
27. 2/9/64 new ushering system to be adopted, two teams alternating (7 to a team)
28. 4/19/64 Council approved new maintenance contract on organ with Howell Pipe Organ Co., replacing Holmberg Organ Co.
29. 7/13/64 The tradition of naming people who have willed money to the church and for which no specific memorial was made was moved from Memorial Day to All Saints' Sunday
30. 8/64 6,000 picture postcards bought (\$135) to be sent to visitors
31. 10/10/65 Tenth Anniversary of Evangelical Free Church
32. 2/13/67 A communion rail in front of the first row of pews was

proposed (\$2,000 Ed Schnulle memorial to be used) - opposed by Worship & Music Committee

33. 4/67 At Ridenour's insistence, insurance policies were taken with Orr (replacing Ridenour)

34. 5/28/67 Anita Stauffer confirmed by Gustavus Adolphus chaplain at Christ Chapel, received as Trinity member

35. 5/67 Kurt Roderer gave organ evaluation: rather poor mechanical condition, \$25-27,000 to rebuild properly (= 75% cost of new organ), recommend purchasing new pipe organ, need approx. 19 stops @ ca. \$39,000, poorest possible location, best = back of church

8/67 Council commits to new organ and necessary remodeling

2/68 organ planning committee elects Robert Urish chairman and Margie Hand secretary; ten members; 3/68 report

4/68 Howell increases service contract from \$120 to \$225 per year because organ is old, rebuilding was poorly done, heat and humidity are not controlled

36. Mirdza Kalnins works 1967-69 as fill-in secretary (before she went to Watt Publishing)

37. 5/26/67 Mrs. Doris Wisnosky is released into Ryberg's care from East Moline State Hospital for continued psychiatric care

38. 7/19/67 Mrs. Ryberg has major surgery

39. 9/6/67 Stewardship Committee mails survey of members - 211 usable questionnaires are returned

40. 9/11/67 Council approves laymen reading lessons at regular Sunday services

41. 1966 WRE contribution: CB = \$420, Christian = \$128, Meth. = \$460, Trinity = \$514

42. 4/68 501 persons attended Passion Sunday Evening Concert (Du Bois' "Seven Last Words of Christ") at Church of Brethren - C of C.

43. 8/68 Bill Swarbrick installed as pastor of St. Paul's, Dixon

44. 7/68 two youth attend Luther League Leadership School at Augustana College (70 attend)

45. 9/8/68 Ryberg and Sherwood Nelson exchange pulpits re the Racial Reconciliation Appeal (Aug. 25 to Sept. 22), preceded by two Sundays of lay temple talks

46. Summer 1968 Sat. eve. outdoor worship service in camping area of White Pines State Park led by MM-Polo pastors (ca. 100 attend)

47. 12/68-1/69 views of juniors and seniors

48. 4/69 burglary of secretary's office - IBM typewriter recovered by police

49. 4/69 youth letter requests attention to race relations concerns; Van de Ven attends week-long institute at Lake Minnetonka, MN

50. 6/69 Council allows one pastor to sit in cong. when both aren't needed during the summer

51. 3-9 August 1969 Ryberg took 7th grade class to Campfirmation at Lake Geneva

52. 9/8/69 Council terminated (finalized) Parish Register Fund

53. 10/69 Fred W. Hollingshead - new Church of Brethren pastor

54. Advent 3, 12/14/69 Folk Mass, The Winds of God - with guitar, banjo, string bass, Sr. & Children's Choirs

55. Christmas Eve 1969, 8:20-8:35 PM Vigil for Peace at Village Bandshell by MM pastors and laypeople

56. MM Ministerium met every Tuesday morning, often with breakfast, during at least some of these years. In 1969 they held Thursday evening summer services at the Christian Church with rotating preachers

NOTE: These historical notes, covering the first 150 years of Trinity's history, were made in 1995-1996 by Pastor Phil Schroeder from the church's records and minutes and earlier historical accounts. Other potential sources that have not been thoroughly studied are the monthly newsletters and the weekly service folders. These, of course, are not available for the early years, and for the latter years primarily the minutes and the annual reports were studied carefully. It is requested that no extensive printed use be made of these notes or their information without the courtesy of a review by their author.