

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Historical Notes  
Pastor 27, 1970-1987

27. RICHARD A. SWEDBERG (1970-1987) - continued

This section of notes begins at 1976,  
the previous section covers 1970-1975.

Pastor Swedberg's ministry continued into this next decade...and for two years beyond it. In some respects his ministry was the most difficult in recent times, at least statistically. The membership and attendance statistics continued to decline despite faithful efforts. The congregation had achieved its peak during the time of a national revival of religious interest and at the time of a building campaign. Thereafter it settled into a time of increasing religious apathy or indifference in the country, it came into a time of business difficulty in the community (the strike at Kable Printing), and programs of outreach and spiritual development within the congregation could arouse only limited interest. Stewardship and financial statistics during this time, however, were strong. Only in 1977 (\$2,015), 1980 (\$385), and 1985 was the budget not met. In other years it was exceeded by \$2,672 (1975), \$799 (1976), \$642 (1978), \$675 (1979), \$3,635 (1981), \$6,683 (1982), \$3,472 (1983), \$7,497 (1984), \$555 (1986), and \$1,660 (1987).

Pastor Swedberg expressed his concern about declining membership and attendance frequently during these years:

1979 - We should all be faithful in our worship life and invite neighbors, friends, acquaintances, and inactives. Parents need to bring their children to Sunday School.

1981 - After 50 people were placed on the inactive roll, he said: "Possibly this year we can see a reversal of losses and start to grow again as a congregation."

1982 - "Let's make it a year of spiritual and numerical growth."

1983 - "I feel sad about some of our members who have found more Sunday diversions or excuses to be less loyal to faithful worship. We can boast of increased financial support, but average attendance at worship is down."

1985 - "I'm most unhappy about the drop in average attendance at worship. You...are as much responsible as I am to be regular in your worship life." The Pastoral Relations Committee said on 29 October 1985: "Attendance at worship is not what it should be. Many of Trinity's members attend irregularly and sporadically. Pastor asked the committee if they felt a change in the type of service would attract more of these folks," but the committee couldn't say.

Several times the Pastor was able to note a contrast between attendance and stewardship:

1976 - In 1976 he noted that membership growth and worship attendance were not up to expected goals, but it was a banner year in stewardship (receipts were up \$10,000, partly in special gifts for LOMC).

1983 - "We can boast of increased financial support, but average attendance at worship is down."

And he made significant remarks about the work-load:

1979 - "It seems there is always more to do than I get done and this

leaves me with a feeling of inadequacy. Remember me in your prayers."

1980 - "Time is not sufficient to do all that needs to be done, I have to select what I feel are priorities.... I do seek to be a faithful Pastor of your parish."

There is found also an emphasis on the power of prayer.

1976 - "God's unlimited power is available to people of prayer."

1977 - "We should continually praise the Lord.... Do you KNOW that Jesus Christ is alive?... We (should) allow Jesus to come completely into our lives."

1978 - "We all need to go to the school of prayer.... Our parish life needs renewed spiritual strength and re-commitment to worship, praise, and thanksgiving and a re-dedication to witness and outreach for Christ."

In 1978 prayer meetings were held in three homes (22 people attended) in preparation for Spiritual Renewal Services. Spiritual renewal pamphlets were distributed to the homes of 150-160 people. Attendance at the services ranged from 70 to 160; the average attendance of Trinity members was 70-80. It was said that 2 to 3 times more people were accepting Christ through people praying and "Pastor feels we should alert people to the power of prayer." Also in 1978 (July 28-29), four members and the Pastor attended the "Change The World School of Prayer" of the World Literature Crusade at the Open Bible Center, in Rockford, and found it very worthwhile. In 1980 another four-day Spiritual Renewal Series was planned for Holy Week, with Pastor Sterling Johnson, of L.E.M. (Lutheran Evangelism Mission), Minneapolis, as guest leader/preacher (he was paid \$442). In the 1983 Annual Report the following Prayer Groups are listed: 1) Prayer & Praise Group (Wed., 6:30 AM, Chapel, 7 avg att.), 2) Bible Study and Prayer (every other Tuesday, 9 AM, Chapel, 8 avg att.), and 3) three Prayer Chains of 40 women.

A Pastoral Relations Committee was appointed in August 1979: Marcia Holley, Carol Reckmeyer, Lois Scheffler, Phil Wessels, Robert Urish, and Chuck Diehl. Again in July 1984 a Pastoral Relations Committee was formed: Anna Marie Castle, Ruth Park, Phil Wessels, Hollie Guist, Jr., Robert Urish, and Pastor. These agreed to serve a second year in 1985. This committee noted (1984) two weaknesses at Trinity - evangelism and Sunday School. They noted already then that Pastor planned to retire when he was 65 (29 July 1987) but that his hearing impairment and his heart incident might alter that plan. They said that "Pastor is doing a much higher than average job of carrying out his responsibilities" and expressed appreciation "for his sincere, dedicated leadership of Trinity - truly a man of God." This committee also recommended salary and benefits for the Pastor.

The Pastor took sick leave in 1984 and 1986. In 1984 he took seven weeks for hospitalization and recovery from surgery. Robert Urish (vice chairman) and Ruth Myers (church secretary) were credited with extra work in his absence. Pastor "Jack" (Swanson) and Pastor Roy Ryden (substitute pastor) filled in. In 1986 Swedberg took sick leave for scheduled surgery on Dec. 1-22, and Pastor Wm. Swarbrick "supplied."

Pastor Swedberg seems to have kept the affection and support of the congregation. In 1981 at the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Vice Chairman Chuck Diehl expressed the congregation's thanks for Pastor Swedberg's outstanding leadership, and the Pastor was given a standing ovation.

In January 1987 Pastor Swedberg announced that he was planning to retire at the end of July, when he would be 65. He said he would give the requisite 60-days notice. He noted that his 17 years here had been his longest at any parish and made his and Hightower's pastorates the two longest pastorates in the history of the church (17 years). He said these had been good years for his family. His last Sunday in the pulpit was July 12 (1987); the last two weeks of July were taken as vacation. A Sunday afternoon reception (July 12, 2 to 5 PM) was given for the Swedbergs in the Fellowship Hall, served by the women's groups. Following his retirement, Pastor Swedberg moved to Rockford, where he has done part-time pastoral work. He returned to Trinity to preach at the time of Ruth Myers' retirement celebration in 1990, and he and Doris returned with their whole family for a major 150th anniversary celebration on 7 July 1996.

In his letter of resignation (1 May 1987), Pastor Swedberg noted:

"Our family was fortunate in many ways to live here in Mt. Morris. Six of our children finished college degrees while we lived here and four of them finished their H.S. or elementary education. Doris has been able to teach in the Mt. Morris H.S. for sixteen years. These have been good years for us in your community.

"I have been blessed in serving as Pastor of Trinity now almost seventeen years and have many good memories of working with the people of Trinity. I have shared in your sorrows, rejoiced with you in the births, baptisms, confirmations, weddings and anniversaries. We have praised the Lord together, worshipped, prayed and shared in so many ways since June of 1970. Thanks for all the kindnesses and support that you have given to me and my family."

A Search/Selection Committee was appointed: Charles Diehl, Stan Asp, Wilda Lundin, Ole Hiteman, Phil Wessels, Ruth Myers, Hollie Guist, and Debbie Buser. They met first on July 21, and they met first with Hal Bolm on August 26 (1987).

In 1982 the Constitution (of 1963) was changed by two readings before the congregation: Jan. 24 and June 13. The changes were mainly three:

- a) An article on Congregational Function was added as Article III and served to replace old Article X on Standing Committees.
- b) Article V on Membership was rewritten to describe four classifications of members: baptized, communing, confirmed, and voting. Voting members were required to have received holy communion and to have made a contribution of record in the current or preceding calendar year.
- c) Article IX expanded the list of Church Council duties.

In 1983 John Tholen, who died while the Pastor was on vacation, willed his home (312 Sunset) to the church. The home was cleaned and prepared for tenants and rented to William Palmer from 15 November 1983 to 31 May 1984 @ \$110/mo. In January 1984 the congregation accepted the Council's recommendation to sell the property as soon as possible, but it proved difficult to sell. It was appraised at \$29,000+. On 1 January 1985 it was sold for \$23,000.

The sale of the house placed \$20,764 into the Tholen Property Account. In 1985, \$17,646 was expended:

- \$3,746 - LOMC
- 3,746 - LCA World Hunger
- 2,000 - Bethel, Chicago

1,000 - New Life Church, Pembroke Pines, FL (Ryberg's church)  
 5,238 - Capital Expenses  
 1,916 - Sound System (new amp and two mikes)

In 1986 this account provided VCR lighting (\$551). In 1987 it provided for organ repairs (\$1,888) and a folding machine (\$884). Thus the account was depleted.

The church's policy on undesignated bequests set the pattern. The January 1980 (1/28/80) policy called for 50% of undesignated bequests to go to benevolent causes, 25% to capital expenses, and 25% to special projects or needs in the parish. In 1987 (1/25/87) the congregation adopted a new policy, choosing Plan A over Plans C and B (vote: A-42, B-10, C-35). This plan called for 10% (tithe) of each undesignated bequest to "be given to the wider ministries of the Synod...or the national church or one or more of their agencies or institutions," 25% to "be placed in a capital improvement account or in an investment to be used to help maintain Trinity's property," and the remaining 65% to "be invested in a permanent Endowment Fund, the earnings of which are to be divided according to needs for new ministries in our own congregation, the ministries of our Synod, and/or the national ministries of our church." This remains the church's policy today.

In 1986 the Cloyd Pieper bequest brought \$73,388. In 1986 \$44,865 was expended:

Anniversary Fund	4,000	LSTC	2,000
DMNA	5,000	Ill. Syn., LCA	5,000
DWM	5,000	Nachusa	6,000
Bethel	2,000	Typewriter	1,686
World Hunger	2,000	Carillons	2,485
LOMC	6,000		
LSSI	3,694		

In 1987, \$4,658 was expended for the organ. Unhappiness over how this was handled, it seems, to the policy stated above.

The Stephen Series, a comprehensive lay ministry training program, was implemented by the congregation in 1980. The Council recommended it in January (cost = \$1,400). In Summer Pastor and Doris Swedberg and Marge Diehl spent two weeks in St. Louis learning the method and becoming "instructors." In January 1981 the instructors taught ten volunteers weekly on Wednesday nights: Charles Diehl, Irene LeFevre, Everett Lundin, Ruth Park, Darlene Raney, Eleanor Schelling, Catheryn Tuttle, Teresa Ubben, Robert A. Urish, and Wesley Witt. Their training completed, these ten began to serve.

In 1983-1986, the congregation hired part-time youth directors. Talk of this began in 1981 when finding youth leaders became increasingly difficult. (In July 1976 a Lutheran Youth Encounter group, Hosanna, came for a week to work with the youth.) In September 1982 the congregation talked with the Tentmakers. In 1983 Kris Nelson (not a Tentmaker) was hired, beginning in March, at \$150/mo., and she worked especially with Chi Rho Upsilon. Her first meeting was attended by 29 youth (from both groups). In June she donated her month's salary to make possible a bus trip to Great America, and she was said to be doing an excellent job. But in September she asked to be relieved, and the Busers (Chuck and Debbie) took over leadership, the group meeting every two weeks.

In 1984 the Renewing Study Group recommended that youth leadership

be sought through the Tentmaker program. In August 1984 Lisa Petersen, a Tentmaker, came as Youth Coordinator. She was contacted in April and interviewed in July. Council approved (5/14/84) hiring a Tentmaker for two years beginning in August at about \$10,000/year. On August 13 she attended her first Council meeting. She worked at first with the junior age group. There was a retreat at Lutherdale. A trip to the Haunted House was not approved by Council. A written report is found on 11/12/84. She was preparing to include the senior youth in her coordinating, but after Christmas "she called it quits" and left. She used the other office, which Associate Pastor Van de Ven had used; a telephone was installed, also in the kitchen. \$5,460 was expended for her.

In June 1985 Paul McNamara came as Youth Coordinator. In January Council decided to continue with Tentmakers. In March they contracted with Paul McNamara for two years beginning in June. He was installed on July 5. He lived the first two weeks with the Lundins. In December he moved to an apartment at 304 Ogle. He gave his first report to the August Council meeting. In October 1985 the Pastoral Relations Committee said: "Youth activities and functions are rather poorly attended even though Tentmaker Paul is working hard to get them involved. Parents seem disinterested...." In January 1986 the annual report said, "He deserves greater support from our families with high school and junior high age youth." In May 1986 the council decided to request termination of the Tentmakers program. The Pastor began termination procedures, saying "Paul has not assumed the leadership role with our youth and is not reaching the youth of our congregation." On June 9, Paul resigned effective June 30. His part-time work had been traveling for Tentmakers. The Council grew to question his time spent in travel and absent from Mt. Morris. His resignation letter of 9 June 1986, addressed to Tentmakers, Inc., Pastor Swedberg, and the Church Council, said:

"I respectfully submit my resignation as the Tentmaker of Trinity Lutheran Church, in Mt. Morris, Illinois, to be effective June 30, 1986.

"It is my opinion, that I cannot supply the necessary leadership, programming, training, and motivation to adequately meet the needs of its youth and its adults. One of my greatest obstacles has been not being able to develop many close relationships with the majority of church youth and their parents. Subsequently, this failure has led to poor personal self-esteem and lack of confidence to continue further activities any longer. Notwithstanding, the present Youth Board has been faithful and hard-working despite low turn outs for Youth activities. They should be commended.

"I have given the best service I have to offer; but, in order for the youth program to continue, I feel it is necessary to step aside. I believe the people of Trinity are resourceful and strong in faith. It is my hope they will continue to work to meet the needs of their youth...to the glory of God. Sincerely, Paul McNamara"

In 1978 the property appraisal was \$966,833. In 1984 the church property valuation was set at \$1,405,200 (church = 1,039,000, contents = 107,000, pipe organ = 194,000, storage building = 2,500, parsonage and garage = 62,700). In 1985 the church and its contents were valued at \$1,287,500, the parsonage and garage at \$67,700. In 1986 and 1987 total valuation was set at \$1,400,000 (\$1,335,000 for church, \$65,000 for parsonage).

Brief remarks from Annual Reports include the following:

1976 - Membership growth and worship attendance were not up to expected goals, but it was a banner year in stewardship (receipts were up \$10,000, partly in special gifts for LOMC). "God's unlimited power is available to people of prayer." A Mission and Ministry Study was made, called "Organizing Around the Great Commission," to ask what we are doing right and what needs changing; implementation plans were to be made by September 1977 or earlier. (Members of the Study committee were Louise Borneman, Donald Horst, Mary Krull, Dennis Kuntzelman, Robert LeFevre, Lillian Long, Wilda Lundin, Bruce Obendorf, Ray Oleson, Phil Orr, Julie Robinson, Velda Saxby, John Sundvall, Wendell Voss, Phil Wessels, and Alice Zickuhr.) It was a Pictorial Directory year (Bel-Air Studios) - \$135 was paid for extra pages, \$250 for 100 extra copies. The 50th anniversary of Harry Allen's ordination and wedding were held; a gift was given to him at a luncheon held at Maxson's Manor.

1977 - "We should continually praise the Lord.... Do you KNOW that Jesus Christ is alive?... We (should) allow Jesus to come completely into our lives."

1978 - "We all need to go to the school of prayer.... Our parish life needs renewed spiritual strength and re-commitment to worship, praise, and thanksgiving and a re-dedication to witness and outreach for Christ." Prayer meetings were held in three homes (22 people attended) in preparation for Spiritual Renewal Services. Spiritual renewal pamphlets were distributed to the homes of 150-160 people. Attendance at services ranged from 70 to 160; the average attendance of our members was 70-80. It was said that 2 to 3 times more people were accepting Christ through people praying and "Pastor feels we should alert people to the power of prayer." The Strength for Mission Campaign, to run from 7/78 to 6/81, set a goal of \$25,000 (= Trinity's goal, higher than suggested). On July 12-19 the LCA Convention was held at the Conrad Hilton in Chicago.

1979 - "It seems there is always more to do than I get done and this leaves me with a feeling of inadequacy. Remember me in your prayers." We should all be faithful in our worship life and invite neighbors, friends, acquaintances, and inactives. Parents need to bring their children to Sunday School. Another four-day Spiritual Renewal Series, with Pastor Sterling Johnson, Minneapolis, was planned for Holy Week. New hymnals (Lutheran Book of Worship) were used beginning Sept. 9. \$36,589 was spent in special maintenance projects: boiler repair, church insulation and roof, heat change-over, painting of sanctuary and sacristy and entries, coating on parts of exterior brick, parsonage insulation, foundation planting, work on organ pipes, and shrubs. Payments were completed in 1981.

1980 - "We should do some specific things this year to build the communion of saints in the membership of Trinity, to seek to promote greater love for one another.... I hope the little experiment of 'encouragement cards' which was begun on Sunday, January 11th (1981), will be one nudge to aid this.... Trinity's membership should grow in its concern for one another and its expressions of love for fellow members.... Time is not sufficient to do all that needs to be done, I have to select what I feel are priorities.... I do seek to be a faithful Pastor of your parish." The Stephen Series was begun.

1981 - Membership figures were said to be closer to reality when more than 50 people were placed on the inactive roll. "Possibly this year we can see a reversal of losses and start to grow again as a congregation."

The budget was exceeded in offerings by \$3,600. The special maintenance fund was completed and then some. Gifts for "From Strength to Strength" were \$1,300 over the projected commitment. Swedberg served as vice pastor at Oregon following the resignation of Pastor Mueller. Talk began of hiring a part-time youth director because it was increasingly difficult to find youth leaders.

1982 - We are called to live as "people of hope" in a gloomy land. "God can be trusted to care for our tomorrows." "Let's make it a year of spiritual and numerical growth." The Constitution was changed - two readings to congregation were on January 24 and June 13.

1983 - "I feel sad about some of our members who have found more Sunday diversions or excuses to be less loyal to faithful worship. We can boast of increased financial support, but average attendance at worship is down." On January 30 there was a Community Canvass of non-churched people together with the Mt. Morris churches.

1984 - Pastor Swedberg spent seven weeks in hospital and recovery from surgery. Preparations began for celebrating the 140th anniversary in 1986. A Renewing Study Group recommended a youth director from Tentmakers; Lisa Peterson came in August and left at the end of December. In July a Pastoral Relations Committee was formed: Anna Marie Castle, Ruth Park, Phil Wessels, Hollie Guist, Jr., Bob Urish, and the Pastor.

1985 - "I'm most unhappy about the drop in average attendance at worship. You...are as much responsible as I am to be regular in your worship life." Pastoral Relations Committee on 29 October 1985: "Attendance at worship is not what it should be. Many of Trinity's members attend irregularly and sporadically. Pastor asked the committee if they felt a change in the type of service would attract more of these folks," but the committee couldn't say. A 140th Anniversary Committee was appointed, and a Pictorial Directory was prepared. A Marriage Booklet was prepared. Paul McNamara began serving as Youth Coordinator in June 1985.

1986 - Pastor indicated he planned to retire at the end of July (age 65), said these were good years for his family. His oldest daughter, Mary Vizer, died late in the year. December 1-22 was more sick leave for surgery; Swarbirck supplied. The 140th Anniversary was grandly celebrated.

#### STATISTICS for these years:

\R130,C13,V8

			12/75	12/76	12/77	12/78	12/79	12/80	12/81	12/82
12/83	12/84	12/85	12/86	12/87						
baptized			184	173	180	176	168	175	175	177
177	177	166	175	112						
confirmed			632	635	625	617	613	616	553	553
559	559	553	555	538						
total			816	808	805	793	781	791	728	730
736	736	719	730	650						
communing (conf/pre-c.)			372	414	424/22	374/12	380/18	378/20	362/19	368/23
356/19	348/21	321/14	332/20	325/18						
active			485	506	497	479	469	472	453	449
447	425	417	418	405						

average att.				201	199	182	192	192	199	199
189	195	186	193	176	(184/6 mos.)					
baptisms				6	9	8	5	17	7	11
5	12	4	14	7						
adult bap.				1					2	
1	2		2							
adult aff. of f.				4		3	2	7	5	3
5	6		3							
confirmations				13	7	7	6	9	0	8
5	7	7	4	7						
transfer to				13	10	16	6	12	12	10
8	3	13	4	4						
transfer from				17	5	24	19	21	16	13
6	18	25	3	16						
removed by own req.				6	2	1			8	3
2	14									
marriages				8	8	8	2	5	9	6
8	6	7	3	5						
funerals (memb/non-m.)				8/4	15/2	14/4	6/3	6/4	14/5	6/4
8/4	12/2	8/2	7/5	5/3						
SCS (enroll/avg att)				192/90	181/79	164/67	138/73	145/66	131/61	123/66
116/61	127/60	129/53	114/53	95/51						

®  
12/31/81 placed on inactive

roll: 46 conf.

6 bap.

\C10,V6,R77

The Proposed Budgets looked like this:

\C13,V8,R120

			Pastor	Orgs/CDsSecy	FS	Sexton	Ch/Par.
			Apport.	Pincrst	WRE	Gid.	Imp. F.
1975	General/65%	41,900	11,000	1,000	5,500	720	2,500
2672	overpaid						
	Benevolence/35%	22,225	20,700	600	+ 650	900	25
		64,125			pen/hlth		
1976	General/65	46,025	12,000	1,000	5,500	720	2,500
799	overpaid						
	Benevolence/33.6	23,225	21,700	600	+ 650	900	25
	Capital Exp/ 1.4						
		69,250					
1977	General/65	50,475	12,600	1,000	5,800	720	2,500
2015	underpaid						
	Benevolence/33.6	24,775	23,325	800	+ 750	650	
	Capital Exp/ 1.4						
		75,250					
1978	General/66.3	52,660					
	Benevolence/32.3	25,700					
442	overpaid						
	Capital Exp/ 1.4						



79,410 or 79,360

			Pastor Apport.	Orgs/CDsSecy Pincrst	FS WRE	Sexton Gid.	Ch/Par. Imp. F.
1979 General/68	59,450	14,400	1,565	7,300	720	2,750	1,350
675 overpaid							
Benevolence/31	26,900	25,200	800	+ 900	900		
72,500 pledged							
Capital Exp/ 1.					(&YFU)		
	86,350						
1980 General/67.5	63,200	15,500	1,565	7,800	720	3,000	1,000
385 underpaid							
Benevolence/31.5	29,100	27,000	1,000	+ 950	1100		
Capital Exp/ 1.					(&YFU)		
	92,300						
1981 General/68	69,585	16,750	1,700	8,200	720	5,000	1,000
3635 overpaid							
Benevolence/31	32,400	30,000	1,200	+1000	1200		
Capital Exp/ 1.					(&YFU)		
	101,985						
1982 General/65.9	77,435	18,250	1,750	9,000	720	5,000	4,000
6683 overpaid							
Benevolence/30.51	34,000	31,500	1,400	+1050	1100		
100,620 pledged							
Capital Exp/ 3.59							
	111,435						
1983 General/67	84,590	19,750	1,750	9,900	840	5,000	4,000
3472 overpaid							
Benevolence/29.68	35,700	33,000	1,500	+1400	1200		
107,122 pledged							
Capital Exp/ 3.32					(&YFU)		
	120,290						
1984 General/66.93	88,390	20,500	1,750	10,500	840	6,000	4,000
7497 overpaid							
Benevolence/29.9	37,700	34,500	2,000	+ 1500	1200		
\$112,438 pledged							
Capital Exp/ 3.17					(WRE)		
	126,090						
1985 General/68.85	103,440	21,200	1,750	11,000	840	8,000	4,000
4598 underpaid							
Benevolence/28.38	41,000	38,000	2,000	+ 3400	1000		
Capital Exp/ 2.77					(WRE)		
	144,440						
1986 General/69.11	99,440	22,000	1,750	11,455?	840		
555 overpaid							
Benevolence/28.14	41,000			+ 3400	1000		
Capital Exp/ 2.75							
	140,440						

140,440 - amended to 145,695 by above salary increases?

1987 General/69.87101,730 24,000 2,000 12,500 840 8,500 2,000  
 1660 overpaid  
 Benevolence/28.73 41,000 38,000 2,000 + 4800 1000  
 Capital Exp/ 1.4  
 142,730

1988 General/ 108,190 24,000 2,800 13,100 900 9,200 6,000  
 \$123,000 pledged  
 Benevolence/ 42,500 38,500 2,000 + 4000 1000 1,000 (LOMC)  
 as of 12-21-87  
 Capital Exp/  
 150,690

\C10,V6,R77

FINANCIAL REPORTS for these years look like this:

\C13,V8,R120

	Recpts	Expend	Pastor Appor.	Org Pinc	CDs WRE	Secy LL	FS Gid	Sexton Hunger	
1975 General	44,191	42,479	11,000	613	339	5,201	720	2,102	
Benev.	25,427	25,363	21,600	600	937		72	1,397	510
etc.									
CapExpF	1,000	1,154 (=900 extra)							(LCAA)
(Fletcher)									
Total Receipts =	76,856	2672 overrecd (66,797)							on budget of 64,125
Special Gifts =	Dorothy Bock \$500								
CapFundInv. =	33,560 (Miller 1000, B. Dahlberg 1000, Piek 1000, Bock 500, Lundgren 6116,								
	Wishard 18,147, Pieper 5797)								
1976 General	46,497	45,019	12,000	576	356	5,395	720	1,825	
Benev.	26,777	27,453	22,700	600	728	+ 577	25	892	1,900
187									
CpExDevF	4,034	3,879	1,687 (pars.imp.)		1,850 (mower)				(LCAA)
(des.adv.gfts)	(Bethphage)								
Total Receipts =	87,799	799 overrecd (70,049)							on budget of 69,250
Outdoor Ministries Fund =	5,393								
Special Gifts =	Bertha Shaw Estate 1000								
CapFundInv. =	35,968 (Catherine S. Miller 1000, Bertha Shaw 1000, Jeanette Piek 1000, Dorothy Bock 500,								
	L.C. Lundgren 6,616, C.A. Wishard 19,580, August Pieper 6,271)								
1977 General	48,301	49,457	12,600	576	348	5,971	720	2,262	
Benev.	25,865	26,586	24,325	800	633	+ 730	95	157	32
500 fr. LundgrenInv									
CpExDevF	1,140	1,210	plus 2,430 fr. investments						(LCAA) (ABS)
(SemStu/Joel Swedberg)									
									for humidifier, lawn sweeper, stairwell covering, mimeo, typewriter, pars.carpet
Total Receipts =	92,555								
Outdoor Ministries Fund =	3,546								
Strength for Missions Fund =	3,000								
Special Gifts =	Chas. Floto Estate 2,500, Holley Agri-Systems 1,680								
CapFundInv. =	38,199 (Miller 1000, Shaw 1000, Piek 1000, Bock 500,								

Lundgren 6651, Wishard 18,605, Pieper 6,784, Floto

2,659

1978	General	53,367	52,785	13,500	657	288	6,132	720	2,830	
	Benev.	27,264	27,198	24,000	800	1012	+ 880	105	1,430	

160

CpExDevF 2,192 1,303 plus 1,694 from investments (LCAA) (Luth. Orient Mission)

for stained glass window repair (1,455), blacktop

back drive (675)

Total Receipts = 103,303

Strength for Missions 2,313

Outdoor Ministries Center 910 plus 2599 from Chas. Floto Investment

Special Gifts = Wm. Rohns 1000

Lundgren Schol. F. - \$5,000 added, now = 12,173; 1183 expended (Park, Swedberg) - bal = 10,990

CapFundInv. = 38,172 (Miller 1000, Shaw 1000, Piek 1000, Bock 500, Lundgren 10,990, Wishard 17,811, Pieper 5870)

1979	General	59,076	53,044	14,400	841	594	6,292	720	2,652	
	Benev.	29,169	29,046	25,200	800	855	+ 782	70	1,567	205

350

CpExDevF 970 1,801 plus 1000 fr investments (Miriam Henry F.) (Str. for Missions)

for heating controls (2328), fire extinguishers (214)

Total Receipts = 135,631

LBW 1,688 1,537

Lundgren Scholarship Fund bal = 10,888; 899 expended (Park, Swedberg)

CapFundInv. = 27,839 (Miller 1000, Piek 1000, Bock 500, Wishard 8100, Pieper 6350)

1980	General	62,942	59,316	15,500	815	576	7,048	720	3,484	
	Benev.	30,133	30,145	27,000	1000	1075	+ 897	105	389	115

442

CpExDevF 12,588 12,165 - storm windows 4816, pars. work 1474, (Bethph.) (Luth. Ev. Mis.)

church carpet 5253

Total Receipts = 115,718

Lundgren Schol. Fund - bal = 10,195; 1,453 expended (Park, Swedberg)

CapFundInv. = 30,267 (Miller 1000, Piek 1000, Bock 500, Lundgren 10,775, Wishard 10,122, Pieper 6870)

		Recpts	Expend	Pastor	Org	CDs	Secy	FS	Sexton	
				Appor.	Pinc	WRE	LL	Gid	Hunger	

1981	General	71,316	64,638	16,750	755	572	7,862	720	3,855	
	Benev.	36,270	36,151	31,300	1200	1075	+1904		2,151	148

173

CpExDevF 2,056 2,423 - blacktop drive 476, sidewalks 474, (Rocky Boy) (Bishop's F.) (LYE)

gutter repair 562

Total Receipts = 134,929

Lundgren Scholarship Fund = bal 10,453; 636 expended for Park, Swedberg

CapFundInv. = 23,026 (Lundgren 10,000, Miller 1000, Piek 1000, Bock 500, Wishard 10,526)

1982	General	78,387	72,909	18,250	860	666	8,810	720	4,481	
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Benev.	36,537	36,537	33,762	1400	875	+2200	93	878
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special gifts  
 CpExDevF 4,240 4,240 plus 2050 transfers (pars. water htr 453, dehum.  
 244, roof rep. 1000, et al  
 Total Receipts = 128,489  
 Memorial Fund - Choir Robes 1385, Chancel window lighting 2,815 (Orr mem)  
 Lundgren Schol. Fund = 12,015 bal; no expend.  
 CapFundInv. = 27,624 (Lundgren 12,015, Bock 500, Miller 1000, Piek 1000,  
 Wishard 13,109)

1983 General	83,342	79,114	19,750	925	666	9,224	840	5,460
Benev.	37,047	37,047	34,472	1500	1075			807

special gifts  
 CpExDevF 7,309 4,877 - office counter 349, sound system rework 682,  
 pars. roof 3000, refrig. for par. 675  
 Total Receipts - 139,618  
 Lundgren Scholarship Fund = 13,138 bal ; 500 expended for Indian student  
 CapFundInv. - 29,438 (Lundgren 13,138, Bock 500, Miller 1000, Piek 1000,  
 Wishard 13,800)

1984 General	89,795	83,392	20,500	915	647	10,430	840	7,419
Benev.	39,943	39,943	36,968	2000	975	+ 3089	164	2,191

special gifts  
 CpExDevF 6,027 9,308 - pars. carpet & draperies 3516, organ 1734,  
 Chapel lighting & carpet 1394,  
 door closer 323, belltower steps 225  
 Total Receipts - 151,677  
 Lundgren Scholarship Fund - 14,180; 213 exp. for dinner for LST students  
 CapFundInv. - 32,030 (Lundgren 14,180, Bock 500, Miller 1000, Piek 1000,  
 Wishard 15,350)

1985 General	99,990	92,520	21,200	850	628	11,013	840	8,173
Benev.	41,000	41,000	38,000	2000	1000	+ 3411		2,208

special gifts  
 CpExDevF 9,365 8,350 - basement ceiling 4775, nursery carpet 88  
 (includes 5238 Tholen Fund) piano 1900  
 Total Receipts - 248,976  
 Lundgren Scholarship Fund - 15,492; no expend.  
 CapFundInv. - 111,252 (Lundgren 15,492, Bock 500, Miller 1000, Piek 1000,  
 Wishard 16,550,  
 Cloyd Pieper 73,388, Tholen 3322)

1986 General	103,053	98,824	22,000	975	733	11,663	840	8,570
Benev.	41,155	41,000	38,000	2000	1000	+ 4382	116	2,473

special gifts  
 CpExDevF 4,422 1,485 - plus 950 copy machine  
 Total Receipts - 164,396  
 Lundgren Scholarship Fund - 16,716; no expend.  
 Investments - 75,320 (Lundgren 16,716, Bock 500, Miller 1000, Piek 1000,  
 Wishard 17,750,  
 Clifford Newcomer 3000, Cloyd Pieper 28,523, Tholen  
 2772,  
 A.C. Fund 3044, Handicapped Access Fund 1015

1987 General	102,061	81,694	13,417	1393	800	12,740	840	8,769
Benev.	41,196	41,063	38,000	2000	1063	+ 3724	190	2,059 1000

(LOMC), 83 ABS  
 CpExDevF 2,108 4,750

Total Receipts - 149,642  
Lundgren Scholarship Fund - 17,823 bal; no expend.  
Investments - 68,181 (Lundgren 17,823, Bock 500, Miller 1000, Piek 1000,  
Wishard 18,500,  
Pieper 25,048, A.C. 3233, Hand. Access 1078

\C10,V6,R77  
STAFF

Financial Secretary - Helen Borneman

Secretary - Ruth Myers  
9/77 completes 14th yr. f-t  
1977 cheerfulness and faithfulness, produces some of the most  
readable copy in the Synod  
1978 cheery greeting and second mile  
1979 excellent copy, cheerful and friendly greeting  
1980 few parishes have work that exceeds hers in excellence  
1981 raise to \$4.25/hr., second mile willingness  
1982 faithful and cheerful work  
1983 cheerful, 20 years of efficient service (money & flowers)  
1984 extra mile  
1985 commendable work; vacation increased upon request: 3 weeks now,  
4 weeks next year  
1986 commendable work

Assistant - Betty Ford (1976-1978) - went to LOMC

Sextons -  
Inside: Ted & Gladys Bear (1976 to April 1982; 5/74-4/82, 8 yrs.)  
Gladys died 1983  
1981 - \$3.35/hr.  
Floyd Drumheller (5/1/82 to present) - began at minimum  
wage, raised to \$4/hr. in July  
1985 - to be paid overtime outside regular hours  
also vacation at regular half-day pay (cf.7/8/85)  
1986 - \$4.75 1987 - \$5  
  
Outside: Robert Fletcher (1976 - May 1977; died 12/25/83)  
(lawn/ Longs (Eddie & Bryan till 1980, Warren and Lil all along)  
yard & beg. May 1977  
snow) 1978 \$2.50/hr., July 1 raised to \$2.65

Organist - Carol Reckmeyer (1976-1987, before and after)  
1987 = \$1,500/year for organist and choir director

substitutes - Karen Sundvall (1976, 1978)  
Claudia Park (1976, 1977)  
Sarah Reckmeyer (1978, summer 1981 & 1982)  
1977: \$8/service, \$10/2 services  
1978: \$10/service, \$15/2 services  
1983: \$20/service, \$25/2 services  
1987: \$25/service, \$35/2 services

Choir Directors -  
Senior: Carol Reckmeyer (1976-1987)  
Doris Kuntzelman, accomp.

Junior: Doris Swedberg & Mary Krull (1976)  
Doris Swedberg (1977)  
Jean Swedberg (1978)  
Debbie Buser (1980-83)  
Fall 1983 - Youth Choir ( = Junior and Children's)  
Jean Swedberg, dir. (1983-1987)  
Debbie Buser, accomp. (1983-1987)  
1987 = \$20/mo. for 9 mos. each

Children's: Mary Jane Warkins & Ruth Myers (Jan. to June 1976)  
gr.1-3 Debra & Donna Horst (Sept. to June 1977; \$15/mo. each)  
Thurs., Julie Robinson (Oct. 1977 to June 1978)  
4:45-5:30 Nancy Stauffer (Sept. 1978 to 1979 or 1980?)  
FH Jean Swedberg/Whipple (1980-1983)

Salary Notes by Ruth Myers:

Ruth Myers - 1986, \$6.25/hr., 3 weeks vacation  
1987, \$6.50/hr., 4 weeks vacation  
1988, \$6.75/hr., 4 weeks vacation  
1989, \$7.00/hr., vacation pd. on 35-hour basis  
plus six paid holidays and sick pay  
Bonnie Voss - 1986-1987, \$3.35/hr.  
1988, \$4.00/hr.  
Floyd Drumheller - 1986, \$3.35/hr.  
1987, \$5.00/hr., 2 weeks vacation at half-time  
1988, \$5.25/hr., 2 weeks vacation at half-time

SERVICES

Regular Sunday services were held at 9:30 AM. But when there was holy communion, then services were at 8 and 9:30 AM. In January 1979 the early communion service began to be omitted (on the first Sunday) in December, January, and February due to poor attendance and to save fuel.

On 14 June 1976 the organist was asked to soften the organ during communion. In 1977 after a survey (139 ballots) Council approved alternating singing and not-singing during holy communion each month.

Setting 2 was first used in April and May 1977 (on a vote of 4/3/2)...again during Advent 1977 but rejected for Lent 1978. In late 1987 and early 1988 the settings alternated but not monthly. In 1987 the Worship & Music Committee report indicates the congregation had learned and used the second setting since the Pastor left and the plan was to alternate the settings season by season.

Children's bulletins were begun in 1977. In December 1977 the children were first asked to come to the chancel during the Pastor's sermonettes. In September 1987 (during the vacancy) it was decided to continue Children's Sermons by laypersons on the Sundays the Children's Choir sang.

The first Healing Service was held on 15 March 1976, and the decision was made to hold them quarterly thereafter. But this seems to have been irregularly observed.

College Recognition Sunday was held on 26 December 1976 and was regularly held on the Sunday between Christmas and New Year. An extra communion service was regularly held in the late afternoon or evening for those who would not be here for communion the next Sunday (or staying through Jan. 1).

High School senior recognition was regularly held on a late-May Sunday, and gifts were given to them. For example, 5/28/78 - and

regularly thereafter.

World Hunger Sunday was held the last Sunday of Nov. 1976.

Cantate Sunday (later called Church Music Sunday) was regularly observed in the late-Easter season.

Easter Sunrise Service (6 AM in 1976) was led by Luther League.

Memorials were dedicated on 27 March 1977 but thereafter on All Saints' Sunday.

On 13 November 1978 Council recommended purchasing new hymnals. A Special Congregational Meeting voted for it on December 11, 1978. They were used beginning on 9 September 1979. Ten large-print hymnals were purchased in 1981.

Spiritual Renewal Meetings, planned by the Evangelism Committee, were held Sunday to Wednesday of Holy Week in 1978. The Rev. Roger Carlson came as leader. Average attendance was 80, offerings were \$213. The Spiritual Renewal Services were continued in April 1980.

Sunday School teachers were recognized on 24 June 1979 and regularly.

In March 1982 a system of greeters was begun when 22 people were willing to serve as greeters. In Feb. 1984 women were permitted to usher if they wished to, but at first there were no volunteers.

On 11 January 1981 the Encouragement Cards were begun.

In Fall 1982 Senior Choir robes (parchment) and reversible stoles were ordered and delivered.

On 10 August 1987 it was decided to continue the Passing of the Peace.

On 21 September 1987 (after Swedberg had left) the practice of putting a rose in a bud vase on the altar for newborns was begun.

In July 1978 Lay Ministers (Council men) were approved to administer holy communion to shut-ins: Don Cornelius, Charles Diehl, Everett Lundin, Phil Orr. They were well received. They were later called Communion Deacons, and in 1981 Walt LeFevre was added to the list. It isn't known how long the practice continued. (In 1978 the Congregation received a recommendation from the Council to appoint a Board of Lay Ministry, to be called Deacons, to assist the Pastor in parish work.)

In Sept. 1976 Council decided to continue the Coffee Hour with cookies. Again in Sept. 1978 Council voted to continue Coffee Hour. In March 1977 the Pastor was to appoint one couple to host Coffee Hour for one month or to secure people to host it. This continued through June and July, when a free-will offering plate was permitted. In September Pastor began to coordinate this schedule with the organizations, especially women. In September 1980 couples began to sign up for Coffee Hour...on a trial basis. They were to provide cookies and clean-up; the church would provide the coffee. If this was not successful, the responsibility would return to the organizations.

Tenebrae was held in 1977 and every other year.

The Council of Churches held three community outdoor services on the second Sunday of June, July, and August in 1976. The Council's Thanksgiving Service was held at Trinity in 1977 on Wednesday evening. In 1981 the Evangelical Free Church participated in the Thanksgiving service.

For Lent 1976 a Pulpit Exchange was held with Oregon, Polo, Milledgeville, and a retired pastor. In 1977 a Pulpit Exchange was held, and a Good Friday three-hour service was held at the Church of the Brethren (1½ hours by pastors, 1½ hours by lay and youth). In 1978 there was no Good Friday service except the noontime one at Disciples. In 1978 three community Lenten services were held at the three churches. In 1980 there was a Lenten pastors' exchange, and in Holy Week 1980 holy communion was celebrated on Wednesday evening and Thursday noon. In 1982

the Fellowship Hour was continued after Lenten Services except on Ash Wednesday; AW service was at 7:30, weekly Lenten services were on Thursday at 7:15 PM. In 1983 a Pulpit Exchange was held in the Cluster (AW = 7:30). In 1984 there was no Pulpit Exchange but congregational participation and films...with readers and pictures on screen (Thurs., 7:15). For Good Friday 1984 a 12-1 service was held at the Evangelical Free Church (2 half-hour services) and a Service of Shadows at Disciples. In 1986 Ash Wednesday and Thursday services were held at 7:30 PM, there were three Sunday evening community services at the three churches, the Council of Churches held a Good Friday service, and it was Trinity's turn to have Tenebrae. In 1987 the Council of Churches held a Lenten service every other Sunday evening, and Trinity had its own midweek services (7:30). Good Friday service was held at the Church of the Brethren.

For Christmas, the Children's Christmas program was commonly held on a Sunday evening before Christmas. In 1987 it was a combined program (musical) with the Church of the Brethren at their church. A Family Christmas Eve service was held at 7 PM (1976 and 1977 with movie) \[8 PM in 1979 and 1981, 7:30 in 1980 with film and in 1983 and 1984 and 1985 and 1986\]. A Candlelight Service was held at 11 PM. In 1978 there was no Children's (Family) Christmas Eve service since it was a Sunday; the regular service was held at 9:30 AM.

Confirmation was held each year, usually in September, and Campfirmation at LOMC in a summer month (June, July, August) was a regular feature, too. In 1987 confirmation was held on June 28 due to the Pastor's retirement. First Communion for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders was held in October 1977.

Baccalaureate was held at Trinity in 1977 - 244 attended.

On 29 May 1977 Pastor Charles A. Puls preached; he was executive director of the Lutheran Orient Mission Society. On 24 March 1984 Mrs. Bowers, of Havrim Shalom Ministry, in Jerusalem, spoke.

A Gideon representative was permitted to speak at least on 10/9/77, 10/8/78, 2/14/82, 2/27/83, 1984, 2/15/87. In 1982 and 1983 (probably after that, too) John Lindvall was the speaker.

#### 140th ANNIVERSARY

In 1986 the congregation celebrated its 140th anniversary. A 16-page booklet describes three celebration Sundays (April 20, July 6, and October 19 - all worship services at 10 AM), gives a 9-page summary (with many pictures) of the church's 140 years, pictures and describes "ordained and commissioned sons and daughters of Trinity" (Harry Allen, Dolores Stykel, Richard Horst, Sherwood Nelson, Thomas Estes, James Urish, Bob Ziegfeld, S. Anita Stauffer, Paul Park, Joel Swedberg, Randy Kuntzelman, and Thomas Cassidy), and describes the L.C. Lundgren Memorial Fund for Seminary Student Scholarships.

The first celebration Sunday, April 20, featured Ralph Ryberg as preacher and Sherwood Nelson as liturgist. Senior members were honored. (Cups were given to guests and members 80+ years old.) A carry-in dinner was held at noon. Charles Diehl was master of ceremonies for an afternoon program of presentations and messages from friends of Trinity. At 4 PM a concert in the nave was given by the Augustana College Choir. The day was excellent and well-received.

The second celebration, with holy communion (by intinction), on July 6 featured Alfred Stone as preacher and Paul Park as liturgist and Karen Larson as organist (she was paid \$50). Former confirmands offered special music, and all confirmands were honored. At noon there was a picnic on the church lawn. In the afternoon there were messages from those present and letters from those unable to be present, a balloon



launch by the youth and children, and a confirmation class picture.

The third celebration, on October 19, featured Bishop Paul Erickson (Ill. Syn.) as preacher and Joel Swedberg as liturgist. At noon a catered meal (120 reservations) was served. The Rev. Jack Swanson was master of ceremonies for an afternoon program, at which Bishop Erickson spoke on the "work of the church" and Dolores Dohlen Stykel on "missions."

For all three services, the hymn, "The Church's One Foundation" (369), was used as the celebration hymn, and Carol and Warren Reckmeyer directed the music.

The anniversary planning committee was appointed in 1985: Wilma Colvin (chair), Charles Buser, John Condit, Charles Diehl, Harriet Fletcher, Ruth Park, Velda Saxby, John Sundvall, and Pastor Swedberg.

A float was approved for July 4. Sharon Asp and Larry Johnson did the art work for it.

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible/Church School was held annually, always in June (except 1986 when it was July), usually for one week (except 1978 and 1979 when it was two weeks, but teachers generally preferred one week). It was for children from pre-school to sixth grade and usually lasted from 9 to 11 or 11:30. In 1986 the Church of the Brethren and Disciples United Methodist indicated interest in a combined VCS, and that began in July 1986 with a VBS at Trinity called "Marketplace 29 A.D." The same course was used in June 1987 at the Church of the Brethren. Leaders of VBS were:

6/14-18/76	Ann Page & Mary Krull	Shalom
6/6-11/77	Ann Page & Jane Kreider	
/78	Lucy Urish - 54 children,	19 staff
6/18-29/79	Margie Stouffer, Janet Hammil	
6/9-13/80	Jill Ridenhour - 51 children	
6/22-26/81	Jeanne Nicholson - 55 students,	23 staff
	(Swedberg invited to be present at least once next year)	
6/21-25/82	Jeanne Nicholson - 48 regular attenders,	17 staff
6/20-24/83	Jeanne Nicholson - 45 regular attenders,	14 or 17 staff
6/18-22/84	Barb Diehl (asst/Teresa Ubben) -35 reg. attenders,	11 staff
6/24-28/85	Mary Bauer & Sally Wheeler - 45 students,	25 staff
7/7-11/86	Carol Ubben & Teresa Ubben - cooperative at Trinity	
6/22-26/87	Robin Obendorf, Sue Kaufman, Ann Guist - cooperative	
	(3 chs.) at Church of Brethren	

BETHEL - begun in 1973-75 (see previous notes). In 1978 two Bethel classes were listed: Tuesday morning class (taught by Marge Diehl) and Wednesday evening class (Wilda Lundin). In 1979 a class was taught by John Sundvall.

STEWARDSHIP - In Aug. 1976 the mailing method was approved. In 1976 the congregation set a 2-year goal of \$12,900 for the Outdoor Ministries Appeal from July 1976 to June 1978. On 12 July 1976 Council decided to build a parsonage in India for \$2,000 (donations, memorials, investments). In 1977 the theme was "Put Your Money Where Your Faith Is."

The One-in-One Mission Program was set to raise \$7.2 million in the Illinois Synod. On 19 March 1986 Pastor Michael Blair explained it to the Council, and on 14 April 1986 a goal of \$18,000 over 36 months was set, less than recommended.

The Strength for Mission Campaign was held from July 1978 to June 1981. The congregation set a goal of \$25,000, though the Synod had

suggested \$8,300. Consult financial reports for results.

PROPOSED BUDGETS more than doubled in the decade - from \$69,250 for 1976 to \$144,440 for 1985 and \$142,730 for 1987. The Benevolence part of the budget stayed in the low 30 percent: 33.6 (1976 & 1977), 32.3, 31, 31.5, 31, 30.51, 29.68, 29.9, 28.38, 28.14 (1986), 28.73 (1987). Synodical apportionment increased from \$21,700 (1976) to \$38,000 (1985 & 1986). The Pastor's salary increased from \$12,000 in 1976 to \$21,200 in 1985 (and \$24,000 in 1987). See Proposed Budgets at end of this report and financial reports for these years.

#### PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS

5/76 new light fixtures on stage and in FH by Elwin Zumdahl  
6/76 updating or replacing parsonage considered  
8/76 work on parsonage bathroom and two bedrooms  
Schulmerick carillons repaired  
10/76 new church signs put up on hwy. 64, east and west - with CB & DUM  
1976-1977 additions made to organ (\$2472)  
1977 stairwell covering (\$870)  
new mimeo (\$1000) and IBM typewriter (\$560)  
parsonage carpet (\$277)  
4/77 Jerry & Marcia Holley donate metal storage building (\$1680)  
1978 anonymous donor enabled installation of additional rank  
of organ pipes (\$2250) - cp. new set of organ chimes (\$2,150  
from Wishard funds) in 1978  
back driveway partially resurfaced (\$675)  
repair of stained glass windows, reinforcing rods added (\$1455)  
new light for back driveway  
parsonage: kitchen redecorated, one bedroom carpeted  
4/78 Trinity taken off demand basis by Electric Co.  
1979 new boiler plate welded onto present boiler (\$4364)  
church insulation and roof (\$16,847)  
heat changeover to natural gas (\$7,340)  
painting of sanctuary, sacristy, entry and coat rooms, ombrella  
coating on parts of exterior brick (\$5,038)  
parsonage insulated (\$1,230)  
foundation planting (\$864)  
work on organ pipes/removed during painting (\$906)  
shrubs (\$864)  
2/79 new electric controls - from Johnson pressure system controls  
to Honeywell electric-type thermostats (\$2328)  
6/22/80 Special congregation meeting approves new carpet in church, nave  
and steps to balcony (\$5,253) \[Downs Radiant Glow Pattern  
F-165-468, Carpet Manor\] and storm sash for unprotected stained  
glass windows \[all covered with Lexon to prevent heat loss\  
(\$4,816)  
1980 Allen Knodel installed hand rails on chancel steps (\$483)  
fire extinguishers installed (\$214) - bought in 1979  
1981 bulletin board in belltower entrance (\$72)  
1982 new gas water heater at parsonage (\$453)  
1/81 belltower roof repair & installation of heat tape (\$1000)  
5/10/81 Cong. approved replacing FH room dividers @ \$11,802 with Pieper  
funds plus donations plus Wishard if needed  
1981 FH painted, metal chairs welded and painted  
12/82 Chancel window lighting (Phil Orr memorial), also early 1983  
(\$2,815)  
Fall 1982 Water cooler in basement  
1982 Ceiling over chancel insulated

- 5/83 new mikes to update sound system (\$682)
- 1983 refrigerator (\$675) and roof (\$3,000) at parsonage  
outside lights in circle drive (\$912)  
office counter (\$349)
- 1984 new carpet and new lights in Chapel (\$1394)  
new outlets on separate circuit breakers in kitchen  
awning over east entrance steps to prevent ice build-up  
new steps and railing at belltower (\$225)  
new carpet and drapes at parsonage (\$3516)  
organ tonal work, gift of Carol Reckmeyer  
in memory of father, Arthur Prange (\$1,734)
- 1985 new ceiling tile in FH and nursery and downstairs hallway (\$4775),  
also repair of electrical wiring  
parsonage sidewalk and driveway repaired  
fuel oil tank filled with pea gravel in compliance with recent  
code, by Mickey Tate (\$600)  
FH and downstairs hallways repainted  
new amplifier and two new microphones/Tholen  
Reckmeyers give new piano for FH to replace baby grand (\$1900)  
new nativity scene figures purchased  
ceiling fans in nave  
carpet for nursery (\$88)  
new video equipment (TV, VCR) in memory of Erma Ubben
- 1986 new carpet for nursery  
permanent lights in nave for videotaping/Tholen (\$551)  
new copy machine for church office (\$950)  
new flower urns at west entrance (\$75)  
outdoor chimes purchased, Schulmerich carillons  
(\$4,445/mem.+ Pieper) - installed June 11  
refrigerator-freezer for church kitchen (\$729)  
stained glass window repairs, by Whittemore-Durgin Glass Co.,  
Oregon - 6 of the 8 need it
- 1987 belltower roof repair (\$1,775)  
two stained glass windows repaired, one to go (\$112)  
painting (\$1,761)  
padded folding chairs (\$240) - memorial  
organ repairs related to stop keys (\$6546)  
SSLL Solid State Combination action  
50 stop action units, engraved  
total materials = \$4,474 labor (96 hrs @ \$23) = \$2,208  
remove old combination action and nameboard, mount new stop  
actions and wire to new combination action, install  
above in existing console

On 8 June 1981 there appears the first reference to the need for access: "Continued thought will be given to full accessibility of our church to the disabled." In September 1983 a ramp and lift at the belltower steps were being considered. In July 1986, Marge Diehl wrote a letter to the Memorial Committee saying, "I think we need to make our church more accessible to the handicapped.... Of course Chuck and I have always wanted to make our narthex larger." At the 25 January 1987 annual meeting she made the same points. The church property committee was to study both points. A \$1,000 gift for access was given by the Dallas Blume family as a living memorial to Ethel Dohlen.

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

1976	Robt. A. Urish VC 10 Marjorie Diehl 1 Everett Lundin 14 Wendell Voss 6	Mary E. Bearman 14 Dennis Hoffmeister 9 Doug Raney 2 LeRoy Dohlen 6 (2-yr)	Marcia Holley Sec 7 David Warkins 1 Phil Wessels 4 Elwin Zumdahl 2
1977	Ron Bjorklund 2 (1 yr) Donald Dusing 6 Gene Krull 4 Mary Jane Warkins 14	Robt. Urish VC 10 Marjorie Diehl 8 & 1 Everett Lundin 14 Wendell Voss 2	Mary E. Bearman Sec 7 Dennis Hoffmeister 9 Doug Raney/Gene Krull 8,1 LeRoy Dohlen 6
1978	Louis G. Finch 3 Phil Orr 4 Carol Reckmeyer 1 Warren Ubben 5	Walter LeFevre 6 (2yr) Don Dusing 6 Ron Bjorklund 9 * Mary Jane Warkins 8 * resigned 11/78	Robt. A. Urish VC 10 Marjorie Diehl Sec 7 Everett Lundin 3 Wendell Voss 2
1979	Chas. Diehl VC 10 Steven Pearson 3 Alice Zickuhr 5 Marvin Moring/ 2 W. Voss (Nov-Dec)	Lou Finch 3 Phil Orr 4 Carol Reckmeyer 1 Warren Ubben 3	Don Dusing 6 Mary J. Warkins Sec 7 Walt LeFevre 6 (2 yr.) Robt. LeFevre 8 (1 yr)
1980	Catheryn Tuttle Sec 6 Keith Foltz 7 Bruce Obendorf 8 Sherwood Stouffer 6	Chas. Diehl VC 10 Wm. Hiteman 2 (2 yr) Steve Pearson 3 Alice Zickuhr 5	Lou Finch 9 Phil Orr 4 Carol Reckmeyer 1 Warren Ubben 3
1981	John Condit 2 Dennis Hoffmeister 3 Alice Crowell 1 Larry Nelson 9	Cath. Tuttle Sec 7 Keith Foltz 8 Bruce Obendorf 4 Sherwood Stouffer 6	Chas. Diehl VC 10 Olie Hiteman 6 Steve Pearson 3 Alice Zickuhr 5
1982	Charles Buser 2 John Sundvall VC 10 Norm Nelson 5 Scott Diehl 3	John Condit 5 Dennis Hoffmeister 3 Alice Crowell 1 Larry Nelson 9	Cath. Tuttle Sec 7 Sherwood Stouffer 15 Bruce Obendorf 15 Keith Foltz 1 (to May) Robt. LeFevre (June) 8,1
1983	T.M. Castle Tr. 15 Robt. LeFevre 15 Ernest Hachmeister 3 Mary Louise Stengel 7	Charles Buser 8 John Sundvall VC 10 Norm Nelson 5 Scott Diehl 2	John Condit 5 Dennis Hoffmeister 9 Alice Crowell Sec 1 Larry Nelson 3
1984	Hollie Guist, Jr. 15 Millie Knodle 5 Robt. Stouffer 5 Robt. A. Urish VC 10	T.M. Castle Tr 15 Robt. LeFevre 2 Ernest Hachmeister 3 Mary Louise Stengel 7	Charles Buser 8 John Sundvall Sec 1 Norm Nelson 9 Scott Diehl 2
1985	Stanley Asp 7 Charles Diehl 2 Wilda Lundin 8 Warren Ubben 5	Hollie Guist, Jr. 15 Millie Knodle 5 Robt. Stouffer 2 Robt. Urish VC 10	T.M. Castle Tr 15 Robt. LeFevre 9 Ernest Hachmeister 3 Mary Louise Stengel Sec 1
1986	Shirley Hoffmeister 9 Ronald Lenhart 3 Bruce Obendorf 15 Warren Reckmeyer 2	Stanley Asp 7 Charles Diehl 3 Wilda Lundin 8 Warren Ubben 1	Hollie Guist, Jr. 15 Millie Knodle Sec 5 Robt. Stouffer 2 Robt. Urish VC 10

1987 John Condit 7	Shirley Hoffmeister 9	Stanley Asp 2
Olie Hiteman 3	Ronald Lenhart 3	Chas. Diehl VC 10
Catheryn Tuttle Sec 5	Bruce Obendorf Tr 15	Wilda Lundin 8
Wendell Voss 15	Warren Reckmeyer 2	Warren Ubben 1

Code:

- |                                       |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Christian Education/Learning (`82) | 9. Ushering                      |
| 2. Church Property                    | 10. Memorial Fund                |
| 3. Evangelism/Witness (`82)           | 11. Service to Servicemen        |
| 4. Financial                          | 12. Community Relations          |
| 5. Social Ministry/Service (`82)      | 13. Long-Range Planning          |
| 6. Stewardship                        | 14. Evangelism & Social Ministry |
| 7. Worship & Music                    | 15. Support (=`82, Stew. & Fin.) |
| 8. Youth                              |                                  |

DELEGATES TO SYNOD CONVENTION

1976 Robert A. Urish  
 1977 Charles & Marge Diehl, June 24-26  
 1978 Robert & Lucy Urish  
 1979 Warren & Carol Reckmeyer  
 1980 Douglas & Darlene Raney  
 1981 Steven & Georgia Pearson  
 1982 Alice Crowell & John Sundvall  
 1983 Robert & Lucy Urish - Peoria, LCA/ALC/AELC, June 3-6  
 1984 Warren & Carol Reckmeyer  
 1985 Robert & Lucy Urish  
 1986 Robert & Lucy Urish  
 1987 Charles & Marge Diehl and Ruth Park

The Council regularly had a supper meeting in January, and at least by 1981 this was in appreciation of the outgoing Council members and guests (Myers, Borneman, and eventually Drumheller, McNamara). In 1976 it was at Mar-Net in Forreston. From 1981 to 1988, presumably, it was at Beaky's Barrel. The Council came to the church after the dinner for its regular meeting.

All-Committee supper meetings (with sandwiches) began to be held on 17 February 1980 and were held annually at least through 1987.

Parish Life Conferences (predecessor to current Congregational Resourcing Events) began to be held on 3 March 1979, and the Council regularly promoted them.

The first Council retreat mentioned took place on 15 September 1985 (2-7 PM) at LOMC with Pastor Hal Bolm as leader. It was repeated on 5 October 1986, with Bolm.

COMMITTEES & ORGANIZATIONS

Christian Education - (1982 = Learning)  
 reports are mainly SCS, which see below  
 1976 WRE Board and ICYE Committee  
 1977-1985  
 1986 WRE held at Ch. of Brethren by Council of Churches  
 elementary principal not supportive  
 1987 WRE teachers: Deb Buser, Carol Reckmeyer, Crete LeFevre

Church Property -

- 1976 Robt. Hollinger & Wm. Unger planted flowers in triangle and planters thanks to Dave Warkins and Dohlens for parsonage repairs  
new tractor, mower, and snow plow
- 1977 R. Hollinger, Robt. Davidson, and Ungers plant triangle and planters humidifier for organ chamber  
lawn sweeper  
back stairway enclosure and new storage building
- 1978 Wm. Unger, R. Davidson, R. Hollinger plant triangle and planters  
Louisa Wilson provided the flowers  
FH floor stripped and waxed  
new light for back driveway  
organ now valued at \$135,000
- 1979 triangle & planters - same as above  
\$36,589 in maintenance projects completed (see list)
- 1980 triangle and planters - same  
parsonage exterior painted, new ceiling in l.r. and master b.r.,  
other interiors painted, bedroom carpeted  
Chapel painted by Warren Reckmeyer and Phil Wessels
- 1981 FH painted, also bathrooms and halls  
new room dividers in FH replace 28-year-old dividers  
rear driveway repaired and completely resurfaced  
sidewalk and approach to rear driveway  
and parsonage approach replaced  
metal chairs being welded and painted - hope to finish next spring
- 1982 chair repair and repainting completed  
ceiling over chancel insulated  
basement water cooler  
outdoor lighting for chancel window  
carillons no longer working in Oct.
- 1983 appraisal of property shows insurance increase of 8% not warranted  
Chancel window lighting (\$347)  
new microphones for pulpit and lectern (\$682)  
new copy machine (\$1,912)  
office countertop (\$349)  
outside lights in circle drive (\$912)  
refrigerator (\$675) and roof (\$3,000) at parsonage
- 1984 storm damage repair in April-May  
American States gets our insurance  
new carpet and lights in Chapel  
considered extending driveway to Brayton, angle parking south  
of church; also install ramp; Scott Diehl to explore lifts,  
\$6,000 estimate; tabled due to opposition
- 1985 new ceiling tile in FH and nursery and downstairs hallway  
fee for non-members: \$75 church, \$50 FH
- 1986 persons have fallen due to lack of platform at belltower entrance  
roof around belltower leaking

Evangelism & Social Ministry (1978 FF - Evangelism only; 1982 = Witness)

- 1976 includes mailings to servicemen
- 1977 Ritual of Friendship initiated during worship service  
"Associates of Philip and Andrew" series taught for calling on  
unchurched and prospective members  
4 members in armed forces - monthly mailings
- 1978 Spiritual Renewal Meetings  
World Literature Crusade "Change The World School of Prayer"  
four plus Pastor attended, very worthwhile

at Open Bible Center, Rockford, July 28-29

1979 training sessions in basic principles and methods of evangelism  
visits on first Tuesday every month

1980 periodic meetings to call on inactives and prospectives  
Lutheran Evangelism Mission, Rev. Sterling H. Johnson, Minneapolis  
special Holy Week services, March 30-April 2,  
favorable response

1981 Evangelical Outreach = emphasis next two years

1982 different methods of witnessing are being taught

1983 100 children not attending SS, letters sent

1984

1985 30 members died or transferred  
"It takes a lot more talking to get people committed to attending  
church than it did in the past."

1986 net gain of 11 baptized members

1987 average attendance down only 17 (1986 had several large anniversary  
services)  
net loss of 13 members

#### Finance Committee -

1976

1977 \$5,464 from investment interest for back stair cover,  
mimeo, typewriter, lawn sweeper, carpet, humidifier

1978 Outdoor Ministries Center pledge completed by \$2,599  
from Charles Floto memorial

1979-1980

1981 \$1,300 additional Synod apportionment

1982 merges with Stewardship into Support Committee

#### Stewardship Committee - (1982, Support)

1976 \$1,900 given to fund parsonage in India  
temple talks: Curt Diehl, Wilda Lundin, Gene Krull,  
Dennis Hoffmeister (Oct. & Nov.)  
Virgil Hensley promotion materials used/probably not first time  
Nov. 21 Victory Sunday

1977 four letter appeals again  
temple talks: Nancy Stauffer, Everett Lundin, Salley Wessels,  
Richard Park

1978 considerable increase in budget for 1979  
mailing, personal contact visitation on Pledge Sunday  
temple talks: Phil Orr, Walt LeFevre  
Nov. 12 Pledge Sunday - cards mailed earlier  
3-yr. target of \$25,000 for Strength for Mission

1979 a most successful and blessed year!  
temple talks: Marge Diehl, Warren Reckmeyer

1980 mail contact plus informational meetings  
temple talks: Walt LeFevre, Wilda Lundin, Robt. Urish  
excellent response  
From Strength to Strength Program - Synod-wide  
build congregational stewardship  
omitted house-to-house visitation suggested

1981 From Strength to Strength - second year completed  
temple talks: Ruth Park, Scott Diehl, Ernest Hachmeister (Oct.)  
then mailings, gratifying support  
theme: "Born Anew To Be Good Stewards"

1982 temple talks: Steve Pearson, Mary Louise Stengel (Oct.)  
series of mailings

1983 temple talks: Warren Reckmeyer, James Williamson (LSSI)

- Hensley letters; first mention of pacesetters
- 1984 temple talks: Norm Nelson, John Condit  
series of mailings
- 1985 temple talks: Rob Urish, Hollie Guist, Jr.  
sermon, then series of mailings  
didn't quite meet expenditures/\$2,028 underpaid  
world hunger envelopes monthly in Tidings to push it  
took part only in congregational phase of One in Mission
- 1986 temple talks: Marge Diehl, Hollie Guist, Jr.  
sermon and mailings  
rethinking undesignated bequests  
criticism of Cloyd Pieper distribution  
hunger envelopes in Tidings each month - \$5,800 sent
- 1987 temple talks: Bruce Obendorf, Jack Swanson  
sermon by Swarbrick, then mailings

#### Memorial Fund -

- 1976 purchases listed
- 1977 two meetings, spring and fall
- 1978 one meeting - not terribly active  
"Trinity's needs for tangible items are not very great."  
need to begin to think about using memorial funds  
for the outreach of the church-at-large  
All Saints' Day dedication - annual event  
Reckmeyers contributed generously to the organ project
- 1979 met twice  
All Saints' Sunday dedication  
blue paraments  
eternity light (Ruth Kested) - also to provide supply of candles
- 1980
- 1981 paraments, piano (FH), group mounting of pictures of sons and  
daughters, water cooler (basement), storage cabinet for  
banners, door handles fit for handicapped = all suggested  
belltower bulletin board (Eykamp)  
acoustical Hufcor Accordion Dividers (Pieper & Wishard)  
white paraments (Harvey Newcomer)  
confirmation picture display rack (Mary Garber, Leonard Eykamp)  
shrubbery (June Swan)
- 1982 wedding candleabra (Ruth Kested)  
new choir robes (Newcomer, Bock, C&A)  
shrubs, trees, bulbs (June Swan)  
chancel window lighting (Phil Orr)
- 1983 red and green paraments (Marie Madlena, \$616)  
new lights for front drive (\$912)
- 1984 \$5,693 received, \$6,894 expended, \$4,329 balance  
organ tonal work (\$4,548, Prange memorial)  
children's choir robes
- 1985-1987

#### Ushering Committee -

- 1976 monthly lists of ushers begun
- 1978 Ron Bjorklund, overall chairman
- 1984 Council approved women ushering, no volunteers yet

#### Worship & Music Committee -

- 1976 summer music by groups and individuals  
May 23 Cantate Sunday  
second setting approved for Lenten Sundays 1977



- 1977 Pentecost and Cantate Sundays - special music and banners  
summer music by groups and individuals
- 1978 Easter 4/April 30 Cantate Sunday - all three choirs  
Palm Sunday - palm procession of all three choirs  
Pentecost Sunday - flames, banners, all choirs marching in
- 1979 Senior and Junior Choir members listed, not directors
- 1983 Cantate Sunday and Pentecost Sunday  
old choir robes given to Calvary, Buffalo, Iowa (Karen Larson)
- 1984 new youth choir robes (20) and stoles (15) in Dec.  
videotape by Harold Thomas - wants to move from balcony to front  
pews, lighting not good from balcony  
not much demand  
thinking about (audio-)taping sermons and taking to shut-ins
- 1987 we've learned and used second setting since Pastor left  
alternate them during the seasons  
children's sermons once a month  
rose by altar for each new child or grandchild

#### Youth -

- 1978 LL leaders: Corneliuses, Nancy Stauffer, Larry Nelson  
March - annual hunger fast, over \$1,000  
painted secretary's office at same time  
Easter sunrise breakfast  
4th of July float  
Christmas decorating, carolling, meal  
Chi Rho U - twice monthly, led by Marcia Holley and Wilda Lundin
- 1979 Chi Rho U - third Sunday, grades 6-8  
cross-country skiing at LOMC  
led by Marcia Holley and Wilda Lundin  
L.L. - small  
trip to Lutheran Youth Congress in Chicago  
24-hr. hunger fast, 12 participants, over \$1,200  
sunrise service, Easter breakfast (over 100)  
July - hosted LYE team for a week  
picnic, bowling, hayride  
UNICEF campaign as before  
decorating/carolling/supper
- 1980 Chi Rho U - monthly  
helped with Pancake Supper  
Wilda Lundin and Marcia Holley = leaders 1978-80  
new leaders = Darlene Raney and Bruce Obendorf  
L.L. - small in number  
trip to LYE (Lutheran Youth Encounter), Chicago  
sunrise service and Easter breakfast (over 100 people)  
decorated church, carolling party  
led by Larry Nelsons, Bob LeFevres, and Jean Swedberg  
UNICEF - over \$500
- 1981 lack of leaders, lack of activity  
we're in process of hiring p-t youth leader  
CROP Walk, Easter breakfast  
hosted UNICEF Drive, Oct. 25, return to church for food and fun  
Christmas decorations
- 1982 no leaders, limited activities  
Easter breakfast, 4/25 CROP Walk, 10/24 LYE team entertained  
Halloween UNICEF drive, Christmas decorations  
Living Well Coffee House opened at Ev. Free Church, including  
live music - seeking donations
- 1983 Charles & Debbie Buser = coordinators

combined groups every two weeks  
 searching for paid youth coordinator  
 1984 Renewing Group recommended Tentmaker agreement  
       f-t, 30-hr. young adult trained in youth leadership  
 1985 March - 6 youth, 3 adults attend LYE Conv. in Chicago  
       Easter breakfast - 120 served  
       June - Youth Worker Paul McNamara  
 1986 many difficulties and disappointments...but some good activities  
 1987 unable to establish a regular group  
       several activities  
       Easter breakfast served 104  
       new leaders = Neil & Robin Minnis (fall)

TLC Men -

1976 Don Cornelius, pres.  
       five meetings - C&A served dinner at each  
       March - 5th annual pancake supper, \$420  
       Ladies' Night  
 1977 five meetings - C&A served dinners  
       Feb. - 6th annual pancake supper for Bethel, 265 people served, \$425  
       Sept. - F-S banquet/Jack Swanson, 47 attend  
 1978 four meetings - C&A served  
       Feb. - 7th annual pancake supper, 275 people, \$425 to Bethel  
 1979 four meetings - men prepared two dinners themselves  
       F-S banquet - C&A served dinner  
       8th annual pancake supper - large turnout, \$581 to Bethel  
       furnished ice cream for cong. picnic - 3rd or 4th yr. of doing so  
 1980 9th annual pancake dinner - \$528 to Bethel  
       ice cream for cong. picnic  
 1981 only a financial report  
       March 30 pancake supper - \$500 to Bethel  
 1982 only financial report  
       pancake supper - \$525 to Bethel  
 1983 pancake supper - \$659 to Bethel  
       F-S banquet, Jan. 17 - Bob Stouffer cooked, ladies assisted  
 1984 pancake supper - \$717 to Bethel  
       Jan. 16 - F-S banquet, 96 men and boys, R. Stouffer and N. Nelson  
       (co.chairs), D. Hoffmeister (M.C.), Lil Long (serving  
       chairman), Deacon Davis (speaker)  
       no interest in men's breakfast meeting  
 1985 F-S banquet (Stouffer & Nelson cook, Prayer & Praise Group serve)  
       pancake supper - \$763 to Bethel  
 1986 F-S Banquet, Jan. 20, 103 people  
       pancake supper - \$705 to Bethel  
 1987 F-S Banquet  
       pancake supper - \$958 to Bethel (incl. \$250 from LB)

Trinity Lutheran Church Women -

1976 Pauling Brinker, pres.  
       quarterly meetings  
       April - M-D banquet - men and boys cleaned up  
       Oct. & Dec. - Coffee Hour  
       Sept. 11 - hosted women from Bethel, Englewood, at (L)OMC  
       for Day of Renewal  
       Christian Action: nursery workers  
       cookies to Nachusa  
       services to bereaved (with LA and C&A)  
       work days and nights

packaged used clothing (LWR)

Dorcas - 4th Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Chapel, 15 members, 9 avg. att.  
 Esther - 4th Wed., 1 PM, Chapel, 11 members  
 Lydia - 3rd Wednesday, Chapel  
 Naomi - 4th Monday evening, Chapel

1977 M-D Banquet, "Matters of the Heart"  
 men and boys served and cleaned up  
 three quarterly meetings (Jan. June, Oct.)  
 9/10 Day of Renewal at (L)OMC with Bethel women  
 Christian Action: see above  
     Lenten/Thanksgiving/Friendship Club refreshments  
     Coffee Hour - we took our turn  
     health and sewing kits, tying blankets,  
     leper bandages

Dorcas - 16 members  
 Esther - 10 members  
 Lydia - 3rd Wed., then 3rd Tuesday  
     small, going to disband and join Esther or other group  
 Naomi

1978 48 members  
 M-D Banquet, April, evening of song and praise  
 Sept. annual picnic with Bethel women  
 11/12/78 TLCW Sunday - greeters, ushers, lectors, choir  
     Anita Stauffer preached  
 Esther - 15 members (Lydia combined with Esther)  
 Naomi - Karen Sundvall and Kathy Swedberg married

1979 50 members  
 annual LOMC picnic with Bethel women  
 M-D Banquet - Lucy Miele  
 Oct. - LCW Sunday, dialogue message  
 two blanket Sundays  
 usual Christian Action report, plus community Lenten services  
 Dorcas  
 Esther - 16 members  
 Naomi - 4th Monday evening (last qtr. = Wed. eves.),  
     19 members, 9 avg.

1980 helped mail Tidings  
 May 18 guests of Bethel for a day in Chicago  
 M-D banquet  
 CWU - 3 days  
 Oct. LCW Sunday - Stykel gave message  
 sponsored one campership  
 gave wedding plaques  
 Christian Action: the usual  
     work day = 2nd Wed. morning  
     work night = 4th Monday  
     two Blanket Sundays - \$453

Dorcas - 16 members  
 Esther - 15 members  
 Naomi - 20 members, 9 avg, 4th Wed., 4th Monday (in Nov.)

1981 52 members  
 Sept. a Saturday with Bethel ladies in St. Charles  
 M-D Banquet, work night and morning  
 Dorcas - 17 members, 4th Tuesday evening  
 Esther - 14 members, 4th Wed., 1 PM, Chapel  
 Naomi - 20 members, 9 avg., 4th Monday, 7:30 PM  
     Margaret Whitaker moved from area

1982 50 members

M-D Banquet, 3 groups  
 1983 51 members  
     Dorcas -  
     Esther - 14 members  
     Naomi - 8-12 members attending  
     cookies for SS each Sunday - all three groups  
         = biggest project of year  
 1984 April - M-D Banquet  
     Renewing Group: questionnaires to non-member women  
     work night (1st Mon.) and work morning (3rd Thurs.)  
 1985 April, Mother-Daughter Banquet  
 1986 Lucy Urish, pres.  
     Mar. 16 LCW Sunday - Dr. David L. Vickner, preacher  
                             (DWME former dir.)  
     cleaned and polished pews and other areas  
     no M-D banquet due to 140th anniversary  
         instead, meal for Augustana Choir on April 20  
     Oct. 4 - 21 members visited Bethel ladies in Chicago  
     7/11-14/87 = WELCA Constituting Convention  
     three groups  
 1987 1 January 1988 WELCA begins  
     April 24 - M-D banquet  
     Naomi - 4th M., 7:30 PM  
     Dorcas - 4th T., 7:30 PM  
     Esther - 4th W., 1 PM  
     Special Activities Committee  
         3/22/87 luncheon for Carthage College Choir (54)  
         7/12/87, 2-5 PM Swedberg Farewell  
     other women's groups cooperated in these  
  
 Chancel & Altar Society -  
 1976 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 PM, FH, 45 members, 20 avg att  
     provide Palm Sunday palms, lilies, poinsettias  
     CWU - 2 reps. - May Fellowship Day, World Community Day (Nov.)  
     sponsor Brownie troop  
     sponsored child through Christian Children's Fund  
     coffee hour during Jan-March  
 1977 46 members, 21 avg att  
 1978 45 members, 18 avg att  
 1979 41 members, 19 avg att  
 1980 40 members, 20 avg att  
 1981 37 members, 20 avg att  
 1982 36 members, 18 avg att  
 1983 34 members, 18 avg att  
 1984 34 members, 18 avg att  
 1985 30 members, 15 avg att  
 1986 29 members  
     Oct. 19 C&A served catered dinner  
 1987 Key Person for Pinecrest - Wilma Colvin  
  
 Ladies' Aid Society -  
 1976 1st Thursday, FH  
     21 active, 5 honorary, 18 avg att  
     Coffee Hour - May, Nov.  
     tying comforters and quilting  
     gave \$205 for back entrance cover  
 1977 sometimes all-day meetings, three pot-lucks  
     21 active, 4 honorary, 15 avg att.

1978 19 active, 2 honorary, 13 avg att  
 1979 17 active, 3 honorary, 14 avg att  
 1980 19 active, 2 honorary, 15 avg att  
 1981 20 active, 2 honorary, 16 avg att  
 1982 21 active, 2 honorary, 16 avg att  
 1983 22 active, 2 honorary, 17 avg att  
 1984 22 active, 2 honorary, 16 avg att  
 1985 20 active, 3 honorary, 16 avg att  
 1986 20 active, 3 honorary, 16 avg att  
 1987 20 active, 1 honorary, 16 avg att

#### Merry Mates - for couples

1976 family swim, progressive dinner, volleyball, sledding, bikes,  
 picnics, home gatherings  
 usually second weekend  
 last report

#### Luther League -

1976 March Love Fast for Hunger - \$1,491 collected  
 July LYE visit - Hosanna  
 fun activities listed  
 service: Love Fast for Hunger, Easter Sunrise Breakfast, led 6 AM  
 Sunrise Service, carols to shut-ins, collecting for UNICEF  
 Nancy Stauffer to Leadership Lab at Augustana College  
 Corneliuses = advisors, assisted by Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Black  
 1977 busy and exciting year, monthly meetings  
 Feb. Chicago Lutheran Youth Conf. at O'Hare Inn  
 24-hr. Love Fast for World Hunger - \$1,446 collected  
 decorated church and had taco supper  
 carols to shut-ins  
 Easter sunrise breakfast, led 6 AM service  
 Halloween haunted house for UNICEF - with youth of Council of Chs.  
 advisors = Cormeliuses  
 see Youth Committee for further reports

#### Chi Rho U -

1976 second Sunday, fun and study  
 advisors = Lundins, asst. by Obendorfs and Arleen Ashton

#### Sunday Church School

Sunday School Picnics were regularly held on a Sunday  
 afternoon (12:30) in late September or October (in 1977 in  
 May) at Dillehay Park. In 1981 it was an inter-church picnic  
 with the Brethren and Methodist churches.  
 1976 Warren Ubben, supt. (asst. Phil Wessels as of 9/76)  
 Nov. 28 began Advent with carry-in dinner  
 Dec. 14 Christmas program  
 Epiphany Sunday - carry-in dinner  
 1977 Phil Wessels, supt. (asst. Doug Raney, also Marge Diehl)  
 no SS in August  
 Dec. 19 Christmas Program, dir. by Marge Diehl and Doris Swedberg  
 1978 Phil Wessels, supt. (asst. Doug Raney)  
 Wilda Lundin, SS librarian  
 Emma Sundvall, Cradle Roll (first mention recently)  
 Bethel Bible Series listed  
 Tues. morning class - Marge Diehl  
 Wed. eve. class - Wilda Lundin  
 Adult Forum - coordinated by Marge Diehl (not the first)

- 1979 Phil Wessels, supt. (asst. Doug Raney)  
 Dec. 16 Christmas Program, Message of the Three Bells  
 Advent & Epiphany - carry-in dinners  
 one Bethel Bible class - John Sundvall
- 1980 Wessels & Raney - as above  
 Wilda Lundin, SS librarian  
 Emma Sundvall, cradle roll  
 annual Advent, Christmas, Epiphany programs  
 Sept. - celebrated 200th year of SS
- 1981 Wessels & Raney (supt. & asst.)  
 Lundin and Sundvall - as above  
 changed from LCA to ALC material for 1981-2  
 SS teachers held Bible and Doctrine study during fall  
 no SS in August  
 Sept. - inter-church picnic with Brethren and Meth. chs.  
 Oct. & Nov. - classes: Understanding and Teaching the Bible  
 Dec. 20 Christmas Program
- 1982 Phil Wessels, supt. (asst. Steve Pearson)  
 no SS in Aug.  
 literary secy = Wilda Lundin, Linda Borneman (Aug.)  
 Augsburg SS materials continued 1982-3  
 "Parish Teacher" replaces "Learning With"
- 1983 Steve Pearson, supt. (asst. Phil Wessels)  
 Jan.-June = Wessels, supt (asst Pearson)  
 literary secy = Linda Borneman  
 cradle roll = Emma Sundvall  
 overhead projector donated anonymously  
 no SS in July or Aug.
- 1984 Steve Pearson, supt. (asst Phil Wessels)  
 Borneman and Sundvall as above
- 1985 Steve Pearson, supt. (asst Phil Wessels)  
 Borneman and Sundvall as above  
 attendance secy Harold Rodeffer  
 Adult Bible Discussion Class - Phil Wessels, teacher (beg. Fall)  
     meets in kitchen                      Bob Urish, next teacher  
 Oct. 27 SS Picnic  
 Dec. 1 Carry-in Advent Dinner (50-55 people)  
 Dec. 15 SS Christmas Program  
 Jan. Pinatas  
 Sept. Staff honored and given gifts  
 Oct. Picnic at Dillehay
- 1986 SCS ends for summer on June 8  
 Steve Pearson supt. (Phil Wessels asst.)  
 literature secy = Carol Ubben  
 Rodeffer and Sundvall as above
- 1987 ladies make cookies  
 Steve Pearson supt. (Phil Wessels asst.)  
 Ubben, Rodeffer, Sundvall as above

#### Library -

- 1976 Lucy Urish (1975 = Thelma Unger)  
 ca. 900 books
- 1977 Lucy Urish, 1015 books
- 1978 Lucy Urish, 74 new volumes
- 1979 Lucy Urish, 58 new volumes
- 1980 Lucy Urish, 1109 books, 164 checked out
- 1981 Lucy Urish, 1196 vols., 136 checked out
- 1982 Lucy Urish, 1213 books, 85 checked out

1983 Lucy Urish, 1224 books, 127 checked out  
1984 Lucy Urish, 1260 books, 73 checked out  
1985 Lucy Urish, 1258 books, 95 checked out  
1986 Lucy Urish, 1276 books, 118 checked out  
1987 Lucy Urish

Church League Softball and Volleyball -

1981-3 36 people  
volleyball = Saints, Deacons, Elders, Prophets

Prayer Groups -

1983 + Prayer & Praise Group, Wed., 6:30 AM, Chapel, 7 avg att.  
+ Bible Study and Prayer - every other Tues., Chapel, 9 AM, 8 avg at  
+ three Prayer Chains - 40 women

MISCELLANEOUS

1976 Congregation Picnics were held regularly in mid- or late-June  
(1980 in July) at LOMC - a 9:30 service was held at the  
church for those not able to attend, an 11:00 camp service  
(and SS hour) was held at the Pavillion  
50th anniversary of Pastor Harry Allen's ordination and  
wedding were celebrated, with a gift, at a luncheon  
at Maxson's Manor  
Pictorial Directory, Bel-Air Studios (\$135 paid for extra  
pages, \$250 paid for 100 extra copies)  
Mission and Ministry Study to be made, "Organizing Around The  
Great Commission," implementation plans to be presented by  
Sept. 1977 or earlier - what are we doing right, what needs  
changing?  
6/14/76 Council approved dispensing with Pastor's report to Council  
(time-consuming for Pastor to prepare)  
7/76 Lutheran Youth Encounter here for a week to work with Youth  
6/20-26/76 Campfirmation at LOMC - church pays half cost  
8/9/76 Council notes influx of people buying homes in community  
due to construction of Byron nuclear plant  
9/76 Council votes to continue Coffee Hour with cookies  
12/76 two members going to seminary in 1977: Paul Park to Gettysburg  
and Joel Swedberg to Northwestern; they received \$500/yr. from  
the Lundgren Scholarship Fund and more in succeeding years (cf.  
budget reports); in 1979 they preached during the Pastor's  
vacation; in June 1981 Paul Park was ordained; on 16 August 1981  
Joel Swedberg was ordained at Trinity and a reception was given  
following that for both Park and Swedberg; Swedberg received a  
red stole, both received \$150 gifts  
2/28/77 Augustana Concert Band gave concert at high school; Trinity  
(or 3/2/77) was responsible for publicity, evening meal, and housing 70  
3/7/77 Ritual of Friendship introduced - pads placed in pews  
4/77 Council considers trading parsonage for newer home closer  
to church in next couple years  
5/9/77 Sick leave policy for f-t hourly-paid employees adopted  
6/77 Council declines appeal to underwrite two additional rooms  
at Pinecrest  
1/78 Pastor is authorized to recommend members for rooms at Pinecrest  
4/78 two Koinonia Bible Study groups started  
5/7/78 Byron Lutheran Church organized - All Saints  
7/12-19/78 LCA Convention in Chicago at Conrad Hilton

9/78 Council votes to continue Coffee Hour  
 LCA votes to continue world hunger appeal  
 Property appraisal = \$966,833  
 11/12/78 First Women's Sunday, Anita Stauffer (ord. 1973) = preacher  
 1/14/79 No service held, presumably because of weather  
 4/79 \$100 discretionary fund established for immediate needs  
 9/79 Non-member use of church = \$50; FH rental = \$30 (heating) or  
 \$20 (non-heating)  
 3/2/80 Big Folk Cantata  
 3/10/80 Recommended Church Policy about Kitchen and Other Equipment  
 TLCW given approval for giving plaque to all persons married  
 in church  
 1980 Palm leaves distributed on Palm Sunday  
 5/12/80 \$1,000 given to All Saints, Byron, building program  
 7/14/80 Trinity's historical records to be placed in Northern Illinois  
 Regional History Center, DeKalb - no cost, for 10 years only,  
 as "instrument of deposit" (owned by Trinity, not NIU) -  
 approved by them 7/19/80  
 9/80 Couples to handle Coffee Hour (cookies and clean up; church to  
 provide coffee) - if not successful, return to organizations  
 9/7/80 200th birthday of Sunday School celebrated  
 1/11/81 Encouragement cards begun  
 5/81 Concern expressed regarding choir's lack of male voices: may  
 not have choir in fall  
 6/8/81 first reference: "continued thought will be given to full  
 accessibility of our church to the disabled"  
 (9/83 considering ramp and lift at belltower steps)  
 July 1981 first mention of Global Mission Events, this one at Augustana  
 College, Rock Island  
 9/14/81 Kable News proposes basement area for rental for possible Day  
 Care Center, committee appointed in Sept., there were some  
 investigations, in Jan. 1982 Kable reported it had dropped the  
 idea, in April 1982 they sent a letter saying it was due to  
 complications and the economy  
 12/81 pictures of sons and daughters to be framed in oak rather than  
 as presently displayed in Chapel; 3/83 add pictures of those  
 who have gone to other denominations (Jim Urish, Randy  
 Kuntzelman)  
 4/24/82 Synod "Growing Church Seminar" held at Trinity, 90 attend  
 5/2/82 135th anniversary was celebrated with a bought cake  
 6/82 Lifeline opens in Oregon - by a Christian group - temporary  
 food assistance for needy  
 1982 \$35 scholarship offered youth attending LOMC - also 1983  
 1983 "Renewing" Program for Parish Development - Pastor and Lucy  
 Urish attend training; a Renewing Study Group makes  
 recommendations regarding Tentmaker, worship, etc.  
 1/83 Religious community survey by Council of Churches to be held  
 6/83 Harold Thomas is taping Sunday services  
 9/83 Petition for Namibian independence circulated  
 1984 Council of Churches meets four times per year  
 1985 Marriage Booklet prepared  
 9/85 Membership in Chamber of Commerce, \$15 - first  
 11/11/85 Picture-taking at baptism not approved  
 1/86 Policies approved: Pulpit Supply, Building and Equipment Use,  
 Sick Leave, Employee's Paid Vacation, Lundgren Scholarship  
 Fund  
 1986 The farm crisis came under discussion early in the year,  
 and on Aug. 28 there was a meeting on it in the FH.



\$100 given to Augustana College for Namibian students  
 9/8/86 Approval given to Colvin Family to print "Windows" booklet  
 picturing our stained glass windows - by Steven and Brent  
 in memory of brother Keith - after Chancel & Altar found  
 they couldn't fund it and Council wouldn't - 700 copies made,  
 411 mailed (1/87)  
 11/23/86 Food Drive for Lifeline by Council of Churches  
 12/86 LOMC requests to be included in budget, approved  
 1/25/87 Congregation Meeting brings up making church more accessible  
 to the handicapped  
 1/87 Church valuation = \$1,335,000, Parsonage = \$65,000  
 Communion offered at front pews for those with walking  
 difficulties  
 1987 Nursery care was assigned to Service Committee; nursery staff =  
 Marge Diehl, Joyce Howlett, Ruth Stauffer  
 3/2/87 Carthage College Choir here - noon meal and \$475  
 3/15/87 Try-A-Tithe Sunday  
 8/30/87 Tammy Page Sunday  
 9/21/87 Estimate to air condition nave = \$30,000  
 10/87 Dancing and live bands at weddings not allowed in FH, live music  
 needs Council approval  
 11/22/87 American Bible Society Sunday (the first or second) -  
 loose offering  
 1988 ELCA begins

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.