1882

Christian Day School

Country School Legacy: Humanities on the Frontier

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HISTORIC SITE FORM

State Nebraska  County Richardson

Location (in miles & direction from nearest town)  6 h miles n. of Falls City

Is this the original location? Yes

Name of building & origin of name Christian Day School

Name & number of the district St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran, Mo. Synod

Date built 1882  Years in use to 1979

Who built it? A contractor or the community? Contractor

Does it look like it came from a plan book or was it designed by the community? Generally, from a plan book

Names of former teachers: Paul Ticker, Robert Rudiger, E. Schauland, Miss Elaine Hegemeyer, Miss Ethel Wollenberg, Mr. David Elser, Miss Clarice Nau

Names of former students (family names only): Karsten, Bruhn, Braun, Bahr, Ruegge, Huebner, Shultz

Name & address of person in charge of building: Rev. Frank R. Maurer, P. #3, Falls City, Nebr. 68355

Who is the owner? St. Paul's Evangelical Church, Mo. Synod

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COUNTRY SCHOOL LEGACY HISTORIC SITE FORM

Architectural Features:

Size of building: Approx. 35 x 25

Number of Windows (four pane, six pane, etc.): 

Number of doors (entrances): 

Number of classrooms: 1

Bell tower or cupola: no

Materials used (wood, brick, stone, etc.): frame

Type of roof: shingles

Outhouses: no privies--inside plumbing

Playground Equipment: none

Color of building & trim: white

Coal shed or stable: coal shed

Teacherage: yes but now rented out

Flagpole: yes

Other architectural features:

Anything left inside?: no

Narrative Information: Did any special events happen at the school? What stories do people remember?
See attached history

Current condition & use:

good--rented out

District records available: yes x no____ where stored: See Pastor Maurer

Black & white photo taken: yes x no____

Old photos available: yes x no____

Does the building have any state or national historic designation? no

Name & address of surveyor: Ernest Grundy, Kearney, Nebr. Chris Simon, Auburn, date 11-80
St. Paul's congregation, recognizing the value of early Christian training, supported a Christian Day School 98 years from 1882 to 1979.

In the earlier history of St. Paul's, pastors served as teachers. Pastor Carl H. Becker taught from 1882 to 1895, Pastor Christian Meyer from 1895 to 1896, and Pastor W.F. Rittamel from 1896 to 1904. In 1904 the congregation hired its first regular teacher, Mr. Frederick Eberhardt. He also served the church as sacristan, or janitor. He resigned in October, 1911 and left in February, 1912. Pastor Fred. W. Schulze finished that school year, and from 1912 to 1913 Pastor H. A. Bentrop acted as teacher. A student finished this term.

In 1913, St. Paul's voted to extend a call to a teacher for $480 plus $20 per year if he served as sacristan--a teacher who would also "be expected to play the organ, lead the church choir, be a good example for the youth, and to do only good things." Mr. Cornelius Merz became that teacher. He taught until 1919 when he was called to Columbus, Nebr. where he taught 25 years. Mr. Merz retired in Falls City in 1961 and lived there until his death in September of this year.

Following Mr. Merz, Pastor Hoemann and Mr. Carl Hennel taught from 1919 to 1922. Mr. Paul Leimer, a graduate of Concordia at Seward taught from 1922 to 1926. Pastor Hoemann again served the school until September, 1927 with Mrs. Frederick Krueger as substitute. At that time Mr. Ernest F. Tiemann, another Concordia at Seward graduate became the teacher until July, 1932. The school was closed for the 1932-1933 term. Mr. Walter Deffner was hired to teach the 1933-1934 term and in the summer of 1934 Mr. Ray Helberg was "called" to teach the school. He taught until August 1938 when he went to North Platte. He served that congregation until September, 1939, when though accidentally drowning, he was called to his eternal home.

Following 1938, St. Paul's was served by these teachers for only one term: Miss Adeline Schiermeyer, 1938-39; Mr. Bernard Danner, a seminary student, 1939-40; Mr. Wilbert Eggers, 1940-41; Mr. Victor Bloch, 1941-42; Miss Clarice Nau, 1942-43; Miss Mary Weisenborn, 1943-44; Miss Clarice Nau, 1944-45; Mr. David Elser, 1945-46; Miss Esther Wollenberg (Zentner), 1946-47; Miss Elaine Hagemeyer, 1947-47.

After 10 years, a more permanent teacher, Mr. E. Schauland was hired and he taught until 1952. Mr. Robert Rudiger was "called" and served until 1955 when his health forced him to resign. Mr. Paul Tucker taught from 1955 to 1958. In 1958 Mr. Frederick W. Fischer began a service to the congregation which lasted 8 years until he was called to be principal in North Platte in 1966. During Mr. Fischer's term at St. Paul's the school enrollment grew and a second teacher for the primary grades was hired. Miss Linda Pelger (Codemann) taught kindergarten through 3rd grade from February 15, 1965 to the spring of 1966. Mr. and Mrs. (Clarice) John Zwieg served one year from 1966 to 1967. In 1967 Mr. and Mrs. (Diane) William Postel were "called to teach. Mrs. Postel taught one term and Mr. Postel taught until 1970. He has recently entered the ministry.

Miss Mary Jane Dorn taught the primary grades from 1968 to 1971. Mr. Mark Joyce replaced Mr. Postel for one term, 1970-71.

After Miss Dorn left in 1971, the school again returned to one teacher. Mr. E. E. Wittmus taught the school and played the church organ from 1971 until his retirement in 1979.

St. Paul's last teacher was Mr. Raymond Kaaz. He taught from 1977 to
1979. When he resigned, the congregation, after much deliberation and discussion, voted to not call another teacher and close the school.

The original school building was set between the church and parsonage. It was replaced in 1894 by a larger building south of the parsonage. In 1901, the original building was attached to the parsonage as a kitchen. In 1924 the second building was moved to its present site east of the church, renovated and lengthened 14 ft. In 1951 the basement restrooms, south porch, and cement steps were annexed and in 1960 a 4-room basement was added on the east side. These rooms were used for Sunday School classrooms, school music lessons, and confirmation classes. In February, 1965 half of this addition was used as the primary classroom until the top was built later that year. When the school returned to one teacher, this top addition became the main classroom and the older part the library.

Early history of the school shows that each year the voters of the congregation decided the length of the school year. Usually this meant no school in November so students could help with harvesting. School feasts were held as early as 1914. These annual picnics, sponsored by the school board, continued until 1971. Following the noon meal would be a program by the school children and various softball games, contests and other fellowship.

Mr. Eberhardt, the first regular teacher, asked that a house be built for him as early as 1906. The congregation decided to rent a house for him for $75 including enough land for a garden and stable room for a horse and cow. In 1914 a teacherage was planned, but a location could not be found. Mr. Merz was staying in a boarding house. Plans were still being made from 1917 to 1920 for a house. One teacher lived in a house on the church farm. Other teachers boarded in the community or rented homes.

Finally, in 1947, a teacherage was built east of the school when Mr. Schauland came to St. Paul's. This house is now a rental property.

St. Paul's Lutheran School contributed to the Christian education of children of the congregation and the community at large. In 1919 tuition was $2.00 per year and in 1923 it was $1.00 per month, payable one-half year in advance.
Wilfred W. Karsten
2114 Barada Street
Falls City, Nebr. 68355
Dear Mr. Grundy,

Received your nice reply dated 10/13/80 which was very much appreciated. I am sending you a bulletin with an aerial picture of the Church on it—also find enclosed a copy of a short history of the school which is located just east of the Church. This write up of the school is for our Centennial of the Church to be held next year-1981. This copy was made up by the Historical Committee of the Church which I am a member of. We will be Celebrating this throughout the year with special guest speakers each month. The main events to be held in Oct & Nov. 1981. Our son Rev. Darwen L. Karsten is scheduled for Feb. 8, 1981 speaking on Evangelism.

The Church is planning to put all of the most interesting happenings in book form with many pictures of different phases of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Mr. Synod from its start in 1881 to date 1981. This has been very interesting to me for many years the minutes were written in German and had to be translated to English from 1881 to 1931. So a lot of research was done on this project. When everything is compiled they will be put together in book form which will then be sold to members and others that want it.

I have enjoyed doing this for you. If I can help you in any other way let me know Hoping to hear from you again.

Sincerely yours,

Wilfred W. Karsten
Ernest Grundy
Dear Sir:

I read your interesting story in the Falls City Journal dated Thur. Oct. 7-1980. The article concerning the writing of your great uncle T. P. Grundy was very interesting to me. What I know about this man is he was the best County Superintendent that Richardson County, Neb. ever had. I attend grade schools under his administration. I am sending you some of his hand writings. These are copies of my eight grade diploma and funeral and regular attendance certificate. I copy of the writing on the envelope when my diploma came in. He was a good writer in his time, mine. My wife the former Dorothy M. Kratze attended schools under Mr. Grundy. The good hand writing he had was a great asset to people attending school in my time. Hoping to hear from you or even meet you some time.

Sincerely,

Wilfred W. Karsten

P.S. The School I attended was St. Paul's Lutheran School located 6 miles north of Falls City, Neb. I still attend Church and am a member of the Corporation. The School was closed 20 years ago. We also have a son who is a Lutheran Pastor in the Lutheran Church, Mo. Synod
Mr. and Mrs.
Wilfred W. Karsten
2114 Barada Street
Falls City, Nebr. 68355
Mr. Wilfred W. Karsten  
2114 Barada St.  
Falls City, NE 68935

Dear Mr. Karsten:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter which was so complimentary to my great uncle and to see his handwriting on the two enclosures. It was thoughtful of you to take this trouble.

It is interesting to me in my researches on the country schools to find that so many of the older generation could not only produce the finest of penmanship but could also compose beautifully. I was looking through some school board records of 1882 the other day and was impressed by the quality of the mind that made the reports, also the penmanship.

I am not surprised by your description of L. P. Grundy, if he was anything like his brother, my grandfather—religious, scholarly, and musical.

Interesting what you tell about the school six miles north of Falls City. I stopped there (on the west side of the road at a curve, a new Pastor Frank R. Maurer) in August to photograph the school building and met Pastor Maurer who told me something about the school. I went on after chatting with him a bit. My photographs didn't turn out so my friend, Chris Simon from Auburn, has recently photographed it for me. It is an interesting settlement and I would like to learn more about it. Especially would I like to come to your area and record on tape what you and others can tell me about school there. Perhaps the day will come when I can make the trip. If you would undertake to record your thoughts, I would gladly send you the tape and a list of subjects. It is even possible I could get Pastor Maurer to agree to do it for me, should you not wish to. I will enclose an envelope for any response you might care to make.

You mentioned your son, a Lutheran Pastor in the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. At Kearney State College, we have two campus pastors, Warren Smith and David Bronstad whom you may know. I also knew Norman Metzler well. He is now at Eugene, Oregon. I wouldn't be surprised to hear your son knows them. Was he from the seminary in St. Louis?

I certainly appreciate your response.

Sincerely Yours,

Ernest Grundy
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON U.S. 73 - 6 MILES NORTH
FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA

INTERIM PASTOR
Allen Ashbacher
Office Phone 245-3324
Home Phone 245-4036
Falls City, Nebraska 68355

Our New Pastor is

Rev. Frank R. Mauzer

Falls City, Neb. 68355

Coming here in June of 1980
THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 13, 1980

THE ORDER OF MATINS

The Prelude
Opening Hymn # 134 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"
The Call to Worship
P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.
C: AMEN.
P: God called Israel to be His servant, but not until Jesus came did anyone fulfill the mission God assigned to His servant.
C: WE BELIEVE JESUS WAS ANOINTED WITH GOD'S SPIRIT TO ESTABLISH HIS JUSTICE ON EARTH.
P: That mission is to be continued by Christ's church, which is also called to be God's servant.
C: WE WORSHIP OUR LORD JESUS, ANOINTED AS GOD'S SERVANT: AND COMMIT OURSELVES TO FOLLOW HIM IN BRINGING GOD'S ORDER TO OUR WORLD.

Opening Versicles and Gloria Patri . . . . . . . Page 32
The Venite (follow numbers). . . . . . . Pages 33, 34
The First Lesson . . . . . . . Isaiah 42:1-7
The Second Lesson . . . . . . . Acts 10:34-38
(SP) Baptism Hymn # 302 . . . "The Savior Kindly Calls"
Sermon Hymn . . . "To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord"
(Sae Insert for words. Tune: TLH # 500)
Sermon . . . "We are the Servant" . . . Isaiah 42:1-7
The Offering . . . . . . . Prayers
The Te Deum Laudamus (follow numbers). . Pages 35-37
The Kyrie, The Lord's Prayer . . . . . . . Page 39
(SP) Installation of Officers
The Salutation . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 40
The Prayer of the Day
The Collect for Grace . . . . . . . Page 40
The Benedicamus . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 40
The Benediction . . . . . . . . . . . . Page 40
Closing Hymn # 50 "Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing"

WORSHIP NOTES

THEME FOR THE DAY: Anointed With the Spirit.

Lesson 1 - God's servant is anointed with the Spirit to bring justice. Isaiah 42:1-7
Lesson 2 - Jesus is anointed with the Spirit to do good. Acts 10:34-38
Gospel Lesson - At His baptism, Jesus is anointed with the Spirit as God's Son. Lk. 3:15-17,21-22

The festival of the Baptism of our Lord marks the end of the Christmas cycle of celebrations. This is the last Sunday, for a little while, that white is the seasonal color. Jesus' baptism set Him apart for His mission. In the First Lesson we hear the song of a servant of God which could well be sung of Jesus Christ. "I have put my Spirit upon him, he will bring forth justice to the nations....I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations."

In the Second Lesson, Peter says that God has anointed Jesus to bring good news of peace. In the Gospel reading there is the anointing, the baptism of Jesus. The voice is again heard: "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased," And so He is a sure strong, serving Son of God. In Him we can be sure, strong, serving children of God, for He says, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you." (Psalm 2:7b)

EPIPHANY AND THE CHURCH.

1. A Time of Worship. Epiphany is a season of worship because it deals with the glory of God manifested in Jesus. The season begins with the Wise Men coming to worship the new-born king. (Last Sunday's Gospel Lesson). The season ends with the worship experience on Mt. Transfiguration. When people see Jesus as God's Son, they instinctively fall down to worship Him as Lord.
The free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS: Meinert Wissmann, Leonald Fritz, Walter Rieschick
TRUSTEES: Harold Niedfeldt, Dearl Eickhoff, Harvey Vollmer
CHAIRMAN: Harlan Zentner
VICE CHAIRMAN: Wayne Dietrich
BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Ray Huebner, Kenneth Wittrock, Glenn Godemann
SECRETARY: Glen Niedfeldt
TREASURER: Wilfred Karsten
HOME FINANCE: Eugene Fritz, Gary Niedfeldt, Douglgas Fritz
SYNODICAL FINANCE: Roy Bahr, Larry Wissmann, Don Thompson
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT: Ray Huebner
STEWARDSHIP & EVANGELISM: Leo Schuetz, Carl Rieschick, Harold Rieschick
USHERS: Bob Bruhn, Jr., Elwood Steinke, Tom Niedfeldt, Loren Wissmann
CEMETERY COMMITTEE: Eldon Kelly, Albert Niedfeldt, Jr., Robert Fritz
CHURCH EXTENSION REP.: Wilfred Karsten
MEMORIALS: Albert Niedfeldt, Sr.

MEETINGS

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School and Bible Classes</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worship Service</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lenten Services during Lent, Wednesday</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian Day School</td>
<td>8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>September to May, Monday through Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation Class, Wednesday</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School Staff (1st Monday)</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Education (3rd Tuesday — Febr., May, Aug., Nov.)</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lutheran Layman's League (4th Monday)</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Dorcas Circle (2nd Tuesday)</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LWML (1st Wednesday)</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Couples Club (2nd Sunday)</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walther League (1st and 3rd Sundays)</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving and Christmas Services</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altar Guild (1st Thursday — Febr., May, Aug., Nov.)</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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75 YEARS OF BLESSINGS
1881-1956

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
MISSOURI SYNOD

Six Miles North
Falls City, Nebraska
ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE CHANCEL
In Remembrance of God's Mercy

FOREWORD:

"Thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness . . . . Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God . . . . which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness . . . . Who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint: Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna . . . . But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God." In these words Moses admonishes the Children of Israel, the people who actually had experienced the wonderful leading of God, Deut. 8. Hundreds of years later the holy Singers in the Psalms still sound the glad refrain. So in Ps. 77 and 78. "I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember Thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all Thy work, and talk of Thy doings . . . . Thou ledest Thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron." "He established a testimony in Jacob . . . . which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; that the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children, that they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God."

In Remembrance of God's mercy this Anniversary Booklet is prepared. It is to present the wonderful leading, which GOD has in HIS mercy extended to our beloved St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation these past 75 years, so that we and our children do not forget the wonderful works of the LORD our God, but remember them. And remembering them we should break forth in jubilant praise and thanksgiving to God. And also we should anew put our hope and trust in our GOD for the future and say with David in Psalm 23: "HE leadeth me beside the still waters . . . . HE leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for HIS Name's sake . . . . Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever." Amen.
EARLY MEMBERS

Although we have been unable to find the minutes of the congregation from 1881 to 1892, these names appear in the membership record, having become members in October of 1881, and could possibly have been the charter members.

Carl Rasche  P. C. Dietrich  William Lauppe
Johann Bauer  Joachim Eickhoff  Gottfried Graf
Joachim Bauer  Johan Fritz  August Muller
J. M. Dietrich  Wilhelm Fritz  Johan Karsten
Fritz Gast  F. C. Ruegge  Charles Ruegge
Johan Gast  Henrich Fritz  Heinrich Brandt

THE OLD CHURCH AND THE OLD CHANCEL
A BRIEF HISTORY OF
ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Six Miles North of Falls City, Nebraska

The history of the congregation begins with the deceased fathers and mothers of the present congregation, immigrants from Mecklenburg and Hannover, Germany, before 1880. Spiritually they were served by the late Rev. Bernhard Massalsky and others.

The congregation was organized by the sainted fathers and mothers of the present members. In their former homeland, they were accustomed to see churches everywhere. Here they found but a few churches in the entire county. With them, however, it was not “Out of sight, out of mind.” Finding their immediate community churchless, they still did not neglect their soul’s salvation, but regularly conducted family devotions and taught the Catechism unto their children.

The first baptisms and other official acts were performed by the Rev. Massalsky and other pastors in the Williamsville church. Once in a while divine services were conducted at the school situated three miles northwest of where the church now stands. A congregation had not as yet been organized. This was due, at least in part, to the fact that the doctrines and practices of the so-called Lutherans our fathers found here on their arrival did not meet with their approval.

Seemingly, our fathers were bewildered and sadly perplexed, not knowing which way to turn to provide for their spiritual welfare. However, the Lord soon provided help. A man not living in this immediate community, a staunch Lutheran, Mr. Carl Rasche, of Salem, was looking for a pastor of the Missouri Synod, and by corresponding with the officials of Synod, he was able to obtain the services of Rev. A. W. Bergt, one of the Saxon immigrants serving the congregation at Elk Creek. Pastor Bergt was asked to conduct services here. Two services were held and a congregation was organized in October 1881. Since, however, the trip from Elk Creek to this congregation was quite an undertaking for a man of his advanced age, Pastor Bergt recommended that this congregation apply for a candidate of theology at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. This met with the approval of the congregation. Application was made for a candidate to serve this congregation in the spring of 1882.

THE PASTORS

The Board of Allocation assigned the “call” to candidate Carl H. Becker who accepted, and thus became the first resident pastor of the congregation. He was ordained and installed in St. Paul’s Congregation the morning of the Ninth Sunday after Trinity, 1882, by the Rev. Bergt, under the assistance of Pastor E. A. Frese.

The labors of Pastor Becker were richly blessed. He served St. Paul’s in church and school until in January, 1895, when he accepted the “call” of the congregation in Seward, Nebraska.

On the First Sunday after Epiphany, 1895, the Rev. Christian Meyer was installed by the Rev. H. F. Grupe, but served the congregation only till the fall of that year when he was called to Crete, Nebraska.

The third resident pastor was the Rev. W. F. Rittamel, who was installed on the First
One of the most important phases of Church work is the Christian training of our youth, the bringing up of our children “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” as God has commanded all Christian parents to do. Eph. 6:4. From the very beginning St. Paul's has been conscious of its obligation to the young. Here, as in so many other congregations, the pastors at first served as instructors in the school.

The primary object of the Christian Day School is to teach God's Word to the children. Since the church has the commission from Christ Himself to teach all nations, this blessed institution merits the wholehearted support of all members of the church. While in our schools religious education is stressed, the secular education is not neglected; the regular elementary public school curriculum is carried. The present enrollment of the school is 20, all eight grades being taught.

TEACHERS

Pastor Carl H. Becker taught the school from 1882 to 1895. His successors, Pastors Christian Meyer and W. F. Rittamel, followed his footsteps. In 1904, however, during the pastorate of the Rev. Rittamel, the first regular teacher was called. He was Mr. Fred Eberhard, a graduate of Concordia Teachers College then located at Addison, Illinois. He taught the school from September 1904 till February, 1912.

Pastor F. W. Schultze taught to the end of the school year 1912. The following year Pastor H. A. Bentrup acted as teacher. On August 31, 1913 Mr. C. Merz, a graduate of Concordia Teachers College in Seward, Nebraska was installed. He taught till the end of the school year, 1919, when he was “called” to teach a school at Columbus, Nebraska.

Pastor Theo. Hoemann and Mr. Carl Hellmann, a graduate of St. Paul's College, Concordia, Missouri, served as teachers until Mr. Paul Leimer, a graduate of Seward was "called" and took charge in September, 1922. He served as teacher until he was “called” to Beecher, Illinois in September, 1926.
Pastor Hoemann again supplied in the school until September of 1927 when Mr. Ernest F. Tiemann, a Seward graduate, was “called.” He served the congregation until July, 1932, when he was “called” to Pueblo, Colorado.

The school was then closed for one year. Mr. Walter Deffner was employed to teach the term of 1933-34 and in the summer of 1934 Mr. Ray Helberg was “called” to teach the school. He served faithfully until August 1938 when he accepted a “call” to North Platte, Nebraska. He served that congregation until September 30, 1939, on which day, through accidental drowning, he was transported to his Heavenly home.

The following years St. Paul’s employed teachers only for a term: Miss Adeline Schiermeyer, 1938-39; Mr. Bernard Danner, student at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, 1939-40; Mr. Wilbert Eggers, a graduate of Seward, 1940-41; Mr. Victor Bloch, 1941-42; Miss Clarice Nau, 1942-43; Miss Mary Weisenborn, 1943-44; Miss Clarice Nau, 1944-45; Mr. David Elser, 1945-46; Miss Esther Wollenberg (Zentner), 1946-47; Miss Elaine Hagemeyer, 1947-47.

In the summer of 1948 Mr. E. Schauland was “called” as a permanent teacher and taught until 1952 when he accepted a “call” to Beemer, Nebraska where he is still teaching. Mr. Robert Rudiger then was “called” and taught until 1955 when his health forced him to resign.

Our present teacher, Mr. Paul Tucker, took charge of our school a little over a year ago.

May all our members zealously support, and God continue to bless this institution!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Besides the Christian Day School, the congregation also sponsors the Sunday School, so that those who do not attend the day school may receive some religious instructions prior to confirmation. The exact date of its organization is not at hand. Needless to say, all members are expected to send their children to the Sunday School. Of course the Sunday School can never take the place of the day school, but has and may in future render valuable service for the instruction of the young.

ORGANIZATIONS

Of all the societies and organizations that are found within our Lutheran church, there is only one that is divinely instituted and that is the local congregation. All other societies and organizations are auxiliary and should be under the jurisdiction and control of the local congregation, for only then the divinely appointed sovereignty of the congregation is maintained. All church societies and organizations should be helpful, useful, beneficial to the individual as well as to the whole church. If they are anything else, they should not exist.

The organizations that we have, we are happy to say, not only place themselves under the jurisdiction of the congregation but they are also useful, helpful, and of benefit to the individual as well as to the whole congregation. May it always remain thus.
LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

This organization had its beginning in November 1944. The L.L.L. encourages its members to actively participate in the work of the local congregation. Through their topic study they seek to develop a deeper consciousness of a life of Christian stewardship and a greater knowledge of the Bible.

Being affiliated with the International L.L.L., the local club participates in promoting the national projects, foremost of which is The Lutheran Hour.

At home, their project is financially aiding Robert Reith, the son of former pastor Paul J. Reith, now deceased, to prepare himself for the ministry.

The present membership is 32.

OFFICERS

President: Meinert Wissmann
Vice-President: John Muller
Secretary: Edward Fritz
Treasurer: Wm. Huebner, Jr.

MEMBERSHIP

Roy Benedict
Alvin Dietrich
Carl Eickhoff
Herman Eickhoff
Andrew Fritz
Edward Fritz
Irwen Fritz
Leonard Fritz
Leonard Fritz
Wilbert Fritz
Glenn Godemann
Harold Huebner
William Huebner, Jr.
Arthur Kahle
Rev. Theo. Kauffeld
Eldon Kelly
Nels Kjeldsen
Clarence Koepke
Henry Kracke
August Lietzke
John Muller
Albert Niedfeldt, Sr.
Fred Niemeyer
Carl Rieschick
Walter Rieschick
Edward Schatz
Herbert Steinke
Paul Tucker, Teacher
Herbert Vollmer
Meinert Wissmann
Theo. Yoesel

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

The LWML, consisting of ladies within our congregation, meet once a month. Unity and a Christian spirit characterize all the efforts of this organization. It is a great privilege to have in our midst such a loyal host of workers. The present membership consists of 41 members.

OFFICERS

President: Mrs. Herman Eickhoff
Vice-President: Mrs. Henry Ruegge
Secretary: Mrs. Carl Fritz
Treasurer: Mrs. Walter Bahr

HONORARY MEMBERS

Mrs. Louise Albers
Mrs. Sophia Fritz
Mrs. Eliza Gebhard
Mrs. Fred Neman
Mrs. Paul Grossoehmig, Sr.
Mrs. John Rieschick

MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Clara Bahr
Mrs. Walter Bahr
Mrs. Henry Bauer
Mrs. Walter Bauer
Mrs. Roy Benedict
Mrs. Martha Biermann
Mrs. Walter Bruhn
Mrs. Edwin Bunge
Mrs. Ben Cooper
Mrs. Herbert Eickhoff
Mrs. Herman Eickhoff
Mrs. Walter Eickhoff
Mrs. Carl Fritz
Mrs. Edward Fritz
Mrs. Ida Fritz
Mrs. Robert Fritz
Mrs. Joe Godemann Sr.
Mrs. Art Kahle
Mrs. Nels Kjeldsen
Mrs. Theo. Koehler
Mrs. Clarence Koepke
Mrs. Henry Kracke
Mrs. Fred Krueger
Mrs. Henry Krueger
Mrs. Fred Kruse
Mrs. Albert Niedfeldt
Mrs. Carl Rieschick
Mrs. Walter Rieschick
Mrs. Henry Ruegge
Mrs. Leonard Schatz
Mrs. Herbert Steinke
Mrs. Irvin Vollmer
Mrs. Rueben Wittrock
Mrs. Theo. Yoesel
Mrs. August Zentner
DORCAS CIRCLE

This organization derives its name and aims from Acts 9:36, where we are told: "Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did." Emulating the Dorcas of old, the members of this organization sew for the unfortunates in the institutions of our Church, visit the sick and shut-ins, and co-operate with the International LWML in the attainment of its aims. The present membership is 26.

OFFICERS
President: Mrs. Leonald Fritz
Secretary: Mrs. Donald Schatz
Vice-President: Mrs. Irven Fritz
Treasurer: Mrs. William Huebner

MEMBERSHIP
Miss Alma Bahr
Mrs. Roy Bahr
Mrs. George Bauer
Mrs. Robert Bruhn
Miss Dora Eickhoff
Mrs. Edward Eickhoff
Mrs. Herman Eickhoff
Mrs. Lloyd Faller
Mrs. Carl Fritz
Mrs. Irven Fritz
Mrs. Leonald Fritz
Mrs. Leonald Fritz
Mrs. Robert Fritz
Mrs. Wilbert Fritz
Mrs. Harold Huebner
Mrs. William Huebner
Mrs. Theo. Kauffeld
Mrs. Eldon Kelly
Mrs. Clarence Koepke
Mrs. Carl Rieschick
Mrs. Donald Schatz
Mrs. Paul Tucker
Mrs. Herbert Vollmer
Mrs. Meinert Wissmann
Mrs. Harlan Zentner
Mrs. Sophia Zentner

WALTHER LEAGUE

The Walther League is an organization of young people within the Lutheran Church of the Synodical Conference with which our local society became affiliated in 1928. The history of this society goes back to 1915 when, under the leadership of Pastor Theo. Hoemann, it was organized as the Young People's Society. The chief purpose of the Walther League is to assist in keeping the young people within our dear Lutheran church. Such a noble and sacred purpose induces us all to ask God's blessing upon all phases of the activities of the league, be it mission, hospice, charity work, or Bible study. The present membership is 28.

OFFICERS
President: Don Rieschick
Secretary: Dorothy Vollmer
Vice-President: Harold Rieschick
Treasurer: Elaine Fritz
Ushers: Delbert Eickhoff and Harvey Vollmer

MEMBERSHIP
Alma Bahr
Beverly Bauer
Georgia Bauer
Marjorie Bauer
Norma Bruhn
Arlene Bunge
Delbert Eickhoff
Carol Fritz
Elaine Fritz
Eugene Fritz
Martha Fritz
Patsy Fritz
Norma Godemann
Raymond Huebner
Rev. Theo. Kauffeld
Carol Kelly
James Nedrow
Eileen Niedfeldt
Elaine Niedfeldt
Delmer Rieschick
Don Rieschick
Harold Rieschick
Leonard Rieschick
Max Roland
Teacher Paul Tucker
Dorothy Vollmer
Harvey Vollmer
Kathryn Vollmer

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild was organized on February 2, 1950. It has charge of the Altar Linens, Communion Ware, and Flowers on the Altar. It meets four times a year and devotes time to the study of Liturgical Matters. The Guild at present numbers 16 members.

OFFICERS
Directress: Mrs. Eldon Kelly
Vice-Directress: Miss Dora Eickhoff
Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Herbert Vollmer

MEMBERSHIP
Mrs. George Bauer
Mrs. Martha Biermann
Mrs. Walter Bruhn
Miss Dora Eickhoff
Mrs. Herman Eickhoff
Mrs. Carl Fritz
Mrs. Edward Fritz
Mrs. Robert Fritz
Mrs. Joe Godemann
Mrs. Eldon Kelly
Mrs. Albert Niedfeldt
Mrs. Herbert Vollmer
Mrs. Theo. Yoesel
Mrs. August Zentner
Mrs. Fred Krueger
YOUNG MARRIED COUPLES CLUB

The Young Married Couples Club was organized in March of this year, 1956. The purpose of this Club was to provide some Christian educational and social features for the younger married people of our Congregation. It meets once a month and at present numbers 12 couples.

MEMBERS OF YOUNG COUPLES CLUB

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wittrock  
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Niedfeldt  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Niedfeldt  
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Bunge  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Niedfeldt  
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Godemann  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tucker  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruhn  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Vollmer  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roland  
Mr. and Mrs. John Meyer  
Rev. and Mrs. Theo. Kauffeld

BUILDINGS

Soon after its organization, the pioneer members of St. Paul's built a frame building as their house of worship and also a school and parsonage. Additions to the parsonage were made during the pastorates of Pastors Becker and Rittamell. Under the Rev. Theo. Hoemann, an extensive building program was carried out. The old church was moved toward the east and the building of the new church begun. During the summer a bolt of lightning struck the old church on a Sunday afternoon and it burned to the ground. The organ was saved and served for a while in the new church. The present house of worship was erected in 1916-17. It is of brick veneer. Looking at our beautiful church today one can hardly believe that it was built for only $16,000.

The school was renovated and enlarged in 1924. The present parsonage, begun in August 1927, was completed in May, 1928. To give our school more solidarity and to better hold our teachers, it was resolved in July 1947 to build a teacherage. Construction began in August 1947, and was completed in the summer of 1948.
CONFIRMANDS
The following are the names of the confirmands by the year since 1883, the first class confirmed at St. Paul's congregation.

**KEY:**
- * Deceased
- ** Members of St. Paul's at present time
- ? No information available

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1904
Edward Bauer
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Louise Bahr
Caroline Fehr*
Emily Bauer
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Ida Zentner*
Dorothea Horstman
George Duerfeldt*
Ludwig Faller

1905
John Karsten
Albert Bauer
Karl Werner*
Karl Braun
Dorothea Schultz
Hulda Bruhn

1906
John Godemann
Frieda Fehr
Pauline Zentner**

1907
Karl Last**
Fred Niemeyer**
Henry Utermohlen*
Karl Kiel
Frank Utermohlen
Karl Godemann

1908
Karl Bauer
Alex Schultz
Karl Niemeyer
Hugo Fehr
Henry Krueger**
Walter Bruhn**
Edward Bahr
Fred Bauer
Joe Godemann**
Emma Last**
Ida Werner
Augusta Kiel
Louise Karsten
Else Horstmann
Elizabeth Krueger

1909
Walter Albers
Philip Braun*
August Zentner*
Maria Schultz
Amelia Fehr**

1910
Elsie Godemann
Bertha Krueger
Ida Schulenberg**

1911
Richard Bahr
Louis Fehr
Martin Kiel
Albert Utermohlen*
Walter Utermohlen**

1912
Mary Krueger*
Marie Zentner**

1913
Walter Bauer**
Edward H. Fritz
Walter Niemeyer
Rueben Wittrock**
Bertha Bentrup
Lizzie Fritz*
Dora Godemann
Emma Harder
Erma Horstmann
Johanna Krueger**
Anna Rieschick**
Amelia Schulenberg
Gusta Horn*

1914
Edward Zentner
Charlotte Kiel

1915
Benny Fehr**
Ernest Zentner*
Edward Horstmann

1916
Walter Fritz
Herbert Horstmann
Carl Hellmann
Alvin Bahr
Walter Hellmann*
Elmer Wittrock
Ida Krueger
Elsie Rieschick

1917
Adolph Niemeyer
Clarence Koecke**
Clarence Zentner

1918
Fred Krueger**
Roy Eicksteadt
Walter Eickhoff**
Dora Eickhoff**
Dora Parchen

1919
Roy Bauer
Edwin Fehr
Walter Rieschick**
Walter Zentner
Edmund Bauer**
Edwin Faller
Aurilla Faller
Mary Grossoehmig*

1920
Caroline Koepke
Gertrude Fritz
Hilda Eickhoff*
Hilda Eickhoff
Ethel Bauer**
Minnie Hellmann**
Minnie Neman**
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Norma Lee Bauer**
Helen Hilda Braun
Joe Henry Godemann Jr.**
Kenneth Paul Wittrock**
Robert Eugene Bruhn**

1943
Pearl Lorraine Cooper
Ruby Mae Cooper
Johnny Franklin Meyers**
Kenneth Robert Neidfelt**
Norman Charles Last**
Donovan Willis Bax
LaVern Oliver Hansel

1944
Harold John Bunge**
Wilbur Clarence Durfee

1945
LaDonna Lucille
      Krueckenberg
Dorothy Marie Godemann**
Jean Eilene Krueger**
Janice Eldene Krueger**
Delbert Roy Benedict**
Harold Eugene Vollmer**
Olga Marie Koehler
Walter Elske
Mrs. Walter Elske
Duane Elske

1946
Neta Kjeldsen
Ella Agatha Kjeldsen
Ramona Jane Yoesel**
Mrs. Arlin Fritz
Mrs. Herbert Eickhoff**

1947
Helen Elaine Rieschick**
Darlene Thelma Benedict
Lorraine Ruth Rittamel
Norma Mae Bruhn**
Doris Jean Bahr**
Leonard Eugene Bunge**

1948
Robert Dale Cooper**
Carl Duane Eickhoff**
Arleta Mae Durfee
Bruce Franzen Cooper**
Mary Helen Krueger**
Ruth Ellen Vollmer**
Evelyn Fern Smith
Herbert Dale Roland**
Artie LeRoy Roland**
Harry Martin Roland
Harlan Grant Roland**
Berniece Louise Faller
Opal Gladys Fritz**
Anna Margaret Lewis
Nicodemo J. Covelli

1949
Georgia Ruth Bauer**
Dearl Eickhoff**
Ramona Fritz**
Max Lavern Roland**
Harold Niedfeldt**
Marilyn Joan Rittamel
Edna Ruth Ruegge**
Lawanda Ruegge**
Edward Vollmer*
Mrs. Wilfred Hartman

1950
John Benedict**
Delbert Eickhoff**
Kathern Fritz**
Norma Lee Godemann**
Lorna Lee Kelly**
Joan Krueger**
Harvey Vollmer**
Mrs. Leonald Fritz**

1951
Mrs. Howard Bauer
Audrey Bauer
Ramon Lee Eickhoff**
Vernon Elske
Eugene Edward Fritz**

1952
Arlene Louise Bunge**
Carol Lee Kelly**
Elta Verna Kracke**
Carol Ann Fritz**
John Herman Cockerham**
Mrs. Arthur Kahle**

1953
Artie T. Roland*
Noble Albert Davis**
Francis R. Palmer**
Beverly Bauer**
Donald Duane Rieschick**
Elaine Esther Fritz**
Mrs. Leonard Bunge**

1954
Marjorie Ann Bauer**
Martha Joan Fritz**
Leonard Paul Rieschick**
Dorothy Ann Vollmer**
Mrs. Walter Eickhoff**
Clarence Suedmeier**

1955
Joyce Irene Fritz**
Raymond Harold Huebner**
Mrs. Myron G. Nussbaum**
Mrs. Harlan Roland**

1956
Alice Richmond**
Mrs. Harold Vollmer**
Elaine Ann Niedfeldt**
Eileen Ann Niedfeldt**
Patsy Sue Fritz**
Kathryn Ann Vollmer**
Elwood Robert Steinke**
James LeRoy Nedrow**
Delmar Irven Rieschick**
Concluding Prayer

O LORD, "I will praise THEE with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto THEE. I will worship toward THY holy temple, and praise THY Name for THY Loving-kindness and for THY Truth; for THOU hast magnified THY Word above all THY Name . . . . . . The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me: THY Mercy, O LORD, endureth for ever: Forsake not the works of Thine own hands." Amen.

(Psalm 138)
Johnson County Courier, Sterling, Nebr.