

A Holy Celebration of 150 Years

According to the Book of St. Paul

Chapter VI

And God said, “Let there be events and organizations created for the St. Paul Lutheran church congregation to further the congregation’s ability to worship the Lord.”

After St. Paul celebrated its 50th anniversary (1874-1924) on October 5, 1924, the first event of the next few years was not expected and not a good one.

On January 26, 1925, a fire broke out shortly before noon. Damage of at least \$2,000 was done to the building. The cause of the fire was the laying of a piece of wallboard over the register in order to keep the heat in the basement. The board caught fire, and flames spread to the walls.

Firemen managed to confine them to the

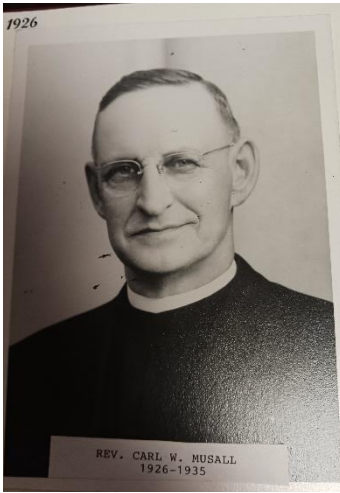
east and west walls of the first floor. It took almost an hour to extinguish the fire. Notice the furnace register in the aisle near the choir loft. See Beloit Daily News January 27, 1925, report. (Exhibit 1)



As mentioned before, but can be seen in this photo, for the Pastor to enter the pulpit, he had to go outside, come through the back door, then go up the steps to the pulpit. In the late 20's, the pulpit was lowered, steps removed, door closed, and the wall plastered. The Pastor then came directly from the altar. Ladies Aid held a special meeting on February 18, 1925, in regard to the fire. They decided to purchase a stained-glass

window above the church door, a small round one, and one in the minister's room. The cost was \$150.

In the spring of 1926, the Rev. Max Jahr (1920-1926) resigns as of May 1, accepting a call to the Lutheran church at Strawberry Point, Iowa. At a special meeting of the congregation on April 13, 1926, a call was extended to **Rev. C. W. Musall** at a salary of \$1,600 per year. Rev. Musall, his wife and two children came from Aberdeen, South Dakota. He served St. Paul for 10 years (1926-1935).



Throughout the years the following various church organizations have served the church:

1. Maria-Martha Bund – **the first Ladies Aid group (1883).**

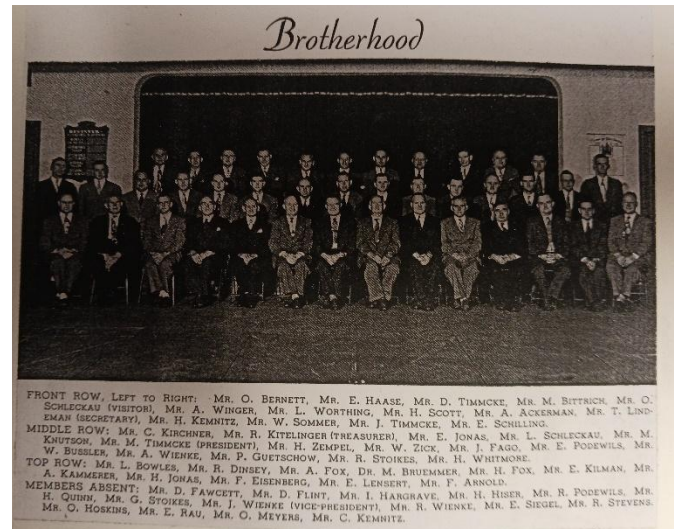
In 1929 the Ladies Groups were organized under the Ladies' Aid and began to work in earnest for the church. "We bake the best pies in Beloit, and we cook the best meals." They also made quilts,



carpet rags, pillow slips and bloomers. They sent donations, goods, jam and jellies to orphanages in India and New Guinea. There were 67 members in 1927. See list of members in 1927. **(Exhibit 2)** They adopted the American language and changed their Constitution to English. Dues were 10 cents. In 1958 the Ladies Aid and Mission Society became the "Women of the Church," which was divided into Circles.

2. Wartburg League later changed to Luther League in 1932.

3. The **Brotherhood** of men was organized in 1926. They sponsored a Beloit Scout Troop. They became the St. Paul Men of the Church on November 9, 1965, incorporating the Ushers Club and sponsoring two Boy Scout Troops and dartball teams.



4. A Mission Society began in 1927.

5. Senior Choir was started in 1928.

6. Young Married Couples (Marco) was established in 1938.

7. Junior Choir began in 1939, later changed to Rainbow Notes in 1991 and to Faith Choir in 1997.

8. Young Couples in 1948.

9. Junior Mission Band in 1950.

10. Ushers Club in 1950.

11. Golden Agers in 1958. Now the OWLS group (Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors).

During Rev. Musall's leadership several changes and improvements were made to the parsonage and plans made for a rebuilding of the church. However, due to the Depression after the Stock Market collapse in 1929, those plans were put on hold. The church was officially received into the American Lutheran during his ministry here on February 23, 1932.

In March 1935, Rev. Musall resigned to accept a call to Birnamwood, Wisconsin, near Wausau. Next chapter, a new minister, a new church building. And God saw that it was good.

Exhibit 1

Exhibit 2

LADIES' AID

Officers

Mrs. Anna Scheibel President
Mrs. Minnie Priem Vice-President

Beloit Daily News, January 27, 1925

Ladies' Aid



FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: MRS. H. JONAS (PRESIDENT), MRS. O. VOSS, MRS. M. DAVIS, MRS. H. FOX, MRS. H. MICHELKE, MRS. F. KLUTE, MRS. B. LUEKE, MRS. N. WALL, MRS. F. KRAHNKE, MRS. B. GRUSDAT, MRS. F. YOHN, MRS. L. BOWLES, MRS. H. SCOTT, MRS. E. HAASE, MRS. M. RAU.
 SECOND ROW: MRS. M. BRUEMMER, MISS L. MEYER, MRS. F. NOVEY, MRS. I. STEELE, MRS. F. ARNOLD, MRS. F. KRUEGER, MRS. C. KIRCHNER, MRS. L. WIENKE, MRS. H. HEIM, MRS. E. KILMAN, MRS. E. ROEHL, MRS. F. VOSS, MRS. H. RICE (SECRETARY), MRS. H. KLINGBERG, MRS. E. LENSERT, MRS. W. ZIMMERMANN.
 TOP ROW: MRS. A. WINGER, MRS. W. SOMMER, MRS. L. NEUMANN, MRS. E. PODEWILS (TREASURER), MRS. H. POHLMAN, MRS. M. BITTRICH, MRS. J. MISHLER, MRS. H. NEUBAUER (VICE-PRESIDENT), MRS. F. DIETZ, MRS. A. MORSE, MRS. D. FLINT, MRS. R. WIENKE, MRS. W. GRINKE, MRS. A. KAMMERER.
 MEMBERS ABSENT: MRS. R. AFFELDT, MRS. J. ALLEN, MRS. W. BERGER, MRS. M. BUSHELL, MRS. M. CLARK, MRS. F. EISENBERG, MRS. A. FOX, MRS. A. FUNK, MRS. E. GREENWALD, MRS. A. KRAUSE, MRS. E. MEANS, MRS. A. NORDT, MRS. A. OTTOW, MRS. A. SCHILLING, MRS. J. WIENKE, MRS. A. YAEGER, MRS. H. ZEMPLE.