

LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

Monthly Newsletter of
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Highland, Indiana

VOL. I - No. 9

September, 1960

The Rev. Harold E. Koch, editor

BUILDING FUND DRIVE A SUCCESS!!!

Another joyous milestone has been reached in the young life of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Our first annual building fund drive came to a successful conclusion with 55 families pledging a total of \$ 10,854.00 for the year. This is over and above the more than \$12,000.00 pledged and being given for Benevolences and Current Expenses. This is truly evidence of real dedication to our Lord Jesus Christ and an earnest desire to fulfill His challenge to build a church here in our community.

The above total pledged is 79% of the "giving potential" as arrived at by the evaluation committee. Again we see evidence of Divine guidance. How else can we explain the outcome? Divine guidance coupled with commitment and supplemented by a full measure of faith brought about the results. To Him be the glory!

THE INDIANA SYNOD ENCOURAGES US

Read at the Thanksgiving Service following the final report of the building fund drive was this letter from the Synod:

"The Home Mission Board of the Indiana Synod took action at its meeting this past Monday to give birthday gifts to the recently organized congregations. Your congregation, being one of these, was voted a \$1,000 birthday gift. Upon the successful completion of your capital funds drive this gift will be sent to you to be used specifically for capital fund purposes. Will you, therefore, send to the Synod office the results of your capital funds drive after the pledges are in and the check will be sent to you by return mail.

"Please understand this gift is sent to you and your congregation as a token of encouragement. The Synod and the Home Mission Board are happy for the work which Our Lord has worked through you and through the people in your congregation. We rejoice in this extension of the Kingdom and in this way wish to convey this word to you and to your people. May God grant continued effectiveness of the Gospel through Gloria Dei Church."

CHURCH COUNCIL SELECTS ARCHITECT

Members of the church council and a temporarily-named building committee interviewed six architects during the past month. Narrowing the field to three, churches of these three were visited on three different trips. The result of the interviews coupled with visits to evidence of work done by the men was that the church council voted to engage Mr. Lester A. Trier of Elkhart to do the preliminary work for us. If satisfactory work is done, he will be engaged to continue with plans.

Mr. Trier is doing work for several of our mission congregations and is acquainted with the BAM policy and requirements. He is the man who designed the new Griffith Lutheran Church, if you would like to see some of his work close at hand. Other nearby churches are the Lutheran churches at Crown Point and LaPorte.

THE NEXT STEP HAS BEEN TAKEN

How soon can we begin to build? This is the question that has been uppermost in our hearts and minds the past weeks. An answer is coming closer now that our fund effort has been completed. Last Sunday afternoon we filled in the P.S.P. (Preliminary Study Proposal) which gives the Board of American Missions information as to our growth, present and hoped-for, our space needs, our financial picture, and other specifics needed for their evaluation of our needs. From this information they can determine how much we can build as a first unit. Within five or six weeks we will hear from the Board and can then give the architect the "go" sign.

While awaiting the Board reply, the council will meet with Mr. Trier on Thursday, September 29 to work out contractual agreements and to get better acquainted by sharing general ideas. This is YOUR church, the council is YOUR representative body. If you have ideas you would like to share with the architect, speak to your councilman. For your information at this point, congregational approval will be secured before preliminary plans are developed into working drawings.

CHURCH SCHOOL PROMOTIONS & INSTALLATIONS

Sunday, September 25, is the day when our young people will be promoted to new classes in our Church School. Those being advanced to new departments will receive gifts from the Sunday School. It is important for all children to be present.

On the following Sunday, October 2, the teachers and officers of the Church School will be installed at the regular Worship Service. Parents, we need more teachers!

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY TO BE OBSERVED

Sunday, October 2, is World Communion Sunday, a day on which Christians the world over will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. We hope to have a full church, full of people "who hunger and thirst for righteousness." Come, for all is now ready.

THE PASTOR'S CLASS for those interested in learning about the Lutheran Church in preparation for membership will begin Sunday October 16 and run for six Sundays at 3:00 p.m. in the parsonage. Next reception of new members will be Sunday, November 27.

CATECHETICAL CLASSES will begin Saturday, October 8 with the second-year class meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the first-year class at 11:00 a.m. Parents are invited to meet with the classes for the first sessions.

THE YOUTH CHOIR begins rehearsals at 10:15 Saturday, October 8 in the parsonage. All sixth-graders and up who are interested in singing in this choir are invited.

THE ADULT CHOIR NEEDS VOICES!!!

GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH
P. O. BOX # 1672
HIGHLAND, INDIANA

Church School - 9:30 a.m.
The Service - 10:45 a.m.
Nursery during The Service
(Meeting temporarily in the
Highland Christian School)

ATTENDANCES AND OFFERINGS IN CHURCH SCHOOL

Date	Att.	Offergs.
8/28	86	\$ 12.97
9/4	87	17.82
9/11	92	17.33
9/18	100	18.38

ATTENDANCES AND OFFERINGS AT THE SERVICE

Date	Att.	Offergs.	Bldg. Fund	Organ Fund
8/28	138	\$ 222.22	\$ 15.15	\$
9/4	120	220.73	23.00	
9/11	138	299.05	34.00	1.00
9/18	125	235.32	169.45	

CONFIRMED MEMBERS ABSENT SINCE INSTALLATION

The pastor has kept a record since he was installed as your pastor. He knows when you absent yourself from the House of your Lord. Of 130 confirmed members, the following number have been absent for the Sundays beginning with Aug. 14: 52, 59, 53, 58, 51 and 52. If YOU have been among the missing, please come back. Vacations are over. We have a place for YOU each Lord's Day. Remember to keep the Lord's Day holy.

LUTHER LEAGUERS BEGIN YEAR OF ACTIVITY

A "Poster Party" last Sunday inaugurated the year for our young people. Next Saturday the Leaguers will meet at the parsonage at 2:00 p.m. and caravan to Marquette Park for a cook-out. Beginning October 9, they will meet the second Sunday of the month in the parsonage. Mr. Douglas Ripley, advisor, has gotten the Leaguers off to a good start.

OUR WOMEN WILL MEET TO ORGANIZE

Monday, October 24, is the date for the organizational meeting of our ULCW. Invitations will be mailed to all women of the congregation. Plan now to get into this group right from the beginning.

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