



1950's

100 YEARS IN GOD'S GRACE
1922 - 2022

- Motion was made and carried in April of 1951 to begin to build and finance a new church building, total cost not to exceed \$150,000. An effort was made to raise \$40,000 within the congregation and friends.
- It was moved and carried to call a 2nd teacher in January of 1952. The congregation numbered 530 souls at this time.
- In March 1952 it was moved and carried to call Otto Blase as a 2nd teacher for \$1800/year. He would assist with the organ and choir. This was a one year call. Later that year, in August, he was also called as principal.
- Dedication of new church—May 25, 1952.
- Budget set for 1953 was \$12,200. This marked the beginning of the Budget Acct. practices that are still in place today - separating salaries, church services, pastor's office, day school expenses, property maintenance & operation expenses, financial program expenses.
- It was moved and carried in April of 1953 to use the WI Power Co.'s plan in building a kitchen for the basement.
- Budget set for 1954 was \$14,000. Salaries were: Pastor-\$3360, Teacher-\$2205, Teacher-\$2100, Organist-\$75, Janitor-\$660, Choir Director-\$100
- Budget set for 1955 was \$14,500
- Severe rains flooded the church property and flooded the parsonage basement which was being used as a garage. Subsequently the opening was closed, the area filled in and a new garage built alongside the parsonage.
- In May 1955, authorization was given to begin organizing a junior choir. (In 1/1956 authorization was given to buy choir robes for no more than \$50.)
- It was moved and accepted to charge school tuition for non-members - \$90 for 1st child and \$50 for 2nd child.
Ushers were assigned the duty of keeping track of attendance for each service.
- Dr. Thiele donated a safe for the church in January of 1956.
- It was recommended by the counsel and passed that a Stewardship Comm. be established to ascertain status of church attendance, communion and finances.

- In April of 1956 the decision was made to build a new garage, not to exceed \$1200. As mentioned before, the flood in 1955 damaged the garage and the furnace (under the parsonage). Garage was to be 14' X 22' and built 8' to 12' north of the parsonage.
- A Motion was made and carried, in October of 1956, that church pews for the balcony be purchased as money is available. (10/1957 - 8 pews were bought for \$671.) Budget for 1957 was approved at \$19,125. Church counsel's recommendation in regards to the usher staff was carried—there will be a Head and an Assistant Head Usher, six team captains, total of 6 men on each team.
- In April 1957 it was moved and accepted to charge school tuition for non-members - \$90 for 1st child and \$50 for 2nd child. Ushers were assigned the duty of keeping track of attendance for each service.
- Mr. Voigt was given permission to buy 2 softballs, 4 bats and 1 catcher's mask.
- Motion was made in October 1957 that two teachers be called, 1 new and 1 replacement. The 1958 budget was suggested in the amount of \$22,400. \$24,000 is to be considered in order to add a 3rd teacher. Rev. Paustian's salary \$3900, Mr. Voigt salary \$3250, Miss Gartner salary \$2430 and Janitor, Mr. Latzke, salary \$840. A committee was made to discuss a new school building.
- A lengthy discussion was held in January 1958 on whether to have two services rather than one. It was moved and carried to start an 8am and a 10am service after Easter (voted 34-7). Congregation accepted the counsel's recommendation to increase Pastor's salary to \$4000 and Voigt's salary to \$3450.
- A motion was made and carried in April 1958 that the counsel's recommendation be accepted to engage an architect for preliminary drawings for a new school at a cost of up to \$300. Counsel's recommendation was accepted to give Mr. Voigt a \$600 salary adjustment for housing.
- In April 1958 an electric frying pan was purchased for each of the teachers as a gift.
- Mrs. Hazel Paustian was hired as a temporary teacher on July 19, 1958. The SE portion of church basement was created as an extra school room.
- Proposed budget for 1959 was \$31,435. Salary increases were carried in January: Pastor \$400, Princ. \$200, Miss Kubec \$450, Mrs. Paustian \$150.
- On 4/1959 Mrs. Paustian was given a divine call to teach lower grades. Approved purchase of 39 extra desks from St. John's in Jefferson for \$25 Motioned and carried that the congregation purchase the property to the north of us, to the lake for up to \$10,000. A debt limit of \$60,000 was set for the new school building.
- In August of 1959 Fire extinguishers were purchased for the school as per recommendation of the Fire Chief.

St. Matthews Statistical Totals for this decade 1951 - 1960 from Annual Reports

Baptisms	Confirmations	Marriages	Deaths
233	179	49	54