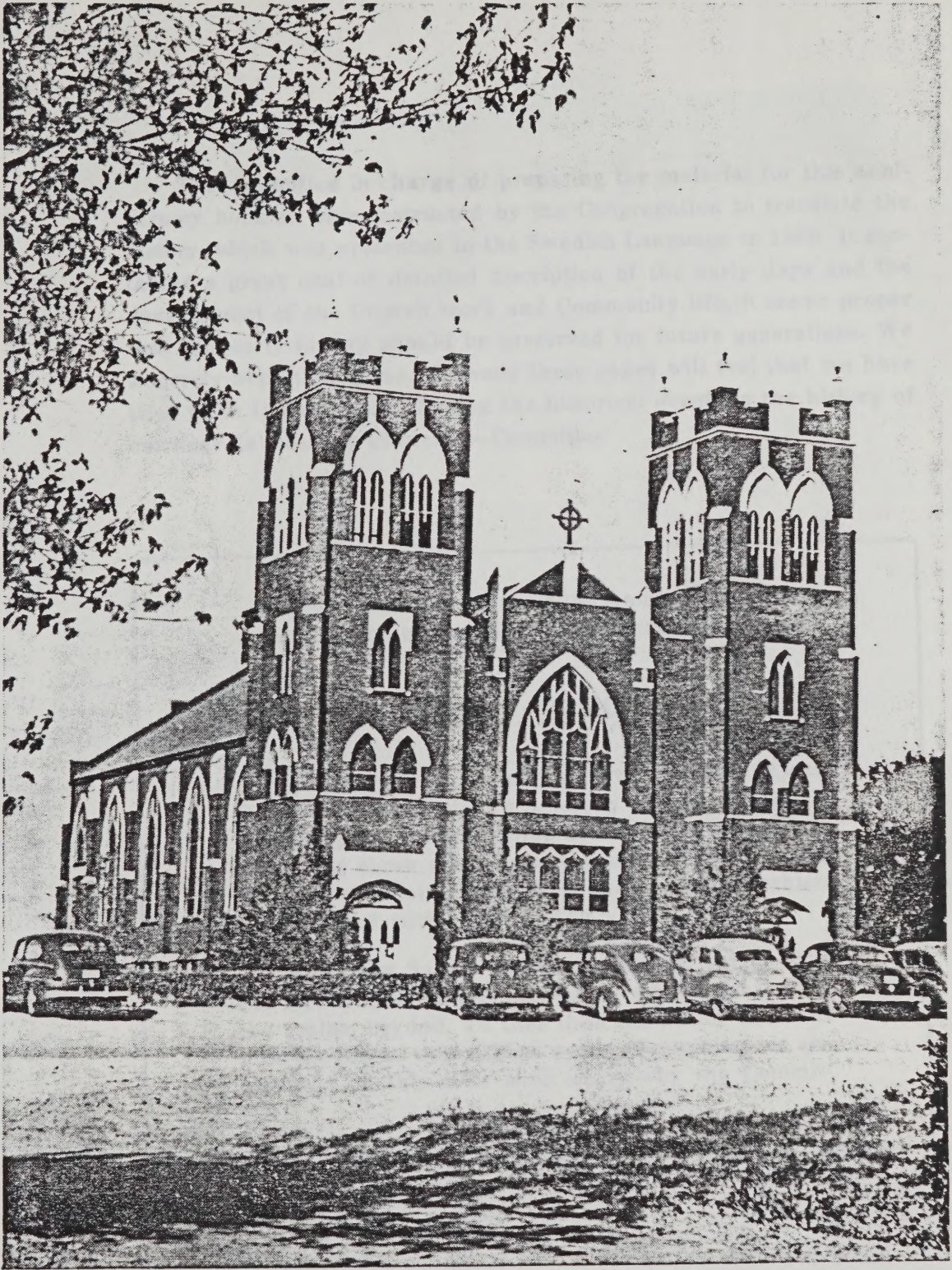


SALEMSBORG

(Saline co., KS)

1869 - 1959



PRESENT CHURCH

12180

1869-1959

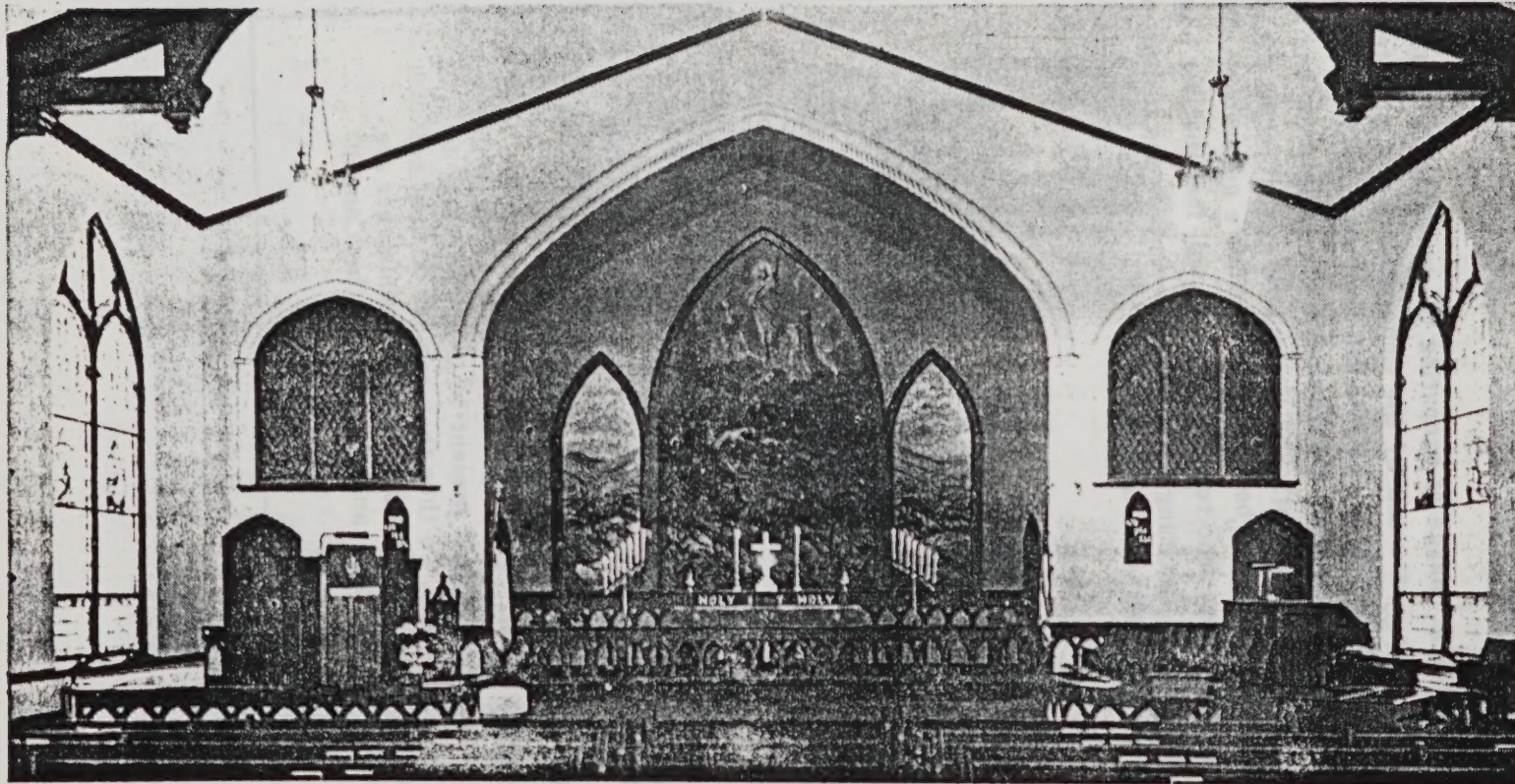
The committee in charge of preparing the material for this anniversary booklet were instructed by the Congregation to translate the history which was presented in the Swedish Language in 1909. It contained a great deal of detailed discription of the early days and the development of the Church work and Community life, it seems proper that this early history should be preserved for future generations. We sincerely hope that those who read these pages will feel that we have tried to be impartial in selecting the historical events in the history of our dear Salemsborg Church. —Committee

The translation of the 40th Anniversary Album
of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Salems-
borg.

1869-1959

O Thou of God implanted who hast passed through so many storms whereby the power which God has given to thy keeping has been revealed. Thou mother of three daughters who now are continuing the song of Praise unto "The Lamb of God" which they learned within thy portals.

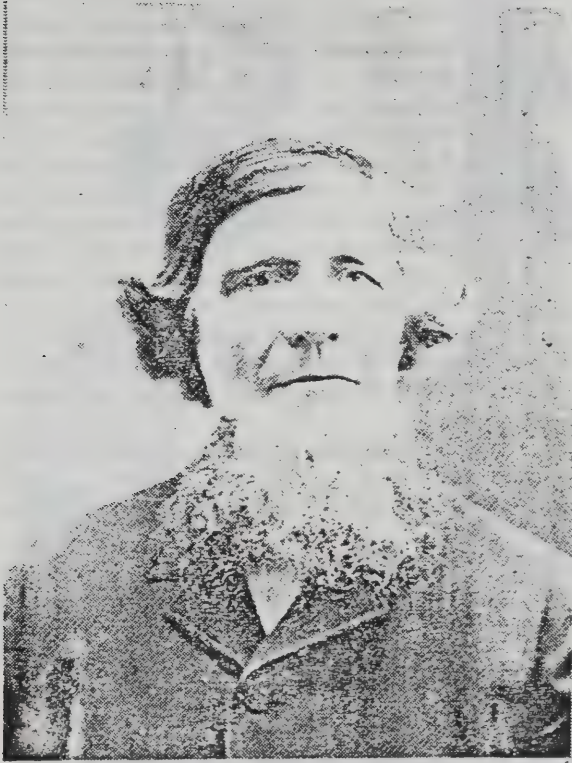
With thy Saints in Heaven and on earth, with the merciful Shepherd present to save and carry to the realms beyond, To thee thou servant of the Lord unto the end of time. These words of reminiscence are tendered on this 40th anniversary—by the Committee.



1869 — 1959

Booklet presented by the Salemsborg Evangelical Lutheran Church at the Ninetieth Anniversary.

1869-1959



Carl Jchan Brodine

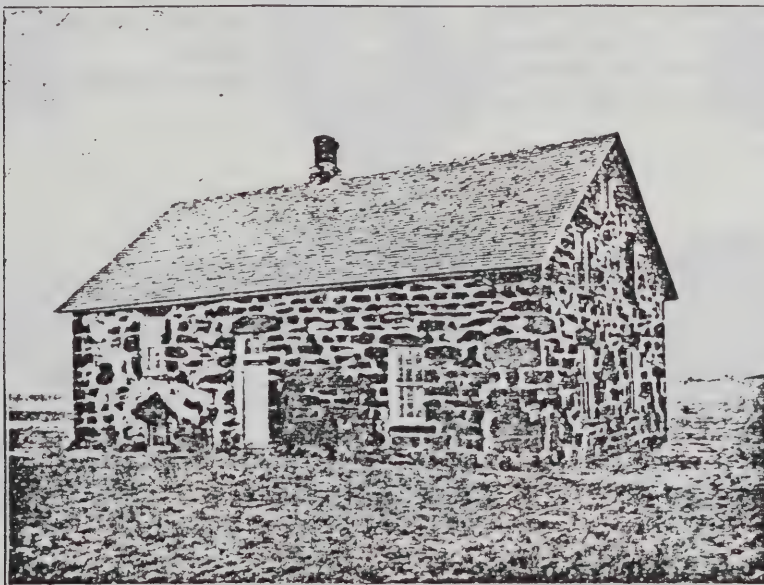
The first business meeting was held at the home of C. J. Brodine of June 16th, 1869. C. J. Brodine was elected chairman and J. W. Peterson Secretary. A large number of people of Swedish descent were present at this meeting which had been legally announced. The chairman asked those present if they were willing to organize a congregation and build a house of worship, the answer was a unanimous "YES".

At the first meeting and also at the second meeting June 24th, the question of a church constitution was neglected, undoubtedly the souls zeal for a place of worship came first in the minds of the pioneers.

A committee was elected to supervise the building of the first church, C. J. Brodine, A. Bohlund and O. H. Thorstenberg were the members of this committee. The first men to head the subscriptions for the building were John Ekholm, J. P. Hultman and John Holmberg.

The place selected for building of the church and parsonage was the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section Five Twp 16 Range 3W. Saline Co. This tract of land was purchased from the railroad company for \$2.50 per acre.

The first church building was a dug out forty feet long and twenty feet wide with a rock foundation on which to place the roof. The building site has remained the same through-



Home of C. J. Brodine

out the ninety years since the first plans were made. The sincere desire for a place of worship was proven in the fact that the work of building was begun within a week of the business meeting. Every one doing their best to complete the church where the true word of God was proclaimed and the Sacraments administered. On June 24th 1869 the name SALEMSBORG was selected for the pioneer congregation, which was to forever be a Evangelic Lutheran Church and Congregation.

From the original Swedish history we find that the dugout walls could not withstand the heavy rains which fell quite often. In Oct. 1869 the walls were rebuilt of stone. Often after a rain the shoes of the worshiping congregation became stuck in the clay floor. Salina being the nearest town, lumber and supplies for the church and homes were carried on the shoulders of men.

From the official minutes of meeting held Sept. 25, 1869 we read; after being duly announced this meeting was held to complete the organizing of the Salemsborg Congregation. The meeting opened with Scripture reading and prayer. Olof Peterson was elected chairman. Due to the absence of the secretary Carl H. Thorstenberg was elected sec'y pro tem. After being carefully considered the constitution for the congregation was adopted.

The first board of administration was elected.

Deacons for three years — C. J. Brodine and O. H. Thorstenberg.

Deacons for two years — A. Bohlund and L. M. Peterson.

Deacons for one year — A. Sandberg and A. Frost.

Trustee for three years — Olof Peterson.

Trustee for two years — Johan Ekholm.

Trustee for one year — S. P. Holmberg.

A decision was made to ask for admission to

the Augustana Synod at the next meeting of Synod. The meeting closed with prayer and Benediction.

On Sept. 30 a special business meeting was held for purpose of calling the first ordained minister for Salemsborg. By a unanimous vote Rev. A. W. Dahlsten was called as the Shephard for Salemsborg and Fremont congregations with the understanding that the ministers home be at Salemsborg. Rev. Dahlsten accepted the call and moved to Salemsborg a short time later.

The first Communion Services were held in the new church on Nov. 29, 1869, conducted by Pastor Dahlsten. Rev. Dahlsten served as pastor at the Salemsborg Church from 1869 until 1888, during which time many changes both within the church and community took place.

According to the church records the following were charter members of Salemsborg.

Carl Johan Brodin with wife and four children.

Anders August Jonas Sandberg with wife and five children.

Samuel Fredrik Johnson with wife and three children.

S. F. Eklund and wife.

S. Johan Thelander and wife.

Carl Fehr and wife.

Pastor Anders Wilhelm Dahlsten with wife and one child.

Sven Peter Holmberg and wife.

Anders Viktor Anderson.

Lars Magnus Thelander and wife.

Olof H. Thorstenberg and wife.

Carl Thorstenberg and wife.

Lars Peterson with wife and two children.

Olof Peterson and four children.

Johan Osterman and wife.

Begnt Hessler.

Johan Magnus Peterson with wife and two children.



Dugout Church

Johan Ekholm and wife.
 Lars Magnus Johnson.
 Gustaf Johnson and wife.
 Peter Sohlberg and wife.
 Lars Jacob Hederstedt.
 Anders Anderson Bohlund with wife and two children.
 Carl Frank and wife.
 Gustaf Wilhelm Haggstrand with wife and four children.
 Johan Hultman with wife and four children.
 Mrs. Christina Lovisa Holmquist.
 Johan Magnus Danielson with wife and four children.
 Jacob Peter Anderson with wife and six children.
 Israel Johnson with wife and three children.
 Johan Wilhelm Peterson and wife.
 Anders Ludvig Peterson with wife and two children.
 Nels Magnuson with wife and two children.
 Johan Johnson with wife and one child.
 Johannes Bergqvist and wife.
 August Mattson and wife.
 Johan Anderson Wahlstrom with wife and two children.
 Gustaf Nelson.
 Carl Johan Hallengren.
 Jacob Malmgren with wife and two children.
 Susanna Carolina Malmgren.
 August Lundgren with wife and one child.
 Gust Holmquist.
 August Frost with wife and six children.

The monetary subscription for the building fund for the church amounted to \$253.09 of which amount two thirds was donated by Americans of Salina. The building material bought for the church cost \$212.84. Perhaps those seemingly small amount of money were a greater sacrifice to the pioneers than the great sums which are part of our present time. On Nov. 7, 1869 a decision was made to build a parsonage, the house to consist of stone walls. A frame roof, the building to be 20 ft. long and fourteen ft. wide. A committee consisting of C. J. Brodine, O. H. Thorstenberg, Nels Magnuson and C. Frank was named to select the building site and supervise the construction of the parsonage.

At the business meeting Feb. 17, 1870 a decision was made that the church grounds should be a plot of ground 165 ft. square, west of this plot to the west road the cemetery was staked out. The same width as the church grounds. A committee was named to survey and plot these

grounds. Namely, Rev. A. W. Dahlsten, Johan Ekholm, C. J. Brodine, Lars M. Peterson and Olof Peterson. A committee was also selected to complete the subscription for the parsonage. Namely; August Sandberg, Lars Peterson, C. E. Carlson, Johan M. Danielson, Johan Bergqvist and Jacob Malmgren. A sum of \$225.19 was collected from Salemsborg and the Fremont congregations. Twenty three dollars from the Fremont congregation was later returned to them. It is interesting to note that each and every one contributed according to their means, the sum from 10c up to \$15.00, showing that all tried to do their part.

At the annual meeting April 19 1871, a decision was made to increase the pastors salary. Each family give three bushels of wheat or something of equal value. The monetary dues to be the same as last year. \$3.00 for man and wife. \$2.00 for single man and \$1.50 for unmarried women. These decisions added to debt which was of much concern for the congregation. The total debt of \$150 was large for that time and serious discussion how it could be liquidated, took up all the time at the annual meeting. The Deacons were instructed to solicit money for the debt and needed repairs. The donations were so generous that money was available for panels, and floor in the dugout church.

The church and the work in Gods Kingdom becomes of secondary importance for many people, who place the things of this world first, seeking to change the teaching of our "Lord". "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all things will be added unto you. This seemed to be the serious question at the annual meeting April 16th, 1872. When several members had neglected to do their part in supporting the work of the church. When such occasions arise decisions are often made which do not work out for the welfare of a congregation. At that time a decision was made to read the names of those who had done their part in supporting the work and also the names of those who for reasons other than sickness and poverty had neglected to do their part. This decision was rescinded at the next annual meeting.

During the first four years many business meetings were held and the annual meetings sometimes postponed until the month of April. This was changed at the annual New Years business meeting in 1873, when the decision to hold the annual business meeting, on Mon-

day following the first Sunday in January. This custom is still being followed at this time.

At the meeting in 1873, the Pastors salary was set at \$500., and one Sunday offering. This was the first time in Salemsborg, that the Pastors salary was set at a fixed sum. In 1873 Salemsborg had 600 members of which 300 were commucant members. The old sod church was now too small and the need for a larger church was the question for the congregation.

From the minutes of a special meeting held June 13, 1873, we read concerning the building of the second church. By a unanimous vote a decision was made to build a new church of lumber 60 ft. long and 35 ft. wide and 16 ft. high with four windows on each side. A subscription was taken at that meeting amounting to \$1,645. Three extra congregational meetings were held during 1873, to plan for the new church.

At the annual meeting Jan. 5th, 1874, the building committee consisting of Rev. A. W. Dahlsten, C. J. Brodine, M. L. Peterson, O. H. Thorstenberg, S. A. Gustafson, Johan Chellander and J. W. Peterson. Lars M. Thelander was

named supervisor for the stone quarry and J. W. Peterson was elected treasurer for the building fund. Several firms submitted blue prints and bids for the construction work for the building. Nels Magnuson received the contract for the foundation work. The firm of Norstrom and Anderson of Lindsborg held the contract for the building at a cost of \$459. The Pulpit, Altar, and benches were used from the first church. The work progressed rapidly and on Thanksgiving Day 1874 special services were held in the new church. The congregation now owned a new church, parsonage 160 acres of land, with an indebtedness of \$500. The total members was 602 of which 338 were confirmed members.

Until in January of 1875 the area belonging to Salemsborg consisted of some 170 sq. miles. Namely from three miles east of Assaria to two miles west of Falun and from seven miles north to three miles south of the church, this in part was necessary due to economic conditions of the pioneer people.

At the annual meeting Jan. 18, 1875 a message from the Southeast district read by C. H.



Salemsborgs Second Church

Thorstenberg asking permission to organize a new congregation at Assaria. In regard to the question raised by the Southeast District we read the following, "Since our Congregation in the present economic condition can barely support our church and pastor it is our sincere wish and desire that the southeast district remain a part of our congregation, and that the pastor conduct Sunday afternoon services in the southeast district and beyond the Smoky river as often as possible and that our members residing in that district avail themselves of the services in the Salemsborg church".

The following decision was made that neither our pastor or any pastor of the Augustana Synod be permitted to organize a congregation west of the smoky river in the southeast district. This decision was ignored by the people of that district and the Assaria congregation was organized Feb. 6, 1875. On May 6, 1875 the following message was sent to the Synodical meeting held in Vasa Goodhue Co. Minnesota. Our congregation has been informed that a large number of our members in the southeast district have organized a new congregation contrary to the plea and wishes of our congregation, and that they plan on sending a delegation to the Synodical meeting requesting membership in the Augustana Synod. We submit the following reasons for discouraging the organizing of the new congregation.

1. That we as pioneering people need each others help in supporting a church and pastor.
2. Being that the new church would be located only five miles from our church. Our congregation would extend only 2½ or 3 miles from the church.
3. Regarding the decision which our Synod made in 1870, concerning similar occasions we feel we are within our rights to protect the organizing of the new church.
4. As long as our church has room to spare we feel that a new congregation should not be organized within our boundries.
5. Because of the need for pastors in our Synod is so great, we feel it unwise to organize unneeded congregations. We have always felt that a new congregation could be started east of the smoky river.

Remarks: This new organization has not been started because of dissatisfaction with our pastor rather the contrary, the new church has asked that he might become their pastor. We recommended that further information con-

cerning local conditions be supplied by our Pastor.

The Assaria congregation asked for admittance into the Augustana Synod at this meeting but were not accepted on account of the above message, at the synodical meeting. Pastors Erland Carlson and O. Olson were elected to study the conditions of the Salemsborg and Assaria congregations. The committee together with the board of Administration from the two churches met in the Liberty twp. school house Sept. 11, 1875.

From the minutes kept at this important meeting which brought about a feeling of good will between the motherchurch and the daughter church, we read the following: The meeting opened with scripture reading—Galatians chapter five and prayer by Pastor Erland Carlson, after which he introduced the subject for discussion. Spoke of the sorrows caused by dissention within a congregation after which the following decision were unanimously adopted. That the members of both churches admit that they have sinned and erred in the handling of this congregational question. That the members of the new church through misunderstanding organized a congregation contrary to the decisions made at the annual meeting at Salemsborg.

To bring about a feeling of good will between the motherchurch and the new church the following decisions were made:

That the two churches shall be one parish served by the same Pastor.

Both congregations contributing to his support and the keeping of the parsonage which is to remain at Salemsborg.

When a pastor is to be called the boards of administration from both churches seek the name of a candidate to present to the congregations.

The meeting to be held at Salemsborg for the calling of a Pastor.

That neither congregation accept members from each other who have been excommunicated or those through dissatisfaction leave their church.

Neither congregation accept members from each other without common consent.

Both congregations agree on the set time for church services.

That all misunderstandings be forgiven.

That we in Christian love and fellowship work together for the welfare of the Church and the people of the community.

A freewill offering be taken in the Assaria congregation for the building fund for the Salemsborg church.

That the above decision can be changed only by common consent of both congregations and the above resolutions be ratified by both congregations, by unanimous vote this was done at Salemsborg Sept. 12, 1875 and at Assaria Sept. 14, 1875.

Salemsborg Sept 14, 1875

Erland Carlson—O. Olson
Committee

In 1876 we find three congregations united into one parish, namely; Salemsborg, Assaria and Salina. The Pastors salary was raised to \$900. of which Salemsborg paid \$550. Assaria \$250. and Salina \$100. Rev. Dahlsten served the Assaria congregation until the early part of 1883, after which time Pastor A. M. Le-Veau from Salina served at Assaria. After the misunderstanding at the time of the organization of the Assaria congregation were righted there seemed to be a spirit of unity between the two congregations. A decision made in 1879 reads as follows; If the Assaria congregation is will-

ing to help finance the finishing of the parsonage at Salemsborg, this congregation will repay all money to Assaria congregation when they build a parsonage. In 1880 one Sunday forenoon services was held at Assaria church each month.

The original parsonage at Salemsborg consisted of four small rooms was deemed to small for the pastors family. In 1877 a decision was made to build an addition onto the north side of the house 16 ft. wide and 28 ft. long and one and one half stories high. A building committee of three members was elected. Namely; Sven Bengston, M. Falk, and J. P. Carlson. The work of building was done by donated labor.

At this time 1877 we find the first decision regarding the planting of trees on the church property. That hedge shall be planted on all sides of the churchyard. One row of trees on the east side of the church and one row on the south, two trees per rod. The planting to be done this spring, and he who does the planting be responsible for keeping the rows clean and replace the trees which fail to grow for a



First Parsonage

period of four years. Swen Bengston got the contract for planting the trees at 95c per rod. In 1880 Mr. Bengston also got the contract for planting hedge, walnut and box elder trees on the church ground.

In the year 1881 the congregation was divided into six districts, namely; Church district, Southeast, Northeast, Elm Creek, Northwest and Southwest districts. This plan is still being followed, we present a map showing the boundaries of the various districts and the location of Salemsborg, Assaria Smolan, and Falun Churches. Up to this time the deacons of the church had collected the membership dues, now it was delegated to the trustees, to gather the funds. This practice is still being followed. In the beginning the money was collected every two months and those who had not paid their share were visited in March, September, and December. Now the trustees collect the funds twice a year April 1st and October 1st. In December the board of administration met to elect a committee to visit those who have not paid their dues. In 1881 the audited report of the financial treasure was incorporated in the sec'y minutes. The first auditors report follows; We the elected auditors have examined the treasurers account for 1880, and find the income to be \$1,231.38 and the expenditure \$1,168.01 leaving a balance of \$63.37 and we find all accounts well kept.

The same year a decision was made to build a tenants house on the church farm, the house to be 14 ft. wide and 22 ft. long. The young men of the congregation dug the cellar and set the stone foundation. J. P. Carlson dug the well and walled up the stone for \$1.00 per foot.

The out buildings were erected by the trustees and other members of the congregation in 1882. The land was rented, the congregation was to receive one third of the crops and pay one third of the threshing expense. The following year the farm was rented for cash rent \$1.50 per acre. John Holcomb rented the farm under a five year contract. In 1892 the barn on the church farm was built, 24 ft. long and 18 ft. wide and 12 ft. high.

At a special business meeting Oct. 2, 1882 a decision was made to try to clear up the congregation debt. S. Bengston and Johan Thorsenberg were elected to visit all the homes in the congregation. The following decision was made that those who do not have cash when the committee visit their homes may put their names and the amount they will give on a list.

However we feel that each and every one will do their best to help in this important work. The committee gathered \$988.55. The goal was attained and the minutes of 1883 show that the congregation was without debt and in 1884 the congregation decided to loan out \$300.

In Nov. 1883 Pastor A. W. Dahlsten tendered his resignation to the congregation. This was contrary to the wishes of the people we see by the following; Because of Pastor Dahlsten resignation to the Deacons of the church which was read to the congregation Nov. 2. The chairman C. J. Brodine asked the congregation to by standing vote express their wishes, whether to accept or decline the resignation. The majority in favor of declining the resignation was so great that the number was not counted.

Early in the history of the congregation we felt the importance of keeping the good old customs from the homeland in regard to that which might enhance the thoughts of worship among the pioneers.

In 1882, we read:

The Church bell shall ring at 8, 9, and 11 o'clock in the forenoons on Sundays and Holidays.

On Saturdays and eves of special holidays at 6 P. M. during the summer and at sundown during the winter months.

Tolling of the bell at all funerals.

In 1883 a decision was made that when services were held during week days the bell would ring one hour before and at the beginning of the worship hrs. Many other old customs were observed; Weddings, Baptisms were held in the Church. If possible funeral services were held Sundays before the regular services.

With one exception the ringing of the bell follows the same order as the original, the 9 o'clock ringing has been omitted.

The bell was donated by the Young Peoples Society in 1881 and bears the following inscription.

On the one side; Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Salemsborg organized in 1869 under U. S. Grants administration. This Bell is placed here during President J. Garfields and Governor J. P. St Johns term of office. Salemsborg Kansas. 1881 A. W. Dahlsten Pastor.

On the other side the following words; "Come let us go up to the house of the Lord for the hour is coming in which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth, they that have done good unto the resurrec-

tion of life and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation". John 5 28-29.

The bell was cast by the Clinton H. Meneely Bell Co. Troy New York 1881.

The caretaker of the cemetery has been a problem many times as people have different ideas about caring for the family graves, and many of our departed members have no relatives near by who can come to our cemetery. In the year 1880 the first cemetery board was elected, namely O. Peterson, M. Falk and L. P. Nelson. At this meeting the south west $\frac{1}{4}$ of the cemetery grounds was set aside for free graves and the south east part, which was not taken. Single grave space was sold for \$1.00 per grave. The part set aside for free graves has since been sold as lots and we now have no free lots. The committee was instructed to sell lots, give deeds, and collect all unpaid money.

In 1881 a decision was made that one third of the money received should be used in caring for the cemetery, one third to be placed in a permanent fund for the same purpose and one third should go to the Congregation treasury. This division of funds has since been changed, much to the loss in the keeping of the cemetery. The following changes have been made, that the cemetery board may call on members of Salemsborg to help in keeping the cemetery beautiful, at the annual business meeting in 1909, it was decided that \$1.00 per lot should be paid by each owner to the cemetery board and that help should be hired to keep the cemetery in order. Hope this will work out for the best that our cemetery may be kept beautiful. Before we leave the subject we quote the following decision made in 1883, that no one who is not a member of our congregation may purchase a cemetery lot, but they may buy a single grave in the section designated for that purpose.

Early in the history of our church the Congregation began to sell lots to those who wished to build a home near the church. In 1880 a lot south of the cemetery to L. A. Swedlund who had a home and blacksmith shop there. O. Peterson who was a teacher and janitor of our church built his home east of Swedlunds lot. The congregation made the mistake of not continuing the sale of lots. Many who might have located close to our church were forced to move to Lindsborg or other surrounding towns. In 1902 a decision was made to again sell lots and sixteen acres of the church farm was set aside for this purpose. That each lot contain one

acre and no person be allowed to buy more than two lots that only members of our church be permitted to own lots and the price of the lots was set at \$50 per lot. The lots were to be sold along the west road, four lots south from the cemetery and next four east of them. The streets to be 40 ft. wide and the trustees to take care of the funds and only the interest on same be used for congregational expenses.

Olof Carlson who for many years was janitor at the Church bought two lots south of Carl Sandbergs house, which as the old Iwedlund property and built a house there. East of Carlson, S. A. Hammer bought two lots and built a home there and retired from the farm. South of Olof Carlsons lots an acre lot was set aside for the Salemsborg Farmers Telephone Co. this lot to be used by said company as long as the central office was kept there.

The secretary for the Telephone Co., is Abraham Thelander. He has contributed the following history of the company. The first telephone line came to Salemsborg from Salina and was erected by the Salina Telephone Co. Another line from Assaria to Salemsborg was also put up by the same Co. Those who desired connections with these lines paid \$15 per year, which seemed to expensive. Much discussion was held, some wished to erect private lines, and some thought that each school district should have its own telephone system. A public meeting was held at Salemsborg Nov. 30, 1904 when all who were interested were given the privilege of expressing their opinion. The chairman at the meeting was C. O. Kampe. Dec. 7, 1904 a second meeting was held, when it was decided to organize "The Salemsborg Farmers Telephone Co., The next meeting was held Jan. 6, 1905 when it was decided to incorporate the Co. and build a central office in Salemsborg.

A committee was elected to secure stockholders and material was purchased to build lines. On April 18, 1905 the company began its telephone service with 132 stockholders and within a year the company had grown to over 200 members with free exchange to Assaria, Brookville, and Lindsborg. Each share of stock cost \$34 and maintenance fee of three dollars per year.

The first annual business meeting of the telephone Co. was held at Salemsborg Jan. 6, 1906. Here it was decided to build the central house on the lot which the church had designated for that purpose, the cost of the building came to \$1,000. In 1908 free exchange with

Bavaria was established, the company now has over 250 telephones. Has free exchange with the before mentioned companies with the exception of Lindsborg, Kansas. Carl F. Brodine and family have managed the central office since the companies beginning. Mr. Brodine passed away Nov. 25, 1908. Mrs. Brodine and family have been in charge of the central since that time.

The following have served as officers of the Co.

- C. O. Kampe, President, 1904—1906.
- C. O. Larson, President, 1907.
- Ebbie Sundgren President, 1908—1909.
- C. A. Carlson, vice-president, 1907—1908.
- Carl E. Magnuson, vice-president, 1909.
- Abraham Thelander, Secretary, 1904—1909.
- A. W. Miller, Treasurer, 1904—1909.

The following is a report of income for the Company.

1905	\$ 5,800.35
1906	\$ 3,412.06
1907	\$ 2,412.28
1908	\$ 1,932.48

The Salemsborg Farmers Telephone is considered one of the best rural Co. serving a large area of mostly people of Swedish descent and others living with in our area. An annual telephone picnic has been held in the Salemsborg park where speakers from near and far have appeared on the program. The first directors of the Co. were J. A. Anderson C. O. Kampe, Abraham Thelander, S. V. Pihl, C. Lindstrom, Joseph Berquist, C. O. Larson, A. V. Nywick, C. E. Lagerstrom, Gus Ekwall and A. W. Miller.

An elderly couple were known as blind Nelsons, because Mr. Nelson had lost his eyesight. They had built a house on a lot belonging to the congregation. From the minutes of a meeting held in 1886 we read; A motion for a legal contract between the trustees of the church and Olof Nelson and wife was read and accepted, under this contract the congregation promised to provide the necessities of life for the Nelsons and after their passing to come into possession of the home which they had built on the congregations lot. This house to be used only to house homeless, or destitute members of the congregation. One member in each district was named to see that Nelsons had what they needed in this life. Olof Nelson passed away July 15, 1891 and Mrs. Nelson Dec. 21, 1895. The house was sold to Mrs. Carolina Brodine for \$101 and moved to the J. A. Nelson

farm one mile north of the church.

In 1885 a decision was made to build a barn at the parsonage grounds, the barn to be 18 ft. wide and 24 ft. high with a side shed 18 ft. long and 6 ft. high on the low side. From the minutes of a meeting held in 1886 we read the following; That a free will offering be taken for the barn. A committee consisting of Carl G. Lindholm, Lars M. Thelander, Gustaf Gabrielson, C. Hallengren, Maria Olson and Peter Anderson was selected to receive this offering.

From the minutes of 1886, we read; The congregation finds it necessary to cope with a situation that has arisen within the congregation for many years. A disagreeable custom has been practiced by some young people and even older people in coming to a place where a wedding is held, creating a disturbance through rowdy noises and drunkenness, paying no attention to the friendly warnings of the Pastor and Deacons and leading to worry and shame for our community. The following resolutions were passed;

As the congregation deem the above named habits as sinful and destructive to the community, no person with honor and Christian bearing can partake in such gatherings. That it behoves parents and others in authority to discourage gatherings and the giving of intoxicating liquors. Among the people at such gatherings are illegal and the greatest cause for the disturbances and should not be allowed, That we use all means at our disposal to combat this evil. These resolutions were adopted by a standing vote. The resolutions resulted in ending the evil much to the happiness of the congregation and the Pastor.

Whensoever all members of a congregation are not equally endowed with worldly goods, according to the words of our Lord "The rich and poor must live in the same community", it seemed wise to place the members into different classes as far as communicant dues are concerned so in 1886 a committee consisting of Rev. A. W. Dahlsten, J. A. Applequist, Johan G. Peterson, S. N. Hedquist and A. W. Johnson was selected to present this list at the annual meeting in 1887. The report was presented Jan. 3, 1887, but was tabled until the annual meeting Jan. 7, 1889 when the following decision was made. That the communicant dues be divided into three classes. The first classification is \$7.00 for man and \$5.00 for woman or \$12 for married couples. To this group belong all those who have received from

God means and who out of love volunteer to belong to this class. The second group, \$6.00 for man and \$4.00 for woman, \$10.00 for married couples, to this group belong all who are able and willing to contribute these amounts.

The third group \$4.00 for man and \$3.00 for woman and \$7.00 for married couples this includes all who feel that they can not belong to the first two groups.

The following resolutions are deemed necessary:

That the membership dues be paid semi-annually.

That those who out of poverty cannot contribute their share, shall present a written request to be excused.

The Board of Administration shall meet in December to receive all excuses and valid excuse in evident to cancel the unpaid part of the dues.

If anyone is in arrears for two years and has not asked for or received excuse from the Deacons, that person shall be considered lost to the congregation and excommunicated.

That the trustees shall see and warn anyone at least two months before they are dropped from the membership roles.

The membership classification for church dues continued until the annual meeting in 1906 when the following dues were set \$10.00 man and wife. \$5.00 for single men and \$4.00 for single women.

On Nov. 17, 1887 a special congregational meeting was called to consider two sorrowful questions. The first Pastor who had served this congregation for so many years had presented his resignation and declined to re-consider it. A minister Pastor J. Wickstrand from Swedona Illinois was unanimously called by a vote of 90 members.

Several members from the southwest district presented the following request.

"To the Board of Administration of the Salemsborg Lutheran Church we the undersigned members of Salemsborg respectfully request permission to leave this congregation and together with other people organize a Swedish Lutheran Congregation in Falun, Kansas, Saline Co.

Johan Englund.

M. P. Neywick and family.

August Forslund.

Ellen Peterson.

Johan A. Nordstrom.

A. W. Lindell.

Sven J. Anderson.

Peter Forslund and wife.

Sofia Lindstrom.

L. J. Anderson.

Amanda Anderson.

P. A. Engdahl.

Emma Englund.

Johan E. Forslund and wife.

Johan Peterson.

J. A. Forslund.

Emma Christina Nordstrom

Lovisa Lindell.

Frank A. Anderson.

Peter Swanson Englund and family.

C. G. Anderson and family.

Carolina Anderson.

Per Adolf Anderson.

A decision was made to grant the request and that those members who were leaving were not to solicit members from the Salemsborg congregation. The Falun congregation was organized in 1888 and was the second daughter congregation from Salemsborg. No serious misunderstanding resulted and the two congregations parted in peaceful and friendly spirits.

The statistical report in 1888 reads:

Salemsborg—Communicant members	525
Total members	750
Assaria—Communicant members	280
Total members	530
Falun—Communicant members	120
Total members	200

Because Pastor Wikstrand had declined the call from the Salemsborg Congregation a special meeting was held Jan. 16, 1888 because of the uncertainty at this meeting no decision was reached, at an adjourned meeting held Jan. 29, 1888. Pastor C. Wallen from Fremont Iowa was called by a unanimous vote. Pastor C. Wallen accepted the call and had his first sermon in Salemsborg May 19, 1888.

Rev. Dahlsten moved from Salemsborg to Georgetown, Colo. in the Spring of 1888.

Thus we have passed through the early history of the congregation and have seen the outward struggles and the growth of the church. This alone is not enough for a history of a congregation. One would like to look into the spiritual conditions, it is unfortunate that no minutes from the Board of Administration are available from that time. We have gathered these thoughts from the minutes of the Congregational secretary. We also have the pleasure of including a personal account of the Spiritual strivings during the early part of

Pastor A. W. Dahlstens long term of service as the first Pastor of the Salemsborg Lutheran Congregation.

A motion was carried to pay \$40.00 per year to the custodian of the church and furthermore it shall be his duty with the help of the congregation to keep all dogs out of the Church. If any dog is found in Church it shall be the duty of the trustees to assist in getting the dog out.

Another motion the following year the custodians salary be \$40 per year with the same privilege as the preceding year. A voice from a congregational meeting "I move that we kill the committee and combine the money of the different treasuries." Comment; The committee in question was the building committee and the general fund of the congregation. A comment from the tract committee "Nothing on this side nothing on that, of nothing God created the earth." That is the contents of the tract committee report at this time. When we look back at the year just past we find a great deal of lethargy in reading good books and spreading tracts. It is very likely that soon the collection plate will be used. It would be encouraging to see 25 and 50c contributions as the plate is passed. May the tract committee be supported and given something to do.

Two debates were held at different times Resolved; That the common lawyer is a nuisance. The affirmative side won.

Resolved; The grasshoppers has done greater damage than the lightning rod agent. The grasshoppers were considered to have done the least damage because they left after two years, That could not be said about the lightning rod agents.

The following history of events occurred during the pastorate of Dr. Walleen during the vacancy due to Dr. Dahlstens resignation, Mr. C. J. Brodine conducted services for which he received an offering and \$25.00 from the congregations treasury. The concern for Missions seems now to become vital to the congregation. This is as it should be. At the annual meeting Jan. 7, 1889 it was decided to lift an offering in January and two additional offerings later in the year for missions. The deacons were given the responsibility of soliciting subscriptions for this holy cause.

The pastoral report for the year 1890 contained the following excerpts from the treasurers report. The contribution to Missions; Conference Childrens Home \$91.00; Utah Mission \$39.20; Congregation in Los Angeles \$15.08;

Inner Missions \$254.83. Total \$400.11.

Contributions to Missions and ways and means to raise and disburse them vary from year to year depending on conditions that are constantly changing.

In 1900 Pastor Walleen was elected treasurer of the Mission funds, which office he held until 1908.

From the pastoral report of 1901 we read the following; The undersigned was appointed by the board of administration to be responsible for the soliciting of funds according to the decision of the Conference. How successful this ingathering was this report will reveal. Praise be to God that the Spirit of Missions is very much alive in Salemsborg. A sincere thanks to all who contributed \$442.89 to this worthy cause. In 1909 the Pastor with an assistant treasurer were elected to serve as treasurers of the Mission Fund. According to the present rules, part of the money for Missions shall be taken out of the general fund, the remainder to be raised by festivals, offerings, or contributions. Mission contributions for 1908 were suggested by the Synod and Conference to be \$1.03 per Communicant member.

At a special congregational meeting in 1889, a committee was elected to investigate and report on needed repairs on the Church building. Members of this committee were: Pastor C. Wallen, S. N. Hedquist, L. A. Larson, W. B. Bengtson and N. O. Carlson. A special meeting was held September 12th 1889. After the Committee's report the following conclusions were reached.

a. That some minor repairs be made and in three years a new Church be built. That money for building of new church be given by yearly subscriptions, thus avoiding the more costly way of building on credit.

b. That subscriptions be free will.

c. That subscriptions be made in five yearly payments.

d. That the first installment be made before the first of next March and the following payments be made before March 1st yearly.

e. That Pastor C. Walleen and C. J. Brodine solicit subscriptions to be in hand at next annual meeting.

f. That anyone not able to pay cash be allowed to give a note not to run more than three years at a rate of 6 per cent interest.

According to the year 1890 report from the subscription committee that the sum of \$9645 has been subscribed. At this annual meeting

it was decided that Pastor Walleen, C. J. Brodine, the trustees and one man from each church district constitute a committee, to handle the subscribed money as it was paid. This committee was to be held responsible for any and all money paid in, one for all and all for one. The committee was given authority to use said money to the best advantage in the building program without any suggestions from the congregation.

At the 1892 annual meeting it was decided the subscription committee should not be held responsible for money lost through bank failures. It was decided to go ahead and contact contractors for the building of the Congregations third church. The subscription committee continued its work until Oct. 1892. On the third of October a special meeting was called. The announcement for this meeting reads as follows: "All members of the Salemsborg Evangelical Lutheran Congregation are hereby called to attend a special meeting at the Church Monday, Oct. 17th at 10:00 A.M. to discuss the following matters.

1. When to start the actual building.
2. How and where shall it be built.
3. What material to be used in the building.
4. Blueprints, specifications, etc.
5. Shall the work be let on contract or shall carpenters be hired.
6. Any other matters deemed necessary discuss.

Respectfully C. D. Hultman, Sec'y.

The special meeting was held on the above date. The following decisions were reached.

1. That the report of the subscription committee be received and studied item by item.
2. That in the name of our Lord, a new church be built next year. A voice vote was taken but it was decided to take a standing vote. The decision was 78 for and 14 against. The minority wished to postpone building for two years.
3. That the church be built after the old plan 84 in favor and 2 against.
4. That the Church be built of wood.
5. That the church front face toward the east. 48 yes—27 no.
6. That the Church be built in the center of the plot east and west, the same distances from north, and south boundries.
7. That the dmensions be 80 by 50 ft. with twenty foot walls in Gothic style.

8. That a balcony be built on three sides, two thirds of the length of the Church.
9. That three large windows be placed in the front of the Church, one in the tower and one on each side of it. The number of other windows required be left to the decision of the architect.
10. That light colored window glass be used.
11. That there be one large door in front and one on each side wall subject to the architects approval.
12. That the dimensions of the tower be 16 by 16 feet extending 8 ft. out from the main building.
13. That the Church floor slope forward so that all may see.
14. That the Church be plastered on the inside.
15. That the organ be placed on one side and the pulpit on the other side of the altar.
16. That a basement be placed under the entire building six feet over and six feet under ground.
17. That the stone for the Church be taken from the Smoky Hills.
18. That the members of the congregation do all the digging and hauling for the building.
19. That the old Church be moved when the building committee finds it necessary so that preparations can be made as soon as possible.
20. That the building be let on contract, the cost not to exceed \$10,000 when the basement walls are laid and the exterior is finished.
21. The following were elected members of the building committee: Pastor C. Walleen, A. P. Ryden, A. F. Ryding, W. O. Bengston, C. O. Hultman Erik Bohlund, C. F. Lagestrom, Hans Larson, L. J. Larson, S. A. Miller, Mels Beck, A. Martinson, Gust Malmgren, Robert N. Johnson, Ed. Nelson, C. A. Carlson, J. A. Nelson N. O. Carlson, and Henry Hanson. The executive committee of the building committee to be composed of Pastor Wallen, chairman; C. O. Hultman, vice chairman; Robert N. Johnson, Sec'y; and W. O. Bengston, Treasurer.

In the report of the building committee Jan. 2, 1893 we find the following suggestions for changes in the Church building.

Some changes in the congregations decisions



The Spire Church

seem necessary and can be made without deviating from the original plan. That the gable that have been planned on the roof for the large windows be eliminated because of the cost of nearly \$500. These windows can still be of sufficient size.

That laying level floor from back to front would also save considerable money. The contractor considers this unnecessary because the Chancel will be three feet higher than the sanctuary floor. If any further changes will be necessary the balconies on the sides may be taken away and if in the future it would be deemed necessary they could be installed. A cost estimate of \$7614 was made by E. G. Peterson. A cost estimate of \$550 for laying of the basement walls. The total sum in \$8164. Sand may be had at Lindsborg for 50c per load and stone from S. A. Holt for 10 or 15c per load. Promises of labor and hauling have been received.

Salemsborg Dec. 29, 1892 by building committee C. Walleen—Chairman. The Congregation accepted the changes suggested by the committee, regarding windows, floors and balconies. The corner stone for the new Church was laid May 3, 1893. Dr. Erland Carlson conducted the ceremonies before a large assembly. The following articles were placed in the corner stone; Copies of Augustana (organ of Synod), Childrens Friend, and Olive Leaf (Childrens papers), the Synod and Conference minutes for 1892 the Constitution of the Congregation, History written by A. W. Dahlsten, Statistics by C. Walleen during his pastorate, the following political papers were included; Nya Hemlandet, and Republican Journal. The following pictures were included; Pastor A. W. Dahlsten and wife, Pastor C. Walleen and wife, pictures of the building committee members and various coins, etc.

The church was built during the summer of 1893. At a special meeting of the congregation held Nov. 16, 1893, the following decisions were reached.

1. That a committee be appointed to secure hymn boards.
2. That the old church be torn down and all usable material be used to finish the basement in the new church, any remaining material to be sold at public auction.
3. That a committee be appointed to level the grounds around the church and lay sidewalk in front.

4. That the basement be divided into two rooms, installing a floor and ceiling in the east room.
5. That the walls of the east room of the basement be plastered.

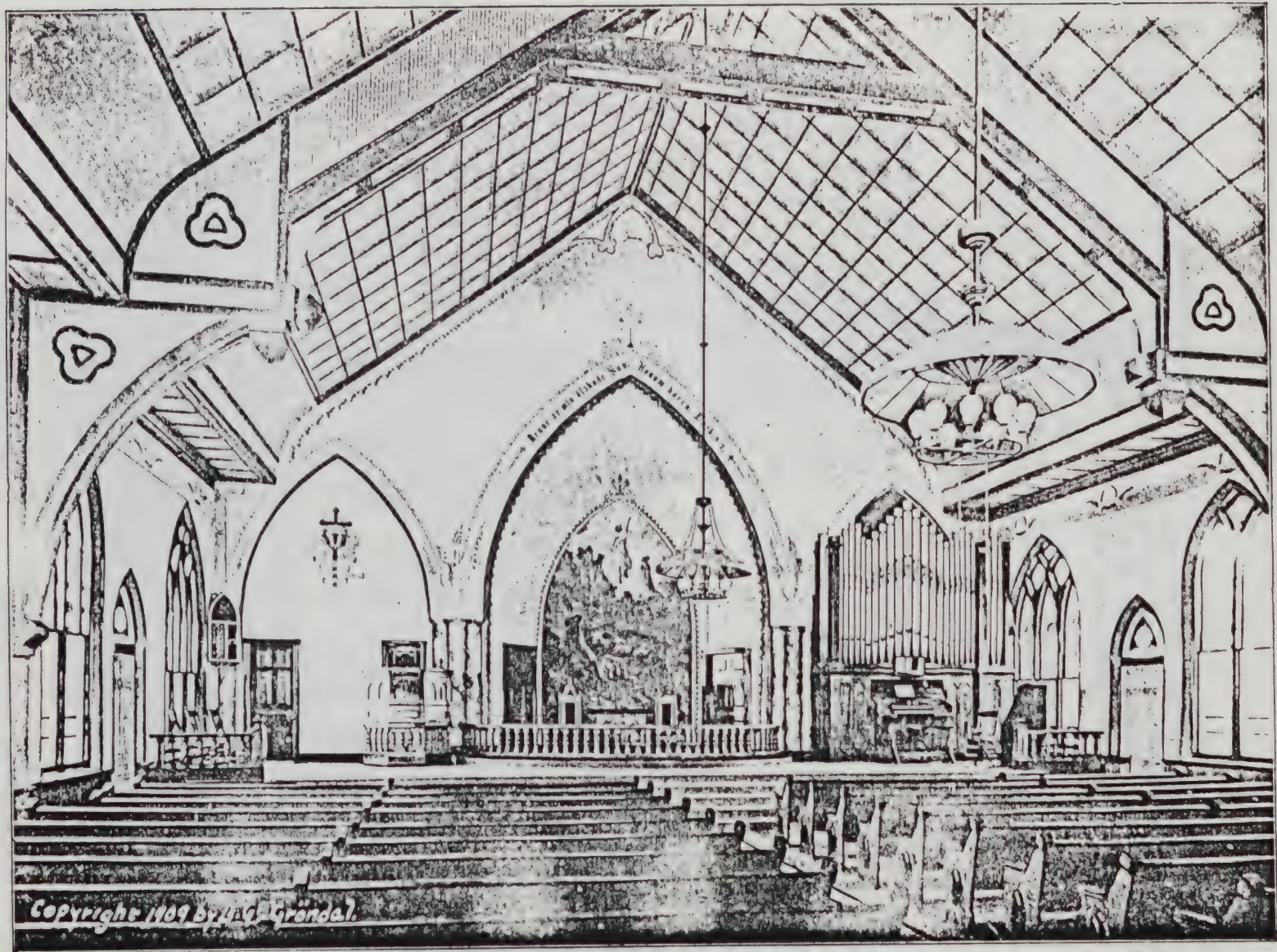
The building committee's, Sec'y and Treas. for 1894 hereby submit a full report concerning the building. Of their efforts, their sacrifices, and victories, we hereby render these reports in full.

Secretary's Report:

Honorable Chairman and Congregation, during the time this committee has been active, twenty three meetings and many minor meetings have been held. We have tried to the best of our ability to carry out the wishes of the congregation. Two contracts have been let for the work, the first laying of the basement walls to L. J. Holmgren for \$550. The second for building and completion of the church to Crawford and Breeze for the sum of \$7412. Both of these contracts have been completed satisfactorily. I hereby wish to mention that the committee had accepted Peter Colsets bid for the building but a few days later the sad news came that he had died. This created a great difficulty but with God's help this was overcome. Three vacancies on the committee have arisen but have been filled. G. N. Beck resigned and Gustaf Anderson was appointed in his place. A. Martinson died and G. Sweedlund was appointed. W. O. Bengston left the community. He was not only a committee member but also its esteemed treasurer. S. A. Miller was appointed to fill his place. Andrew Johnson of the southeast district was also made a member. The building committee has had much work and many worries but also much joy and support. The biggest worry has been the collection of money because of the hard times which still concern us but even in this we have reason for Thanksgiving to God and the congregation members. Our success had been better than we had hoped for. It has been everything has been done in love and unity. The committee members have as a whole been encouraging that at all meetings of planning united in viewpoint. Unity gives strength. This has lightened the common burden considerably. The following will show this labor and sacrifice through out the year.

CHURCH DISTRICT:

mans labor	176 ½ days
hauling	84 days



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Interior — Spire Church

NORTH EAST DISTRICT:
 mans labor 57 days
 hauling 83 days

ELM CREEK DISTRICT:
 mans labor 86 days
 hauling 45 days

NORTH WEST DISTRICT:
 mans labor 37 days
 hauling 40½ days

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT:
 mans labor 53½ days
 hauling 36½ days

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT:
 mans labor 67 days
 hauling 68 days

DONATION NOT LISTED:
 BY DISTRICT: mans labor 44 days
 hauling 9 days

Salemsborg, Kansas, Jan. 8, 1894.
 Respectfully, Robert N. Johnson,
 Sec'y of the building Committee.
 Treasurers Report:

Honorable chairman and members of the congregation, the following is the building committee's report from 1890 to 1894.

Receipts:
 Subscriptions \$ 7,495.00
 Ceiling tin 400.00
 Gold paint for tower 41.85
 Frisco painting in Church 198.50
 Confirmation Class for window 111.40
 Sunday School Children for
 window 100.00
 C. J. Soderberg, window 75.00
 W. O. Bengtson, window 50.00
 F. O. Ostenberg, window 25.00
 Mrs. A. Frost, window 25.00
 Small children, pulpit 50.00
 Interest 485.00
 Two offerings 50.49
 Olof Nelson, cash in place of work 25.00
 Band 2.10
 P. W. Swenson, cash in place of
 work 10.00
 Jacob Malmgren, cash in place of
 work 5.00
 Anders Swedberg, cash in place of
 work 5.00
 Chas. Gustafson, cash in place of
 work 5.00
 Kansas Lumber Co. 2.00
 Savings through changes made in
 plans 20.00
 Insurance 6.50
 Borrowed money 1,525.00

Lumber sold 10.85
 \$ 10696.41

Disbursements:
 Work and material \$ 963.49
 Crawford and Breeze 8,164.64
 Miscellaneous 1,383.58
 Total disbursements 10,511.71
 Bal. in Treasury 184.70

Total \$ 10,696.41
 Resources outstanding:
 Subscriptions not collected \$ 2,245.00
 Notes for lumber sold 216.40
 In Treasury 184.70

Total Resources \$ 2,646.10
 Borrowed money \$ 1,525.00
 Due to A. W. Krause for furnace 300.00

Total debt \$ 1,825.00
 Resources over and above debt 821.10

Respectfully, S. A. Miller, Treas.

The pews were purchased by the young people organization for \$567.28. Installation of the pews cost \$17.10. Chairs were purchased for \$21.65. The gas lights were installed by the Dorcas Society which also supplies oil for the same. The contract with Crawford and Breeze which was accepted May 15th was completed and accepted Oct. 30th. The congregation held its first service in the new Temple in November 1893. It is 88 feet long, 50 feet wide and 39 feet floor to ceiling at the highest point. The tower is 152 feet high. The Temple is well built, beautiful and impressive. It was dedicated with much festivity to God's service on Oct. 2, 1898 by the Conference President Pastor C. Walleen. A large crowd was present. The Church was at this time free of debt. The total cost was \$17,000. Every member of the congregation, from the gray haired man or woman to the child of six, has worked willingly. This working together can work miracles through faith in our Lord Jesus. All such congregations shall receive God's richest blessings.

In the Spring of 1885 an organ society was formed. From the minutes of 1886 the Salemsborg Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Organ Society reports, Honored congregation, according to the society's rules, I hereby submit the following: The society was organized last Spring with the congregations approval. Its function is to raise money for a pipe organ

when a new church is built. It has had two meetings during the year and plans to give concerts and accept free will offerings to increase our fund which now stands at \$232. The society's treasurer is Otto Carlson. The funds shall be handled by the treasurer of the congregation who will be responsible for the loan of the organizations money. A. W. Dahlsten, Chairman, Jan. 11, 1886.

The following is a resume of the society's finances from 1886 to 1893.

1886	\$232.00
1887	no report
1888	\$686.12
1889	\$768.59.....
1890	\$908.72
1891	\$1,056.74
1892	\$1,178.03
1893	\$1,373.17

The organ was purchased from the Jacobson Pipe Organ Co., Chester Illinois. It was installed in 1894. The total cost was \$1800.

Pastor's report for 1895 contained the following: The organ society has reached its goal by placing a pipe organ in the designed place. It cost \$1800. There is still a deficit before the beautiful instrument is fully paid for. The congregation owes these men sincere thanks for the success of this undertaking. The society functioned for a number of years following 1893. The treasurer during the entire duration was Otto Carlson. Due to the society's efforts, it was possible to install a pipe organ at the completion of the Church. The organ pumping was done at first by the trustees. They decided among themselves who should have charge each month. They had the privilege of asking for help from the members of the congregation and if refused they were fined 50 cents. The names of persons asked to serve were kept in a list. Later one person from each district was appointed as organ pumper. These had the same privilege of asking for help. In 1905, 12 persons were elected to serve as organ pumpers for Sunday School and Worship services. They served a month each. This rule has been followed since that time. At the annual meeting of 1909 the following were elected:

January	Carl Bengtson
February	C. A. Carlson
March	Bengt Johnson
April	Matts Johnson
May	Joseph Malmgren
June	Abraham Thelander
July	S. M. Carlson

August	P. A. Newman
September	Carl Swedberg
October	Gustaf Ryding
November	William Lindblom
December	C. A. Dahlsten

It had been the intention to dedicate the Church in 1894 but due to the fact that some pledges were unpaid because of crop failures and other adverse circumstances it seemed impossible to do so. The Church was dedicated in 1898.

From the 1899 Pastorial report we find the following: On Oct. 2, 1898 our beautiful new debt free Church was dedicated by the Synods President Dr. P. J. Sward. Attaining this goal has been accomplished through great sacrifice and concentrated effort. As usual, some persons more closely related to the work than others have carried the heavier load but all have been willing to serve to the best of their abilities. The Lord be praised for His grace and help through it all. It is encouraging that Christian love can accomplish such great tasks in Gods Kingdom without compulsion or praise. May the Lord reward you who have been so faithful in this undertaking. The congregation wishes to extend a sincere thanks to all. For the dedication the girls society had placed an altar painting by W. O. Grafstrom in the sanctuary.

Pastoral Report of 1893. On Mar. 31st, 1892 a devastating tornado visited the Salemsborg Smolan Communities. This community has had hail, storm and tornadoes in former years but this storm of March 31, made a number of our people homeless and destitute of life necessities. Christian generosity showed itself with help to these people. Committee was appointed to do this work. \$633.10 was collected and distributed to the needy ones. In the same year, the Lord let blow a Spiritual Pentacostal wind over the community and many received Grace at the Cross of Jesus. We report from the previous Pastoral report: "The Spiritula Pentacostal wind has blown over the community and few are the souls who have not been deeply moved by God's Grace. When we realize that one soul is more precious in the sight of God than the whole world, we have reason to be thankful for the Grace that God has shown to us. We pray that all who have been moved by God's Grace may continue in His service and that those who were called but resisted, may also be won for His Kingdom. A number of people that confessed that they had found

Peace in God have now fallen away, and have been overcome by sin. May God through His Grace be merciful to these dearly bought souls that they may again be freed from the bonds of sin. How salutary it is when the Lord sends His Pentacostal winds over the congregation but how sad to see that some fall by the way-side and consequently move farther away from His Grace.

In the year 1894 it was decided to use the new Homeland song book for the Sunday School, evening services and prayer meetings. This book was used through the following year until the Sunday School bought the Sunday School book. For Sunday evenings, prayer meetings and organizations the Homeland song book and Hymnal was used. In 1904 the new version of the Bible, the Psalm Book and the new catechism was introduced.

In 1894 on April 30th some members voiced their dissatisfaction concerning the building of the new Church and consequently have started agitation and work for a Church in Smolan. We find this recorded in the Synodical minutes "It has become known to the congregation that the persons dissatisfied with the new Church have organized their own congregation three miles from this Church, therefore be it resolved; That our congregation deplore this action of our former members to start a new congregation dividing the membership. Because of the Synod understanding of the situation, this division cannot be recognized. (Synodical Minutes No. 187, page 30). That the congregation, lovingly counsel these persons to cease in their attitude for division and return to the congregations fellowship. That the congregation when and if the need arises, build a house in a suitable place in north or Elm Creek districts for the purpose of holding Prayer Meetings or Parochial School. That the congregation, according to the Conference recommendations, appoint a committee to study this problem. The congregation believes that it should have a voice in this matter and consequently it would call on the Synodical President Pastor P. J. Sward to be a member of this committee and that the Conference chairman be notified of this choice. The congregation deplores the action of Bethany College in permitting its students to conduct services in Smolan before the above differences have been resolved".

From the 1895 Pastoral Report we find this: Some troublesome experiences have arisen dur-

ing the year, namely that some members have had misunderstandings with one another causing disunity. This is deplorable and should not appear in a Christian Congregation. May we all heed these admonitions. "Love thy neighbor as thyself" and do unto others as you would have them do unto you". Practice Spiritual love toward one another in order that God's Peace may abide. Enmity corrodes and destroys the peaceful settlement of any differences that have arisen. Dear members of Salemsborg. May God sustain you in this time of testing that now confronts you. There was a discussion at the Conference concerning the acceptance of the congregation in Smolan that had been organized by dissatisfied members of Salemsborg. At this meeting the undersigned was attacked for not preaching the Word of God or giving its members Spiritual guidance, therefore I have become very uncertain as to the wisdom of my staying on, whether it is wise to surrender to attacks coming from outside the congregation. I have put my case before God and hope that by His help I shall find the solution and not stand in the way of any that He might send. In this matter I will abide by God's decision. May His will be done.

At an extra meeting March 11, 1895 the Smolan Congregation requests again came before the appointed committee. Minutes from this meeting read as follows: The meeting opened by song and Devotions by the chairman Pastor Walleen. He, then submitted the question concerning the Smolan Congregation's requests and greeted J. Wickstrand, Dr. G. A. Brandell and Pastors M. Nord and J. A. Hemborg and welcomed everyone present. The meeting was then declared open for business. The following agreement was reached: That all visiting Pastors be made advisory members, that the members present from the Smolan congregation be advisory members. That the petition from the Smolan Congregation be discussed item by item. That all documents, petitions, and reports concerning the Smolan issue be read. The following motions which were accepted in to constituted and answer to the above petition. They had been submitted to the Salemsborg Board of Administration. The Congregation agrees with the Conference that these former members in handling these matters are guilty without legitimate reason and, hereby, have caused much sorrow and worry. The congregation is convinced that the Smolan Congregation has been organized in

contradiction to the congregations constitution and the Synod's opinion. That the Congregation is in full agreement with the Conference that the Smolan Congregation cannot be admitted into membership in the Conference or Synod. That the congregation, again invites these former members to return to fellowship. That the congregation will as, here to for, promise that the Word of God will be preached to all members and Spiritual Guidance will be given. That all documents, petitions and reports concerning the Smolan case be spread on the minutes of the congregation. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Nord.

C. Wallen Chairman
 C. O. Hultman Sec'y

Approved by N. P. Frost, Carl Sandberg, A. P. Ryden.

At different times committees were appointed to contact the members of the newly organized congregation asking them to return to Salemsborg. The last committee to be appointed to this task consisted of the following members: N. O. Carlson, Gustaf Anderson, and J. R. Anderson. The differences between the two congregations were resolved in 1902.

From the 1903 Pastoral report we find the following: Since April 1903 regular services have been held in Smolan every other Sunday afternoon. These services have been well attended by our members who live near to Smolan. At the Kansas Conference meeting held at Friends Home in May we find the following: At this meeting it was decided that the Smolan Congregation be received into the Conference with the following stipulations, that the Smolan Church be an annex to Salemsborg until the Conference decides otherwise. This arrangement was recommended by the Salemsborg Board of Administration. When this Conference ruling was agreed upon the Smolan Congregation, the two Church Boards met in joint session to arrange services until the end of the current year. The Smolan Congregation asked for one Sunday morning service during the last quarter of the year, from then on one evening service once a month. The Smolan Congregation rented the Free Mission Church in Smolan for one year. All services have been held in that Church for a period of time. According to the chairman's report of the Smolan Congregation, the following requests were made of Salemsborg. That they granted two Sunday morning services and one afternoon service each month for the current

year. We sincerely hope that all differences have been peacefully settled and that a gracious God will bless all of our work for his Kingdom.

In 1890 C. Walleen tendered his resignation. In his Pastoral report we find his reasons. He says "I have felt that there is a certain amount of cool and careless attitude prevailing". After many sleepless nights and troublesome nights and troublesome days I feel it best that I resign. I feel that for the good of the congregation a change of Pastors is necessary and for this reason I feel justified in my action. The Board of Administration refused to accept my resignation and asked that it be withdrawn. It was very difficult for me to be certain if it was Gods will that I stay. I felt it unwise to not honor the request of the board that I withdraw my resignation. May God be gracious to me while I am permitted to work until the time when the heavy burdens will be lifted. Nearly half of my time as a Pastor has been spent in Salemsborg. During this time God has graciously blessed the congregation. I believe that a man with more modern methods would be of greater value to the Congregation. May Gods will be done.

In 1895 it was decided to lay out a three acre park south of the parsonage and east of the church barns. The trustees and Nels Johnson were appointed to do this work. In 1897 the first park committee of six members was elected, one from each district of the congregation. Church District J. A. Applequist South west; L. J. Larson, South East; Eric Hanson, North West; Israel Johnson, North East; A. P. Ryden, Elm Creek; C. O. Magnuson. The same number of members has served on this committee since 1897. Their term of office being three years, two members are elected each year to fill the vacancy created by the two whose term expires.

It was decided in 1898 that all the trees in the park and around the parsonage and church be cared for by this committee. The park is a beautiful and convenient place for picnics and festivities. In 1905 a band stand was erected in the park. In 1898 the following resolutions were adopted concerning the Bethany College debt, that the congregation make a concerted effort to raise its allotted quota. This amounted to \$1400 or \$3.50 per member. A committee of twelve was elected to solicit funds, two from each district of the Church.

Church District Anton Dahl, J. A. Applequist

South east Anders Johnson, Henry Hanson
 North east K. J. Knutsen, S. N. Hedquist
 Elm Creek C. W. Larson, Gustaf Holmquist
 North east C. A. Carlson, A. J. Sweedlund
 South east Andrew Ryding, S. Broman
 N. O. Carlson was elected treasurer.

That this ingathering with the understanding that if the school debt is not paid in full the donors shall have the privilege of having their money refunded. That: the treasurer pay this money when the Board of Administration so recommended. That: this money be kept in the Farmers National Bank, Salina.

In 1899 the board recommended that the money be paid to J. O. Sundstrom, Lindsborg, Kansas. A sum of \$1,215.50 was turned over to him for which a receipt of payment was given by him. In his annual report of 1901 the Pastor heartily endorsed the payment of this debt to Bethany College.

Our congregation is now free of debt but there is still much work to be done. Our Colleges are still not free of debt because all the congregations have not met their quotas, even Salemsborg failed to raise its entire quota. It will be necessary to discuss these matters at this meeting.

The deficit for Bethany College and the Congregation's quota were fully met in 1904. The report substantiates this in the following. "The difficult assignment that the congregation gave S. A. Miller and the undersigned to solicit subscriptions for the payment of the quota for old school debts seemed hopeless at times but with diligent work by the committees, help from the Board of Deacons and many of the congregations members, the goal was reached as the report will show. The congregation gave the committee a rising vote of thanks for their work.

In 1903 minutes point out that on account of Bethany College's stand in supporting competition with other schools in the game of football, it is resolved that the congregation is convinced that football is sinful and detrimental to the building of Christian character for this reason the congregation will withdraw its support of the College. On account of this resolution the congregation became indebted to Bethany College for the sum of \$400. This decision caused a great deal of friction between the congregation and the College.

From the Pastoral report of 1904 we find the following: The committee that was elected to solicit funds in order to wipe out this debt

has this to report. The congregation must now endeavor to pay this money owing the college. I am criticized and villified on many occasions by those who say that I cannot or will not be an honest and conscientious servant of the congregation. I am unable to bear this unjust criticism longer and beg of the congregation that the load be lifted from my shoulders.

In 1905, the resolution was rescinded because the College had decided not to play football. A subscription for Bethany in 1906 amounted to \$1,087.80. The above sum was raised with the understanding that the congregations obligations were now paid in full, however, this was a misunderstanding so when further support was asked a great amount of ill feeling prevailed. In 1908, again a drive was made to wipe out the old debt. Some over \$200 was subscribed. A committee was appointed to meet with a Conference committee and with the above amount of money, try to work out a compromise between the congregation and the College. This effort resulted in failure.

At a meeting held at Lindsborg in 1909, the Conference Committee recommended a compromise between the Congregation and Bethany College. It is hoped that these deliberations may resolve the differences. This is absolutely necessary in order to establish Christian fellowship between the contending parties.

At the Board of Administration meeting Dec. 28th, 1904, it was recommended to the Congregation that a monument be placed on the grave of Mr. C. J. Brodine. At the annual meeting in 1905 the congregation voted to do this. The Trustees were elected to solicit funds for this purpose and arrange to procure the monument to be unveiled July 16, 1905, ten years after Mr. Brodine's blessed departure from this life. The Committee was instructed to call a meeting to determine what type of monument should be erected and all contributions to this fund would have a vote in this matter. The Committee will seek to raise \$500, not only in Salemsborg Congregation but also in the surrounding Churches. The matter to be made known through the newspaper.

At the annual meeting in 1906 the Committee submitted the following report for C. J. Brodine's memorial income.

Salemsborg	\$ 262.00
Smolan	17.50
Lindsborg	14.60
Freemont	22.50
Marquette	25.00



Salemsborg Congre



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Assaria	20.25
Fauln	8.25
Salina	12.00
Enterprise	8.25
Pastor Lindquist50

Total \$ 390.90

Disbursements:

To August Johnson, Kansas City Monuments Co.

Monument, corner posts, etc.	\$376.00
Cement and other expense	10.00
Total	\$386.00
In Treasury	\$4.90

This report was accepted and the congregation extends a heavy thanks to all who have contributed. The monument was unveiled on the tenth anniversary of C. J. Brodine's death. A large number of people were present, all Salina District Pastors, some McPherson District Pastors and C. J. Brodine's son Dr. P. J. Brodine from Orion Illinois. The festivities started with the unveiling of the monument by Hanna Nelson, grand daughter of Mr. Brodine.

In the Swedish Newspaper "Hemlandet" dated July 25, 1895, Dr. C. A. Swenson gives a short history of C. J. Brodine's life work. He also tells of his death and funeral. He says in his article "Our Synod has always had lay preachers from the very beginning, some were ordained, others gave up their work and again others became chronic trouble makers, but today in all meekness, I humbly place a simple memory wreath on the bier of possibly the most exemplary lay preacher in our Augustana Synod. At his funeral a few hours ago, he was called an Evangelist, Deacon, Honorable Carl Johan Brodine. First settled in Andover Illinois and later in Salemsborg, Kansas. After a lingering illness, he was called to his Heavenly Home and today, was followed to his last earthly resting place by a large number of relatives, eight Pastors, a sorrowing Congregation and many friends from the surrounding area and towns. How many have said since last Wednesday when the news of his death became known that there was only one such lay Preacher and possibly only one Deacon of his caliber in our entire Synod. Mr. Brodine was a farmer and carpenter and worked very hard. In this respect he was only one among thousands that had similar work to do. However, it was his work as a Christian and advisor in Christian Evangelism and as an advocate of peaceful settlement in all matters that made his life a

blessing to this area. The departed was a beloved friend to all in both Spiritual and Church matters. He will be long remembered by all who knew him. I can see without effort his erect, stalwart Nordic figure with his open book. He spoke with freshness and a colorful voice, bearing an expression. His hearers immediately, sensed the power of his natural gifts and his sincere and honest convictions. Richness of experience as a Christian, showed in his overflowing Testimony of good and honest convictions. He never seemed to exhaust the store of knowledge of his subject. People always enjoyed listening to him. He lived in Kansas for 26 years. He might well have continued for another quarter of a Century and not get too old, so it seemed. Of how ordained Pastors can more be said". One reason for his great influence was his humility. For forty years he had served as Deacon but, nevertheless, he did not consider himself a Pope. He advanced in age, wisdom and grace, learning to know his own limitations which keep alive the humility of the Spirit. He did not consider himself a wise man but others recognized him as such. He did not seek prominent positions but received them nevertheless. He was not one of these wise no-it-all's that criticized everything, especially the Pastors. He was his Pastor's true friend and defender, his trusty helper in all matters. This cause him to be a man of God in the community, much liked and necessary. He was always cheerful and hopeful. He had many trials and sorrows but seemingly God did not feed him on a vinegar diet. Until the very last he maintained this happy, trusting spirit. He was a man of hope that knew the best was yet to come.

Salemsborg is beautifully located. Plentiful rains and summer warmth had made everything green. The long funeral procession was arranged by the honorable marshal or master of ceremonies. Pastor and Professor J. E. Floreen C. Walleen. Pastor of Salemsborg headed the procession, then two Pastors J. Wickstrand and E. M. Erickson followed by other Pastors, then the flower bedecked casket born by the Salemsborg Deacons, the mourners and a very large number of people. Pastor Walleen read a touching poem that he had composed, before the committment. Following this the choir sang "O How Still" then everyone went back into the church where Professor Krans of Bethany played the organ. The Church was beautifully decorated for the service which, from begin-

ning to end, reflected a refreshing holiday spirit of hope and victory. Pastor Wickstrand spoke in his original manner, on the passage from Job 28: 6-7. "A redeemed soul is a gem for Heaven". Look up the text dear reader. The choir sang an appropriate song and then Pastor Erickson spoke on the subject "A Good Deacon". What could be a more appropriate service. Pastor Erickson had a good knowledge subject concerning the departed forty years of of human nature and he made us realize that there are good and bad Deacons even among our own. A song was sung after which the undersigned spoke in English. His text was from Revelations 14:13. The points brought out were: 1. There are two types of people among us. 2. The believers are saved not only in this life but after death. 3. Death transfers the believer to eternal rest. 4. Their work lives and follows after them. Pastor Walleen then gave the obituary, first he read a letter of condolence from Pastor A. W. Dahlsten, who because of temporary illness could not be present. He and the departed had been friends and co-workers for many years. This letter made a deep impression on the congregation. Then followed the condolence resolutions from the Salemsborg Board of Administration. According to the obituary Mr. Brodine was born in Vigstad Smolan November 1, 1821. He came to America in 1853, settling in Andover, Illinois. He moved to Salemsborg, Kansas in 1869. He was twice married. His only living child by the first marriage is Pastor P. J. Brodine of Holdrege Nebraska. For many years he was the Nebraska Conference chairman. Four children and twenty nine grand children of his second marriage are alive. Mr. Brodine was one of Sellergren's spiritual children. The first meeting of the men of the Salemsborg community was held in Mr. Brodines house when the congregation was organized. He was called on many times to preach the word of God in our Kansas Congregations. A lingering kidney ailment caused the venerable old gentleman's death. The Choir sang his most beloved song "In The Sweet By and By". After the benediction at two o'clock the festive funeral came to an end. May he rest in peace in God's green arce. Memories of him will not fade for a long time. I have in this way set forth the accomplishment of this honorable man. This tribute to lay preachers and deacons is not only to give honor where honor is due but is to give an example that others may follow. Our Church needs faith-

ful, sacrificing, loyal and competent layman as well as Pastors in its work. —C. A. Swenson.

On the 13th of December 1905 Pastor C. Walleen again tendered his resignation to the Board of Administration. This matter was presented to the annual meeting in 1906. The resignation was not accepted. In the Pastoral report for 1906 the following reasons for taking this step were given by Pastor Walleen. As you all know on the 13th day of December I tendered my resignation to the Board of Administration with the intention of terminating my service by April 1st this year. I did this with uncertainty and doubt after long and careful consideration. The bonds between my heart and the Salemsborgs members are very strong but all feelings must give way for the good of Gods Kingdom. On account of my advancing years and my long years of work in this congregation, I have come to the conclusion that a change of teachers is needed. May the Lord lead us in this matter to the congregations true benefit. I have had its welfare in mind entirely in taking this step. May the Lord so lead us that the congregation may find a Shephard after its own heart.

At a special congregational meeting held April 23, 1906 it was decided to build a new parsonage.

The following conclusions were reached: That the congregation build a new parsonage this year. That a committee of ten be appointed to solicit funds and also to serve as a building committee. That the following members be elected. Pastor C. Walleen, W. O. Bengston, Carl E. Lagerstrom, C. A. Carlson, J. A. Nelson, C. O. Larson, F. O. Nelson, Fred Ryding, Olof Gustafson, and A. P. Ryden. That the cost not exceed \$2000. That all usable material from the old parsonage be utilized. That the members of the congregation wreck the old building and do the hauling for the new one. That the new parsonage shall not be started until the cost of the same shall be collected in cash or notes. The house was built during the summer of 1906 at an approximate cost of \$3000.

The Pastoral report of 1907 relates that the newly built parsonage is a beautiful testimony to the congregation unity and love for its churchly home and it will prove a blessing and joy in the future. I was agreeably surprised when I learned that the entire cost of the building solicited in a few days. The men responsible for this work are worthy of praise. Palmquist Brothers did a good job and are also

to be praised. The congregation now owns a well planned parsonage and may the Lords great Grace rest upon it that it may be a home for Jesus messenger and at all times be a great blessing to the people of Salemsborg.

Pastor C. Walleen tendered his resignation to the Board of Administration to be effective May 15, 1908. He had at this time served the congregation for a period of twenty years. The last Pastoral report consists of a fond farewell to the congregation and shows the tenderness that he has for the members. It is given here in full.

Dear and honored congregation: "Wait on the Lord, Be of good Courage, Wait, I say on the Lord" Psalms 27—14. With these words of God fom the Kingly singer David. This is a very important day for each one of us as a congregation. Another year has passed, a year of many difficult experiences for many of the members and the congregation as a whole. An unusual number have been called by the Lords messenger of death and have had to surrender

their dear ones with deep sorrow and bleeding hearts. The congregation, as a whole has lost faithful and dedicated men and feels this loss keenly. We should not sorrow as those who have no hope but in the midst of our loss we thank God of this we are assured has brought home many and possibly all that have been called from among us. Our goal is Heaven and the congregations goal is to prepare for it. We should therefor be thankful for the service they have given while in our midst, and pray God that we may be more faithful for the short time that remains for us in the work. "Trust in God and be not afraid". These words of admonition we wish to extend to all the homes that have during the past year, had to surrender some of their dear ones. Trust in God and he will comfort you. "Wait on the Lord and he will comfort you. "Wait on the Lord and he will comfort you. "Wait on the Lord and he will comfort you. The farmers crops have not afraid. Even in Temporal matter the past not been as abundant as expected but have been very meager. However the Lord has given us sufficient so that no one need suffer. We



Second Parsonage

still have the word of God and the Holy Sacrament and in that we own all that we need for life when we are God fearing people. This can save our souls. What fruit the word of God has brought only the Lord knows. He has given us the promise that His Word shall not be fruitless. God grant that the will be fulfilled. It is, too, evident that many members do not attend services or come to communion. I have searched for the cause of this negligence. Have my sermons failed to interest to cause indifference to gain a foot hold? I mention this now that it might be helpful to my successor because only he to whom the Lord has chosen to reveal the knowledge of salvation, can understand the suffering that follows when one feels that his labor has been in vain. Empty church pews have been the nails in more than one Pastors coffin. May the Lord save us for using such nails. The work for God's Kingdom has shown progress and the congregation's quota has been full, filled, however we must say that many who, heretofore, have given to Missions, have failed to do so this year. This should not be the case for the blessing comes from God and he has the right to receive from all for the great missionary work of saving souls. Heartening examples worthy of following have been seen this year however. When God called Mrs. Frost her children contributed \$50 to missions. Mrs. Applequist was also a cheerful giver, I received \$69 that she had designated before she died to be used for Christian work. Little Bertha Carlson donated her savings of \$4 to missions. Examples like these give joy and are worthy of copying. May God give us more of the right spirit. Childrens schools have been held in two school houses with good teachers but the attendance has not been gratifying, especially so in the Otto Carlson school house. The reason for this, to some extent, was that some of the children that had been counted on to attend were sent to other congregation's schools. The love of our own church should not allow this. The Board of Administration, the Church Council, and the Congregation have worked in unity even this year which is heartening. We hope and pray that this may continue. The Church Council was called upon to follow one of its members to the grave. C. O. Magnuson was appointed to fill the vacancy until this years annual meeting. Many important matters will come before this meeting. May God lead us in everything to His honor and the welfare of the congregation. This, being the last time

that I have the honor and privilege to present the work done in the past year, there would be many things to say. The past twenty years have been filled with many things. The majority of the pioneers have died and their ashes rest in the quiet congregation near by. The remaining pioneers are old and grey. A new generation has come to the front to carry forward the work. My prayer for you, children of these pioneers, is that you may follow in your parents foot steps and God will bless you. At last a hearty thank you for all the love and good will toward me and my family. Thanks also for the help that you have given us. I have sought the congregation's welfare, regardless of my many short comings. I have given it the best of my life. What remains is the feeble, shadowy path of old age but even in this I will wait on the Lord. His Grace has been sufficient and shall continue to be. With sincere humility
Yours in the Lord. —Carl Walleen.

Pastor Walleen preached his farewell sermon on May 17, 1908. Immediately thereafter he moved to Lindsborg, Kansas where he had built a home for his retirement.

We have now concluded the congregations second stage. We have received a comprehensive report concerning its Spiritual life during this time from the Pastoral reports that have been sighted. We wish, however, to add some comments from other Pastoral reports. We regret that the services have not always been well attended. Bad weather has caused many to stay away from the meetings. In some instances it was intimated that the parents were not interested in their childrens spiritual welfare. The distance from the church and other minor matters kept the children from coming to Sunday School. Drinking and dancing have led many to a sinful way of living. The reports also have a brighter side. We also realize that God's family lives in a sinful and dangerous world where believers in Jesus experience many temptations. How good it is to trust in the Lord and rest on the Rock of Jesus in whom we find rest despite the storms of earth. Soon we will be in our eternal home where we will rest secure.

At the annual meeting in 1908 the following decisions were arrived at: That we make preparations for the congregations fortieth anniversary. That a committee be elected to present recommendations for this occasion. That this committee report to the congregation at a special meeting, at which a Pastoral call will

be made. That the church board members constitute this committee. At the special meeting held on February 4th, 1908 it was decided to celebrate the 40th anniversary in 1909 and in connection with this to publish a memory album. "Minnes Album" The Deacons were elected to supervise the editing of this book.

On February 4, 1908 the congregation unanimously submitted a call to Pastor E. P. Karleen. He states "After prayerful and careful consideration God led me to accept this call. My first sermon was delivered May 31, 1908 and in the Smolan congregation, on the afternoon of the same day. A special meeting was held on December 12, for the purpose of discussing the redecorating of the Church for the fortieth anniversary. A committee was elected to solicit funds for this work. The members of this committee consisted of Pastor Karleen, J. A. Anderson, Carl E. Magnuson, Carl Swenson, John Ostenberg, S. M. Carlson, and Fred Ryding. It secured \$1850 in three days time. A report was given by the committee's treasurer at the annual meeting of 1909.

"Dear Congregation, the subscription committee that was elected to solicit funds for the redecorating of the church in preparation for the fortieth anniversary reports the following:

Income From subscriptions	\$1844
Disbursements:	

Lindsborg Hardware, Seed and Implement Co., for repairs on heating system	\$79.40
Wilmarth and Zerbe, Salina, Kansas for reinforcing the Church	\$728.75
To the same firm for plans and specifications and extra work	\$47.50
Total expenditures	\$855.65
Remaining in treasury	\$988.35
Outstanding subscriptions	\$ 10.00

Respectfully J. A. Anderson

The money will be used to the best advantage to the strengthening and beautifying the Church for the fortieth anniversary. A committee appointed to supervise this work consisted of Pastor Karleen, Fred Ryding, and Carl Magnuson.

From the Pastoral report of 1909 we sight the following: Seven months have now passed since the Lord put the Shepherds Staff into my hands among you. The time has passed quickly. The congregations condition inwardly and outwardly, has shown progress. We have sought for unity with one another and fellowship with God. The Temporal needs of the congregation will be shown in the different re-

ports. The Lord is the judge of our Spiritual growth. The case rests with God and he is our helper. In God's congregation we find cause for both joy and sorrow. In this world there must be a constant change. In whatever condition we find ourselves this will contribute to our spiritual growth. I have made as many Pastoral visits as I have been able to. However there are many homes that I have not visited but I will do so as soon as possible. The congregations statistics are as follows: Communicant members 410. Total membership 576. We have reason to rejoice in this matter. The business that confronts us today is of vital interest. Everything concerning God's Kingdom is vital. May the Lord give us wisdom and grace to surrender to His will concerning the matters that need solution. Respectfully Your Pastor. E. P. Karleen, Salemsborg, Jan. 4, 1909.

Our congregation is now forty years old. The great festivities that will be held during the month of September will surely be reason for thanksgiving and joy. We place our trusting hands in the well proven hands of God. As we progress toward the goal, His goodness and care during past days stand as a witness to His steadfastness under unknown spans of time. God be praised for everything. To Him alone belongs the honor for time and eternity. In songs of praise we pour out our hearts.

Gracious Shepherd one thing I ask
 Guide and lead me, guide and lead me always You.
 So that I always walk to meet you
 Until I rest in Thy care
 Gracious Shepherd, one thing I ask
 Guide and lead me, guide and lead me always You.

Hemlands Songen 443 verse 7
 Pastor E. P. Karleen

Pastor E. P. Karleen by Dr. E. P. Olson

When Salemsborg together with Smolan, called Pastor Karleen to be their teacher they made a good choice. He is in the prime of life and has great ability for work, a clear voice and is agreeable in every respect. His sermons are sincere and Spiritual. His love of God and deep concern for the salvation of souls is always evident. He strives that all may continue in the way of righteousness. He stresses the importance of personal commitments to God. He often visits the homes of his parishoners and is a warm friend of the children and youth. He was born in Wanga Tuna congregation in Kal-

mar province Sweden Oct. 15, 1871. He arrived in America in 1886 together with his parents and sisters. His parents were Anders Magnus Peterson and his wife Anna Elizabeth whose maiden name was Neklauson. The family settled in Oakland Nebraska but moved to Sharon Springs, Kansas in 1891. He attended public school, received a teacher's certificate and served as a teacher. In the spring of 1896 he enrolled at Bethany College from which he graduated in the spring of 1900. In the fall he entered the Theological Seminary at Rock Island. He completed his seminary education in the spring of 1903. At the Synodical meeting at Paxton, Illinois he was ordained into the ministry. He was called to Mount Pleasant and West Burlington, Iowa where he served the two congregations. In 1906 the Iowa Mission Board called him to serve at Sioux City, Iowa, where he conducted missionary work among the Scandinavian residents. On November 15th of the same year he organized the Immanuel Congregation in the west part of the city. This congregation together with his mission work at Morning Side, Sioux City constituted his work at the time that he received the call from Salemsborg and moved there in 1908. Pastor Karleen was married June 24, 1903 to Miss Helen Elizabeth Peterson of Freemont, Nebraska. She has been a great help to him in his work by her modest friendly attitude toward everyone. She has had a good influence on all around her. Their home has been blessed with three children, Conrad Emanuel, Florence Elizabeth and Philip Edward. May God bless our dear neighbor, Pastor Karleen and family and his congregations in Salemsborg and Smolan. Greetings from Dr. A. W. Dahlsten:

Here with is sent a greeting to the Salemsborg Lutheran Congregation on her 40th anniversary from her first Pastor. Upon request first will be a short history of my past life and activity. Early in my childhood I learned to know and love my Dear Saviour and came to a personal fellowship with him so that I could rejoice in the forgiveness of sins. After a few years of study I managed a congregational school in one of the large churches. For many years and afterward attended the Fjellstedt school in Stockholm. From the Swedish Lutheran Ministers in America came a request for Christian students to be sent to America, upon recommendation of Dr. Fjellstedt and at his expense I came to America in 1859 and was welcomed by Pastor Erland Carlson, after

studying theology for two years in Springfield and Chicago I was ordained into the Holy Ministry in Galesburg in 1861, upon call to the congregation in Rockford where I served for three years, and was called to Galesburg where I remained until 1869 when I came to Salemsborg, Kansas.

During the summer of 1868 upon my recommendation many of our people from Galesburg and Swedona organized a company to go to Salina and McPherson counties in Kansas. In the Fall of 1869 I was sent on a Missionary tour through Nebraska and Kansas and organized the Congregations in Salemsborg and Freemont. The same Fall I was called to be the pastor of these two congregations. I accepted the call and moved to Salemsborg in 1869, remained at Salemsborg until in May 1888. During that time the membership had grown from 16 to about 650. I helped organize seven public school districts, one young peoples society of 175 members and one school for singing.

In the eastern part of the Salemsborg Congregation the Assaria Church was organized, which remained under the care of the Salemsborg Pastor for many years, this was possible only because of the faithful Deacon and Lay Preacher C. J. Brodine who was always a willing helper to his Pastor and the Congregation were always glad to listen to him.

Concerning the Spiritual Life and its development during this time I wish to present the following: Almost all the first members of Salemsborg had been members of our Augustana Churches in Knox and Henry Counties, Ill., and were all well versed in the order of services and the use of the sacraments. Our Sunday forenoon Divine Services were well attended from the beginning, even though many had to walk long distances to the Church. Our Sunday afternoon or evening devotional services were held in various places within the Congregation. During the Fall months of the year we conducted religious examinations among the children and young people in each District. Mr. Otto Peterson was hired as a permanent Swedish school teacher. Our prayer and discussion meetings during the Fall and Winter time were lively and interesting and brought much blessing to our people. The meetings were held almost every evening, God's Spirit worked mightily for a couple of years in the hearts of many.

Soon we began to have Mission meetings with the Lindsborg and Freemont Congregations.

Sermons and discussions became so interesting that these meetings sometimes continued far into the night. Dr. O. Olson never tired, it was a blessed time up to the factional division concerning the Waldenstrom teachings, but even this question passed by Salemsborg but was more evident in the Lindsborg Community. There were no serious controversies during my time in Salemsborg, therefor it was difficult to sever my associations with the Congregation, but because of health conditions it became necessary to do so. It was a great joy to me that the Congregation was so fortunate in getting my successor so soon after my resignation. Even though it has been a long time since, we left Salemsborg, I still feel sort of a Fathers Love and concern for the Congregation, and rejoice in her progress and wish for her every Blessing and success at this 40th year Anniversary. May God bless and mercifully keep the three sisters in the faith namely; Salemsborg, Fremont, and Lindsborg which were organized during the same year.

Respectfully,

The Congregations first Pastor, A. W. Dahlsten

Greetings from Pastor Carl Walleen:

I have been asked that in this Salemsborg Congregations 40th anniversary book to write something of my experience during my twenty years as its Pastor. Of the experiences concerning my own person I shall not mention as it can lead to no good thing and might only harm some one.

I came from the Fremont congregation in Iowa to Salemsborg, Kansas, May 15, 1888. The change was rather strange as the church and parsonage here were primitive so for the physical man it seemed evident that we were at a disadvantage. The decision to move here was made after much prayer and the assurance of Gods will, therefore we did not regret our moving here. The greatest difficult was that the Church was too small and was literally packed with people. It was so hard to speak that my chest and voice gave out. The Congregation sensed the need for a new and better church which resulted in building the present church in 1893. The parsonage was remodeled in 1890 and was kept until in 1906 when the present parsonage was built. I worked for two years trying to get the congregation to establish a park which I am sure we all agree was a worth while labor. During the twenty years much was accomplished in what is now the

valuable property of the Congregation. The most wonderful thing was that such a beautiful church could be built during the worst economic conditions in the history of the congregation. Most of our members had debts and were in danger of losing their homes.

With unity and zeal the congregation worked and sacrificed together that we might have a Temple of God, built without debt, this was one of the most beautiful experiences in the congregations history. All strength was used, each one had something to do and all fulfilled their part with honor. The young men furnished the benches, the young ladies bought carpets, light fixtures and altar linens. The womens society installed the gas lights. The Sunday School and Confirmation class had their part to do, they gathered money during a period of six years for an altar and pulpit. It was with rejoicing when one fine Sunday morning we bid farewell to the old Church and entered the new Temple. The Spiritual regard was not so peaceful in the beginning, some of the young folks led by older people were so restless and mischievous that strict measures had to be enforced.

In the Spring of 1892, we found a Spirit of Grace over the congregation, during six weeks had services every evening and it seemed that all, both young and old would give their hearts to God. With sorrow we find some who then confessed their desire to belong to God who have returned to worldly things, many remained faithful, some are gone to the heavenly home, some are loyal members in other Congregations and some remain here to make up the core of this Congregation. May God keep them until they reach the eternal home.

This visitation of God places an entirely new stamp upon the congregation, those who stayed away and were not touched by Gods hand lost their influence and retired from the work. People were glad and sang praises to God, there was light within and around the church, regardless how dark the night. We found that God has power to recreate the hearts of men. The congregation was spared spiritual partisan differences and all who belonged to God were of one spirit.

The Deacons and Trustees worked together in unity and concord, all members of the Congregation were in harmony so very few unpleasant situations arose.

The Band the oldest organization of its kind among all the churches in the Conference

brought much happiness to our Congregation. The young people as a rule were good and worked for the welfare of the congregation. The women society worked in unity. It gladdens my heart to write that the entire congregation young and old showed respect for the word of God and their pastor in mutual love and trust.

The last years of my ministry in Salemsborg were calm and peaceful, almost too calm, everything was so quiet and still, that one asked what God meant. The clearest proof of Gods acknowledgement of us was in his presence in the many homes where death entered in and the power of Gods word was manifested in the souls of men in the house of death. Many of the Congregations dear members have been called home during the twenty years and have been gathered into Gods Heaven. This is the congregations goal, the goal for which Jesus came, taught, suffered, died and rose again. May this goal ever stand before the Congregation that not many of its dear members go astray and be lost.

This is my sincere wish and prayer. This testimony must be given of the Salemsborg Congregation, that they value their Pastor and will follow his advice for all good work. May God always graciously and richly bless Salemsborg and her three daughter congregations; Assaria, Falun and Smolan, that all may be saved. Raise the banner and go forward in Gods Strength. This is my wish. —Carl Wallen

Greetings from Pastor J. A. Frost:

How short the time seems when you look upon the years that have passed. Even a long time span of 40 years seem like a dream, and one might ask the question have we really lived through that time? Even as short as it seems it has been exceedingly important, it has embraced more than one persons average lifetime and how important is each persons life. Each second of a persons life has a special significance in the light of eternity, how many rich occasions are contained in a span of 40 years for an individual person, and even more so for a Congregation when it comes to bearing fruit for eternity. How easily we see our faults and mistakes when we take time to look back over the time that has flown and how we wish we could relive the past and if possible to live it better. What person is satisfied with his life when it appears in the light of eternity and what congregation can say when

looking back on a 40 year history that as a servant of God she has done everything possible to bring souls to the heavenly glory. The Salemsborg Congregation has one special reason for thanking God at this 40th anniversary that he has given faithful Shepherds during these years.

Dr. A. W. Dahlsten labored faithfully during the pioneer days as the congregation founder, under sacrifice and poverty yet always satisfied and happy. I remember well the dugout church where during rainy weather one had to place loose boards within the altar ring to keep from standing in several inches of water when conducting services. But even under such conditions the Lord was present and blessed His word and the people were more faithful in attendance, even though they either walked on foot to the church or rode behind oxen. As a member of the first Confirmation class in the dugout church, at which altar I pledged my Confirmation vows to God and for the first time kneeled to receive the true body and blood of Christ, therefore the memory of the simple church is dearer to me than the most beautiful temple.

At the side of Dr. Dahlsten stood the faithful tireless and gifted preacher C. J. Brodine, loved and respected by all. During the pastors absence which was quite often he preached to the full satisfaction of the congregation. My Sainted father nad Brodine had from the beginning a strong bond of friendship which lasted until they were separated by death. Now they are reunited and both have received their reward for faithful service in the Kingdom of God.

My father was the first to begin the Sunday School work in the west part of the congregation and served as Deacon until the time of his death. How sincerely beautiful were these early days when simplicity, modesty, love and fear of God were the marked characteristics among the majority of the people. How different it became as people prospered in wordly goods then covetousness, vanity, jealousy and self satisfaction came among the people. What was accomplished for the Kingdom of God during the days of poverty seems almost impossible now. Pastor Wallen who took up the work following Dahlsten had the same Zeal and endeavor as before, surely they shall have their reward for faithful service. Most of the pioneers now rest in their graves and a new generation have taken up the work. On this new

generation rests the responsibility for the future of the congregation. Follow faithfully in the footsteps of the pioneers and remain true to Gods word, fervent in prayer and place your complete trust in the Lord your God, and he will go with you in the continuation of the work, and crown your labors and at last give you a crown of victory.

Pastor J. A. Frost

Greetings from Phillip Andreen:

To the revered Salemsborg Congregation, Salemsborg, Kansas.

Gods peace: It brought a tear to my eye when to-day I received the invitation to send a greeting for your 40th anniversary history album. That former playmates and childhood friends should remember the "naughty boy who was only the pastors servant." Was almost too much, any other historic ties with the Salemsborg congregation I cannot claim.

To day I am 41½ years old and more than a quarter of a century has passed since as a boy I gathered tobacco tags from your good and friendly farmers nailed them to the Pastors barn door, until it was completely covered by the colored tin tags. I shall never forget the happy boyhood days in Salemsborg parsonage. Uncle Dahlstens fatherly love, Aunt Mina's friendly care, and the good influence that came to me in this ideal home of the pastors family. The hospitality and clean goodness which was found with in the homes in the congregation.

The ardent morning and evening prayers offered by father Carlson in the Otto Carlson home still live anew in my heart, even if at the time I did not understand and appreciate his ideal christianity as I know by the Grace of God can do. The honorable elderly Nels Johnson asked me many questions in Sunday School which I was unable to answer but during the passing years have learned to find the answers. As you now have claimed me as one of your own permit me an old friend to offer congratulations at this your anniversary. Thankful for all the good you have been able to accomplish to the Glory of God and to be of use to your countrymen during the 40 years, expressing the hope that you shall never fail in the strife against unbelief and conforming to the ideals of this world. Grounded as you are upon the biblical truths and the faith that has come from our forefathers may you stand as a beacon light through storm and night to guide

many souls to the eternal home.

With deep thankfulness.

Pastor Phillip Andreen

Greetings from Pastor Alexis Andreen:

It is with true joy that I send a cordial greeting and congratulations to Salemsborg now that you are celebrating your 40th anniversary. Within her care I spent my happy childhood and the years of my youth. It is with thankfulness that I acknowledge the help and guidance that came to me in the christian nourshing and teaching both in the home and church during those days. Often my thoughts go back to the quiet and serious moments when we are gathered for devotions either at the home or churches altar, which left a deep impression on my young heart. Now and in the future time these beautiful memories will speak their silent and influential language. Many of the pioneers have already gone "To that shore where billows never roll".

They have labored, they have won
and kept faith and hope.

They now have found their crown
after a completed course.

A younger generation has taken up their work that it might be supported and proagated under Gods gracious care. With thankfulness may you remember the sacrificing work they have accomplished, but also that God has blessed their labors, this is evident when you come together to jubilee, it should surely cause you, the children of the pioneers to rejoice that from them you have received so great a treasure and inheritance; As they in Salemsborg as well as in many other places in this great land have raised the spires that from our Swedish temples point to "The Fathers home within the blue which seems so far, yet is so new." The future celebration shall be joyful and inspiring if the pioneers faith, zeal and trust in God will live in your hearts. May Salemsborg ever be a place on the hill where the gospel of peace shall be taught for the salvation of mankind. May souls of coming generations find peace, forgiveness, and grace with thy gates.

May He who has power to give far more than we can ask or think work that power within us. unto Him be glory in the congregation through Jesus Christ by all generations forever and ever; Amen.

Pastor Alexis Andreen

Greetings from Pastor Luther Dahlsten:

I wish you success on this your jubilee year. Salemsborg is especially dear to me partly because it was my parents home and my childhood home for over 18 years, and there I took my first steps and later received Christian education and was confirmed in the true faith, the memories of my youth and schoolmates are there. Never shall I forget the large young peoples society and the school of song, the choir and the band of which I was a member. My thoughts go back to the olden days in Salemsborg with rejoicing over the congregations progress.

In the Salemsborg Cemetery rest my beloved mother and other relatives, which naturally lead my thoughts there and to the hope of a blessed reunion in heaven. I rejoice greatly in that God has given you such faithful and zealous Shepherds since my father moved from Salemsborg. May God for another 40 years and more, yes even unto the end of time let you experience his rich blessings. This will surely be if you remain faithful to Gods word.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Luther Dahlsten

Congregational History of 1909—1959.

The fortieth anniversary of the congregation was held Sept. 24 through the 26, 1909. It was the largest meeting of its kind in the history of the Church and community, very large number of people gathered for services and in connection with the celebration the State Luther League Convention met at the Salemsborg Church. A fortieth anniversary album was published which contains a very good history of the pioneer days.

In 1911 a decision was made to paint the parsonage and the Sorosis Society offered to pay for the painting. At a special congregational meeting Aug. 22, 1911, a question concerning the proposed Winnipeg, Salina and Gulf railroad which was to pass across the land owned by the Congregation. It was decided to donate right of way across the Church farm, however the railroad was not built so the decisions made at the meeting were void.

Due to the resignation of Pastor E. P. Karleen a special congregational business meeting was held March 19, 1912 at which time a call was issued to Rev. G. A. Dorf of New Gotland, Kansas at a salary of \$1000 per year. A call was issued to P. A. Malm to serve as Pastor during the vacancy. Pastor Dorf declined

the call. Another meeting was held May 12, 1912 and Pastor A. P. Mattson of Cannon Falls Minn. was called and he also declined. July 17, 1912 a Congregational meeting was held at which time Pastor P. A. Malm had arrived and presided at the meeting, Pastor Carl A. Sward of Sheckly Nebraska was called and he also declined. Sept. 25, 1912 a fourth meeting was held at which time Rev. Gustaf Erickson of Bertrand was called as Pastor of Salemsborg. From Pastor P. A. Malms pastoral report at the annual meeting held Jan. 6, 1913 we read; It has been a changeable year for Salemsborg Congregation, at the beginning of the year no one expected that Pastor Karleen would resign and leave Salemsborg. I came here May 20th to serve during the vacancy and as Rev. Gustaf Erickson has accepted the call, my stay here will not be long. Pastor Malm confirmed one class of seven members in Feb. 1913.

From Pastor Gustaf Eriksons Pastoral report in Jan. 1914. The past year has been a year of memories for me. We came to Salemsborg in Feb. 1913 and during the ten months we have been here we have experienced much love and friendship from both young and old for which we are humbly grateful. At a special meeting held July 20, 1914 to consider the question of the light plant which had been installed to furnish lights for the Church and Parsonage. The plant proved to be too small and at this meeting it was decided to trade for a larger generator and batteries and to build the cave at the Church to house the plant.

On Jan. 4, 1915 at the annual meeting the Pastor was asked to confer with the members of the Dorcas and Sorsis Societies, if the women of the Church would like to take part and vote at the Congregational meetings. At the meeting in 1916 the above question was tabled until a later meeting, also at the meeting in 1916 a decision was made to rebuild the barns at the Church property, the old barns were taken down and the material was used in the new buildings. 66 stalls were built, each 9ft wide and 18ft. long. Just when the old barns were built is a question as we have not found any records in the history book. At the annual meeting in Jan. 8, 1917, a decision was made to build a new barn on the parsonage ground. A committee consisting of J. A. Nelson and the trustees were elected to supervise the work of the building.

A special meeting was called for May 15, 1917 at which time it was decided to get a con-

tract with the Kansas Central Light and Power Co., to get electric current for the Church, Parsonage and Park. The hook up with the light Co. to cost \$150 and the trustees to make up the contract with the Light Co. From the Pastoral report Jan. 6, 1919 we read the following; The year that has passed has been a remarkable year that has just begun should be a jubilee year for our Congregation. At the Conference meeting to be held in Salemsborg we will celebrate our 50th anniversary. Looking back on the past year in the history of our country and of the world, saw the ending of the first World War. Nov. 11, 1918 a day which we shall never forget, it might be proper to mention a few facts concerning the war. Our Nation succeeded in staying neutral until April 6, 1917 when Congress declared war on Germany. Shortly thereafter Congress passed the Military Conscription act under which all men between the ages of twenty and thirty years must register, this was later extended to include all men from eighteen to forty five years of age. The coming generations who might read this will not know the tears and heartaches the mothers of our country experienced when the sons were called to war. Our Congregation did not suffer as heavy a loss of life as many Churches. Fred Frost was killed in action in France, Aug. 1, 1918. The following young men from our Congregation served in the armed forces: Herman Larson, August Anderson, Enfred Lindholm, Fred Frost, Levi Olson, Laurence Broman, Bernard Frost, Edwin Nelson, Otto Brodine, Albin Anderson, Albin Carlson, Luther Oborg, and Andrew Newman. To these young men we owe our thanks, they were called out to serve and if needed give their life for their Country, which one of them did. Our service flag shall be a reminder of the war time and those who were called to service. May the Peace negotiations be successful that righteousness may prevail so those who died, may not have died in vain, may God forbid that it should be so.

At the annual meeting 1919 a committee of thirty men and also a committee from the Dorcas Society were elected to make preparations for the Convention of the Kansas Conference to be held in Salemsborg in connection with the 50th anniversary of our Congregation. These meetings were held beginning May 7, and ended Sunday, May 11, 1919. The special anniversary program was held Sunday afternoon when the speakers were former Ministers and some of the former children of the Church

namely; Rev. P. A. Malm, Pastor J. A. Frost, Rev. Alexis Andreen, Rev. Luther Dahlsten, Rev. E. P. Karleen and the history and remarks by Rev. Gustaf Erikson. From the Pastoral report in Jan. 1920 our 50th jubilee year has passed into history and we are grateful for the peaceful times during the Conference and our special anniversary program. May the younger generation never forget what the pioneers accomplished in the building of Gods Kingdom among us. To the Conference Committee and especially to the women of our Congregation we express our thanks. May God reward you. At a meeting called for Feb. 3, 1920 a decision was made to donate the lot on which the central office of the Telephone Co. is located and to give a deed to the Company.

At the annual meeting in 1922, it was decided to print a list of names of the Congregational Members and their contributions to the Church and a copy of the list be given to the members. In 1923 it was decided to ask for a change in our Constitution to give the women equal voting rights as the men of the Congregation, this was ratified and at the annual meeting in 1924 the women were welcomed and took part in the Congregations deliberations.

In 1924 the English Language was used at the first and third Sunday evening services, all other Church services were conducted in Swedish. The cottage in the park was built in 1924.

The Spire Church was struck by lightning in the afternoon of July 29, 1925.

Due to the heavy rains which fell the fire departments could not get there in time to save the building. Most of the members of the Church and many others came and stood sorrowing to see our beloved Church go up in flames, it was a sight that will always remain in the memory of our Church members. The falling Church bell sounded its farewell as it fell through the ruins. We were fortunate in saving the beautiful Altar painting and a few other things from the Spire Church.

Upon a decision by the Church Council all voting members of Salemsborg Evangelical Lutheran Congregation were called together for a special business meeting on Monday afternoon Aug. 10, 1925 for the purpose of deciding about building a new Church to replace the one destroyed by fire. A new Church on the same location where the former building stood. The building committee consisted of three men and one woman from each District together

with the Deacons, Trustees and Dr. and Mrs. Erikson.

CHURCH DISTRICT

Pete Oborg Deacon
J. A. Nelson Trustee
Gust E. Bengtson
F. E. Holcomb
John A. Anderson
Mrs. Manfred Lofgren

SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

A. W. Sandberg Deacon
Carl Swenson Trustee
Alfred Nelson
C. E. Miller
Aug. Norquist
Mrs. Ed Thelander

NORTH EAST DISTRICT

Albert N. Anderson Deacon
Carl E. Magnuson Trustee
E. N. Hedquist
Mrs. John Alf. Nelson
John Alf. Nelson
Oscar Nelson

ELM CREEK DISTRICT

A. A. Larson Deacon
Swan Olson Trustee
Emil Swenson
O. W. Hallengren
Tony Holmquist
Mrs. A. A. Larson

NORTH WEST DISTRICT

Willie Martinson Deacon
Gust Olson Trustee
Albert Johnson
Rudolph Carlson
Edwin Frost
Mrs. Gust Olson

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT

A. W. Peterson Deacon
A. G. Danielson Trustee
Axel Bengtson
Henry Lagerstrom
Titus Carlson
Mrs. Luther Oborg

The following served as officers of the building committee:

Dr. Gustaf Erikson Chairman
G. E. Bengtson Vice Chairman
Carl Swenson Secretary
Axel Bengtson Treasurer

On account of ill health Mr. Bengtson resigned in the Spring of 1926 and Mr. A. A. Lar-

son was elected to serve as Treasurer.

A committee of five were elected to see about a temporary building to be used for Congregational services and meetings. Part of one of the Church barns were remodeled, and extended and was used until the new Church was completed.

Many business meetings of the Congregation and building committee were held during the years when the plans were made and the Church built.

We quote from the Messenger:

The building Committee by a unanimous vote decided to ask the Pastor to solicit funds for the Church building and to do that in a way he would find most practical. We realized that a great responsibility was placed upon our shoulders, but in the Name of Jesus at the Throne of Grace we promised during the months of October and November 1925 we visited all the homes and came in contact with all our families. As a rule we made only two or three visits each day. O what a beautiful time we had. The Fall of 1925 at Salemsborg we shall consider the happiest days we have spent in our congregation. We did not only solicit funds but we often we drifted into Spiritual questions and so we came very close to the hearts of the men and women of that time. All the people were so very kind to us, willing to go the limit in subscribing in order that it would be possible to build a beautiful Church.

On Dec. 1st the contract for construction of the new Church were let for the general construction of the building. A contract was let to F. C. Randle Construction Co. of Wichita. Their bid \$51,860 was the lowest bid received. They were unable to continue the building, so the Bonding Co. paid the difference between their bid and \$58,220 which was the bid of the Hjerpe Sandstrom Construction Co. of McPherson who completed the building. Due to the failure of the first Contractors the time required for the building of our Church was much longer than would have been necessary.

The contract for steam heating was let to Arthur Elmborg of Lindsborg for \$2,893.

McCaffery got the plumbing contract for \$1,400.

R. A. Cassel of Salina got the electrical contract for \$1,435.74.

It is interesting to note the gradual changes from the Swedish to the English Language, in 1926 we had one Sunday forenoon services each month and two Communion Services during

the year conducted in the English Language. The Swedish was used at the early Christian Services and English at the second Service.

A committee of four members were elected to study the question of selecting an organ for the Church. Members of this Committee: Rev. Erikson, L. E. Miller, Reuben Anderson and Miss Frances Swenson. A Kilgen organ was selected.

Mrs. A. A. Larson, Mr. G. E. Bengtson, Mr. Henry Lagerstrom and Dr. and Mrs. Erikson were elected to contact Art Glass window companies in regard to the windows for the Church.

The cornerstone was laid May 19, 1926 by the President of the Conference Dr. A. W. Lindquist,, with Dr. Dorf preaching the sermon.

We quote from the Messenger:

The cost of the Salemsborg two Tower Church.

Construction of the Church	
building	\$ 48,206.79
Furnace and Heating	3,129.36
Electric Light	1,324.00
Brass Chandeliers	1,237.01
Pipe Organ	5,210.00
Carpets and rugs	1,452.07
Plumbing	1,400.00
Gold Leaf for Cross	60.00
The Windows, all in one	
total sum	4,060.03
North and South Altar	
Painting	150.00
The Architect	3,013.85
Church Pews	2,884.59
Freight and Expenses	589.14
Miscellaneous	93.74
Total	\$ 72,810.58

If you add the cost of the Church and the cost of the Chimes it will amount to the respectable sum of \$81,255.42.

Many former members and other friends had contacted Dr. Erikson, wishing to have some part in building the new Church, so permission was given by the building committee for Dr. Erikson to gather these gifts for a Church Bell or Chimes for the Church. The Deacon Chimes were paid for entirely by gifts from persons who were not members of Salemsborg.

The Chimes were installed so they could be played on Christmas Morning in 1926, when the old Psalms loved by all rang out over the valley.

When the Spire Church was built in 1893 the large Mural was painted by Carl Lotave who

was then a resident of Lindsborg, Kansas, he later moved to Colorado, Springs where he spent several years painting. Later moving to New York where he died in 1924. his wish was to be cremated and buried on top of Pikes Peak. In the Spring of 1925 this burial took place, his dear friend Mr. G. N. Malm of Lindsborg was one of those who accompanied the remains to the Peak.

When the Spire Church burned we were fortunate in saving this beautiful Mural to be used in the new Church, in 1926 Mr. G. N. Malm of Lindsborg was asked to paint the two side paintings. In the Geographic of 1926 real uictures of the Mount of Transfiguration were found, Mr. Malm used them as motives.

The windows were purchased from the Jacobi Co. St. Louis, Mo. their representative became very enthused over the setting of the Church, its architecture, the Chimes etc., so when he returned to St. Louis with the contract and reported to the manager what a country Congregation was doing. The manager cabled to Germany to have the windows made there. The life of Christ is pictured in these beautiful art windows. The Memorial Art glass windows were paid for by individuals and organizations within the Church, also the light fixtures were given by members of the Church.

On the southeast corner of the Church you will find the dates when the four Churches of Salemsborg were built.

The Sun Dial south east from the Church was placed there by Dr. Erikson and Mr. Carl E. Magnuson.

At the annual business meeting of the Salemsborg Congregation, it was unanimously decided that our Congregation leave a "Memorial" in our Church Minutes in the form of "Resolutions of appreciation in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Erikson and the Officers and Members of the Building Committee".

Resolved 1st:

That we as a congregation desire in this way to express our sincere appreciation because of Dr. and Mrs. Erikson's untiring efforts as LEADERS in the building of our new Church. It is to their hopeful outlook for our future, and their consecrated endeavor that we have been lead to accomplish the building of so beautiful a House of Worship. Their submission to the leading of the Holy Spirit ,and their inspiration in turn inspiring us to do our utmost towards the building of our new Temple. Words are indeed weak instruments when we try to

express our deep appreciation. They are—As it were—Like flowers strewn by the wayside, that wither and die, but their words, their works, their living will continue to Live.

Secondly:

That not only for their faithful leadership in the building of our New Temple, do we wish to express our "Thanks and Appreciation", but for all the years since they came to our Salemsborg in 1913. We feel so thankful to God for His Divine Guidance in leading us to call to our midst such Faithful Servants of God. Their desire to follow in the steps of Jesus, their Humbleness, their willingness to Serve and their Kindness and Love. To us as a congregation has indeed been a Beacon of Light to help us to follow our Saviours. May God bless them and sustain them and give them Health and Strength to continue in the work with us for many years to come.

Thirdly:

That as a congregation, we wish to thank sincerely the officers and members of the building committee for their Faithfulness and Loyalty in working in unison and harmony to complete this great undertaking. We realize that their work on this committee has been connected with much labor, planning, and sacrifice and we sincerely thank them all for their faithfulness.

As a congregation we feel deeply grateful for a group of men and women in our midst, able and willing to serve their Church with such fidelity.

Mrs. Simon Johnson
Mrs. Elvin Eklund

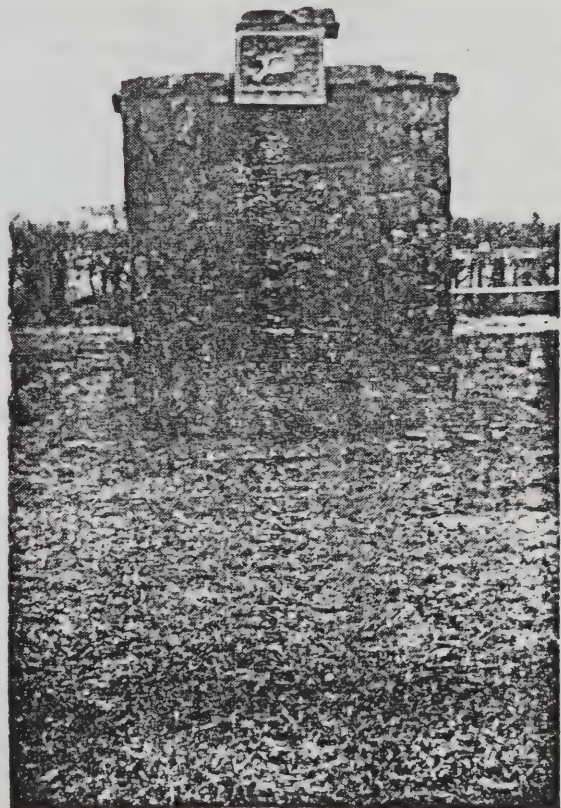
On Friday evening April 22, 1927 an Organ Recital was given by Prof. Arvid Wallin of Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas. On Sunday morning April 24th at 10:30 A.M. the first services were held in the new Church, conducted completely in the Swedish Language, at which time Dr. A. W. Lindquist our Conference President gave the sermon. In the afternoon the service of "Dedication" of the Church was held when Dr. A. W. Lindquist spoke on the subject "Help from the Sanctuary". Greetings were given from the Salina District by Rev. Eben Alstatt of Falun, Kansas and by Rev. Luther Dahlsten, son of the pioneer Pastor A. W. Dahlsten of the Salemsborg Congregation.

At the annual business meeting of the Congregation held Jan. 2nd 1928, a motion was made and carried that the minutes of the meet-

ing be recorded in the English Language. As this was the first business meeting in the new Church it might be of interest to note that for fifty nine years all business meetings had been recorded in the Swedish Language.

The sixtieth Anniversary of our Church was held beginning Oct. 22, 1929, when the various organizations within the Church held evening programs and on Sunday the former Pastor E. P. Karleen and Rev. L. N. Dahlsten took part at the services, large number of people from the Valley came to join with us in this special event in the new Church.

The stone Pulpit was erected by the children of Salemsborg in 1935. This was sponsored by Mrs. Gustaf Erikson. The fund was started in 1929 and gradually it grew. Mr. Anton Pearson of Lindsborg erected the pulpit. The stones were gathered from the beautiful hills two miles south of the Church. A large Bible of stone was placed on the Pulpit. Below the bible is the emblem of the Cross and Crown



Stone Pulpit

worked out on a large Copper plate, together with the inscription "In Memory of the Pioneers who builded the sod Church on this place in the year of our Lord 1869, erected bythe children of Salemsborg. It was presented as a gift to the Congregation Nov. 10, 1935 the 452 anniversary of Martin Luthers birthday. Dr. E. F. Pihlblad President of Bethany College gave the dedicatory address.

If you walk in Gods way If in Him you abide
He shall bless you and keep you and stand by your side

And at sunset in life He shall grant you a rest
In the City of God in the Home of the Blest
As the centuries pass and the years and the days

I shall stand on this beautiful Reverent Place
I shall point to the past, I shall point to the sky

While the sons of the ages pass silently by
Gustaf Erikson

In 1939 the three Churches in the Smoky Valley namely Bethany Lindsborg, Fremont and Salemsborg all celebrated 70 years since their organization. We had our first program on June 8th at Salemsborg and on Sunday June 11, the three Churches joined together at Presser Hall for the special anniversary celebration when Dr. A. W. Lindquist and Dr. P. O. Bersell were guest speakers.

In 1939 after serving as Pastor of Salemsborg fo r more than twenty six years Dr. Erikson and Mrs. Erikson retired from active service and moved to their home at the foot of Pikes Peak in Manitou Springs. In July 1943 Dr. Erikson had a cerebral hemmorage and was bedfast until at sunset of Sunday evening February 11, 1945 he was called to be with the Lord. Close by the Church to the west you will find Dr. Eriksons grave. The congregation erected the monument.

You will find a sun dial there denoting time. He so often wrote and spoke of the value of time and also had a hobby of collecting clocks. On the other side of the stone there is a book, pen and ink denoting his writings. Not long before going home he wrote a poem, the closing verse is inscribed in the monument.

The committee in charge of compiling this history are deeply grateful to Mrs. Erikson for so much of the information during their stay at Salemsborg.

In the Fall of 1940 Pastor Axel Bjorkman and family came to serve the Congregation as leaders for Salemsborg. The following year saw the

bombing of Pearl Harbor and our Countries entry into the second World War. It was an especially trying time for our Church and Community. The building of Camp Phillips took more than one-sixth of the area where our members made their homes. Causing so many people be made homeless in just a few weeks, many had to relocate far from our Church so our membership was reduced by almost 20 per cent and above all the heartaches of parents whose sons were called to serve in the armed forces in all corners of the world. We shall not try to give the names of all the boys who were in Military Service in World War II and Korea lest some might be omitted. One of our young men, Harley Anderson gave his life on the battle field and many others will bear the scars of battle through life. Even though many activities of our Church had to be curtailed due to war conditions our people were true to their Church and tried to carry on the work of Gods Kingdom.

We observed our 75th anniversary in Sept. 1944 when a large number of people gathered at our festivities, it is always a blessing to meet in the House of God and perhaps more so in the time of war and stress.

Svea Elizabeth Bjorkman passed away suddenly at her home in Salemsborg Feb. 8, 1945 and was laid to rest in the Salemsborg Cemetary. In the few years that the family had been in our Community she had won the love and respect of all our people. The Bjorkman family moved from our Church to Stockholm Wisconsin where Pastor Bjorkman is serving as Pastor of the Augustana Church.

Pastor Thoren and family came to Salemsborg from Minnesota in 1946, preaching his first sermon here the first Sunday in November. The Thorens were gifted musicians. Mrs. Thoren served as choir leader and President of our W.M.S. District. Later Clara Pauline was organist and choir director of our Church. During Pastor Thorens stay in Salemsborg much was done to improve and beautify our Church by water proofing walls and roof and completely redecorating the Sanctuary and basement.

All the members of Salemsborg and the Community were saddened by the illness that came to Mrs. Thoren. She passed to her eternal reward Feb. 3, 1953 and was laid to rest near her family home in Malma, Nebraska.

On account of declining health conditions Pastor Thoren needed a period of rest from Congregational work. On Oct. 10, 1954, he ten-

dered his resignation to the Salemsborg Congregation and it was with saddened hearts that the resignation was accepted. At this writing Pastor Thoren has regained his strength and is serving as Pastor in our Conference. We rejoice that God has given him that privilege as we know his zeal for the souls of men.

From Oct. 1954 until June of 1956 there was no resident Pastor of Salemsborg so the Congregation voted to build a new parsonage to replace the very large house which was built in 1906. This was accomplished mostly through donated labor and financed through a special Congregational appeal. A new garage was also built at that time. The members of the building committee in charge of the work were:

Clarence Nelson, Ivan Swenson, Phillip Oborg, Harold Larson and Wallace Pihl. We quote from the Treasurers report 1956.

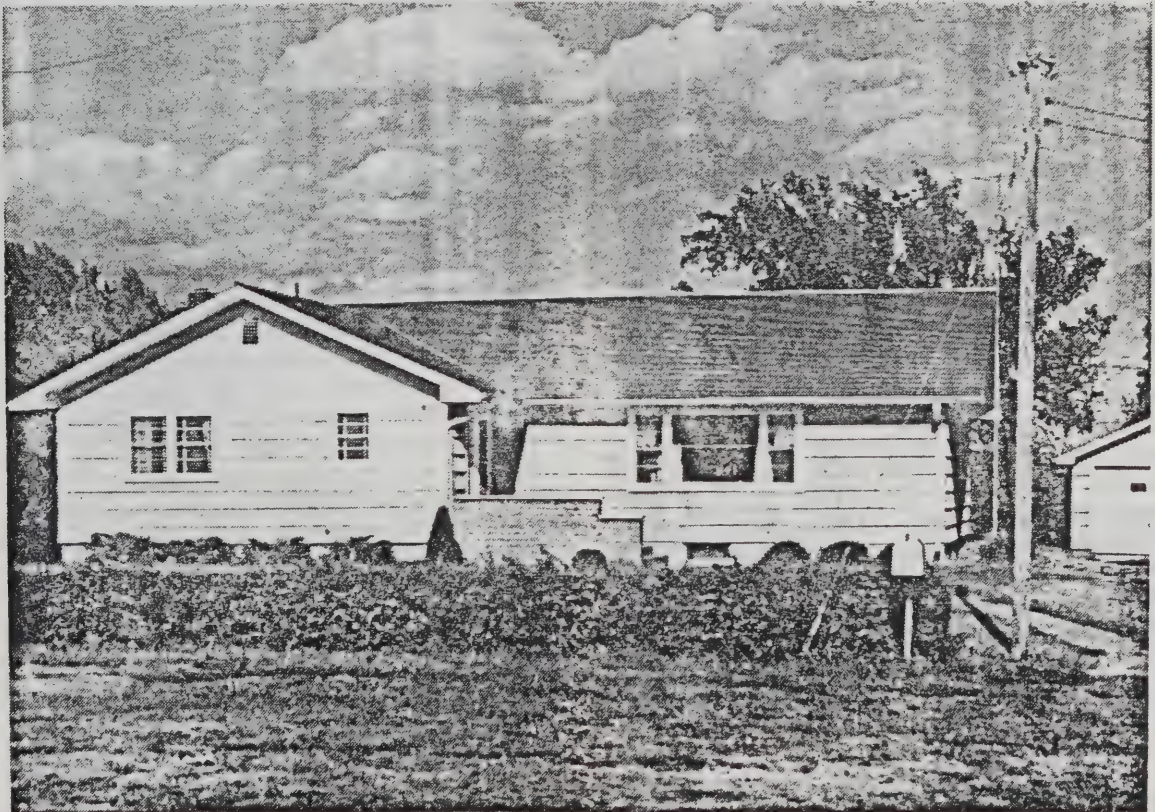
Total cost of parsonage	\$ 13,416.90
Total cost of garage	1,154.91

Pastor Bard and family came to take up the work at Salemsborg the first Sunday in June 1956, as the new parsonage was not completed at that time they made their home in Linds-

borg until Sept. We plead God's richest blessing on our Pastors family in their important calling. At the time of this anniversary our Congregation numbers many young families, may they all remain faithful to their Church that the unity of Spirit that has prevailed during the past ninety years may be continued, the future of the rural Churches seem uncertain as people are moving to the cities and a large number of farm homes have been taken down.

During the years several SONS of Salemsborg have entered the Ministry of the Augustana Synod, namely Phillip Andreen, Alexis Andreen, J. A. Frost, Luther Dahlsten, Theodore Bjorkman, Arnold Thoren Jr., Ement Eklund, and Vernon Swenson who has also served on the Mission field in Africa and is home on furlough at this time.

On the program pamphlet at the eightieth anniversary a very brief history was printed, we would use the closing paragraph again to show that world conditions have changed very little, surely we thought at that time that world rulers would realize that only under the Christ-



Present Parsonage

ian Baner can be true Peace be achieved.

In trying to recall some of the historical dates in our Congregations history little has been said of the Spiritual phase of the Church work; Perhaps it is better so, as we feel that these records are kept by a Divine hand which errs not.

On this our 90th anniversary, may we pause in humble gratitude to God for His Grace and Mercy which endureth from generation; for faithful Pastors who have proclaimed the Gospel of Salvation and for ever loyal members who have been inspired to carry on the work of the Church.

In an ever changing world, we wonder what the future has in store for our Church. During the past few years. we have seen the destruction of nations under totalitarian rule, where Christian people have been tortured and Churches destroyed. Only as Christian believers of all denominations unite in a common plea before the Throne of Grace, can our country continue under the great basic principle. "The Freedom of Religious Worship". We have the eternal promise that God is faithful and will not forsake us. May we be faithful and carry on our part in the building of God's Kingdom on earth to His honor and glory.

Sunday School and Vacation Bible School:

The Sunday School of Salemsborg is as old as the congregation itself. According to the first Pastoral call it was decided that the Pastor for a special compensation would teach Swedish School with in the congregation. Pastor A. W. Dahlsten was the superintendent when the Sunday School was held in the so called sod Church. The instructions consisted of a study of catechism and Bible history. The children that attended at that time ranged in age from ten to fifteen. The enrollment was approximately twenty to thirty. Sunday School was also held on Sunday afternoons in some family home. Jacob Malmgren was the teacher in one of these schools. Sunday School also held on Sunday afternoons in the so called Solberg school house. The Sunday School in the Church was held before the service. In 1876 the new frame Church was used which benefited the Sunday School greatly. The enrollment increased rapidly to 65 or 70 children. A more orderly system was now instituted. Teachers and officers were elected and school was divided into classes, three for boys and three for girls. Classes were added as needed. An

examination was held before promotion. The text books were the catechism and Bible stories by C. W. Skarstedt. During the service each Sunday, one Bible Story from each the old and new Testament was related. At this time a new song book "Barnvannens Lyra" was introduced. About 1882 Church History was used as a text book. After two years, this seemed impracticable and was dropped. The Sunday School at this time had a library of about 70 volumes. The order of the service, then introduced as follows; Song, Prayer, Confession of Faith, Lords Prayer, Song, Teaching of classes, General summary of the work, Song and Benediction. The children received the Sunday School paper and a small card containing a Bible verse. Every fourth Sunday, a larger card was given to those who had four small cards. The Sunday School Superintendent was not a teacher in any particular class, his duties consisted of supervision of the school and conducted the general summary of the work.

In 1885 it was decided to hold Sunday School after Church Services from twelve to one o'clock. This was carried on until 1899 when it changed in the belief that the school would be improved if it was held before the service.

The first Sunday School picnic was held near the so called Malmgrens school house on June 24, 1875. Dr. I. N. Hasselquist was the speaker. The Childrens Christmas program was instituted 1878. The expense for this was raised by a general subscription. At that time there was no general admission charge. On a number of occasions it happened that persons outside the congregation came to disturb the festivities with indecent behavior, some even under the influence of liquor. To put an end to such shameful behavior and to keep out undersirable character, it was decided to charge ten cents admission to the Christmas program.

In 1893 the Sunday School collected \$100 to pay for a new window in the Church in addition to which it has contributed to the congregational treasury. Childrens Home and other vital projects. In 1902 the birthday boxes were introduced. Everyone was invited to put in one cent for each year of their age on the Sunday following their birthday. When \$100 had been gathered in this way, the congregation would decide how it should be used. The money collected amounted to \$105.75 as reported at the annual meeting in 1909.

During a few years the Sunday School did not meet during the months of January and

February. This did not prove to be a blessing, consequently was discontinued.

In 1892 regular teachers meetings were held. Practical suggestions for the improvement of the Sunday School were discussed at these meetings. The new graded system for classes was introduced at this time. A complete system of achievement cards was used. The general examination was based on the Bible verse printed on the small achievement card. The Secretary's report was read each Sunday. The song book used was one printed by the Synod. The order of service in this book was used for the opening and closing of the Sunday School.

The first week day Bible Schools held had a number of teachers, for example Anderson and Nordline, Maria Swenson and student P. J. Brodine. In 1879 Otto Peterson agreed to teach at a salary of \$35 per month. It was decided that as many as ten months of school be held during the year. On account of the smaller number of children in the congregation and the heavy expenses involved the school time was shortened as the years went by. At a congregational meeting in 1895, it was decided that whenever there were ten or more children of school age, within the district a Bible School should be held. As nearly as possible, each child should pay 25-cents per week. In the Pastoral report for 1895 we read the following: There is a deplorable lack of interest in the congregation in that it does not give religious education to its children but leaves it to the discretion of the parents. This shows the congregations to be weak in this matter. We expect harvest where we have not sowed which is but wishful thinking. During the latter years Swedish School has been held two months during the summer. Teachers have been procured from Bethany College and the Congregation.

By the end of 40 years of work, the Sunday School was very well organized into departments and classes for different ages of children and as the years have passed the children of the past have grown into manhood and womanhood and many have moved to other places to make their homes. It is gratifying to know that so many have been blessed by the Christian teachings received while attending the Sunday School at Salemsborg.

At the present time the enrollment number 65 children. There are now ten regular teachers in the Sunday School.

An adult Bible class is also held every Sunday and is generally well attended. Vacation

Bible School is held every summer after the regular public school term. Vacation Bible School is also very well attended. All children from age 5 years up to and including the children of Confirmation age attend.

May Gods riches blessings continue with us as we face the future with renewed hope.

"Dorcas"

Although no definite year can be given when this society was organized, it is known to be the oldest organization within the congregation. In the congregational minutes several references to the sewing society before 1878. At the annual business meeting in 1878 the following decisions were made: That the business affairs of the Sewing Society shall be decided at the annual Business Meeting of the Congregation.

That the society have a meeting before the sale in the Fall to decide how the funds for the coming year be used and to elect a Secretary and Treasurer. The Congregation elects the President of the Society.

The Societies decisions shall be presented to the Congregation at the annual business meeting to be approved.

That the Treasurers and Secretaries annual reports shall be included in the Secretaries minutes of the Congregation, to be read with the minutes of the Congregational Sec'y.

Ladies held their first meeting at the home of Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Dahlsten, only three members present; Mrs. John Holmquist, Mrs. John Daelson, and Mrs. A. W. Dahlsten. Each one gave a donation of \$1.00 to buy material to start a sewing society.

Next meeting more members attended; Mrs. L. J. Larson, Mrs. Jacob Anderson, Mrs. Solberg, Mrs. Brodine and Mrs. John Anderson. Membership dues were \$1.00. Dues increased as the years went by. It was quite difficult for the members to attend the meetings, most of the time they had to walk.

The societies meetings have been held for all the women of the Congregation, one exception was when the women of the North West District held separate meetings, not because of dissatisfaction with the organization but because of the long distance to come to the regular meetings.

The society has been very active in the work of the Church, yes it can be said, "A gigantic task has been accomplished by the women of the Church. The society has contributed funds both for the Congregations use as well as

Mission work outside of the Congregation. The funds have been gathered through bazaars, sales and fests of various kinds.

The society now have their own Constitution under which they elect their own officers and admister their funds. In 1893 the organization paid for the installing of gas lights in the Spire Church and have supplied the funds to maintain the lights since that time.

During the time when Rev. C. Walleen served as Pastor of Salemsborg he also served as President and Secretary of the organization and Mrs. Walleen served as Treasurer.

Before the 40th anniversary of the Church the society sponsored the building and equipping of the kitchen in the Church basement. In the summer of 1908 the society adopted the name of "DORCAS", which means "Sisters in the work". At the annual meeting a decision was made to change the schedule of meetings. Now the meetings are held in the six districts of the Church by turn. A Vice President is elected for each District and are responsible for the meetings in their respective Districts.

The Womens Missionary Society was organized Jan. 18, 1917 at the parsonage. Dr. Gustaf Erikson Pastor. Membership of 100.

The Dorcas Society helped in various ways pertaining to building of our two Tower Church. Some of our ladies were elected to serve on the building committee.

Memorial window in our present Church "Jesus Standing at the door". In memory of Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Dahlsten by Dorcas. Cost of \$200.

Dorcas has continued helping with the financial part of the Church. Has continued to pay for the electricity through the years. Bought curtains, stoves, carpets, hot water heater, sinks, kitchen supplies, etc. Some given as Memorials.

The silver service coffee set, is a memorium to Mrs. Arnold V. N. Thoren, who died Feb. 3, 1953.

July 29, 1927 Dorcas paid for forty of the first English Hymnals.

The W.M.S. sent their gifts and contributions to Missionary work of the Church.

The District meetings have met at different times here in Salemsborg with Missianaries as guests and guest speakers.

The Swedish Language was used until in 1925, it was decided that Dr. Erikson close the meetings with a few words in the English Language. Our Dorcas song was "Jesus for var-

lden givit sitt lif". Translated means "Jesus gave His life for the world".

The Dorcas society sponsored a Memorial Day Service in 1949 at which time "DECOMMISSIONING OF SERVICE FLAG" was observed. There were 47 men and 1 woman called into service from our communicant membership from the original six Districts. The names of these service men are filed with the service flag in the vault of the Church. The Military training program of our Country is still in force, so our boys are being called to training so the list of those called since World War two is not complete at this time.

Dorcas and W.M.S. have been and still are the most active societies in the Congregation.

In the Fall of 1958 the Church at large decided that the W.M.S. should be changed to "Augustana Lutheran Church Women"—ALCW, thinking that more women will be reached and interested in the work, as this includes all the women of the Church are members.

Half of gifts in money received to be sent to Conference Society and half to be kept at home in the local Society.

Our ALCW meet once a month at the Church Parlors.

We have four units, in the Congregation.

North West	Rebecca
North East	Miriam
South East	Ruth
South West	Martha

They each have a leader and a recorder and meet once a month in the homes.

Luther League:

The Luther League was organized Dec. 3, 1880. On Dec. 13, 1880 the society adopted a constitution. We quote from the minutes of this meeting: The society's name shall be "The Swedish Evangelical Young Peoples Society of Salemsborg". Discussions regarding wordly subjects will be permitted providing they contribute to the organization welfare. One meeting will be held on the first Monday of each month. Each male will contribute \$1.00 as a membership fee and 25-cents quarterly thereafter. Women members will contribute half membership fee. Officers will be fined 10-cents when they fail to attend the meetings. The constitution was presented to the Church Board for approval. The following is the Church Boards recognition of the Constitution. To our dear young men, we have studied your constitution and consider it good. We had decided to recognize the society's activities with-

in the Congregation under the following conditions:

a—That if any departure from Gods word or the congregations constitution occurs or for any other improper activity the Church Board reserves the right to warn and counsel and if this counseling proves to be fruitless, it will have the right to forbid the activities of the organization.

b—That no unchristian literature or papers be found in the organizations library.

c—That older and Christian leaders be elected, particularly during the formative years of the organization.

d—That article 4, paragraph 1 be made to read as following: That older persons of this congregation be permitted to be members if they so desire.

e—That the Pastor and Church Board Members be granted the privilege of the floor and voting rights within the organization.

May this organization become a blessing to the Young People of our Congregation Salemsborg Dec. 17, 1880. The Church Board and A. W. Dahlsten.

The first officers of society were President N. M. Johnson, Vice President J. G. Peterson, Secretary Otto Peterson, Financial Sec'y Henry Hanson, Treasurer John Englund, Librarian O. V. Anderson.

The first Secretary kept very well written minutes concerning the societies activities and even showed some poetic ability. We include a specimen of this.

For filling the page I wish to admit that the faults that you find have been made by me, but I wish you would forgive all, then it will be as Jesus in prayer commands.

(this verse rhymes in swedish)

The organization has worked effectively for sobriety and the spreading of good literature and tracts.

The following subjects for debate show the character of the society's meetings.

"How can a young man keep his way pure"
By guiding it according to Thy Word.

"The dangers and snares that tempt a young man through life."

Which have suffered most the Indians or Negroes" The members reveal that

Ring was leader for the Indians and Gustaf Lindholm for the negroes.

"Man's most important period in life."

"The value and blessings derived from the commandments for those who keep them and

Judgement and curse for those who do not"

"Which are the greater burden to the community, the greedy or the poor?"

"Which is the more beautiful to the eye the works of nature or the works of art?"

"Who are the young people's best friends and who are the most dangerous enemies?"

"Have the Swedes contributed more to American culture than the Irish, German or English?"

In 1892 the organization discontinued the general meetings at the Church and combined with the young women's sewing society. The young women' meetings had been held in the afternoon at the homes of some members of the Congregation. A Literary program was rendered and refreshments were served by the host family. From this time on the girls Sewing Society was discontinued and a new organization "Sorosis" was started. In the summer of 1908, the young people's society became known as the Luther League. In the following year it adopted a new constitution. We, hereby, give a few articles of this.

Article 1. Name: This association shall be known as the Young People's Luther League of the Salemsborg Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Article 2. Object: The object of this League shall be the improvement of its members spiritually, morally, intellectually and socially and to render to the Church service as may lie in its power. To protect and guard our young people against dangerous and vicious influence of various unchurchly and unbelieving associations surrounding them.

Article 3. Members: The membership shall consist of all young people who are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

By Lawa: Article 1—The social meetings of this League shall be held every other week. Programs shall commence at 8 P.M. in the winter and at 8:30 P.M. in the summer. The League shall meet every other Thursday evenings in the Church basement for Edification, Spiritually, and Morally.

The League meetings have been held at regular intervals through the years. The programs have been varied, consisting of music, readings, talks, slides, motion picture etc.

At the time of this writing our Luther League has fifteen members. All young people from confirmation to marriage are included in the membership. Because there are so few, combined meetings are held with the young people of Smolan, Falun and Assaria, alternating the meeting places.

The Leagues sponsor a Bible camps at Washunga near Junction City, Kansas and leadership School at Bethany College. In 1960 a biennial Youth Conference will be held in Texas. Augustana Brotherhood, Augustana Churchmen

The men of our Church met Dec. 12, 1927 to organize a Brotherhood which was to include all confirmed male members of the Church. The main objective of this organization within Conference and Synod has been to promote a scholarship plan for the young men who plan to attend one of our Church Colleges, also Boy Scout work among the boys, especially in the city Churches and to carry on the work in the summer camps.

At the Convention in 1956 a unanimous decision was made to change the name from Augustana Brotherhood to Augustana Churchmen. The main sources of financial support comes from sustaining Memberships and one annual offering in October of each year. Music — Band — Choir:

During the first years of the Congregation we had as song leaders: Rev. and Mrs. A. W. Dahlsten, Olof Thorstenberg and M. L. Peterson. Having no organ one of the above named led the singing at the Church Services. The first organ was loaned to the Congregation by Johan Thorstenberg, it was brought to the Church and used at special occasions. John Thorstenberg and Rev. Dahlsten took turns serving as organist.

In the Fall of 1876 a Reed Organ was bought for the Congregation by the sewing society.

When the Spire Church was built a new Pipe Organ was installed at a cost of \$1800.

It was the custom for the organist to conduct the Choir until the last few years we have had a special leader. The Choirs of Salemsborg have been very faithful in presenting good selections, adding much to the beauty of the Worship Services and at many other special occasions.

Salemsborg had a Music Band that was organized in 1881, which was known as one of the leading organizations of its kind in central Kansas. It went on through the years from generation to generation for some over fifty

years, until the Schools and Colleges in the Community attracted the younger people to take part in their musical work and the mode of transportation changed so the people of the Community traveled further for musical entertainments.

Junior Mission Band:

The Junior Mission Band, a society for the children under Confirmation age was organized, Oct. 9, 1920 at the Church basement, a preparatory meeting had been held in connection with a Dorcas meeting when sixty one names were recorded and nineteen more members were added at the meeting Oct. 9.

Mrs. Gustaf Erikson was the first leader of the society a position which she loved and served for many years.

The society sponsored a concert by the Bethany Girls Glee Club May 23, 1929. A very large number of people attended the concert, the total proceeds were \$43.18 which was to be used for building the stone Pulpit where the sod Church pulpit stood. The Society continued to add to the first sum until 1935 when the pulpit was built by Anton Pearson an artist from Lindsborg and unveiled Nov. 10, 1935. Dr. Pihlblad of Bethany College gave the address. The fifteenth anniversary of the J.M.B. was observed at this time.

The organization is now called "The Junior Missionary Society, as the name implies Missionary causes have been and are being supported by the children as well as the adults of Salemsborg.

The list of names for roll call now number forty-eight. Roll call is answered by placing gifts in their friendship boxes. The proceeds which goes to various Missions, especially to Africa where Vernon Swenson is serving as Missionary teacher.

The first Sunday of each month the J.M.S. meet at the Sunday School hour and also sponsor programs at other occasions. It has been a blessed experience for the children to get the instruction and training for their future part in the work in Gods Kingdom on earth.

The Golden Links:

In point of years the newest organization within the Congregation is "The Golden Links" which was organized April 6, 1956 with approximately forty four members.

To be members you must be a young married couple where combined ages does not exceed

75 years, and who manifest a willingness to accept the objectives of the organization.

The aim of this group is: To provide opportunity for Christian growth, to assist in making our Christian witness more effective and to provide for Christian fellowship. Also to undertake such projects as may be helpful in the work of the Kingdom, subject to the approval by the Board of Administration. Our present project is to improve our Church park. We have repaired the picnic tables and playground equipment. Money has been raised through ice cream socials and serving at other occasions.

The meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month except during harvest. Sorosis Society:

On Nov. 5, 1891 a sewing society was organized among the young girls. The following were elected as leaders: Dora Nelson, Clare Eklund and Tilda Sandberg. Secretary Minnie Larson and Treasurer Tilda Sandberg. At the organization meeting it was decided that their goal should be to gather funds for the Holy cause of Missions. Funds were gathered through bazaars, sales and serving Congregational dinners, concerts, etc. The society continued to function under that name until Jan. 16, 1903 when a decision was made to change the name

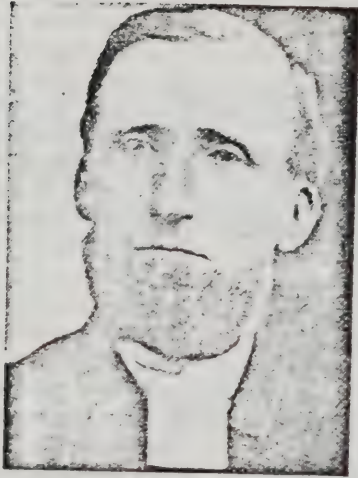
from the girls sewing society to the Young Peoples ten cent society. This change was made because a few years eralier some of the youth became members of the society and it had been changed from a sewing society to a Literary Society which held its meeting in the evenings.

The work of the sewing society was again taken up by the girls of the Congregation in the summer of 1908. A new Constitution was adopted where by the name Sorosis was selected. The society met every other Thursday afternoon. The society was a very active organization and contributed much financial aid to their Church as well as for the Cause of Missions. During the later years the name of Teen Agers was used for the society and at this present time the work of the young people is concentrated in the Luther League.

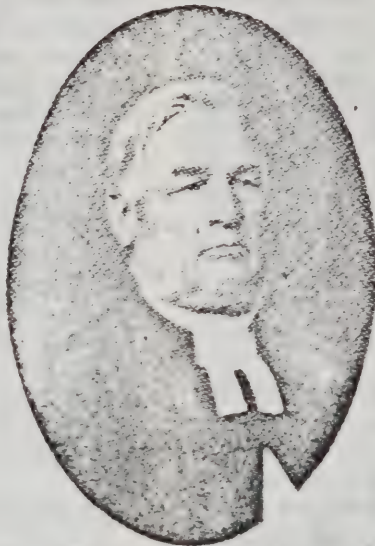
Pastors who have served at Salemsborg

Rev. A. W. Dahlsten	1869—1888
Rev. Carl Wallen	1888—1908
Rev. E. P. Karleen	1908—1912
Rev. P. A. Malm	1912—1913
Rev. Gustaf Erikson	1913—1939
Rev. A. J. Bjorkman	1940—1946
Rev. Arnold Thoren	1946—1954
Rev. Dale Bard	1956—1959

PASTORS WHO HAVE SERVED AT SALEMSBORG



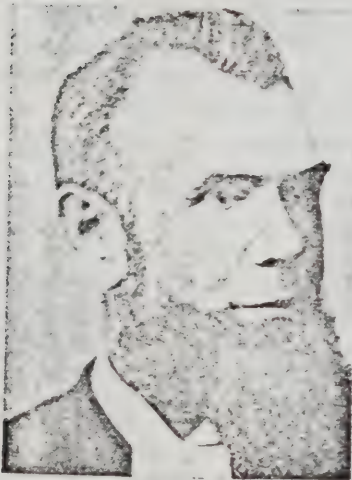
DAHLSTEN



MALM



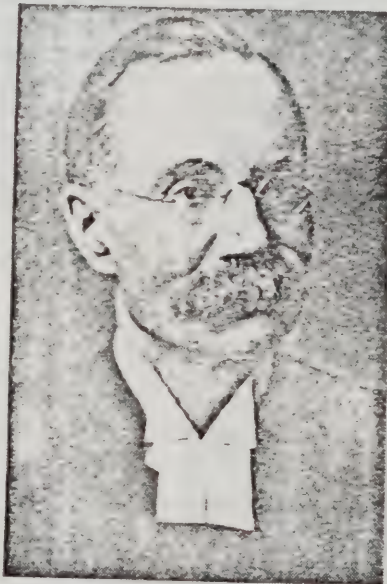
BJORKMAN



WALLEN



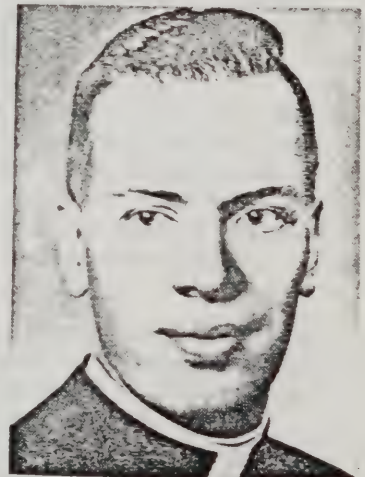
THOREN



ERIKSON



KARLEEN



BARD

