





South Dakota District  
1860-1960  
PIONEER  
of the  
CHURCH:

Evangelical Lutheran Church  
THE HISTORY OF  
THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT,

South Dakota  
Nebraska  
Colorado  
Wyoming  
THE  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

THE DRAMATIC RECORD  
OF  
A CENTURY OF  
CHRISTIAN SERVICES  
IN THE STATES OF

South Dakota  
Nebraska  
Colorado  
Wyoming

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South Dakota District

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church

South Dakota  
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Colorado  
Wyoming

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

BX 500 History of Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Dakota District	4
District Officers and Other Officers	6
Institutions and Agencies	9
Augustana College	9
Augustana Academy	11
Bethesda Homes	12

## PREFACE

This historical survey in word and picture of the South Dakota District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church is regrettably delayed in its publication due to the fact that so much of the historical information on its many congregations, as well as pictures, has been so difficult to obtain. This historical summary represents approximately three years of work on the part of our District office and, particularly, our efficient and persistent office secretary, Mrs. Iola Oines. It represents the graphic story of Norwegian Lutheranism in the South Dakota District. The South Dakota District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (formerly Norwegian Lutheran Church of America) comprised the states of South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, and part of Wyoming. Since this is primarily a church history, we have sought to trace the development of our church in this area from its beginnings down to the day of merger with the former American Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (1960). Included in this story of growth is the unfolding drama of Kingdom-building in the areas of education and charity. Such names as Augustana College, Augustana Academy, and Bethesda Homes play an important part in this story of Lutheran expansion. Legion are the names of those sons of the King (clergy and lay) who have contributed so much to make this growth possible. To God alone be the glory, is our prayer for all that has been accomplished by His grace and blessing!

It is our earnest hope that this little historical review will create in its readers a deeper appreciation of the work done by our forefathers, of the heritage that is ours, and of the high calling that is ours, as individual Christians and as congregations, and as a District for the years that lie ahead.

—E. O. Gilbertson, President  
 South Dakota District, ELC

Mitchell Circuit	80
Omaha Circuit	89
Sioux Falls Circuit	94
Sisseton Circuit	105
Vermillion Circuit	116
Wageningen Circuit	126
Yankton Circuit	141
Appendices	157

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

General History of Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Dakota District . . . . .	4
District Presidents and Other Officers . . . . .	6
Institutions and Agencies . . . . .	9
Augustana College . . . . .	9
Augustana Academy . . . . .	11
Lutheran Welfare . . . . .	12
Bethesda Home for the Aged . . . . .	13
Bethesda Children's Home . . . . .	14
Bethesda Nursing Home . . . . .	14
Ephphatha Mission . . . . .	14
Bible Camping . . . . .	15
Lutheran Student Work . . . . .	15
Congregations:	
Aberdeen Circuit . . . . .	16
Black Hills Circuit . . . . .	31
Brookings Circuit . . . . .	44
Denver Circuit . . . . .	51
Lemmon Circuit . . . . .	59
Madison Circuit . . . . .	71
Mitchell Circuit . . . . .	80
Omaha Circuit . . . . .	89
Sioux Falls Circuit . . . . .	94
Sisseton Circuit . . . . .	106
Vermillion Circuit . . . . .	116
Watertown Circuit . . . . .	126
Yankton Circuit . . . . .	141
Acknowledgments . . . . .	153

# Brief History of South Dakota District of The Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Norwegian Lutheran Church in America

During World War I, a new church of Norwegian-Americans came into being. The Hauge Synod, founded in 1846, Norwegian Synod, 1853, and United Norwegian Lutheran Synod, 1890, were officially united into one church body in St. Paul, Minnesota, on Saturday, June 9, 1917. These church bodies became known as The Norwegian Lutheran Church in America. The nationalistic identification "Norwegian" remained a part of the church's name until 1946, when it was changed to The Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELC).

Dr. H. G. Stub was President from 1917-25; Dr. J. A. Aasgaard was President from 1925-54; and in 1954 Dr. F. A. Schiøtz became President and served until the merger with the UELC and ALC, being elected first President of The ALC.

## South Dakota and Early Settlers Find Need for Church

The Norwegian settlers began to stream into Dakota Territory in 1860. Upon reaching America from Norway they moved westward to Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. Here, they worked at different jobs. Their ambition was to own their own land and home. Since they had heard there were such great opportunities further west in America they were not satisfied to work for others. Advance parties came back with thrilling reports of endless stretches of land—creeks full of water, and grass reaching to their hips! Such glowing reports made the Norwegian newcomers restless to move westward. They gathered together what little they had, a pair of oxen, an old wagon, a few clothes, Bibles, Prayer Books, and their families. They traveled in small groups, as large groups were inconvenient and cumbersome. The vast expanse of prairie looked beautiful to them. They chose their land and went to the Land Office to get the U. S. Government Seal to the proper papers, showing that this piece of land was now their property. They hurriedly built their sod houses, tilled the soil and put in crops. They could not forget such words as "Man does not live by bread alone." Although they got together here and there and read their devotionals, they were convinced, if they were to make their homes here, they needed a church. They met in homes, organized their various congregations, and began conducting meetings in homes and schoolhouses until a church could be built. There was no over-supply of pastors. The few ordained men who came to America from Norway seldom got as far west as Dakota Territory. They found much room for their ministry in the heavier populated East. Norway brought forth a great number of gifted and earnest laymen. Many of these laymen found their way to the new settlements. They traveled from place to place and preached the Word of God. Several were called to be ministers and ordained. Rev. Gunder Graven, who settled in the Vermillion area, was one of these men. His parish extended over seven counties. His wife often came along to sing for these people.

## South Dakota District, ELC, Organized

The South Dakota District of The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America was organized, June 12, 1917, at a meeting held in Pastor C. E. Sybilrud's Church in St. Paul,

Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Rev. S. J. Nummedal, elected chairman for that meeting, and assisted by Secretary Pro tem, Rev. O. F. Johnson. The Steering Committee consisted of Rev. H. M. Solem, Rev. A. N. Brudvig, Rev. M. B. Lokkesmoe, Rev. B. A. Benson, and Lars Haugen. They reported 70 pastors and 70 delegates with power to vote.

The first Executive Committee consisted of Rev. G. O. Paulsrud, President, Rev. N. N. Boe, Baltic, Vice President, Rev. S. Tollefson, Aberdeen, Secretary, T. Ditmandson, member at large and Rev. A. N. Brudvig, alternate.

## South Dakota District Presidents

Rev. G. O. Paulsrud resigned and Rev. N. N. Boe was elected President at the second meeting of the South Dakota District, June 11, 1918, at Fargo, North Dakota, during the General Church Convention, NLCA. Rev. N. N. Boe served as President until 1928. Rev. A. J. Bergsaker was President of the South Dakota District, ELC, from 1929 to 1931, followed by Rev. H. E. Solum, Baltic, who served until June, 1937, when Rev. L. A. Pierson, Madison, was elected. Dr. L. A. Pierson served untiringly until his death in March, 1958. The Vice President, Rev. E. O. Gilbertson of Brookings, assisted Dr. Pierson during the last few months before his death and served the interim until June, 1958, when he was elected to the Presidency of the South Dakota District, ELC. He continued to serve until the close of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, December 31, 1960, when he was elected as the first President of the South Dakota District of The American Lutheran Church.

## Vice Presidents

Vice Presidents having served since the South Dakota District was organized in 1917 are as follows: Pastors N. N. Boe, J. J. Ekse, A. M. Mannes, C. J. Eastvold, S. C. Eastvold, H. A. Okdale, A. O. Sturvick, P. L. Mork, K. B. Vaaler, A. Moe, J. C. Stoltenberg, A. L. Abrahamson, S. Moe, E. O. Gilbertson, and E. Nervig.

## Secretaries and Treasurers

The following pastors have served as secretaries in the South Dakota District, ELC: S. Tollefson, L. O. Sunde, R. Walledom, C. O. B. Ness, H. B. Bestul, H. A. Oerke, B. R. Biorn, A. P. Nelson, I. J. Hastad, V. Bjerke, C. M. Bagaason, E. J. Haanstad, and E. Erickson. Pastor J. O. Vold was the first treasurer, 1934, followed by A. J. Evenson, T. B. Wetteland, C. Lokken, and W. A. Person.

## The ELC Moves Forward

The South Dakota District, ELC, included South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, and part of Wyoming. Pastors and delegates assembled in convention biennially within the District, and every other year during the time of the General Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, in whatever city that was held.

The Norwegian language was used to begin with, but gradually began to fade out in favor of the English language in the early 1920's, a few earlier. The District Minutes were written in Norwegian through the year 1921. By the late 20's and early 30's only an occasional Norwegian Sunday Service was held. Some congregations dropped the

Norwegian Sunday Service completely, but still had Norwegian Prayer Meetings or a Midweek Service, the last such regular meeting being held about 1940. It was very difficult for many of the older people to experience this transition.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in the South Dakota District, as in others, has met and dealt with many problems, as well as progression to greater service and witness. There was the language transition, depression of the 30's, war, displaced persons, increased work of the Charities Department, Home and Foreign Missions, Education, Evangelism, Lutheran Student work, Stewardship, radio and parish realignment and merger with the American Lutheran Church and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Five men were elected to look into the matter of buying a home for the District President in 1943. This was accomplished by 1945. A new district parsonage was built just across from the Augustana Campus in 1951, the parsonage being dedicated in 1953 by Dr. L. M. Stavig, President of Augustana College.

By 1945 congregations were beginning to broadcast some of their Sunday services over the radio stations. The District Convention in June, 1945, elected its first radio committee.

The Lutheran Student Association or LSA, an autonomous lay movement of Lutheran college students, began in the thirties. In 1947 a committee was elected by the District to encourage support of Lutheran student work in non-Lutheran colleges in the District. The Lutheran Student Foundation was organized in 1957, as a statewide agency of the National Lutheran Council.

The first Home Mission Committee in the South Dakota District, ELC, was: Rev. J. A. Blilie, Flandreau, Rev. A. J. Bergsaker, Dell Rapids, Rev. J. J. Skarpness, Centerville, Mr. I. T. Hanson, and Mr. Jermias Fries. By 1957, Dr. Pierson reported to the District Convention that 58

new church buildings had been erected in the District during the twelve year period just past, and that the baptized membership of the District at that time was almost 96,000. Dr. Philip S. Dybvig, formerly from South Dakota, and having served parishes in this District, has been Director of the Home Mission Department of the ELC since 1940.

The three main auxiliaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Women's Missionary Federation (WMF), Lutheran Brotherhood, and Luther League, have been very active in the District, wholeheartedly supporting the work of their church. Each organization held Circuit and District conventions. Bible Camps have increased in number and attendance since the 1930's. Each of these auxiliaries of the church aimed at winning and holding their people for Christ. A marked change in the WMF has been the transition from a great number of suppers and bazaars to support by Worship Offerings.

The South Dakota District has been active in support of Lutheran World Relief. Each fall the congregations of the District join hands with other Lutherans, as well as other denominations to gather used clothing for those in need overseas.

Augustana College has, for many years, at a nominal cost, furnished office space for the District President. The District Presidents had only part-time office help until March, 1959, when Mrs. Marvin Oines was hired as the first full-time secretary in the District Office.

The total baptized membership of the South Dakota District, ELC, at the time of merger of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, American Lutheran Church, and United Evangelical Lutheran Church into The American Lutheran Church, was 111,912. The total baptized membership of the whole Evangelical Lutheran Church just prior to this merger was 1,153,566 baptized members.

God bless the continuing work of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as it joins hands with other Lutheran Synods in furthering the work of the Kingdom of God.

## District Presidents

Rev. G. O. Paulsrud

Rev. G. O. Paulsrud, born July 13, 1867, at Sor-Odal, Akershus, Norway, immigrated to the United States in 1888. He attended Red Wing College, Hamma Divinity School and the University in Oslo, Norway. Rev. Paulsrud was Pastor of Immanuel Lutheran, Chicago, 1899-1901; and 1901-42, at Randall, Iowa. He was elected first President of the South Dakota District, in 1917, followed

by Rev. N. N. Boe in 1918. Rev. Paulsrud also served on the Board of Education, and the Home Mission Board. He was author of "The Laymen Movement in the Light of History and the Word of God," and "A Song-book for Male Voices." He was married to Anna Olson in 1899. To this union was born Rev. Jordan O. Paulsrud. Pastor G. O. Paulsrud died in 1955.

Reverend Nils N. Boe  
(1861-1938)



The Right Reverend Nils N. Boe was born in Vang, Norway, on April 1, 1861, to Nils K. and Bertha Boe, immigrated to the United States in 1868, and made his home in Northfield, Minnesota. He attended St. Olaf College, received his B.A. degree from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and was graduated from Luther Theological Seminary in 1889. He did further graduate study at the University of Chicago in 1899.

Following his ordination at Our Savior's Lutheran

Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1889, Rev. Boe became a pioneer of the gospel in Montana and "carried the torch of Lutheranism throughout the northwest." He was the first Scandinavian Lutheran minister in Montana and established churches in Helena, Butte, Great Falls, Missoula, Sand Coulee and other points.

Rev. Boe came to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in 1892 and served parishes in Sioux Falls, Brandon and Springdale until 1904. From 1904-17 he was pastor of the Nidaros Congregation, Baltic, South Dakota. He was President of the South Dakota District (NLCA), comprising the states of South Dakota, Nebraska Wyoming and Colorado from 1918-1926, when he resigned because of ill health. Rev. Boe served the Sinai parish from 1930-1937.

In 1911 Rev. Boe was appointed a member of the Union Committee which effected the merger of three Synods into the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America (NLCA) in 1917. He was a member of the Home Mission Board and the Synod's Pension Board. He frequently contributed papers and treatises for conferences and church meetings. "Proofs of the Truth of Christianity" was published in 1907.

Rev. Boe was one of the founders of the Sioux Valley Hospital, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and served as President of the hospital board, from 1905-1918. He was instrumental in the establishment of Augustana College in Sioux Falls.

Rev. Boe was married to Sissel Catherine Finseth of Kenyon, Minnesota, in 1900. Five children were born to this union: Dagny, Karen, Borghild, Lois (Mrs. F. E. Hyslop, Jr.), and Nils A. Boe.

Rev. Boe passed away on November 19, 1938, at the age of 77 years.



Rev. Anders J. Bergsaker  
(1877 - 1951)



Anders Johannessen Bergsaker was born January 23, 1877, at Hogsfjord, Rogaland, Norway, to Johannes and Martha (Barkve) Bergsaker. He immigrated into this country in 1892. Mr. Bergsaker attended State Teachers College, Mankato, Minnesota, in 1898; St. Olaf College, (BA) in 1902; U. C. Seminary, (CT), 1905; University of South Dakota, 1919-20; Augustana College, 1931 (LL-D); Luther College (DD), 1931.

Pastor Bergsaker was pastor in Slayton, Minnesota 1905-10; Dell Rapids, S. Dak. 1910-18; Elk Point, S. Dak., 1918-24; President of South Dakota District, ELC, 1926-31; General Stewardship Director, 1931-51; General Secretary, ELC, 1934-51; and Director of Appeal for Pensions, ELC, 1951, passing away November 23, 1951. Dr. Bergsaker served on many boards and committees, such as Beloit Children's Home, Augustana College, Cooperation with other Lutheran Synods, Centennial Campaign, ELC, Luther College Emergency Appeal, Boe Memorial Chapel Appeal, Lutheran World Action, American Missions, and was delegate in 1930 to the 900th anniversary of the introduction of Christianity into Norway, as well as delegate of the ELC to Lutheran World Federation, Lund, Sweden, 1947.

Rev. A. J. Bergsaker married Hulda M. Lunder in 1911, to which union were born Marie (Mrs. Ole Odney), Elsa (Mrs. John MacBean), Christy (Mrs. S. E. Tande), Alpha (Mrs. James Lambrecht), and Arnold.

Rev. Henry E. Solum

Henry Solum, son of Elling and Ambjor Solum, was born September 7, 1867, on a farm near Spring Grove, Minnesota. He was baptized by Rev. C. A. Clausen and confirmed by Rev. St. S. Reque, in Spring Grove, Minnesota.

Henry Solum graduated from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, in 1890 and Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, 1893. During his ministry he served the following congregations: Deadwood, South Dakota, 1893-94; Dallas, Fort Worth and Prairieville, Texas, 1894-96; Renville, Minnesota, 1896-99; Kirkoven, Minnesota, 1900-02; Brandon-Springdale, East Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 1904-09; Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 1904-12; Story City, St. Petri, North St. Petri, Iowa, 1912-18; Baltic, Nidaros, and St. Olaf, Baltic, S. Dak., 1918-31, and Trinity Congregation, Spring Grove, Minnesota, 1942-45. He served as President of Willmar Seminary from 1899-1904, and President of the South Dakota District of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America from 1931-37. Rev. Solum was a member of the Board of Education of the Norwegian Synod from 1914-17 and the Board of the N.L.C.A. from 1919-31.

Rev. Henry E. Solum was united in marriage to Randi Loberg of Minneapolis in 1895. To this union five children were born: Nina, Arthur, Rolf, Tora, and Henry. Rev. Solum passed away January 5, 1946, at the age of 78 years.

Following is a paragraph from the District President's message to the District Convention meeting in 1932, following Rev. Solum's first year as President, "Our District has this last year passed through a very difficult period. The grasshoppers and the drought added to the general depression, making even church work, especially the ingathering



of the local and general budgets, difficult. Many of our pastors have had a very small income during the past year."

Rev. Solum announced to the 1937 convention that he had decided to retire and would not be a candidate for re-election. This year marked the 20th anniversary of the union of the three church bodies in 1917.

Rev. Lester A. Pierson, D. D.  
(1892-1958)



Lester A. Pierson was born May 6, 1892, at Wedron, Illinois, to Jacob and Annie (Classon) Pierson. He graduated from Pleasant View Academy in 1914; St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, (BA) in 1920; Luther Semi-

nary, (CT) 1923; (B Th) 1926; and (STM) 1920; Augustana College (DD) 1939; U. S. Army, 1918-19.

Rev. L. A. Pierson served as Pastor in Ames, Iowa, 1923-33, and at Trinity Lutheran, Madison, South Dakota, 1933-37.

June 8, 1937, Rev. L. A. Pierson, Madison, South Dakota, was elected to be President of the South Dakota District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, serving in this capacity until his death on March 17, 1958. Rev. Pierson, in addressing the Convention assembly as he took over his job as District President said, "I accept the job if I can continue to be a pastor, as that is the work I like above all else." He added, "I will now consider the South Dakota District as my parish."

June 5, 1957, on behalf of the district pastors, Rev. Philip Natwick expressed to Dr. Pierson thanks for his unselfish service and announced that a Bishop's Cross had been ordered from Norway, as a token of their esteem for him.

A Pierson Memorial Fund was set up by the South Dakota District, ELC, for the establishment of a Pierson Scholarship Fund at Augustana College, the first recipient being Mr. Robert Pierson, son of the late president. A portrait of Dr. Lester A. Pierson, President of the South Dakota District, ELC, was hung in the State Capitol building in Pierre, South Dakota.

Rev. L. A. Pierson was married to Edith L. Branstad. Their children are: Margaret (wife of Rev. Wallace A. Hunstad), Richard (Pastor at Muskegon, Michigan), Paul (Pastor at Bellevue, Washington), and Robert (student at Augustana College).

Rev. E. O. Gilbertson



Everett O. Gilbertson was born January 25, 1915, at Walum, North Dakota, to Oscar A. and Clara J. (Everson) Gilbertson. He graduated from Concordia College (BA) in 1936; Luther Seminary (B Th), 1940; and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity at Augustana College, June 1, 1959.

Rev. Gilbertson served pastorates in Absarokee, Montana, 1940-43; Crosby, North Dakota, 1943-48; and Brookings, South Dakota, 1948-58. He was elected International YPLL President in 1948, a post he held until 1951. He was elected to the Presidency of the South Dakota District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in June, 1958, following the death of Dr. L. A. Pierson. As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Council and other committees, he was concerned about many things relating to the constituting conventions and merger of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, American Lutheran Church, and United Evangelical Lutheran Church into the American Lutheran Church body.

Everett O. Gilbertson married Olivia Torvik in 1939. They have a family of six children, Daniel, Mark, Philip, Carol, Jean, and Stephen.

# Institutions and Agencies

Augustana College



THE AUGUSTANA CAMPUS

1. Science & Little Theatre
2. Parking Lot
3. Mikkelsen Library
4. Administration Building
5. ELC District Parsonage (Off Campus)
6. Mental Health Center (Off Campus)
7. Old Main

8. Men's Hall
9. Faculty Offices
10. East Hall
11. Viking Manor
12. Tuve Hall
13. Art Center
14. Commons Building

15. Gymnasium
16. Viking Stadium
17. Music Annex
18. Proposed Science Site
19. Solberg Hall
20. South Campus

While Augustana has chosen to mark its beginning with its founding in Chicago in 1860, there were several earlier institutional beginnings which are a part of the College's tradition and which have affected its development. These go back at least to 1835 with the founding of Hillsboro Academy in Hillsboro, Illinois.

In 1835, America was a young, fluid nation, beginning to form out of the wilderness. There were only 24 states in the Union. Illinois, in which the College was founded, was a raw frontier area. The Sioux Indians were undisputed

masters of that vast and lonely buffalo pasture that was to become the Dakota Territory, and the West was yet to be won.

It was in this frontier setting that a party of citizens in Springfield, Illinois, decided to acquire and move the Hillsboro school to Springfield. In 1846, the name of Hillsboro Academy had been changed by a Lutheran group to "The Literary and Theological Institute of the Lutheran Church of the Far West." With the move to Springfield, the institution's name was changed to The Illinois State



University. Abraham Lincoln is said to have provided a portion of the funds for the establishment of the school in Springfield, for which he was given a "founders scholarship," which was used by his son, Robert Todd.

In 1855, Lars Paul Esbjorn was appointed to the Scandinavian chair in the Illinois State University. By 1860, differences which had arisen within the school community concerning matters of church doctrine and which were sharpened by varied language and cultural backgrounds came to a climax. Esbjorn and a group of associates left Springfield and moved to Chicago and established Augustana. Seven years later, largely as a result of the withdrawal of support of the Lutherans, the Illinois State University closed, leaving Augustana as a stepchild of the train of events that had begun in Hillsboro over a generation before. (1)

Augustana's beginning is officially dated at June, 1860, when a small group of Norwegian and Swedish immigrants met at Jefferson Prairie, near Clinton, Wisconsin, to make plans for an American institution to supply the need for pastors for the newly expanding Lutheran Church. Because it would adhere to the beliefs stated in the Augsburg Confession the new school was called *Augustana Seminary*.

Pastor L. P. Esbjorn, who had distinguished himself in Christian education, was invited to be President of the College and to continue his work as a professor. The first academic year officially opened on September 1, 1860, with 21 young men enrolled, classes being held in the basement of the Norwegian Lutheran Church on Franklin Street in Chicago. King Charles XV of Sweden donated 5,000 books from his own library.

#### *Relocated in Paxton, Illinois*

Since the Scandinavian settlers were constantly moving westward, the school was moved to Paxton, Illinois. The school was re-named *Augustana College and Seminary*.

It was required that there be Norwegian, Swedish, and English professors. August Weenaas from Norway was called to fill the Norwegian position. He soon advocated a division between the Norwegian and Swedish elements supporting the school. With no bitter feelings the groups divided in 1869, the Swedish group forming Augustana College of Rock Island, Illinois.

#### *Marshall, Wisconsin*

During the following years, Augustana suffered severely due to lack of funds. It was difficult for the Norwegian faction to re-locate their school.

An Academy in Marshall, Wisconsin, was being abandoned and arrangements were made to move Augustana to Marshall. The Academy building and property were given to supporters of Augustana on condition they continue a classical academy for the use of the community, teaching liberal arts and training teachers.

The school opened in the fall of 1869 under the names, *Augsburg Seminary and Marshall Academy*. At this point women students were admitted, making it the first Scandinavian school in America to become co-educational. All theological students were given free room, board, and tuition.

August Weenaas served as President from 1869-71.

At this time the supporting Lutheran Synod began to split along national lines, as Augustana had done previously. President Weenaas resigned, several theological students followed him, and two years later, this group located in Minneapolis, as *Augsburg Seminary*.

Augustana had a will to live and 15 remaining students began the fall term with Professor J. J. Anderson as President. He exhibited his firm belief in the necessity for Christian Education in one of his annual reports:

(1) *Tom Kilian—Report for Ford Foundation.*

"When we consider the great need of the church, the everywhere apparent lack of Christian teachers among our people, how young people grow up in unrestrained conditions, without God, when we consider all this we must plainly see the necessity of maintaining a Christian school for the training of teachers of the church. If we do not begin by building up our holy faith in the school, in the hearts of the children, neither will we need Lutheran pastors in the future. As the schools are, so will the church be. The Lutheran Church cannot survive on moral principles; . . . it requires the teaching of the true faith, which can only be attained by diligent instruction and study of God's Word, accompanied by the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit." (2)

#### *Beloit, Iowa*

Since the Synod was not benefiting as it should, it was decided to move to an area where it could better serve the Norwegian Lutheran people. It was decided the school should move again. After a great struggle against weather and other odds, school began in Beloit, Iowa, April 1, 1881.

#### *Canton, South Dakota*

Augustana Seminary and Academy existed in Beloit from 1881-83, when the Academy was moved to Canton, the *Seminary remaining in Beloit*. Professor M. D. Miller became President, and courses were offered beyond the secondary level and the name was changed to *Augustana College*, Canton, South Dakota. Sixty-seven students were instructed by a faculty of five.

In 1890 the Synod voted to have only one seminary and all others were disbanded. All the Seminary students became members of the sole seminary of the Synod, Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis.

Anthony G. Tuve, a young man of obvious talents, became a member of the faculty in 1890. His work was so impressive that he was asked to become President at the age of 26.

In 1893, the fiscal year, due to the panic of that year, closed with a deficit of \$600. The Synod wanted to close Augustana and concentrate its efforts on St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota. The responsibility for the school's existence was left in the hands of the young President, Anthony G. Tuve. All the faculty members, except the music teacher, who later became Mrs. Tuve, accepted positions elsewhere.

President Tuve instigated the Augustana College Association, an association of interested people in the Canton area, who gave financial help because they were unwilling to see Augustana die. The school closed the year with a balance of \$163.38.

The school moved in 1901, because of need for larger accommodations, to the east side of Canton and another building was added.

Between 1894 and 1918, the school grew from 72 to 324 students.

President Tuve resigned in 1916, after 26 difficult years, and was succeeded by Dr. Paul M. Glascoe, who presided for two years.

#### *Sioux Falls, South Dakota*

The College enjoyed comparative prosperity in Canton. In 1918, following the union of three Lutheran synods into the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, the College moved to Sioux Falls and merged with the Lutheran Normal School, which had been in Sioux Falls since 1889, forming the present *Augustana College*.

The first President of the merged school, Augustana College, was H. S. Hilleboe, who presided for two years, helping to raise Augustana's academic standards. C. O. Solberg, who was President from 1920-28, enlarged the (1) *Manuscript by Emil Erpestad—1956.*



curriculum to a more complete four year program. By 1926 the school was fully accredited with the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

C. O. Solberg resigned from the presidency in 1928. Rev. H. J. Glenn, Pastor of First Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, was temporary president until 1929, when Dr. O. J. H. Preus became president. In spite of a severe depression and drought, the school made progress.

Rev. C. M. Granskou entered the presidency in 1932. All through the depression years of the 1930's, the teachers bore the brunt of the financial burden. Teaching loads were increased and salaries reduced by 10%. Despite these problems the college made substantial progress during the years leading to World War II.

Dr. L. M. Stavig began his term as President in 1943, facing the immediate problems of low enrollment and a lack of funds. As these difficulties were overcome, he led an active program of campus development and made important academic progress. The faculty has been greatly strengthened and the curriculum broadened and enriched.

The Centennial was celebrated, beginning with Commencement in 1960, by many organized events and activities, including an international choir tour in Norway and Germany.

Augustana College now numbers 16 buildings on an attractive, 75 acre campus. The 1960-61 school year was marked by a total attendance of 1521 students, 1177 of these being full-time students, and a faculty of nearly 100. Dr. L. M. Stavig serves as President.

Many pastors and other full-time Church workers, as well as hundreds of teachers and workers in other fields, have been trained at Augustana College.

Thus, in 1960, Augustana had developed into an institution of quality and permanence. It is the oldest and

largest privately operated college in South Dakota. It offered instruction in over 40 major areas of study. It had a staff of about 200 teachers and workers. It operates an Evening College, Summer School, extension centers and many other educational services. It is planning to launch a division of graduate study. It is highly accredited and a member of numerous educational and learned societies and groups. It has established a reputation of sound academic achievement. The future growth of the college is carefully planned. The school is dedicated to the provision of an increasing measure of service to the Lutheran Church in the South Dakota District.

The late Rev. Emil Erpestad, a former professor in the Christianity Department, had this to say: "In view of the fact that ultimate Reality is changeless, ultimate aims have a legitimate and important place in an educational program. On the basis of a theocentric world-view, it is to be expected that the ultimate aim of education is to help individuals to know God, and to live a life of service to Him and to the people who bear His image. This aim implies self-realization of the highest order. It calls for increasing knowledge of the truth and willingness to use that truth for a worthy purpose. It requires the development of native capacities in the direction of their greatest usefulness. It implies growth toward moral perfection as that perfection is to be seen in God revealed in the personality of Jesus Christ. It is dependent upon growth of love toward God and toward all people. It implies the development of the ability to evaluate in order that one may constantly seek what is good and oppose what is evil." (2)

*(Most of  
Information gleaned from 1961  
Centennial edition of EDDA.)*

(2) 1961 EDDA, P. 63.

## Augustana Academy



## Augustana Academy

Augustana Academy traces its origin to a meeting held near Clinton, Wisconsin, in June, 1860, when a group of Swedish and Norwegian Lutherans agreed to organize the Scandinavian Augustana Synod and decided to establish an educational institution in Chicago, Illinois. The school was to be known as Augustana Seminary and was established for the purpose of preparing young men for the Christian ministry and for teaching.

Augustana Seminary began its work in September, 1860, with an enrollment of twenty-one young men and a faculty of two. There were no departmental divisions in the school but elementary, secondary, college, and theological subjects were taught in an effort to meet the different needs of the students.

In 1863 the institution was moved to Paxton, Illinois, in order to take advantage of an offer of a tract of land provided by the Illinois Central Railroad. While at Paxton the school grew considerably, but failed to attract any considerable number of Norwegians, since it was located too far from their settlements.

In order to serve the Norwegian immigrants and their children more effectively, the school was divided along national lines and the Norwegian division was relocated in Marshall, Wisconsin, in 1869. Two departments were provided: a theological seminary and a classical academy. The academy opened its doors to both boys and girls. Thus it pioneered in co-education among Norwegian Lutherans.

During the summer of 1870 the Augustana Synod was divided, as the school had been divided the preceding year. The members of the Norwegian division, however, were not able to come to agreement among themselves and formed two synods. The one division, known as the Norwegian-Danish Conference, retained the theological seminary and ultimately moved it to Minneapolis. The Norwegian Augustana Synod kept the classical academy. In 1874 the Synod also opened its own theological school, which was moved from a parsonage in Iowa to Marshall in 1874.

The westward movement of members of the Norwegian Augustana Synod made it necessary to again re-locate the school in order to continue serving its constituency. Consequently, it was moved to Beloit, Iowa, in 1881.

The school soon outgrew its accommodations in Beloit. As a result, the academy division was moved to Canton, South Dakota, in 1884, in response to an offer by the people of Canton to present the institution with a large building suitable for dormitory and classroom use. The seminary division remained at Beloit.

Even though the institution continued to experience difficulties after it had been established in Canton, it prospered through the years. College courses were offered part of the time. Two students completed four years of college

work and received their degrees. In 1918 the school experienced a peak enrollment of 330 students.

The school was consolidated with the Lutheran Normal School in Sioux Falls, in the fall of 1918, to form Augustana College and Normal School. The merged institution was located on the Sioux Falls campus, where it continued to maintain the academy division.

In 1919 a normal school was opened on the Canton campus and operated as an independent institution.

At its general convention in 1925 the synod agreed to turn over management of the schools in South Dakota to a corporation consisting of the South Dakota District and neighboring counties in Minnesota and Iowa. The work in both Canton and Sioux Falls was then placed under the supervision of one board of directors. Over a period of years, all academy work was moved to the Canton campus and all normal training to the Sioux Falls campus. The Canton school was then known as Augustana College Academy.

In 1932 the academy was separated from the college and placed under the control of its own association and board of directors. It was then given the name Augustana Academy. Since that time Augustana Academy and Augustana College have operated as separate institutions, each concentrating on its own field.

Throughout its history Augustana Academy has maintained a warmly evangelical emphasis that has provided opportunity for profound Christian experiences on the part of its students.

The new constitution of Augustana Academy, ratified in 1960, provides that it be owned and operated by the Augustana Academy Corporation, consisting of congregations of The American Lutheran Church which elect membership in the corporation. Direct control and operation is vested in the Board of Regents, whose fifteen members are elected from member congregations. They elect the president and determine the general policies and program of the school. The Academy will be under the supervision of the Board of College Education of the Division of Christian Education.

Augustana Academy is located just outside the eastern limits of Canton, South Dakota, in the Big Sioux River Valley, providing an excellent setting for a residential high school.

Subjects taught at the Academy are Theology, Athletics, Business Education, Driver Education, English, Home Making, Industrial Arts, Latin, Library, Mathematics, Music, Natural Science, Social Science, History, Speech, Art, etc.

Students come to Augustana Academy from scattered places, besides many locally. Many Foreign Missionaries send their children to Augustana Academy for their High School education. Many young people who have attended the Academy, become teachers, ministers, or missionaries.

## The Lutheran Welfare Society

*October 7, 1920*, the Lutheran Children's Home Finding Society of South Dakota was officially incorporated. Later this name was changed to the Lutheran Welfare Society of South Dakota.

A few months later a maternity and receiving home for children was opened at 407 North Spring Avenue, Sioux Falls. This became the headquarters of the organization. *March 26, 1921*, Miss Bertha Bragstad, formerly matron at Beloit Children's Home, Beloit, Iowa, was chosen to direct the program. On *March 22, 1939*, the first license to be received by a child care agency in the state was issued to the Lutheran Welfare Society by the Division of Child Welfare of the State of South Dakota.

In *January, 1943*, the property at 327 South Duluth Avenue was purchased to be used for offices and as a receiving center.

*September 1, 1949*, the Rev. Benjamin Gjenvick became the director of the agency. He served in this capacity for four years.

*August, 1953*, Rev. Oliver Bergeland, present Director, was called to head the work of Lutheran Welfare in South Dakota.

In *June, 1960*, due to an expanded program of service and increased staff to meet the growing needs, additional property adjacent to the offices on Duluth Avenue was purchased for office space and remodeled to serve eight staff





members. Bragstad Hall, where help and counsel, as well as housing is given to unmarried mothers, is presently under construction and plans are under way for a new Social Service Center.

### Bethesda Home for Aged Beresford, S. Dak.

One young pastor in the Hauge Synod had been dreaming of a home for aged folks, and an old man was looking for a home for aged folks. The Pastor was J. A. Quello of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Beresford, and the old man was O. J. Rendum, also of Beresford. Why not build the Home on the 20 acres partly occupied by the Children's Home? Mr. Rendum promised \$5,000.00 if the Pastor would raise \$10,000.00. First, however, permission had to come from the Synod. The convention first stated that it had so many other projects, and they felt that it was impractical to build an Old Folks Home. Rev. Quello and Rev. Skarpsness of Centerville, however, insisted on making an honest effort towards such a home. Permission was finally granted to go ahead on the project. Mr. Rendum contributed \$13,000.00 and other funds were gathered so that the building was completed and dedicated on October 18, 1914. This was a fine three-story structure with room and facilities for 32 residents. An infirmary unit was added in 1932, containing room for 18 more residents, and a full basement for laundry facilities. This section was connected to the Main by means of ramps for convenience. A third unit was added to the Main in 1949, with 27 rooms and three sun parlors. The home was now in position to care for 80 residents.

In 1952 Jorgen Jorgenson, a wheel chair resident, gave the Home a gift of money with which to install a passenger elevator. This made it possible for residents and workers to more safely and conveniently get around in the building. In 1954 a "Friend" of the Home donated enough money to install a sprinkler system in every nook and corner, minimizing fire danger. Bethesda was now a Home with all modern facilities and conveniences.

The spiritual care of the residents was not neglected. Arrangements were made with the pastors of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Beresford, South Dakota, to go out to the Home and conduct private devotions for those residents who were unable to go to the Church in town for services. Arrangements were made with them, also, for Sunday afternoon services and Holy Communion. When Rev. O. Brodland came to the Home, 1942-55, he conducted English services in the forenoons and Norse in the afternoons. Rev. E. O. Ulring served as Chaplain for one year 1955-56. A

The Lutheran Welfare Society has been an active Social Service agency in South Dakota for 40 years. Today and tomorrow, as in the past, the church will be called on through this agency to help people in need. Lutheran Welfare operates the only approved home for unmarried mothers in our state. Thus far, Lutheran Welfare has placed almost 1,000 children.

The program of Lutheran Welfare offers specialized service to emotionally disturbed children, directs and gives chaplaincy service to public institutions, hospitals, and private nursing homes, gives counselling service to individuals and families, directs a program for Christian Social Action, gives its services to anyone who needs them, regardless of color, creed, or financial status. It was an approved agency in South Dakota for the resettling of European displaced persons and refugees, giving several hundred families hope and courage to establish new homes, and is a licensed child-care agency.

Rev. Oliver Bergeland, Executive Director of Lutheran Welfare Society in South Dakota, sums it up this way, "The Church through this effort has extended the arm of love and service to meet a special need. Day by day, year after year, the Church will in this place, carry on a ministry of love and mercy as it goes the second mile in compassionate, understanding service."



Chapel had been made by taking two rooms in the north end of Main and removing the partition wall. Church pews were secured from the former Beloit Children's Home in 1949. Pastor N. O. Nelson came in 1953 and is still serving as Pastor and Superintendent of the Home. Ladies Aids and friends are loyal supporters and visitors throughout the year.

The following men have served as Superintendents of the Home:

Mr. J. J. Nygard .....	1914-17
Mr. A. W. Amundson .....	1917-20
Mr. J. O. Johnson .....	1920-48
Rev. A. J. Brakke .....	1948-52
Rev. Norman O. Nelson .....	1953-

The following ladies have served as matrons:

Miss Gusine Quello .....	1914-17
Miss Louise Thompson .....	1917-19
Miss Gunda Paulson .....	1919-20
Mrs. O. L. Johnson .....	1920-21
Mrs. Lena Hoiseth .....	1921-27
Mrs. Lizze Wevik .....	1927-30
Miss Jorgine Galstad .....	1930-39
Miss Ida Valen .....	1939-42
Mrs. Mabel Brodland .....	1942-49 & 1950-55
Mrs. Lena Larson .....	1949-50
Mrs. Emma Ulring .....	1955-56
Mrs. Josephine Egeland .....	1956-

## Bethesda Children's Home Beresford, S. Dak.



Bethesda Children's Home began in July, 1896, when a group of citizens of the community of Beresford, South Dakota, became concerned about the care of orphaned and dependent children. The convention of the Hauge Lutheran Synod held at Roseni Lutheran Church near Beresford voted to build the Bethesda Orphan's Home.

Care of children began October 1, 1897, in the building erected on a tract of land northeast of Beresford. Although officially owned by the Synod, the home was supported by numerous friends, particularly in South Dakota.

In 1952 a new one story building was completed to replace the original structure, which had outlived its usefulness. It is interesting that about this same time, Bethesda, also, demonstrated evidence of its changing program. Through the years a conviction grew among the child care workers throughout the United States, indicating that the care of orphaned and dependent children in a children's

home setting was not always appropriate. A natural home setting was better. Bethesda Children's Home gradually changed its program until at the present time it cares entirely for emotionally disturbed teenagers, who often seem to be able to rehabilitate more appropriately in a group situation. Special social workers give psychiatric guidance and counselling services to these children through the Lutheran Welfare Society of South Dakota and the Minnehaha County Mental Health Center.

As a result of providing care to these children with special needs, Bethesda has found it necessary and appropriate to reduce its population drastically. These emotionally disturbed children can be helped only as they have the opportunity for individual attention and only as the staff persons have the opportunity of becoming well acquainted with their habits, behavior, fears, desires, and philosophies. As a result, the number of children cared for at one time has decreased from the 50 to 75 children enrolled in 1915 to the 12 to 18 enrolled in 1959 and 1960.

The Bethesda Children's Home, near Beresford, occupies grounds adjacent to the Bethesda Home for Aged. They maintain a dairy and farming operations.

During the 62 years of operation, over 700 children have received care at the Bethesda Children's Home. The Home today is owned and operated by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the successor to the Synod. In January 1961, Bethesda will become a part of the new American Lutheran Church.

A. M. Banker is the 11th Superintendent and has directed the program since November, 1954. Former superintendents of the Bethesda Children's Home are:

The following have served as Superintendents of Bethesda Children's Home from 1897 to the present time:  
Rev. A. O. Utheim, H. Olsen, Rev. Hektor Moe, P. C. Nielson, A. W. Amundson, G. G. Walen, J. J. Nygaard, J. O. Johnson, Rev. A. J. Brakke, A. M. Banker.

## Bethesda Nursing Home Webster, S. Dak.

Many requests for residency came from the northern part of the State. Therefore, in 1955-56 Bethesda organized and sponsored the building of the fine modern Bethesda Nursing Home at Webster, South Dakota, at the request of the Aberdeen Circuit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, this Home to be an extended set-up from the Home for Aged at Beresford. The following men have served as Board

Chairmen thus far: Rev. C. M. Grindland, Rev. C. M. Bagaason, and Rev. Reid L. Seastrand. This home is built to serve approximately 40 people. The Board consists of seven dedicated members who meet one day each month to go over detailed reports on operations for the month and discuss numerous matters brought before them. The Superintendent is responsible to this Board and the Evangelical Lutheran Church, or its successor.

## Ephphatha Missions for the Deaf and the Blind Of The American Lutheran Church

The Ephphatha Missions Board of The American Lutheran Church established an Ephphatha Mission Center in the South Dakota District in the Fall of 1959 with Chaplain Sterling H. Simonson in charge of the center located at the East Side Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls.

Ephphatha Missions is a Service Agency of The ALC in behalf of those who are deaf and hard of hearing, those who are blind and partially sighted, and those who are both deaf and blind.

The Mission seeks to provide Chaplaincy service to the deaf children attending the South Dakota State School for the Deaf, and the adult deaf who live in the South Dakota District. In addition to this Chaplaincy Service, the Ephphatha Chaplain endeavors to serve as a "Resource Person" to all of the congregations in the South Dakota District as they seek to enrich their mission to persons of special need.



## Bible Camping in South Dakota District

### *Ne-So-Dak Bible Camp*

On March 16, 1942, a group of Pastors with a Christ centered concern for the youth of the Church formed the Ne-So-Dak Lutheran Bible Camp Association. These men were: Rev. J. C. Stoltenberg of Hayti, Rev. Agnar Tanner of Madison, Rev. Emil Erpestad of Wilmot, Rev. Clarence Hauge of Sinai, and Rev. J. L. Kildahl of Webster. These men became the first five directors of the corporation. The camp site purchased was part of Camp Dakota on the south shore of Lake Enemy Swim, Day County, South Dakota.

"The purpose for which this corporation is formed is to promote and conduct Bible Camps; but any other religious activities, approved by the majority of the members may be carried on by the corporation."

Since that time, the camp atmosphere and program

has blessed the lives of thousands of our young people in Eastern South Dakota. Many of the younger pastors in our churches first heard God's call at Ne-So-Dak. Scores of the key laymen in our congregations were called to serve Christ more fully through their Bible Camping experience. May we—the heirs of these pioneers—continue the Christ centered ministry they began.

Previous to this time those young people in the South Dakota District who attended Bible Camp went to camps in Minnesota.

The camp is owned and operated by a non-profit corporation representing the six northeast circuits in South Dakota District: Watertown, Madison, Aberdeen, Sisseton, Brookings, and Mitchell. Each Circuit elects corporation members who each serve a three year term. One from each circuit is elected to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.

## Lutheran Students on Non-Lutheran Campuses



Lutheran Student Center located near South Dakota State College, Brookings, South Dakota.

of \$100 per year. It was revealed that about 1600 students of Lutheran background were in this category.

### South Dakota Lutheran Student Foundation

The South Dakota Lutheran Student Foundation was organized in 1957 as a statewide agency of National Lutheran Council churches to develop and coordinate a campus ministry on state college campuses. Since this time campus workers have been active carrying out a ministry of preaching, teaching, counseling, calling, and recruiting. Student centers have been erected near campuses to facilitate a vigorous and vital program of worship, study, evangelism, service and recreation. Much of the work and programming is done in cooperation with the Division of College and University Work of the National Lutheran Council.

The Foundation staff serve as advisors to the Lutheran Student Association, an autonomous lay movement of Lutheran students.

The Foundation is a recognized arm of the Church's ministry of the Gospel to the campus.

Non-Lutheran campuses on which our Lutheran Church is active in the South Dakota District are: State College, Brookings; University of South Dakota, Vermillion; Yankton College; Huron College; Dakota Wesleyan, Mitchell, as well as Teachers colleges in Madison, Aberdeen, Spearfish, and Springfield.

In 1947 a committee of three members was elected by the South Dakota District, ELC, to encourage and support the Lutheran students at the non-Lutheran colleges. The District voted to subsidize this committee to the extent

## Aberdeen Circuit

### St. John's Lutheran Webster, S. Dak.

Organized: September 25, 1884.

First meetings held in homes, lodge hall, and in German Lutheran Church.

First Church built: 1892.

Second Church built: 1954.

Present Pastor: E. J. Haanstad (1960- )

Former Pastors:

C. M. Nodtvedt	1886-90
Johannes Granskou	1890-96
L. E. Hammer	1896-1902
O. O. Hofstad	1903-21
F. I. Schmidt	1921-28
J. L. Kildahl	1928-46
R. A. Wangberg	1947-54
C. M. Grindland	1954-60

Charter membership: 5 families

1960 membership: 1015 baptized; 696 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 267.

1960 total property valuation: \$406,000.00.

Last Norwegian Service, 1921.

Electricity 1903; running water 1908.



### Bethlehem Lutheran Church Aberdeen, S. Dak.

Organized: 1884.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1893; burned in 1924.

Second Church built: 1924-25; Educational unit, chapel built in 1952-58 (\$300,000).

Present Pastor: Johan Thorson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

N. O. Fierre	1887-91
O. Selsoe (died of typhoid)	1891
A. Flakoll	1891-97
Ole Glesne	1898-1916
Sander Tollefson	1916-24
A. Elmer Moe	1924-52
Edward Nervig	1952-58

Charter membership: unknown.

1960 membership: 2783 baptized; 1848 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 885.

1960 total property valuation: \$579,703.00.

Norwegian services until 1916, when they began to alternate with Norwegian and English. Broadcast over Station KSDN began in about 1940.



## St. John's Lutheran Bradley, S. Dak.

Organized: October 16, 1932.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: Purchased Methodist Church—1937.

Present Pastor: Donald Tastad (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Wm. L. Peterson	1929-39
J. C. Jerdee	1939-44
A. B. Heltne	1944-55
G. M. Singer	1955-59
H. O. Scobey (Interim)	1959-60

Charter membership: 43.

1960 membership: 182 baptized; 116 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 46.

1960 total property valuation: \$7,000.00.



## Crocker Lutheran Crocker, S. Dak.

Organized: March 16, 1918.

First meetings held in ———

First Church built: 1919.

Present Pastor: D. L. Tastad (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Previous to organization: J. B. Kålness  
(Lily) 1907-11; Hendrickson (Lily)  
1912-17.

A. M. Egge	1917-23
J. B. Rognlien	1923-25
J. O. Jovaag	1925-28
W. L. Peterson	1929-39
J. C. Jerdee	1939-44
A. B. Heltne	1944-55
G. M. Singer	1955-59
H. O. Scobey (Interim)	1959-60

Charter membership: 25.

1960 membership: 212 baptized; 108 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 50.

1960 total property valuation: \$4,000.00.



## Calvary Lutheran Church Bradley, S. Dak.

Organized: 1901.

First meetings in Carlson schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1911; destroyed by wind in 1912; Second built: 1914.

Present Pastor: Donald L. Tastad (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

J. U. Pederson	1901-03
M. Mickelsen	1903-05
C. J. Fylling	1906-14
O. A. Hofstad	1915-17
A. M. Egge	1918-23
J. B. Rognlien	1923-25
J. O. Jovaag	1925-28
W. L. Peterson	1929-39
J. C. Jerdee	1939-44
A. B. Heltne	1944-55
G. M. Singer	1955-59
H. O. Scobey (Temp.)	1959-60

Charter membership: 15.

1960 membership: 54 baptized; 34 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 17.

1960 total property valuation: \$2,500.

Calvary Lutheran merged with Crocker on September 1, 1960, so Calvary Church is no longer used for worship services.



## Our Savior's Lutheran Redfield, S. Dak.

Organized: May 5, 1905.

First meetings in old German Lutheran Church.

First Church built: 1911; Second: 1957-58.

Present Pastor: T. G. Wicks (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

R. U. Evjenth	1908-09
A. K. Gaard	1909-13
S. K. Knutson	1914-15
L. C. Jacobson	1916-18
C. L. Lee	1920-22
J. W. Swanbeck	1922-26
L. E. Brynestad	1926-29
C. S. Pederson	1929-33
L. M. Strand	1934-38
H. S. Bly	1939-48
O. G. Otterness	1949-53
A. E. Olson	1954-58

Charter membership: 12.

1960 membership: 639 baptized; 426 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 159.

1960 total property valuation: \$255,500.00.

In 1919 St. Paul's Lutheran merged with Our Savior's. In 1957 St. John's and Our Savior's merged.





## Evangelical Lutheran Church Langford, S. Dak.

Organized: March 19, 1887.

First meetings in rented hall above implement store.

First Church built: 1889; Second: 1958.

Present Pastor: George O. Thompson (1952- ).

### Former Pastors:

L. L. Nervig	1894-98
J. S. Halvorson	1899-1902
A. M. Danielson	1903-08
P. S. Stenerson	1909-13
O. M. O. Wee	1913-20
Nels Carlson	1920-29
O. B. Nilsen	1930-37
F. B. Molstre	1938-42
A. E. Distad	1943- Interim
Oscar Rud	1943-51

Charter membership: 14 families.

1960 membership: baptized 332; confirmed 223.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 130.

1960 total property valuation: \$102,500.

Parish hall built in 1931.



## Falnes Lutheran Church 3 S., 8 E. of Langford

Organized: March 17, 1884.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1885; (extension on Lynn Lake School).

Church built: 1891.

Present Pastor: George O. Thompson (1952- ).

### Former Pastors:

I. J. Skrondahl	1884-89
T. A. Gunnarson	1889-93
K. C. Hinderlie	1894-96
A. K. Flakoll	1897-1903
Albrecht Elle	1904-19
J. F. Melom	1919-23
O. M. Wangensteen	1924-28
Stephen Dale (Interim)	
A. E. Distad	1929-43
E. O. Midboe	1943-45
Oscar Rud	1945-51

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 136 baptized; 95 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 26.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,787.



## St. Paul Lutheran Church Frederick, S. Dak.

Organized: 1883.

First meetings held in homes; then Methodist Church.

First Church built: Basement 1923; Completed 1930.

Present Pastor: Gerhard Lingen (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Served from Aberdeen first 14 years.

N. A. Orstedal 1883-86

N. A. Giere 1887-91

A. K. Flakoll 1892-97

J. H. Lindland 1897-99

O. Glesne (from Aberdeen) 1899-1906

Methodists & Lutherans—Community Church—for a while.

K. G. Hatlen 1907-10

T. B. Thorson 1910-13

H. E. Haughland 1914-20

No pastor in 1921.

L. T. Larson 1922-25

T. E. Moen 1925-28

H. N. Christianson 1928-31

C. T. Paulson 1931-37

L. J. Odland 1938-43

B. L. Schroder 1944-47

T. B. Thorson (Interim) 1948-50

J. A. Hjelmeseth 1950-53

W. G. Ruohomaki (Suomi) 1953-58

Charter members: (1884) 60.

1960 membership: baptized 247; confirmed 159.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 99.

1960 total property valuation: \$23,800.00.



## Aurdal Lutheran Church 3 E. of Forbes, N. Dak.

Organized: December 21, 1883.

First meetings in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1886.

Present Pastor: Gerhard Lingen (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

E. T. Rogne 1885-88

J. D. Swalestuen 1888-90

N. A. Giere 1890-91

O. A. Selsoe 1891-Died. October, 1891

A. K. Flakoll 1892-95

No pastor 1895-97

J. H. Lindland 1897-1907

K. G. Hatlen 1907-10

T. B. Thorson 1910-13

H. E. Haughland 1914-20

No pastor 1921-22

T. E. Moen 1925-28

H. N. Christianson 1928-31

C. T. Paulson 1931-37

L. J. Odland 1938-43

B. L. Schroder 1944-47

T. B. Thorson 1948-50

J. A. Hjelmeseth 1950-53

W. G. Ruohomaki 1953-58

Charter members: no record.

1960 membership: 52 baptized; 46 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment—with St. Paul.

1960 total property valuation: \$7,000.



## Scandinavia Lutheran Church

7 E., 7 S. of Aberdeen, S. Dak.

Organized: 1880.

First meetings in sodhouse of A. C. Hanson.

First Church built: Built schoolhouse in 1882 to be used as church. Moved and remodeled in 1925.

Present Pastor: Hans Nelson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

J. E. Bergh (organizer)	L. E. Kjelaas
A. H. Gjevre	T. J. Gronningen
S. K. Ulsaker	O. Glesne
K. C. Hinderlie	O. J. Norby
C. M. Grimsrud	B. T. Anderson
O. H. Lund	Paul Sather -1948
O. J. Lundly	H. O. Scobey 1948-54
H. A. Oerke	R. J. Paulsen 1954-
N. A. Ofstedahl	

Charter membership: no record.

1960 membership: 201 baptized; 129 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 59.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.

English language began to be used in 1919. (Unable to find dates some pastors served.)



## Bethany Lutheran Church

Rural Mellette, S. Dak.

5 E., 4 N. & 1/2 E.

Organized: 1890.

First meeting in schoolhouse July 20, 1890.

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Hans Nelson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

S. K. Ulsaker	
L. E. Kjelaas	
K. C. Hinderlie	
T. J. Gronningen	1896-1901
C. M. Grimsrud	1902-08
O. Glesne	1908-10
O. H. Lund	1910-14
O. J. Norby	1914-23
O. J. Lundly	1923-36
B. T. Anderson	1936-38
H. A. Oerke	1938-43
Paul Sather	-1948
H. O. Scobey	1948-54
R. J. Paulson	1954-

Charter members: no record.

1960 membership: 78 baptized, 55 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 16.

1960 total property valuation: \$8,000.

(Unable to find dates of some pastors.)



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church Pierpont, S. Dak.

Organized: March, 1894.

First meetings in A. S. Lockrem Blacksmith Shop.

First Church built: 1903 (\$1,924.55).

Present Pastor: G. E. Udem (1955-61)

### Former Pastors:

L. L. Nervig	1894-98
J. S. Halvorson	1899-1902
A. M. Danielson	1903-08
P. S. Stenerson	1909-13
O. M. O. Wee	1913-20
Nels Carlson	1920-29
O. B. Nilsen	1930-37
B. F. Molstre	1938-42
A. E. Distad & Oscar Rud	1943-45
L. S. Gjerde	1946-50
A. R. Sellevold	1950-55

Charter members: 9 families.

1960 membership: 251 baptized; 165 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 70.

1960 total property valuation: \$27,500.00.

Up to 1959: 526 baptisms, 424 confirmands, 117 burials and 80 marriages.

Three full-time church workers from this congregation.



## Skudesnes Lutheran Church 8 E., 1 S. of Pierpont, S. Dak.

Organized: July 8, 1885.

First meetings in sod houses and dug-outs.

First Church: 1891; remodeled 1903.

Present Pastor: G. E. Udem (1955- ).

### Former Pastors:

L. E. Kjelaas	1885-94
J. U. Pederson	1894-1905
K. Knutson	1905-16
T. A. R. Elle	1916-19
J. F. Melom	1919-23
L. E. Hammer	1923
O. M. Wangensteen	1924-28
A. E. Distad	1929-43
E. O. Midboe	1943-45
A. E. Distad (Interim)	
L. S. Gjerde	1946-50
A. E. Distad	1950
A. R. Sellevold	1950-55

Charter membership: 35 adults.

1960 membership: 153 baptized; 120 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 18.

1960 total property valuation: \$22,450.00.

Annual salary of first pastor: \$80.

Fargo Circuit Convention held May 8-11, 1890 in Williamson's new barn. Attendance 400.





## Bergen Lutheran Church

6 N., 2 E. of Bristol

Organized: 1885.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: About 1892; dedicated May, 1901.

Second Church: Dedicated July, 1936.

Present Pastor: G. E. Udem (1955-1961).

Former Pastors:

C. M. Nodtvedt	1886-89
John Granskou	1889-92
L. E. Kjelaas	1892-96
A. K. Flakoll	1897-1903
Albrekt Elle	1904-19
J. F. Melom	1919-23
O. M. Wangensteen	1924-28
A. E. Distad	1929-43
Engebret Midbøe	1943-45
L. S. Gjerde	1946-50
A. R. Sellevold	1950-55

Charter membership: 17.

1960 membership: 207 baptized; 156 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 44.

1960 total property valuation: \$22,333.



## Bethesda Evangelical Lutheran Bristol, S. Dak.

Organized: June 3, 1889.

First meetings in Meth. Episcopal in Bristol.

First Church: 1892 (\$691.00); Second 1949-50.

Present Pastor: Norton C. Engelstad (1953- ).

Former Pastors:

T. Skrondahl—before organized.	
L. L. Nervig	1889-97
A. K. Flakoll	1897-1903
O. O. Hafstad	1903-19
O. M. O. Wee	1920-22
M. J. Nilsen	1924-43
E. L. Borg-Breen	1943-

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 580 baptized; 318 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 143.

1960 total property valuation: \$84,000.00.

Merger of Emmanuel and Bethesda on November 20, 1945, to Bethesda Evangelical. Bethesda church burned in 1948; Emmanuel used until new church was built in 1949-50.



## Zion Lutheran Church

2 S., 1 E. of Hillhead

Organized: 1897.

First meetings: Olson home and Bennett Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1920.

Present Pastor: Kermit Undseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Lars Bueide	1889-1903
Peder Houglum	1903-05
Michael Mickelsen	1906-10
Martin Lien	1910-23
Gisle Wettergren	1923-25
Ole Stensby	1925-30
Jacob Enderson	1931-37
Rasmus Dahle-Melsaether	1938-42
Erman Lunder (student)	1942
Casper Olson (Lay Pastor)	1943
Frank Anderson	1945-47
P. C. Oas	1948-52
Lowell Helstedt	1953-56

Charter members: 25.

1960 membership: 122 baptized; 100 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 37.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,900.

Last Norwegian services—1942.

Two pastors from this congregation.

Parish: Lake City, Zion, Trondhjem, and Immanuel.



## Trondhjem Lutheran Church

4 W., 1½ N. of Hillhead

Organized: 1886.

First meetings in Sam Olson schoolhouse and Swift schoolhouse, alternating.

First Church: 1904.

Present Pastor: Kermit Undseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Knut Olson Storlie	1884-85
Christian Nodvedt	1886-89
Lars Bueide	1889-1903
Peder Houglum	1903-05
Michael Mickelsen	1906-10
Martin Lien	1910-23
Gisle Wettergren	1923-25
Ole Stensby	1925-37
Rasmus Dahle-Melsaether	1938-42
	1942-45
Frank Anderson	1945-47
P. C. Oas	1948-52
Lowell Helstedt	1953-56

Charter membership: 20.

1960 membership: 105 baptized; 88 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 13.

1960 total property valuation: \$8,700.

Last Norwegian service in 1940.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church 9 E. of Havana, N. Dak.

Organized: 1900.

First meetings in Towaukon School No. 3.

First Church: 1910.

Present Pastor: Kermit Undseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Dahle-Melsaether	_____
A. S. Running	1908-18
A. I. Haugen	1918-29
K. O. Gjernes	_____
Jacob Enderson	1931-37
Frank Anderson	1945-47
P. Oas	1948-52
Lowell Helstedt	1953-56

Charter membership: 22 families.

1960 membership: 93 baptized; 53 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 34.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,800.00.

Last Norwegian services about 1940. Charter members donated one acre of field, each, seeded to grain, to go for expenses.



## Lake City Lutheran Church Lake City, S. Dak.

Organized: 1930.

First meetings in vacant Baptist Church.

First Church: Purchased old Britton Church and moved it into town—1950.

Present Pastor: Kermit Undseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Jacob Enderson	1931-37
E. Jorgenson	1937-39
Waldo Ellickson	1940-42
S. Gulsvig	_____
Frank Anderson	1945-47
P. C. Oas	1948-52
Lowell Helstedt	1953-56

Charter membership: 28.

1960 membership: 82 baptized; 57 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 32.

1960 total property valuation: \$4,300.00.

**First Lutheran Church**  
Britton, S. Dak.

Organized: 1886.

First meetings in homes and/or schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1893; Second: 1950.

Present Pastor: Reid L. Seastrand (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

L. H. Bueide	1889-1903
Peder P. Houglum	1903-06
Michael Mickelsen	1906-10
Martin Lien	1910-23
Alfred O. Storvick	1924-28
Amos Stolen	1928-29
Einar Jorgenson	1929-39
W. L. Ellickson	1940-46
S. W. Gulsvig	1947-55
C. M. Bagaason	1955-59

Charter membership: 11.

1960 membership: baptized 893; confirmed 587.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 296.

1960 total property valuation: \$113,500.00.



**Pleasant Valley Lutheran**  
2 E., 1 N. of Kidder, S. Dak.

Organized: June, 1884.

First meetings held in Klefstad Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1904.

Present Pastor: Reid L. Seastrand (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Knut Storlie	1884-86
C. M. Nodtvedt	1886-90
L. H. Bueide	1890-1903
P. P. Houglum	1903-05
M. Mickelsen	1906-10
Martin Lien	1910-23
G. J. Wettergren	1923-25
O. L. Stensby	1925-37
E. Jorgenson	1938-39
W. L. Ellickson	1940-45
S. W. Gulsvig	1947-55
C. M. Bagaason	1955-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 208 baptized; 128 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 63.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.

Last Norwegian service in 1937.





## Roslyn Lutheran Church

Roslyn, S. Dak.

Organized: 1883.

First meetings held in homes in 1882.

First Church: 1888; Second: 1943.

Present Pastor: Erwin L. Holm (1954-61).

Former Pastors:

K. O. Storlie and	
O. O. Lokensgaard	1882-86
C. M. Nodtvedt	1886-89
Johannes Granskou	1889-96
L. E. Hammer	1896-1921
B. O. Steffenson	1922-26
Stephen Dale	1927-33
E. M. Berg	1933-40
O. M. Simundson	1940-52
Served by Seminary Seniors until 1954.	

Charter membership —.

1960 membership: baptized 301; confirmed 236.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 71.

1960 total property valuation: \$54,000.

The Strand-Kjorsvig Community Rest Home, with a capacity for 30 persons, was opened in 1957. A speaking system was installed in the church in 1959, which makes it possible for the residents of the Home to listen to all the services, from Roslyn Lutheran, across the street.



## Fron Lutheran Church

4 W., 2 N. of Roslyn

Organized: July 6, 1886.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church used: September, 1890.

Second: September, 1944.

Present Pastor: E. L. Holm (1954-61).

Former Pastors:

C. M. Nodtvedt	1886-89
Johannes Granskou	1889-96
L. E. Hammer	1896-1921
B. O. Steffenson	1922-26
Stephen Dale	1927-33
E. M. Berg	1933-40
O. M. Simundson	1940-52
Seminary Seniors until 1954.	

Charter membership: 30.

1960 membership: baptized 341; confirmed 243.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 84.

1960 total property valuation: \$59,000.

Four pastors from this congregation.

Last Norwegian service in 1942. Plans are being made for 75th Anniversary.



## Trinity Lutheran Church

Houghton, S. Dak.

Organized: November 28, 1889.

First meetings held in homes, schools, hall over Post Office, Railroad Depot, and in sodhouses.

Basement built for new church in 1923; Church completed in 1926.

Present Pastor: Richard L. Lee (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

S. K. Ulsaker	1889
N. A. Giere	1890-91
A. K. Flakoll	1892-97
J. Lindland	1897-1902
O. Glesne	1902-16
Sander Tollefson	1917-22
Louis J. Larson	1923-25
T. E. Moen	1925-28
H. Christensen	1928-31
Melford Knutson	1931-34
B. T. Anderson	1934-38
H. O. Oerke	1938-43
Paul Sather	1943-48
Geo. Anderson	1949-57
Carl Thompson	1957-59

Charter membership: 22 families.

1960 membership: 136 baptized; 94 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 42.

1960 total property valuation: \$15,000.

In 1889 minister was called to serve 12 Sundays at \$150 per year, plus 50c a family assessment for his horse. Last Norwegian service in 1916, as there were many nationalities in community.



## Emmanuel Lutheran

Groton, S. Dak.

Organized: 1907.

First meetings held in homes, Verdon & Holum Schools, and Evangelical, and St. John's (Mo. Synod).

First Church built: 1929.

Present Pastor: Richard L. Lee (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

J. B. Kilness	1907-11
A. K. Hendrickson & O. Glesne	1911-16
A. M. Egge	1916-23
J. B. Rognlien	1924
Jonas Gjovaag	1925-28
Philip S. Dybvig (student)	1928-30
Melford Knutson	1930-34
B. T. Anderson	1934-38
Hjalmer Oerke	1938-43
Paul Sather	1943-48
George Anderson	1948-57
Carl Thompson	1957-59

Charter membership: 16 families.

1960 membership: 237 baptized; 146 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 70.

1960 total property valuation: \$26,500.

First families were from Minnesota and Iowa; a few from Norway. Congregation is planning a new church and parish house.



## Butler Lutheran Church

Butler, S. Dak.

Organized: 1886—Ebenezer & Faith Lutheran  
1934—Butler Lutheran

First meetings held in \_\_\_\_\_

First Church built: 1906 (Faith Lutheran).

1941—Ebenezer & Faith united to form one congregation.

Present Pastor: Roger W. Peterson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

<i>Ebenezer Lutheran</i>		<i>Faith Lutheran</i>	
I. J. Skron Dahl	1885-89	Rev. Metz	1885
T. A. Gunnarson	1889-93	Rev. Lebahn	-1892
J. Pederson	1893-1903	Rev. Hageman	-1892
M. Mickelsen	1903-06	Rev. Hummel	1892-97
C. J. Fylling	1906-14	Rev. Wunderlick	1897-1901
L. O. Sunda	1915-19	Rev. Huth	1901-03
K. J. Arne	1919-23	Rev. Peithman	1903-12
G. O. Gronseth	1923-26	Rev. Streich	1912-15
J. E. Jorgenson	1926-27	Rev. Schult	1915-21
L. F. Scheie	1927-34	Rev. Rath	1922-30
		Rev. Mueller	1930-34

(Two congregations united in 1934; name—Butler Lutheran Church.)

### *Butler Lutheran*

E. W. Rossing	1934-37
L. J. Odland (Temp.)	1937
E. O. Ellefson	1937-43
S. A. Stenseth (Temp.)	1943-44
O. S. Hoven	1944-50
William Hood	1950-53
O. Everson	1953-57
Edward Ulseth	1957-60

Charter membership: 28.

1960 membership: 193 baptized; 131 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 62.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.

Up to 1946 (60th Anniversary), 259 baptisms, 192 confirmands, 33 marriages, and 91 burials.

## Our Savior's Lutheran disbanded in 1960



## Our Savior's Lutheran Lily, S. Dak.

Organized: 1886; disbanded: 1960.

First meetings: H. Stephenson home.

First Church built: 1900.

Present Pastor: (Church disbanded—1960).

Former Pastors:

C. Notvedt	1886-89
J. Granskou	1889-91
L. L. Kjelons	1891-93
J. Pederson	1894-1900
A. Flakoll	1900-02
J. S. Holland	1902-03
M. Mickelsen	1903-06
C. J. Fylling	1906-14
L. O. Sunde	1915-19
K. J. Arne	1919-23
G. Gronseth	1923-26
J. E. Jorgenson	1926-27
L. F. Scheie	1927-34
E. Rossing	1934-37
E. O. Ellefson	1937-43
Rev. Odland	1943-44
O. S. Hoven	1944-50
W. A. Hood	1950-53
O. Everson	1953-57
Edw. Ulseth	1957-60

Charter membership: 11 families.

1959 membership: 290 baptized; 188 confirmed.

## Lily Lutheran Church Lily, S. Dak.

Organized: 1899.

First meetings held in Town Hall.

First Church: Basement 1913; Church 1915.

Present Pastor: Roger W. Peterson (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Thor Strand	1899-1903	E. Rossing	1934-37
O. A. White	1903-05	L. J. Odland	1937
J. B. Kilness	1905-11	Elmer Ellefson	1937-43
A. C. Hendrickson	1911-17	L. J. Odland	1943-44
L. O. Sunde	1917-19	O. S. Hoven	1944-50
K. J. Arne	1919-23	William Hood	1950-53
G. O. Gronseth	1923-26	O. Everson	1953-57
J. E. Jorgenson	1926-27	Edward Ulseth	1957-60
L. F. Scheie	1927-34		

Charter membership: 12-20.

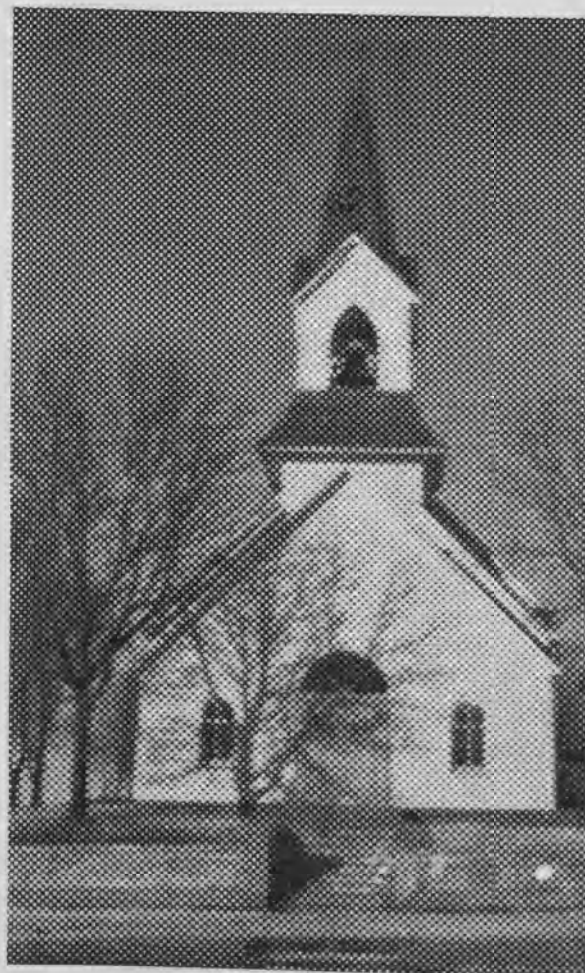
1960 membership: 266 baptized; 170 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 85.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,000.00.

First hymnbooks in English purchased in 1904.

The following from this congregation have gone into the ministry: Carl Hanson, Odean Monson, Donald Ausland, and William Gregerson.





## Black Hills Circuit

### Presho Evangelical Lutheran Presho, S. Dak.

Organized: 1892.

First meetings in Hellik Severson home.

First Church: 1907.

Present Pastor: Arvid Harklau (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

O. O. Rolfson	1915-20
G. N. Isolany	1920-27
P. M. Troen	1928-40
A. G. Baalson	1941-47
O. V. Smeby	1947-53
J. Helm	1953-60

Charter membership: 14.

1960 membership: baptized 243; confirmed 173.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 55.

1960 total property valuation: \$67,200.



### Kennebec Evangelical Lutheran Kennebec, S. Dak.

Organized: 1890.

First meetings held in Earling Church.

First Church: 1895.

Present Pastor: Arvid Harklau (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

H. M. Solem	1891-95
J. F. Swenson	1897-99
C. O. Rossing	1900-02
O. Tjomsland	1903-04
O. C. Strass	1905-10
H. Jenson	1910-15
O. O. Rolfson	1915-20
G. N. Isolany	1920-27
P. M. Troen	1928-40
N. G. Halvorson	1941 (temp.)
A. G. Baalson	1941-47
O. V. Smeby	1947-53
J. A. Helm	1953-60

Charter membership: 20.

1960 membership: baptized 81; confirmed 51.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 20.

1960 total property valuation: \$13,600.



## Hilmoe-White River Lutheran Presho, S. Dak.

Organized: 1892.

First meetings: Ole Schervem Home.

First Church: 1917.

Present Pastor: Arvid Harklau (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

H. M. Solem	1892-96
J. F. Swenson	1897-99
C. O. Rossing	1900-02
O. Tjomsland	1903-04
O. C. Strass	1905-10
H. Jenson	1910-15
O. O. Rolfson	1915-20
G. N. Isolany	1920-27
P. M. Troen	1928-40
A. G. Baalson	1941-47
O. V. Smeby	1947-53
J. A. Helm	1953-60

Charter membership: 15.

1960 membership: baptized 52; confirmed 38.

1960 total property valuation: \$8,000.00.

Merged with Presho-Vivian.



## Vivian Evangelical Lutheran Vivian, S. Dak.

Organized: 1894.

First meetings: At Knute Sletteo, Sr., home.

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Arvid Harklau (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

H. M. Solem	1892-96
J. F. Swenson	1897-99
C. O. Rossing	1900-02
O. Tjomsland	1903-04
O. C. Strass	1905-10
H. Jenson	1910-15
O. O. Rolfson	1915-20
G. N. Isolany	1920-27
P. M. Troen	1928-40
A. G. Baalson	1941-47
O. V. Smeby	1947-53
J. A. Helm	1953-60

Charter membership: 14.

1960 membership: baptized 146; confirmed 98.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 43.

1960 total property valuation: \$18,200.00.



## Faith Lutheran Church

Kadoka, S. Dak.

Organized: March 8, 1909.

First meetings: Held in homes and schools for approximately 26 years. (1908-34).

First Church built: 1933-34.

Second Church built: (in Kadoka) 1953-54.

Present Pastor: Allan R. Thoreson (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

R. U. Evjenth	1909-10
O. H. Olson	1910-28
H. Severin Bly	1928-29
E. O. Ellefson	1930-38
H. E. Rasmussen	1938-40
O. H. Olson	1940-41
Dale J. Simons	1941-42
Simons to Chaplaincy-World War II.	
H. O. Urness served interim.	
Dale J. Simons	1946-51
James R. Otterness	1951-55
Robert W. Henriksen	1955-57
Henriksen returned to serve interim.	

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 106 baptized; 80 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 35.

1960 total property valuation: \$37,000.00.



## Bethel Lutheran Church

Lead, S. Dak.

Organized: January 15, 1895.

First meetings held in Masonic Hall, then First Finnish Lutheran Church.

First Church built: 1901; Second 1955.

Present Pastor: H. B. Cleveland (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

Mr. Tollefson (lay preacher)	
H. E. Solum	1893
H. P. Berthelsen	1894-96
O. J. Akre	1896-1901
Vacant	
N. C. A. Garness	1902-07
Vacant	
Helmer Halvorson	1908-10
J. C. Johnson	1912-13
Edward Jordahl	1913-17
H. J. Peterson	1917-18
Chris Findahl	1918-19
A. H. Trygstad	1919-22
M. E. Hauge	1922-25
R. O. Aga	1925-27
E. C. Grevstad	1928-30
O. G. Malmin	1930-32
R. C. Reinholtzen	1932-35
R. A. Olsen	1935-45
A. J. Mathisen	1945-52
P. B. Pierson	1953-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 1,032 baptized; 443 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 341.

1960 total property valuation: \$101,500.00.

In 1920 English became official language.

Bethel Lutheran joined ELC in 1917.



**The Longvalley Community  
Lutheran Church of Our Savior  
Longvalley, S. Dak.**

Organized: July 29, 1956.

First meetings in Longvalley Community Hall.

First Church: Begun 1955; completed 1960.

Present Pastor: Allan R. Thoreson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Robert W. Henriksen 1955-57  
(James Otterness & Intern Carl Lee did  
work in community previous to organiza-  
tion, but Henriksen was first called pas-  
tor.)

Charter membership: 33 baptized souls.

1960 membership: 60 baptized; 29 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 38.

1960 total property valuation: \$26,500.00.

Holy Thursday Night, April 14, 1960, and Easter  
Sunday, April 17, the completed sanctuary used  
for first time. Church dedicated May 22, 1960.



**Lutheran Memorial Church  
Pierre, S. Dak.**

Organized: 1907 (joined ELC)—This Church  
is an outgrowth of Swedish Evangelical Lutheran  
Jemtlands Congregation, NE of Pierre, which  
in 1883 started with a membership of 21.

First meetings in homes and schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1899; Second 1942.

Present Pastors: Robert W. Ellison (1953- );  
Russell Lee (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

T. F. Gullixson	1907-11
K. A. Kasberg	1912-15
J. D. Larsen	1915-30
R. E. Anderson	1930-38
Norris Halvorson	1938-41
Wm. Trygstad (interim)	
Robert Bragstad	1942-44
Augustana students & B.E. Bergeson (Interim)	
Alvin Skibsrud	1945-48
David Boxrud	1948-53

Charter membership: 21.

1960 membership: 1,254 baptized; 743 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 498.

1960 total property valuation: \$241,000.00.

Rev. John Randahl served from Sioux Falls, once  
a month until 1886. Pastors from Minnesota  
also helped out. South Dakota District began  
drive for new church in capital city in 1939.





## Grace Lutheran Church Hayes, S. Dak.

Organized: 1920.

First meetings held in Union Church Building near Sansarc, and schoolhouse in Hayes.

First Church: Purchased Pleasant Valley church building and placed on foundation in Hayes, January, 1938. Relocated directly south in 1956, because of highway. New basement and tower added.

Present Pastors: Robert Ellison (1953- ).  
Russell Lee (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Prof. L. Banander	1920-23
Emil Johnson	1923-26
Interim served by students.	
C. G. Anderson	1938-40
From Pierre, beginning in 1940.	
Robert Bragstad	1942-44
Alvin Skibsrud	1945-48
David Boxrud	1948-53

Charter membership: 39.

1960 membership: 107 baptized; 61 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 29.

1960 total property valuation: \$15,000.00.



## Hilland Lutheran Church Philip, S. Dak. (rural)

Organized: 1906.

First meetings held in school and homes.

First Church built: 1920.

Present Pastor: Norval Hegland (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

C. L. Dalseide	1908
H. Jensson	1914-17
H. J. Stormo	1908-17
Gilman Lien	1918-19
H. S. Bly	1920-29
E. O. Ellefson	1930-37
H. E. Rasmussen	1938-39
D. J. Simons	1941-43 1946-50
James Otterness	1951-55
L. R. Vanderpan	1956-57
Curtis Fox	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 88 baptized; 58 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 10.

1960 total property valuation: \$3,000.00.

**First Lutheran Church**  
Philip, S. Dak.

Organized: 1906.

First meetings held: \_\_\_\_\_

First Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Pastor: Norval Hegland (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

H. J. Stormo	1908-17
Gilman Lien	1918-19
H. S. Bly	1920-29
E. O. Ellefson	1930-37
H. E. Rasmussen	1938-39
D. J. Simons	1941-43
J. A. Urness	1943-44 (interim)
D. J. Simons	1946-50
James Otterness	1951-55
L. R. Vanderpan	1956-57
Curtis Fox	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 328 baptized; 175 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 73.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.00.



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
11 W., 7 N. of Philip, S. Dak.

Organized: 1954-55.

First meetings held in homes of members.

First Church built: 1955.

Present Pastor: Norval Hegland (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Served since 1930, before organization by Pastors E. O. Ellefson, D. J. Simons, and H. E. Rasmussen.	
James Otterness	1951-55
L. R. Vanderpan	1955-57
Curtis Fox	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 102 baptized; 51 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 20.

1960 total property valuation: \$2,500.00.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church

4 S., 3 E. of Van Metre

Organized: July, 1908.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1924.

Present Pastor: Gerald Mundfrom (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Before organization, Ladies Society called pastors T. F. Gullixson and Nelson to alternate holding services.

C. L. Dalseide, T. J. Severtson, and H. L. Berg	1908-12
H. Jensson	1912-18
O. H. Olson	1918-48
David Boxrud, Pierre	1949
Roy Hagen-interim; and Melvin Walla (lay preacher)	1949-53
Merle Knutson (interim) and Mr. Charles Pegelow	1953-55
Arvid Myhrwold	1955-60

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 27 baptized; 27 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 2.

1960 total property valuation: \$8,000.00.

During 50 years, up to 1958, there have been 116 baptisms, 98 confirmands, 37 funerals, and 75 Holy Communion services.



## Deep Creek Lutheran Church

29 N., 6 W. of Midland

Organized: October 27, 1907.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1917; dedicated 1924.

Present Pastor: Gerald Mundfrom (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

C. L. Dalseide	1908-09
T. J. Severtson	1910-11
H. Berg	1911-12
H. Jensson	1913-18
Gilman Lien	1918-19
H. S. Bly	1920-28
O. H. Olson	1929-48
Mr. Melvin Walla	1949-53
James Otterness	1953-55
Arvid Myhrwold	1955-60

### Charter membership: 29.

1960 membership: 98 baptized; 73 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 11.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.00.

In 1954 church was moved to present site and set on new basement. Became part of Midland Parish in 1929.



**Midland Evangelical Lutheran**  
Midland, S. Dak.

Organized: 1913.

First meetings in homes—until 1931.

First Church: 1931—Bought Presbyterian Church;  
remodeled 1950; Educational unit 1959.

Present Pastor: Gerald Mundfrom (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

H. J. Stormo	
Gilman Lien	
O. H. Olson	1929-48
Mr. Melvin Walla	1949-53
Charles Pegelow	1953-55
Arvid Myhrwold	1955-60

Charter membership: 24.

1960 membership: 269 baptized; 147 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 130.

1960 total property valuation: \$39,000.00.

Midland Parish, consisting of Midland, Nowlin,  
Van Metre, and Deep Creek, formed in 1929.



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Nowlin, S. Dak.

Organized: 1909.

First meetings in homes of members—until 1921.

First Church: Moved former Methodist Church  
from south of Nowlin to town—1921.

Present Pastor: Gerald Mundfrom (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

O. H. Olson	1910-48
Mr. Melvin Walla	1949-53
Charles Pegelow	1953-55
Arvid Myhrwold	1955-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 42 baptized; 33 confirmed.

1960 total property valuation: \$2,500.00.

Last Norwegian service in 1934.





## Trinity Lutheran Church

402 Kansas City Street  
Rapid City, South Dakota

Organized: 1914.

First meetings held in home of James Thompson.

First Church built: St. John's 1925.  
Trinity 1946.

Present Pastor: J. David Larsen (1957- ).  
Sander Tollefson.

### Former Pastors:

Halvor Jensen	1914-18
Johannes J. Heie	1918-22
Rasmus Storsteen	1922-26
O. G. Malmin	1927-32
R. C. Reinholtzen	1932-40
S. R. Moe	1941-56

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: baptized 1893; confirmed 1311.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 663.

1960 total property valuation: \$247,597.

First organization in 1887 under Missionary Committee of the Iowa District. Present congregation organized in 1914, as Rapid City Skandinavisk Lutherske Menighed, which was changed to St. John's in 1927 and to Trinity in 1942. Began broadcasting in 1938.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church

Whitewood, S. Dak.

Organized: May 1, 1920.

First meetings held in: \_\_\_\_\_

First Church built: 1889; Second: Purchased from Methodists in 1921.

Present Pastor: Lloyd Ziebarth (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

A. H. Trygstad	1920-22
M. E. Hauge	1922-25
R. O. Storsteen	1925-26
R. O. Aga & Sibler (Temp.)	1927
O. G. Malmin	1927-28
Irwin A. Suby	1928-33
Orlando Skindrud	1933-40
R. L. Okland	1940-46
E. Melvin Bremer	1947-53
Verlyn Smith	1954-55
Harvey A. Grote	1956-60

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 78 baptized; 39 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 62.

1960 total property valuation: \$25,000.00.

This congregation re-aligned with ALC Church at Spearfish (Our Savior's) in 1960.



## Grace Lutheran Church

1061 Sherman Street  
Sturgis, South Dakota

Organized: 1920.

First meetings held in City Hall.

First Church built: 1927; Second 1960-61.

Present Pastor: Harvey A. Grote (1956- ).

Former Pastors:

A. H. Trygstad	1920-22
E. M. Hauge	1922-25
O. G. Malmin	1927-28
Irvin A. Suby	1928-33
Orlando Skindrud	1933-40
R. L. Okland	1940-46
E. M. Bremer	1947-54
Verlyn O. Smith	1954-55
Bernard H. J. Habel (Interim)	1955-56

Charter membership: 24.

1960 membership: 754 baptized; 432 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 244.

1960 total property valuation: \$215,000.

Grace Lutheran and Immanuel Lutheran, White-wood, were one parish. Immanuel joined ALC parish at Spearfish in 1960, leaving Grace a one-point parish. Two pastors from Grace Lutheran—Norman Olson, Missionary; and Howard Tuve Cole.

Grace Lutheran Kindergarten, a Christian kindergarten has been operated by this congregation since 1952. The enrollment in 1960 was 76 children, with 3 teachers.



## First Lutheran Church

Newell, S. Dak.

Organized: October 9, 1928.

First meetings in Arpan School, Methodist Church, and IOOF Hall.

First Church built: 1929.

Second: Making plans for.

Present Pastor: John Hopp (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

J. J. Heie	1921-25
E. G. W. Sihler	1926-28
E. C. Grevstad	1928-33
P. B. Stensland	1934-37
O. M. Skindrud	1937-40
George Anderson	1942-48
Norval Hegland	1948-51
K. Ellingson	1951-54
K. A. Knutson	1954-58

Charter membership: 73.

1960 membership: baptized 306; confirmed 206.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 169.

1960 total property valuation: \$24,500.



## Vale Lutheran Church Vale, S. Dak.

Organized: 1949.

First meetings held in Congregational Church.

First Church: Purchased above Church in 1952.

Present Pastor: John Hopp (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

K. Ellingson	1949-54
K. A. Knutson	1954-58

Charter membership: 70.

1960 membership: baptized 109; confirmed 63.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 96.

1960 total property valuation: \$11,000.



## Calvary Lutheran Church 3402 Cottonwood Rapid City, S. Dak.

Organized: October 19, 1949.

First meetings held in new chapel, Sept. 4, 1949.  
Sunday School annex & garage built: 1952.

Church built: 1955-56.

Present Pastor: Raymond L. Brien (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

Oscar Laaveg	1949-53
Martin D. Larson	1953-57
E. A. Frerheim, Visitation	1958-59

Charter membership: 153.

1960 membership: 776 baptized; 457 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 294.

1960 total property valuation: \$135,000.00.

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran**  
 23 Indiana Street, Rapid City

Organized: November 23, 1957.  
 First meetings held in uncompleted Church.  
 First Church built: 1957.  
 Present Pastor: Harold O. Bailey (Jan. 1, 1961).  
 Former Pastor:  
     Harold J. Larsen                      1957-60  
 Charter membership: 165 baptized; 82 confirmed;  
     40 families.  
 1960 membership: 561 baptized; 296 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 269.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$95,377.  
 September 1, 1957 contractor left with the interior  
 painting, floor tiling, building of kitchen cabinets,  
 bookcases and chancel furnishings, and landscap-  
 ing to be done by many who were to become  
 charter members. An all-purpose addition, 60 x  
 24, was dedicated in September, 1960; cost of  
 this unit \$13,462.  
 This new congregation, in 1960, added 115 more  
 baptized members, so is growing rapidly.



**Grace Lutheran Church**  
 Newcastle, Wyoming

Organized: October 16, 1958.  
 First meetings held in Newcastle Mortuary.  
 First Church built: 1960.  
 Present Pastor: James Thvedt (1959- ).  
 Former Pastor:  
     Sander Tollefson      May, 1958-June, 1959  
 Charter membership: 94 bapti...  
 1960 membership: 238 baptized; 130 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 114.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$67,500.



## Our Savior's Lutheran Hermosa, S. Dak.

Organized: May 31, 1959.

First meetings held in Hermosa Community Hall,  
beginning in September, 1958.

First Church erected: 1959—(Basement)

Present Pastor: Robert L. Henriksen (1958- ).

Charter members: 66 baptized; 40 confirmed.

1960 membership: 97 baptized.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 27.

1960 total property valuation: \$6,000.

First year: 4 baptisms, 13 confirmed; 1 funeral  
and 6 Communion services.



## Brookings Circuit

### First Lutheran Church Volga, South Dakota

Organized: 1879.

First meetings held in Belgard home.

First Church built: 1889; Second 1930.

Present Pastor: Luther C. Bergeland (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

E. O. Ruste	1879-84
M. O. Borge	1884-88
S. O. Rondestvedt	1889-91
L. K. Aaberg	1891-1908
Henrik Voldal	1909-17
M. J. Svaren	1889-1911
O. J. Opstad	1911-17
A. M. Mannes	1918-28
K. O. R. Kildahl	1928-47
Oliver Bergeland	1948-50
Alden Hovda	1950-53
David Halbakken	1954-57

Charter membership: 14.

1960 membership: 797 baptized; 452 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 247.

1960 total property valuation: \$223,000.00.

First church burned in 1930.



### Lake Campbell Lutheran 8 S., 2 E. of Volga, S. Dak.

Organized: 1870.

First meetings in Nels Trygstad home.

First Church built: 1878; Second 1890.

Present Pastor: Luther C. Bergeland (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

E. O. Ruste	1879-84
M. O. Borge	1884-88
S. O. Rondestvedt	1889-91
L. K. Aaberg	1891-1908
Henrik Voldal	1909-17
A. M. Mannes	1918-28
K. O. R. Kildahl	1928-47
Oliver Bergeland	1948-50
Alden Hovda	1950-53
David Halbakken	1954-57

Charter membership: 19.

1960 membership: 318 baptized; 166 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 129.

1960 total property valuation: \$50,000.00.

Two from here into ministry.



## First Lutheran Church 8th & Main, Brookings, S. Dak.

Organized: 1880.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1886.

Second Church: 1908; Third Church: 1956.

Present Pastors: Archie L. Madsen (1957- ).  
Asst. John F. Nelson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

E. O. Ruste & M. O. Borge	1880-88
S. O. Rondestvedt	1889-93
G. O. Skaret	1895-99
F. C. E. Norman	1899-1904
J. M. Green	1904-10
H. E. Fosness	1910-15
B. A. Benson	1915-36
P. S. Dybvig	1936-39
A. E. Hanson	1939-48
E. O. Gilbertson	1948-58

Assistants: A. Richard Petersen, Archie Madsen,  
David Preus, Thomas Knudson.

Interns: Gerald Garlid, Burnis Rogness, Robert  
Maland, A. Richard Petersen, Ralph Johnshoy,  
Donald Severtson, and James A. Qualben.

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 3,329 baptized; 1,971 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 819.

1960 total property valuation: \$705,000.00.

Sterling Lutheran, organizing about 7 miles north-  
west of Brookings, in 1890, was served by the same  
pastors until Sterling merged with First Lutheran  
in 1956. Last Norwegian service in 1933, except  
for cottage services. Sunday morning service broad-  
cast over Station KBRK since 1955. About ten  
pastors have gone out from First Lutheran.



## Sinai Lutheran Church Sinai, S. Dak.

Organized: October 27, 1879.

First meetings held in Holden Lutheran Church,  
with Rev. Hinderaker as pastor from 1879-1896.  
In November, 1879, Blom Congregation organ-  
ized, with E. O. Ruste as pastor from 1879-84. In  
1896 Holden and Bloom congregations united to  
form Lake Sinai Lutheran. In 1917 this church  
united with the Blom Norwegian Synod Church  
to form the present Sinai Lutheran Church.

First Holden Church built in 1899.

First Lake Sinai Church built: 1890; burned down  
in 1895; second built: 1896; third: 1951.

Present Pastor: T. A. Knudson (Interim) 1961-

Former Pastors:

### Blom Lutheran

M. J. Svaren	1889-1911
O. J. Opstad	1911-17

### Bloom Lutheran

S. O. Rondestvedt	1889-91
L. K. Aaberg	1891-96

### Lake Sinai Lutheran

L. K. Aaberg	1896-1908
H. Voldal	1909-17
Geo. Evenson (Interim)	1917
G. N. Isolany	1917-18
O. F. Johnson	1918-29
N. N. Boe	1929-37
Chr. Munson (Interim)	1937-38
C. A. Hauge	1938-51
T. H. Quanbeck (Interim)	1951
R. F. Wilson	1951-54
V. T. Tweedt	1954-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 534 baptized; 388 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 150.

1960 total property valuation: \$162,000.00.

About 17 pastors and full-time church workers  
have gone out from this congregation, Rev. P. C.  
Halverson was one of first missionaries in Mada-  
gascar.



## North Preston Lutheran Church

9 miles northeast of  
Lake Preston, S. Dak.

Organized: 1883.

First meetings held: Homes.

First Church built: 1892.

Present Pastor: Enoch R. Hall (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

B. L. Hugeboe	C. M. Westermoe
O. N. Beyer	E. C. Eid
Paul Hendricksen	Eldon H. Lyso
N. A. Lubkjaa	David E. Lee
W. B. Dahl	

Charter membership: 30.

1960 membership: 254 baptized; 175 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 81.

1960 total property valuation: \$33,000.

North Preston, Zion and Lake Preston—1894.

North Preston and Lake Whitewood—1954.

Last Norwegian Service—1938.

Eight members of this congregation have gone into full-time church work.



## Oldham Lutheran Church

Oldham, S. Dak.

Organized: 1882.

First meetings held at home of Berge Dyrdaahl.

First Church built: 1893; annex 1923; Second Church: 1954-55.

Present Pastor: Philip Blilie.

Former Pastors:

O. N. Beyer	1883-89
M. O. Andenaes	1889-93
N. M. Minne	1893-1901
N. A. Stubkjaer	1901-04
O. E. Hofstad	1904-10
W. B. Dahl	1911-12
Martin Anderson	1912-14
A. K. Gaard	1914-21
S. D. Disrud	1921-24
J. B. Shefveld	1924-28
A. M. Pederson	1929-37
C. O. Johnson	1938-51
Morris Ulring	1953-59

Charter members: 30.

1960 membership: 567 baptized; 390 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 162.

1960 total property valuation \$144,000.

In 1921 a group of 32 souls, formerly from Lutheran Church in Ramona, joined the congregation. Name of congregation, at this time, changed from Trinity to Oldham Lutheran. Evangelist Clifford Anderson called to Oldham in 1950 to serve interim.





**Lake Whitewood Lutheran Church**  
7 E. & 3½ S. of Lake Preston

Organized: 1883.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1893.

Present Pastor: Enoch R. Hall.

Former Pastors:

Erick O. Ruste	Albert H. Holm
Lauritz Thoreson	E. J. Haanstad
C. S. Munson	Morris Ulring
L. O. Sunde	(Interim)
O. M. Severseike	David E. Lee

Charter membership: 19.

1960 membership: 209 baptized; 143 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 65.

1960 total property valuation: \$18,000.

Lake Whitewood and New Lisbon—1891.

Lake Whitewood and Trinity at Arlington—  
1921.

Lake Whitewood and North Preston—1954.



**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Bryant, S. Dak.

Organized: May 8, 1898.

First meetings held in German Lutheran Church.

First Church built: 1899.

Present Pastor: C. L. N. Wigdahl, Interim.

Former Pastors:

Ole I. Saetre	1898-1900
John S. Holland	1900-06
N. A. Stubkjaer	1906-11
Edward S. Eidesvik	1911-18
Elmer H. Dahle	1919-21
Edward L. Jordahl	1921-31
H. J. Peterson	1931-58
Henry L. Johanson	1958-60

Charter membership: 18 families.

1960 membership: 424 baptized; 309 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 110.

1960 total property valuation: \$24,607.00.

American Lutheran (ELC), and St. Paul's Lutheran (ALC) merged to form Our Redeemer Lutheran in 1960.



## Garfield Lutheran Church Rural Bryant, S. Dak.

Organized: 1884.

First meetings held in Eklund Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1901-02.

Present Pastor: O. L. N. Wigdahl, (Interim).

Former Pastors:

Ole N. Byer	1884-89
Paul Hendrickson	1889-1900
John S. Holland	1900-06
Nels A. Stubkjaer	1906-11
Edward S. Eidesvik	1911-18
Elmer H. Dahle	1919-21
Edward L. Jordahl	1921-31
H. J. Peterson	1931-58
Henry L. Johanson	1958-60

Charter membership: 19.

1960 membership: 210 baptized; 149 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 53.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,478.00.



## Lake Preston Lutheran Lake Preston, S. Dak.

Organized: March 13, 1887.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1891-93.

Present Pastor: Arthur H. Johnshoy.

Former Pastors:

Lauritz Thoresen	1887-94
N. A. Stubkjaer	1894-1904
W. V. Dahl	1905-12
C. M. Westermoe	1913-22
E. C. Eid	1922-49
Eldon H. Lyso	1949-54

Charter membership: 14 families.

1960 membership: 626 baptized; 408 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 193.

1960 total property valuation: \$60,800.00.

## West Bethany Lutheran Church

4 W., 1 N. Erwin, S. Dak.

Organized: Nov. 16, 1881.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1905.

Present Pastor: James Jacobson (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

O. I. Saetre	1881-1903
O. E. Hofstad	1904-15
W. N. Sjovangen	1916-18
M. A. Johnson	1919-22
O. E. Daehlin	1923-30
J. E. Borgen	1931-35
O. L. Levorson	1936-41
Sterling Simonson	1942-46
N. C. Renslo	1947-48
A. O. Aadland	1948-52
P. B. Stensland	1953-60

### Charter members:

1960 membership: 232 baptized; 154 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment 64.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,300.

In 1960 West Bethany and St. John (ALC) became a two-point parish under ELC, looking to the 1961 merger of ALC, ELC and UELC.

Interim Pastors: Omar Otterness 1947; S. A. Stenseth 1942; L. O. Onerheim 1948 and A. M. Mannes 1953. In 1960 West Bethany left De Smet Parish and became a part of the Bancroft Parish, with parsonage in Bancroft.



## American Lutheran Church

Huron, S. Dak.

Organized: 1902 (Early beginning in 1886, when group of women organized a Society, which became the nucleus of American Lutheran Church).

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: Basement built in 1919; Church—1926.

Present Pastors: Erling Erickson (1956- ).  
Asst.—Henry Johanson (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Rev. Tilleen	1903
Luther Malmberg	1903-06
Alfred Bredeson	1908-15
Eugene Aal	1915-24
S. D. Disrud	1924-36
Sander Tollefson	1937-56
Assistant A. C. Towne	1954-56

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 2,127 baptized; 1,514 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 731.

1960 total property valuation: \$363,829.00.

## American Lutheran Church

De Smet, S. Dak.

Organized: St. Petri—1882, Emmanuel—1883, St. Paul—1895, American—1919.

First meetings held in homes and schools and Baptist Church.

First Church: 1898 (St. Paul, in De Smet).

Present Pastor: P. B. Stensland (1953- ).

Former Pastors:

O. I. Saetre	1881-1903
O. E. Hofstad	1904-15
W. N. Sjovangen	1916-18
M. A. Johnson	1919-22
O. E. Daehlin	1923-30
J. E. Borgen	1931-35
O. L. Levorson	1936-41
Sterling H. Simonson	1942-46
N. C. Renslo	1947-48
A. O. Aadland	1948-52

Charter membership: (American) 100.

1960 membership: 852 baptized; 509 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 252.

1960 total property valuation: \$152,000.00.

Interim Pastors: S. A. Stenseth, 1942; Omar Otterness, 1947; L. O. Onerheim, 1948; A. M. Mannes, 1953.



## Trinity Lutheran Church

Arlington, S. Dak.

Organized: July 8, 1906.

First meetings in rented church until purchase of Baptist Church; remodelled 1919; Second Church built in 1958-59.

Present Pastor: Oliver Pederson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

W. W. Dahl	1906-08
I. H. Hinderaker	1908-17
E. S. Eidesvik	1918-20
C. S. Munson	1921-26
L. O. Sunde	1926-36
O. M. Severseike	1936-41
A. H. Holm	1942-48
E. J. Haanstad	1948-53
Philip Westby	1954-59

Charter membership: 40.

1960 membership: 1,010 baptized; 685 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 309.

1960 total property valuation: \$275,000.00.

Bangor and Nordland Lutheran discontinued and many of these members joined Trinity. In 1953 Whitewood and Trinity separated, making Trinity a one-point parish. In 1957 Bangor church was given to Trinity and used as an annex until the new church was built.



## Denver Circuit

### Trinity Lutheran Church Fowler, Colorado

Organized: 1894.

First meetings held in home of Ole Erickson.

First Church built: 1908; partially destroyed by fire in 1926.

Second Church: 1958.

Present Pastor: David Johnson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

J. Reine	1893
M. P. Dommersnaes	1902-07
E. C. Eid	1907-12
John Hjortaa	1912-21
I. A. Lavik	1921-24
Robert Walledom	1927-37
M. A. Olson	1937-40
A. O. White	1940-50
V. G. Sorensen	1950-56
Marlow Engberg	1956-60

Charter membership: 29.

1960 membership: 296 baptized; 196 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 103.

1960 total property valuation: \$70,750.00.

Edward Bersagel and Robert Fedde, sons ordained into ministry.



### Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church Longmont, Colorado

Organized: 1901.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: bought old church building 1906.

First Church built: 1925.

Present Pastor: Paul D. Sather (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

M. P. Dommersnaes	1901-07
E. C. Eid	1907-11
C. C. A. Jensen	1912-14
J. J. Heie	1914-19
J. M. Runestad	1919-25
J. R. Lavik	1926-31
I. P. Paulson	1931-38
I. G. Hastad	1938-45
O. V. Smeby	1945-47
A. R. Sellevold	1948-50
Herman Bly	1950-52
Joel Swiggum	1952-55
Conrad Braaten	1955-57

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 669 baptized; 418 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 203.

1960 total property valuation: \$117,250.00.

In 1957, 134 members of Peace Lutheran (ALC) joined Bethlehem Lutheran. Plans are being made for a new church plant.

**Christ Lutheran Church**  
4 N. of Genoa, Colo.

Organized: 1906.

First meetings held in

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Ron Hendrickson.

Former Pastors:

Charter members:

1960 membership: 48 baptized; 38 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 11.

1960 total property valuation: \$14,000.

**Our Savior's Lutheran**  
Wild Horse, Colorado

Organized:

First meetings held in

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Ron Hendrickson.

Former Pastors:

Charter members:

1960 membership: 67 baptized; 44 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 86.

1960 total property valuation: \$4,000.

**Walk's Camp Lutheran**  
18 NW of Genoa, Colorado

Organized: 1900. Incorporated 9-7-18.

First meetings held in homes and Walk's Camp School No. 1.

First church built: 1919.

Present Pastor: Ron Hendrickson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

J. G. Reini	1907
A. C. Hendrickson	1908-09
E. O. Skovland	1910-12
O. T. Rikansrud	1912-13
J. Reini	1913-23
T. H. Rossing	1923-27
Interims until July, 1928	
H. B. Bestul	1928-31
L. A. B. Nelson	1931-41
H. D. Halvorson	1941-50
Frederick Damgaard	1950-55
Herbert Hanson	1955-57

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 94 baptized; 69 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 20.

1960 total property valuation: \$5,000.00.



**Saron Lutheran Church**  
Strasburg, Colorado

Organized: 1911.

First meetings held in Hilltop School.

First Church built: 1940.

Present Pastor: James P. Christensen (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

E. C. Eid (organizer)	1911
J. Hjortaas	1911-36
T. H. Rossing	1924-28
L. A. B. Nelson	1932-41
H. D. Halvorson	1941-50
V. G. Sorensen	1950
O. G. Salvesson	1950
Emery L. Petersen	1951-57

Charter membership: 25 confirmed members.

1960 membership: 42 baptized; 36 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 20.

1960 total property valuation: \$16,000.00.

Changed to English services in 1930's.

Present pastor is first resident pastor.



## Our Savior's Lutheran

E. 9th at Emerson  
Denver, Colorado

Organized: 1915.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1924.

Present Pastor: Edward Nervig (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

G. R. Estrem	1915-21
Knut Seehuus	1921-24
J. E. Jorgenson	1924
Arthur J. Tolo	1924-30
B. R. Maakestad	1930-41
Gabriel Tweet	1941-47
O. G. Salveson	1947-51
A. Alvon Nelson	1952-58

Charter members:

1960 membership: 991 baptized; 716 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 241.

1960 total property valuation: \$189,000.

Services broadcast over station KHOW since 1958.

Three houses and lots purchased for church expansion. Building fund drive completed in 1960.



## Our Savior's Lutheran

1128 E. Boulder  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Organized: 1921.

First meetings held in G.A.R. Hall and frame church purchased in 1924.

First Church built: 1929.

Present Pastor: Halvard Running (1956- ).

Former Pastors:

Ingvald A. Lavik	1921-31
Edward Johnson	1932-42
Edward W. Nervig	1942-45
Gordon V. Tollefson	1945-47
Luther O. Sunde	1947-52
Dean C. Hofstad	1952-54
Bruce W. Yolter	1954-56

Charter members: 28.

1960 membership: 536 baptized; 341 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 190.

1960 total property valuation: \$91,000.

From 1924 to 1929, services were held in Swedish Baptist church, which was purchased and renovated.





**Our Savior Lutheran**  
318 E. Sixth, Casper, Wyo.

Organized: 1921

First meetings held in Old City Hall

First Church: purchased Presbyterian Church.

Second Church: 1951.

Present Pastor: Burnis Rogness (1969- ) ; Bill-  
and Peterson, Intern.

Former Pastors:

Elmer Berg	1921-23
R. C. Teslow	1924-29
Aide L. Halverson	1929-41
Goffrich Williams	1941-51
Robert Larson	
Richard Larson	

Charter members:

1921 membership: 2,184 baptized, 547 confirmed.

1970 Sunday School enrollment: 335.

1970 total property valuation: \$220,500.



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
Limon, Colorado

Organized: 1925.

First meetings held in 3009 Hall.

First Church built: 1926.

Present Pastor: Robert Olson (1970- )

Former Pastors:

T. H. Rissing	1925-28
Harold Berg	1928-32
L. A. B. Nelson	1932-41
W. D. Halverson	1941-50
Frederick Thungstad	1950-55
Herbert Hanson	1955-58
Frank H. Marsh	1958-60

Charter membership:

1925 membership: 75 baptized, 83 confirmed.

1970 Sunday School enrollment: 40.

1970 total property valuation: \$11,000.

## Calvary Lutheran Church

27th St. & 1st Ave.  
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Organized: 1951.

First meetings held in Bluffs Theatre; Sunday School in Public Library.

First Church built: 1953.

Present Pastor: Carl J. Sandbeck (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Alvin L. Stenberg	1951-53
Alden H. Hovda	1953-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 472 baptized; 279 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 140.

1960 total property valuation: \$80,000.



## Mountain View Evangelical Lutheran Church Thornton 29, Colorado

Organized: February 10, 1956.

First meetings in Thornton Elementary School.

First Church built: 1955.

Present Pastor: T. Gilbert Thompsen (1960- ).

Former Pastor: Joel A. Swiggum, 1955-60.

Charter members: 223.

1960 membership: 633 baptized; 307 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 367.

1960 total property valuation: \$80,865.

From 1955 to January 1, 1960, there have been 211 baptisms and 130 confirmations, most of the confirmands being adults.

**Mt. Calvary Lutheran**  
1318 N. Circle Dr.  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Organized: September 28, 1957.

First meetings held in Jefferson Grade School.

First Church built: 1957.

Present Pastor: Armand L. Asper (1957- ).

Charter members: 45 adults; 47 children.

1960 membership: 308 baptized; 168 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 163.

1960 total property valuation: \$95,000.



**Cross of Glory Lutheran**  
2051 S. Oneida, Denver, Colo.

Organized: 1959.

First meetings in Ash Grove School.

First Church built: 1959.

Present Pastor: Eugene W. Nilsen (1959- ).

Charter membership: 102 baptized; 56 confirmed.

1960 membership: same.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 78.

1960 total property valuation: \$78,438.

## Centennial Lutheran Church Littleton, Colorado

Organized: January 17, 1960.

First meetings held in church.

First Church built: 1959-60.

Present Pastor: Joseph L. F. Huseth (1959- ).

Charter membership: 152.

1960 membership: 257 baptized; 132 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 191.

1960 total property valuation: \$110,000.

A total of 16 Sunday services held in 1959, with an average attendance of 93.



DONALD R. KELLS, AIA  
F. A. C. O. L. L. E. T  
2. 1959-1960, LITTLETON



## Prince of Peace Lutheran (HM) 8th & Beverly, Casper, Wyoming

Organized: December 12, 1960.

First meetings held in Pacific Power Hall.

First Church: Under construction.

Present Pastor: Marlow N. Engberg (1960- ).

Former Pastors: None.

Charter membership: 105.

1960 membership: baptized 107; confirmed 57.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 35-

1960 total property valuation: \$35,000.



## Lemmon Circuit

### Trinity Lutheran Church Mobridge, S. Dak

Organized: Bergen in 1884; (Walworth, Bergen and Flora)—Trinity in 1906.

First meetings held west of Mobridge in Simon Olson's log cabin.

First Church built: 1908; Second: 1955-56.

Present Pastor: Dale M. Larson (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

A. L. Lobben	1884	O. C. Hellekson	
Ole L. Stensby	1906-11		1931-36
R. O. Aase	1911-13	O. B. Nilsen	1937-48
O. Lie	1913	P. O. Hyland	1949-50
N. J. Charlson	1914-16	C. J. Sandbeck	1950-52
K. J. Arne	1916-19	A. Elmer Moe	
E. J. Rogne	1919-20	(Interim)	1952-54
H. J. Peterson	1920-31	G. A. Selbo	1954-57

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 1088 baptized; 700 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 315.

1960 total property valuation: \$241,000.

Congregation began 22 years before town of Mobridge was established. Pastor Skartvedt was first resident pastor. In 1891 an Indian scare gripped the settlers and several wagon loads of frightened people drove into Pastor Skartvedt's yard. Services broadcast over KOLY since 1956.



### Bethany Lutheran Church Selby, S. Dak. (3 W., 5 N.)

Organized: 1885.

First meetings held in Blue Blanket School.

First Church built: 1906.

Present Pastor: R. H. Schlinkert (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

L. L. Nervig	1886-87
P. Skartvedt	1887-96
J. S. Holland	1896-1900
O. L. Stensby	1900-06
O. L. Stensby	1900-05; 1906-13
K. J. Arne	1913-16
O. L. Stensby	1916-25
H. J. Peterson	1925-31
O. C. Hellekson	1931-36
O. B. Nilsen	1937-47
W. J. Madson	1947-57

Charter membership: 7 families.

1960 membership: 206 baptized; 119 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 55.

1960 total property valuation: \$27,500.

Scandinavia organized in 1887 and Bethlehem in 1885. These two formed Bethany Lutheran in 1906.



## Norway Lutheran Church

Glenham, S. Dak.

7½ N., 4 E.

Organized: 1885.

First meetings held in homes & schoolhouses.

First Church built: July, 1897.

Present Pastor: R. H. Schlinkert (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

L. L. Nervig	1886-87
H. Thormodsgaard	1886-87
P. Skartvedt	1887-96
J. S. Holland	1896-1900
O. L. Stensby	1900-13
K. J. Arne	1913-16
O. L. Stensby	1916-25
H. J. Peterson	1925-31
O. C. Hellekson	1931-36
O. B. Nilsen	1937-47
W. J. Madson	1947-57

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 225 baptized; 147 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 37.

1960 total property valuation: \$35,000.

Mound City merged with Norway Lutheran in 1928.



## Little Missouri Lutheran

2½ mi. SW of Capitol, Montana

Organized: April 30, 1889.

First meetings held in

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Stan Rosengren (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

(Until 1898 T. Tollefson and other pastors visited twice a year to perform ministerial rites.)

O. J. Akre	1898-
Rev. Garness	1904
L. Sherven	1907
Olof Olson	1914
Rev. Ullesvang	1926-35
George Anderson	1937-38
A. C. Hendrickson	1938-42
A. E. Setness	1942-47
M. Felde	1947-51
N. Kile	1951-56
Mr. Laurell Larsen	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 83 baptized; 65 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 0.

1960 total property valuation: \$6,000.

## Ladner Lutheran Church

½ mile N. of Ladner, S. Dak.

Organized: 1913.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1928.

Present Pastor: G. Stan Rosengren (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

J. A. Arneson	1917-20
T. C. Tollefson	1921-24
T. Nordmark	1925-30
N. J. Holm	1931-32
M. A. Olson	1932-37
A. C. Hendrickson	1938-42
A. E. Setness	1942-47
M. Felde	1947-51
N. Kile	1951-56
Mr. Laurell Larsen	1957-60

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 34 baptized; 20 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 25.

1960 total property valuation: \$7,500.00.

In 1917 Norwegian Evangelical and Hoiland Lutheran merged to form Ladner Lutheran.



## Grand River Lutheran Buffalo, S. Dak.

Organized: July 26, 1910.

First meetings held:

First Church built: 1913.

Second Church built: 1935 basement;  
1945 Church completed.

Present Pastor: G. Stan Rosengren (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

H. S. Frøiland	1911-13
Olof Olson	1913
S. N. Engelstad	1917
J. Arneson	1919-20
T. C. Tollefson	1921-24
T. Nordmark	1925-30
M. A. Olson	1930-37
George Anderson	1937-38
A. C. Hendrickson	1938-42
A. E. Setness	1942-47
M. Felde	1947-51
N. Kile	1951-56
Mr. Laurell Larsen	1957-60

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 230 baptized; 149 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 76.

1960 total property valuation: \$22,500.00.

Buffalo Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation until 1917 reorganization, when Grand River name was adopted. In 1940 Clark's Fork congregation joined with Grand River.



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

½ mile N. of Ludlow, S. Dak.

Organized: May 24, 1917.

First meetings held in schoolhouse (1917-27).

First Church built: 1927.

Present Pastor: G. Stan Rosengren (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

J. Arneson	1917-20
G. N. Lien	1920-21
T. C. Tollefson	1921-24
T. Nordmark	1925-30
N. J. Holm	1931-32
M. A. Olson	1932-37
George Anderson	1937-38
A. C. Hendrickson	1938-42
A. E. Setness	1942-47
M. Felde	1947-51
N. Kile	1951-56
Mr. Laurell Larsen	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 69 baptized; 33 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 0.

1960 total property valuation: \$7,500.00.



## Calvary Lutheran Church

Lemmon, S. Dak.

Organized: 1908.

First meetings held in Grand Leader Hotel.

First Church built: 1927; Second 1954.

Present Pastor: Paul R. Hansen (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

E. E. Eklund	1908
O. C. Brenna	1909-11
J. A. Erickson	1911-22
E. O. Munkvold	1922-28
K. Roe & J. A. Fagereng	1928-29
O. A. Syverson	1929-35
A. T. Daniels	1935-40
B. M. Schroeder	1941
R. Wangberg	1941-44
Selmer Heen	1945-48
Rev. Goetz	1948
Erling Erickson	1948-56

Charter membership: 7 families.

1960 membership: 827 baptized; 533 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 206.

1960 total property valuation: \$223,200.

J. S. Holland and E. E. Eklund did the first effective home mission work in this area. Interim pastors having served are: George Natwick, M. Berg, H. J. Habel, Harold Farseth, and N. L. Otterstad.





**Our Savior's Lutheran**  
 7 W., 3 N. of Timber Lake  
 Firesteel, South Dakota

Organized: 1913, at Hole's Schoolhouse.  
 First meetings in homes, tents, or schoolhouse.  
 First Church built: About 1930.  
 Present Pastor: John C. Gartley (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

N. J. Charleston	1915
	(from Mobridge)
K. G. Arne	1917-20
	(from Mobridge)
O. J. Lundly	1920-24
A. C. Hendrickson	1924-38
Clarence Solberg (of Bison) and Selmer Heen (of Lemmon) and Nielson of Mobridge	1938-39
A. H. Guetzlaff	1939-41
Vacant	1945-47
Norval Hegland	1947-51
	(Air Parish)
David Granskou	1952
Arne Kvaalen	1953-54
C. A. Carlsen	1955-
Eugene Aal	1958-59
	(Interim)

Charter membership: 31.  
 1960 membership: 94 baptized; 69 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 55.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$7,500.00  
 Students William Goetz, Frank Berg, Frank Anderson and John Skepstad served from 1941-44.



**Our Redeemer's Lutheran (P.P.)**  
 Isabel, S. Dak.

This little church was destroyed by fire during a blizzard, December 5, 1960. No late reports, but most recent gave a membership of 56 baptized souls. Action is being taken, on the part of these people to disband and join other Lutheran Congregations.

## American Lutheran Church Bison, S. Dak.

Organized: 1913.

First meetings in homes; then shared church with Presbyterians; then in Courthouse.

First Church built: 1926; Second 1960.

Present Pastor: LeRoy Flagstad (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

E. E. Eidbo, G. R. Estrem and R. M. Høleg	1913-19
E. O. Munkvold	1919-22
P. P. Hagen	1923-25
Einar Jorgenson	1925-29
E. L. Rude	1930-33
Carl J. Hanson	1933-34
Elmer Valen	1935-38
Maynard Halvorson	1939-41
Clarence Solberg	1942-45
Selmer Knutson	1946-48
R. L. Seastrand	1949-53
R. L. Daehlin	1954-56

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 293 baptized; 178 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 56.

1960 total property valuation: \$52,500.00.

American Lutheran was a member of a six-point parish from the depression until 1960. American and Indian Creek are now one parish.



## Indian Creek Lutheran Church 3 W., 8½ S. of Meadow, S. Dak.

Organized: February 25, 1913.

First meetings held in homes along Indian Creek, then in old bank building or school.

First Church built: 1936 (basement church.)

Present Pastor: LeRoy Flagstad (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

E. E. Eidbo, G. R. Estrem and R. M. Høleg	1913-19
E. O. Munkvold	1919-22
P. P. Hagen	1923-25
Einar Jorgenson	1925-29
E. Rude	1930-33
Carl J. Hanson	1933-34
Elmer Valen	1935-38
Maynard Halvorson	1939-41
Clarence Solberg	1942-45
Selmer Knutson	1946-48
R. L. Seastrand	1949-53
R. L. Daehlin	1954-56

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 70 baptized; 43 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 43.

1960 total property valuation: \$1,000.00.

Congregation was one of six-point parish until 1960, when American and Indian Creek became a parish. Estrem and Eidbo were missionaries called by our district, living on homesteads near Reeder, N. Dak., driving by team and buggy 61 miles for regular services.



## Homme Lutheran Church Prairie City, S. Dak.

Organized: January 20, 1913.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1911. Moved into Prairie City in 1946.

Present Pastor: Ralph Holmlund (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Knut Raudstein	1910-12
T. C. Tollefson	1912-17
S. N. Engelstad	1918-23
J. B. Kilness	1923-30
H. M. Allison	1931
N. J. Holm	1931-38
M. G. Halvorson	1939-41
Clarence Solberg	1942-45
Selmer Knutson	1946-48
Reid L. Seastrand	1949-53
Robert L. Daehlin	1954-56
LeRoy Flagstad	1957-60

Charter membership: About 12 families.

1960 membership: 65 baptized; 38 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 33.

1960 total property valuation: \$18,000.00.

Skoger, Antelope, South Grand, Immanuel, Slim Buttes and Homme were one parish in 1921; four of these and Indian Creek and American made up a parish in 1938; January 1, 1960, Indian Creek and American became a parish and left Immanuel, Skoger, Homme and Slim Buttes as a four-point parish.



## Slim Buttes Lutheran 3 mi. east of Reva, S. Dak.

Organized: 1910.

First meetings in homes.

First Church built: 1924.

Present Pastor: Ralph Holmlund (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

K. Raudstein	1910-12
T. C. Tollefson	1912-17
S. N. Engelstad	1918-23
Emisar Thompson (interim)	
J. B. Kilness	1924-29
Allison & Holm	1930-39
Maynard Halvorson	1939-41
Clarence Solberg	1942-45
Selmer Knutson	1946-48
R. L. Seastrand	1949-53
R. L. Daehlin	1954-56
LeRoy Flagstad	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 55 baptized; 42 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 8.

1960 total property valuation: \$3,000.00.

During the depression six congregations merged forming the Bison-Strool Parish. In 1960 the four western congregations became a separate parish.



## Skoger Lutheran Church Sorum, South Dakota

Organized: 1909.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: Purchased in 1940.

Present Pastor: Ralph Holmlund (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Knut Raudstein	1910-12
T. C. Tollefson	1912-17
S. N. Engelstad	1918-23
J. B. Kilness	1923-30
H. M. Allison	1931
N. H. Holm	1931-38
M. G. Halvorson	1939-41
Clarence Solberg	1942-45
Selmer Knutson	1946-48
Reid Seastrand	1949-53
Robert L. Daehlin	1954-56
LeRoy Flagstad	1957-60

Charter membership: about 12 families.

1960 membership: 50 baptized; 37 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 22.

1960 total property valuation: \$1,500.00.

During the depression six congregations merged forming the Bison-Strool Parish. In 1960 the four western congregations became a parish and American and Indian Creek became a parish.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church (On Highway between Prairie City and Mud Butte) Zeona, S. Dak.

Organized: April 14, 1913.

First meetings in homes.

First Church: Basement 1923; upper part 1926-27.

Present Pastor: Ralph Holmlund (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

T. C. Tollefson	1913-17
S. N. Engelstad	1918-24
J. B. Kilness	1924-30
H. M. Allison	1931
N. J. Holm	1932-38
M. G. Halvorson	1939-41
Clarence Solberg	1942-44
Selmer Knutson	1945-48
Reid Seastrand	1949-53
Robert Daehlin	1954-55
LeRoy Flagstad	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 61 baptized; 40 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 15.

1960 total property valuation: \$5,000.00.

Part of Strool parish until 1938; Present parish consists of Slim Buttes, Homme, Skoger, and Immanuel.





## Bethel Lutheran Church Morristown, S. Dak.

Organized: 1914.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1930.

Present Pastor: Gerald D. Jacobson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Nils Lee	Fall of 1914
Rev. Gunderson	1914-15
J. A. Erickson	1915-22
E. O. Munkvold	1923-28
Kelmer N. Roe	1928
J. A. Fagereng	1928-29
O. A. Syverson	1929-35
A. T. Daniels	1935-40
Reuben Wangberg	1941-44
Selmer Heen	1944-47
Norval Hegland	1947-51
Erling Erickson (Interim)	1951-52
Paul A. Hanson	1952-55
Dwight Ellefson	1955-58

Charter membership: 11.

1960 membership: 113 baptized; 77 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 21.

1960 total property valuation: \$17,700.

(Includes parsonage, which is owned by parish.)



## Bethesda Lutheran Church 19 N. of Morrilltown

Organized: 1908.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: Schoolhouse acquired in 1918. In 1952 purchased church from Elgin, N. Dak. Addition built in 1959.

Present Pastor: Gerald D. Jacobson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

First formal service by G. N. Isolany, Sims, N. Dak.

O. C. Brenna & Rev. Bue 1908-10

J. A. Erickson 1910-21

J. N. Dragseth 1921-25

Until middle "40's" by Joint Synod of Wisconsin. Pastors Schaar, Hahm, Wiedmeyer and Koepfel.

Norval Hegland, Flying Pastor 1948-51

Bethesda joined Bethel, Rosebud and Prince of Peace.

Erling Erickson (Interim)

Paul A. Hanson 1952-55

Dwight Ellefson 1955-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 126 baptized; 66 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 46.

1960 total property valuation: \$11,600.00.



## Rosebud Lutheran Church

18 mi. S. of White Butte, S. Dak.

Organized: June 22, 1910.

First meetings in Rosebud School on North Grand River.

First Church built: 1921; Additions 1954 & 1959.

Present Pastor: Gerald D. Jacobson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

O. C. Brenna	1910-11
J. A. Erickson	1912-18
Evangelist John Thompson	1918-20
E. O. Munkvold	1921-23
P. P. Hagen	1923-25
Einar Jorgenson	1925-29
E. L. Rude	1930-33
Carl J. Hanson	1933-34
Elmer Valen	1935-38
A. Truman Daniels	1939-40
Reuben A. Wangberg	1941-44
Selmer Heen	1945-47
Norval G. Hegland	1947-51
Paul A. Hanson, Asst.	1950-51
Paul A. Hanson	1952-55
Dwight Ellefson	1955-58

Charter membership: 9 families.

1960 membership: 112 baptized; 72 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 27.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.00.

Interim pastors having served are: J. B. Kilness,

B. L. Schroeder, and Erling Erickson.



## Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

14 mi. N. of Lemmon, S. Dak.

Organized: 1907.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church 1918; Second Church built: 1958.

Present Pastor: Gerald D. Jacobson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

J. S. Holland	1907
C. S. Eidesvik	1908
O. C. Brenna (First called)	1909-11
D. B. Ronneberg	1911
J. A. Erickson	1911-22
E. O. Munkvold	1922-28
Kelmer N. Roe	1928
J. A. Fagereng	1928-29
O. A. Syverson	1929-35
A. T. Daniels	1935-40
R. A. Wangberg	1941-45
Selmer M. Heen	1945-48
Erling Erickson	1948-52
Paul A. Hanson	1952-55
Dwight L. Ellefson	1955-58

Charter membership: 16.

1960 membership: 95 baptized; 47 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 39.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,000.00.

## Ralph Lutheran Church Ralph, S. Dak.

Organized: July, 1910.

First meeting in sod home.

First Church built: 1913; remodeled in 1953.

Present Pastor: Mr. E. W. Brandt (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

Rev. Estrem	1909-12
Gilman Lien	
Otto Jacobson	
Robert Henriksen	

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 69 baptized; 44 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 26.

1960 total property valuation: \$14,000.00.

Present congregations in parish: Ralph, Golden Valley-Zion, and Duck Creek Lutheran.



## Golden Valley-Zion Lutheran Ellingson, S. Dak.

Organized: April 4, 1908.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: 20 x 30 sod church, located 3 miles SW of present church; when no longer usable, they met in homes and schools.

Second Church: 1921.

Present Pastor: Mr. E. W. Brandt (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

M. Buckenberg of Bowman, N. D.	1908-09
G. R. Estrem	1909-12
E. E. Eidbo	1912-15
R. M. Holie	1916-19
G. N. Lien	1919-45
Many years had 6 congregations, many miles apart and through difficult depression years had service once every three weeks in each church.	
Otto Jacobson	1946-51
Robert Henriksen	1953-55
Students Roy Satre and James Peterson served interim	1955-58

Charter membership: About 9 families.

1960 membership: 48 baptized; 38 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 26.

1960 total property valuation: \$14,500.00.

Golden Valley-Zion became one congregation in 1960.

## Duck Creek Lutheran Church Hettinger, N. Dak.

Organized: July 23, 1916.

First meetings in homes and Bealer School.

First Church: 1931.

Present Pastor: Mr. E. W. Brandt.

Former Pastors:

Knut Raudstein from near Reva conducted occasional services as early as 1911.	
L. O. Helleslev	1913
Magnus Schilliaas	1916-20
Rev. Thompson	1921-23
G. N. Lien	1923-45
A. O. Jacobson	1946-51
R. L. Henriksen	1953-55
Mr. James Peterson	1956
Mr. Roy Satre	1957

Charter membership: 11 families.

1960 membership: 52 baptized; 23 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 5.

1960 total property valuation: \$13,000.00.

Rev. Raudstein happened into the Nels Isakson home when caught in a heavy rainstorm. Families were happy to find a minister near enough for occasional services. Six congregations in parish in early thirties: Zion, Golden Valley, Ralph, Glendo, Duck Creek and Scandia. Glendo merged with Duck Creek and Scandia dissolved.



## Pollock Lutheran Church

Pollock, S. Dak.

½ ELC; ½ ALC

Organized:

First meetings held in

First Church built:

Present Pastor: John Hoyer.

Former Pastors:

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 304 baptized; 216 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 96.

1960 total property valuation: \$128,402.



## Madison Circuit

### Lake Madison Lutheran Church 3 E., 8 N. of Madison, S. Dak.

Organized: September, 1879.

First services in the homes.

First Church: Begun 1890; Completed 1898.

Present Pastor: Walter H. Evenson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

E. T. Rogne, O. O. Sando, Peter Lobben, and Erick Ruste	1879-83
M. Shirley	1883-87
M. O. Andenaes	1889-1901
M. Aaberg	1901-09
Martin Anderson	1909-14
O. S. Reigstad	1914-18
C. K. Solberg	1918-22
C. E. Sybilrud	1922-27
O. M. Severseike	1930-36
Oliver Bergeland	1936-41
A. P. Nelson	1941-50
R. Christopherson	1950-59

Charter membership: 16 families.

1960 membership: 273 baptized; 215 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 67.

1960 total property valuation: \$50,700.00.

Since 1954 congregation has supported missionary under World Missionary Prayer League. Church has been associated with Medary congregation, Brookings, Belleview of Howard, and Trinity of Madison, as well as presently with St. Peter's, rural Madison.



### St. Peter Lutheran Church 10 S., 2 W. of Madison

Organized: May 14, 1884.

First services held in homes.

First Church built: 1897; (for \$800).

Second Church built: 1948—from stones from Vermillion hills.

Present Pastor: Walter H. Evenson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

M. Shirley	1884-89
M. J. Svaren	1889-1903
P. C. Birkelo	1903-07
Herman Estrem	1907-12
Alfred Nelson	1912-22
Osmund Stensland	1922-27
S. C. Eastvold	1928-30
	(pro tem)
O. M. Severseike	1930-36
Oliver Bergeland	1936-41
A. P. Nelson	1941-50
Ralph Christopherson	1950-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 288 baptized; 194 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 79.

1960 total valuation of property: \$70,000.

In 1930 St. Peter aligned with L. Madison.

**Lone Rock Lutheran**  
5 S., 5½ E. of Flandreau

Organized: 1877.

First services held in Simons Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1901.

Present Pastor: G. O. Gronseth (Interim-1960).

Former Pastors:

O. O. Sando	1876-80
J. A. Blilie	1880-1931
H. O. Belgum	1931-37
B. T. Anderson	1938-41
O. G. Salveson	1942-47
R. A. Peterson	1948-51
David S. Halbakken	1952-54
Judeen O. Johnson	1954-60

Charter membership: 29 souls.

1960 membership: 90 baptized; 61 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 27.

1960 total property valuation: \$21,000.00.

Congregation has been aligned with Oslo, Roscoe,  
Our Savior's of Flandreau, Clare, and Bethania.

Presently, with Bethania and Oslo.



**Bethania Lutheran**

6½ E., 1 S. of Trent, S. Dak.

Organized: 1888.

First meeting in Thompson Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1891.

Present Pastor: G. O. Gronseth (Interim).

Former Pastors:

S. J. Nummedal	1888-1903
Jergen D. Swalestuen	1903-21
Edward Hegland	1921-41
Andrew C. Anderson	1941-47
Clement Gisselquist	1947-53
Judeen O. Johnson	1954-60

Charter membership: 23.

1960 membership: 271 baptized; 173 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 90.

1960 total property valuation: \$45,000.00.

Until 1954 Bethania belonged to Luyerne, Min-  
nesota, Circuit. Norwegian services ceased in  
1941.



## First Lutheran Church Colton, S. Dak.

Organized: February 28, 1879.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1881; Second 1899.

Present Pastor: R. David Berg (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

O. O. Sando	1879-1903
P. C. Birkelo	1903-11
O. P. Vangsnes	1912-16
A. N. Brudvig	1916-28
K. B. Vaaler	1928-52
A. O. Blom	1952-60

Charter membership: 40.

1960 membership: 679 baptized; 487 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 149.

1960 total property valuation: \$150,000.00.

Zion Lutheran, 1907; Bethania, 1906 and St. Ansgar, 1887; merged to form Zion Lutheran in 1922.

Leganger, 1879—Renamed Minnehaha Lutheran in 1892—merged to form First Lutheran in 1928.



## Oslo Lutheran Church 6½ E. of Trent, S. Dak.

Organized: 1876.

First meetings held in home of John Larson.

First Church built: 1897.

Present Pastor: G. O. Gronseth (Interim).

### Former Pastors:

O. O. Sando	1876-80
J. A. Blilie	1880-1931
H. O. Belgum	1931-37
B. T. Anderson	1938-41
O. G. Salvesson	1942-47
R. A. Peterson	1948-51
David S. Halbakken	1952-54
Judeen O. Johnson	1954-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 163 baptized; 105 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 36.

1960 total property valuation: About \$31,527.



**St. Jacob's Lutheran**  
6 W., 1 N. of Colton

Organized: 1882.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1897.

Present Pastor: R. David Berg (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

O. O. Sando	1882-87
M. Shirley	1887-90
M. G. Svaren	1890-1903
P. C. Birkelo	1903-12
O. P. Vangsness	1912-16
A. N. Brudvig	1916-28
K. B. Vaaler	1928-51
A. O. Blom	1952-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 252 baptized; 164 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 64.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,500.00.

In 1885 Bethany organized, and in 1887 these two merged to form St. Jacob's.



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
Flandreau, S. Dak.

Organized: November 29, 1880.

First meetings held in various homes.

First Church built: 1907, additions since.

Present Pastor: Norval R. Wigtil (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

J. A. Blilie	1880-1931
H. O. Belgum	1931-37
B. T. Anderson	1938-41
O. G. Salveson	1942-47
R. A. Peterson	1948-51
R. N. Nelson	1952-58

Charter membership: 30 souls.

1960 membership: 1189 baptized; 796 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 330.

1960 total property valuation: \$169,500.00.

Parish Education unit dedicated in 1960.

Cost of church built in 1907—\$4,000.00.

Original salary for pastor \$40.00 annually, plus three festival offerings.



## Clare Lutheran Church

4 W., 2 N. of Flandreau

Organized: November 10, 1878 (Roscoe Lutheran)

Roscoe (Norwegian Synod) divided and Concordia Lutheran (Norwegian Synod) organized March 10, 1893 in Clare Twp. Flandreau Prairie (United Lutheran) organized in 1891. Present Clare Lutheran organized in 1919 by merger of Concordia and Flandreau Prairie, becoming part of Colman-Hegre and Midway Parish. In 1943 Clare joined Flandreau Parish of four congregations, and in 1952 Clare and Our Savior's became one parish.

First Church built: Started in 1898; Completed 1910.

Present Pastor: Norval R. Wigtil (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Roscoe-Concordia—	O. O. Sando	1878-80
	J. A. Blilie	1880-1919
Flandreau Prairie—	S. J. Nummedahl	1891-93
	G. O. Skaret	1893-94
	J. H. O. Rovik	1895-1903
	C. J. Mcen	1903-18
Clare Lutheran—		
	C. M. Austin	1919-30
	C. H. Hove	1930-43
	O. G. Salvesson	1943-47
	R. A. Peterson	1948-51
	R. N. Nelson	1952-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 121 baptized; 83 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 30.

1960 total property valuation: \$15,250.00.



## Belleview Lutheran Church

3 E., 7 N. of Howard, S. Dak.

Organized: June 21, 1881.

First meetings held in Henden home, sodhouse located on present Chas. Lass farm.

First Church built: 1886 (\$1462.88); addition in 1917.

Present Pastor: Paul Forsberg (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Itinerant pastors during first few years.	
E. O. Ruste	1881-82
J. A. Blilie	1883-84
M. G. Svaren	1884-88
E. T. Rogne	1888-89
M. Andenaes	1889-1903
O. E. Hofstad	1903-04
T. S. Kolste	1904-08
P. E. Moen	1908-15
Ditman Larson	1915-23
M. Bjornson	1923-33
E. C. Grevstad	1934-39
M. E. Ranheim	1939-56
K. B. Vaaler	1956-57
O. V. Everson	1957-60

Charter membership: 40 families.

1960 membership: 279 baptized; 220 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 85.

1960 total property valuation: \$40,000.00.

First altar and benches were homemade; new ones purchased in 1917.

## Bethany Lutheran Church Howard, S. Dak.

Organized: January 28, 1903.

First meetings held in \_\_\_\_\_.

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Paul Forsberg (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

M. O. Andenaes	1903-
O. E. Hofstad	1903
T. S. Kolste	1904-08
P. E. Moen	1908-15
Ditman Larson	1915-23
M. Bjornson	1923-33
E. G. Grevstad	1934-39
M. E. Ranheim	1939-56
O. V. Everson	1957-60

Charter membership: 5 families.

1960 membership: 360 baptized; 248 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 100.

1960 total property valuation: \$45,000.00.

Bethany and Belleview have worked together as a parish continually.



## Trinity Lutheran Church 201 N. Harth, Madison, S. Dak.

Organized: June 2, 1887.

First meetings held in Thompson Hall.

First Church built: 1896-1900. Second: 1919.

Present Pastors: Alden H. Hoyda (1959- );  
and Assistant: Edgar O. Urness (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

E. H. Midtboe	1887
Theodore Fossum	1888-90
M. O. Andenaes	1891-93
N. M. Minne	1893-1901
M. K. Aaberg	1901-08
Martin Anderson	1909-13
Olin S. Reigstad	1914-18
C. K. Solberg	1918-22
C. E. Sybilrud	1922-27
S. E. Eastvold	1927-33
L. A. Pierson	1933-37
F. B. Anderson	1937-40
A. O. White (Interim)	1940
Agnar S. Tanner	1940-43
J. C. Stoltenberg	1943-51
A. M. Mannes (Interim)	1951-52
Ernest N. Nelson	1952-59
Eugene Aal (Visitation)	1959

Charter membership: 5 families.

1960 membership: 1620 baptized; 1139 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 417.

1960 total property valuation: \$381,000.00.

In 1918 St. John's Lutheran, 80 souls, were received into membership at Trinity Lutheran. In 1953-59 interns were hired.



## Bethel Lutheran Church Rutland, S. Dak.

Organized: 1922.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built; Lake Park Church moved to Rutland.

Present Pastor: O. M. Knudson (1956- ).

Former Pastors:

Markus Svaren	1889-1903
Peder C. Birkelo	1903-08
Herman W. Estrem	1908-12
Torstein H. Rossing	1928-33
Irvin A. Suby	1933-41
M. J. Sheldahl	1941-44
L. O. Onerheim	1944-46
George S. Natwick	1947-56

Charter membership: 33.

1960 membership: 152 baptized; 111 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 31.

1960 total property valuation: \$35,000.

The present Bethel Norwegian Lutheran is a consolidation of the former Lake Park Lutheran organized in 1889 and Bethel English Lutheran, organized in 1922.



## Grace Lutheran Church Nunda, S. Dak.

Organized: 1954.

First meetings held in Nunda Lutheran.

First Church:

Present Pastor: O. M. Knudson (1956- ).

Former Pastors:

Martin Shirley	1884-89
Markus Svaren	1889-1911
O. J. Opstad	1911-18
Alfred Nelson	1918-22
Otto G. Austin	1923-28
Torstein H. Rossing	1928-33
Irvin A. Suby	1933-41
M. J. Sheldahl	1941-44
L. O. Onerheim	1944-46
George S. Natwick	1947-56

Charter members: Not known.

1960 membership: 343 baptized; 224 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 88.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.

Grace Lutheran of Nunda is a consolidation of Prairie Queen Lutheran, 3 miles southeast of Nunda, and Nunda Lutheran. The Prairie Queen church was torn down in the early part of 1957. A monument was erected there and is the location of the Prairie Queen Cemetery.



## Midway Lutheran Church 10 N. of Colman

Organized: September 14, 1919.

First meetings held in Midway Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1925.

Present Pastor: David Luttio (1958-61).

### Former Pastors:

C. M. Austin	1919-30
O. H. Hove	1930-43
Laurel Johnson	1944-48
Joel E. Nelson	1949-54
R. L. Gordon	1955-58

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 178 baptized; 126 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 50.

1960 total property valuation: \$35,000.



## Colman Lutheran Church Colman, S. Dak.

Organized: April 25, 1892.

First meetings held in Colman Presbyterian Church.

First Church built: 1906.

Second Church built: 1925.

Present Pastor: David Luttio (1958-61).

### Former Pastors:

G. O. Skaret	1893-94
J. H. O. Rovik	1895-1903
Carl J. Moen	1903-18
C. M. Austin	1919-30
O. H. Hove	1930-43
Missionary Laurel Johnson	1944-48
Joel E. Nelson	1949-54
R. L. Gordon	1955-58

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 507 baptized; 379 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 98.

1960 total property valuation: \$197,000.

Full time church workers from congregation:  
Missionary & Mrs. Leo Lellelid, Marilyn Molsk-  
ness, and Rev. W. Haygeman, Mrs. W. Stange-  
land, & Erwin Anderson.





## Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids Dell Rapids, S. Dak.

Organized: 1874 (Stordahl Congregation).

First Church built: 1888; Second: 1902.

Present Pastor: E. S. Skaar (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Home missionaries O. L. Graven, Elling Eielson & A. O. Utheim until 1877.

B. J. Eide 1877-83

C. C. Moe 1884-91

A. O. Mortvedt 1891-1900

M. O. Wee 1901-03

Olaf A. Anderson 1903-06

G. M. Bruce 1907-11

O. F. Johnson 1911-18

Group that met from 1881-87 became St. Peter's Lutheran in 1898, meeting in other churches, and served by Stordahl pastors.

Rev. Bruce 1910-11

A. J. Bergsaker 1911-18

Stordahl's & St. Peter's united in 1918.

B. J. Rothnem 1918-27

A. J. Bringle 1927-36

Ole M. Odland 1937-54

John R. Bjorge (Interim) 1954-55

A. Elmer Moe (Interim) 1955-57

Edwin Bersagel 1957-60



1960 membership: 965 baptized; 666 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 307.

1960 total property valuation: \$87,000.00.

Willow Creek Lutheran with Dell Rapids Parish until 1958.



## Willow Creek Lutheran 3 W., 2 N. of Baltic

Organized: June 27, 1875.

First meetings held in Axel Scott home.

First Church built: 1888.

Present Pastor: Harry R. Gregerson (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

H. Z. Hvid 1875-76 A. J. Bringle 1927-36

A. N. Kleven 1876-78 Ole M. Odland 1937-54

E. Midtboe 1882-86 John R. Bjorge 1954-55

C. C. Moe 1892-1910 A. E. Moe 1955-57

A. J. Bergsaker 1911-18 E. Bersagel 1957-58

B. J. Rothnem 1919-27

Charter membership: 12.

1960 membership: 237 baptized; 192 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 49.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,650.

# Mitchell Circuit

## First Lutheran Church Mitchell, S. Dak.

Organized: July 23, 1888.

First meetings held in homes and school.

First Church built: 1888.

Second Church: Begun 1921; Completed 1950.

Present Pastors: Robert Anderson (1955- ),  
O. I. Rossing (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

A. J. Lee	1888-90
D. Swenson	1890-95
O. O. Kevjord	1895-1908
A. M. Brudvig	1908-16
Edward Jordal	1916-21
Alfred Berg	1921-27
A. O. Storvick	1928-35
Oscar Syverson	1935-50
G. S. Helgesen	1951-55
Ralph C. Chelsen, Asst.	1953-55
Donald Bankson, Asst.	1957-59

Charter membership: 13 families.

1960 membership: 1727 baptized; 1039 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 512.

1960 total property valuation: \$639,904.00.



## Bethany Lutheran Church Woonsocket, S. Dak.

Organized: June 26, 1906.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1934; Silver Creek Church moved to Woonsocket, then, and basement and remodeling done.

Present Pastor: Dwane Shay (1954- ).

### Former Pastors:

P. E. Bangsto	1907-
C. J. Staden	1912-15
O. E. Daehlin	1916-18
Edward Erickson	1918-21
J. E. Jorgenson (temporary)	1922-23
L. J. Odland	1923-29
Clarence O. Johnson	1930-38
O. M. Knudson	1938-45
A. G. Mathieson	1945-48
E. O. Munkvold	1948-53

Charter membership: 37 members.

1960 membership: 342 baptized; 173 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 76.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,000.00.

Re-alignment in 1960 brought Bethany and Forestburg together as a parish and First Lutheran and Immanuel (Belle Prairie) as another parish.



## Solberg Lutheran Church

7 E., 5 S., Wessington Springs, S. Dak.

Organized: 1884.

First meetings held in Christian Solberg home.

First Church built: Dedicated Sept. 22, 1907—

This former Meth. Church was moved from W. Springs.

Present Pastor: Jacob Askeland (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

A. J. Lee	1885-90
M. Svaren	
Daniel Swenson	1891-94
O. Klevjord	1904-08
A. N. Brudvig	1908-16
Edward Jordahl	1916-17
Solberg merged with Salem and Earlville.	
O. E. Daehlin	1917-23
assisted by K. L. Guteboe and O. C. Rolfson.	
L. P. Erland	1923-35
A. P. Nelson	1935-41
Jacob Askeland	1941-47
Lowell Jacobson	1948-49
Everett Nelson	1949-53
Enoch Hall	1953-57

Charter membership: 75.

1960 membership: 55 baptized; 41 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 14.

1960 total property valuation: \$11,000.

First pastor lived with Cornelius Bruland family in 12 x 12 sod house for one year, then moved to Peder Roti home; necessary, here, to share bedroom with 3 members of family.



## Earlville Lutheran Church

9 N., 2 W., Wessington Springs, S. Dak.

Organized: 1888.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1904.

Present Pastor: Jacob Askeland (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

O. N. Beyer	1888-91
M. O. Waldal	1892-98
H. M. Wang	1899-1900
H. O. Thormodsgaard	1903-05
E. Nielsen	1905-07
P. E. Bongsto	1907-12
C. J. Stadem	1912-15
O. E. Daehlin	1917-23
L. P. Erland	1923-35
A. P. Nelson	1935-41
Jacob Askeland	1941-47
W. L. Jacobson	1948-49
Everett Nelson	1949-53
Enoch R. Hall	1953-57

Charter membership: 30.

1960 membership: 150 baptized; 80 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 63.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,000.



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
Wessington Springs, S. Dak.

Organized: 1945.

First meetings held in First Baptist Church.

First Church built: 1945.

Present Pastor: Jacob Askeland (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Jacob Askeland	1945-47
W. L. Jacobson	1948
Everett N. Nelson	1948-53
Enoch R. Hall	1953-57

Charter membership: 27.

1960 membership: 144 baptized; 87 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 53.

1960 total property valuation: \$22,500.00.



**Salem Lutheran Church**

11 W., 6 S. of Wessington Springs, S. Dak.

Organized: 1907.

First meetings held in Sefrna School.

First Church built: 1917.

Present Pastor: Jacob Askeland (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Rev. Bongsto	1907-10
Rev. Stadem	1912-15
O. E. Daehlin	1915-23
L. P. Erland	1923-32
A. P. Nelson	1935-41
Jacob Askeland	1941-47
W. L. Jacobson	1948
Everett Nelson	1948-53
Enoch Hall	1953-57

Charter membership: 14.

1960 membership: 142 baptized; 88 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 52.

1960 total property valuation: \$8,000.00.

The pastor's salary in 1908 was \$47.00. In 1909 it was raised to \$65 annually. Present parish: Earlville, Salem, Bethlehem and Solberg congregations.



## St. Matthew Lutheran Spencer, S. Dak.

Organized: December 31, 1897.

First meetings held in Baptist Church.

First Church built: 1900; remodelled 1914-20-54.

Present Pastor: M. Larry Dahlstrom (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

Paul Raschke	1897-99
P. Lutz Horn	1900
G. O. Endrulat	1901-03
T. A. Bendrat	1903-04
J. Genske	1904-05
G. J. Bessler	1905-21
E. Pett	1921-23
J. C. Fitting	1923-26
A. O. Urban	1927
A. H. G. Gjevre	1927-33
Herbert D. Amundson	1933-36
Geo. L. Holmquist	1936-43
A. P. Lee	1943-48
Philip G. Westby	1950-54
John F. Nelson	1955-59

Charter membership: 30 (14 families).

1960 membership: 311 baptized; 214 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 61.

1960 total property valuation: \$52,000.00.

Cost of church built in 1900—\$2,476.12.

Pastor lived in rear of church until parsonage built in 1911. St. Matthew and Christ Lutheran having belonged to German Nebraska Synod and in 1929 to Synod of Northwest, joined ELC in 1949.



## Christ Evangelical Lutheran Salem, S. Dak.

Organized: May, 1915.

First meetings held in opera house in Salem.

First Church: 1915-16; remodelled 1956.

Present Pastor: M. Larry Dahlstrom (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

Heinz (1st student, then ordained)	1921
G. J. Bessler	1921-27
A. H. G. Gjevre	1928-29
A. E. Peterson	1929-36
George Holmquist	1936-42
A. P. Lee	1943-48
Philip G. Westby	1950-54
John F. Nelson	1955-59

Charter membership: 35.

1960 membership: 336 baptized; 146 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 66.

1960 total property valuation: \$44,500.00.

Christ Lutheran was a member of the Nebraska Synod of the ULCA, German language being used until 1927. In 1929 transferred to Synod of Northwest, and in 1949 joined ELC.





## Storla Lutheran Church Letcher, S. Dak.

Organized: 1881.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1903; Second 1928-29.

Present Pastor: Harold E. Peterson (1957- ).

### Former Pastors:

O. Tjomsland	1881-84
C. K. Helland	1884-94
H. Thormodsgaard	1903-05
A. Egge	1905-06
A. Mannes	1910-17
T. Thompson	1916-20
Nils Klungvedt	1919-23
A. Molberg	1923-29
E. T. Lunde	
O. M. Knudson	1945-57

Charter membership: 50.

1960 membership: 257 baptized; 172 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 103.

1960 total property valuation: \$37,575.00.

Three from this congregation have gone into full-time church work.



## Trinity Lutheran Church 7 W., 2 S. of Letcher

Organized: 1881.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1903; Second: 1928.

Present Pastor: Harold E. Peterson (1957- ).

### Former Pastors:

O. Tjomsland	1881-84
C. K. Helland	1884-94
H. Thormodsgaard	1903-05
A. Egge	1905-06
A. Mannes	1910-17
T. Thompson	1916-20
Nils Klungvedt	1919-23
A. Molberg	1923-29
L. P. Erland, E. G. Burtness	1929-33
I. G. Hastad	1933-38

Charter membership: 50.

1960 membership: 270 baptized; 168 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 90.

1960 total property valuation: \$28,535.00.

Six pastors have gone out from this congregation.



**Salem Lutheran Church**  
Mt. Vernon, S. Dak.

Organized: 1916.

First meetings held in Church building.

First Church built: 1908 (cost \$6,000.00).

Second Church built: 1949.

Present Pastor: Joel T. Pederson (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

G. O. Mona	1905-07
R. V. Evjenth	1907-09
A. K. Gaard	1909-10
A. M. Mannes	1910-17
N. Klungvedt	1919-23
A. Molberg	1923-29
E. T. Lundy	1930-44
Eldon Lyso	1944-49
H. W. Melby	1950-55
Paul Forsberg	1956-58

Charter membership: About 50.

1960 membership: 262 baptized; 170 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 126.

1960 total property valuation: \$31,000.00.

Roy Malde, pastor, and Donadee Strombeck, Lutheran Welfare Society, are full-time church workers from Salem Lutheran. Norwegian used entirely until 1912. From 1912 to late 20's, half Norwegian and half English.



**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
1 W., 3 N. of Mt. Vernon

Organized: September 23, 1893.

First meetings held in Dist. 14 schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1899-1901; Second 1929.

Present Pastor: Joel T. Pederson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Halvor Thormodsgaard	1893-1905
Adolph Egge	1906-15
Targer Thompson	1916-20
Nils Klungvedt	1921-22
Albert Molberg	1923-26
Ernest Burtners	1927-33
Iver Hastad	1933-38
Eldon Lyso	1945-49
Harold Melby	1950-55
Paul Forsberg	1956-58

Charter membership: 36.

1960 membership: 65 baptized; 49 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 72.

1960 total property valuation: 20,000.

In 1944 Immanuel Congregation joined Salem and Victor congregations to form the Mt. Vernon Parish.



## Victor Lutheran Church 2 W., 6 N. of Mt. Vernon

Organized: February 21, 1884.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1897.

Present Pastor: Joel T. Pederson (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

Christian C. Moe	1884-94
G. Norbeck	1895-97
A. O. Mortvedt	1898-1900
M. O. Wee	1900-01
I. S. Olson	1901-02
N. Okerlund	1902-04
G. O. Mona	1905-07
R. U. Evjenth	1907-09
A. K. Gaard	1909-10
A. M. Mannes	1910-17
N. Klungtvedt	1919-23
A. Molberg	1923-29
E. T. Lundy	1930-44
Eldon Lyso	1944-49
H. W. Melby	1950-55
Paul Forsberg	1956-58

Charter membership: 45.

1960 membership: 104 baptized; 79 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 40.

1960 total property valuation: \$25,000.

Last Norwegian services held in late 1920's.



## Tabor Lutheran Church Platte, S. Dak.

Organized: January 16, 1909.

First meetings held in home of Rev. G. Norbeck.

First Church built: 1908; Addition in 1959.

Present Pastor: Leroy W. Stadem (1956- ).

### Former Pastors:

George Norbeck	1905-10
M. B. Lokkesmoe	1910-18
P. Ljostveit	1919-21
Henry Johnson	1921-27
M. Luthro	1928-39
O. D. Thompson	1939-45
W. L. Jacobson	1946-47
Students Paul Eid & Ray Mattson	1947-48
Severin Gjerde	1948-53
Robert Kasperson, now Missionary to Brazil, and students George Johnson & Charles Storsle served temporarily from	1954-56.

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 241 baptized; 146 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 101.

1960 total property valuation: \$40,000.

Members from three sister country congregations in the area and two country Swedish Lutheran congregations, all of which are now disbanded, have, to a large degree, made up the present membership.

## Trinity Lutheran Church

10 W., 1 S. of Platte

Organized: October 31, 1910.

First meetings held in schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1914; Moved onto basement in 1950.

Present Pastor: Leroy W. Stadem (1956- ).

### Former Pastors:

E. Nielsen	1910-13
P. P. Hagen	1913-18
P. Ljostveit	1919-21
Henry Johnson	1921-27
M. Luthro	1928-39
Orvin Thompson	1939-45
W. Lowell Jacobson	1946-47
Students Paul Eid & Ray Mattson	1947-48
Severin Gjerde	1948-53
Robert Kasperson, now Missionary to Brazil, and students George Johnson & Chas. Storsle served from	1954-56

Charter membership: 20.

1960 membership: 101 baptized; 72 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 37.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.

Last Norwegian services about 1925. Following five churches were once in same parish: Western Lake Andes, Lake Andes Lutheran, Bethlehem Lutheran, Edgerton Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran.



## Stavanger Lutheran Church

11 mi. N. of Platte

Organized: March 20, 1902.

First meetings held in homes and Larson School.

First Church built: 1906.

Present Pastor: Leroy Stadem (1956- )

### Former Pastors:

I. S. Olson	1903-12
M. Lokkesmo	1912-18
P. Ljostveit	1919-21
H. F. Johnson	1921-27
M. Luthro	1928-39
O. D. Thompson	1939-45
Lowell Jacobson	1946-47
Severin Gjerde	1948-53
Interims by Robert Kasperson, Missionary in Brazil, George Johnson, and Charles Storsle	1954-56

Charter membership: 42.

1960 membership: 53 baptized; 31 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment

1960 total property valuation: \$3,000.00.

First pastor's salary \$150.00 annually. Later reduced to \$125.00.





## Omaha Circuit

### Trinity Lutheran Church Newman Grove, Nebr.

Organized: 1874.

First meetings held in Newman Grove Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1883; Second 1893.

Third Church built: 1926.

Present Pastor: Kenneth Jacobson (1958- ).

#### Former Pastors:

G. M. Erdahl	1874-75
P. T. Hilmen	1876-90
G. A. Lunde	1890-92
G. Gulbrandson	1892-94
A. Turmo	1894-1902
M. L. Holey	1903-06
J. M. Hestenes	1912-19
O. G. Austin	1927-35
G. P. Ausan	1935-48
R. A. Olsen	1948
Philip Worthington	1951-55
John Quam	1956-58
Olaf Turmo (Asst.)	1942-58

#### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 641 baptized; 437 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 154.

1960 total property valuation: \$184,000.00.



### Our Savior's Lutheran 30th & Izard, Omaha, Nebraska

Organized: 1875.

First meetings held in Mo. Synod Church, now 1st Lutheran.

First Church: Bought Grace Chapel from Episcopalians—1896. First built: 1898; First unit of present Church: 1921.

Present Pastor: Milo Brekke (1960- ).  
Asst. Arthur M. Knudsen.

#### Former Pastors.

Between 1870 and 1880, Rev. Gullik M. Erdahl and Rev. Peder M. Hilmen served in and around Omaha.

P. A. Hendrickson	1880-1896
John N. Andersen	1896-1899
G. Henriksen	1900-1904
H. H. Frost (temp.)	
H. S. J. Gudmundsen	1904-07
Hans P. Aasen	1907-08
M. W. Halvorsen	1908-18
R. J. Ulvilden	1918-30
A. J. Tolo	1931-37
A. M. Petersen	1937-43
C. G. Lygre	1943-44
R. A. Wangberg	1945-47
A. S. Petersen	1947-49
C. G. Lygre	1949-54
J. R. Otterness	1955-60

Charter membership: 9.

1960 membership: 920 baptized; 582 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 221.

1960 total property valuation: \$212,000.00.

Reorganization supervised by Rev. P. A. Hendrickson.

Last Norwegian service—July 19, 1918.

Have had some radio and television services.





## Zion Lutheran Church

10 mi. N.E. of Petersburg, Nebraska

Organized: 1882.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1898 (Our Savior's).

Second Church built: 1892 (North Branch).

Present Pastor: Olando M. Gunderson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

### *Our Savior's*

P. T. Hillman	1882-90
G. A. Lunde	1890-92
G. Gulbrandson	1892-94
A. Turmo	1894-1909
Karl Xavier	1910-19
Hendrickson and Hestenes	1919-20
Olaf Turmo	1920-41

### *North Branch*

Dahle	1884-96
Nervig	1891-93
Westby	1903-08
Melom	1909-14
Mona	1914-22
Flagstad	1923
Since the merger in 1937— <i>Zion Lutheran</i>	
Palmer Tidemann	1941-46
Dale Striker	1946-55
Woodrow Wilson	1955-59

Charter membership: 25 families.

1960 membership: 132 baptized; 71 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 50.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,000.00.



## Hazard Lutheran Church

Hazard, Nebraska

Organized: May 23, 1882.

First meetings in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1894, sod church.

\*Second Church: 1903.

Present Pastor: Vacant.

Former Pastors:

P. A. Widvey	1884-95
J. E. Thoen	1895-97
N. C. A. Garness	1898-1903
H. A. Gudmundson	1904-07-15
G. Henriksen	1905-07
P. Langseth	1915-25
J. M. Erickson	1925-28
J. P. Knudson	1928-38
N. J. Holm	1939-43
O. J. Lundly	1943-49
S. Tverberg	1949-50
E. C. Eid	1950-57
Vernon Andersen	1957-60

Charter membership: 9 families.

1960 membership: 111 baptized; 93 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 26.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.

Formerly Sweetwater Lutheran Church. This congregation is a part of parish with Zion of Mason City, Nebr., a UELC congregation.

\*Moved from rural Sweetwater in 1940.

## Immanuel Lutheran Church 13 N.E. of Albion, Nebraska

Organized: 1874.

First meetings held in Shell Creek Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1885; Second 1901.

Present Pastor: Olando M. Gunderson (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

Rev. P. Moe	1874-75
P. T. Hillman	1876-90
G. A. Lunde	1890-92
G. Gulbrandson	1892-94
A. Turmo	1894-1909
Karl Xavier	1910-19
Olaf Turmo	1920-41
A. Palmer Tidemann	1941-46
Dale Striker	1946-55
Rev. Vaaler	1955
W. W. Wilson and L. G. Refsell	1955-59

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 297 baptized; 200 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 82.

1960 total property valuation: \$40,000.00.

U. A. Turmo, C. F. Turmo, and Karl A. Xavier  
into ministry from this congregation.

Last Norwegian service in 1941.



## Grace Lutheran Church Petersburg, Nebraska

Organized: 1929.

First meetings held in store building.

First Church built: Bought a building.

Present Pastor: Olando M. Gunderson (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

Carl Grindberg	1930-35
Ernest Zoerb	1935-37
Wm. Peterson	1939-40
A. Palmer Tidemann	1941-46
Dale Striker	1946-55
Woodrow Wilson	1955-59

Charter membership: 18 families.

1960 membership: 68 baptized; 33 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 19.

1960 total property valuation: \$5,000.00.

## Calvary Lutheran Church

2937 North 80th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska

Organized: May 2, 1954.

First meetings held in Adams Public School.

First Church built: 1st unit—1955; 2nd unit 1959.

Present Pastor: Douglas Lindgren (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Otto F. Nielsen	1953-57
A. Richard Petersen	1957-60

Charter membership: 115.

1960 membership: 653 baptized; 373 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 256.

1960 total property valuation: \$113,376.



## Deer Creek Lutheran Church Holbrook, Nebraska

Organized: October 28, 1877.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1889-1890.

Second Church built: 1903.

Present Pastor—None.

Former Pastors:

E. Dohl	1876-80
O. C. Baker	1881-88
C. M. Larson	1888-92
H. L. Berge	1893-1911
P. J. Lunde	1912-19
J. B. Rognlin	1920-22
E. J. Aal	1924-25
C. O. Borlaug	1926-29
N. C. Renslo	1930-36
E. J. Aal	1947-57

Charter membership: 6.

1960 membership: 10 baptized; 10 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: None.

1960 total property valuation: \$300.



## Christ The King Lutheran Church

6229 S. 42nd Street, Omaha, Nebr.

Organized: December 11, 1960.

First meetings held in School Auditorium.

First Church built: 1960, 1st unit.

Present Pastor: LeeRoy Eikanger (1960- ).

Charter membership: 124.

Sunday School enrollment: 113.

This new Home Mission congregation is just beginning. It is located in South Omaha.





## Sioux Falls Circuit

### East Nidaros Lutheran 2 E., 2 S. of Baltic, S. Dak.

Organized: 1868.

First meetings held in Old Nidaros Church.

First Church built: 1911.

Present Pastor: Irvin J. Lovseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

O. Sando	1873-1903
N. N. Boe	1903-17
H. E. Solum	1918-31
J. H. Myrwang	1931-39
P. M. Troen	1940-48
E. L. Bentson	1948-52
Paul Sather	1953-57

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 205 baptized; 151 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 46.

1960 total property valuation: \$15,500.

First meetings were in "Old Nidaros" Church which stood about three miles south of Baltic. This is now the church which stands in Renner, S. Dak.



### Baltic Lutheran (formerly St. Olaf) Baltic, S. Dak.

Organized: March, 1890.

First meetings held in Baltic Public School.

First Church built: 1901.

Present Pastor: Irvin J. Lovseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

O. A. Berge	1890-92
C. C. Moe	1892-1910
A. J. Bergsaker	1910-18
B. J. Rothnem	1918
Henry E. Solum	1919-27
Iver Iverson	1928-32
J. H. Myrwang	1932-39
P. M. Troen	1940-48
E. L. Bentson	1948-52
P. Sather	1953-57

Charter membership: 38.

1960 membership: 311 baptized; 230 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 97.

1960 total property valuation: \$34,900.

Julia Questad of Baltic went into full-time church work, as a social worker. Helping Hand Society for several years supported an evangelist in China, while Rev. Bergsaker was pastor.



## Canton Lutheran Church Canton, S. Dak.

Organized: October 28, 1868 by Rev. Emil Christiansen as Canton Norwegian Lutheran.

First meetings held in home of Tron Lunder.

First Church built: 1908-10.

Present Pastor: Glenn Midthun (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

### *Canton Norwegian Lutheran*

Ellof Olson	1869-89
N. Tosseland	1889-91
Prof. Oluv Lee	1891-92
J. O. Haugen	1892-93
Oluf Glasve and H. Lund	1893-94
P. H. Tetlie	1894-1902

### *Bethlehem Norwegian Lutheran*

O. E. Hofstad	1872-1901
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Above two congregations merged in 1902, forming Canton Lutheran Congregation.

P. H. Tetlie	1902-14
H. E. Rasmussen	1915-25
Edward Nervig, Sr.	1926-43
A. L. Abrahamson	1944-47

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 1884 baptized; 1123 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 437.

1960 total property valuation: \$352,400.



## Brandon Evangelical Lutheran Brandon, S. Dak.

Organized: 1871.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1883.

Second Church built: 1930.

Present Pastor: Morris Ulring (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Ellof Olson	1871-76
O. O. Sando	1876-80
C. K. Naeseth	1880
A. J. Lee	1881-85
O. T. A. Stub	1885-86
H. B. Thorgrimson	1886-91
N. N. Boe	1891-1904
H. E. Solum	1904-08
T. Rodsater	1908-13
T. A. Johnson	1913-43
S. A. Stenseth	1943-44
J. M. Mason	1944-51
M. Johnson	1951-58
C. C. Swanson	1958-59
H. O. Scobey, Asst.	1960

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 538 baptized; 353 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 197.

1960 total property valuation: \$38,000.



## Split Rock Evangelical Lutheran NE of Brandon, S. Dak.

Organized: January 14, 1886.  
 First meetings held in homes and schools.  
 First Church built: 1897.  
 Struck by lightning and completely destroyed  
 August 24, 1924.  
 Second Church built: 1925-26.  
 Present Pastor: Morris Ulring (1959- ).  
 Former Pastors:

Helge Aanestad, Sr.	1886-1912
A. J. Lee, O. T. A. Stub,	occasionally
Anders Larsgaard	1912-22
T. A. Johnson	1922-43
S. A. Stenseth	(interim)
John M. Mason	1944-51
Milton S. Johnson	1951-57
David Halbakken	(interim)
Chester Swanson	1958-59
E. W. Rossing & son, Lyle, and	
H. O. Scobey (interim)	1959
H. O. Scobey, Assistant	1960

Charter members: 59.  
 1960 membership: 177 baptized; 120 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 64.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$25,000.

In 1924, 4-point parish, including Splitrock, Brandon Evangelical, First Lutheran of Valley Springs, and Springdale Lutheran. Springdale withdrew in 1951 to form new parish with Beaver Creek Lutheran near Harrisburg.



## Springdale Lutheran Church

4½ E., 3½ N. of Harrisburg, S. Dak.

Organized: 1871.  
 First meetings held in homes and school, until 1893.  
 First Church built: 1893 (burned in 1906).  
 Second Church built: 1906-07; annex 1949.  
 Present Pastor: Harold O. Bailey (1956- ).  
 Former Pastors:

Ellof Olson	1870-76
O. O. Sando	1876-80
C. A. T. Naeseth	1880-81
A. J. Lee	1881-85
O. T. A. Stub	1885-86
H. B. Thorgrimson	1886-91
N. N. Boe	1891-1904
H. E. Solum	1904-09
T. A. Rodsater	1909-13
T. A. Johnson	1913-43
S. A. Stenseth (interim)	1943-44
J. M. Mason	1944-51
James W. Asp	1952-56

Charter membership: 41.  
 1960 membership: 171 baptized; 104 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 60.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$30,769.

Norwegian services, in part, until 1937. This congregation organized as "Slidre Minighed," changing name to Springdale in 1885. Springdale served from St. Olaf (now First Lutheran, Sioux Falls) for 38 years, then, a part of the Brandon Parish until 1951, when Beaver Creek and Springdale formed a parish.



**Beaver Creek Lutheran**  
Harrisburg, S. Dak., 1/2 E., 5 S.

Organized: 1891.  
First meetings held in:  
First Church built: 1891-92.  
Present Pastor: Harold O. Bailey (1956- ).

Former Pastors:  
Served from Canton:

J. O. Haugen	1892-93
O. E. Hofstad	1893-1901
P. H. Tetlie	1901-14
A. E. Berg (from Lennox)	1914-16
A. H. Trygstad (" " )	1916-19
H. E. Rasmussen	1920-26
Edward Nervig, Sr.	1926-43
A. L. Abrahamson	1944-47
Oscar Laaveg	1948-49
Samuel Carlsen	1949-51
Emil Erpestad (Interim)	1951

Formed Parish with Springdale in 1951,  
with parsonage in Harrisburg.  
James Asp 1952-56

Charter membership:  
1960 membership: 253 baptized; 147 confirmed.  
1960 Sunday School enrollment: 114.  
1960 total property valuation: \$26,500.00.



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
8 W., 2 S. of Sherman, S. Dak.

Organized: 1873.  
First meetings held in homes.  
First Church built: 1886; Second 1908.  
Present Pastor: Wendell Stangeland (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

O. O. Sando	1873-86
H. Aaenstad	1886-1912
A. Larsgaard	1912-22
B. J. Rothnem	1922-27
Iver Iverson	1927-34
A. T. Tollevs	1934-48
A. J. Evenson	1949
F. O. M. Westby	1950-51
C. M. Syaren	1951-57

Charter membership: 24.  
1960 membership: 70 baptized; 60 confirmed.  
1960 Sunday School enrollment: None.  
1960 total property valuation: \$3,000.00.  
Last Norwegian service in 1949.



## Zion Lutheran Church Garretson, S. Dak.

Organized: 1891.

First meetings held in schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1898-99.

Second Church built: 1950-51.

Present Pastor: E. W. Haygeman (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

S. J. Nummedal	1891-92
H. Lund	1892-95
O. A. Berge (Interim).	
H. M. Solem	1898-1920
Andrew Larsgaard (Interim)	
T. A. Mason	1921-40
H. D. Halvorson	1940-41
E. W. Rossing	1941-58

Charter membership: no record.

1960 membership: 669 baptized; 464 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 236.

1960 total property valuation: \$187,000.00.



## Norway Lutheran Church 1 N., 4 W. of Garretson

Organized: 1874.

First meetings held in Lasse Bothun home.

First Church built: 1890.

Present Pastor: E. W. Haygeman (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

H. Z. Hvid	1874-76
A. N. Kleven	1876-78
H. O. Opsal	1878-81
E. H. Midtboe	1881-90
C. C. Moe	1893-1910
A. J. Bergsaker	1911-19
B. J. Rothnem	1919-21
T. A. Mason	1921-40
H. D. Halvorson	1940-41
E. W. Rossing	1941-58

Charter membership: 25.

1960 membership: 183 baptized; 118 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 56.

1960 total property valuation: \$16,000.00.



**Highland Lutheran Church**  
2 W., 4 N. of Sherman, S. Dak.

Organized: 1893.

First meetings in Graanas School & Benson School.

First Church built: 1899. Second 1922.

Present Pastor: Wendell Stangeland (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

G. O. Skaret	1893-95
S. J. Nummedal	1895-1903
J. D. Swalestuen	1903-21
E. Hegland	1921-41
A. C. Anderson	1941-47
C. A. Gisselquist	1947-53
C. M. Svaren	1953-57

Charter membership: 116.

1960 membership: 172 baptized; 110 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 69.

1960 total property valuation: \$24,000.00.

In 1925 resolution to have one-half of services in English; by 1940 Norwegian twice a year.



**First Lutheran Church**  
Sherman, S. Dak.

Organized: 1901.

First meetings held in schoolhouse & RR Depot.

First Church built: 1899; Addition 1956.

Present Pastor: W. M. Stangeland (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

M. O. Wee	1901-04
O. A. Anderson	1904-06
G. M. Bruce	1906-11
O. F. Johnson	1911-18
A. J. Evenson	1919-44
" " Part-time	1947-48
Stanley Olsen (Interim)	1944-51
C. M. Svaren	1951-57

Charter membership: 28.

1960 membership: 192 baptized; 111 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 88.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.00.



## West Prairie Lutheran 3 S., 2 E. of Lennox

Organized: 1874.

First meetings held in sod house at home of Thorald Larson.

First Church built: 1890.

Second Church built: 1939.

Present Pastor: Gilbert Singer (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Ellef Olson	1874-81
Atle Lee	1881-86
Peter Skartved	1886-87
Nels Tosseland	1887-91
John Haugen	1891-93
Martin Jensen	1894
H. Lund	1895
H. M. Solem	1896-1919-38
J. David Larsen	1938-42
Richard N. Nelson	1945-52
Carl J. Sandbeck	1952-59

Charter membership: 47.

1960 membership: 404 baptized; 146 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 106.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,000.00.

Merged with First English Lutheran in 1919 to form a two-point parish.



## First English Lutheran Lennox, S. Dak.

Organized: 1912.

First meetings held \_\_\_\_\_

First Church: Purchased old Methodist—1918.

First Church built: 1941.

Present Pastor: Gilbert Singer (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

	1912-14
A. Berg	1914-15
A. Trygstad	1916-19
H. M. Solem	1919-37
J. David Larsen	1938-42
Richard Nelson	1945-52
Carl J. Sandbeck	1952-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 770 baptized; 319 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 205.

1960 total property valuation: \$86,000.00.

Merged with West Prairie in 1919; merged with Bethlehem of Hooker a few years later; but Bethlehem left and merged with Centerville in 1944.

**First Lutheran Church**  
327 S. Dakota Avenue  
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Organized: 1877.  
First meetings held in St. Olaf Church, present site of First Lutheran.

First Church built: 1925; Parish Hall, 1960.

Present Pastors: R. G. Borgwardt (1955- );  
Otto Nielsen (1956- ); Albert Erickson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Dr. H. J. Glenn	1920-51
C. J. Swanson	1945-51
W. G. Johnson	1950-51
C. M. Bagaason	1952-55
Dr. A. N. Rogness	1951-55

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 5,607 baptized; 3,784 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 1,327.

1960 total property valuation: \$1,463,500.00.

January 20, 1920, First Lutheran organized through merger of St. Olaf and Grace Lutheran, which dated back to 1877. English services begun in St. Olaf in 1904 and Grace in 1918. Services rebroadcast over KELO at 12:30 each Sunday, since 1953. They sponsor a TV program each Sunday beginning in 1954, Pastor Borgwardt, in charge. Richard Hoffland was Minister of Music 1956-59; and David Urness began in 1959. Roma Larson is Director of Parish Education and John C. Walledom Director of Youth Activities.



**East Side Lutheran Church**  
10th and Sherman  
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Organized: 1919.

First meetings held in East Side Chapel previously built by Lutheran neighbors who belonged to St. Olaf Lutheran.

First Church built: 1911 (Chapel); Second 1923; Third 1940; and present church 1949.

Present Pastors: Selmer Heen (1953- ); Emil Dockter (1959- ); and Sterling Simonson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

S. M. Orwoll	1915-19
Christian Findahl	1919-26
A. O. Fonkalsrud	1926-31
Olaf G. Malmin	1932-35
Alfred O. Storvick	1935-41
Bjarne T. Anderson	1941-43
Harry R. Gregerson	1944-53
Assistant E. L. Bentson	1946-48
Assistant Paul Vogan	1954-57

Charter membership: 39.

1960 membership: 2,320 baptized; 1,510 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 1,007.

1960 total property valuation: \$505,000.00.

First to begin broadcast of Sunday morning worship services in 1944, Station KSOO, and heard in six states. Facilities available for Ephphatha Missions, beginning in 1959.



**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
3600 N. Cliff Avenue  
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Organized: November 21, 1957.

First meetings held in store building across from present site of church.

First Church built: 1958.

Present Pastor: C. M. Svaren (1957- ).

Former Pastors: None.

Charter membership: 95.

1960 membership: 406 baptized; 205 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 230.

1960 property valuation: \$45,000.00.

In 1958 Renner Lutheran joined the parish, making a two-point parish.



**Hope Lutheran Church**  
1700 S. Cliff Avenue  
Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Organized: September 13, 1956.

First meetings held in new unit, 1956.

First Church built: First unit, 1956; Second unit: 1958.

Present Pastor: Wm. H. Schumacher (1956- ).

Former Pastors: None.

Charter membership: 222 baptized.

1960 membership: 1,026 baptized; 570 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 400.

1960 total property valuation: \$155,430.00.

Became self-supporting December 1, 1956.

## Renner Lutheran Church

¼ mi. E. of Renner, S. Dak.

Organized: Nidaros in 1868; Renner Lutheran in 1957.

First meetings held in dugouts & log cabins; 1st 10 years.

First Church built: 1878; destroyed by windstorm in 1878, one month after it was built.

Second Church built: 1878; Moved to Baltic in 1911; in 1939 moved to Renner.

Present Pastor: C. M. Svaren (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

Emil Christenson & Ellef Olson	1868-73
O. O. Sando	1873-1903
N. N. Boe	1903-18
H. E. Solum	1918-31
J. H. Myrwang	1931-39
P. M. Troen	1940-48
E. L. Bentson	1948-52
Paul D. Sather	1953-57
E. O. Munkvold	1953-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 334 baptized; 236 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 98.

1960 total property valuation: \$35,000.00.

Celebrated 50th, 60th, and 70th anniversaries in Baltic and 75th, 85th, and 90th in Renner.



## Grace Lutheran Church

Hilltop Heights

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Organized: February 9, 1956.

First meetings held in first unit of church.

First Church built: First unit 1955.

Present Pastor: Kenneth J. Helgesen (1959- ).

Former Pastor:

Arvid Bidne 1956-59

Charter membership: 330 baptized.

1960 membership: 1,047 baptized; 502 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 454.

1960 total property valuation: \$62,000.00.

Located in rapidly growing eastern part of Sioux Falls, S. Dak.





## West Nidaros Lutheran Crooks, South Dakota

Organized: 1868.

First meetings held in John Thompson sod house.

First Church built: 1878—destroyed by storm same year.

Second Church built: Also in 1878.

Present Pastor: Thomas G. Natterstad (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

O. O. Sando	1873-1903
N. N. Boe	1904-17
H. E. Solum	1918-30
J. H. Myrwang	1931-39
Peter M. Troen	1940-48
E. L. Bentson	1949-51
Paul D. Sather	1952-58

Charter membership: 31.

1960 membership: 545 baptized; 400 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 135.

1960 total property valuation: \$102,500.00.

Ten pastors from this congregation: Andrew Larsgaard, H. P. Aasan, George Ulvilden, Rinehardt Ulvilden, Emil Borgen, Palmer Tidemann, Carston Ulvilden, Leslie Otterby, Selmer Hilmoe, and Norman Eithreim.

In 1958 the Nidaros Parish was dissolved. West Nidaros became a single parish, Baltic Lutheran and East Nidaros became one parish; and Renner Lutheran joined with Messiah Lutheran in North Sioux Falls, as another parish.



## Our Savior's Lutheran 909 W. 33rd, Sioux Falls

Organized: 1946.

First meetings held in Old Main Chapel, at Augustana College (1st year).

First Church: Barracks Bldg.—28th and Summit.

Second Church: 1958—south of first building, 33rd and Summit.

Present Pastors: Howard M. Blegen (1946- ).

Assistants: Vergil V. Westgor (1958- );  
Clarence O. Johnson (1960- ).

Former pastors: None.

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 3,106 baptized; 1,848 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 1,320.

1960 total property valuation: \$829,133.00.

Began broadcast morning worship services in 1947.

## Sisseton Circuit

### Wilmot Lutheran Church Wilmot, South Dakota

Organized: 1883.

First meetings held in 1879 in homes & schools.

First Church built: 1899; Second 1952.

Present Pastor: Gerald E. Scheck (1960- ).

#### Former Pastors:

A. H. Gjevre	1881-82
K. O. Storlie	1882-90
J. M. Michaelson	1893-96
	1897-99
Thomas Rorstad	1900-03
J. S. Skaar	1903-06
O. H. Hylland	1907-14
G. H. Nerison	1915-17; 1919-28
N. J. Holm	1928-31
G. H. Nerison	1932-34
Hjalmer Astrup	1935-36
Emil Erpestad	1940-44
G. P. Larson	1944-48
Karsten E. Baalson	1948-60

#### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 446 baptized; 296 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 99.

1960 total property valuation: \$88,300.00.

First began to use English language in 1903.

This congregation, until 1926, was called Boe Lutheran Congregation.



### Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church New Effington, S. Dak.

Organized: December 11, 1893.

First services held over Nels Thompson store.

First Church built: 1902-03.

Present Pastor: Vernon E. Severson (1958- ).

#### Former Pastors:

C. N. Petterson	1901-09
Temporarily served by several.	
O. O. Klevjord	1911-13
Town moved in 1913; church moved in 1914.	
E. A. Fretheim	1915-19
O. Hofstad	1919-34
V. C. Hougen	1934-40
Until this time congregation known as "Zions Norsk Evangelisk Luthersk Menighed."	
M. A. Olson	1940-47
Stephen Dale	1948-49
K. J. Helgesen	1949-53
LeeRoy Eikanger	1954-57
E. A. Fretheim	1957-58

Charter membership: 12 families.

1960 membership: 209 baptized; 145 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 56.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,209.00.

**Nidaros Lutheran Church**  
 ½ mile S. of Hammer, S. Dak.

Organized: January 6, 1898.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1900.

Present Pastor: Vernon E. Severson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

T. A. Gunnarson	1898-1919
O. O. Hofstad	1920-34
V. C. Hougen	1934-40
M. A. Olson	1940-47
Stephen Dale	1948-49
Kenneth Helgesen	1949-53
LeeRoy Eikanger	1954-57
E. A. Fretheim	1957-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 111 baptized; 77 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 28.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.00.



**First Lutheran Church**  
 Claire City, S. Dak.

Organized: March 24, 1916.

First meetings held in Hall and in Presbyterian Church.

First Church built: Basement, 1926.

Buildings purchased in 1942; another 1953.

Present Pastor: Vernon E. Severson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

E. A. Fretheim	1916-19
Without pastor for several years.	
L. E. Evans	1927-41
Re-organized 1940—1st Luth. Church of Claire City.	
J. E. Borgen	1943-48
S. Dale	1948-49
K. J. Helgesen	1949-53
J. LeeRoy Eikanger	1954-56
E. A. Fretheim	1957-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 121 baptized; 93 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 33.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,000.00.

**Lebanon Lutheran**  
3 S., 6 W. of Summit, S. Dak.

Organized: November 15, 1892.

First meetings held in \_\_\_\_\_.

First Church built: 1908; remodelled 1949.

Present Pastor: Chris J. Bruland (1960- ).

**Former Pastors:**

Rolf Fjeldstad (organizer)	1892
Jacob Michaelson	1893-95
Sjur Rislov & L. Kjelaas	1896
E. Midtboe	1896-98
Peder Lysne	1898-99
Ole Overbo	1899-1905
John Swenson	1905-10
Johannes Westberg	1910-18
Sigurd Lindseth	1918-22
Carl O. B. Ness	1922-54
Philip Blilie	1954-60

Charter membership: 24 families.

1960 membership: 167 baptized; 112 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 41.

1960 total property valuation: \$16,800.

Lebanon means "white mountain" and is so named after the Biblical mountain at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea.



**Zion Lutheran Church**  
Ortley, S. Dak.

Organized: January 9, 1907.

First meetings held in Waubay—1893; later combining with Summit & Lebanon, then, in 1905 dissolving; part of membership organized in 1907, meeting in a Methodist Church.

First Church built: 1907.

Present Pastor: Chris J. Bruland (1960- ).

**Former Pastors:**

Before the 1907 organization, served by Rev. Granskou, E. H. Midtboe, P. A. Lysne, O. J. Overbo.	
John F. Swenson	1907-10
Johannes A. Westberg	1910-18
Sigurd J. Lindseth	1918-22
Carl O. B. Ness	1922-53
Philip Blilie	1954-60

Charter membership: 13 or 14 families.

1960 membership: 159 baptized; 108 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 44.

1960 total property valuation: \$11,000.00.

From 1907 to 1957 there were 246 baptisms, 213 confirmands, and 69 burials.



## Summit Lutheran Church Summit, S. Dak.

Organized: 1895.

First meetings held in Summit Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1898.

Present Pastor: Chris J. Bruland (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

J. M. Michaelson	1895-96
E. Kjelaas & S. Rislov	1896
E. H. Midtboe	1897-98
Summit & Wilmot disbanded and Summit formed parish with Lebanon and Waubay, later named Zion Lutheran.	
P. A. Lysne	1898-99
O. J. Overbo	1899-1905
J. F. Swenson	1905-10
J. A. Westberg	1910-18
Salary now raised to \$350 per year.	
S. J. Lindseth	1918-22
Carl O. B. Ness	1922-54
Philip Blilie	1954-60

Charter membership: 16 souls.

1960 membership: 277 baptized; 187 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 62.

1960 total property valuation: \$24,000.00.

In the year 1919, 122 new members joined.

During this World War I financial boom, the salary was raised to \$700 annually and free use of a new Ford automobile.



## Bethel Lutheran Church Marvin, S. Dak.

Organized: 1907.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1919.

Present Pastor: Chris J. Bruland (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Johannes A. Westberg	1911-18
Sigurd J. Lindseth	1918-22
Carl O. B. Ness	1922-54
Philip O. Blilie	1954-60

Charter membership: \_\_\_\_\_.

1960 membership: 99 baptized; 60 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 41.

1960 total property valuation: \$3,000.00.

English services began to be used half of the time between 1918 and 1922.



## Brandvold Lutheran Church

5 W., 2 N. of Rosholt, S. Dak.

Organized: January 1, 1893, as Vangs Lutheran.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1901.

Present Pastor: M. Franklin Pudas (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

A. I. Stadstad (organizer)	1892-93
T. A. Gunnarson	1894-97
Anders I. Haugen	1898-1904
G. N. Isolany	1904-07
A. I. Haugen	1907-14
H. A. Wichmann	1915-24
James L. Falk	1924-41
A. H. Gjevre	1943-58

Charter membership: 35 men signed constitution.

1960 membership: 153 baptized; 126 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 38.

1960 total property valuation: \$18,000.00.

Present Brandvold is child of two mergers. In 1899

Vangs merged with Ringebo, to west, and in 1900 they merged with Bethlehem to south, which had organized in 1895.



## Bethania Lutheran Church

Rosholt, S. Dak.

Organized: March 8, 1894.

First meetings held in schoolhouses until 1901.

First Church built: 1901; enlarged in 1928 & 1957.

Present Pastor: M. Franklin Pudas (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

T. A. Gunnarson (organizer)	1894-1903
G. N. Isolany	1904-07
A. I. Haugen	1907-14
H. A. Wichmann	1915-24
James L. Falk	1924-41
A. H. Gjevre	1943-58

Charter membership: Organized by 7 men & Rev. Gunnarson in White Rock, S. Dak., at home of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Swanson.

1960 membership: 309 baptized; 210 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 72.

1960 total property valuation: \$67,300.

In 1903 Bethania joined Trondhjem and Brandvold Lutheran Churches, forming present Rosholt Parish. In 1913 town of Rosholt laid out and church moved to town in 1914, at cost of \$626.00.

English services begun in 1921.



**Trondhjem Lutheran Church**  
6 S., 3/4 W. of Rosholt, S. Dak.

Organized: March 19, 1895.

First meetings held in homes—until 1899.

First Church built: 1899. Enlarged in 1952.

Present Pastor: M. Franklin Pudas (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

T. A. Gunnarson	1895-1901
G. N. Isolany	1904-07
A. L. Haugen	1907-14
H. A. Wichmann	1915-24
James L. Falk	1924-41
A. H. G. Gjevne	1943-58

Charter membership: 13 men.

1960 membership: 161 baptized; 109 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 32.

1960 total property valuation: \$18,250.00.



**Bethel Lutheran Church**  
6 1/2 E., 1 S. of Veblen, S. Dak.

Organized: August 2, 1893.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1900.

Present Pastor: John Meling (1944- ).

Former Pastors:

T. A. Gunnarson	1893-1906
J. J. Akre	1906-08
A. S. Running	1908-18
A. H. Melom	1918-22
P. M. Bratlie	1922-42

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 188 baptized; 134 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 43.

1960 total property valuation: \$25,000.00.

Congregation belonged to former United Lutheran Church until 1917, when it became a part of Norwegian Lutheran Church.

## Palestine Lutheran Church

4 N., 1½ E. of Veblen, S. Dak.

Organized: 1893, another congregation organized on Sisseton-Wahpeton Indian Reservation after it was open for settlement.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1903. Basement in 1950.

Present Pastor: John Meling (1944- ).

Former Pastors:

T. A. Gunnarson	1893-94
A. Haugen	1894-1904
J. J. Akre	1905-08
A. S. Running	1908-18
A. H. Melom	1918-22
P. M. Bratlie	1922-42

Charter membership: \_\_\_\_\_.

1960 membership: 181 baptized; 120 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 40.

1960 total property valuation: \$25,000.00.

In 1947 it was voted to discontinue services in the Norwegian language.



## Bergen Lutheran Church

6½ N., 2 E. of Veblen

Organized: 1885.

First meetings held in homes & schools.

First Church built: 1892.

Present Pastor: John Meling (1944- ).

Former Pastors:

T. A. Gunnarson	to 1898
A. I. Haugen	1898-1904
J. J. Akre	1904-08
A. S. Running	1908-18
A. H. Melom	1918-22
P. M. Bratlie	1922-42

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 173 baptized; 117 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 45.

1960 total property valuation: \$25,000.00.

When organized, the congregation affiliated with the Anti-Missouri Brotherhood, which in 1890 became part of United Lutheran Church, and in 1917 joined with other bodies to form the Norwegian Lutheran Church.



## Veblen Lutheran Church Veblen, S. Dak.

Organized: 1907.

First meetings held in Presbyterian Church and in lodge hall in Veblen.

First Church built: 1917.

Present Pastor: John Meling (1944- ).

Former Pastors:

J. J. Akre	1904-08
A. S. Running	1908-18
A. H. Melom	1918-22
P. M. Bratlie	1922-42

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 329 baptized; 222 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 130.

1960 total property valuation: \$43,000.00.

Rev. J. J. Akre drove with horses 25 miles from Lidgerwood, N. Dak., where he lived, to organize Veblen Lutheran Congregation.



## Grace Lutheran Church Sisseton, S. Dak.

Organized: Goodwill, (1894) and Trinity, (1901) merged in 1949—Grace Lutheran.

First meetings: Goodwill—Peder Lekvold farm home. Trinity—O. T. Axness office, old Opera House and Episcopal Hall.

First Churches built: Goodwill (1898), Trinity (1917-18) and Grace Lutheran (1957).

Present Pastor: Edward A. Gilbertson (1951- ).

Former Pastors:

### *Goodwill*

J. M. Michaelson 1893-96; L. E. Kjelaas 1896-97; K. N. Rudie 1897-1919; C. S. Vang 1920-23; O. A. Hofstad 1923-35; R. L. Simonson 1935-47; Student Lowell Larson 1947-48; G. S. Helgesen 1948-49.

### *Trinity*

E. A. Fretheim & C. N. Peterson 1901; Peter J. Kilness 1902-14; O. E. Brandt & students 1914-16; O. G. Austin 1916-22; L. E. Evans 1922-41; R. L. Simonson & students 1941-42; J. E. Borgen 1942-48, and G. S. Helgesen 1948-49.

### *Grace*

G. S. Helgesen 1949-51  
Student intern: Arnold Lund 1951

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 1,260 baptized; 908 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 350.

1960 total property valuation: \$365,000.00.

From 1952 to 1956—supported missionary, Helen Rowberg, Madagascar. Since 1959—supporting Miss Arvella Lang, missionary in Madagascar.

**Buffalo Lake Lutheran**  
Eden, S. Dak.  
(20 mi. NW of Peever.)

Organized: June 20, 1897.

First meetings held in schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1904.

Present Pastor: Donald Skjerseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Rev. Strand	1899
C. M. Peterson	1902
Peder Kilness	1902-13
Interim pastors	1913-16
O. G. Austin	1916-19
K. M. Mjaanes	1919-22
Sjelsgaard & Fretheim	1922-23
M. Gjerde	1924-37
C. S. Munson	1937-40
Student A. Lyso	1940-41
P. O. Hyland	1942-46
A. O. Aadland	1947-48
Jacob Askeland	1949-58

Charter membership: 31.

1960 membership: 59 baptized; 39 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 18.

1960 total property valuation: \$5,750.00.



**Bethel Lutheran Church**  
8 mi. W. of Peever

Organized: 1898.

First meetings held in Nels Lyseng home.

First Church built: 1909.

Present Pastor: Donald Skjerseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

L. E. Kjelaas	1897-
O. J. Hyland	1908-14
Interim service	1915-16
O. G. Austin	1916-19
K. M. J. Mjaanes	1919-23
M. Gjerde	1924-37
P. O. Hyland	1942-46
A. O. Aadland	1947-48
Jacob Askeland	1949-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 138 baptized; 95 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 21.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.00.



## American Lutheran Church

Milbank, S. Dak.

Organized: 1882-1883; Merger in 1947.

First meetings held in homes.

Swedes and Norwegians formed Scandinavian Lutheran congregation in 1882; congregation short-lived, since difficult for Swedes to understand Norwegian. English used little.

St. John's Lutheran organized in 1883—Norwegian Synod.

Salem Lutheran organized in 1883—Augustana Synod (Swedish).

Merged in 1947, forming American Evangelical Lutheran, (ELC)

Second Church built: 1952 (on site of Salem Church).

Present Pastor: W. LeRoy Elster (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Robert L. Otterstad	1947-49
Otto Dale	1950-51
Clarence O. Johnson	1951-60

Charter membership: 355 (in 1947)

1960 membership: 756 baptized; 421 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 241.

1960 total property valuation: \$174,000.00.



## Peever Evangelical Lutheran

Peever, S. Dak.

Organized: 1903—Sisseton Agency Congregation (became) 1917—Peever Lutheran Congregation.

First meetings held in schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1911.

Present Pastor: Donald Skjerseth (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

Rev. Kilness	1903-14
Interim services	1914-16
O. G. Austin	1916-17
G. H. Nerison	1917-28
(except one year, 1918)	
C. A. Ask	1918
N. J. Holm	1928-31
O. A. Hofstad	1932-35
L. E. Evans	1935
R. L. Simonson	1935-42
P. O. Hyland	1942-46
A. O. Aadland	1947-48
Jacob Askeland	1948-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 297 baptized; 172 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 89.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,500.00.

To detract from public dance and provide wholesome recreation Pastor Aadland persuaded Luther League to start roller-skating in Peever. He bought \$500 worth of skates and was soon reimbursed by the Luther League.

## Vermillion Circuit

### Bergen Lutheran Church 4 S., 1 W. of Meckling

Organized: October 8, 1864.

First meetings held in homes & log school.

First Church built: 1871; Second 1909-10.

Present Pastor: Paul M. Larson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Emil Christensen	1867-76
H. S. Hustvedt	1876-81
P. H. Dahl	1881-1913
O. V. Smeby	1913-20
J. B. Kilness	1920-24
P. S. Nelson	1924-29
H. S. Bly	1929-38
George Natwick	1939-47
Arthur Baalson	1947-51
L. A. Roseland	1951-53
O. L. N. Wigdahl	1953-60

Charter membership: 67 voting members.

1960 membership: 152 baptized; 108 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 23.

1960 total property valuation: \$21,290.00.



### St. Paul Lutheran Elk Point, S. Dak. (rural)

Organized: 1863, later becoming St. Paul, Brule Creek, Bergen & Meckling Lutheran.

First meetings held in home of K. P. Ronne.

First Church built: 1868; Second 1877; Third 1920.

Present Pastor: Walther Kallestad (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

J. Krohn, Emil Christenson and P. Asbjornson	to 1868
J. N. Nessa	1868-82
David Lysness	1882-90
O. T. Nelson	1890-95
Paul H. Tetlie (Interim)	1895-96
P. J. Reinertson	1896-1918
A. J. Bergsaker	1918-24
C. B. Runsvold	1924-30
W. I. Aamoth	1930-41
(L. M. Strand, 1 year Asst.)	
D. L. Jacobson	1941-46
C. B. Runsvold	1946-51
A. P. Tidemann	1951-54
Richard Larson (Interim)	1954
Selmer Berge	1954-59
Thomas Knudson (Interim)	1959

Charter membership: 15.

1960 membership: 338 baptized; 236 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 80.

1960 total property valuation: \$203,450.

One pastor into ministry from this congregation.

This was the first Lutheran congregation to be organized in South Dakota.



## Meckling Evangelical Meckling, S. Dak.

Organized: November 18, 1912.

First meetings in Congregational Church.

First Church built: 1914.

Present Pastor: Paul M. Larson (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

J. B. Kilness	1920-24
P. E. Nelson	1924-29
H. S. Bly	1929-38
George Natwick	1939-47
Arthur Baalson	1947-51
L. A. Roseland	1951-53
O. L. N. Wigdahl	1953-60

Charter membership: About 30 voting members.

1960 membership: 163 baptized; 109 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 40.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,806.00.



## Brule Creek Lutheran 10 N., 2 W. of Elk Point

Organized: 1867.

First meeting in home of Anders Pederson.

First Church built: 1873; Second 1883.

Present Pastor: Selmer J. Hilmoe (1957- ).

### Former Pastors:

J. I. Krohn	1864-65
E. G. Christensen	1867-69
Ellef Olsen	1869-73
O. A. Normann	1873-79
Elling Dale	1880-1905
Chris Findahl	1905-10
H. S. Rue	1911-18
A. J. Bergsaker	1918-24
C. B. Runsvold	1924-30
W. I. Aamoth	1930-41
Douglas L. Jacobson	1942-45
I. G. Hastad	1946-56

Charter membership: 16.

1960 membership: 267 baptized; 219 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 72.

1960 total property valuation: \$42,120.00.

Rev. J. I. Krohn was a home missionary sent by Norwegian Lutheran Synod in 1864 to do work in Yankton area. That year he organized a congregation at the Anders Pederson home (Ulven), which subsequently gave birth to several congregations, including Brule Creek.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church

Elk Point, S. Dak.

Organized: March 3, 1913.

First meetings in local Episcopal Church.

First Church: 1915—basement church.

Second Church: 1922—Purchase of Episcopal Church.

Present Pastor: Selmer J. Hilmoe (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

Luther M. Roseland	1913-15
Jersing Thompson	1916-17
N. O. Peterson	1917-19
A. J. Bergsaker	1920-24
C. B. Runsvold	1924-30
Walter I. Aamoth	1930-41
Douglas L. Jacobson	1942-45
I. G. Hastad	1946-56

Charter membership: 22.

1960 membership: 482 baptized; 336 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 118.

1960 total property valuation: \$81,000.00.



## St. Peter Lutheran Church

6 N., 3 E. of Vermillion

Organized: 1869.

First meetings held in homes by Elling Eielsen.

First Church built: 1884; Second 1905.

Present Pastor: A. Parnell Nelson (1955- ).

Former Pastors:

G. L. Graven	1870-92
G. O. Vik	1893-1911
S. L. Jacobson	1911-20
E. E. Espelien	1921-23
Nils Klungvedt	1924-31
M. O. Ensberg	1931-42
B. F. Molstre	1942-51
C. H. Nelson	1951-55

Charter membership: 11 families.

1960 membership: 106 baptized; 87 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 46.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000 + 80 A. Farm.

Pastors and other full-time workers going out from this congregation are: Goran Norbeck, N. J. Lohre, Eldon Lyso, Roger Stensaas, Sister Mildred Christensen, and Mrs. Robert Mandsager.





**Roseni Lutheran Church**  
10 S., 1 E. of Beresford

Organized: 1872.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1876; Second 1896; and Third 1912.

Present Pastor: A. Parnell Nelson (1955- ).

Former Pastors:

G. L. Graven	1872-92
G. O. Vik	1893-1911
S. L. Jacobson	1911-20
E. E. Espelien	1921-23
Nils Klungvedt	1924-31
M. O. Ensberg	1931-42
B. F. Molstre	1942-51
C. H. Nelson	1951-55

Charter membership: no record.

1960 membership: 469 baptized; 308 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 149.

1960 total property valuation: \$90,000.

Together with St. Peter Lutheran, this congregation has supported Lyla Sivesind as Missionary to Madagascar for the past 27 years. Pastors and full-time church workers from this congregation are Anfin Utheim, Johan Olbue, Peder Lerseth, and Josephine Lykken.



**Lands Lutheran Church**  
RFD, Hudson, S. Dak.

Organized: 1872.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1876; Second: 1881.  
(First Church burned in 1879).

Present Pastors: LeRoy Iseminger, Asst. (1959- ).  
Arnold Imbrock, coming to be Sr. Pastor—1961.

Former Pastors:

E. Olson	1872-88
L. J. Hauge	1891-99
S. J. Nummedal	1903-19
C. L. Dalseide	1920-29
A. Molberg	1929-44
A. A. Snesrud	1945-49
E. H. Fretheim	1950-57
E. J. Haanstad	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 511 baptized; 365 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 159.

1960 total property valuation: \$183,000.00

Name "Lands" does not appear in records until March 4, 1875. Establishment of Parish Park and Youth Recreational Center, beginning in 1946; brooder house made into dollhouse for little children; swings, merry-go-round, tennis court, shuffle-board courts; Norman Solem Memorial Prayer Chapel built; ball diamond, etc. Annual 4th of July celebration held in park.





## Romsdal Lutheran Church RFD, Hudson

Organized: 1872.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1892; destroyed by tornado in 1902; Second built in 1903.

Present Pastor: Arnold Imbrock, Sr. Pastor (1961- ).  
LeRoy Iseminger, Asst. (1959- ).

G. L. Graven	1873-98
T. T. Carlson	1898-1903
G. O. Mona	1905-06
J. A. Quello	1907-15
J. J. Skarpness	1915-19
C. L. Dalseide	1919-29
A. Molberg	1929-44
A. A. Snesrud	1945-49
E. H. Fretheim	1950-57
E. J. Haanstad	1957-60

Charter membership: 12 families.

1960 membership: 314 baptized; 237 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 83.

1960 total property valuation: \$46,800.00.

United with Lands and Trinity in 1919, forming Moe Parish. Moe Parish Park, 10 acres, founded in 1948. (See Lands Lutheran Church).



## Trinity Lutheran Church RFD, Hudson, S. Dak.

Organized: 1895.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1875; Second 1894.

Present Pastor: Arnold Imbrock (1961- ); Asst. LeRoy Iseminger (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

O. A. Berge	1895-99
E. O. Thormodsgaard	1899-1902
S. J. Nummedal	1903-18
C. L. Dalseide	1920-29
A. Molberg	1929-44
A. A. Snesrud	1945-49
E. H. Fretheim	1950-57
E. J. Haanstad	1957-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 191 baptized; 145 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 56.

1960 total property valuation: \$55,000.00.

Moe Parish Park, 10 acres, founded in 1948.  
(See Lands Lutheran Church).



## Bethany Lutheran Church Fairview, S. Dak.

Organized: March 6, 1903.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1907.

Second Church built: 1954-55.

Present Pastor: R. A. Olsen (1956- ).

### Former Pastors:

E. O. Thormodsgaard	1903-09
Oluf A. Berge	1909-14
A. E. Berg	1915-17
Osmund A. Stensland	1917-20
T. T. Thompson	1920-26
Alfred Brevik	1926-28
E. L. Bentson	1928-43
Obed Vold	1943-47
H. E. Rasmussen, Jr.	1947-50
E. W. Haygeman	1951-56

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 192 baptized; 137 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 49.

1960 total property valuation: \$91,000.

Since 1915 pastors have, also, served Grand Valley Lutheran. From 1920 to 1928 Hudson Lutheran was also in this parish.



## Grand Valley Lutheran 5 mi. SW of Canton, S. Dak.

Organized: July 10, 1894.

First meetings held in Grand Valley School.

First Church built: 1901.

Present Pastor: R. A. Olsen (1956- ).

### Former Pastors:

P. H. Tetlie	1894-1903
S. J. Nummedahl	1903-15
A. E. Berg	1915-17
Osmund Stensland	1917-20
T. T. Thompson	1920-26
Alfred Brevik	1926-28
E. L. Bentson	1928-43
Obed Vold	1943-47
H. E. Rasmussen, Jr.	1947-51
E. W. Haygeman	1951-56

Charter membership: 26 families.

1960 membership: 194 baptized; 149 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 51.

1960 total property valuation: \$31,500.

Pastor Tetlie served from Canton and Pastor Nummedahl from the Moe Parish. Beginning with Pastor Berg, pastors have lived in the parsonage in Fairview.

**Pleasant Valley Lutheran Church**  
10 N., 3 W., Vermillion, S. Dak.

Organized: 1875 (St. Olaf 1870; Lodi 1872; Bethlehem 1875).

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1884.

Present Pastor: Duane V. Nelson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

*St. Olaf:*

Rev. Nesse 1870-75

*Lodi:*

E. Christensen 1867-76  
N. G. Tvedt 1876-80  
E. Dale 1881-1905  
H. S. Rue 1905-10  
P. H. Dable 1910-11  
Chr. Findahl 1911-18  
J. L. Johnson 1918-20

*Pleasant Valley:*

I. Andreassen 1875-90  
Ole T. Nilson 1890-95  
Neighboring Pastors 1895-99  
M. Londahl 1899-1902  
O. C. Strass 1902-05  
H. S. Rue 1905-09  
R. H. Wareberg 1909-15  
Jersing Thompson 1915-18  
J. L. Johnson 1918-24  
(In 1920 Lodi & Bethlehem formed Pleasant Valley).  
J. O. Paulsrud 1925-29  
Norman O. Nelson 1930-37  
C. F. Savereide 1937-41  
A. M. Turmo 1942-50  
Palmer Loken 1950-57

1960 membership: 252 baptized; 194 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 85.

1960 total property valuation: \$38,000.00.

(St. Olaf disbanded in 1875; Bethlehem formed).



**First Lutheran Church**  
Wakonda, South Dakota

Organized: April 9, 1938.

First meetings held in town hall.

First Church built: 1944.

Present Pastor: Duane V. Nelson (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

C. F. Savereide 1938-41  
A. M. Turmo 1942-50  
Palmer L. Loken 1950-57

Charter membership: 24.

1960 membership: 307 baptized; 207 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 102.

1960 total property valuation: \$13,000.00.

## Hudson Lutheran Church Hudson, S. Dak.

Organized: January 19, 1889 (Eden Congregation).

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1893; Second: 1938.

Present Pastor: Oliver Everson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

N. Tosseland	1889-91
L. J. Hauge	1891-99
O. C. Strass	1899-1903
S. J. Nummedal	1903-19
N. O. Peterson	1919-20
T. Thompson	1920-26
G. O. Gronseth	1926-41
(First Resident Pastor)	
Richard Larson	1941-45
F. Warren Strain	1945-50
K. E. Christopherson	1951-55
E. S. Skaar	1956-60

Charter membership: Unknown.

1960 membership: 538 baptized; 353 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 172.

1960 total property valuation: \$172,000.

Single parish since 1941.



## Trinity Lutheran Church Vermillion, S. Dak.

Organized: 1891.

First Church built: 1892; Second 1909.

Third Church built in 1959-60.

Present Pastor: Carl Borgwardt (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

O. T. Nelson	1892-94
Ingebrigt Lium	1894-99
C. K. Solberg	1900-05
J. R. Lavik	1906-10
Olaf Lysnes	1910-23
A. T. Tollefs	1923-26
L. A. Roseland	1926-51
T. B. Thorson (Interim)	1951-52
David W. Preus	1952-57

Charter membership: 14.

1960 membership: 1,213 baptized; 802 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 287.

1960 total property valuation: \$294,000.00.

Construction of new \$400,000 church plant begun in 1959. This includes Student Center to serve Lutheran students at State University.



## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

5th & Main

Beresford, S. Dak.

Organized: 1894.

First meetings held in Torgeson home.

First Church built: 1894.

Second Church built: 1949.

Present Pastor: Judeen O. Johnson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

G. L. Graven	1894-1901
H. Moe	1901-03
A. M. Mannes	1903-07
J. A. Quello	1907-15
A. E. Distad	1916-20
J. O. Reitan	1920-23
Louis Larson	1925-30
T. T. Vikse	1931-35
J. E. Borgen	1935-39
T. A. Thompson	1940-44
Emil Erpestad	1944-47
Virgil Bjerke	1947-53
Olaf Rossing	1953-60

Charter membership: No record.

1960 membership: 718 baptized; 456 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 215.

1960 total property valuation: \$161,000.

Pastors and full-time church workers from this congregation are: Stanley Gjervik, Robert Larsen, Arlene Tornberg Carls, David and Elizabeth Nelson, Laurell Larsen and Earl Carlson.



## Skrefsrud Lutheran Church

5 N., 3 W. of Beresford, S. Dak.

Organized: 1909.

First meetings held in various homes.

First Church built: 1911.

Present Pastor: Judeen O. Johnson (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

J. A. Quello	1909-15
A. E. Distad	1917-20
J. J. Skarpness	1921-23
J. O. Gisselquist	1924-37
J. E. Borgen	1938-39
T. A. Thompson	1940-44
Emil Erpestad	1944-47
Virgil Bjerke	1947-53
Olaf I. Rossing	1953-60

Charter membership: 9.

1960 membership: 144 baptized; 97 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 69.

1960 total property valuation: \$6,000.00.





## Scandia Lutheran Church Centerville, S. Dak.

Organized: 1908.

First meetings held in \_\_\_\_\_.

First Church built: 1910; remodeled 1926-27.

Present Pastor: F. L. Damgaard (1955- ).

Former Pastors:

J. J. Skarpness	1908-23
J. O. Gisselquist	1924-37
Peter Ljostveit	1938-43
I. Z. Hyland	1944-49
Frank Berg	1949-51
David Natwick	1952-55

Charter membership: 36.

1960 membership: 764 baptized; 541 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 244.

1960 total property valuation: \$110,000.00.

St. John's Lutheran merged with Scandia in 1936,  
and Melhus Lutheran in 1946.



## Immanuel Lutheran Church Centerville, S. Dak.

Organized: 1894.

First meetings held in Midway School.

First Church built: 1900.

Present Pastor: F. L. Damgaard (1955- ).

Former Pastors:

Rev. Bryan	_____
Rev. Strand	_____
T. T. Carlson	1896-1906
A. H. Trygstad	1916-19
J. L. Johnson	1919-24
Mons Longteig	_____
I. Z. Hyland	1944-49
Frank Berg	1949-51
David Natwick	1952-55

Charter membership: 18.

1960 membership: 155 baptized; 110 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 63.

1960 total property valuation: \$15,000.00.

Bethlehem Lutheran, Centerville, organized in 1895 and is no longer active, though the congregation has not been dissolved. Services discontinued and no regular pastor since 1955. First meetings held in Hooker School. First Church erected in 1900, destroyed by storm in 1902, and second church built in 1902.



## Watertown Circuit

### Leganger Lutheran Church Toronto, S. Dak.

Organized: 1878.

First meetings held at C. K. Fjerstad farm.

First Church built: 1888; Second 1955.

Present Pastor: Richard H. Gilman (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Olaf Hoel	1878-
Erik Ruste	1879-80
L. O. Sherven	1880-83
R. O. Brandt	1883-1900
S. M. Orwall	1901-12
Adolph Salvesson	1912-18
George Ulvilden	1919-31
H. B. Bestul	1932-42
Joel Nelson	1944-48
J. A. Korshavn	1949-54
J. L. F. Huseth	1954-59

Charter membership: 4.

1960 membership: 579 baptized; 394 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 170.

1960 total property valuation: \$120,250.00.

Last Norwegian services: 1940.



### Wood Lake Lutheran Church Astoria, S. Dak.

Organized: October 19, 1876.

First meetings held in Peter Hanson sodhouse and schoolhouse south of present church.

First Church built: 1892.

Present Pastor: Richard H. Gilman (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Olaf Hoel	1876-
E. O. Ruste	1879-80
L. O. Sherven	1880-83
R. O. Brandt	1883-1900
S. M. Orwall	1901-12
Adolph Salvesson	1912-18
G. J. Ulvilden	1919-31
H. B. Bestul	1932-42
Joel E. Nelson	1944-48
J. A. Korshavn	1949-54
J. L. F. Huseth	1954-59

Charter membership: 12.

1960 membership: 165 baptized; 127 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 44.

1960 total property valuation: \$21,750.

Last Norwegian services: 1940.



**Bethlehem Lutheran**  
3 NE of Astoria, S. Dak.

Organized: 1877.

First meetings held in sodhouse homes and school-houses.

First church built: 1891.

Present Pastor: E. R. Youngquist (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

P. A. Solem	1877-79
I. H. Hinderaker	1879-95
K. C. Hinderlie	1896-1910
K. E. Hatlen	1910-18
P. O. Lovseth	1919-50
A. E. Distad	1950-53
L. T. Runestad	1953-55
C. L. Solberg	1956-59
M. A. Erickson (Interim)	1960 (LFC)

Charter membership: 13.

1960 membership: 97 baptized; 74 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 17.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.00.

From 1910-19 Bethlehem and East Highland constituted a parish. Then, Bethany joined them from 1918-50, when East Highland joined Highland of Brandt, forming a parish there.



**Bethany Lutheran**  
Astoria, S. Dak.

Organized: May 20, 1918.

First meetings held in church which had been built by Singaas as preaching place. Remodeled in 1940.

First Church built: (Above).

Present Pastor: E. R. Youngquist (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

K. E. Hatlen served Bethlehem and East Highland, 8½ miles NE of Astoria since 1910. Pastor Ekse, of Singaas, laymen, and other pastors served.

P. O. Lovseth	1919-50
A. E. Distad	1950-53
L. T. Runestad	1953-55
C. L. Solberg	1956-59
M. A. Erickson (Interim)	1960 (LFC)

Charter membership: 85 to 100, (37 families).

1960 membership: 223 baptized; 149 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 55.

1960 total property valuation: \$41,200.00.



## East Highland Lutheran

4½ E., 1 N. of Brandt, S. Dak.

Organized: April 3, 1879.

First meetings held in homes and schools; organized in sodhouse of Johannes Larson near Fish Lake.

First Church built: 1891—struck by lightning & burned in 1914.

Second Church built: 1915.

Present Pastor: John Kilde (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Johan C. Jacobson	1879-81
Soren Emanuel Sorenson	1881-87
Tannes C. Solensten	1888-1907
Johan Olsen	1907-09
Peder Skartvedt	1910
K. G. Hatlen	1910-18
P. O. Lovseth	1919-50
Severed call with Bethany and Bethlehem and joined Highland.	
H. G. Loddigs	1950-51
Erling Jacobson (Interim)	
B. O. Solberg	1952-58

Charter membership: About 10 families.

1960 membership: 159 baptized; 117 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 32.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,000.00.



## Highland Lutheran Church

Brandt, S. Dak.

Organized: June 15, 1879.

First meetings held in sod homes. Rev. Olaf Hoel from Canby, Minn., first held services in Calsen and Kjenstad homes before 1879, when Rev. K. Thorstenson visited them and helped them organize.

First Church built: 1892.

Present Pastor: John Kilde (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

Olaf Hoel & K. Thorstenson,

organizers, 1879

Erik Ruste (temp.) 1879-80

L. Sherven 1880-83

R. O. Brandt 1883-1900

Johan Olsen 1900-17

K. B. Vaaler 1918-28

S. M. Moe 1928-38

E. C. Grevstad 1939-42

E. O. Ellefson 1943-47

A. E. Norson 1947-48

H. G. Loddigs 1949-51

B. O. Solberg 1952-58

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 444 baptized; 307 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 107.

1960 total property valuation: \$81,000.

In 1904 a Synodical meeting, lasting a week, was held with attendance running as high as 2,000. A large tent had to be used in addition to the church.



## Grace Lutheran Church

Bruce, S. Dak.

(Formerly First Lutheran and St. Petri)

Organized: Deer Creek 1879; changed to First Lutheran 1922, when church moved to town. St. Petri organized in 1886.

First churches built: Deer Creek—1879; St. Petri—1899.

Present Pastor: Edward A. Bersagel (1954- )

Former Pastors:

<i>Deer Creek</i>		<i>St. Petri</i>	
O. O. Sando	1879	B. Hagboe	1886-87
(Org.)		S. Rondestvedt	1890-93
Lars Sherven	1879	F. E. Norman	1893-03
Erik Ruste	1879-84	J. F. Swensen	1904-05
R. O. Brandt	1884-1900	P. Skartvedt	1905-12
Johan Olsen	1900-17	I. Hinderaker	1913-18
N. F. Kile	1922-24	K. G. Hatlen	1918-22
Geo. Ulvilden	1924-31	N. F. Kile	1922-24
Harold Bestul	1931-42	P. Ljostvedt	1925-26
Joel Nelson	1944-56	A. L. Stueland	1926-46

1946: New parish of above two congregations.

A. P. Tidemann 1946-51  
Otto Nielsen 1951-53

In 1960 became Grace Lutheran in Bruce.

1960 membership: 456 baptized; 296 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 138.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.



## Trinity Lutheran Church

Estelline, S. Dak.

Organized: St. John, April 25, 1880; Trinity, February, 1895.

First meetings in C.N.W.R.R. depot, in homes, and in Baptist Church.

First Church built: 1899; Second: 1958.

Present Pastor: Edward A. Bersagel (1954- )

Former Pastors:

<i>Trinity Lutheran</i>		<i>St. John Lutheran</i>	
Frantz		R. O. Brandt	1883-1900
Norman	1895-1903	S. M. Orwoll	1901-12
Johan M.		Adolph	
Wick	1903-12	Salveson	1912-18
G. O. Mona	1912-14	George	
Nels Carlson	1917-22	Ulvilden	1919-31
Peder Ljostvedt	1921-26	Harold Bestul	1931-42
A. L. Stueland	1927-46	Joel Nelson	1944-49
		J. A. Korshaven	1949-53
		J. L. F. Huseth	1954-56

Charter membership: 22.

1960 membership: 418 baptized; 270 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 136.

1960 total property valuation: \$97,500.

St. John merged with Trinity in 1956.



**St. Pauli Lutheran Church**  
4 mi. N. of Wallace, S. Dak.

Organized: 1883.

First meetings held in Ustrud schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1890; struck by lightning and burned in 1892. Second: 1900.

Present Pastor: Alvin P. Brucklacher (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Anders Nilsen	1883-92
Sjur Rislov	1893-1901
John Madsen	1902-12
John J. Haanstad	1912-23
J. O. Vold	1924-30
C. K. Malmin	1930-36
A. H. Holm	1937-42
H. M. Engh	1942-52
Kenneth Stangeland	1953-57
Chris J. Christianson	1957-60

Charter membership: 9 families.

1960 membership: 156 baptized; 121 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 72 (combined with Goodhue.)

1960 total property valuation: \$18,000.00.

In 1941 Norwegian services were discontinued.



**Helgen Lutheran Church**  
6½ NE of Florence

Organized: September 7, 1880.

First meeting held in A. Dahle's new granary, later in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1889.

Present Pastor: Alvin P. Brucklacher (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

K. Magelsen	1880
A. Jacobsen	Interim
Lars O. Sherven	Interim
A. Nilsen	1883-92
F. Norman	1892-93
Sjur Rislov	1893-1901
John Madsen	1901-12
J. J. Haanstad	1912-23
J. E. Jorgenson	Interim
J. O. Vold	1924-30
C. K. Malmin	1930-36
L. J. Odland	Interim
Albert Holm	1937-41
O. O. Hoistad	Interim
Harold M. Engh	1942-52
Kenneth Stangeland	1953-57
Chris J. Christianson	1957-60

Charter membership: 10 families.

1960 membership: 97 baptized; 70 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: see Bergen Lutheran.

1960 total property valuation: \$4,000.00.



**Goodhue Lutheran Church**  
6 mi. NW of Florence, S. Dak.

Organized: September 16, 1888.

First meetings held in granary on Asaph Chilson farm, and in Meland School, until 1904.

First Church built: 1904.

Present Pastor: Alvin Brucklacher (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

L. E. Kjelaas	1888-93
Sjur Rislov	1893-1901
A. K. Flakoll of Bristol	1901-02
John Madsen	1902-11
L. J. Odland	1911-12
J. J. Haanstad	1912-23
J. E. Jorgenson	1924
John O. Vold	1924-30
J. E. Jorgenson	1930
C. K. Malmin	1930-37
L. J. Odland	1937
A. H. Holm	1937-42
H. M. Engh	1942-52
Kenneth Stangeland	1953-57
Chris J. Christianson	1957-60

Charter membership: 10 families.

1960 membership: 120 baptized; 69 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: (with St. Pauli).

1960 total property valuation: \$6,000.00.

Congregation named Goodhue because so many of charter members came from Goodhue County, Minn. Rev. Kjelaas served first five years on salary of \$50 a year; made 60 trips (50-60 miles round trip) with horses. Ole Bergh directed choir and quartet for more than 25 years.



**Bergen Lutheran Church**  
13 mi. NE of Florence

Organized: March 16, 1907.

First meetings held in Bergen Schoolhouse.

First Church built: 1907.

Present Pastor: Alvin P. Brucklacher (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

John Madsen	1907-12
J. J. Haanstad	1912-23
J. O. Vold	1924-30
C. K. Malmin	1930-36
A. H. Holm	1937-41
H. M. Engh	1942-52
Kenneth Stangeland	1953-57
Chris J. Christianson	1957-60

Charter membership: 15 families.

1960 membership: 124 baptized; 69 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 89 (with Helgen).

1960 total property valuation: \$10,000.00.

In 1955-56 an annex was built to allow for more Sunday School room.

## New Hope Lutheran Church

6½ mi. N. of Hayti, S. Dak.

Organized: July 12, 1880.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1891.

Present Pastor: Richard Barnwell (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Charles Jacobson	1882-86
O. I. Saetre	1882
B. Hagbo	1882-86
Rev. Nelson	1886
Lauritz Thoreson	1887-1939
J. C. Stoltenberg	1939-43
Gilford Helgesen	1944-48
Paul Sather	1949-53
Lester Petersen	1953-57
Richard Borrud	1957-60

Charter membership: 11 families.

1960 membership: 279 baptized; 184 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 71.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.00.

Rev. L. Thoreson began in 1887, serving for over 50 years, traveling on skis, by horse and buggy, and finally in a Buick car. Rev. Richard Borrud, pastor from 1957-60, was also, "Captain Dick" of the popular Bible story television program "Through the Porthole."



## Hayti Lutheran Church

Hayti, S. Dak.

Organized: 1917.

First meetings held in Farmers' Room of Court-house from 1919 to 1941.

First Church built: 1941. Educational unit, 1958.

Present Pastor: Richard Barnwell (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

E. S. Eidesvik	1917-18
E. A. Fretheim	1919-23
J. L. Johnson	1924-38
J. C. Stoltenberg	1939-43
J. S. Helgesen	1944-48
Paul Sather	1953-57
Richard Borrud	1957-60

Charter membership: Five families.

1960 membership: 358 baptized; 275 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 112.

1960 total property valuation: \$82,000.

Pastor Richard Borrud, 1957-60, was widely known as Captain Dick of the popular television program "Through the Porthole." February 1960, Pastor Borrud moved to NeSoDak Bible Camp, Wau-bay, to take over duties as Bible Camp Director for six NE circuits in South Dakota District, ELC.

**East Norden Lutheran Church**  
5 W., 8½ S. of Castlewood, S. Dak.

Organized: February 25, 1880, as Altens Skandinaviske Evangeliske Lutherske Menighed. In 1897 divided into East and West Norden.

First meetings held in homes.

First church built: Basement 1898; Church 1924.

Present Pastor: Arthur H. Dryver, as a student in 1958-59; Ordained 5/31/59.

Former Pastors:

J. C. Jacobson	1880-81
B. L. Hagboe	1883
A. Nilsen	1883-88
Paul Hendriksen	1888-98
J. Holland	1899-1905
N. A. Stubkjaer	1906-11
E. S. Eidesvik	1912-16 & 1918-19
E. A. Fretheim	1919-23
J. L. Johnson	1924-38
J. C. Stoltenberg	1938-43
Gilford S. Helgesen	1944-48
Paul D. Sather	1948-53
Lester Petersen	1953-56
Student J. Quanbeck	1956-58

Charter membership: 12 families.

1960 membership: 74 baptized; 50 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 20.

1960 total property valuation: \$14,650.

From 1888 to 1918 East & West Norden, Garfield and Hayti were one parish. By 1937 West Norden ceased to exist. East Norden and American of Castlewood became a parish in 1956.



**American Lutheran Church**  
Castlewood, S. Dak.

Organized: December 9, 1945.

First meetings held in Wm. Gantvoort home and Citizens State Bank in Castlewood.

First Church built: Purchased Methodist Church in 1946.

Present Pastor: Arthur H. Dryver, as a student 1958-59; Ordained May 31, 1959.

Former Pastors:

Student Eugene Nilsen	1945-46
Gilford Helgesen, interim	1946
Student Wallace Asper	1946-47
Robert H. Bragstad	1947-52
S. Philip Froiland (student)	1952-53
Arnold G. Mathisen	1953-56
John Quanbeck (student)	1956-58
John Rockne & Harris	
Kaasa (interim)	1958-
Selmer Hatlestad (student)	1958

Charter membership: 25.

1960 membership: 242 baptized; 135 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 93.

1960 total property valuation: \$16,765.

A Lutheran congregation organized here in 1900, was served from Watertown on a part-time basis. It re-organized in 1929 as First English Lutheran, with L. A. B. Nelson as resident pastor. During the depression after Rev. Nelson left, the congregation gradually declined, records were scanty, and in 1942 the church was destroyed by wind.





## Grace Lutheran Church Watertown, S. Dak.

Organized: December 22, 1883.

First meetings held in temporary quarters until 1886.

First Church built: 1886. (Cost of \$2200.00).

Second Church built: 1917.

Present Pastors: George P. Larson (1959- );  
Asst. Charles Akre (1959- ); Visitation, John  
B. Rockne (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

A. Nelson	1883-92
Frantz Norman	1892-99
A. C. Barron	1901-07
J. B. Reinertson	1907-12
O. J. Edwards	1913-22
K. G. Hatlen	1921
H. A. Okdale	1922-37
Oscar C. Hanson	1937-42
Boral R. Biorn	1942-49
Conrad M. Thompson	1949-51
Carroll Hinderlie	1952-54
Norman L. Hammer	1954-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 3,630 baptized; 2,201 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 944.

1960 total property valuation: \$493,000.00.

New Church, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer,  
being organized in Watertown.



## Clark Center Lutheran 8 mi. NW of Clark, S. Dak.

Organized: July 11, 1883.

First meetings held in McLean and Wallen schools.

First Church built: 1898.

Present Pastor: Woodrow Wilson (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

A. O. Utheim	1883
L. L. Nervig	1884-89
E. M. Peterson	1889-93
L. L. Nervig	1893-94
A. M. Danielson	1895-97
L. J. Odland	1897-1903
A. Haugland	1903-22
L. J. Odland	1922-23
A. E. Distad	1923-29
L. J. Odland	1929-30
J. O. Vold	1930-47
Victor Swain	1948-53
Wm. Schumacher	1954-56
Philip Natwick	1956-59

Charter membership: 17 families.

1960 membership: 163 baptized; 102 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 44.

1960 total property valuation: \$14,000.00.

During the first 75 years the ministerial record was  
as follows: baptized 423; confirmed 229; mar-  
riages 76; burials 109.

First class confirmed in English language—1928.





## St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran 301 S. Smith, Clark, S. Dak.

Organized: January, 1903.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: Purchased church from Baptists.

First Church built: 1951.

Present Pastor: Woodrow Wilson (1959- ),

Former Pastors:

L. J. Odland	1897-1903
A. Haugland	1903-21
L. J. Odland	1922-23
A. E. Distad	1923-29
J. O. Vold	1930-47
Victor Swain	1947-53
Wm. Schumacher	1954-56
Philip Natwick	1956-59

Charter membership: 10 families; as Clark Center grew, it was decided to start a church in town; some of the Clark Center members became charter members of St. Paul's.

1960 membership: 561 baptized; 364 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 180.

1960 total property valuation: \$147,000.00.

Constitution was written in Norwegian, translated into English in 1947.



## Singsaas Lutheran Church

3½ miles NW of Hendricks, Minnesota

Organized: October 26, 1874.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church built: 1884 (\$1075.00).

Second Church built: 1903 (in Hendricks).

Third Church built: 1912 (in Astoria).

Fourth Church built: 1921 (\$15,000.00).

Present Pastor: Albert H. Holm (1957- ).

Former Pastors:

Anfin O. Utheim	1874-82
Gulbrand Evenson	1882-88
O. O. Bergh of Volga (interim)	1888-89
Jacob Nesheim	1889-95
Jacob J. Ekse	1896-1925
E. E. Espelien	1925-30
P. O. Lovseth (interim)	1930-32
P. L. Mork	1932-44
Singsaas and First Lutheran became a parish in 1932.	
Peder Lerseth	1944-57
Samuel Carlsen & Student George Johnson	1957

Charter membership: About 22 families.

1960 membership: 325 baptized; 237 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 74.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.00.

Seven sons of Singsaas Congregation have gone into fulltime church service, five into ministry.



## First Lutheran Church Hendricks, Minnesota

Organized: February 17, 1930.

First meetings held in homes.

First Church: 1903 (had been part of Singaas property).

Present Pastor: Albert H. Holm (1957- ).

### Former Pastors:

E. E. Espelien	1930-31
B. Steverson	1931-32
P. L. Mork	1932-44
Peder Lerseth	1944-57

Charter membership: 246.

1960 membership: 425 baptized; 229 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 118.

1960 total property valuation: \$40,000.00.

Two have gone into full-time church service.

Parish consists of Singaas and First Lutheran.



## Trinity Lutheran Church Reville, S. Dak.

Organized: June 8, 1889.

First church built: 1890; Remodeled 1945.

Present Pastor: Jalmer M. Eldal (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

C. J. Moen	1887-91
J. O. Litsheim (Asst.)	1890
Prof. P. R. Olson	1893-94
J. Fjelde	1895-1904
W. Coll	1904-07
O. A. Utheim	1907-11
S. K. Ulsaker	1911-15
H. Oppedahl	1915-21
Simon Hanson	1921-27
Geo. C. Brenni	1927-36
M. N. Tatley	1937-42
Sigurd Sydness	1942-43
Mikkel Mandsager	1943-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 196 baptized; 138 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 54.

1960 total property valuation: \$22,000.



## Good Hope Lutheran Church

8 mi. N. of Willow Lake

Organized: 1890.

First meetings held in Peter Ronning home.

First Church built: 1892.

Present Pastor: Dalton Gronlie (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

L. L. Nervig	1891-94
A. M. Danielson	1895-97
L. J. Odland	1897-1903
A. Haugland	1903-22
L. J. Odland	1922-23
A. E. Distad	1923-29
L. J. Odland	1929-30
J. O. Vold	1930-47
Victor Swain	1947-53
Wm. Schumacher	1953-55
Edmund Youngquist	1956-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 175 baptized; 129 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 29.

1960 total property valuation: \$12,000.

First pastor received \$100 per year plus two festive offerings for at least 12 services per year.

Present pastor appears on television program "Thoughts for Today" over KDLO.



## Zoar Lutheran Church

9 mi. SE of Revillo, S. Dak.

Organized: April 25, 1895.

First meetings held in homes of parishioners.

First Church built: 1901; Remodeled 1948.

Present Pastor: Jalmer M. Eldal (1959- ).

Former Pastors:

E. M. Peterson	1895-1901
T. T. Boe	1902-24
Simon Hanson	1924-27
Geo. C. Brenni	1927-35
P. O. Wee	1935-37
M. N. Tatley	1937-42
Sigurd Sydness	1942-43
Mikkel Mandsager	1943-59

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 182 baptized; 94 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 39.

1960 total property valuation: \$17,000.00.

Came into S. Dak. District in 1960.



## Grace Lutheran Church Willow Lake, S. Dak.

Organized: 1894.

First meetings held in homes & schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1904; Second 1905.

Present Pastor: Dalton Gronlie (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Lauritz Thoreson	1902-20
Elmer Dahle	1920-21
Edward Jordahl	1921-24
A. E. Distad	1924-26
J. E. Borgen	1926-31
A. J. Thorson	1931-35
E. O. Munkvold	1935-48
H. J. Peterson—Lived in Bryant and served Willow Lake.	
Edmund Youngquist	1956-60

### Charter membership:

1960 membership: 189 baptized; 118 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 65.

1960 total property valuation: \$16,000.00.

First church destroyed by cyclone August, 1904.

In 1921 church was dedicated and name changed from West Willow Lake Congregation to Grace Lutheran. Previous to 1902, Rev. Anders Nilsen from Watertown came occasionally.



## Pleasant Lutheran Church 3 W., 1 S. of Vienna, S. Dak.

Organized: August 7, 1883.

First meetings held in Gulbrand Eggen sodhouse.

First Church built: 1893.

Present Pastor: Donohue Sarif (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Anders Nilsen	1883-92
Lauritz Thoreson	1892-1939
Edwin O. Munkvold	1939-48
Leonard E. Smestad	1949-51
John L. Quam	1952-56
Intern Walter Kirkegaard	1956
Donald J. Severson	1956-60

Charter membership: 35

1960 membership: 230 baptized; 168 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 51

1960 total property valuation: \$24,000.00.

Last Norwegian services during Munkvold's ministry. Lovseth and Knutson were other interns serving Pleasant Lutheran.

## Vienna Lutheran Church Vienna, S. Dak.

Organized: 1912.

First meetings held in churches of other denominations and in private homes.

First Church built: 1910; Remodeled 1958.

Present Pastor: Donohue Sarff (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

Lauritz Thoreson & C. L. Rachie	1913-17
H. L. F. Huseth	1917-20
John Arneson	1920-27
E. O. Munkvold	1928-48
Leonard E. Smestad	1949-51
John L. Quam	1952-56
Intern Walter Kirkegaard	1956
Donald J. Severson	1956-60

Charter membership: 96.

1960 membership: 218 baptized; 167 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 31.

1960 total property valuation: \$33,000.00.

Men of the congregation farm a half-section to pay into the building fund.



## Our Savior's Lutheran Henry, S. Dak.—RFD

Organized: June, 1897.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1915.

Second Church built: 1926; renovated 1948.

Present Pastor: Lyle A. Rich (1958-60).

### Former Pastors:

L. J. Hauge	1892-97
F. C. Norman	1897-99
A. E. Barron	1900-07
J. B. Reinertson	1907-12
C. L. Rachie	1913-17
H. F. Huseth	1917-20
John Arneson	1920-28
E. O. Munkvold	1928-48
Irvin J. Lovseth (Asst.)	1947
Glennys Knutson (intern)	1949
Leonard Smestad	1949-51
John L. Quam	1951-55
Walter Kirkegaard (intern)	1956
Lyle Rich (intern)	1956-57
Arthur Dryver (intern)	1957-58

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 191 baptized; 129 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 50.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,200.00.



## Naples Lutheran Church Naples, S. Dak.

Organized: December 19, 1903.  
 First meetings held in schoolhouse.  
 First Church built: 1906.  
 Present Pastor: Lyle A. Rich (1958-60).

### Former Pastors:

Lauritz Thoreson	1903-13
C. L. Rachie	1913-17
H. F. Huseth	1917-20
Oct., 1918 to March, 1919, church closed because of influenza epidemic.	
J. Arneson	1920-28
E. O. Munkvold	1928-40
The last five years he also served Vienna, Pleasant, Grace, Our Savior's and Naples. Students Junis Loyseth and Glennys Knutson interned in 1947 and 48.	
L. E. Smestad	1949-51
John L. Quam	1952-56
Lyle A. Rich also served as student pastor.	

Charter membership: 10 families.  
 1960 membership: 203 baptized; 140 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 65.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$17,600.00.  
 Two into ministry from this congregation.



## St. Paul Lutheran Church Clear Lake, S. Dak.

Organized: 1920.  
 First meetings held in Courthouse.  
 First Church built: 1935.  
 Second Church being built in 1960-61.  
 Present Pastor: Paul Sanders (1959- ).

### Former Pastors:

K. B. Vaaler	1920-28
S. M. Moe	1928-38
E. C. Grevstad	1939-42
E. O. Ellefson	1943-48
R. H. Bragstad	1948-53
Arne Mathisen	1953-59

Charter membership:  
 1960 membership: 624 baptized; 393 confirmed.  
 1960 Sunday School enrollment: 194.  
 1960 total property valuation: \$59,000.00.



## Yankton Circuit

### Vangen Lutheran Church Mission Hill, S. Dak.

Organized: 1864.

First meetings held in home of Torger Nelsen.

First Church built: 1869; Second: 1917.

Present Pastor: Bruce Kjellberg (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

Emil Christensen	1867-76
H. B. Hustvedt	1876-81
P. H. Dahl	1881-1918
O. V. Smeby	1913-45
R. F. Wilson	1945-51
Stanley M. Kvinge	1952-56
Wm. L. Vaswig	1956-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 415 baptized; 270 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 124.

1960 total property valuation: \$150,000.

Old Vangen is said to be the oldest Lutheran Church in the Dakotas still standing.

2 story educational unit being built.



### Gayville Lutheran Church Gayville, South Dakota

Organized: 1875.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1891.

Present Pastor: Bruce Kjellberg (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

H. B. Hustvedt	1876-81
P. H. Dahl	1881-1918
O. V. Smeby	1913-45
R. F. Wilson	1945-51
Stanley M. Kvinge	1952-56
Wm. L. Vaswig	1956-60

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 276 baptized; 201 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 59.

1960 total property valuation: \$18,000.00.

In 1903 Gayville separated from mother congregation, though remaining in parish with Vangen, Bergen, and later, Meckling. The Gayville-Vangen Parish was organized in 1920.

## Volin Lutheran Church Volin, S. Dak.

Organized: April 20, 1904.

First meetings held in Methodist Church.

First Church built: 1908.

Present Pastor: Vernon L. Andersen (1960- ).

### Former Pastors:

C. K. Solberg	1904-06
O. A. Anderson (died while here)	1906
G. M. Bruce (temporary)	1906-07
A. M. Mannes	1907-10
Jersing Thompson	1910-18
L. O. Sunde	1919-26
J. J. Rendahl	1927
C. J. Eastvold	1928-29
P. M. Fjaere	1929-57
V. G. Mostrom	1957-60

Charter membership: 25.

1960 membership: 190 baptized; 139 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 50.

1960 total property valuation: \$20,000.00.

Voted to discontinue Norwegian services in January, 1941. One from congregation has gone into full-time church work.



## Trinity Lutheran Church Hartington, Nebraska

Organized: As Bow Valley Lutheran—1873.

First meetings held in homes & schoolhouses.

First Church: 1886 (Cost—\$1500).

Two congregations, Bow Valley & United Lutheran used this same church for 24 years. Paragon Lutheran church built in 1904. Paragon and Bow Valley became Trinity Lutheran in 1918.

Present Pastor: O. L. Levorson (1942- ).

### Former Pastors:

Emil G. A. Christensen	1870-76
N. G. Tvedt	1876-94
A. J. Hammer	1896-97
M. M. Londahl	1898-1900
A. L. Selsoe	1900-01
Oscar A. Rorem	1902-07
Joseph Lewis	1907-11
A. J. Nervig	1907-18
Jersing Thompson	1918-23
A. M. Peterson	1924-29
H. R. Gregerson	1929-34
A. J. Thorson	1934-42

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 487 baptized; 311 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 131.

1960 total property valuation: \$79,500.00.

Two sons of congregation entered into the ministry.



## Zion Lutheran Church Maskell, Nebraska

Organized: Lime Creek—1873.  
Bethany—about 1877-80.

First Church built: Lime Creek—1884; 2nd 1898.  
Bethany—1893; 2nd 1902; 3rd 1909.  
3rd church rebuilt 1914 (at Maskell).

Zion Lutheran: 1920—merger of Lime Creek and Bethany.

Present Pastor: Carl Grindberg (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

<i>Lime Creek</i>	
Emil G. A. Christensen	1873-76
N. G. Tvedt	1877-1907
A. J. Nervig	1908-18

<i>Bethany</i>	
Iver Andreason	1877-80
E. T. Quam	1880-91
O. T. Nelson	1891-92
Paul Tetlie	1892-95
A. J. Hammer	1895-98
M. M. Londahl	1898-1900
E. L. Selsoe	1900-01
Oscar Rorem	1902-07
Joseph Lewis	1907-11
A. J. Anders	1913-15
A. Nervig	1915-18
J. M. Hestenes	1919-21
(Merger in 1920)	
O. C. Harang	1921-31
R. L. Falk	1931-41
O. J. Engh	1942-45
Palmer Loken	1945-50
C. M. Grindland	1951-54
Dale Striker	1955-57

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 194 baptized; 135 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 57.

1960 total property valuation: \$13,500.

Rev. Paul Tetlie, pastor, came from this congregation. Lime Creek and Bethany churches were both damaged by 1898 tornado. Lime Creek from former Norwegian Synod and Bethany from United Lutheran Church.



## Trinity Lutheran Church Crofton, Nebraska

Organized: September, 1928.

First meetings: homes, Forester Hall, or Congregational Church.

First Church: Purchased from Trinity, Hartington. Dedicated in 1932.

Present Pastor: O. L. Leverson (1942- ).

Former Pastors:

L. A. Roseland	
(assisted by Mr. L. H. Moss),	
R. L. Falk, and O. M. Odland	1928-30
Harold Alleson	1930-31
Harry R. Gregerson	1931-34
A. J. Thorson	1934-41

Charter membership: 7 families.

1960 membership: 72 baptized; 52 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 32.

1960 total property valuation:





## Bethany Lutheran Church Wynot, Nebraska

Organized: 1917.

First meetings held in Presbyterian Church.

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Carl Grindberg (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

N. J. Carlson	1917-19
J. M. Hestenes	1919-22
O. C. Harang	1922-23
R. O. Aga	1923-25
E. L. Bentson	1925-28
R. L. Falk	1928-41
O. J. Engh	1942-45
P. L. Loken	1945-50
C. M. Grindland	1951-54
D. Striker	1955-57

Charter membership: 28.

1960 membership: 71 baptized; 41 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 21.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,000.00.



## Our Savior's Lutheran Obert, Nebraska

Organized: 1903.

First meetings held in schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1905.

Present Pastor: Carl Grindberg (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

O. A. Rorem	1903-07
J. A. Lewis	1907-11
A. V. Anders	1913-16
N. N. Carlson	1916-18
J. M. Hestenes	1919-21
O. C. Harang	1921-31
R. L. Falk	1931-41
O. J. Engh	1942-45
P. L. Loken	1945-50
C. M. Grindland	1951-54
D. Striker	1955-57

Charter membership: 14.

1960 membership: 169 baptized; 104 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 32.

1960 total property valuation: \$6,000.00.





## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

14 W., 3 N. of Irene, S. Dak.

Organized: February 16, 1875.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1884.

Present Pastor: Archie Lovaas (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

E. Christensen	1875-76
G. Gulbrandsen	1876-81
H. B. Hustvedt	1876-81
P. H. Dahl	1881-87
	also 1892-98
J. I. Welo	1887-92
R. Malmin	1892-95
E. Broch	1896-1901
J. Levorson	1901-39
V. C. Hougen	1940-46
E. A. Bersagel	1946-53
J. G. Helgeson	1954-57

Charter membership: 17.

1960 membership: 174 baptized; 120 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 42.

1960 total property valuation: \$4,502.00.

Parsonage listed under Bang Lutheran.

In 1881 confirmands walked from Jamesville Territory to Gayville, 25 to 30 miles, to receive instruction. Joined Norwegian Synod in 1895. Rev. Broch was the first resident pastor in 1895. One son of congregation in ministry.



## Our Savior's Lutheran

6 mi. S. of Menno, S. Dak.

Organized: December, 1871.

First meetings held in different homes.

First Church built: 1884-85.

Present Pastor: Archie Lovaas (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

J. J. Naesse	1872	C. J. Olberg	1897-99
G. L. Graven	1873-75	L. A. Breen	1899-1902
H. Z. Hvid	1875-76	C. K. Solberg	1902-04
A. N. Kleven	1876-78	L. L. Masted	1904-07
H. O. Opsal	1878-81	A. C. Quale	1907-10
E. H. Midtbo	1881-86	O. H. Brodland	1911-25
H. Z. Hvid	1886-89	J. M. Runestad	1925-39
C. J. Olson	1890-93	V. C. Hougen	1940-46
P. H. Tetlie	1893-95	E. A. Bersagel	1946-53
P. B. Strand	1896-97	J. G. Helgeson	1954-57

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 144 baptized; 100 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 45.

1960 total property valuation: \$30,000.00.

Parsonage listed under Bang Lutheran.

In 1890 the James River Congregation joined the United Norwegian Lutheran Church. In 1889 a number of members left and formed the new Norway Church, these two continuing until they merged in 1920 to form Our Savior's Evangelical Lutheran.



**Bang Lutheran Church**  
12 W., 3 N. of Viborg, S. Dak.

Organized: November 13, 1887.

First meetings held in homes and schoolhouses.

First Church built: 1894; Second 1904; Third 1919.

Present Pastor: Archie Lovaas (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

P. H. Dahl	1887-92
R. Malmin	1892-95
E. Broch	1895-1901
J. Levorson	1901-39
V. C. Hougen	1940-46
E. A. Bersagel	1946-53
J. G. Helgeson	1954-57

Charter membership: 5 families.

1960 membership: 115 baptized; 68 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 34.

1960 total property valuation: \$15,917.

In June, 1902 the first church was destroyed by a tornado; in June, 1915, the second church was destroyed by lightning. Third church built at a cost of \$6,675.00.



**Elim Evangelical Lutheran**  
10 W., 5 N. of Irene, S. Dak.

Organized: 1903.

First meetings held in Thompson School, now known as Lowell School.

First Church built: 1907-08.

Present Pastor: Archie Lovaas (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

C. J. Olberg	1906-17
P. A. Nordsletten	1918-24
O. M. Odland	1924-36
J. M. Johnson	1936-38
Gabriel Tweet	1938-40
V. C. Hougen	1940-46
E. A. Bersagel	1946-53
J. G. Helgeson	1954-57

Charter membership: 3 families.

1960 membership: 180 baptized; 135 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 37.

1960 total property valuation: \$5,504.00.

Parsonage listed under Bang Lutheran.

Elim was originally associated with Meidal, Salem and Irene, comprising the Irene Lutheran Parish. In 1920 they were with the Yankton Parish, and in 1939 joined with Bethlehem, Bang and Our Savior's to form the present Midway Lutheran Parish. Beginning of church work among settlers in Elim community dates back to 1870.



**Meldal Lutheran Church**  
3 W., 5 N. of Irene, S. Dak.

Organized: November 18, 1879.  
First meetings held in homes and new schools.  
First Church built: 1886; Second 1903.  
Present Pastor: Stephen Engelstad (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

G. L. Graven	1879-84
F. H. Carlson	1884-92
G. L. Graven	1892-93
B. P. Strand	1893-97
C. J. Olberg	1897-1906
L. L. Nervig	1906-18
P. A. Nordsletten	1919-25
N. Okerlund	1925-28
E. O. Urness	1928-35
J. M. Johnson	1935-50
I. J. Lovseth	1950-58

Charter membership: 1.  
1960 membership: 198 baptized; 120 confirmed.  
1960 Sunday School enrollment: 32.  
1960 total property valuation: \$18,000.00.  
Six from this congregation have gone into full time Church work.



**Salem Lutheran Church**  
2 mi. West of Irene, S. Dak.

Organized: July 24, 1893.  
First meetings held in  
First Church built: 1901; Second 1903.  
Present Pastor: Stephen Engelstad (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

L. A. Breen	1893-1900
C. J. Olberg	1900-17
P. Nordsletten	1917-24
N. Okerlund	1924-28
E. O. Urness	1928-35
J. M. Johnson	1935-50
I. J. Lovseth	1950-58

Charter membership: 9.  
1960 membership: 117 baptized; 95 confirmed.  
1960 Sunday School enrollment: 19.  
1960 total property valuation: \$16,000.00 (which includes 1/3 of parsonage value).  
First church destroyed by storm year after built.



**Irene Lutheran Church**  
Irene, S. Dak.

Organized: January 21, 1907.

First meetings held in Methodist Church.

First Church built: 1910; two additions.

Present Pastor: Stephen Engelstad (1958- ).

Former Pastors:

C. J. Olberg	1907-17
P. A. Nordsletten	1917-24
N. Okerlund	1924-28
E. O. Urness	1928-35
J. M. Johnson	1935-50
I. J. Lovseth	1950-58

Charter membership: 30 families.

1960 membership: 254 baptized; 164 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 74.

1960 total property valuation: \$23,000.00.



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Yankton, S. Dak.

Organized: May 3, 1886.

First meetings held in

First Church built: 1900-02; in 1950 it was sold to the Baptist Conference; Forbes Hall at Yankton College was used until the new Church was completed in 1953 (\$320,000).

Present Pastor: R. H. Jacobsen (1960- ).  
Asst. H. C. Verhulst (1960- ).

Former Pastors:

J. I. Welo	1886-92
R. Malmin	1893-95
L. Harrisville of Sioux City	1895-1901
C. K. Solberg	1901-05
A. O. Anderson	1906
A. M. Mannes	1907-10
Jersing Thompson	1910-15
A. M. Mannes	1917-18
O. M. Odland	1919-37
Gabriel Tweet	1937-41
T. G. Wicks	1942-49
A. L. Abrahamson	1949-54
C. G. Lygre	1954-59
Wallace Larson, Asst.	1958-60

Charter membership: 28.

1960 membership: 1,518 baptized; 1,001 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 464.

1960 total property valuation: \$358,500.00.

During Rev. Wicks' pastorate, congregation purchased building site from Edmunds estate, acquiring the historic home of Dakota Territory's second governor, Hon. Newton Edmunds, in April, 1948.



## Bethany Lutheran Church Hurley, S. Dak.

Organized: 1877.

First meetings held in sodhouse of C. T. Holme.

First Church built: 1902; Second 1913.

Present Pastor Richard Solberg, interim.  
Verlyn Smith, interim.

### Former Pastors:

Ivar Andreasson	1877-79
Ole Norby	1879-84
Prof. D. Lysness (temporary)	1885-
C. J. Olson	1886-90
M. Engen	1891-93
L. L. Masted	1904-06
A. C. Quale	1907-10
O. H. Brodland	1911-25
J. M. Runestad	1926-39
A. T. Daniels	1940-49
O. W. Sougstad	1950-53
V. O. Johnson	1953-60

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 176 baptized; 113 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 80.

1960 total property valuation: \$21,000.00.

Four pastors and three missionaries have gone out from this congregation.



## Salem Lutheran Church

7 S., 1 E. of Freeman, S. Dak.

Organized: February 14, 1877.

First meetings held in home of Gunerius Larson.

First Church built: 1898; Remodeled 1952.

Present Pastor; Interim by Dr. R. Solberg & Verlyn Smith.

### Former Pastors:

Iver Andreasson	1877-79
Ole Norby	1879-83
Carl J. Olson	1885-94
L. A. Breen	1894-1903
L. L. Masted	1904-06
Andrew C. Quale	1907-10
O. H. Brodland	1911-25
J. M. Runestad	1926-39
A. T. Daniels	1940-49
O. W. Sougstad	1950-53
V. O. Johnson	1953-60

Charter membership: 13.

1960 membership: 129 baptized; 102 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 68.

1960 total property valuation: \$23,000.00.

Last Norwegian services in 1929.

Four pastors have gone out from this congregation.





## First Evangelical Lutheran Lake Andes, S. Dak.

Organized: October 22, 1899.

First meetings held in schools in Goose Lake & Moore Townships.

First Church built: 1909; moved to town and re-dedicated in 1945; rebuilt in 1959.

Present Pastor: Alvin J. Albert (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

E. Nielsen	1900-11
P. P. Hagen	1911-23
Henry Langum (interim)	1924-25
A. E. Thompson	1925-27
E. R. Jacobson	1928-31
A. M. Turmo	1931-42
Virgil Bjerke	1944-47
Oliver Wigdahl	1947-54
Floyd Bacon	1954-57

Charter membership: 8 families.

1960 membership: 283 baptized; 166 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 116.

1960 total property valuation: \$73,750.00.



## Grace Lutheran Church Parker, S. Dak.

Organized: 1940.

First meetings held in

First Church built:

Present Pastor: Virgil Johnson (1953-61).

### Former Pastors:

Stanley Olsen	1940
A. T. Daniels	1940-49
O. W. Sougstad	1950-52

Charter membership:

1960 membership: 279 baptized; 166 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 107.

1960 total property valuation: \$33,000.00.

## East Lake Andes Lutheran

13 mi. NE of Lake Andes

Organized: June 12, 1897.

First meetings held in homes and schools.

First Church built: 1913.

Present Pastor: Alvin J. Albert (1958- ).

### Former Pastors:

Edias Nielsen	1900-11
P. P. Hagen	1911-23
Henry Langum (interim)	1924-25
A. E. Thompson	1925-27
E. R. Jacobson	1928-31
A. M. Turmo	1931-42
Virgil Bjerke	1944-47
Oliver Wigdahl	1947-54
Floyd Bacon	1954-57

Charter membership: 7 families.

1960 membership: 150 baptized; 115 confirmed.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 28.

1960 total property valuation: \$10,000.00.

During the horse and buggy days, it was necessary for the pastor to meet with the confirmation classes either before or after Sunday services.



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Springfield, S. Dak.

Organized: Feb. 1, 1879.

First meetings held in homes and rural schools.

First Church built: Log Church 1886; second 1944.

Present Pastor: Martin Trygstad (temp.)

### Former Pastors:

H. Z. Hvid	1886	H. Langum	1924-25
L. Foss		A. E. Thompson	1925-27
E. O. Midtbo		E. Jacobson	1928-31
E. Nielsen	1911	A. M. Turmo	1931-42
Rev. Farness		G. Narwick	1946
P. P. Hagen	1911-23	A. L. Abrahamson	
Rev. Hoffner			

Charter membership: 12.

1960 membership: 47 confirmed; 31 baptized.

1960 Sunday School enrollment: 20.

1960 total property valuation: \$5,000.

For a number of years, Bethlehem shared pastors with East and West Lake Andes congregations.



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The Boe family for picture and biography of District President, Rev. N. N. Boe, Mrs. Ole Odney, for picture of her father, Dr. A. J. Bergsaker, District President, the Solum family for picture of District President H. E. Solum, and Mrs. Edith Pierson, for picture of her husband, the late Dr. L. A. Pierson, who was District President from 1937 to 1958.

Dr. L. M. Stavig, Augustana College President, and Mr. Tom Kilian, Augustana College, as well as the late Rev. Emil Erpestad's, D.D., Doctor's Thesis on the History of Augustana College.

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Minutes and Reports from the South Dakota District Conventions of our Church have also been of much help.

God be praised for all the foreign missionaries who have gone out to spread the Word to our friends in other lands. We would like to list these missionaries, the many pastors, and others, whose names do not appear on these pages, but for fear of leaving someone out, we will only say, "The District is deeply grateful for all that God has done through them."

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