

EMANUEL ANNIVERSARY HYMN
by Ronald J. Fournier

O God of life, of love and might . .
Your grace and glory have shone bright!
Emanuel — your people here . .
Now celebrate the hundredth year!

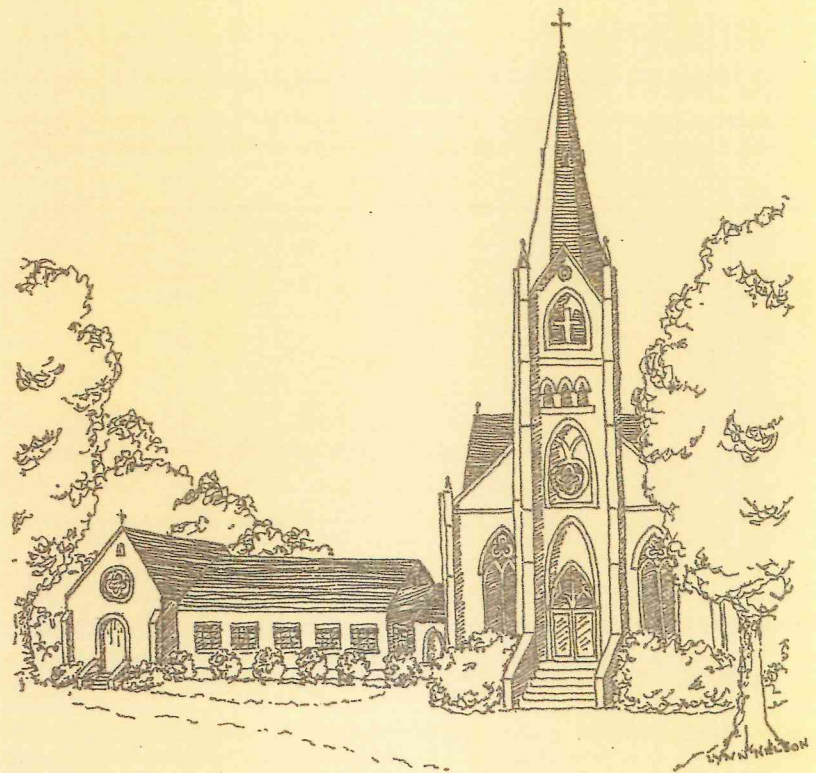
From You our strength has been supplied
On You our forebears have relied —
Our praise we sing for all the saints —
Who labored here without complaints!

Our children's children grow in grace
For they like us will love this place.
For them we show our greatest care
And teach them all your love to share.

A church of love now gathered here
To celebrate centennial's year.
God help keep us forever thine!
That through us all your love will shine!

Duke Street #352
LBW

**EMANUEL—
THE FIRST 100 YEARS
1881—1981**



**EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MANCHESTER, CONNECTICUT**

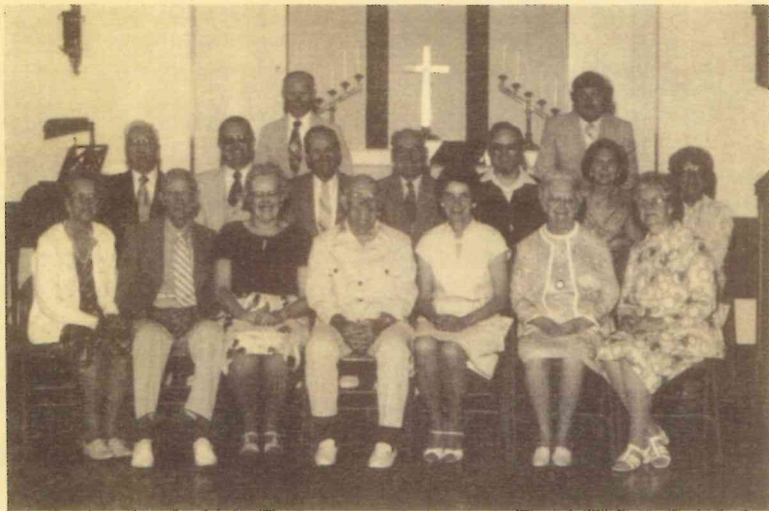
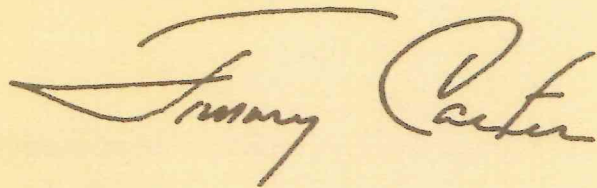
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 2, 1979

To the Congregation of the
Emanuel Lutheran Church

I am pleased to send each of you my warmest greetings
as you observe your anniversary. You have my best
wishes and my prayers for continued spiritual growth.



The Anniversery Committee

FOREWORD

The opportunity to take a look backward and develop, or for many reinforce, a perspective and sensitivity about one's roots is a marvelous opportunity indeed.

Having been a mission-developer in my first parish and now being pastor of Emanuel during its 100th year has given me the privilege of serving at both ends of this chronological spectrum.

You will find in the pages of this book, so very well written by Mrs. Eric Anderson, a living and lively history — one that details the energy and initiative, the commitment and love of all who have made Emanuel what it is.

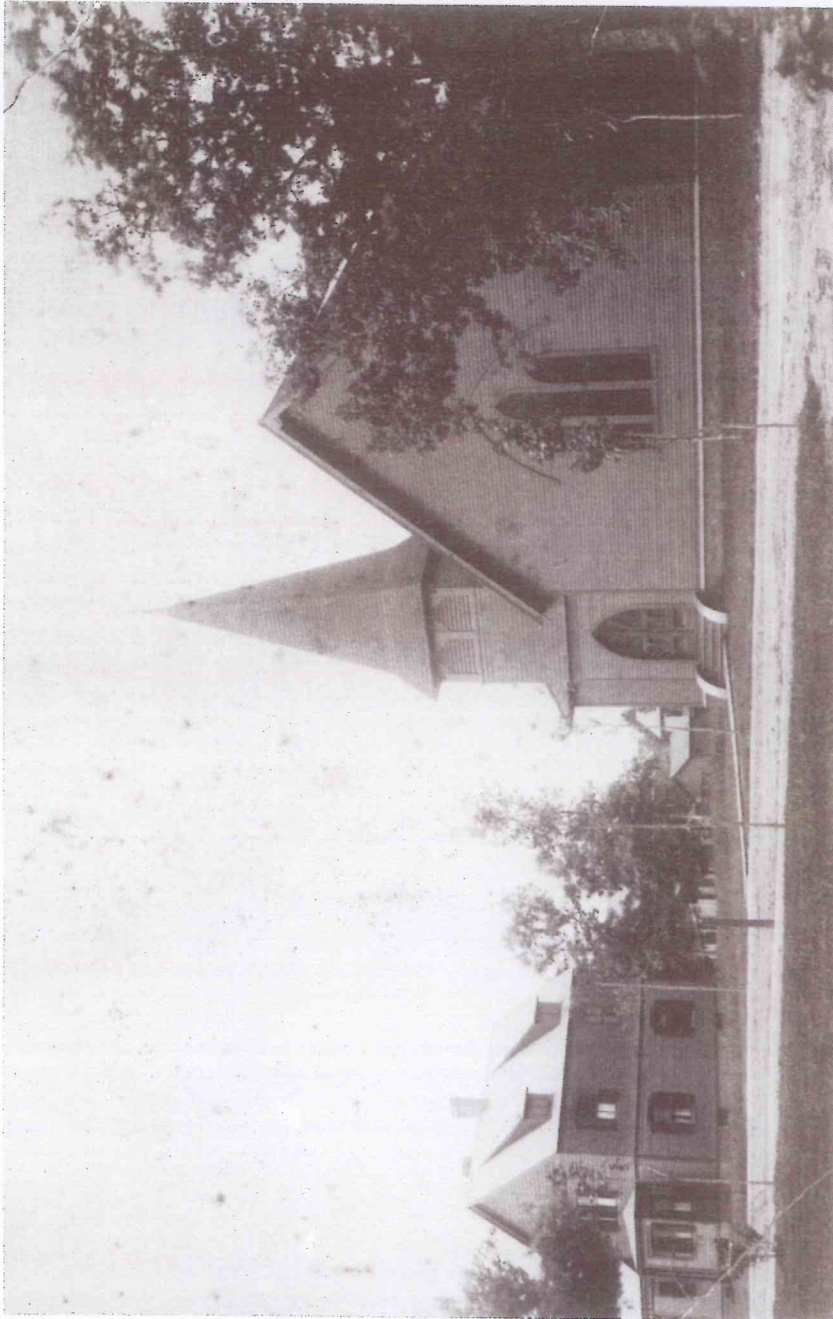
By definition, Emanuel means 'God-with-us'. Without question you will sense God's abiding presence as the pages of this historical review unfold one by one. Emanuel began because of God's love working in and through people. Emanuel continues because of this same love.

It is my hope and prayer that those who read this book in the years ahead will continue to live with this same vision, enthusiasm, and faithfulness in order that the message of God's love in Christ will continue to be taught to the people of all generations.

Pastor Dale H. Gustafson

Historical writer, Hazel Anderson and
husband Eric, former treasurer. . .
now residing in Merideth, N.H.





EMANUEL — THE FIRST 100 YEARS

At the time our story begins, 100 years ago, Manchester was an industrial and farming community of 6500 souls. The town had grown in three sections — first at the Green, where roads that had once been Indian trails converged. Later the center of population had shifted to the north end with the coming of industry and the railroad to that area. But by the mid-1800's the largest, fastest growing area was south of the center.

It was a time of open immigration, before and after the Civil War, and many foreign-born people were drawn to Manchester to find work in the mills. In 1838 the Cheney Brothers had opened their first silk mill, an establishment which was to shape and dominate much of the town's history. The Cheneys, generous and public-spirited, built low cost homes for their workers as well as schools and libraries. Night school classes were held to teach English and instruct for citizenship. The immigrants came from Ireland, Germany, Sweden, France, England and Switzerland and brought with them many skills. Manchester became a melting pot of nationalities.

By 1880 there were several established churches — Congregational, Methodist, Catholic, and Episcopal. Those who had come from Sweden felt a strong desire for a church of their own, where they could participate in the familiar Lutheran liturgy spoken and sung in the Swedish language. So it was that this group began gathering on Sundays in private homes to conduct Lutheran church services. We are indebted to the history compiled by Dr. P. J. O. Cornell on Emanuel's 50th Anniversary in 1931 for much of this early information. He tells that meetings were held at the homes of Nils Magnell, August Lindell, P. A. Johnson, and others.

Nils Magnell arrived with his wife, Brita, and daughter, Christine, in 1870. Christine, who was later to become Mrs. Aaron Johnson, was the first Swedish girl to attend school in South Manchester. She was also the first organist for what was to become the Emanuel congregation, serving from the earliest meetings in 1877 until 1898, a period of 21 years.

It is interesting to note that the building on Chestnut St. now owned by the Emanuel congregation and known as the Magnell Apartments was the original home of Nils Magnell where these early church meetings were held.

Several pastors, including a Rev. A. P. Monten, a Rev. C. E. Lindberg (later dean of Augustana Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois), a Rev. T. O. Linell of Pontiac, Rhode Island, and a Rev. J. Mellander of Portland, Conn. visited Manchester and preached at the early gatherings before and after the congregation was formally organized.

Church Beginnings

On March 1, 1881, a group of 59 Swedish people under the leadership of Pastor Mellander gathered for the purpose of organizing a congregation. Records show that the following people signed the original document of



Charter Members In 1931
Fiftieth Anniversary

organization: Matilda Stenberg, Elisabeth Green, Matilda Green, Amanda Peterson, Amanda Johnson, Alfred Olson and wife, William Soderlund, C. G. Gustafson and wife, August Lindell and wife, S. J. Carlson and wife, Philip Johnson, E. John Jacobson and wife, Carl Manson and wife, Frank Manson, Peter Petterson, Joseph Modin and wife, Alfred Johnson, Anders Funk and wife, John S. Lamberg, P. A. Johnson and wife, Emma C. Johnson, Hans Hanson and wife, Justina Liberg, Amalia Liberg, Natalia Liberg, Adolf Liberg, L. P. Nilson and wife, Edward Anderson, Carl Bergendahl, J. H. Swenson and wife, Emelia E. Hammerin, Nils Magnell and wife and daughter Christine, John Peterson, Robert Osterberg, C. A. Johnson, Ida S. Johnson, Alma Nilson, Christina Magnell, Sr., Emma Bjorkman, Mary Brink, John Green and wife. C. Nyquist, Gerda Nyquist, and Vendla Nyquist were also present.

It was resolved at this first meeting that the congregation apply for membership in the Scandinavian Evangelical Lutheran Augustana Synod and further that each communicant member contribute 25¢ a month toward the support of the new church.

The group continued to meet in private homes and in Stolpa Hall at the center and also in a room at Cheney Hall. For several years, while they were served by part-time and student pastors, they struggled to raise money for a church. At a special meeting of the congregation on June 10, 1886 it was decided to proceed with plans for a church building, and a Building Committee was elected: August Lindell, John Bjorklund, G. Kyrkander, Nils Magnell, Per J. Jacobson, Aaron Johnson, and Peter Petterson.

The First Church Building

Through the good offices of Aaron Johnson, Frank Cheney, Sr. was prevailed upon to donate a plot of land on Church St. 100 x 150 feet, and in 1886, on a site which is now the lawn of the parish building, a church costing \$3,300 was erected. The work was done by a Hartford contractor in the record time of two months (Oct.-Dec. 1886). It was a frame building, 36 x 60', with no basement except for furnace space but with a small church parlor for meetings. There was a steeple, but no bell. A year later a heating system and pews were installed, and the building was dedicated on Easter Sunday, 1888. The adjoining parsonage was acquired in 1891 from Mr. Cheney at a cost of \$2,000.

Early Pastors

These were difficult years for the new congregation, but in 1889 they were able to call their first full-time pastor, the Rev. Augustus G. Olsson. His salary for the first year was \$700 plus the Christmas offering. Previous to his coming, 25 baptisms performed by almost as many pastors had been recorded in the Book of Pastoral Acts. There was an influx of new immigration, and 68 new members were added.

Church organizations were active. The Ladies' Aid, first mentioned in the records in 1890, undoubtedly started many years before. The Sunday School was organized by Mrs. Jonas Wikberg in 1885, and during the early years there was Saturday School as well as summer vacation school. A young people's society called Idun was organized in 1899 and the choir is mentioned as early as 1891.

A program note from Emanuel Lutheran Church, Hartford indicates that on October 30, 1889 that congregation was organized "under the guidance of the Rev. Augustus Olsson of South Manchester" with 80 charter members.

Pastor Olsson published a monthly church paper, "Lutheranen," printed in Swedish. A copy has recently been found of a February 1895 issue containing news of Emanuel members.

Pastor Olsson served until early in 1895, when he was succeeded by the Rev. William P. Anderson, who served for the next 16 years. During his pastorate the church debt was paid and additional land between the church and Chestnut St. was acquired, extending the property along Church St. to 343 feet. Membership increased from 290 in 1895 to 524 by 1911. Mrs. Anderson served as organist during these years, and there were two children, Mildred and Carl. On the resignation of Pastor Anderson in 1911, Henning Johnson, a student at Upsala College, served as day-school teacher and preacher from June to August 1911.



**The Rev. William P. Anderson Family
Mildred, Mrs. Anderson, Carl and Pastor**

**THE REV. DR. P.J.O. CORNELL
1911-1932**

A church history seems to fall naturally into the eras served by different pastors. Significant growth and change began with the long ministry of Dr. P. J. O. Cornell, who arrived in September 1911 and led the congregation for 21 years, through World War I and the early years of the depression. Dr. Cornell was offered a beginning salary of \$1,100 per year plus the Christmas offering and free parsonage.

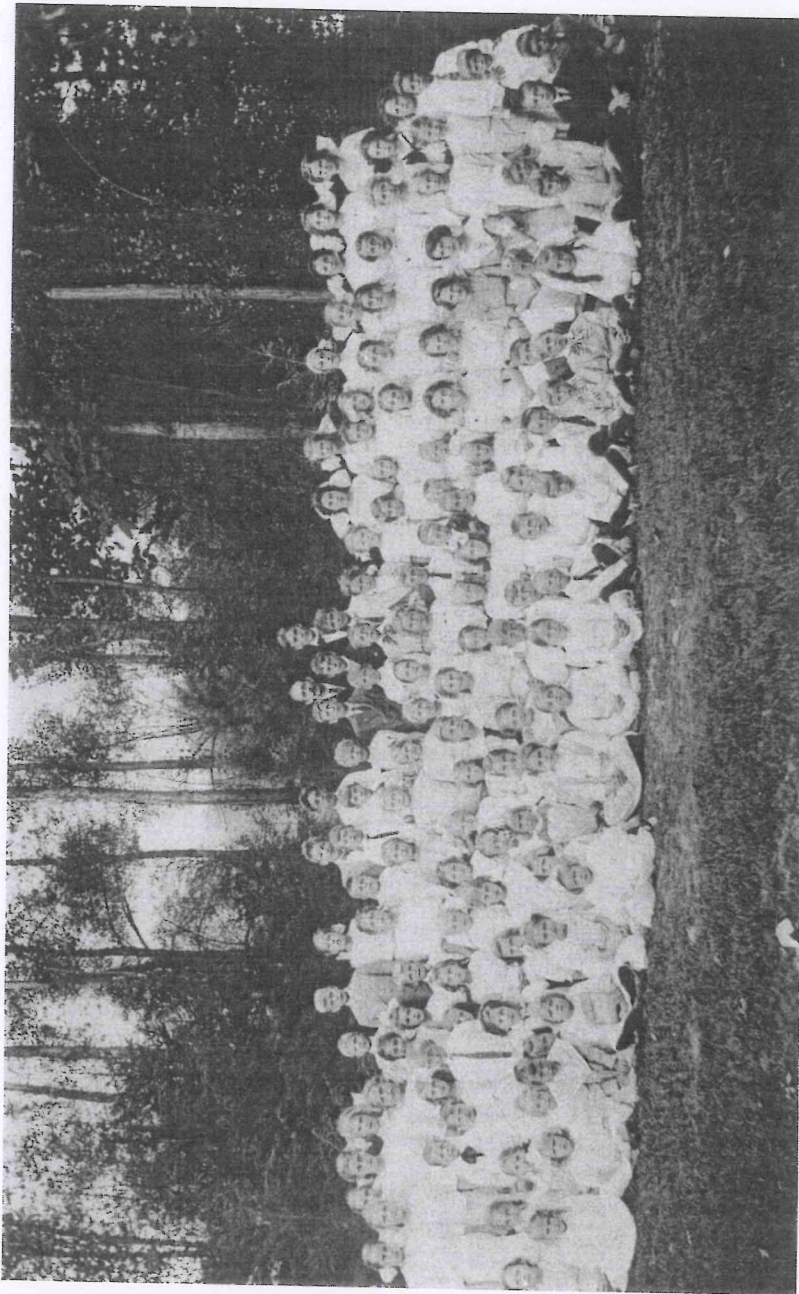
For several years there had been discussion about the need for a new church, as the old frame building was in need of extensive repairs and had become too small for the growing congregation. On Feb. 21, 1912 the congregation passed a resolution to build a new church at a cost of \$25,000. The fund-raising committee consisted of the Rev. Cornell, A. Theodore Anderson, John Leander, Oscar E. Johnson, Alexander Berggren, and Algot Johnson.

A building committee was elected consisting of Pastor Cornell, chairman; S. Emil Johnson, secretary; Alfred C. Anderson, financial secretary; William Sandeen, treasurer (succeeded by Andrew Swanson); Oscar C. Anderson, Aaron Johnson, and Oscar L. Anderson. The Rev. Cornell made up several tentative sketches in Swedish and Gothic styles. The committee agreed on one of his designs, and this became the final plan of the church.

It was decided that the upper part of the structure be made of brick and the lower part of concrete, and that the members of the congregation be asked to



**The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. P. J. O. Cornell
(Pastor and Louise)**



Sunday School Picnic at Elizabeth Park, August 1911

devote their Saturday afternoons to building the basement. Ground-breaking exercises were held on Sunday, May 10, 1914. Thereafter, each Saturday afternoon a group of 20-30 workmen could be seen laboring industriously, felling the large oak and chestnut trees, moving earth by wheelbarrow, and pouring the cement foundation. The wives often came with coffee and food for the men. The second year, with only voluntary Saturday labor, the walls of the basement had been erected, 12 feet high and 20 inches thick, with a thickness of 24" in the tower section. It was at this time that the phrase, "the church built by love" was first heard. The cornerstone was laid July 23, 1916 with Dr. S.G. Ohman, president of the New England Conference, officiating.

World War I brought a great increase in prices and labor as well as a scarcity of materials, and work came to a halt for two full years. In all it was to be nine years before the edifice was completed, and during those years services were held in the basement, or vestry. The last service in the old wooden church building was held December 9, 1917. At the conclusion of the service, Pastor Cornell, carrying the large pulpit Bible, led the congregation in a processional from the old building to the vestry of the new, where he was presented with the key by S. Emil Johnson, the contractor.

Tragedy had struck the parsonage family during the war with the loss of two sons, Adolph and John, whose lives were given in the service of their country. One other member of Emanuel, Ernest G. Anderson, was killed in action. The Armistice on November 11, 1918 was a time of wild rejoicing. The November air was filled with the sound of bells and whistles. Most of the town's population poured into the streets with flags and noisemakers, and after marching up Main Street gathered in Center Park to sing "The Star Spangled Banner." In the same year, 1918, the great influenza epidemic struck, and Cheney hall was turned into an emergency hospital. Many lives were lost from the "flu" and a campaign was started to build a hospital, which later was to become Manchester Memorial. Dr. George Lundberg, one of our oldest living members, served on the early staff and for many years, until his retirement.

After the war was over, work resumed on the superstructure of the church. There was a constant struggle during those years to raise funds. The church they had voted to build in 1911 at a cost of \$25,000 was to cost \$66,000 by completion in 1923. At one point the Ladies' Aid had raised \$8,000; the Dorcas Society \$2,400; Cheney Brothers gave \$6,000; the Men's Society raised \$1,500 to pay for all the chandeliers and lighting fixtures, and the Luther League contributed \$3,000 and later \$2,400 more for the organ.

Of the beautiful stained glass windows, the two largest, "Jesus Blessing the Little Children" was given by the Ladies' Aid and "Christ, the Good Shepherd" by the Men's Society. The remainder were given by individuals and groups, some as memorials to loved ones.

The altar mural was executed by Prof. Olof Grafstrom of Augustana College. The altar, with its panel of the Lord's Supper copied from DaVinci, as well as the altar rail and other appointments, was given by the Dorcas Society. The frame for the altar mural, and the pulpit, designed by Dr. Cornell, were built by

S. Emil Johnson. The hymn boards were made by Oscar Johnson from designs by Hildur Cornell, who also designed the stencil work and handpainted the ivy-twined crosses. The pews were the gift of the Ladies' Aid. Many other donations of gifts and labor made possible the completion of the beautiful sanctuary and the vestry.

The church bell, which still rings out its call to worship, was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hulander. The bell, which weighs 2300 pounds, was inscribed with the names of the donors and this verse in Swedish:

“Nar kyrkøklockan kallar dig,
Sa ga den gamla kanda stig
som fadren gatt,
till Herren's hus,
Valsignelse och ljus.”

Translation:

“When the church bell calls you,
Then go the old familiar way
your fathers went
To God's house (of)
Blessing and light.”

The completed church was dedicated in a festive service on March 18, 1923 led by Dr. S.G. Hagglund, President of the New England Conference. Unfortunately, Dr. Cornell, who had given so much of himself to the project, was seriously ill in the parsonage on the day of the dedication and was unable to attend.

At this time the total value of the church property was \$125,000 and the debt only \$14,925. Communicant membership was 639.

During the first 13 years of Pastor Cornell's ministry his daughter, Hildur, served as organist and choir director (1911-1924). Emanuel came to be known as “the singing church,” and in addition to the choir there was a children's chorus, a double quartet, and an orchestra. In addition, Hildur founded the Dorcas Society in 1912 and was an active leader of the young people's group.

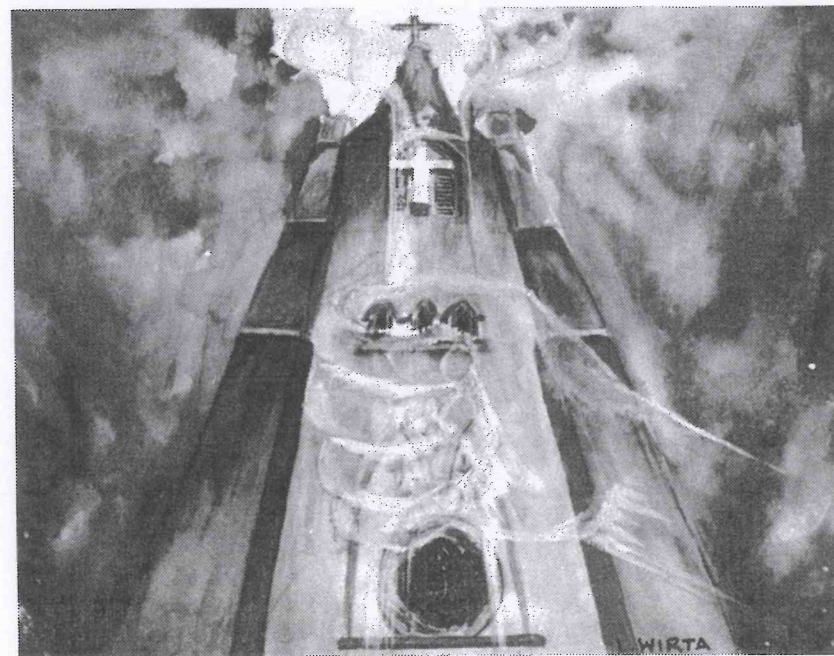
Emanuel continued to be fortunate in its musical leaders, and Hildur Cornell was succeeded in 1924 by Helge Pearson. The years of Helge's stay are still within the memory of many, and they were golden years of music. In addition to the choirs, Helge organized a men's chorus, the Beethoven Glee Club, in 1925, and a women's chorus, the G Clef Club, in 1927. As the depression years of the '30's came along, the church became a center of activity for the many who were out of work. The singing groups flourished, as well as the Boy Scouts, Luther League, and Bible class under Helge's direction. By this time the church had become bilingual, and services were conducted in both Swedish and English.

Unfortunately, the last years of Dr. Cornell's ministry were marked by failing health, and it was necessary for him to have assistance in fulfilling his duties. In his 50th Anniversary book he thanks the Rev. S. C. Franzen and the Rev. R. L. Winters, along with missionaries Dr. Ralph Mortensen and Dr. M. A. Helland for their support and help in his ministry.

Dr. Cornell records that in the first 50 years of its existence Emanuel Church took in 1561 members, 1206 of whom were communicants; 881 were baptized, 467 confirmed; there were 291 weddings, and 119 adults and 82 children died. In 1931 there were 646 communicants and 243 children; the Sunday School had 168 children.

Emanuel's Golden Anniversary was celebrated on May 9-10, 1931 with a banquet, confirmation reunion, and a communion service. Music was provided by the choirs and the G Clef and Beethoven choruses. Members of the 50th Anniversary Committee were Aaron Johnson, Alfred C. Anderson, Helge Pearson, Charles F. Johnson, Henning A. Johnson, Herbert Johnson, John B. Benson, and Herman Johnson.

Dr. Cornell preached his farewell sermon June 12, 1932 and was succeeded by the Rev. Knut E. Erickson.



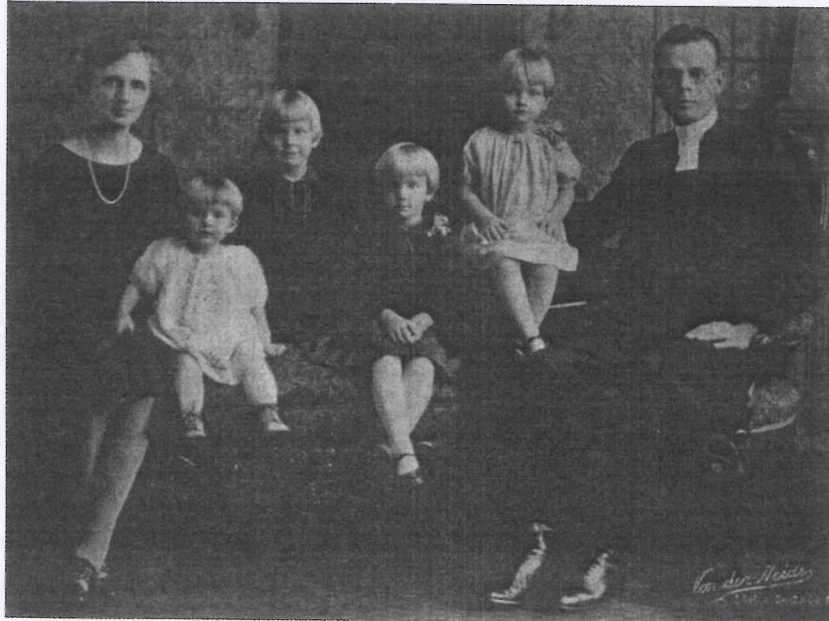
Bell Tower

**THE REV. KNUT E. ERICKSON
1932-1939**

The Erickson family arrived in Manchester in June 1932 from Chicago — Pastor Knut, wife Lael, and four young daughters, Charlotte, Evangeline, Sylvia, and Gloria. The pastor had been a classmate of Dr. George Lundberg, Sr. at Augustana College and had come to know of the Manchester church through that association.

Under Pastor Erickson's leadership the church slowly became more Americanized, and Swedish became the second language of the parish; by 1936 Swedish services had been reduced to one a month.

Mrs. Erickson is still remembered for her many talents. She was a choir soloist, taught a Bible Class, and directed many elaborate Sunday School plays and pageants. The first choir robes, which were black, were her idea, and she personally made most of them. With Esther M. Johnson she organized the Altar Guild, which for these many years has cared for and beautified the altar for services. The exquisite needlepoint at the altar rail, kneelers, benches and pastoral chairs is the work of this group. She also acted as church secretary and mimeographed letters and Sunday programs on an old hand-cranked machine in the attic of the parsonage. Luther Leaguers used to gather around the Erickson's long dining room table to address the mail for the congregation in those days before there was a church office or secretary.

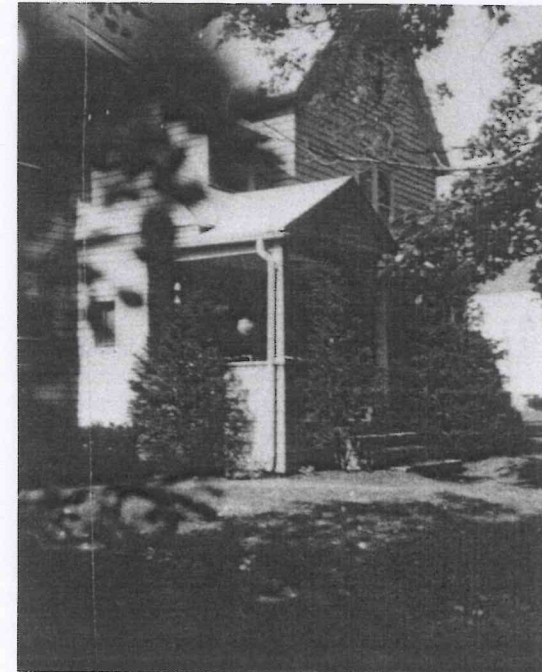


**The K. E. Erickson Family
(Lael, Gloria, Charlotte, Evangeline, Sylvia, Pastor)**

Pastor Erickson was a talented fund raiser, and during his ministry of seven years the church debt was reduced from \$14,000 to \$5,000. As we peruse the church records to find these statistics, we are struck by a sentence in his 1938 annual report: "We must always bear in mind that these reports are not written for us only, but also in order that there may be a history of the congregation from year to year which those who come after us will surely desire to examine."

On February 19, 1939 he left to accept the position of comptroller of Augustana College. John Darrah, a student from Augustana Seminary, conducted services for the next few months, pending the arrival of the new pastor, the Rev. Thorsten Gustafson.

In 1935 Helge Pearson left to continue his musical studies at the Westminster Choir School in Princeton, N.J. and he was succeeded by his younger brother, G. Albert. "Al" continued to enhance the reputation of "the singing church" and the choirs and glee clubs flourished. There are many to this day who owe their interest and singing ability to the very personal interest Al took in them as youngsters. For many years he was also Director of Music in the schools of Manchester and became known far and wide as "Mr. Music." In 1945 he left to take up his duties at the First Lutheran Church, New Britain, but in later years returned to serve Emanuel again (1956-1962). When he died in 1965 at the age of 57, it was a time of great sadness for Emanuel and for the entire community. A fund started at the time of his death was used to purchase the grand piano which now stands in the sanctuary as a memorial.



64 Chruch Street

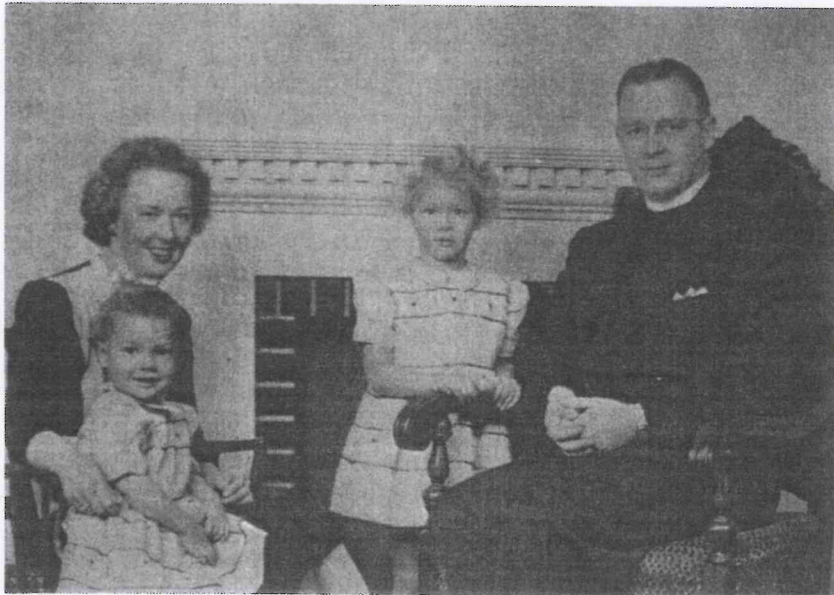
THE REV. THORSTEN A. GUSTAFSON
1939-1944

Pastor Gustafson, wife Charlotte, and young daughter, Lois, arrived in Manchester on October 30, 1939 and he was officially installed at a largely attended candlelight service on December 10. A second daughter, Phyllis, was born to the Gustafsons in Manchester.

The pastor spoke the Swedish language well, and Swedish services were continued on a monthly basis throughout his ministry. Swedish "Julotta" was also conducted on Christmas mornings and it was the custom for the choir to go out following this early morning service to sing carols at the hospital and in the homes of shut-ins.

1941 was the 60th Anniversary year, observed with gala celebrations including a banquet at which the Rev. Gustafson served as toastmaster and the Rev. Erickson was the speaker. A special drive for a 60th Anniversary gift exceeded its goal of \$6,000 by 25%. The theme of the observance was "Emanuel, God with Us." Five of the original charter members were present: Mrs. Christina Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Johnson, Mrs. Emelia Lamberg, and Mr. Adolph Lieberg.

The vestry was renovated during 1941 to make space for an office and provide facilities for the first church office secretary, Mrs. Richard Hultman. This small room, now the men's choir robing room, served as office for both pastor and secretary until completion of the Parish Building in 1952.



The T. A. Gustafson Family
(Charlotte, Phyllis, Lois and Pastor)

Boy Scout Troop #126 was organized in 1940 by Clarence Wogman, who served as the first Troop Committee chairman, and Albert Petersen, who served as first Scoutmaster. Another early leader was Verner Gustafson, still active with the Troop after 25 years.

1944 marked the year of the Augustana Synod's Centennial Thankoffering drive, and pledges amounting to \$17,700 were made by Emanuel. A part of these funds was used to wipe out the remaining mortgage on the church building. The mortgage burning ceremony on March 5, 1944 was described by a local newspaper as follows:

"As the congregation rose and sang 'Now Thank We All Our God,' flames consumed the document representing the final indebtedness on the property. A taper was lighted at the altar by Pastor Gustafson and handed to William Sandeen, the first treasurer of the building committee; he in turn set fire to the mortgage deed held by Andrew Swanson, treasurer of the building fund during the major part of the erection of the church."

In 1944 the interior of the church was painted and redecorated in preparation for the New England Conference Convention which was held at Emanuel in April of that year.

Pastor Gustafson made "the Swedish church" more widely known throughout the community by his participation in many town affairs. During World War II he served as chairman of the local Rationing Board, a post that demanded many hours of his time in community service.

The war brought many changes to the church and to the town. Most noticeable was the absence of the young men, away in the Service. The Beethoven Glee Club was unable to continue, and gave up rehearsals for a while. The older men and many of the women worked long hours in defense industries. Gasoline and food were rationed, and fuel was in short supply. During the winter of 1943, Sunday morning services were held in Luther Hall, and the sanctuary remained unheated, in order to conserve fuel. But there was a spirit of a shared struggle among the people that bound them together in a common cause. Emanuel sent 102 young men and women to war; happily, most of them returned safely. Ernest A. Berggren and Eric H. Gothberg were lost in action.

Pastor Gustafson tendered his resignation on November 3, 1943 to accept the position of Director of Stewardship in the Augustana Synod but remained in Manchester until May 1944. He was succeeded by the Rev. Theodore E. Palmer.

Church membership at the end of 1944 totalled 841 communicants and 195 children, a total of 1,036.

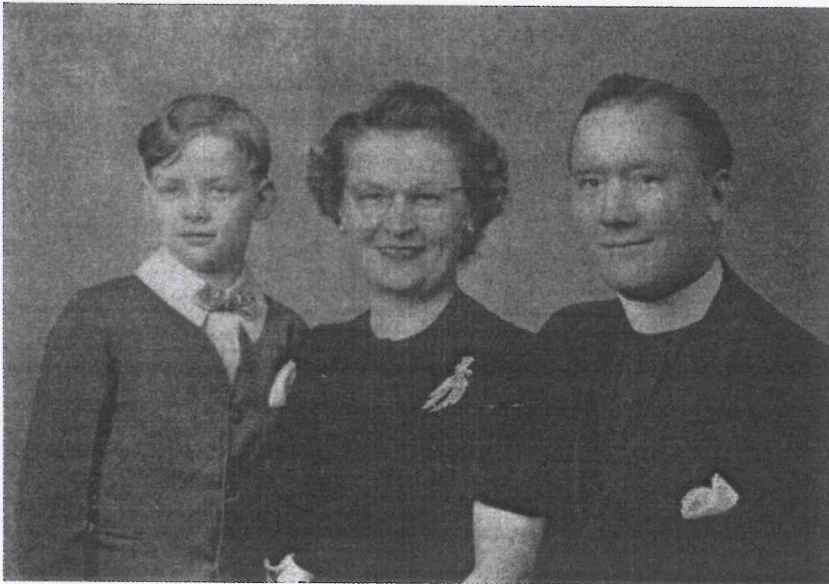
THE REV. THEODORE E. PALMER
1944-1947

The Rev. and Mrs. Palmer and the pastor's sister, Victoria, arrived from Worcester, Mass. in the summer of 1944. Later a son, Ronald, joined the family. A festive installation service was held on September 24 with Dr. Julius Hulteen and pastors of the Hartford District participating, after which the ladies of the church, as was the custom, served dinner at the parsonage to all the visiting clergy and their families. The parsonage had been redecorated for the new family and was attractively furnished with antiques which the pastor and his wife had restored and refinished, since this was their hobby.

The Palmers stayed only a short time, three years, but it was during their stay that the congregation voted to supply some pastoral assistance, and a full-time parish worker-secretary, Miss Evelyn Stark, was called. Unfortunately, because of her health, Miss Stark could stay only six months.

Mrs. Palmer organized a young women's missionary society called the Missionary Circle, and this group was active until absorbed into the Lutheran Church Women in 1959.

On October 7, 1945 a branch Sunday School called the West Side Sunday School was opened at the Silver Lane Community Hall to care for the influx of children in that area brought about by new government housing constructed during World War II. This branch was discontinued after three years.



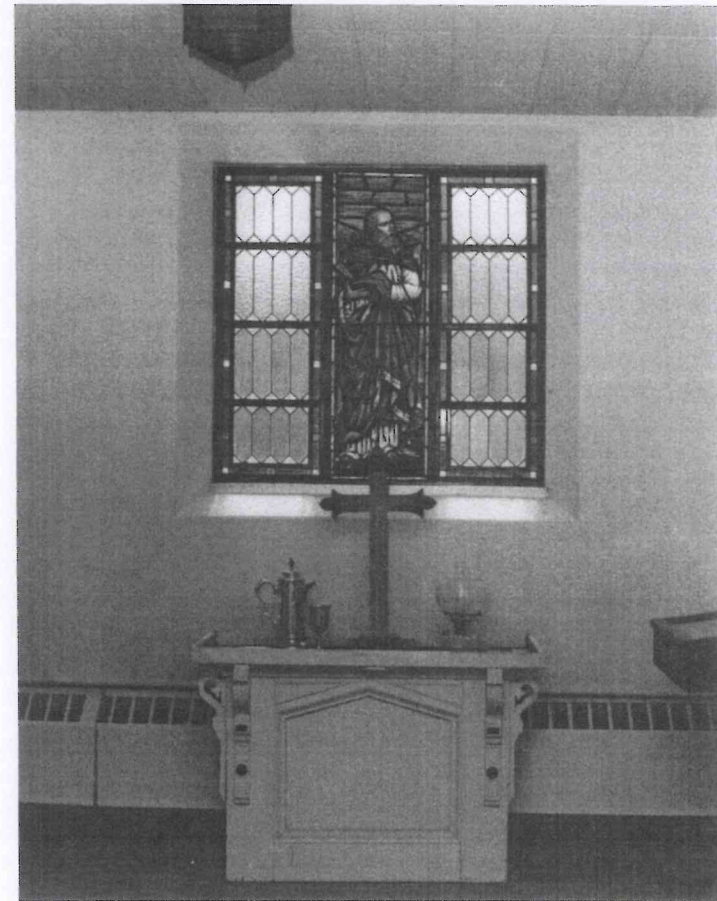
The Theodore Palmer Family
(Ronnie, Marie and Pastor)

At the 1946 annual meeting, a committee of five was chosen to formulate plans for the expansion of the church facilities, and preliminary suggestions for a proposed parish building were presented to the 1947 annual meeting.

The 65th Anniversary was celebrated on May 18, 1946 with an evening banquet. Pastor Thorsten Gustafson was the speaker and Pastor Knut Erickson conducted the communion service on Sunday morning.

Pastor Palmer did not speak Swedish, but occasional Swedish language services were still being held. Nine such services were reported for the year 1946. There was a move to discontinue the Swedish Julotta, but this was voted down and Julotta continued through 1953.

The Rev. Palmer resigned January 15, 1947 to accept a call to Seattle, Washington. He was succeeded by the Rev. Carl E. Olson.



Original altar with communion set, cross and lamp.

**THE REV. CARL E. OLSON
1947-1955**

Pastor Olson came from Malden, Mass. in August 1947 with his wife, Elsa, and children, Ronald and Barbara. Another daughter, Jane, was born in Manchester.

The new pastor went forward with the Parish Building plans and a fund raising campaign was started in 1948 under the chairmanship of Roy C. Johnson. Ruth I. Benson served as treasurer, a post which was to occupy much of her time for the next five years. By July of 1948 the sum of \$49,269 in pledges and contributions had been reached. A Parish Building Committee was authorized to engage a competent architect. The committee consisted of Allan Coe, Sr., chairman; Norma Johnson, Carl Noren, John Wennergren, Sr., John I. Olson, Sr., Ernest Johnson, Herman Petersen, and Frank Hallin.

An architect was found within the committee: Herman Petersen prepared the drawings, and at a special congregational meeting January 31, 1950, it was voted to accept the plans and submit them for bids. At another special meeting on October 13, 1950 the members voted to accept John Wennergren's bid of \$130,000.

On October 22, 1950, ground-breaking ceremonies were held, with the builders and town officials joining the congregation in the observance.

On June 10, 1951 appropriate ceremonies were held to lay the cornerstone. Over 300 people were present on the lawn. A processional headed by the choirs singing "A Mighty Fortress is our God" led the congregation, visiting pastors, and town officials to the site, where Dr. Eskil Englund, President of the New England Conference, was assisted in the actual laying of the cornerstone by the contractor and by Herbert Johnson, President of the Board of Trustees.



**The Carl E. Olson Family
(Barbara, Pastor, Ronald, Elsa and Jane)**

The following items were placed in the cornerstone: The New Testament, the Augustana Hymnal, Luther's Small Catechism, a brief history of Emanuel Church, the constitution of the congregation, a 1950-51 yearbook and church directory, and excerpts from congregational meetings authorizing the building fund campaign and construction, and publicity folders of the Parish Building program.

The building was completed and put to use prior to the formal dedication in October with vacation church school during the summer months. With the opening of Sunday School on September 14, teachers and pupils marched into their new school rooms after brief dedication services in the church. The new building eliminated the crowded conditions that had existed previously, when classes were being held in the kitchen, the choir loft, in the pews, and even in the sacristy.

Two Sunday services, one at 9:00 and the other at 10:30, were initiated on September 21, 1952 and this brought about a noticeable increase in overall attendance.

Official dedication ceremonies for the new Parish Building were held on Sunday, October 12, 1952 with church, state, and town dignitaries in attendance. The act of dedication was performed by Dr. Englund and pastors of the Hartford District. Among the guests were the Swedish ambassador to the United States, Erik C. Boheman of Washington, D.C., and Arthur J. Anderson, former member of Emanuel, who was Swedish vice-consul at Boston. During the following week, open house receptions were held for the community and for the Hartford District churches. On Sunday, November 2, 1952, All Saints' Day, dedication of the Memorial Chapel and memorial gifts was held at four identical hourly services in the chapel.

Due to the limitations of space, it is not possible to list all the people who served on the 11 special Parish Building Committees and all those who gave so generously to erect this lasting memorial to loved ones and to the glory of God. Suffice it to say that without this wonderful spirit of sharing, there would not have been another "church built by love."

A "Book of Remembrance" was commissioned, and this beautiful volume lists the many gifts that made it possible to complete and furnish the chapel. Of special interest is the chapel altar, designed and built by Herman Petersen, the altar rail built by Fred A. Johnson, and the reredos by Frank Hallin.

With completion of the Parish Building it was decided to redecorate the sanctuary and renovate the vestry. The kitchen was enlarged and a stage was built, and the vestry was renamed Luther Hall.

With the continuing growth of the congregation it had become necessary to enlarge the church staff, and in June 1949 Miss Lorraine Peterson (Mrs. Everett Johnson) was engaged as parish worker. After one year she was succeeded by Miss Doris Mae Johnson, who served until 1952. At this time it was decided to replace the parish worker with two people, an office secretary and an intern. J. Philemon Anderson arrived to serve as Emanuel's first intern, and thus was established an intern training program that has been continued to the present time.

The postwar years brought many Lutheran refugees from Latvia and Estonia to the Manchester area, and the Rev. Johannes Aarik of Estonia was assigned to Emanuel to serve the spiritual needs of these people. The congregation met at Emanuel for several years until they acquired their own building. The Rev. Aarik assisted Pastor Olson with communion services, spoke to church groups, and did visitation work. He remained in Manchester until the fall of 1952 when he left for California.

During the years 1948-1953 Emanuel had a medical missionary in Africa, Arthur H. Anderson, who served among the Masai tribe in Tanganyika. The Arthur Anderson Missionary Fund was established to help support his work.

Two substantial memorial gifts were received in 1948, the carillon bells given by the family of the late Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Johnson, and the granite steps at the entrance of the church given by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur J. Anderson of Wellesley Hills, Mass. in memory of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson, and his three sisters.

The 70th Anniversary celebration was held in 1951 with all church organizations participating. On Sunday afternoon there was a special service in the church at which the Rev. Thorsten Gustafson, then President of the New York Conference, was guest speaker. As there were no living charter members, those ten who had been members of the church the greatest number of years were given recognition.

A new three-manual Austin organ console was dedicated on March 18, 1951, its purchase made possible through contributions to the Memorial Organ Fund begun by the Alexander Berggren family in memory of Ernest Berggren, killed in action in September 1944. Clarence Helsing, the organist and choir director, spent many hours assembling the organ, at a considerable saving to the congregation. Mr. Helsing served for eight years, 1945-1953, and left to take a position in Rockford, Illinois.

A gift of about eight acres of land situated in Coventry was presented to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nygren in 1953. In 1955 six more acres were added. At the 1955 annual meeting it was voted to call the property the Carl E. Olson Youth Camp. A well was dug, parking and picnic areas cleared, a cabin built, and other improvements made. Boy Scouts and other groups have made good use of the camp through the years.

In the 1940's and thereafter many Memorial Funds came into being, serving many different and worthwhile functions. So numerous and varied have these funds been over the years that space does not permit a complete listing in this narrative. Mrs. Paul Anderson served as first treasurer of Memorial Funds; she was succeeded by Miss Florence Johnson, who continues to serve, with the many individual funds now consolidated into a few.

On February 3, 1954 something new came to the homes of the Emanuel congregation, a twice-monthly church newspaper called "The Emanuel Visitor" begun by Pastor Olson. For more than 25 years it has served as a news vehicle for the many activities of the congregation and now is published monthly as "The Visitor."

In 1954 the Augustana Synod held an "Advance for Christ" drive to further new missions. The national goal, which was reached successfully, was \$2,000,000. Emanuel met its prescribed goal with pledges and gifts of more than \$10,000. A gift of \$1,000 was voted to the Faith congregation in East Hartford, getting ready to build a new church.

After eight years in Manchester, Pastor Olson accepted a call to a new parish in Oakland, California. A gala farewell party was held for the Olson family in the spring of 1955 and they were presented with a new car to take them on their way to California.



**The C. H. Anderson Family
(Pastor, Olga, Don)**

THE REV. C. HENRY ANDERSON
1955-1976

Pastor Anderson, his wife Olga and son Donald, arrived in Manchester on August 16, 1955 from East Greenwich, R.I. The installation service was held on Sunday afternoon, August 21, with Dr. Eskil Englund, President of the N.E. Conference officiating, assisted by 15 pastors of the Hartford District. Thus began a ministry that was to encompass 21 years.

The ministry of Emanuel during Pastor Anderson's years could best be characterized as one of preaching, teaching, and worship. The physical plant had been expanded to sufficient size, so the work of the church took on a more inner-directed character, with emphasis on evangelism, Bible study, education, and church attendance. Membership at the beginning of 1955 was 1093 confirmed.

In that year Earl Modean, the first member of Emanuel to be ordained in its then 74-year history, was received into the holy ministry and became the first of five sons and one daughter of Emanuel to be ordained during Pastor Anderson's tenure. The others were Eric Gothberg (1966), Earl Werdelin (1968), Lawrence Wogman (1971), Alan Anderson (1972), and Ruth Johnson (1974). In 1958 a memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Mrs. Augusta Bengtson was started for the express purpose of giving assistance to those planning to enter the ministry or go into other full-time church service.

In 1956 a new hymnal, the "red" book entitled "Service Book and Hymnal" was issued and the congregation was introduced to a new liturgy and some new hymns replacing those of the previous Augustana Hymnal issued in 1925.

Pro Deo scouting awards had been given to two previously; during Pastor Anderson's tenure 18 scouts received this religious award.

In March 1956 the Diamond Jubilee 75th Anniversary was observed with a weekend of festivities that included an Old Timers' Choir under the direction of G. Albert Pearson. Pastors Olson and Gustafson returned to Manchester to take part. A Thankoffering fund was initiated, its purpose to obtain funds to acquire a new parsonage and to remodel the old for church school use.

On December 18, 1956 a Children's Worship Center was dedicated (altar, cross, candlesticks, Bible, and offering plates) in memory of Mabel Swanson. It was used extensively by the younger children in ensuing years.

In 1959 the women's organizations of the church, the Ladies' Aid, Dorcas, Women's Missionary Society, and the Missionary Circle were reorganized into one group, the "Augustana Lutheran Church Women," with 127 signing up as charter members. In 1962, with the merger of Augustana with other Lutheran church bodies, the name of the women's organization was changed to "Lutheran Church Women." Within this larger organization at Emanuel are circles, named for women of the Bible, with differing objectives, allowing the women of the congregation a freedom of choice in the type of service they wish to offer. Expressed goals are "to enable women to grow in their commitment to Christ and to become involved with increasing competence in the mission of the Church."

A new parsonage at 157 Pitkin St. was purchased by the congregation in 1960, and in August of that year the pastor and his family moved from 64 Church St. to the new address. The old parsonage became an adjunct to the church school, then a residence for interns, and later a home for the assistant pastors. At the present time this building is used as a center for the work of the social ministry and as an apartment for the intern.

In that same year an Upsala College Scholarship Fund was established for Emanuel members who wished to attend Upsala College. The name was changed in 1964 to LCA Scholarship Fund and in 1975 to Scholarship Fund.

In March of 1961 Emanuel celebrated its 80th Anniversary with a communion service and a confirmation reunion rally at which the Rev. Erickson, the Rev. Gustafson, and Dr. O. Karl Olander were guest speakers.

1962 saw a major change in our national Church affiliation. Plans were underway to merge the Augustana Synod with three other Lutheran bodies, the United Lutheran Church, the Suomi Synod, and the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church. The Constituting Convention for the congregations of New England was held in Worcester, Mass. on Sept. 4-5, 1962 and Rev. Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, President of the Lutheran Church in America, officially convened the Convention and declared the New England Synod as being a part of the Lutheran Church in America. Dr. O. Karl Olander of Worcester was elected the first president of the New England synod of 144 congregations, and it was voted to establish headquarters in the Boston area.

Separate Constituting Conventions were held for the Brotherhood, renamed New England Synod Churchmen, and for the Luther League and the Lutheran Church Women.

At Emanuel's annual meeting on January 20, 1963 the new constitution was adopted and the deacons-trustees were reorganized into a Church Council of 24 members with seven standing committees.

So Emanuel, for 80 years a part of the Augustana Synod, became a part of the larger Lutheran Church in America, LCA.

The sixties brought an increasing awareness of the need for a stronger social ministry. A newly-organized Committee on Social Ministry held its first meeting April 23, 1963. This group, composed of the pastor, Council members, and others, undertook the increasing responsibility of reaching out to the sick, the aged, and underprivileged, and others in need of help. The committee was also charged with the duty of studying social conditions, primarily in Manchester, in order to bring the light of Christian truth to bear upon critical problems. The Friendship Group for senior citizens falls under the auspices of this Committee as well as the Samaritan Fund for emergency help to individuals; care and visitation groups bring taped Sunday services to shut-ins and also see that calls are made on sick and convalescent members.

A major project for rebuilding and enlarging the church organ was carried out in 1964 under the direction of Frederic Werner, then organist and choir director. A part of the cost of \$17,000 was derived from the Memorial Organ Fund. A recital and rededication concert was held on All Saints' Day 1964.



The Gothberg Family



The Peterson Family

At a special congregational meeting on April 21, 1963 it was voted to engage an assistant pastor, and the Rev. Melvin Peterson, who had served Emanuel during his intern year, 1955-56, was called, especially to work with the youth of the parish. Pastor Peterson stayed until 1965. In 1966 another assistant pastor was called, the Rev. Eric Gothberg, a son of the congregation. In 1969 he left for his own parish in Gales Ferry, Conn. The congregation continued to grow, so the need for assistance still existed, but it was not until 1971, with the coming of the Rev. Ronald Fournier, that a team ministry of co-pastors became a reality.

A church library was started in 1964 by Mrs. Marilyn Bodemann. It has acquired nearly 1000 volumes through the Christian Education Fund and through memorial and other gifts. Gloria Kjellson serves as librarian and has filled this post since 1970.

In September 1965 Pastor and Mrs. Anderson were honored with a reception marking their ten years of service at Emanuel with over 300 in attendance for this happy occasion in Luther Hall.

In 1965 the final payment was made on the Parish Building mortgage, and at the 85th Anniversary services in 1966 the mortgage was burned. The Rev. Thorsten Gustafson was invited as guest speaker for the occasion, since one of his final acts while serving as pastor in 1944 had been the burning of the mortgage on the main church building. An extensive program of exterior and interior renovation and repainting was done for the 85th anniversary.

A gift of English hand bells was given to the congregation through the David L. Swanson Fund, and Miss Jean Conklin, choir director 1966-68, organized a handbell choir. Additional bells in memory of David's sister, Mabel, were added in 1979, bringing the collection to 60 bells, encompassing five octaves.

The late 1960's and the early 70's were a time of great civil unrest in the country sparked by the Vietnam war. There were riots and demonstrations, especially on the college campuses, and peace marches on Washington. U.S. troops were finally withdrawn in 1972. A Christmas mailing list shows 21 members of Emanuel in the Service. There is no record of casualties among our members.

The 1968 meeting of the New England Synod in Hartford stressed heavily the importance of the social ministry of the church at large and encouraged individual congregations to devote more of their time and funds to such causes as world peace, world hunger, equal rights, care of the elderly and those with alcohol and other problems. Even before this, Emanuel had begun to expand its work in these fields, and since that time has continued to expand its program of social ministry.

At the 1971 Annual Meeting a budget of \$94,000 was approved. Communicant members numbered 1160 with 260 in the Church School. A Director of Christian Education on a part-time basis was approved, and also at this time it was voted to call a co-pastor to serve in a team ministry with Pastor Anderson.

Special 90th Anniversary services were held during the month of March 1971 culminating on March 28 with Dr. Eugene Brodeen, President of the New England Synod, as guest speaker. A special gift, a plaque from the Roman Catholic congregation of St. James, was presented to Emanuel. Pastor Anderson, in acknowledging the gift said, "It evidences the fine spirit of ecumenism and cooperation among the religious groups in Manchester."



July 4, 1976

THE REV. RONALD J. FOURNIER
1971-1979

At a special meeting May 23, 1971 the congregation extended a call to the Rev. Ronald J. Fournier of Brookfield, Conn. to join Emanuel's staff as co-pastor in a team ministry with Pastor Anderson. Pastor Fournier accepted and arrived in Manchester in August with his wife, Nancy, and three daughters, Amy, Beth, and Renee. The Installation Service was held on September 12 with Dr. Brodeen officiating.

With the expanded staff of two full-time pastors and an intern, Emanuel entered into an era of renewed growth, change, and outreach in the community. The Rev. Fournier became actively involved in the work of town social agencies for the aged, the handicapped, youth and children's problems, and the Manchester Council on World Hunger.

At a special meeting in November 1971 it was voted to extend Emanuel's social ministry through the purchase of the residential property at the northwest corner of Church and Chestnut Sts. as housing for the elderly. The property includes four apartments.

At that same meeting a change was made in Communion practice and members of the junior and senior confirmation classes were included as communicants. Younger children were invited to come to the altar with their parents for a blessing.



The R. J. Fournier Family
(Beth, Pastor, Amy, Nancy and Renee)

A new organization, the "Old Guard" for retired men of the church and community was organized in 1971, and in this group a Beethoven Chorus was reactivated, under the direction of James McKay, with some of the original members of the Beethoven Glee Club participating.

In 1972 it was voted to change the method of remuneration to the pastors by including a housing allowance. The parsonage at 157 Pitkin St. was sold. The Anderson and Fournier families moved to their own homes, and the house at 64 Church St. once again became a residence for the intern as well as a Community Outreach Center.

In 1972 a new contemporary setting for the Communion liturgy was introduced. A new hymnal was in the process of preparation and this was by way of introducing the new liturgy. The new "green" hymnal was ready and was put into use in 1978, marking a change from the familiar traditional setting to a more contemporary form of worship. Purchase of the new Lutheran Book of Worship was made possible through the Arthur L. Tolf Fund.

In January 1973 Emanuel became a charter member of the Manchester Conference of Churches, including for the first time the Roman Catholic parishes in a combined ministry aimed toward Christian unity, education, special ministries, and social action. Pastor Fournier became the first president of this new organization.

At that year's annual meeting a "faith budget" of \$128,000 was adopted and pledges remained sealed. Emanuel succeeded in meeting its obligations that year, as always, through faith in God's willingness to provide. To strengthen the educational and youth programs it was voted to obtain the services of a part-time Coordinator of the Church School as well as a Youth Director. Home Bible study groups were initiated, as well as a variety of adult study groups on weekdays and on Sunday mornings.

Early in 1973 Mrs. Judy Torstenson was engaged as Christian Education Coordinator and a new Sunday morning schedule was inaugurated, with one session of Church School between the two worship services, resulting in some gain in attendance, especially in the adult classes. Mrs. Torstenson served in this post until 1979.

At the 1974 annual meeting Pastor Fournier was appointed Administrative Pastor, looking toward the planned retirement of Pastor Anderson in 1976.

In that same year Richard Matteson resigned as choir director and was succeeded by Melvin Lumpkin. Mrs. Beatrice Pearson took over the direction of the cherub choir in 1974 and continues to serve in this volunteer capacity. Another dimension to church activity was added with the opening of the Chestnut Hill non-denominational pre-school for children ages 3, 4, and 5.

A special Historical Committee was appointed to care for the records of the church. Early records written in Swedish are being translated, and microfilms made of church records for safe keeping. This Committee began in 1974 to make plans for the 100th Anniversary celebration in 1980-81. Members are Gerda Orr, chairperson; Beatrice Pearson, secretary; Norma Johnson, historian; Elmer Swanson, treasurer; the Rev. Ronald Fournier, Herbert Bengtson, Ruth I.

Benson, Eleanor Caspersen, Lillian J. Gustafson, Irma Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hendrickson, Eva Johnson, Elvira Anderson, Florence Johnson, Anna Kjellson (deceased), and Vivian Larson.

In 1975 Emanuel took an active part in resettlement of a refugee family. At Van Dao, his wife and three children, who escaped Vietnam just before the fall of Saigon to communist forces, were resettled in Manchester. A home was found for them and furnished, employment found for the father, and further support given. A few months later, At's brother, Cam, and his wife were also taken under Emanuel's wing and resettled in Manchester.

In 1975 the congregation adopted a budget of \$125,000 for local needs, missions and benevolences. It was noted that nearly \$33,000 had been expended for benevolence in the previous year and that an extensive renovation and repair project had been completed in the church building. At the same time a new sound system in the sanctuary was installed in memory of Alfred Johnson. A fire alarm system, new appliances in the kitchen, as well as other renovations at a cost of \$26,000 were underwritten through a bond issue with members of the congregation as subscribers.

That year members of the parish were privileged to receive a daily devotional book entitled, "The Church That Love Built Now Builds Love", written by Pastor Fournier.

At the annual meeting in 1976 Pastor Anderson tendered his resignation, to be effective August 1. He had served since 1955. The congregation elected him



The D. H. Gustafson Family
Karen, Pastor, Stephen, Pat, Britt

Pastor Emeritus and passed the following resolution: "It is with deep regret that we, as members of Emanuel, must accept the reality of Pastor Anderson's retirement. In gratitude to God, we express our love and best wishes to him as he retires from the active ministry."

A farewell dinner and reception for the pastor and Olga took place on June 11 with 350 present. On Sunday, June 13, 600 attended morning services when he preached his final sermon and was officially installed Pastor Emeritus by Dr. Brodeen, President of the New England Synod.

1976 marked the Bicentennial of our country as well as the 95th anniversary of the Emanuel congregation. It was a year of celebration in Manchester and throughout the country, with special parades and patriotic festivals on July 4 and through the summer months. The theme for "the church that love built" was "History with a Heart" during this 95th year.

At Emanuel, July 4 marked a combined Bicentennial and 95th birthday celebration. Songs and liturgy from the old Augustana hymnal were used, and following the worship service a group of visiting Swedish folk dancers performed on the lawn. There was an historical display of pictures and old church records as well as photos of confirmation classes from 1884 on. The original altar, cross, Swedish Bible, communion set, as well as lamps and dishes and other items were also on display, many of them almost 100 years old. Films taken by Leonard A. Johnson over a period of many years were shown. It was a time for calling to remembrance past years. The important project of filming special church events is being continued by Keith J. Carriere.



Magnell Apartments

THE REV. DALE H. GUSTAFSON
1976-

A new and dynamic team ministry was begun with the arrival of the Rev. Dale Gustafson in September 1976. With his wife, Patricia, and children, Karen, Stephen, and Britt, Pastor Gustafson took up residence at 51 Lakewood Circle N. in the new parsonage given to the Emanuel congregation by Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Wilson. Installation was on October 10 with the pastor's father, the Rev. Herbert Gustafson, as guest preacher.

The congregation's theme for 1977 was, "Emanuel, a family of love, chosen to reach out." That outreach was implemented by a pledged income of \$130,000 for the year.

For the first time since the intern program started in 1952 Emanuel welcomed a young woman, Jennie Jones, as intern for the year 1976-1977.

In March 1977 Lillian Scott, who had served for 18 years as church office secretary, was honored with a retirement party attended by several hundred members and friends. Its theme was, "We love you, Lil." After a brief rest, Lillian returned to work part-time in the office.

April 30, 1978 saw the dedication of the church-owned Magnell Apartments on Chestnut St., a 4-unit apartment complex for the elderly named in honor of charter members Mr. and Mrs. Nils Magnell. It was in this very house a group of Swedish immigrants met 100 years ago to make plans for a Lutheran Church in Manchester. Mrs. Irma Harrison, granddaughter of the Magnells, together with her husband, Albert, took part in the dedication ceremony.

At a special meeting the following September it was voted to purchase the Chestnut apartments, a 7-unit complex across the street from the Magnell Apartments, as additional housing for the elderly, bringing to 15 the number of apartments available in three buildings. Pastor Gustafson announced his willingness to work with the Manchester Redevelopment Council on the possibility of rehabilitating several more houses in the immediate vicinity of the church.

Another "first" for Emanuel occurred when a woman, Mrs. Maude Carpenter, was elected vice-chairperson of the Church Council following the annual meeting in 1979. Women are now well represented on what was for many years an all-male Council.

In speaking of Emanuel's ministry to families, the Rev. Gustafson listed the tape ministry of recorded services directed by Herman V. Johnson for those confined at home and convalescent homes; the growing number of apartments for the elderly; the addition of a ramp for the handicapped; the meetings for widows-widowers; weekly coffee hours for the neighborhood at the Outreach Center; and family-oriented study courses available to all.

In 1978 Emanuel responded to the LCA appeal "Strength for Missions" with pledges of \$26,500. The council approved plans to start a fund-raising appeal for major renewal of the sanctuary organ and a series of concerts to be arranged by organist-choir director Mel Lumpkin to benefit this fund.

Growth of the Church School necessitated the use of the Chapel area for classes, and the pews were removed to storage so that classroom chairs and tables could be installed during the Church School year. Emanuel has placed an important emphasis on the care and Christian nurture of the children since the organization of the Sunday School in 1885. In addition to Sunday classes, there has been a vacation school each summer held in conjunction with Concordia Church, and numerous training classes for teachers and officers. It would be an impossible task to try to list the names of all those who have given of their time, talent, and love to teaching the children. A list of Church School superintendents is included in the Appendix.

Several Emanuel members and former members are now in Seminary, preparing for the Lutheran ministry: David Alvord, Chicago Seminary, class of 1980; Philip Hultgren, Gettysburg, 1982; Paul Lutz, Gettysburg, 1983; and Peter Naschke, Philadelphia, 1980.

A major change in the outside appearance of the church building came with the installation of new glass doors at the entrance to the sanctuary, given by Mary Lindholm Boudreau in memory of the Lindholm family, and with the completion of an entrance ramp for the handicapped, given in memory of Gustave Gull and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Johnson.

Membership at the close of 1978 showed 1305 communicant members and 494 children, a total of 1799 baptized membership.

The report of the 1979 congregational meeting shows a busy and concerned congregation giving of itself to minister to the Christian education of both children and adults; to enhance the beauty of its services with beautiful and inspirational music; to extend its reach in a personal and helpful way into the community; to share its pastors' abilities with the many groups and commissions concerned with improving the quality of life; to stand, above all, as a sturdy witness to the unfailing grace of an everloving God.

In the spring of 1979 a committee headed by Florence Horton and Fred Hughes was formed to sponsor a refugee Laotian family.

On May 20th members and friends of Emanuel, including Pastor and Nancy Fournier, attended church in Stockholm, Sweden, while on tour.

June saw the successful completion of a special fund drive for replacing the 27 year old roof of the parish building and chapel.

In May of 1979, just eight years after having been called, Pastor Fournier submitted his resignation as pastor to become Director of Development of Lutheran Social Services of New England. A farewell reception for the pastor and family followed services on June 24, and a "Friendly Roast" took place in the church parking lot, with 500 helium-filled balloons being sent with the message, "The Church love built now builds love," which theme most characterized Pastor Fournier's ministry. One balloon traveled as far as Plymouth, Mass. Hundreds of church members and friends joined in this tribute to the Fourniers.

A Call Committee voted unanimously to ask the congregation to extend a two-year call to Pastor Gustafson to become Administrative Pastor. He was installed on November 4, 1979.

As we begin our second 100 years, a new team leads and gives us spiritual guidance. The present staff (1979) consists of Pastor Dale H. Gustafson; pastor-emeritus, C. Henry Anderson; intern, Tom Larsen, succeeded by J. Lee Goodwin; organist-choir director Melvin Lumpkin; secretaries Lillian Scott, Beverly Fuss, Elsie Huffield and Anne Reed; custodians Everett Johnson and Gary Lemaire.

The 100th Anniversary Committee which is preparing for a year of celebration March 1, 1980-81 is: Earl Anderson, chairman; Elvie Johnson, secretary; John Kjellson, Gerda Orr, John Nelson, Dave Jackson, Florence Johnson, Ruth and Ernest Benson, Leonard Hokanson, Emma Swanson, Ronald Erickson, Elvira Anderson, Ruth I. Benson, Dave Morsey, Carl V. Gustafson, Irma and Albert Harrison, Herbert Bengtson, Erland Johnson, and Lillian Scott.

Another complete volume could be written about gifts and memorials given to Emanuel over the years. As we look about us, inside and outside the church buildings, almost everything we see represents a gift from an individual or group of individuals, the majority given as memorials to loved ones who lived and worked here in the past. It is fitting at this 100th anniversary that we be aware of the saints who have gone before, who lived and worked and struggled to build this church we love.

Let us also pay tribute to those still among us whose devotion has been evidenced through years of work in the Church School, the men's and women's organizations, the Scouts, the Altar Guild, the choirs, and the many boards, committees, and commissions that constitute the life of the church.

As Dr. Cornell wrote 50 years ago, "The real temple of God on earth is not made of wood or brick or stone, but it consists rather of 'living stones' joined together in faith and love into the communion of saints and into the household of God."

Let us continue to work together so that the "church built by love" will continue to build love and reach out with an ever-growing Christian witness through the next 100 years.



MILESTONES

- 1877-1881, Gathering of Manchester Lutherans for worship in private homes with visiting pastors.
- March 1, 1881 — Organization of Emanuel congregation with 59 members.
- 1885 — Organization of Sunday School.
- 1886 — First church building completed at a cost of \$3,300.
- 1889 — First full-time pastor called, the Rev. Augustus G. Olsson.
- 1891 — Parsonage at 64 Church St. purchased at a cost of \$2,000.
- 1895-1911 — Pastor William P. Anderson. Additional land acquired, extending property on Church St. to 343'.
- 1911-1932 — Pastor P. J. O. Cornell.
- May 10, 1914 — Groundbreaking for new church building.
- Dec. 9, 1917 — Basement of new church completed and dedicated.
- March 18, 1923 — Completed sanctuary dedicated; cost, \$66,000.
- 1931 — Fiftieth Anniversary; 646 communicant members.
- 1932-1939 — Pastor Knut E. Erickson.
- 1939-1944 — Pastor Thorsten A. Gustafson.
- March 5, 1944 — Burning of mortgage on church building.
- 1944-1947 — Pastor Theodore E. Palmer.
- 1947-1955 — Pastor Carl E. Olson.
- Oct. 22, 1950 — Groundbreaking for Parish Building and Memorial Chapel.
- Oct. 12, 1952 — Dedication of completed Parish Building.
- Sept. 1952 — Intern program begun; first intern, J. Philemon Anderson.
- 1955-1976 — Pastor C. Henry Anderson.
- 1956 — 75th Anniversary; 1093 members.
- 1960 — Purchase of new parsonage at 157 Pitkin St. (sold 1972).
- 1962 — Emanuel congregation becomes a part of the Lutheran Church in America.
- 1963 — First assistant pastor called, the Rev. Melvin T. Peterson.
- 1964 — Organ renovated and enlarged; cost, \$17,000.
- 1966 — Mortgage on parish building burned.
- 1971 — First co-pastor called, the Rev. Ronald J. Fournier.
- 1971 — First unit of elderly housing acquired at northwest corner of Church and Chestnut Sts.
- 1974 — Anticipating Pastor Anderson's retirement, Pastor Fournier appointed administrative pastor.
- 1975 — Extensive renovation of sanctuary and vestry, \$26,000.
- 1976 — Pastor Anderson retires; Pastor Dale H. Gustafson called as co-pastor; new parsonage at 51 N. Lakewood Circle acquired.
- 1978 — Adoption of new Lutheran Book of Worship.
- April 30, 1978 — Dedication of Magnell Apartments, second housing unit for elderly.
- Sept. 1978 — Acquisition of third elderly-housing unit at 11-13 Chestnut St.
- 1978 — Fund raising started for renovation of organ.

April 1979 — Pastor Fournier announces resignation effective June 30.
 1979 — Committees planning 100th Anniversary observance March 1, 1980 —
 March 1, 1981.
 1979 — Pastor Dale Gustafson installed as Administrative Pastor.

PASTORS AND INTERNS

PASTORS:

1881- The Rev. J. Mellander of Portland, Conn.
 1882- Student O. A. Landell
 1883- Student Ludvig Holmes
 1885- Jonas Wikberg, lay-preacher from Sweden
 1885-1886, Student G. E. Youngdahl
 1886-1889, Students R. A. Thomson
 Fritz Jacobson
 Henning Jacobson
 N. E. Kron
 1889-1895, The Rev. Augustus G. Olsson (first full-time pastor)
 1895-1911, The Rev. William P. Anderson
 1911-1932, Dr. P. J. O. Cornell
 1932-1939, The Rev. Knut E. Erickson
 1939-1944, The Rev. Thorsten A. Gustafson
 1944-1947, The Rev. Theodore E. Palmer
 1947-1955, The Rev. Carl E. Olson
 1955-1976, The Rev. C. Henry Anderson
 Assistant pastors:
 1963-1965, The Rev. Melvin T. Peterson
 1966-1969, The Rev. Eric J. Gothberg
 1971-1979, The Rev. Ronald J. Fournier
 1976- The Rev. Dale H. Gustafson

INTERNS:

1952-1953, J. Philemon Anderson	1970-1971, Bruce Evenson
1953-1954, Dean Berg	1971-1972, Paul Holmer
1954-1955, Larry Brynell	1972-1973, Robert Lanier
1955-1956, Melvin Peterson	1973-1974, Fritz Wehrenberg
1956-1957, Edsel Isaacson	1974-1975, Joe Ekeberg
1958- Gerhard Lohmann	1975-1976, Michel Clark
1959- Herman Frerichs	1976-1977, Jennie Jones
1959-1960, Roger Mackey	1977-3/78, Lynn Bruer
1960-1961, Arthur Gaard	6/78-9/78, Nancy Thomas
1961-1962, Lee Boleman	1978-1979, Tom Larsen
1962-1963, John Poffinbarger	1979-1980, J. Lee Goodwin

ORGANISTS AND CHOIR DIRECTORS

1877-1898, Christine Magnell (Mrs. Aaron Johnson), organist
 1891-1898, August Weiman, choir director
 1898-1911, Mrs. William P. Anderson
 1911-1924, Hildur Cornell
 1924-1935, Helge Pearson
 1935-1945, G. Albert Pearson
 1945-1953, Clarence Helsing
 1953-1954, Philip Treggor
 1954-1956, Charles Wakeley
 1956-1962, G. Albert Pearson
 1962-1966, Frederic Werner
 1966-1968, Alberta Hawkins
 1968-1971, Jean Conklin
 1971-1972, Steve Lowry
 1972-1974, Richard Matteson
 1974- , Melvin Lumpkin

CHURCH SCHOOL

Superintendents:

1885-1893, Mrs. Jonas Wikberg
 1893-1902, Various pastors
 1902-1907, S. Emil Johnson
 1907-1920, Adolph Benson
 1920-1932, Alfred C. Anderson
 1932-1942, Erik Modean
 1942-1959, Clarence Wogman
 1959-1964, Edwin Naschke
 1964 Richard Schubert
 1964-1966, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Morrissette
 1966-1967, Mrs. Darrell Morrissette
 1967-1971, James Hamilton
 1971-1972, Paul Holmer, intern
 1972-1973, James Hamilton and David Acker, coordinators

Directors of Christian Education:

1/71-6/71, Gloria Mackintosh
 1973-1979, Judy Torstenson

Youth Directors:

1975-1977, David Alvord
 1977-1979, David Jackson

ORGANIZATIONS

Church School, 1885
 Youth Ministry, formerly Luther League, organized as Idun Society, 1899
 Choirs: Emanuel, 1880's
 Junior
 Cherub
 Handbell, 1969
 Altar Guild, 1930's
 Brotherhood (now Churchmen), 1915
 Ladies' Aid, 1890) became Lutheran
 Dorcas Society, 1912) Church Women, 1959
 Women's Missionary Society, 1925)
 Missionary Circle, 1945)
 Young Emanuel Adults, 1954
 Lutherweds, 1949
 Girl Scouts, 1941
 Brownies, 1942
 Boy Scouts, 1920's; Troop 126, 1940
 Friendship Group, 1966
 Old Guard, 1971
 Sacred Dance Group, 1976
 Prayer Groups, 1971 and 1977



Church Council



Cherub Choir



Junior Choir



Senior Choir



Bell Choir



Altar Guild



Beethoven Chorus



Historical Committee



Sacred Dancers



Historical Committee



Church School



"Love Lil" Party



Midsummer Fest



Farewell reception for the Fournier family