



SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

1886-1986

CENTENNIAL HISTORY
OF
SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH
LARAMIE, WYOMING

1886-1986

Published by
Saint Paul's United Church of Christ
Laramie, Wyoming- June 1986

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Historical Committee expresses its thanks to the following persons and firms for their assistance in preparing this history:

Kathy Burns, Computer Processing of the manuscript; Kay Hing, Mike Stoesz and Roman Photography, photos; Laramie Daily Boomerang, photo processing; and Kinko's Copies, printing and binding.



REV. DAVID MURPHY (LEFT) 1986

MODERATOR
FRED DAY

CLERK
MARCIA HAYTER



Church Building, Rev. David M. Murphy, Moderator, Marcia Hayter, Clerk, Arthur (Gordon) and in picture



REV. D.G. WICHMANN FAMILY (1908-1918)



Dorothea, Gertrude, Rev., Eva, Aunt Martha, Hildegard, Arthur (Gerald not in picture)

New Parsonage

A Prayer for St. Paul's United Church of Christ
As It Celebrates One Hundred Years of Faith

Lord,

By Thy power and grace,
teach us to be the Church:
to place the life of Christ before us,
to rely on the gifts of Thy Spirit within us,
to bear each other's burdens...in Thy Holy Name.

Lord,
teach us to honor our past:
to celebrate the saints who have walked before us,
to find strength in our history,
to believe that Thou wilt show us the way.

Lord,
grant us courage for the future:
to labor for significant acts of faith,
to care for others as we care for Thee,
to pray...
that Thy Will may be done...
through our lives...

In Christ's Holy Name,
Amen

A Foreword to the History of
St. Paul's United Church of Christ

On May 2, 1886, sixty-five persons took a critical step in their faith. By the grace of God, they decided: "We can be the Church." And so, St. Paulus Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische Kirche was born.

One hundred years later, we look back-- with admiration, with appreciation, with awe-- that, by God's grace, this church-- St. Paul's United Church of Christ has withstood the vicissitudes of Time.

We are grateful for all those who have labored in the Name of Christ. We are grateful for all those who had the gift of faith, even in times of desperation. Above all, we are grateful:
that the strength of God has sustained us...
throughout the years.

This booklet is a record of our history. Many facts are recorded in these pages, but behind these facts are real people, who have labored, who have loved this Church of Christ. Some of these people are our pastors-- who knew that service to the living God was more important than the security we could not provide. Most of these people are the laity-- who did the best they could with what they had, who saw this Church as at one with The Church, who believed that the cross stands before us all.

This booklet is a record of our history, but the record of a people of faith is much more than words can say. To these historical facts are added the hopes, the tears, the joys, the willing labor.. of all those who proudly proclaim:

We are St. Paul's
United Church of Christ.

And, this our record is dedicated to all those who went before us. And, this our record is dedicated to three persons who stand in the midst of us-- Anne Maria Kaisler, Ruth Metzler, and Emma Wahl Rice-- because we are grateful that they have made 100 years of history into a living faith.

Rev. Dr. Sally Palmer

NAME CHANGES OF ST. PAUL'S

On May 2, 1886 the people chose the name "Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische St. Paulus Gemeinde" (congregation). Rev. Johann Frank of the Lutheran General Synod of Chicago arrived in Laramie, November 20, 1886 as the first minister. Services were held in the Presbyterian Church near 3rd on Fremont St.

After three ministers serving various lengths of time, and one year without a minister, Rev. Ed Pinkert came late in 1899 from the Evangelical Synod of North America. In 1901, the church paid off \$500 owed to the Lutheran Synod and applied to become a member of the Evangelical Synod because the Lutherans had not furnished ministers. But it was May 29, 1904 before they actually were affiliated.

After 50 years, in 1934 the Evangelical Synod united with the German Reformed Church, and St. Paul's became an Evangelical and Reformed Church.

June 25, 1957 the Evangelical and Reformed Church merged with the Congregational Christian Church and became the United Church of Christ, the name was chosen so more mergers could take place without name changes.

Roll Call of our Pastors

Johann Frank	November 21, 1886 to August, 1887
Christian Thomsen	October, 1887 to June, 1894
Julius Gumpfenberg	July, 1894 to November, 1895
Walther Eickmann	June, 1896 to November, 1898
Ed Pinkert	November, 1899 to May, 1902
Adolph Walton	October, 1902 to January, 1908
O. G. Wichmann	April, 1908 to September, 1918
B. H. Leesman	January 19 to February 13, 1919
William Schmidt	March 1919 to April, 1920
O. F. Geisler	May, 1920 to March, 1925
O. E. Pinkert	June, 1925 to September, 1926
August Doellefeld	January, 1927 to November 3, 1932
Robert J. Young	August, 1933 to April 12, 1942
Ernst Press	September, 1942 to August 10, 1947
Rev. Hugh McFadden (Methodist)	1948 - Interim
John E. McCormick	July 1, 1948 to May, 1953
Roy Anderson	July, 1953 to November, 1956
Robert Knapp	1957 - Interim
Carl Sullenberger	October 19, 1958 to June 30, 1962
Rev. James Bull	August 5, 1962 to December, 1966
Armin Munz	1967 - Interim
Robert R. Owens	October 15, 1967 to April, 1972
Rev. Allen VanderMeulen Jr.	May 6, 1973 to August 19, 1975
Mary Grubbs Greene	Sept., 1975 - August, 1976 - Interim
Rev. John Steinberg	August 1, 1976 to July 1, 1981
Sally Lentz Palmer	Interim
	January 7, 1982

ST. PAUL'S GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMBERSHIP 1886-89

Abrams, Ludolf	Melcher, August
Ahrens, August	Melcher, Friederich
Bachman, W.	Melcher, Wilhelm
Bath, Henry	Mueller, Gustave
Beck, Albert	Nagel, John
Berner, Conrad Jr.	Nagel, Peter
Berner, Conrad Sr.	Neuman, Mrs.
Berner, Erhardt	Nicolai, Joachim
Berner, George	Niethe, Miss Augusta
Berner, Jacob	Niethe, Wilhelm
Berner, Miss Rika	Oelschlaeger, Herman
Bettz, John	Ott, F.W.; & Miss Sophia
Borgeman, August	Pahlow, Robert
Brady, Mrs.	Pilger, Ludwig (Louis)
Brueckner, Ferdinand	Piper, Mrs. Augusta
Burmann, Mrs.	Plaga, Ernest
Christensen, Paul	Prahl, Mr.
Deckelman, G.	Pregal, Herman
Erdmann, Carl	Pregal, Ludwig
Erne, Joseph--Louise	Rauner, Peter
Erne, Mike--Auguste	Rice, Frank
Fischer, John A.	Roesner, P.C.
Fischer, George	Roman, Charles
George, Ludwig (Louis)	Rosin, Albert
Gobelman, Mrs. A	Ruprecht, Fred
Gramm, Otto	Schirmer, Fred
Haberlandt, Henry	Schirmer, Ludwig
Hegewald, Charles (Carl)	Schlumpf, L.
Hegewald, Herman	Schwatke, Charles (Carl)
Heine, Casper	Schwatke, E.
Helfrich, A.	Schwatke, Julius
Henke, Richard	Shore, Jake
Holyborn, Mrs.	Schroeder, Charles
Humpfner, John	Spieckermann, Henry
Ingersoll, Miss Mollie	Spiegelberg, August
Jepsen, Christ	Spiegelberg, Franz
Koch, August	Stabach, Wilhelm
Koch, Henry	Stanfel, Miss C.
Koch, John	Tesching, Miss Auguste
Koppe, Charles (Carl)	Thimermann, George
Koppe, Fred	Trabing, August
Krueger, Otto	Troederup, Carl
Kuster, Carl	Vorpahl, Franz
Langhoff, Charles (Carl)	Vorpahl, Johann
Lehman, Charles (Carl)	Waechter, August
Lehman, E.J.	Walter, Charles
Lehman, Ludwig	Weiser, Franz
Lohlein, Joseph	Wolf, Herman
Loes, Frank	Wullschlaeger, Jakob
Mahs, Herman	Wullschlaeger, Robert
Marquardt, Louis	Wurl, Ludwig
Marsh, Robert	Wurl, Wilhelm
	Zehner, Phil



JOHANN FRANK
11/21/86-8/1887



CHRISTIAN THOMSEN
10/1887-6/1894



JULIUS GUMPPENBERG
7/1894-11/1895



WALTHER EICKMANN
6/1896-11/1898



ED PINKERT
11/1899-5/1902



ADOLPH WALTON
11/1902-1/1908



O.G. WICHMANN
11/1908-9/1918



B.H. LEESMAN
1/19/1919-2/13/1919
(contracted flu)



WILLIAM SCHMIDT
3/1919-4/1920



O.F. GEISLER
5/1920-3/1925



O.E. PINKERT
6/1925-9/1926



AUGUST DOELLEFELD
1/1927-11/1932



ROBERT J. YOUNG
8/1933-4/12/1942



ERNST PRESS
9/1942-8/1947



JOHN E. McCORMICK
7/1948-5/1953



ROY ANDERSON
7/1953-11/1956



ROBERT KNAPP
6/1957-6/1962



CARL SULLENBERGER
8/1962-12/1966



ARMIN MUNZ
10/1967-4/1972



ROBERT R. OWEN
5/1973-8/1975

22 Ministers in 100 years; 4 Interim Ministers

FORMER PASTORS OF ST. PAUL'S (living in 1986)

- '42 - '47 Dr. Ernst Press (Nancy), 1512 Green Meadow Rd., Evansville,
IN 47715
- '53 - '56 Roy Anderson (Iola), Karnes, TX (no address) (ill)
- '57 - '62 Robert Knapp (Dorothy), 221 E. Erie St., Spring Valley,
IL 61362
- '67 - '72 Armin Munz (Jane), 1024 W. Smith St., Freeport, IL 61032
- '73 - '75 Robert R. Owen (Chris), 809 Alden Road, Redland, CA 92373
- '75 - '76 Allen Vander Meulen (Dorothy), 614 Thornwood Dr.,
Naperville, IL 60540 (Interim)
- '75 - '81 Dr. Mary Grubbs Greene (Shirley), 2284 Calle Cuesta, Santa
Fe, NM 87501
- '81 - '82 John Steinberg (Darlene), 2815 Deming Blvd., Cheyenne, WY
82001 (Interim)
- '82 - Dr. Sally Lentz Palmer (Mike), 715 So. 11th, Laramie, WY

WIDOWS, CHILDREN OF PASTORS

- '27 - '32 Lydia Doellefeld Thalke (John), 29 Antelope Drive,
Wheatland, WY 82201
- '33 - '42 Mrs. Eunice Young, 4634 Whisper Lake #3, Florrisant, MO
63033
- '48 - '53 Dorothy (McCormick) Counterman, 746 S. Gilpin Street,
Denver, CO 80209
- '62 - '66 Rev. Elizabeth Sullenberger (Carl), 3707 Valencia Pl. N.E.,
Albuquerque, NM 87110
- '08 - '18 Wichmann, Hildegard, 4065 Iowa St., #4, San Diego, CA 92104
Wichmann, Arthur, Western Hills, 1625 Carr, Lakewood, CO
80215
Wichmann grandson,
Capt. Richard T. Day CH USN
21 Heron Lane
Groton, Conn 06340
- '20 - '25 Rev. Manfred L. Geisler, 5163 Sunny Creek Dr., San Jose, CA
95135 (retired, Oneonta Congregational Church, S. Pasadena,
CA 91030), born in Laramie
- Rev. Armin A. Geisler, 26293 Carnegie, Hemet, CA 92343,
born in Laramie

SOME FINANCES OF THE CHURCH PROPERTY ** FIRST 50 YEARS

- 1890 - \$4,000 cost of Church building (89 members)
- 1908 - \$1,800 cost of parsonage (112 members, minister \$55/month)
- 1922 - \$6,500 cost of renovation of Church building (72 members)
- 1933 - \$2,000 paid off balance of renovation (133 members)
- 1937 - \$2,600 cost of Church and parsonage roof (envelope systems started)
- 1940 - \$4,200 basement remodeling; furnace, kitchen - west cabinets donated
- 1942 - Note burning on debts; OFF MISSION SUPPORT
- Total \$19,000 plus many volunteer projects

OTHER PROJECTS: (probably \$19,000 more)

- 1930 - parsonage basement dug by men, no account of expenses
- 1937 - donations: lighting system; Hammond organ; misc. altar fixtures
- 1940 - parsonage hardwood floors and linoleum, bathroom change to make closet off bedroom
- 1967 - \$1155 used Conn Classic organ purchased from Salt Lake Church
- 1977 - donation, balcony refurbished
- 1983 - \$3,000 donation, kitchen and restroom walls refinished and painted; rain drains cemented
- 1983 - \$5,500 art glass windows protected with plexoglass

ST. PAUL'S BUDGET 1985

Total \$33,000
 missions \$ 3,150
 salaries \$16,821
 Minister, choir director, organists, secretary, custodian, supply ministers

ST. PAUL'S BUDGET November 1886-87

There were 89 names on the treasurer list. They paid .50 - \$2/month, also had Sunday plate offerings (daily wages \$2/day)

Income (dues) \$510 plus \$81 plate offering \$591.00

Expenses Minister salary \$55/month
 Church rent (Presbyterian) \$10/month

THE NATION'S ECONOMY

	1910	1940	1985
Bread - loaf	\$.04	\$.10	\$.69
Milk - gallon	.16	.40	2.00
Gas - gallon	.14	.28	1.15
new car	680.00	665.00	7,000.-10,000
Ave. Income annual	605.00	1,315.00	22,000.;poverty (4) 10,600

STATISTICS ON PER-MEMBER GIVING FOR MAJOR DENOMINATIONS 1968:

Wesleyan Methodist \$290; Laramie Church of Nazarene highest \$197.
 UCC nationally \$85; St. Paul's \$82 (for 115 members).

CEREMONY OF DEDICATION
ST. PAULUS KIRCHE
AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
NOVEMBER 23, 1983
JULY 15, 1984

Words of Welcome Marcia Hayter, Moderator
Opening Prayer Rev. Sally Palmer, Minister
Words of Explanation Mike Stoesz, Board of Trustees
Special Music The St. Paul's Trio

Judy Denison, Ann Potter, and Christine Pasley
The Historical Significance of St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Emma Rice, Historian

*The Dedication The Congregation

Lord God,
May this Church be the place
...where Christ is the center of our acts.
May this Church be the place
...where truth is spoken.
May this Church be the place
...where Thy Love is revealed...
year by year by year.

Lord God,
We rededicate St. Paul's to Thy Use...
and us to Thy Service.
Amen.

*The Closing Hymn "Now Thank We All Our God"
E & R. Hymn No. 72 Alternate English and German

*The Benediction
*The Choral Benediction "The Sevenfold Amen"
E & R Hymn #560

OUR BEAUTIFUL WINDOWS OF ST. PAUL'S

January 18, 1891 - Dedication Day

"The sun shone through the colored windows in delightful variations of color".

In 1922, when the Church was being renovated and remodeled, new stained glass windows were installed. Gothic expression prevails in the pointed arch of all apertures. North, south, and west sides have 3 arched windows, ornately framed and depicted in stained glass, scenes from the New Testament scriptures. The theme of the Holy Trinity is stressed throughout the Church in the number of windows on the sides; in the three circular windows in the tower, and in the three section window over the entry door, illustrating keys, anchor and crown with benediction.

Colored glass, first used in the 16th and 17th centuries, became a picturesque addition to the richness of Mediaeval and Church art, and now seems a traditional part of Church buildings.

The colored windows of St. Paul's appear to be American glass, probably Wismark and Kokomo. It is thought these windows were made by the Emil Frei Window Company of St. Louis, but since some Church records were destroyed by fire, this cannot be verified. Opal and cathedral glass were used in their construction. Names of donors are inscribed at the base of the windows, and some are entered in the German language. The script adds a certain quaintness to the window.

On the North side of the sanctuary from the altar back, windows were given by Frauen-Verein (Ladies Aid) 1922, Trustees 1922, Willing Workers 1922. The windows on the south of sanctuary back from altar in 1922: In Memoriam John F. Fischer; presented by Frank Spiegelberg and Sons; and the third window presented by Mrs. Louisa Wurl. On the west side of the church, windows are in Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Koch, Sr. and George; Young People League of 1931; and third window, presented by Mrs. Margaret Warnecke 1939. The west window in the vestibule by Happy Thought Circle (Teen-age girls). The art glass window over the front doors of Church, a memorial to Mrs. Anna Wahl, June 1945.

A ten year old was heard to say "When the sun shines through the windows they sparkle like diamonds".

St. Paul's congregation raised funds to put protective covering over the stained glass windows, to help provide insulation at those points, as well as to guard against breakage or damage from wind or other sources. There was a dedication ceremony Sunday, September 11, 1983 for the restoration of St. Paul's historic stained glass window. The original windows are valued at over \$50,700.

LARAMIE'S FIRST CHRISTMAS IN 1868

Laramie's first Christmas in 1868, (when Laramie city was a tent colony), was a happy experience according to the Daily Sentinel. "The Union Pacific hotel built in a single month during September 1868" was the scene of the first Christmas celebration. The hotel dining room originally included space later used for a lobby and office, and this immense room was where the celebration was held.

Edward Invinson was the first Santa Claus. "The people of the entire community placed their gifts on the tree and Santa's task must indeed, have been a heavy one".

Eliza Stewart, one of the first school teachers arrived in Laramie in 1868. She was the grandmother of the late Elwyn (Tubby) Condit. She recalled "There were not many fireplaces for the hanging of the stockings in the early day Laramie houses, and there were comparatively few Christmas trees in homes because trees had to be hauled such a long distance. Most families couldn't afford to keep horses to haul trees, or even for transportation" (printed in Laramie Boomerang, Dec. 1985).

William Owen's - Early Recollection of Laramie (Eva Downey's brother)

In its physical appearance, Laramie presented every feature of the average Western Frontier town. Not a tree or shrub grew here, just a mass of crude human habitation built on a grassy plain. There was no system whatever for fighting fire, no pipes to bring water to our houses, no sewers, not a shred nor shadow of anything sanitary. Water for domestic use was delivered by a water wagon with hose at the rear end at \$1.00 per barrel of 45 gallons. A ditch ran along the gutters for general use water. (In 1875 hydrants were placed at street corners).

As for dress, the old time hoop skirt for women were still in vogue and the predominating style of female headgear was the little flat hat about the size of a waffle with just the barest excuse of a crown. Men wore pretty much the same clothes as today but of course a tuxedo or dress suit was never heard of. For hats, more of those low crowned flat derbies, that one sees in old prints were in evidence more than anything else.

A party of surveyors was working east of town in the vicinity of the Springs. Surveying this way, they ran across a herd of 20 antelope. The antelope turned west and ran straight toward the town. They reached a point right where the Baptist Church now stands (4th and Grand) and would have continued down Grand to the heart of the city, but at this point they encountered a lot of boys playing there and that settled it. "We yelled like a bunch of Indians and threw stones at them". They turned North and disappeared.

Millard Mast's father came to Laramie in the late 1870's and made his living as a brick contractor, building the first school house in Laramie in 1878, the first hospital in 1878 (15th & Grand) (The Erne family were stone masons and put in the cornerstone) and German Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1890. Also helped build the Connor Hotel, Masonic Temple and St. Matthew's Cathedral.

Rolling mill - east of tracks
 between Flint & Gibbon³ BLOCKS, WEST SIDE, LARAMIE, WYOMING
 BEFORE 1900
 Tenney - North of it - Gibbon & Harney
 Stockyards - Harney & Canby
 Glassworks - Canby & Sully

Brewery - Owners of Homes
 NE of track Place of work or
 yards business

East	RAILROAD	HOBSEMAN	NORTH PINE	South	South Cedar
				UNIVERSITY	
				LARAMIE CITY	
				Laramie City is one of the most beautiful towns on the great Trans-Continental Railway and its situation is one of the most grand and picturesque to be found on the continent. It is the county-seat of Albany County, and is located in the centre of the Laramie Valley; the most fertile portion of Wyoming Territory, and is surrounded on all sides by the lofty, snow-crowned mountains which constitute the great back bone of the American continent.	
			(9) 150 Melcher Shops		(1) 102 Beckwith, Walter J. English Boot Maker
			(10) 154 Spiegelberg Carpenter		(2) Wurl, William 150 North (Log) Shops
			(11) 158 Mays, Henry Painter		(3) 154 Spieckermann, Henry Rolling Mills
					(4) 158 (Log) Koch, John Rancher
			(13) 160 Krueger Rolling Mill		
			(14) 164 Schermer Shops (R.R)		
				(8) 167 Olsons Stromberg Rolling M.	(5) 168 Swatke, Otto Rolling Mill
			(12) Toohey, Pat Shops	(7) 171 (Log) Peterson, Ole Shops	(6) 170 Wolfe, Andy Shops
				FREMONT	
				North	

1. Beckwith, Walter James, with son William father of Ruth Beckwith Malody
2. Wurl, William & Louise Pahl - Ch. William, Frank, Emma (Mrs. George) and Fred
3. Spieckermann, Henry and Dora Mildenstein - Ch. John, Anna (1; Mrs. Art Strong) (2; Mrs. Fred Wurl), Gertrude (Mrs. Thomas Finnerty), Rudolph, Hattie (Mrs. Mads Justesen)
4. Koch, Mr. & Mrs. John - Fred, Anna, (Mrs. Klingerman) and Mary (Mrs. Anderson).
5. Swatke, Otto - Ch: Clara (Mrs. Raymond), Maidie (Mrs. McPherson), Lucy, (Mrs. Helms), Albert, Florence (Alexander)
6. Wolfe, Andy - Ch: Frieda (Mrs. Kinford), Henry, Andrew, Bertha
7. Peterson, Ole - Ch: Ingomar (Mrs. John Thees), Peter, Hannah (Mrs. Harry A. Smith) Sever, Olga, Elmer, Sidney, Oscar (Chalky) Edna (Mrs. Hitchcock)
8. Strombergs, Gus? or Nels? - in house built by and owned by Olsons
9. Melcher, August - Ch: Lizzie (Mrs. O'Connor), Mayme (Mrs. Salters) Otto, Albert, Harold
10. Spiegelberg, Frank - Ch: Elsie (Mrs. Noah) Tony (Mrs. Cornelius), Walter, Will. Selma (Mrs. Erickson) Ann, George.
11. Mays, Henry - ch: Frank Henry, Paul, Jacob, Louie, Willie, Clara, Mayme.
12. Toohey, Pat 13. Krueger, Otto - ch: Willie, Otto, Anna 14. Schermer, Louie Ch: Fred, Frank, Anna, Herman, Emma, Willie, Lizzie, Augusta.

HISTORY OF LARAMIE

Laramie was named for the French fur trader Jacques De LaRamee.

April 20, 1868 Union Pacific Railroad began to sell lots.

May 10, 1868 first freight train came through town. Soon there were 5,000 souls; 1/3 were respectable and 2/3 were gamblers, robbers, prostitutes.

May 12 ELECTION: 900 ballots cast. Mayor M.C. Brown and City Council elected. Mayor Brown resigned after three weeks--
Revolvers and knives were used to settle disputes!

August: 20 VIGILANTIES organized, soon there were over 400 men. Outlaws were driven to cover and the city had order. Hanging was the most common and easiest form of punishment for criminals.
LAST LYNCHING took place on 6th and Grand (one block from our church now).

July 15, 1868 FIRST RELIGIOUS SERVICES--SABBATH SCHOOL started by Mrs. Jane Ivinson, Mrs. Charles Wright and Miss Jennie Wright. It was held in the Union Pacific Hotel.

October 2, 1868 EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZED with the help of Edward Ivinson -- Rev. J.W. Cornell

Spring 1869 METHODIST was organized (building diagonal from Elks Lodge) in 1871, Rev. G.F. Hilton

February 15, 1869 FIRST Public school with 106 pupils for 3 month term.

Late 1869 CATHOLIC was organized (west of present bldg. 4th and Grand) in 1871, Rev. Father Kelly.

January 8, 1870 BAPTIST (4th and Grand) Rev. D.G. Pierce.

February 2, 1871 PRESBYTERIAN Rev. F.C. Arnold organized, bldg. in Oct. on Fremont between 2nd and 3rd St. St. Paul's used it for several years.

1885 SCANDINAVIAN LUTHERAN (Trinity) West Pine St. still standing but congregation moved to building on 7th St. St. Paul's also used it.

April 25, 1884 a REAL GERMAN FAMILY, with wooden shoes and all, arrived on train No. 3 today. (Boomerang).

HISTORY OF SAINT PAUL'S CHURCH

July 25, 1885 meeting of German Lutherans was held with Rev. F.M. Andreasen to talk of the possibility of organizing a German congregation. Rev. Andreasen was on the Lutheran Board of Home Missions.

May 2, 1886 organized a congregation with Rev. Rosenstengel assisting. The name St. Paulus Deutsche Evangelische Lutherische Gemeinde. First board of trustees were:
George Berner - President; Charles Hegewald - Treasurer; Charles Troederup - Secretary; August Waechter, William Wurl, Charles Langhoff. The congregation was affiliated with the Lutheran General Synod of Chicago.

November 21, 1886 REV. JOHANN FRANK of Plattsmouth, Nebraska preached at the Presbyterian Church; he is to take charge of the German Lutheran Church here.

ST. PAUL'S UCC FIRST BAPTISMS BY REV. JOHANN FRANK

December 3, 1886 he baptized the first baby:
CHRISTENSEN, Mina Katherina born November 15, 1886---Christ and Anna nee Peger.

December 25, 1886 he baptized 8 more babies:
PRUGEL, (Pregel), Mina Frieda born August 13, 1885---Hermann and Auguste nee Vorpahl.
ERNE, Earl Robert born May 24, 1886---Michael and Auguste nee Hegewald.
BERNER, Anna Karoline born November 5, 1883, Karl Arthur born June 29, 1885---Conrad and Emilie nee Hegewald.

Dec. 26
STABACH, Harries Wilhelm born June 22, 1886---Wilhelm and Emilie nee Prugal.

SPIEGELBERG, Antonie born August 17, 1885, Katherine Elizabeth born October 20, 1886---Franz and Antonie nee Zernikow.

Dec. 31
OELSCHLAGER, Emma born May 26, 1884 (died January 2, 1887)---Hermann and Luise nee Piper.

The first two weddings were March 30, 1887 and April 2, 1887:
BACHMAN, Wilhelm and Johanna Radichal
MELCHER, August and Augusta Nieth.

January 2, 1887 first funeral - Emma Oelschlager; later - infants: Mina Christensen; Paul Koch; Anna Nagel; Rosalie Melcher

In 1887 he baptized fifteen babies; had funerals for four children and two adults.

August 1887 Rev. Frank resigned. He had laid a good foundation for St. Paul's Church.

He died July 8, 1935 at Coshocton, Ohio.

October 30, 1887, REV. CHRISTIAN THOMSEN began his work in Laramie, and stayed until July, 1894.

The Laramie Weekly Sentinel said: "the German Lutherans secured a pastor of great learning, rare talent and superior ability."

May, 1888 the Frauen Verein (Ladies Society) predecessor of Women's Guild and Women's Fellowship of today was formed.

July 5, 1888 the Congregation was INCORPORATED under the laws of the Territory of Wyoming, to establish a German Church and school here. Trustees were George Berner, Charles Hegewald, Charles Troederup, John Vorpahl, Charles Lehman, and Charles Schwatke. St. Paul's congregation was meeting in the Presbyterian Church on Fremont between 2nd and 3rd streets.

December, 1889, congregation met, decided to purchase a lot, the building committee was Charles Hegewald, August Trabing, John Vorpahl and Rev. Thomsen.

May, 1890 authorized building of Church not to exceed \$3400 on the lot at 6th and Garfield across the street east from Dr. Finfrock's house. George Berner was contractor.

July 13, 1890, just three days after Wyoming became a state, the CORNERSTONE WAS LAID. The contents were: Lutheran Observer, Evangelist, Hausfreund, Sentinel and Times, minutes of the Synod, Lutheran Catechism, Laramie Daily Boomerang, rules governing the Synod, history of the congregation. It was the first German Church in Wyoming.

December, 1890 the building was ready for occupancy.

January 18, 1891 the church building was DEDICATED with an audience of 150 and six ministers participating. A reed organ had been purchased for \$80. This gave Laramie seven church edifices.

December 24, 1892 Rev. Thomsen's son, Harold, 2 1/2 years old, died of scarlet fever and is buried here.

October 20, 1893 Rev. Thomsen resigns but remains in Laramie "to develop my land and trotting colts. I am not in a hurry to leave Laramie or Wyoming, finding here the most delightful climate the whole year round I have ever breathed. This is saying a good deal as I have experienced the different climates of the world as far as East Indies. By carefully experimenting I have become convinced that the future of Wyoming lies not so much in the development of its many wonderful resources, but in establishment of horse breeding farms. Wyoming can raise stronger and rounder animals of the same size, beauty and gentleness, with less expense than any other country in the world".

July 5, 1894 Rev. Thomsen left Laramie with a gift of money as gratitude for his work. (In the records, his name was misspelled with a P and no record could be found for the 50th Anniversary booklet in 1937).

July, 1894 REV. JULIUS GUMPPENBERG arrived. He had been ordained a priest and became a Lutheran minister. He enjoyed conducting German School at Church on Saturdays and visiting members of

church during the week.

November 1895 he went to Washington as a "tiller of the soil".

June 7, 1896 REV. WALTHER EICKMANN arrived from Wisconsin as a recent graduate of the Seminary. He has the distinction of confirming the largest class in the history of the congregation. The class of 1897 numbered eighteen members. In 1898 he took a leave of absence from the church to make a trip to Europe. Though he intended to return to Laramie, he never did; but on his return to America he accepted a call to a Church in New York.

November 1898 he resigned to stay in New York. Rev. Eickmann was a scholar and by 1937 had earned a Doctor's Degree in Philosophy and Sacred Theology. He published a book called "Pilgrim Paul". In 1947 he visited Laramie and left a copy of his new book "The Evangel" with his host family, William Rices. This book combined the gospels into one narrative. He was living in West New York, New Jersey.

September 1948, Rev. Eickmann died.

1898 - The congregation was without a pastor for over a year and it seemed as if the Church would have to be closed. After several attempts to secure a pastor had failed, the congregation finally secured a pastor.

November 1899, REV. ED. F. PINKERT came from the Evangelical Synod of North America, and stayed until May, 1902. He began to rebuild the congregation. Because the Lutheran Synod had not been able to supply them with a pastor and Rev. Pinkert, who was now serving them, was a member of the Evangelical Synod, the congregation decided to apply for membership in that Synod. The debt of \$500.00 owed the Lutheran Synod was paid. At that time, St. Paul's had a membership of fifty five. He confirmed a class of 11 members in 1902.

In May, 1902 Rev. Pinkert resigned after the death of his wife who was interred in Green Hill Cemetery. His son, O.E. Pinkert came to serve St. Paul's church in 1925.
Rev. Ed Pinkert died in 1934.

OCTOBER 1902 to JAN. 14, 1908 - REV. ADOLPH WALTON arrived in Laramie. After six months without a pastor the interest of the people had lapsed and Rev. Walton had to work hard. By 1903 the church was reincorporated.

May 29, 1904 the church was accepted as a member of the Evangelical Synod and given Mission support for a few years.
Rev. Walton and Otto Schwatke borrowed a wagon and team and canvassed funds from the rancher members.

January 1907 the congregation voted to build a parsonage to cost \$1,800. George Berner was the contractor.
Rev. Walton and Rev. Schmidt of Denver helped organize the Colorado District of the Evangelical Synod. Later it became the Rocky Mountain Conference. A choir was organized and a young people's league flourished. The German School on Saturdays was well attended. An iron fence enclosed the church property.
Rev. Walton was an artist; his paintings of early Laramie are in the Public Library. January 14, 1908 Rev. Walton resigned to

engage in Mission work in Oklahoma.

April 1908 - REV. O.G. WICHMANN came to Laramie as a widower with six teen-age children and occupied the new parsonage. (There was no bathtub or basement). His children all received University educations here.

He served the longest pastorate to date at St. Paul's church; over ten years. It was a difficult era of world War I when the German Church and the German pastor were suspected of spying activities and disloyalty to the nation. Rev. Wichmann did supplement his \$50 a month salary with teaching German classes at the University of Wyoming and Laramie High School.

The church took an active part in the work of the Synod and gave greater support to the missionary activities of the denomination.

His 1918 Confirmation Class members are all alive in 1986: Harold Melcher of Banning, California, since his retirement from Spiegelberg Lumber Co., and George Spiegelberg and Louise Hunziker Messer are active members of St. Paul's church in Laramie.

September 15, 1918 Rev. Wichmann resigned to become pastor at St. Paul's Church in Denver. He remained active in church work in various places and died in Denver in May 1951. His daughter Hildegard has given a Memoir of their family in Laramie.

January 19, 1919 REV. B.H. LEESMAN served for one month and contacted flu and resigned.

March 19, 1919 to April 1920 REV. WILLIAM SCHMIDT of Tioga, Illinois served as pastor and confirmed a class of 10 young people. He left because of altitude problems.

May 1920 REV. O. F. GEISLER, and wife Carola, came to Laramie from Wahpeton, N.D. a year after he graduated from Eden Theological Seminary. Doctors had told him that a higher altitude would help his laryngitis problem. Two sons, Armin and Manfred, were born here. Later they had four daughters.

In 1922 Rev. Geisler proposed a renovation and Spiegelberg Lumber Co. was given the contract for \$6500. Changes were made: the east addition containing the pastor's study and a small room and restrooms in the basement and a garage were built. The stove in the sanctuary was changed to a coal furnace in the basement; a new altar and pulpit and baptismal font; plain colored glass windows were replaced by six art glass windows; new electric lights were installed; woodwork was stained and varnished; and a runner rug for the aisle was bought.

A college student lived in the basement room and was janitor. (Many homes in Laramie in the University area had a basement room for boys to work an hour a day to pay for the room by keeping the coal furnace supplied with coal and removing ashes, shoveling walks or doing lawn work, etc. (They took bi-weekly showers at the University gymnasium). A bathtub had been installed in the kitchen pantry area in the 1920's, in the parsonage.

Rev. Geisler introduced the English language Feb. 15, 1923 at Midweek Lenten Services. Later services were held in English and

German services on alternate Sundays. He confirmed two classes with two-year instruction time.

The seven girls in the class of 1924 formed a HAPPY THOUGHT CIRCLE and earned money, mostly from selling homemade candy, to install the vestibule art glass window, and also the Youth Fellowship Window in 1931.

March 1, 1925 Rev. Geisler resigned to accept a call to St. Paul's Church in Denver. He died in 1970 at Concord, California. His son Manfred has given a memoir of his father.

June 1925 to Sept. 1, 1926 - Rev. Geisler was succeeded by REV. O.E. PINKERT, son of Rev. Ed Pinkert who had served the congregation in 1899. They had four small children. There was much dissension about the language problem. January 15, 1926 they voted to conduct worship services in German and English on alternate Sundays. He started the idea of men in the church shooting cottontail rabbits and serving a dinner cooked by the men for a fee. It later had to stop due to shortages of rabbits.

September 1, 1926 Rev. Pinkert resigned due to health problems. He went to Tecumseh, Nebraska.

January 1927 REV. AUGUST DOELLEFELD became the pastor. He had four teen-age children so the Youth Group was active.

In 1932 the language question was finally settled and the services since then have all been in English.

He studied law at the University of Wyoming so he could help people in his congregation. He served during the early days of the depression and financial troubles of the congregation seemed insurmountable. The congregation applied for and received some help from the Board of National Mission in 1934.

Rev. Doellefeld re-wrote the Church's Constitution into the English language.

Material change during his term was building a full size basement under the parsonage. The men of the church removed the dirt with shovels and wheelbarrows. The ladies would supply food to them. He planted the evergreen trees west of the Church.

Also, it was during Prohibition, so he would make wine out of red beets to use for communion; he also gave it to some of his parishioners who needed it for medications. One older woman had cancer of the stomach and this eased the pain for her.

November 3, 1932 Rev. Doellefeld resigned and moved back to Missouri. His wife died in St. Louis in 1951 after health problems. He died in 1965 at the age of 84.

His children are: Henry in Portland, Oregon, has two sons; Austin (Tex) lives on a ranch in Saratoga, has three sons and a daughter; Eugene lives in St. Louis, has three daughters; and Lydia (Mrs. John Thalken) lives in Wheatland, has a daughter in Casper and son John is on a farm near Wheatland. A grandson, John is a Doctor of Internal Medicine in Wheatland.

For almost a year the church was again without a pastor, but was served by local pastors and lay people.

August 1, 1933 to April, 1942 REV. ROBERT J. YOUNG, recently graduated

from Eden Seminary, came as a single man to become pastor. He soon went to Illinois to bring his bride Eunice here. A daughter, Ronice was born here and Ruth was born in St. Louis later.

The church paid a salary of \$25 per month plus help from Home Mission Board.

In 1934 the Evangelical Synod merged with the German Reformed Church to form the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

He published a very interesting newsletter "The Gleaner" about events and people in the Church. These were bound into several volumes and left to the Church by Louise Wurl Koch.

Interest and attendance at church began to grow.

In 1935 a gas heater was installed in the pastor's study, gas burners replaced the old coal range and a water heater was installed in the kitchen (located in the northeast corner of the basement). New roofs were put on the Church and parsonage. Gas was installed in the parsonage kitchen; the pastor furnished the stove.

In 1937 lighting fixtures were donated as memorials in the sanctuary and 100 Church school hymnals. The congregation celebrated its 50th Anniversary with special services. An Anniversary booklet and complete list of confirmands was printed by Rev. Young, which involved a bit of research! At this time they did not have the list of baptism, etc. from 1886 to 1899 which was compiled by the Daughters of American Colonists in later years and Mrs. John Spieckerman gave a copy to the Church.

Before the Anniversary, the Church had paid off the rest of the debt of \$2,000 from the 1922 renovation of the sanctuary.

In 1938 the congregation tried the weekly envelope system. Formerly they had widow collectors who went to the homes and collected church dues, and were given a small percent for collecting it. The results were so good that they dispensed with that old system.

A major gift was a new Hammond organ donated by Anna Spiegelberg. Also stained glass windows by: Mrs. Wurl (\$225) the Young People's League, the Warnecke Family and the Henry Koch family (\$90 each) were installed by 1940.

In 1940 the congregation undertook an extensive remodeling program for the sum of \$4,000 contracted by Spiegelberg Lumber Co. Almost half the funds had been raised before the work was begun. It included alterations to the basement including a two-plenum furnace at (\$900), a new garage, new sidewalks and construction of the present kitchen. The west cabinets and other storage cabinets were built by William Wahl.

In 1941 the parsonage furnace was changed to gas. The Church allowed \$150 per year gas bill, over that the pastor paid.

Attendance increased, Church school reached 90 pupils, and youth groups were active. Rev. Young was known in the business community as the "popular red-headed young preacher".

On April 12, 1942, after nearly nine years in Laramie, "Boo" Young preached his last sermon, which was an emotional experience for the congregation as well as him. He went to a St. Louis church. He died there, after an illness. His wife, Eunice is still active and enjoys people and Church work, and her two daughter's families. She lives in Florissant, Missouri.

September 1, 1942 to August 10, 1947 REV. ERNST PRESS and wife Nancy came from San Angelo, Texas to begin his ministry. He had come to candidate in May to see lawns covered with snow. He was impressed favorably when the next morning he saw green lawns. Since they came in September from Texas, Nancy decided to walk everyday so she would be acclimated for the winter. Their daughter Priscilla was born here and just before they left, in 1947, Danny joined the family.

By the following Spring, the congregation had paid the last note on the basement remodeling project. The event was celebrated with a note burning party. Each year the congregation asked for less support from the Board of National Missions.

During 1937-1947 a number of articles were added to our sanctuary as memorials to faithful members (donors are listed in the Memorial Record book): Candelabra and supply of candles; bronze altar cross; a missal stand; bronze altar vases (the practice of giving memorial flowers was started); candle lighter and snuffer (junior high people serve as acolytes); a set of linen; a pulpit bible; and a projector and screen.

The Women's Guild bought a complete set of altar paraments in all of the liturgical colors. In 1945 the last stained glass window was installed above the door in the vestibule, in memory of Anna Wahl.

In 1945 the church replaced the old floors in the parsonage with hardwood floors and the Women's Guild provided linoleum for the kitchen and the bathroom.

In 1945 a preaching Mission was held at the church. All during 1946 the emphasis was on EVANGELISM. The result was that a total of fifty-one members were received. The membership of the congregation was 183, but the goal for the 60th Anniversary was to reach 200.

In 1947, THE 60th ANNIVERSARY YEAR the congregation was financially independent. They also undertook a campaign to increase their membership. In preparation for the 60th Anniversary, the exterior trim was painted. The sanctuary wall paper and woodwork was cleaned. The Pastor's study was redecorated.

August 10, 1947 Rev. Press preached his last sermon and left to serve St. Luke's Church in Burlington, Iowa. Later he went to Evansville, Indiana. He also served as President of the Midwest Synod and was on the committee that wrote the STATEMENT OF FAITH when the United Church of Christ was formed in 1957.

He has retired from active ministry and lives in Evansville, Indiana, but keeps involved in serving Churches. He has also sponsored a trip to the Holy Land.

In 1947 to 1948 there was no pastor for eleven months. The parsonage was occupied by the Borgeman family in return for property care. Church services were conducted by local pastors and lay people. Church school continued with lay leaders.

A popular Youth Group with ages 16 through college was sponsored by lay couples. They had suppers and worship and discussions on Sunday nights. On Friday night they had a social activity of games and folk dancing. The Evening Circle bought a ping-pong table (folding for storage). Members decided the Church basement should also be used for youth recreation.

July 1, 1948 to May, 1953 - REV. JOHN E. MCCORMICK and wife Dorothy came from Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

He organized the Church office and care of the Church property. He was an accomplished organist and gave recitals and organized a good choir. He used the more formal reformed ritual in services and had beautiful Easter services.

He helped organize the College Youth Group in cooperation with the Presbyterians. This was the predecessor of the United Campus Ministry.

He edited the "St. Paul's Chimes" newsletters.

In 1952 the Church celebrated its 65th Anniversary and had a good history article in the Laramie Republican Boomerang.

Memorials added to the Church were: altar Book of Worship, Church School altar set, new E & R Hymnals, Church school hymnals, a 21-bell Carillon attached to the organ, a complete speaker system with pew instruments and basement speaker, and two brass floor candlesticks for the front of the altar.

In 1951 the Women's Guild served the largest and most profitable Pancake Supper.

In May 1953, following an illness, Rev. McCormick tendered his resignation and returned to his home in Wisconsin. He died Nov. 6, 1959 in Cleveland, Ohio. His former wife Dorothy Counterman lives in Denver.

July 19, 1953 to Nov. 1956 - REV. ROY ANDERSON, wife Iola, and daughter Carmen came to St. Paul's from Illinois. His predecessor had introduced beautiful music through the choir and the Hammond Organ, and Rev. Anderson developed one of the largest choirs in St. Paul's history. The Church had been wired to broadcast services from local Churches. Easter 1955, the choir of twenty members sang the Cantata "Crucifixion" which was broadcast to Laramie listeners. The choir also participated in several joint church choirs. Stanley Gustafsen, local teacher, was the Director.

In August 1956 the Women's Guild decided to serve meals for families in times of bereavement.

Rev. Anderson performed 15 baptisms, confirmed 14, performed 7 weddings and presided at two funerals. He preferred rural areas and resigned in November 1956 to serve a Church in Idaho. He could not understand why all this land in Wyoming was not under cultivation. They later moved to Missouri and are presently living in Karnes, Texas; both of them are in poor health.

1957 - the church was served by local pastors and lay people until May.

June 1957 to June 30, 1962 - REV. ROBERT KNAPP, wife Dorothy, and small daughter Joy, came to St. Paul's as Interim pastor while he finished Seminary study at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, and commuted weekends. Attendance at church was 49-60. Rev. Knapp was ordained in September 1958 in his home Church, Immanuel, in Chicago.

October 19, 1958 he was installed at St. Paul's by Rev. John Schnackenburg of Riverton. Membership then was 158.

June 25, 1957 St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church became

the United Church of Christ in Cleveland, Ohio. This united two groups who had been merged formerly, The Congregational-Christian merged in 1931 and the Evangelical and German Reformed merged in 1934. This new union had involved much study and many meetings. St. Paul's was represented at the 1954 lay people's meeting at Tiffin, Ohio by William and Emma Rice, and also at one in Houston in 1955.

Confirmation classes were cut to one year from two years, and moved to Pentecost for Confirmation instead of Easter to allow longer instruction time.

Rev. Knapp and Rev. Ralph Wetherall of the local First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) wanted to combine the two local Churches to have a larger congregation. The buildings were only a block apart and the national groups were discussing such mergers. For three years the Churches combined some activities and discussed differences in Communion and Baptisms. But a final vote of the two congregations showed the Christians in favor and St. Paul's opposed. When Rev. Munz came later he said the Churches had tried to have a marriage with too short a courtship.

Church School had 30-50 pupils and staff of eight. Attendance awards had been given and one girl, Leilani Metzler received 14 year award.

Youth groups were active with young couples as sponsors. Improvements included establishing a Capital Improvement Fund; studying insurance; storm windows on basement kitchen; and insulation in attic of office. Four brick planters were built north of the building as memorials.

June 30, 1962 Rev. Knapp resigned to go to El Paso, Texas where daughter Gloria was born. Later they went to Illinois where he is still active, and visits Laramie occasionally.

August 5, 1962 to February, 1967 - REV. CARL SULLENBERGER, retired Navy Chaplain, his wife Rev. Elizabeth and teen children, Clyde and Betsy came to St. Paul's. LeRoy Roman was President. The CONSISTORY consisted of 4 Elders and 5 Deacons - membership of 151, dropped to 110 with removal of inactives.

New office equipment for \$475 was paid by Rev. Sullenberger.

The main question again was if the Church could survive with small membership. The problem was lack of employment in Laramie for University graduates and we were not getting CONGREGATIONALISTS, from the merger. They had been assigned to the local Presbyterian Church years ago. The Conference Superintendent suggested we move out into the "newer" sections of town and build a new building.

In 1963 some youths stole the church safe and burned the record books that were in it. Several years later letters were sent to former members to collect information on baptisms, weddings, etc. Fortunately, the Daughters of American Colonists had made up a list of such records for Laramie Churches and we found one that started in 1886 and ended in 1899. Our Anniversary dates had been used as '87 due to lack of records. A Treasurer's book stored elsewhere contained the list of original members.

In 1963 the Wyoming Association was formed, replacing the SYNOD organization of the E & R. There were 13 Churches with 3300 members: Buffalo, Casper, Douglas, Green River, Laramie, Lusk, Pinedale, Riverton, Rock Springs, Sheridan, Torrington, Wheatland

and Worland. The Association was in the Intermountain Conference with Utah and Idaho with the offices in Salt Lake City.

In 1965 Rev. Bradley Skinner of Bloomfield Colo. was elected Conference Superintendent by a committee of one lay person, Emma Rice and one pastor Rev. Wilbert Hiller, Torrington from the three states. Elizabeth Skinner was also an ordained pastor, so there were two women clergy in the conference.

February, 1967 Rev. Sullenberger retired to Albuquerque, NM and passed away there in December, 1982. Rev. Elizabeth is still active in the American Bible Society there.

Rev. James Bull of Denver was Interim Minister and confirmed two young people.

October 15, 1967 to August 30, 1972 - REV. ARMIN MUNZ and wife Jane, and teenagers: Nancy, John, James, Mary and Priscilla came from Scottsbluff, Nebraska where he had still been preaching some German. He was in the last class to be ordained by the Evangelical Synod of North America in 1939, at Eden Seminary.

A more suitable house was rented at 602 So. 7th for their parsonage. The church parsonage was rented and allowed the pastor \$25 per month, toward his rent. Mrs. Munz was employed at the County library. Choir director and five organists were volunteers. Church school had an enrollment of 35 pupils and 6 staff.

The Evening Circle of Women's Guild paid for redecorating the Sanctuary. The afternoon Guild pays \$600 a year to the budget plus miscellaneous projects, this year refinished basement floor.

The 80th ANNIVERSARY of the Church was celebrated in November by a dinner and honoring older members and confirmands.

In 1968 the kitchen was remodeled, using stainless steel sinks, and tables and two gas ranges were installed. A ceiling furnace was added in the basement hallway.

The pastor listed an Honor Roll in the "Chimes" newsletter for every Sunday attendance of an individual. Highest one showed 31 names in 1970. Congregationalists and students were beginning to come, and people said "they were more warmly welcomed at St. Paul's than anywhere else".

There were 91 at one service with half of them members, 36 regular non-members, and 10 visitors. Finances were still slow; the pastor suggested that they start "MATCHING CHURCH GIVING WITH SPENDING ON RECREATION".

1969 - Harold Melcher was President.

Church School had two classes in the front rooms of the parsonage. A Memorial Fund, given in memory of William Wahl, was used to subsidize parsonage rental to allow more space for church school.

The Hammond Organ was replaced with a used Conn Classic organ from a Salt Lake Church for \$1155. The back stairway was carpeted.

Women's Guild held a sale of antiques from Ed Dettling, a retired sheepherder adopted by St. Paul's. The profits were split on a percentage basis, Guild \$597 and Ed \$417. It took time and work to get ready for this sale, and was a big help to Ed too.

June, 1970 - Spring Brook Apartment contract was signed, with Spiegelberg Lumber Co. as contractors. These apartments were built at 415 So. 26th under a HUD project for low income families, to be

sponsored by non-profit organization, and will become the property of the Church when the mortgage is financially paid out in 2010. Property Trustees are : Ed Jochumsen, Kent Mahlman, Frank Spiegelberg, and Rev. Munz as administrator, on salary.

1971 - Larry Fay was President, William Rice was Wyoming Association Moderator; the Church had 120 members.

St. Paul's and Christians (Disciples of Christ) pastors alternated services for summer vacations. Christians at 9 A.M. and St. Paul's at 11 A.M.

May 28, 1971 - Springbrook Apartments were ready for occupancy. Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Cuthbertson, managers. The Properties Board responsible for its management were members of St. Paul's church: Edward Jochumsen, Larry Fay, Kent Mahlman, LeRoy Roman, Tom Davis. Rev. Munz was Administrator on salary.

1972 - Ronald Wagner was President.

The Wyoming Association meeting was held here February 24. Improvements done in preparation for hosting this meeting by Harold Melcher and volunteer help. Pastor's study was renovated with panelling, shelves, etc., funded by the Evening Circle of Women's Guild. The furnace was enclosed, basement walls painted by Gus Erickson, new fluorescent lighting installed, new window drapes donated by Women's Guild, and the bulletin board was painted. Members provided housing for some delegates.

August 30, 1972. Rev. Munz was sent by the Conference to renew the large Pocatello, Idaho United Church of Christ.

He left part of his last salary to St. Paul's. Trustees decided to put it into a fund to buy new UCC hymnals and provide a recognition for his good work.

Later he moved back to his home area in Illinois and retired in October 1984 to live at Freeport, Illinois where he is still involved in Church work.

From September, 1972 to February, 1973 Saint Paul's was again without a pastor. Committees were formed for operating the Church without a pastor. Local speakers and lay people did a good job of keeping things going.

February 1, 1973 to August, 1975 REV. ROBERT OWEN and wife Christine from Springfield, South Dakota came to St. Paul's. They bought a house at 7th and Fremont St.

Rev. Owen was also Springbrook Apartment administrator with the help of the volunteer Properties Board members of St. Paul's Church. Rev. Owen organized the structure of records involved in government reports, etc. He was on 3/4 time salary with the church since he was on salary as administrator.

May 6 Rev. Owen was installed as pastor of St. Paul's in an impressive and dignified evening service after a dinner served at noon by the Women's Fellowship.

Participating in the service were: Rev. Frank Betzer, Pastor, First Christian Church; Rev. Curtis Barnett, Pastor, Presbyterian Church and President of Laramie Ministerial Association; Rev. Carl Krusi, Pastor, Green River; Rev. Billie Cochran, Pastor, Casper; Rev. Robert Boutwell, Pastor, Lusk; Rev. Verne Robinson, Chairman, Wyoming Association Commission on Church and Ministry, Chaplain,

Veteran's Hospital, Sheridan and Rev. Bradley Skinner, Conference Minister, Intermountain Conference UCC.

Combined choirs of St. Paul's and First Christain churches added much to the occasion.

17/76 ACHIEVEMENT FUND was introduced for the problem of racial justice, and providing more adequate education for minorities. Wyoming Association proposal to reorganize western conferences geographically: Wyoming, Eastern Utah would join with Colorado Conference to form Rocky Mtn. Conference.

Wyoming Ministry to Higher Education ministers to students on college campuses (Wyoming has 7 colleges in 1986). Local committee is formed: Ed Jochumsen is on state Committee and Keith Birks, and Larry Fay alternate, for UCC Churches.

A New Constitution committee was appointed to change the 1961 version: Jim Spiegelberg, Paul Cors, Alice Sander, Ron and Arlette Wagner. January 6, 1974 the new constitution was adopted. The Consistory was replaced by separate Boards of Deacons (also called the Diaconate) and Trustees, and other organizational changes were made.

The parsonage was put into good condition and rented to Charles and Lida Steetle (Lida is a charter member, born in 1890 and still living in 1986). New carpeting was installed, donated by Women's Guild, the Evening Circle bought a washer and dryer.

Chris Owen introduced Guild to having PIE PARTIES for money-raising; the basement was set up "tea room" style for serving, and was successful and different. She had good bazaar ideas too. Church school children were attending first part of Church service with parents; parents and Diaconate taking turns teaching.

LEGAL CHANGE OF NAME: the Church was incorporated under name of "St. Paul's United Church of Christ of Laramie, Inc."

The 1975 INTERMOUNTAIN CONFERENCE meeting at Pocatello was the last one before the Rocky Mountain Conference was organized: the Wyoming Association was cut to only 8 Churches: Casper, Douglas, Green River, Laramie, Lusk, Pinedale, Rock Springs and Wheatland.

1975 - Rev. Allen VanderMeulen, Jr. was Moderator.

THE WYOMING CHURCH COALITION was initiated to attempt to deal with the rapidly growing areas of the State. UCC representatives Ken Biel of Rock Springs and Allen VanderMeulen, Jr. of Laramie. United Campus Minister Dick Putney led a lenten discussion on the high impact areas of Wyoming where the population explosion has made serious problems in human relationships.

The Wyoming Association meeting at Pinedale authorized a committee to explore with United Presbyterians the possibilities of cooperative work within this area.

August 19, 1975 Rev. Owen resigned to go to Mayflower Church in Englewood, Colorado. Rev. Allen VanderMeulen became Interim Pastor. He had been a very active member and Moderator at St. Paul's while he was an Economics Professor at the University of Wyoming. Groups, boards, and officers of the congregation continue to carry out their tasks. MODERATOR duties were taken over by Paul Cors. Willing members do extra tasks without a full-time pastor. It was a busy and stimulating time without a full-time pastor and all were grateful for the help given by Rev. VanderMeulen while we searched

for a new pastor. Rev. Allen VanderMeulen, Jr. was Interim Minister until August, 1976.

The preferred candidate, Mary G. Greene lived in New Jersey, but the question of distance was solved by a member of the committee (William Rice) who visited a son in N.J. and met the candidate for a preliminary interview. The committee had a phone interview and arranged for a personal interview. Fortunately the candidate had served in Craig, Colorado area and was anxious to come back West. They bought a house on Fetterman St. when they were accepted as candidates in May.

August 1, 1976 to July 1981 REV. MARY GRUBBS GREENE became pastor of St. Paul's. In keeping with Laramie's history of WOMAN SUFFRAGE, St. Paul's had the FIRST ORDAINED WOMAN AS A PASTOR in a Laramie Church.

The Church also had a reversal of dual pastors in one family because her husband, Rev. Shirley Greene was retired from the UCC Board of Homeland Missions. He became Administrator of Springbrook Apartments and Rev. Mary was pastor 3/4 time and salary.

In October, Rev. Mary read her excellent INSTALLATION PAPER at Wyoming Association meeting in Green River and was installed into the association at that time, to save travel to Laramie for others later. She was installed at St. Paul's by Rev. George Otto, Conference Minister. "The first year was spent 'getting acquainted', visiting older people and shut-ins and working with those few leaders who were struggling with Church School and Youth".

1977 - Millard Johnson, Moderator. Unfortunately, Rev. Mary received a verdict of cancer, and spent many weeks in surgery and radiation therapy. She carried on with 'True Grit', and had the understanding help of church leaders and the backup of Rev. VanderMeulen for services, but missed very few.

It was a busy year and 30 officers and committee members worked on projects. New hymnals were purchased in honor of the Rev. O.G. Wichmann family and Rev. Armin Munz from funds donated by them. CHURCH SCHOOL enrollment included 19 pre-schoolers who met in the front parsonage rooms and grades 1-8 in the Church basement. The basement was rearranged for Church school and the nursery room redecorated. The organ was moved down from the chancel choir area (the choir had been sitting in the balcony).

IMPROVEMENTS were storm windows installed on the parsonage, the north porch of the parsonage was carpeted.

YOUTH GROUPS had supper meetings, community Youth Rally and joint caroling party.

DIACONATE decided to use both bread and wafers, and also both wine and grape juice for Communion since St. Paul's is a heterogeneous group of worshippers.

A Christmas workshop for 70 persons, infants to grandparents, made a wreath with tracings of members' hands, and other decorations.

THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of St. Paul's was celebrated May 1 with a reunion of Confirmands. The 1977 Confirmands planned the celebration and presented Confirmation Certificates to the former Confirmands.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE was held in Laramie with the United Campus

Ministry acting as co-hosts, most meetings were held at the Presbyterian Church. Women's Fellowship State meeting were guests of St. Paul's Fellowship for luncheon also held at the Presbyterian Church for 100 women. There were 300 in attendance at the entire meeting. Delegates from St. Paul's were Paul Cors, Millard Johnson and William Rice.

Women's groups had made a quilt of blocks representing each Church in the Conference to present to Rev. Bradley and Elizabeth Skinner as a farewell gift for their retirement as Conference Ministers.

ATTENDANCE - monthly average in April 74 and June 24. Had 2 baptisms and 2 weddings.

1978 - Dorothy VanderMeulen was Moderator until she resigned in August when the family moved to Illinois. Ruth Jakubauskas finished the year as Moderator. Mary Greene continues to provide leadership and inspiration for us. Shirley Greene added much to the life and activities of the congregation.

IMPROVEMENTS included new carpeting in the sanctuary, new choir robes, new water lines, and a new furnace in the parsonage (\$1,000) and a new insurance policy to cover the value of the property. The income was short due to the parsonage being vacant awhile.

Bruce Culver chaired the EVERY MEMBER CANVAS, which was successful, with pledges up somewhat.

CHURCH SCHOOL had five teachers.

Three YOUTHS went to Camp Laforet near Colorado Springs. Junior High meets in the parsonage front rooms.

The CHOIR had the youth choir from Cheyenne as guests; was involved in the "Feast of Fools" service with the Unitarian Church; and honored the Senior members of the Church with a service and luncheon.

ALL-CHURCH EVENTS included the Christmas and Easter Workshops, and Christmas caroling, workshops for maintenance, suppers and programs. During Lent, weekly discussions were held in the homes. In the summer, weekly Vesper Services were held on Wednesday nights for those who were away on Sundays.

THE DIACONATE developed an accurate membership roster. They contacted inactive members. The Church by-laws provide that members who have made no financial contributions nor participated in any activity for two years shall be moved to inactive membership.

Rev. Mary was honored by St. Paul's on the 25th Anniversary of her ordination. In March 1953, Mary S. Grubbs was ordained and installed as pastor of the Craig, Colorado Congregational Church.

1979 - Ruth Jakubauskas was Moderator until she moved away in June; Bruce Culver finished the year. Special recognition was given to Mary Louise Wilkinson for faithful service as organist. Membership had a high of 150.

Kelly Patterson chaired the Every Member Canvass, and dinner program. The Building and Grounds Committee cleaned out the parsonage basement of years of accumulations.

DIACONATE scheduled Lenten and summer evening Vesper Services; a day of recognition of Senior members of the Church; adult Sunday School class, new Evening Women's Group, and June Vacation Bible School.

In July there was an All-Church picnic at Bierman home in Centennial, and Community Services at St. Alban's Chapel at Brooklyn Lake. The all-church yard sale raised \$1600.

The balcony was refurbished as a memorial for Mr. and Mrs. Moss. It was

used for primary group for quiet activities during services. Parents took turns as monitors.

YOUTH GROUP went to get Christmas trees for Church and sold some to members.

Memorial Committee formed a Historical Committee to get St. Paul's listed as a National Historic site. It is the oldest Church building in Laramie with the original congregation using it; also the first German Church in Wyoming.

1980 - Bruce Culver, Moderator; Mary Louise Wilkinson organist; Judith Bauer, choir; Catherine Moss, Treas.; Emma Erickson Financial Secretary.

Rev. Mary Greene's report says "what a warm and loving Church we have; one of the special joys has been the increasing number of young families". Twelve new members were added. Total membership stays at 150.

The Church was represented at meetings of Wyoming Association, Rocky Mtn. Conference and Wyoming Church Coalition. The Pastor was active in University Common Ministry and Laramie Ministerial Association.

PROJECTS: parsonage reroofed; sanctuary carpet stretched; table legs replaced; kitchen walls sealed and painted.

STEWARDSHIP campaign was headed by Fred and Wanda Day. The Church had returned to slightly deficit budget, with hope that necessary funds would appear.

CHURCH SCHOOL had a trained coordinator, Janell Black, there was also Vacation Bible School.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Lenten Vesper services; potluck suppers, picnics, weekly Vespers in summer; and yard sale (\$600).

OUTREACH COMMITTEE had a "ride board" for people who needed help, also taped Rev. Mary's sermons for shut-ins.

BOARD AND COMMITTEE meetings were combined into one evening a month, with groups in different areas; contact was made by Rev. Mary between the groups. it was interesting and saved time for Rev. Mary, but it was hard for her to circulate to all groups.

In June, REV. MARY GREENE RECEIVED AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF DIVINITY degree from Eden Theological Seminary. The following citations were read at the presentation: "In 1945 Mary Grubbs received an M.A. degree from Oberlin Graduate School of Theology in Religious Education. She served five years as Associate Minister of the First Congregational Church of Eugene, Oregon. She returned to Oberlin and received her Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1952. Her studies were interrupted to serve as pastor in Craig, Colorado in 1953. After four years in a rapidly expanding parish, she returned to Oberlin and completed her S.T.M. degree work in Old Testament."

She said "I had always known I would have been a minister, if I had been a MALE instead of a FEMALE. I set my goal for ordination and parish ministry in spite of all the obstacles". Now she had training and experience, but there were no openings for a woman except in Christian education or youth work. So she initiated the TRAVELING PARSONAGE ministry to two isolated Colorado parishes near Creede.

Later she served as Minister of Education of First Congregational Church in Montclair, New Jersey and was married to Rev. Dr. Shirley Greene. They returned to Rocky Mtn. Conference where Rev. Mary became pastor of St. Paul's UCC in Laramie. The congregation presented her with a new pulpit robe in appreciation of her leadership.

The ceremony was closed with this remark by Professor Lionel Whiston, Jr.: "We honor the Reverend Mrs. Greene today because of the fortitude and determination she has exhibited in her long pilgrimage to achieve schooling and professional training and skills. We honor her for forging new patterns for the shape of women's ministry to person, whether in the most remote or more densely populated areas. We honor her as a role model of what ministry can be for a woman and what ministry needs to be for all persons, regardless of their sex. "Moreover, we honor the Reverend Mrs. Greene as a reminder to Eden Theological Seminary that these are new days in a new age and that Eden has a responsibility to be sensitive to the presence of women in training for the ministries of the UCC."

1981 - Rev. Mary Greene resigned June 1; Rev. John Steinberg became Interim Minister. He commuted from Cheyenne where he was employed in the Wyoming Department of Public Assistance and Social Services. Bruce Culver was Moderator; Emma Erickson, Financial Secretary; Catherine Moss Svenson, Treasurer. DIACONATE - Cheryl Culver was chairperson. They added a sixth person because of extra responsibilities. CHOIR - Mary Greene gave the choir crosses hand-carved from Myrtle Wood. The choir sang at the Palm Sunday service at the Presbyterian Church. CHURCH SCHOOL was carried on with Barbara Jensen, Alice Sander and Cathy Walters. Nursery and balcony services were discontinued. OUTREACH COMMITTEE continued tape recordings for shut-ins, did mission offerings, UCM lunches, Bread for the World, Christian Anti-poverty. PROJECTS: entire building was rewired by volunteers, panelling and painting of the Fellowship Hall, new carpet installed, organ and pianos tuned. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP served an Anniversary cake at the annual meeting for the 90th celebration of the church building dedication in 1891. PROPERTIES ADMINISTRATOR changed from Rev. Shirley Greene to Gail Mattheus. Rev. Shirley Greene was named CHURCH PERSON OF THE YEAR at the Rocky Mtn. Conference meeting in Provo, Utah. In Laramie he had served as Executive Secretary of the Wyoming Church Coalition and the chair of the Mission Council, and member of the Board of Directors of the Rocky Mountain Conference. Revs. Mary and Shirley Greene moved to Santa Fe, NM in August, where they are active in the UCC there; they spend summers in their Colorado cabin near Creede.

DIACONATE worked through some complicated and often touchy issues: Communion, is open to anyone who is baptized into the Christian faith. It is the standard practice of St. Paul's UCC that participation of children be by the decision of the parents, PROVIDED that the parents sincerely undertake to instruct their children in the meaning of the Sacrament. Parents are urged to have their children wait until the age of Confirmation.

CHURCH SCHOOL Support Group was started. Some goals of the church school were: To learn : what it means to BELONG to the church; what we celebrate together as CHILDREN OF GOD; how we all WORK TOGETHER in the church.

Highlights of 1982 included Promotion Sunday when certificates were

given to 14 students and Bibles given to 4th graders and others who had not received one.

Approximately 12 pupils attended Vacation Church School with the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches. The Halloween party was an enthusiastic affair, in an attempt to provide a safe and joyful holiday. The Christmas Program closed the year.

CHOIR made red and white stoles to match altar paraments.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP provided food for funeral families, lunch for Campus Ministry, catered wedding receptions, furnished cookies to shut-ins and Bible School, bought four tableclothes and provided First Aid Kit in the kitchen. Worked with Church Women United and attended picnic in Fort Collins for area Fellowships.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE promoted both local and wider missions.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE submitted the application for National Register of Historic Places; it was approved in Wyoming and sent to Washington D.C. for national approval.

January 17, 1982 Rev. Dr. Sally Lentz Palmer came from Springfield MO to be pastor with her husband Mike and children Shawn and Kristy; they moved into the parsonage, which had been refurbished by volunteers. Mike soon was recruited as child care person, and often emergency "fix-it" man, as well as a patient husband and father.

Judy Denison was Moderator, Mary Louise Wilkinson, organist; Judy Bauer-Linder was choir director until her move to Cincinnati in July. Richard Cohen was hired in the Fall. Chris Jensen was Treasurer; Heidi Schutterle, Financial Secretary; Alice Sander, Clerk.

Cathy Walters was recommended and accepted by the Conference as a "Student in Care" intending to study for the ministry. This was a "First" for Saint Paul's.

Major projects voted at the annual meeting included protection for the stained glass windows, a ramp for handicapped access, and sponsorship of a refugee. Red altar paraments were bought.

March 28, the Rev. Dr. Sally Lentz Palmer was installed in a glorious ceremony as pastor of St. Paul's United Church of Christ. The Rev. Dr. Clyde Miller, Conference Minister, delivered the sermon. Others participating were Rev. Ben Smith of Green River, Rev. Joan Moss of Pinedale, Rev. Robert Nuhn of Douglas and Chaplain Robert Tripp of Warren Airforce Base. Clergy and lay leaders of other congregations in the region also attended. Rev. Palmer attended seminary at Iliff School of Theology in Denver. She received the B.A. degree from Colorado College, and M.A. and PhD degrees in English from Rutgers University in New Jersey. She has been an English Professor, and has written a book entitled "The Gift of Life."

She served the community with the Laramie Ministerial Association as secretary-treasurer, and volunteer chaplain at Ivinson Hospital; and attended functions of the University Common Ministry. She also gave the invocation at the UW graduation exercises, and prepared worship services for the annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference in Casper.

1983 - Judy Denison, Moderator; Alice Sander, Clerk; Anne Maria Kaisler, Treasurer; Heidi Schutterle, Financial Secretary; Mary Louise Wilkinson and James Forrester, organists.

The Outreach Committee supported six national missions, including Bread for the World, and six local projects for foodstuff and clothing.

The Church and United Campus Ministry hosted the Wyoming Association meeting, Rev. Sally was appointed to the UCC Board for Homeland Ministries.

The old coal room was converted into a record storage room by Spiegelbergs. Finally, St. Paul's Church building was designated as a National Historic Site.

The basement restroom area and the kitchen walls were water-proofed, panelled and painted as a memorial for William Rice. Curtains were donated by Donnabelle Hollon; basement curtains by Evening Women's Group.

Church School was conducted as an intergenerational group, ages 7 to 77.

1984 - Marcia Hayter was Moderator, other officers the same except Financial Secretary was combined with Treasurer job. Rev. Sally was Moderator of Wyoming Association and President of Laramie Ministerial Association and participated in community panel discussions. A Pastor-Parish committee was formed to serve as a sounding board for Congregational concerns, also did an evaluation of our pastor to have a better understanding of her duties and the obligations of the congregation.

Lenten discussions were held following potluck suppers. Get-acquainted discussions were held with the First Christian (Disciples) people in connection with the national study for possible merger of these groups. But we found quite a difference in interpretations of baptism and communion beliefs. There was also Maundy Thursday evening service at their Church. A negative vote was sent to the Synod meeting for continuing merger plans.

The Outreach Committee added cooperation with the Church Women United in serving noon meals at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen. Emma Erickson was chairman and our group served for a week at three month intervals. May 23, the Polish refugees arrived in Laramie. They soon found jobs and were able to live in the house of a professor gone on sabbatical. In July, 1985 they went on to Denver to be with friends and find better jobs. An article "Lending a Hand in Laramie" appeared nationally on the Sunday bulletins July 21, 1985. Judy Denison has been co-ordinator. People in the community rented our beautiful church for weddings. Projects included painting of the parsonage outside and repair of the back porch. Ruth Metzler gave altar linen memorial for William Metzler, Jr.

1985 - Fred Day, Moderator; Marcia Hayter, Clerk; Anne Maria Kaisler, Treasurer and Financial Secretary.

The results of the survey done by the Pastor-Parish committee were studied to try to apply it for improving St. Paul's church ministry by being willing to:

participate spiritually, personally, and financially in the total life of the church, put aside our small differences, support those carrying the burden of the church for us, examine our own actions to see if they meet the criteria of being a Christian dream and think "big" to do those things and establish programs to assure a rightful St. Paul's place in the Christian community, to be full time Christians.

INVITE OTHERS TO EMBARK ON THE JOURNEY OF FAITH.

Historical committee is getting records written into a new 100-year record book, by Ruth Metzler. Information on the history of the church

is being compiled into an anniversary booklet by Emma Wahl Rice; Paul Cors to be the Editor, Emma Jo Spiegelberg's assistant, Kathy Burns is assisting with the computer printing.

Outreach Committee sponsored a presentation on "Theology and Peace: by Rev. Jay Litner, from the National Office of Church and Society from UCC. Thirty people from Wyoming and Colorado attended. Also another refugee may be sponsored with Judy Denison as coordinator. Church School was reorganized by Cathy Walters with volunteers teaching a month. A children's choir was started and children above kindergarten age were to go to church and have busy work that related to the worship service.

Joe Spiegelberg donated a dehumidifier for the historical records room. Later a ventilated door was added to avoid excess humidity; to properly preserve all church records.

1986 -- THE YEAR OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGREGATION!!!
Fred Day, Moderator; Marcia Hayter, Clerk; Anne Maria Kaisler, Treasurer and Financial Secretary; Mary Louise Wilkinson, organist; Ben Arthur, Choir Director; Terry Reid, Adriana LaCorte, 'Kids Choir'.
Church School Coordinator, Terry Reid, replaced Cathy Walters.

TRUSTEES: Velyn Union, Chairman; Margaret Borgeman, David Grumbles, Steven Spiegelberg, Dirk Trowbridge.

DIACONATE: Paul Cors, Chairman; Birgit Burke, Barbara Jensen, Terry Reid, Eleanor Spaulding Workman.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: Rev. Sally Palmer, Norma Jochumsen, Treasurer; Una Skiles, Secretary; Robna Pregal, President/ Louise (Hunziker) Messer; Emma Erickson; Margaret Borgeman; Mary (Popp) Wilkinson; Anne (Bath) Kaisler; Ruth Metzler, Emma (Wahl) Rice; Alice Sander, Vice Pres; Norma Guenther; Sharee Larsen, Barbara Jensen; Laura Schaffner; Carol Fowler; Ellen Spiegelberg.

SPRINGBROOK PROPERTY BOARD: George F. Spiegelberg, Chairman '88; John Schutterle '88; Edward Jochumsen, Sec. Treasurer '87; Christine Pasley '87; Jean Ray '86; Millard Johnson '86; LeRoy Roman, honorary; Billie Jean Spiegelberg, Administrator (part-time); Mary Louise Wilkinson, Administrative Secretary (part-time); Rev. Sally Palmer, ex officio; Full time resident managers.

CELEBRATION DATES FOR OUR 100 YEARS

- January 18, dedication of the Church building 1891
- March 30, first wedding: Wilhelm Bachman and Johanna Radichal 1887
- April 2 second wedding: August Melcher and Augusta Niethel 1887
- May 2, 1886 forming of congregation and election of officers
- May 1888 Frauen Verein (Ladies Aid) organized; name changed to Women's Guild in E & R and to Women's Fellowship in UCC.
- May 22, 1887 first Confirmation: LANGHOFF, Louise; RINGERT, Clara, Katherine, Fred; LEHMANN, Paul; NIETHE, Karl William; VORPAHL, Gus
- June 28-29, 1986 Reunion of Confirmands, and William Wurl Family. Birthday of St. Paul.
28--Openhouse at St. Paul's Church, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Memorabilia on display. Wurl family at Alice Stevens Center.
Banquet for all members and friends 6 p.m. Methodist Church honoring Confirmands.
29--Worship Service. Rev. Richard T. Day, Chaplain USN (grandson of Rev. Wichmann, Pastor 1908-1918) Guest Speaker.
Buffet Brunch and fellowship in afternoon.
- July 5, 1888 Congregation was Incorporated under the laws of the Territory of Wyoming to establish a first German Church and School.
- July 13, 1890 Laying of the Cornerstone. Worship Service followed by annual picnic.
- November 21, 1886 -- Rev. Johann Frank became first Pastor
- December 3, 1886 -- first baby baptized
- December 25, 1886 -- eight babies baptized

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN OUR ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY CLUB to allow us to do some needed projects for the future of our church.

We will also sell 4" x 9" postcards of our four picture windows, and stationery with etchings of the altar and church building.

A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. A room over the kitchen for small group meetings and office..... | \$18,000 |
| 2. Furnaces--separate for basement and upstairs heating..... | 5,500 |
| 3. Three-stop lift for handicapped at south rear of building..... | 13,000 |
| 4. Restroom remodeling (for handicapped)..... | 2,600 |
| 5. Sound system (the system from 1951 is defunct)..... | 600 |
| 6. Vestibule refurbishing..... | 1,000 |
| 7. Plumbing for restrooms (one in upper room)..... | 4,000 |

Our ancestors paid off \$4,000 in five years with \$600 per year per family income or 6.6 years of income.

Our projects total approximately \$45,000, with \$22,000 per year average income in 1986, or 2 years' wages, for one-income families.

We praise and thank our Lord for the Blessed 100 years of St. Paul's Church past, and ask for continued Blessings and Guidance for the next 100 years.

St. Paul's Historical Committee:

Paul Cors
Anne Maria Kaisler
Ruth Metzler
Emma Wahl Rice

50 Year Celebration
1937

The Golden Jubilee celebrated August 15, 1937 - Rev. Robert Young -
Attending:

Rev. O.G. Wichmann, Pastor 1908-1918
Rev. E.J. Westerbach, Columbia, Illinois
Rev. H.R. Gebhardt, Denver, Colorado

Dinner:

Served by Ladies of the Congregation

Evening:

Pictures shown of Confirmands

A complete history and pictures of pastors, congregation, Sunday school, Women's Guild was published in a 50 year booklet - St. Paul's was still rated as a mission Church, hoping to become self-sustaining.

Church Trustees: William Heineman, President; Emil Hoefs, Treasurer; William Wahl, Secretary; Mads Justesen, Ernest Weber, Herman Luben

Sunday School - 60 pupils enrolled; 48 average attendance. Teachers: Mrs. William Heineman, Nursery - beginners; Mrs. Elvira Wahl, Miss Dorothy Justesen, Primary; Mrs. Eunice Young, Juniors; Rev. Young, Intermediates; Miss Mary Margaret Shepherd, Secretary-Treasurer

60th Anniversary - 1887-1947
Rev. Ernst Press

St. Paul's Church celebrated it's 60th Anniversary, Rev. Robert J. Young, was guest speaker. Banquet was held in Church Parlors with Bishop Roy A. Walker representing the Ministerial Association as speaker. June 1, 1947

An Anniversary booklet, containing pictures of all organizations and a history of the Church was printed and sold for \$1.00. Anniversary Committee: William Rice, Mrs. Louise Koch, Mrs. Dixie Melcher, Miss Shirley Schumacher, Rev. Ernst Press

Church Council - William Rice, President; William Metzler, Jr. Secretary; Emil Hoefs, Treasurer; Francis Weick, Financial Secretary; Fred Koch, Fred Wurl.

Women's Guild - Mrs. Ida Hoefs, President; Mrs. Marguerite Patterson, Vice-President; Mrs. Margaret Smith, Secretary; Mrs. Emma Rice, Treasurer.

Boy's and Girl's Guild - Beverly Phillips, President; Bernard Justesen, Vice-President; Martha Spiegelberg, Secretary-Treasurer; Ralph Hones, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Frank Spiegelberg, Counselor

Youth Fellowship (E & R University students) Paul Weierbach, President; Shirley Schumacher, Secretary; Rev. & Mrs. Press, counselors.

Sunday School - 75 pupils and eight classes. Teachers: Mrs. Henrietta (George) McCormick, Nursery; Mrs. Dixie Melcher, beginners; Bertha Phillips and Mrs. Eleanor Metzler Boyd, primary; Mrs. Doris Metzler and Mrs. Robna Pregal, Juniors; Mrs. Ellen Spiegelberg, intermediate; Mrs. Emma Wahl Rice, Senior class; Orva Mae Hoefs,

Secretary; Rev. Ernst Press, Supt; Mrs. Dixie Melcher, children's supt; Bertha Phillyes, Treasurer.

65th Anniversary - February 18, 1951

Rev. John McCormick

Rev. McCormick came to Laramie in 1948, a graduate of Mission House College and Seminary of Plymouth, Wisconsin.

Membership in St. Paul's is now recorded at 200 - \$4200 in property improvement and new equipment have been installed.

Consistory members: Emil Hoefs, President; William Metzler, Senior Vice-President; William Rice, Treasurer; LeRoy Roman, Secretary; George Spiegelberg and William Metzler, Jr.

Women's Guild - Mrs. Hans Vogt is President.

Youth Fellowship meets twice a month on Fridays. Junior and Senior High age.

United Student Fellowship is an organization for University students of the Evangelical and Reformed and Congregational Christian Churches. It was the first group to unite in the forth-coming merger of the E & R Congregational Christian denominations - the group meets Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

Church School meets Sundays at 9:45 a.m. with classes for all ages; Mrs. Harold Melcher - children's division superintendent.

Church staff consists of: Mrs. M.P. Popp, office secretary; Margaret Hesemann, youth advisor, and Mrs. Joyce Reasch, organist and choir director.

75th Anniversary - January 12, 1962

Rev. Robert Knapp

St. Paul's United Church of Christ observed it's 75th Anniversary of its founding with a special worship service, dinner and program Sunday.

Guest speaker at the 11 o'clock service was the Rev. Arthur Achtemeir of Scottsbluff, Nebraska with pastor Robert Knapp, and Campus pastor Clay Stalnaker who served as liturgists. The dinner followed immediately after worship with 125 to 150 guests anticipated. LeRoy Roman was chairman of the Anniversary Committee who arranged the celebration.

During the informal afternoon program which was part of Sunday's Anniversary observance, a number of old photographs of early Laramie residents and Church were shown through projection.

80th Anniversary - November 26, 1967

St. Paul's United Church of Christ celebrated the 80th Anniversary of the formation of a congregation in Laramie, with a carry-in dinner and interesting program.

Messages and letters from past pastors were received from; Dorothea and Hildegard Wichmann in Portland, Oregon whose father was pastor from

1908-1918 and also taught German at the University; Mrs. Lydia Doellefeld Thalcken from Casper sent greeting for her father's pastorate from 1926-33; Mrs. Eunice Young, widow of Rev. Robert Young of Bensenville, Illinois; Rev. Ernst Press of Evansville, Indiana; Rev. Robert Knapp and family of Gridley, Illinois and Rev. and Mrs. Carl Sullenberger of Albuquerque, N.M.

The current pastor, Rev. Armin C. Munz, who was installed October 15, led the program honoring some of the present members of the church: the oldest member of the congregation was William Wahl, 87, who has been very active in the church since his arrival in Laramie in 1906.

The confirmation class of 1897 was represented by Mrs. Anna Piper McLain, others from this class who are living here but were unable to attend were Fred Wurl, Antonio Spiegelberg Cornelius, Mrs. Emma Erne Hunt.

Members of the confirmation class of 1900 were: Mrs. Louise Wurl Koch who was also honored as the most active member all her life, and John Spieckerman and Mrs. Lucie Schwatke Helms.

The William Metzler and Frank Spiegelberg family are represented by 5 generations in the church at present.

The newest member of the church was Mrs. Joseph Feltner. Most recent confirmands were Penny Crawford and James Erickson.

Three members of the Church Board of Trustees at the 50th Anniversary of the church were also present: William Heineman, Mads Justesen and William Wahl.

Past Presidents of the Church attending the celebration were: William Wahl, William Heineman, LeRoy Roman, Ed Jochumsen and William P. Rice, who is also the incumbent President.

Out of town visitors included: Mr. and Mrs. William Heineman from Ft. Collins, Miss Catherine Moss of Denver and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wahl of Porterville, California.

90th Anniversary - Sunday August 21, 1977
Rev. Mary Grubbs Greene

May 1, 1977, St. Paul's UCC celebrated the Church's 90th Anniversary with an all day remembrance planned by the 1977 confirmands.

Confirmation and communion service were held at 11 a.m., followed by a carry-in dinner in Fellowship Hall with an afternoon visiting, remembering and picture taking.

The Church's membership numbered 115 active members - Rev. Mary Grubbs Greene is the 21st minister of the church and first ordained woman minister to serve a Church in Laramie.

St. Paul's confirmands from earlier days who attended the celebration were Julia Henke Smith, confirmed in 1906, Wheatland, Anna Piper McLean, 1897, Laramie, Minnie Winters Moss, 1907, Laramie, William Metzler Sr. 1907, Laramie, Louise Hunziker Messer 1918, Laramie, George Spiegelberg 1918, Laramie, and Richard George, confirmed in 1939, who made the longest trip from his home in Bremerton, Washington.



1967 80th ANNIVERSARY

Anna Piper-McClain, John Spieckermann, William Wahl, Louise Wurl-Koch



1977 90th ANNIVERSARY

Richard George Louise Julia Minnie
George Spiegelberg Messer Smith Moss
Anna McClean



SPRINGBROOK PROPERTY BOARD MEMBERS
Since April 1, 1970

George F. Spiegelberg
Ed Jochumsen
LeRoy Roman
Kent Mahlman
Tom Davis
William Rice (deceased)
David Spiegelberg (deceased)
Gus Erickson

Millard Johnson
Gail Matthews
Jeannie Ray
Billie Spiegelberg
Larry Fay
John Schutterle
Chris Pasley
Chris Jensen

St. Paul's U.C.C. Properties, Inc.

The Board of Directors of St. Paul's U.C.C. Properties, Inc., a nonprofit corporation as filed with the Secretary of State, is responsible for the operation of Springbrook Apartments, 405-415 South 26th Street, Laramie. This 36-unit apartment complex was built in 1970-71, sponsored by St. Paul's United Church of Christ and financed under Section 236 of the National Housing Act. Mortgage money at one percent interest from the Federal National Mortgage Association makes it possible for us to provide housing for lower middle-income families.

Responsibility for general supervision and policy-making, as dictated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is vested in the Board of Directors which consists of six members of St. Paul's church plus the pastor, ex officio. Members are elected to the Board for three-year terms by the congregation.

The following staff are employed by the Board of directors in 1986:
Billie Spiegelberg, Administrator (part-time)
Mary Louise Wilkinson, administrative Secretary (part-time)
Dave and Judy Kite, Resident Managers (full-time)

The complex has again been 100% occupied this year with approximately 25 people on the waiting list. Our tenant population

breaks down as follows:

Two-parent families	17
Single-parent families	8
Over age 62	10
Resident Manager	1

Our rent scale is controlled by HUD. Tenants are required to pay 30% of their (adjusted) monthly income, or a fixed minimum, whichever is greater. The majority of our tenants pay the minimum. Since this is a nonprofit corporation, any rent collected above the minimum rate is remitted to the HUD office. The present scale, established July 1, 1984, sets maximum and minimum as follows:

two bedrooms - minimum \$226	maximum \$306
one bedroom - minimum \$186	maximum \$250

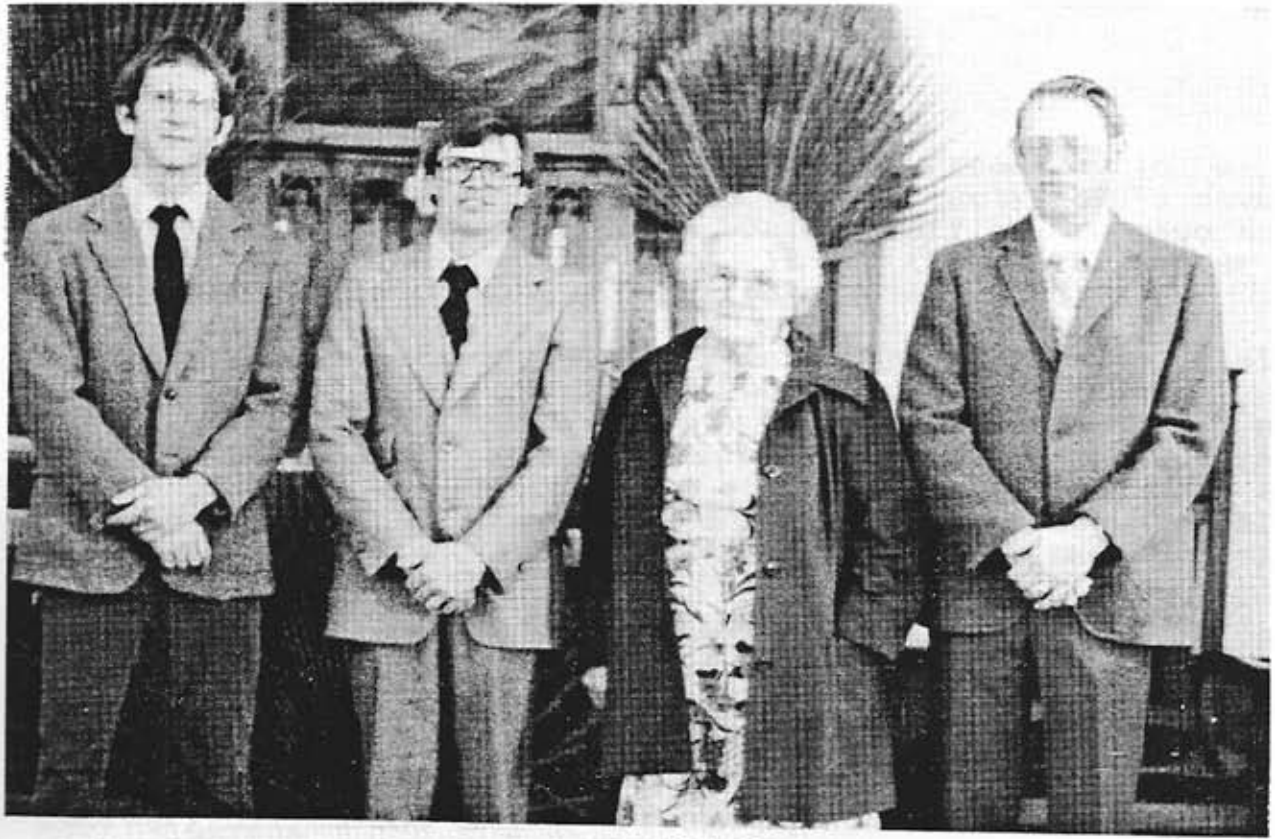
Board of Directors

George F. Spiegelberg, CH. '88
Edward Jochumsen, Sec/treas 87
Jean Ray 86
Sally Palmer, ex officio

John Schutterle '88
Chris Pasley 87
Millard Johnson 86
LeRoy Roman, honorary



SPRINGBROOK PROPERTY BOARD 1986
LeRoy Roman Christine Pasley Edward Jochumsen
Millard Johnson George Spiegelberg,CH, Jean Ray



TRUSTEES 1986

David Grumbles, Dirk Trowbridge, Margaret Borgeman, Steve Spiegelberg,
Vervn Urion.Chairman (moved to Hawaii)



DIACONATE 1986

Paul Cors,CH, Brigit Burke, Barbara Jensen, Eleanor Spaulding Workman
Terry Reid (not in picture)

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Frauen Verein (Ladies Aid Society) was organized in May 1888 during Rev. C. Thomsen's pastorate. In the early 1890's several money-making projects-bake sales, fairs, raffles, rummage sales were held at the Maennerchor Hall. It was the social center and dance hall of the community, located at 311 S. 3rd St.

This was when the famous German Potato Pancake suppers originated. The women hand-peeled and grated 200 pounds of potatoes. People were served (from 5-7 p.m.) two cooked wieners, and pancakes and applesauce were served family style. These suppers continued until 1960's when more of the younger women were employed outside the home. They limited their projects to bake sales and the annual Bazaar and luncheon besides their cash donations at meetings.

First officers in January 1900 were: Mrs. Augusta Melcher, Pres. Mrs. Anna Murbe, Secy., Mrs. Margaret Koch, Treas. During the first 35 years of its existence, the Society contributed more than \$10,000 toward benevolences and the work of St. Paul's. The Good Samaritan window was given by Frauen Verein in 1922.

February 3, 1925 the German-written minutes and meetings were stopped.

The Society name was changed with the merger of the Evangelical and Reformed Churches in 1934 to Women's Guild nationally.

June 25, 1957 when St. Paul's E and R Church became United Church of Christ, due to a merger with the C-C merger, the name was again changed to Women's Fellowship.

The Fellowship is involved in Church Women United, Wyoming Fellowship, Laramie Soup Kitchen at the Salvation Army, luncheons for United Campus Ministry, serve meals for funeral, visit and remember holidays for shut-ins, as well as paying regularly to the church budget.

An Evening Group was organized by the younger employed women. They helped on projects for the church by serving a luncheon at the Bazaars.

WILLING WORKERS-- LOYAL WORKERS

In 1922 an evening groups was formed and they met evenings to accomodate young mothers and employed women. They had money-making projects and bought the "Knocking at the Door" window for \$175, and did many other church projects.

Their first officers were: Mrs. Bertha Schwab, Hattie Justesen and Anna Spieckermann.



1906 FRAUEN VEREIN

Svenson; August Iurl; Goetz; Weiser; J.A. Fischer; Haberland; Matthes
Roesler; Erdmann; Gobelmann; Iulton; Mielenz; Otto Schwatke
Charles Schwatke; Fred Koppe; Charles Koppe; Iwarnecke; Grandma Schwatke; Rev. Iulton
Troederup; Lorenzo Mjles



1937 (50th anniversary) WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Ethel Spiegelberg; Alice Warnecke-Shepherd; Fannie Ulurl-Heineman
 Lydia Doellefeld-Thalke; Eunice Young; Hattie Spieckerman-Justesen; Ida Hoefs;
 Mrs. Gus Vorpahl; Mrs. Otto Folster; Mae Warnecke; Lydia Maser
 Rev. Young; Mrs. H. Luben; Mrs. E. Luben-Wieber; Katherine Trautewig; Louisa Ulurl;
 Mrs. Phil Bath; Margaret Warnecke (1906 too) Mamie Melcher-Salter; Margaret Koch;
 Mrs. Spieckerman; Minnie Pilger-Wieck; Louise Ulurl Koch; Anna Wahl; Marie Gatzmeyer;
 Elvira Wahl; Grandma Stabach.

1986 (100th anniversary) WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Louise Hurziker-Messer; Rev. Sally Palmer; Emma Erickson; Margaret Borgeman; Mary L. Popp-Wilkinson; Anne M. (Bath) Kaisler; Ruth Metzler; Emma Wahl-Rice; Alice Sander(V.P

Norma Jochumsen, Treas.; Una Skiles, Secy.; Robna Pregal, Pres.

Not in picture: Ellen Spiegelberg, Norma Guenther, Sharee Larsen, Barbara Jensen, Laura Schaffner, Carol Sue Fowler, Donabelle Hollon.

YOUTH OF THE CHURCH

Active organizations for the youth of St. Paul's was begun under Rev. O.F. Geisler's pastorate. His wife with confirmed girls as a nucleus organized a Happy Thought Circle in 1922. The group made and sold candy to pay for an art glass window. It is the window in the vestibule dated 1924. There are still 6 of these members living at this writing. The group continued until in College. In the 1930's a group was called "Young People's League." An art glass window on the west side of the Sanctuary was installed in 1931 by the group after doing many money-making affairs to pay for it.

In the summer of 1942, a Girl's Guild was organized by the Women's Guild. In 1943, the organization was expanded to include the boys and took the name "The Boy's and Girl's Guild." They met 2 times a month, on a second Friday evening for a devotional meeting and some other time during the month for recreational meeting.

The fall of 1946, an organization of E and R University students came into being at St. Paul's and took the name "Youth Fellowship". It also included young people from the congregation, who were working, but who were of college age. They met every Sunday evening and Rev. and Mrs. Ernst Press were counselors of this first group. This group continued for a number of years and had married couples as their sponsors. Through the years, they enjoyed a supper prepared by the Youth, a devotion and business meeting with some recreation. Some of the members were active in the choir, and participated in other activities of the Church. They went Christmas caroling to shut-ins and met back at Church for refreshments.

The Boy's and Girl's Guild continued to be active in the Church through the years with their sponsors. They decorated the big Christmas tree in the Sanctuary and enjoyed caroling at Christmas time. The Guild met with other groups from other churches and also had the groups as their guests at St. Paul's.

United Student Fellowship was organized in 1949 by Rev. John McCormick. It was a combination of E & R and Congregational Christian university student groups as a beginning of the national merger to form the United Church of Christ in 1957.

United Campus Ministry is now a group of students financed by UCC, Disciples of Christ, United Presbyterian, American Baptist, Lutheran (LCA) and United Methodist Churches in Wyoming, Montana and Colorado with offices at 1115 Grand Ave.



1892 CONFIRMATION CLASS--Rev. Christian Thomsen
 Anna Erne, Bertha Erne, Leonore Ott, Charlotte Nieche, Augusta Schirmer, Mary Borgeman, Frank Isuri.
 Louise Berner Rev. Thomsen Pauline Nicolas
 Willie Nagel Charles Erne

CHOIR AND ORGANISTS

The first choir of importance was the famous community German Maennerchor. They sang three songs at the dedicatory service of St. Paul's, January 18, 1891 and collected \$62.00 a special offering. A new Reed organ arrived in time for this service, cost \$80.00. Nothing has been found on choirs, till during Rev. Adolph Waltons pastorate, a good choir was organized. During Rev. O.G. Wichmann pastorate, the famous German Maennerchor made many appearances at the services. In 1938 St. Paul's received a Hammond organ as a gift from Anna Spiegelberg. During the pastorate of Rev. Robert Young there was a youth choir, as well as adult.

In November, 1948, a 21 Bell Carillon set and Mass Organ Chimes were added to the church by Anna Spiegelberg in memory of the Noah family.

During Rev. Roy Anderson's pastorate in the late 1950's there was a 20 member choir, the largest choir ever. The voices added to the services of the Church on Sunday and was broadcast on the local radio.

May 1910, an organ was installed replacing the old one, bought by organ funds in memory of Anna and August Roeseler.

Space does not permit to list all the choir directors or organists, there have been many good ones, who have donated their time and efforts to make the music for the Church special. We must not leave out the voices of the choir, who have rendered beautiful anthems for Sunday services.

As the 100 years close, there is a "Kid's Choir", under direction of Terry Reid and Adriana LaCorte. The Adult Choir is under the direction of Ben Arthur, with Mary Louise Wilkinson as our Organist.



1986 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Adriana LaCorte; Stephanie Arthur; Terry Reid; Rev. Sally Palmer



CHOIR 1986

Judy Dennison, Dave Poulson, Ben Arthur, director, Dirk Trowbridge
 Karen Urbom, Virginia Arthur, Christine Pasley, Derek Pasley
 not in picture Terry Reid, Adriana LaCorte



KIDS CHOIR 1986

Shawn Palmer Derek Pasley
 Kristy Palmer, Sarah Collins, Barbara Jensen, Caroline Pasley
 Directors: Terry Reid, Adriana LaCorte

46

commitments in Dad's ministry.

Our Dad served the church during World War I when they were burning books and frowning on everything that was German. It was at that time that the congregation decided to change from German to English. Dad stopped preaching in German at that time. The transition from German to English went smoothly. I can't remember that there were any problems. It was a little bit hard on some of the older members of the congregation because the Bible passages were familiar to them in German and strange in English. For the young people and children it was a very good thing, I think. They spoke German at home but English at school and everywhere else. They felt more at home with English.

I believe Dad has the distinction of serving

this congregation longer than any other pastor

from, April or May 1908 to Sept 1918. These dates

may not be critically accurate, H. W.

June 15, 1986

Mrs. Emma Rice
Mrs. Anna Marie Kaisler
1404 La Prele St.
Laramie, WY 82070

Dear Anna Marie and Emma,

The members of the Geisler family are happy to rejoice with you on the occasion of your 100th Anniversary. Both Armin and I were born in Laramie and baptized in the Pauluskirche. By the way, my wife was born in Wheatland (nee Adams) and is related to the Hoffmann families there. The Geislars met in Santa Cruz last summer for a family reunion. I believe forty were present. You knew our parents when they were newlyweds in 1920.

One clarification is needed in the literature I received from you. Armin is the first born in the family, not I. His education includes degrees from Elmhurst and Yale University Divinity School. Last month, at the age of 65, he received his Ph.D. in theology. He retired some years ago from the Chaplaincy (Lt. Col) in the U.S. Air Force (SAC). He is now pastor of the UCC Church in Hemet, CA. My contribution to the Kingdom of God was the creation and development of 12 new churches (one Korean) and a Jewish Synagogue. Two Grandchildren also chose to do short-term mission work: one in Zaire, Africa and the other in China. Others continue as active Christian lay people.

As children - and even more now - we believed our parents to be very talented persons. Father could preach in both German and American - one service after the other on the same morning. He could be a fighter too. Before Congress ever enacted Civil Rights legislation, he was walking from door to door opposing restrictive racial covenants against the Blacks in Pasadena. He confronted people with their bigotry. In his dental profession he sought to carry out a Christian ministry to refugees who had come to the USA under the Displaced Person's Act by giving them free dental service. The Denver Colorado Jewish Community (J.C.R.S.) later honored him for his services to people of their faith. For most refugees, German was either their native or second language. As Christ, he wanted to use the gift of healing as a sign of the presence of the Kingdom of God.

A gift of 150.00 is enclosed from the six children of Carola and Oskar Fritz Geisler as a Memorial to our parents. As the Scripture says: "Their children shall rise up and call them blessed."

cc

Sincerely, in Christ,

Agnes, Carolyn, Emma, Rosemarie,
Armin and Manfred

L

4634 Whisper Lake #3
Flourissant, Mo 63033
Oct. 7, 1985

Dear friends at St. Paul's Church:
I want to send my congratulations and love to all at St. Paul's upon one hundred years of ministry to others. My husband preached his first sermon there on August 6, 1933 and the following March 5, 1934 we were married in Windsor, Colorado. Our "honey moon train" from Cheyenne to Laramie had as its engineer none other than Mr. Wm. Wahl - a Church Council member. I shall never forget the effort it took the Union Pacific engine to get us over the summit.

Our nearly nine years spent with the dear people at St. Paul's were filled with new experiences, hard work at times, and great hours of relaxation in the beautiful

² Snowy Range. These were the years of the Great Depression, but we were all in it together and we survived. Many hungry people stopped at the parsonage for food and slept in our spare bed. We were like a family, sharing our joys and sorrows. Our two daughters were born there, and my husband often called them "our little buckeroos."

As we emerged, slowly, from the Depression, the mortgage notes of an old debt were burned. Stained glass windows were installed and the benevolence giving increased. The new organ added beauty to our worship services. And then came the Golden Jubilee in 1937 - a joyous occasion!

That same year there was great joy in the parsonage family.

3 Natural gas was piped into our home and a gas unit was placed in the faithful basement furnace. We were so happy that we volunteered to buy the kitchen gas range, and we gladly said goodbye to the big black coal range. No more Ziegler coal bills, which kept us broke from one autumn to the next!

Well, looking back is good, but we can't stop there. We are living in the present, and looking at the future with high hopes. On this Centennial, I wish for all, a deep faith, a desire to continue serving others, and God's loving care.

With my love,
Eunice Young

ERNST PRESS, D. D.
1512 GREEN MEADOW ROAD
EVANSVILLE, INDIANA 47715

March 16, 1986

To The Pastor and
Members of St. Paul's Church

Dear Friends:


Mrs. Press and I want to send our greetings to you on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the founding of St. Paul's Church in Laramie, Wyoming. For one hundred years the gospel has been preached at the corner of Sixth and Garfield, and members have carried on a ministry to the community.

It was our privilege to serve the congregation from the 56th to the 61st year of its existence, that is from 1942 to 1947. Even after forty years, we still have fond memories of those years we spent together. Our children were born during our ministry there. We served during the difficult war years, when travel was restricted, and gasoline ration coupons were necessary and auto tires were non-existent. But the work of the Kingdom was continued.

We pray for you that the work begun one hundred years ago, and continued all these years, will go on in the future. The Apostle Paul, writing to the Colossians expressed some thoughts that we too would wish for you, " Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, the Father through Him."

May this day, and the year of events commemorating your anniversary be a blessing to you and an inspiration to continue responding to Christ's great commission.

Sincerely yours,


Ernst and Nancy Press

ERNST PRESS, D. D.
1512 GREEN MEADOW ROAD
EVANSVILLE, INDIANA 47715

TERM OF MINISTRY

1. I began my ministry at St. Paul's Church, Laramie, Wyoming in September 1942. I left St. Paul's to accept a call to St. Luke Church Burlington, Iowa at the end of August 1947.

EVENTS OF NOTE DURING LARAMIE MINISTRY

2. Sometime before the beginning of my ministry St. Paul's, which had been receiving mission support, became self supporting, and the first years were concerned with making this work. Because it was the war years, there was little opportunity to do any physical improvements to the church. However, one year, this may have been after V-J day, new hardwood floors were laid in the parsonage. The church entertained the Rocky Mountain Synod Conference one year. I served one year as secretary of the conference. We had a very active Youth Fellowship and Women's Guild during that period.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

3. I was born in St. Louis, Mo. March 4, 1911. I attended the public Schools and High School in St. Louis. My undergraduate work was done at Elmhurst College. My theological education was received at Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves, Mo. While at Laramie, I completed studies and received a Master's Degree and was elected to Phi Kappa Phi honor fraternity. I began my ministry in San Angelo, Texas. My second church was at Lockhart, Texas. From there I came to St. Paul's in Laramie. Then I moved to St. Luke Church in Burlington, Iowa. For six and one half years I served as President of the Mid-west Synod. My last full time charge was at St. Johns Church in Evansville, Ind, where I served until 1976. Since then I have served as supply pastor at a number of churches in this area and am now serving as visitation minister at Bethel Church in Evansville. During the later part of my ministry I served on the Board of Directors of Eden Theological Seminary, on the Church and Ministry Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and then the United Church of Christ, served as moderator of the General Synod in 1961, and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. This year was the 50th anniversary of my ordination.

In 1941 I married Nancy Heinze. Our two children, Priscilla and Daniel were born while we lived in Laramie. Our son died in 1981. Our daughter and family now live in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They have three children.

INTERESTING ANECDOTES

4. It has been a standing joke of my ministry that while I was pastor at St. Paul's, I was the highest paid minister in the whole denomination. 7,200 feet. Only Grand Junction, Colorado came close to that. Missed no pay day.

The first four years of my ministry were war years, which meant gasoline rationing and no new cars or tires. I remember for about the last year I nursed along a tire with 25 patches on the innertube.

After the war in Europe was settled all the war material was shipped west, which meant that about 100 trains a day went thru Laramie, which in turn meant that railroaders (about 80% of the St. Paul membership at that time worked for the railroad) were home only long enough to get eight to ten hours of rest before being on the road again. That had an adverse effect on church attendance.

One day a couple from Denver stopped by to ask if I would consent to marry them the next week. I agreed. The next week they came but I discovered they had secured their license in Cheyenne. In those days you had to secure the license in the county where you were to be married. So we had the wedding in the church, then the three of us drove out just beyond the county

ERNST PRESS, D. D.
1512 GREEN MEADOW ROAD
EVANSVILLE, INDIANA 47715

line and had the "I do's" there to make it official. I signed the license in the proper county then went back home.

PICTURE

5. This has already been sent to Emma Rice.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

221 EAST ERIE STREET
ROBERT KNAPP, Pastor



SPRING VALLEY, ILLINOIS 61362
PHONE: (815) 663-1951

October 23, 1985

Mrs. Emma Rice
162 No. Ninth St.
Laramie, WY 82070

Dear Emma:

Thanks for your letter and a copy of the church newsletter. (I am curious as to how the vote on having another refugee came out.) We here in Spring Valley are also celebrating our centennial in 1986--as is the whole town. We are trying to spread it over several events during the year, but the main observance will be in September. We'd love to be with you to celebrate but doubt that we will get out that way. We just spent a delightful five days with the Lewises in the Ozarks.

Here is the information you requested:

1. Dates of ministry in Laramie:

Student pastor (while attending U.I.P.) May, 1957-Sept. 1958
Ordained pastor October 1958-June 1962

2. Summary of important events of my ministry:

Obviously, deciding what is "important" is quite subjective. As I think over my ministry in Laramie I remember that this was the formative period of the United Church of Christ. We moved from being a part of the former Rocky Mountain Synod (C & R) to the Intermountain Conference and the Wyoming Association (U.C.C.).

For two years of this period, the C & R Board of National Missions assigned the Rev. Arthur Achtemeier to work with the small churches in the Rocky Mountain and Dakota Synods to try to reverse the long period of slow decline.

An extended discussion with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) took place to explore the possibility of union of our two small congregations. These talks were very enlightening but resulted in no action.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

221 EAST ERIE STREET
ROBERT KNAPP, Pastor



SPRING VALLEY, ILLINOIS 61362
PHONE: (815) 663-1951

-2-

We worked with the Presbyterians and Christians (Disciples) to strengthen our United Campus Christian Fellowship.

3. Brief biographical information of self and family.

After leaving Laramie we served Pilgrim Congregational Church in El Paso, Texas from June, 1962 to April, 1965. Then I "returned home" to Illinois and served Union Congregational Church in Gridley, IL from June, 1965 to December, 1972, and finally the United Church of Christ (Congregational) in Spring Valley, IL from December, 1972 until the present.

While we were in Laramie Dorothy worked parttime as an instructor in the University's nursing program. When we went to Gridley she began a new career as part time music teacher in a neighboring elementary school. She completed work at Illinois State Univ. for her teacher certification and then went on to earn a Master's degree in health education. While in Spring Valley she first taught music and the last eight years was parttime nurse and health educator at the local Catholic high school.

Our daughter Joy went to Laramie as a two year old and left as a second grader. She graduated from Illinois State U. with a degree in music and is in music sales in Bloomington-Normal, IL. Daughter Gloria was born in El Paso, graduated from Bradley Univ. with a business degree this past May, and is working for a Chicago firm.

4. One or more interesting anecdotes:

a) My first weekend in Laramie I borrowed a parishioner's car to make calls and got a speeding ticket while hurrying to catch the train back to Denver and school!

b) One year (1960?) we had a fine ecumenical Thanksgiving service in town with a choir of about 60 voices drawn from almost every church in town. I was privileged to speak. The following Christmas

united church of christ

221 EAST ERIE STREET
ROBERT KNAPP, Pastor



SPRING VALLEY, ILLINOIS 61362
PHONE: (815) 663-1951

-3-

Eve a gentleman from another church in Laramie who had sung in that choir came to our service unknown to me and slipped into a rear pew. As I was preaching the sermon there arose out of that quiet, candlelit congregation a hearty "Amen!" It is the only "Amen" I've ever gotten in a sermon and I remember and bless the memory of that brother to this day. It was good to be assured that someone was listening and being touched by the Christ message.

Our warmest greetings to the pastor and people of beloved St. Paul's Church. May your celebration of 100 years be blessed, and may it be the beginning of another 100 years of even greater service to Christ and the Kingdom.

In Christian love,

Bob and Dorothy Knapp

The term 19 62-1966 Rev. Carl L. Sullenberger

Rev. Elizabeth F. Sullenberger

Paxton James and BetsySue

I think Carl will be remembered for his preaching and his honest integrity. I have been made very happy and Humble to have people tell me from New Hampshire to Japan to California, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, and New Mexico that this was a great contribution. I recall that he was chosen to to give the invocation at the graduation services at the University of Wyoming. Our picture did make the front page of the Boomerang once for our work in Japan. We did have a rewarding time with the Youth Groups. I was state president of the Womens' Fellowship and oftentimes Carl was asked to go with me to speak at different Wyoming towns. The greatest family remembrance was Betsysue's wedding to Clyde A. Wilson Jr. of Casper. The whole church joined in the celebration. Our family sends best wishes for this historical anniversary. I continue at the V.A. Medical Center in Pastoral Care and my families are achieving excellent contributions. God Bless You All.

Elizabeth F. Sullenberger
Elizabeth F. Sullenberger

Armin C. Munz: Pastor of St. Paul's Church, 1967-72.

Unquestionably the most noteworthy event of our pastorate was the decision by the members of the congregation in 1970 to build Springbrook Apartments. (Frank Spiegelberg and _____ Hitchcock had discussed the availability of HUD money for Wyoming which was not being used.)

Building was begun that year with the Spiegelberg Company as the prime contractors. The first apartments were available in the early summer of 1971; the first tenants were a young couple, of which the young man had worked on the construction crew; he wanted one of these apartments because he knew that they were constructed better than any of the other apartment houses then being built. The remainder of the apartments were rented as soon as they became available.

I'm a graduate of Elmhurst College, '36, and Eden Seminary, '39. I was the last pastor to be ordained by the Evangelical Synod of North America. (Thereafter it was the Evangelical and Reformed Church before it became the United Church of Christ.)

Our children: John with the Commerce Department in D. C.; James with Mountain Bell in Helena; Nancy with BLM in Sacramento; Mary working on her M. A. at the University of Utah; and Priscilla is a nurse in Long Beach, California.

Jane and I retired in 1984 to live in one of our favorite towns, Freeport, Illinois.

Among the events on which we look back with fondness came when Ed Dettling became a part of our Sunday morning church family. Born on February 29, 1896, now a retired sheepherder, he hadn't been inside a church for over 50 years. And now he came with Emma Rice one Sunday and was there regularly thereafter. He had his own 'melody' for hymns and responses. In summer he rode his huge cast iron bicycle from his cabin on the west side. He was an unusual character whom we all loved. One day in early 1972 we took him to see a doctor in Cheyenne; while in the waiting room we asked him if he had ever been there before (meaning this doctor). Ed replied, "Oh yes, I was in Cheyenne once back in 1924."

ROBERT R. OWEN

Dates of ministry at St. Paul's, Laramie: Feb. 1973 to Sept. 1975

Important "events": Three emphases come to mind:

1. Helped to establish procedures for operation of St. Paul's Properties, which was newly opened at the time of our arrival.
2. Work with Laramie Ministerial Group to establish a viable Campus Ministry at Univ. of Wyoming
3. Arranged for visit of Mr. LeRoy Bide of the Western Regional Office of Stewardship (U.C.C.) to organize and conduct a stewardship campaign which resulted in a fully subscribed budget for 1975.

Biographical:

Born, Minneapolis, Minn. 1912

Univ. of Minnesota: B.S. 1935

Public School teacher: Rhode Island 1935-1939

Andover Newton Theological School: Master of Divinity 1943

Parishes: Minnesota; Spring Valley, Bayport; Washington: Seattle
South Dakota: Huron, Springfield, DeSmet; Wyoming, Laramie
Colorado: Englewood

Presently retired - living in Redlands, California

Married - Christina Thomson , 1940

Anecdotal:

Our first encounter with a ground blizzard came as we returned home from an Association meeting in Douglas. Very light snow had fallen during the night, less than a quarter of an inch. As we left Douglas the sun was shining, and the snow was already beginning to disappear. We had chosen to use State Route 34, the cut-off between Wheatland and Bosler, over Norton Pass. We still had no concern that difficulty might lie ahead until we began to climb toward the summit. Suddenly we plunged into a wall of driving snow - a whiteout in all directions. We dared not stop for fear of being "rear-ended" - fear which was heightened when a car coming from behind passed us as though we were standing still. We slowed to a crawl, straining to see the roadside post markers which were spaced alternately on the two sides of the road at intervals of some 20 or 30 yards. The wind was so strong that snow was sifting into the car around the doors.

After what seemed an interminable time we passed the summit and started down the western slope.

the western slope. As abruptly as we had run into the blizzard, we drove out of it to find blue sky and sunshine. The warmth was enough to cause rather rapid melt and the run-off was sufficient that it was overflowing the highway at a rather brisk pace. A State Patrol officer stopped us there to warn of possible flooding farther down the road. However he let us pass, and we continued on to Laramie without further adventure.

Photos: We had never seemed to acquire pictures of ourselves. I could find nothing from the Laramie "era".. Am sending two, of about the same vintage - early 1980, shortly after we came to Redlands. Dont know which will best suit your purpose - the informal "snap" or the more formal portrait. Use which ever you wish. (Would like to have them back when you are finished.)

INFORMATION FOR 100th. ANNIVERSARY, ST. PAUL'S UCC CHURCH

Ministry of Mary S. Greene from 1976 -1981 (Pastor, 3/4 time)
(Shared with Shirley E. Greene as administrator of Springbrook Apts.)

Summary of most important events during my ministry:

Most important were the worship experiences which brought all ages together in special times of celebration and growing in the faith. This included Sunday morning worship and special times, such as the summer vesper services and the Lenten Maundy Thursday service.

An important part of the worship experiences was the developing music program for adults, youth and children, combining our own talents with those of University personnel.

People of all ages shared in the program of visitation for our shut-in members. This included visits by the children and youth, concern by the Women's Fellowship, and regular communion services by the minister and deacons. We were all blessed by the wonderful spirit of these long-time members who were no longer able to be present in church.

For several summers an exciting Vacation Bible School was held at our church, involving excellent adult and youth leadership and a variety of ages of children. This was a model of what a good learning program for children can be in a small church.

The many work sessions and yard sales brought committed members and friends of the church together in a warm fellowship. Always the work was hard (and sometimes dirty) but the spirit kept everyone willing to come again when needed.

Local outreach programs included the beginning of participation in the "Two-bit Lunch" program at the University, and several worship services for Christian unity in which the women clergy of Laramie participated. At one time, there were five clergy women working in Christian ministry in Laramie!

Especially memorable are the many weddings of wonderfully committed young people, the confirmation of our own youth, and the baptism of so many babies and children. Each such celebration was a special moment and it is a privilege for a minister to share in such times on behalf of the entire church.

Interesting anecdotes and happenings during my ministry:

(1) One of the most unforgettable evenings at St. Paul's during my ministry found 8 or 10 people of varying ages cleaning out the parsonage basement of many, many years of dirt and debris - coal shoveled out of the old coal bin, mattresses and broken furniture and unbelievable junk - all of which had to be carried up the stairs and carted away! That was the night I realized what "committed saints" we had at St. Paul's!

(Interesting anecdotes - continued)

(2) The German heritage of St. Paul's remains very important - but, for me, this was symbolized most beautifully in the weekly "Kaffee Klatsch" at the homes of Ida Huetting, Anna Sievers, and Ilse Algermissen. Those of us who were privileged to share in this rich fellowship from Germany were blessed by the love and spirit of these remarkable long-time members of St. Paul's!

(3) Six months after arriving at St. Paul's, I was meeting weekly with a Confirmation class of five delightful young people. We met at the parsonage for supper, study and discussion. On one particularly memorable evening for me, I received a call from the Doctor just as the young people were arriving at the parsonage. He told me I had cancer and must have surgery soon. Somehow, the presence of those young people with all their enthusiasm for life made my news seem not too important, and we all went through the following weeks in fine style.

Biographical Information:

Mary S. Greene - born September 6, 1915 - native of Oregon
Nurtured in a small community Congregational Church in Portland, Oregon.
Graduated from Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon in 1944
Graduated from the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology in 1945 (M.A.),
in 1952 (B.D.), and in 1957 (S.T.M.)
Ordained to the Christian ministry in Craig, Colorado in 1953
Served the Craig Church from 1953 to 1956
Traveling Parsonage ministry to Maybell, Colorado and Creede, Colorado
UCC Churches from 1957 to 1964
Married Shirley E. Greene in 1964
Served as Associate Minister to two UCC Churches in Montclair, New Jersey,
from 1965 to 1976
Served St. Paul's UCC Church in Laramie, Wyoming from 1976 to 1981
Retired in 1981 to Santa Fe, New Mexico - to continue life as a volunteer
in ministry to church and community.

