

75th Anniversary
Grue Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Buxton, North Dakota
History and Program
1879-1954



GRUE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor: C. J. Carlsen

JULY 11, 1954

CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders: Mrs. Olaf Ertsgard, Julius Erickson
Trustees: Clifford Erickson, Arthur Rogenes, Wilfred Gunderson
Secretary: Mrs. Ellef Ingwalson
Treasurer: Louis Mikkelson
Organist: Mrs. Ellef Ingwalson
Assistant Organist: Mrs. M. Rogenes
Sexton: Ernest Odegard
Memorial Secretary: Mrs. T. A. Carson
Mission Secretary: Mrs. M. Olson
Janitor: Oscar Rogenes
Choir Director: Clifton Odegard
Choir Pianist: Phyllis Odegard

LADIES AID OFFICERS

President: Mrs. Wilfred Gunderson
1st Vice-President: Mrs. Olaf Ertsgard
2nd Vice-President: Mrs. T. A. Carson
Secretary: Mrs. Arthur Rogenes
Treasurer: Mrs. Ole L. Olson

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS

Superintendent: Mrs. Arthur Rogenes
Assistant Superintendent: Mrs. Maurice Rogenes
Kindergarten: Mrs. Clifton Odegard
Second Grade: Mrs. Ole Olson
Third Grade: Margaret Mohn
Fourth Grade: Mrs. Burnette Mohn
Fifth and Sixth Grades: Mrs. Gerald Hovet
Seventh Grade: Mrs. Ellef Ingwalson
Eighth Grade: Mrs. Maurice Rogenes

DEDICATION

The pioneers were strong and hardy people. They had to be, in order to endure the hardships of "breaking new ground." They were courageous people, and faithful people. They struggled and sacrificed in their determination to have the Church at the heart of their community. We honor them on this anniversary occasion, particularly those of this community who organized the congregation in 1879, and erected the church building in 1891.

They laid the right foundation for themselves and those who would follow them. Jesus Christ is that foundation. "Other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, which is Christ Jesus." (1 Cor. 3:11)

There were many who continued to build upon that foundation. They sought to spread the Gospel of Christ in every possible way. They taught the faith to their children, met regularly for services of worship, and in other ways endeavored to make Christ the center of individual, family, and community living.

Many lives, therefore, have been touched by the ministry of this congregation during the course of 75 years. The message of Redeeming Love in Christ has been proclaimed to all who would hear. Faithful workers throughout the years have devoted their time and energies to witnessing for Christ unto the salvation of immortal souls. Only eternity can measure the blessings that have come through their labors.

Mindful of the rich heritage which has been bequeathed to us, we gratefully dedicate this booklet to the memory of the pioneers who were instrumental in organizing this congregation and erecting this church building, and to the memory of all, both pastors and lay workers, who contributed to the progress of the Kingdom in this community. We also dedicate ourselves to a faithful stewardship of this heritage.

Finally, we recognize that in all things we are dependent upon Almighty God. Only through His blessing can our endeavors in the Kingdom bear fruit. Therefore we declare with thankful hearts: "To God alone be the glory." "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and the knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past tracing out! . . . of him, and through him, and unto him, are all things. To him be the glory for ever. Amen." (ROMANS 11:33,36).

HISTORY OF GRUE CONGREGATION

On March 17, 1879 a meeting was held at the home of Knut Rauk to organize a Congregation. This was given the name Grue Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation with sixty-three charter members.

The first Pastor to serve was Pastor O. H. Bostad from the year 1879 to August 8, 1880. Services were held in various homes and school houses.

On December 10, 1890 a meeting of the congregation was held and the sum of 1,120 dollars was subscribed for a church building. In the fall of 1891 this building was completed at a cost of approximately 3,000 dollars. The present cemetery was also established at that time.

On September 25, 1932, dedication services were held for the basement which was constructed that year. In the cornerstone a copper vault was placed, containing the following articles: the constitution of the church, articles of incorporation, history of church and Ladies Aids, a Bible and Hymn book, and a register of all people present at this dedication service.

At the turn of the century a parish was organized by St. Olaf, North Prairie, Buxton and Grue. This was a Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Parish. In 1921 Grue seceded and was served by Free Church Pastors until 1956, at which time the congregation voted to become independent. We remained independent until we found it necessary to become affiliated with a Synod in order to be served regularly by any Pastor. On December 5, 1952, Grue Congregation voted to become affiliated with the Lutheran Free Church. A letter of call was sent to Pastor G. J. Carlsen of the Climax, Minn., parish.

From 1880 to the present time, the following Pastors served Grue Congregation:

- 1880-1889—Pastor Christian Saugstad
- 1889-1902—Pastor Gustav Oftedahl
- 1902-1905—Pastor O. T. Nelson
- 1906-1921—Pastor T. J. Gronningen
- 1921—Pastor H. A. Winther
- 1921-1922—Pastor Nils Halvorson
- 1922-1927—Pastor Ludvig Pederson
- 1927-1936—Pastor C. J. Christensen
- 1936-1951—Pastor Karl Stromme
- 1951—Pastor Carl J. Carlsen, now serving

On October 24, 1951 Pastor Stromme passed away unexpectedly. Being an independent congregation, we had to seek help from neigh-

boring Pastors, namely: Pastor John Kronlokken, Pastor Manley Gjerde, Pastor Carl J. Carlsen, Pastor Loyall Tallackson and Pastor Forrest Monson. Pastor Forrest Monson served the greater part of 1952.

Church records show there have been to this date: 433 baptisms, 328 confirmands, 45 weddings, and 168 burials. There are 41 families listed on the membership records.

The first Ladies Aid was organized July 8, 1887, and was called the Esther Ladies Aid. This name was changed to Grue Ladies Aid July 29, 1892.

A Mission Society was organized November 15, 1889, and was active until the present Ladies Aid was organized. This Society pledged the support of a native Missionary in Madagascar, and this was carried on by the present Ladies Aid until mission obligations were assumed by the Church budget.

A Pipeforening (Girl's organization) was organized July 23, 1903 and was active until 1918. It sent donations to the China Mission and Red Cross.

The present Ladies Aid was organized January 22, 1922. This organization financed the building of the basement and equipment and assisted with the upkeep of the Church. It now supports the Women's Missionary Federation and works in accordance with its program. There are three Circles within this organization which work separately on different projects towards church aid.

The first Church Choir was organized in 1892. This Choir purchased the first organ. Throughout the years a Choir or Ladies Chorus was active under different leaders. The present Choir was organized in the summer of 1945, with a personnel of some 18 members. It has sung for all festivals and many services. In January 1951, gowns were purchased. The Choir together with the Ladies Aid purchased the electric organ.

A Young Peoples Society was first organized in 1928 and was active for a few years. This organization purchased the piano. Some years later the Young Peoples work was carried on jointly with the Ringsaker and Hyllestad congregations.

The children's parochial instruction was carried on intermittently throughout the years by Sunday School and Parochial School, until 1946 when the present Sunday School was organized. The Sunday School has stressed stewardship and sponsored Junior Mission work and the Cradle Roll. It has also purchased Audio Visual Aid equipment for class work use.

POEM

Most wondrous is of all on earth
The Kingdom Jesus founded.
Its glory, peace, and precious worth
No tongue has fully sounded.
Invisible as mind and soul,
And yet of light the fountain,
Its brightness shines from pole to pole
Like lights from lofty mountain.
Its secret is the word of God,
Which does what it proposes,
Which lowers mountains high and broad
And clothes the wastes with roses.
Let foes against the Kingdom rage
With hatred and derision,
God crowns its reign from age to age
And brings it to fruition.
Then shall the Kingdom bright appear
With glory true and vernal
And bring His saved a golden year
Of peace and joy eternal.

—GRUNTVIG.

ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The Church Council:

Elders and Trustees

Historical:

Mrs. Arthur Rogenes, Mrs. Ellef Ingwalson, Mrs. T. A. Carson

Invitation:

Martin Nettum, Julius Erickson, L. G. Odegard

Program:

Clifton Odegard, Eileen Gunderson, Mrs. M. Rogenes

Publicity:

Evelyn Botten, Mrs. Clifford Erickson, Esther Botten

CONFIRMANDS

D—Deceased U—Unknown

September 14, 1879

Syvst Anderson—D
Bertha Christianson—U
Haakon Pederson—D

October 16, 1881

Ben E. Ingvaldson—D
Anne (Erickson) Myhre—D

November 5, 1882

Ingebret Kvammen—D
Berns Hanson—U
Lars Hanson Hovind—D
Nils B. Haugen—D
Ole E. Ingvaldson—D

September 23, 1883

Amund Erickson—D
Marie (Ingvaldson) Anderson—D
Kari Olson—D

November 2, 1884

Ole Syvertson—U
Pauline (Pederson) Mikkelsen—D
Marie Anderson—U

November 1, 1885

Erick Erickson—D
Louis G. Gunderson—D
Henry Gunderson—D
Sina Maria (Hanson) Sandvig
Christe Syverson—U
Kari Olson—U
Lena Syverinsen—U
Karoline Hanson—U

November 28, 1886

Johannes E. Ingvaldson—D
Marius Larson—U
Arne Hildus Pederson—D
Bertha (Solberg) Sandvig—D
Josephine Larson—D

November 20, 1887

Johannes T. Hong—D
Mina Hanson—U
Randina (Thompson) Swenson
Anne Marie (Vang) Paulson
Serine Peterson—U
Marie (Braaten) Johnson—D

November 4, 1888

Albert Vang
Berns Swenson—U
Louise Holen—U
Ingeborg Klepp—U
Johanna (Pederson) Ericksmoen
Gjertrude Clauson—U

November 9, 1890

Tobias T. Hong—U
Emil Erickson
Minda P. (Erickson) Hammer
Tilda (Hove) Lokken—D
Peder Olson—D
Carl Braaten
Nils Braaten
Ida (Knutson) Redwing—D
Anne (Pederson) Borreson—D
Karen (Larson) Lerom
Gunda Jorgenson—U

November 22, 1891

Torgim Klepp—U
Andreas Beroung
Karl Johnson—U
Tellef Hove—D
John Knutson—D
Louis Odegard
Inga Gunderson—U
Karvina (Erickson) Fa'elde—D
Anna Marie (Rauk) Mickels

October 30, 1892

Ole Olson—D
Edvin Vang
Martin Johnson—D
Theoline (Ingvaldson) O'Neil—D
Emca (Johnson) Stalsberg
Ela (Pederson) Anderson
Maryaret (Veltorn) Peterson

Mathilda (Wong) Hovland—D
Ida Lerom
Klara (Rauk) Lindley
Lena Breiland
Karlina Swendson Augseth—D

October 22, 1893

Daniel Jore—D
Knut Hove—D
Eddie Odegard—D
Anne Haugen—D
Hildus Erickson—D
Henry Oliver Odegard
Jenny (Odegard) Sorlie—D

October 28, 1894

Haakon Thompson—U
Claudia (Ingvaldson) Jelsett—D
Minnie (Wong) Gordon
Julia (Johnson) Parker

October 6, 1895

Clara (Odegard) Knutson
Berge Breiland—D
Julius Johnson
Martin Erickson—D
Bertha Braaten—D
Inger Lerom—D
Laura (Odegard) Frasier
Annie Broderson
Annie Katrina (Broderson) Bartelson—D
Louis Pederson—D

September 12, 1896

Julia Gerhardina Johnson—D
George Broderson—D
Martin Broderson
Anna (Bredeson) Mork
George Wong
Anna Fevold
Julius Erickson
Margaret (Haugen) Lind

October 3, 1897

Nils Fevold—U
Bertha Lerom
Annie Odegard—D
Carl Odegard—D

Eline Ingvalson
Ella (Johnson) Thingelstad
Laura (Bredeson) Swenson
Bertha Fevold—D
Annie Johnson—D
Otto Ronning

September 18, 1898

Christina (Broderson) Bentru—D
Laura (Erickson) Sollum—D
Gena (Hesgard) Nye—D
Emil Odegard
Ellef Ingvalson—D
Hattie Lerom
Stella (Wong) Benson
Jennie Odegard
Josephine (Jacobson) Brokke—D

September 24, 1899

Bennie Johnson—D
Ellen Fevold—D
Melvin Ingvalson—D
Bertha (Olson) Claiboe—D

May 24, 1900

Neillie (Hesgard) Hanson
Sophie (Nettum) Bjorge—D

June 30, 1901

Edward Erickson—D
George Odegard
Johannas Breiland
Clara (Jacobson) Knutson—D
Betsy (Bredeson) Deal—D
Dazey (Wong) Carlile
Jessie Fevold—D

May 11, 1902

Paul Ronstad—D
John Johnson—D
Annie (Erickson) Fagen
John Lerom
Martin Nettum
Oliver C. Odegard
Klara (Olson) Ryslad
Arthur Jacobson—D
John Odegard

October 11, 1903

Julian Nomland—D
Arthur Erickson
George Lerom
Inga (Johnson) Carlile—D
Anna (Odegard) Creiman
Nora (Jacobson) Lampland
Lizzie (Paulson) Hovland

October 2, 1904

Annie Olida (Olson) Hagelle
Julia Hendrickson
Mina (Haugen) Johnson—D
Henry Johnson

June 18, 1905

Arthur Ingvalson—D
Oscar Lerom—D
Mina Johnson—D
Clara (Erickson) Peterson—D
Josephine (Bredeson) Nesvig
Emma (Johnson) Nash

December 2, 1906

Alfred Erickson
Mable Wong Tierney
Oscar Odegard
Ida (Ingvalson) Young
Malvin Jacobsen—D
Clara Sveen
Ida Rosine Haugen—U
Louise (Odegard) Lebacken

November 24, 1907

Nora (Haugen) Bronken—D
Nettie Haugen Tweston
Nellie (Botten) Peterson
Lena (Sannes) Christianson
Laura (Olson) Davis—D
Laura (Breiland) Asheim
Oscar Johnson—D
Knut Knutson—D
John Knutson—D

April 8, 1909

Hattie (Olson) Johnson
Georgina Jacobson—D
Olga (Nettum) Austin
Della (Odegard) Strandvoid
Clifford Erickson

Bennie Oliver Johnson
Theo. Wong
Nellie (Hendrickson) Heath

December 12, 1909

Hansina Sveen—D
Mabel (Haugen) Rambeck—D
Hilda (Botten) Kvamme
Berghild (Haugen) Saure
Hattie (Erickson) Grodahl
Ferdinand Johnson—D

November 26, 1911

Lottie (Haugen) Mackey—D
Alma (Nettum) Semlet
Minnie (Olson) King
Bertha (Mikkelsen) Ebbeson

December 10, 1911

Mabel (Odegard) Smart

November, 1912

Lyda Johnson
Olgo (Jacobson) Olson
Olaf Isakson

November 21, 1912

Ole Olson

October 26, 1913

Ralph Erickson
Louis Mikkelsen
Clifford Broderson
Martha (Johnson) Hovden
Alma (Haugen) Vennessland
Laura (Eken) Hovet
Oliver Dahl—D
Hildor Leen—U
Thelma (Hovet) Brokke

October, 1915

Clifford Knutson

December 3, 1916

Gena (Knutson) Hovet

Myrtle (Haugen) Leathers
Josephine Sandvig
Myrtle Hammer—D
Thomas Hovet
Herman Mikkelsen—D

March 17, 1918

Manceur Olson
Lillian (Johnson) MacFadden

December 8, 1918

Martha (Anderson) Olson
Sophia (Sandvig) Jensen
Esther (Haugen) Leathers
Esther Botten
Norris Knutson
Ebba (Olson) Sorbo
Carl Olson
Arthur Anderson

August 15, 1920

Malvin Mikkelsen

August, 1921

Charlotte (Olson) Espelle—D
Berthina (Knutson) Brown
Bessie (Fladland) Tardiff—D
Ruth Mikkelsen Rogenes

November 19, 1922

Orlando Odegard
Ernest Odegard
Johnny Knutson

November 23, 1924

Haakon Mikkelsen
Inga (Fladland) Sullivan
Viola (Odegard) Olson
Evelyn Botten
Oscar Danielson

August 28, 1927

Leonard Haugen
Agnes Botten
Thelma Fladland
Lena Fladland—D

Howard Nettum
Clifton Odegard
Leonard Johnson

July 7, 1929

Evelyn (Sveen) Hovet
Margaret Heath—D
Berthie (Carlile) Charbonneau
Myrtle (Nettum) Brokke
Arvid Nettum

July, 1930

Rita Nesvig Hanson
Lynn Nettum

June 20, 1932

Lucille (Mohr) Fossum
Celeste (Mohr) Nettum
Janet (Nesvig) Lerom

October 22, 1933

Norma (Peterson) Jacobson
Ione Erickson—D

August 5, 1934

Marion (Ingvalson) Johnson
Leroy Nettum
Delores (Nettum) Gunderson
Harold Heath
Viola (Erickson) Knight
Lynn Nesvig

June 30, 1935

Ivah (Ingvalson) Hanson
Ethelyn (Peterson) O'Connell
Ardith (Mohr) Schafges
Alwyn Westberg—D

May 30, 1937

Ardis (Ingvalson) Thompson
Yvonne (Nesvig) Jensen
Shirley (Amundson) Walton

June 19, 1938

Vance Nettum

Vernon Nettum
Harold Ertsgard
Shirley Ertsgard Baughman
Avis Erickson Knutson
C. Leroy Erickson
Gorden Mohn
Burnette Mohn

Raymond Johnson
James Wheeler

May 28, 1939
E. Sterling Ingwalson

1948
Gwendolyn Olson
Gordon Breiland

June 28, 1941
Isabelle Mae Nesvig Twatton
Sylvia Dalen Zuehlsdorff
Betty Carson Samuelson
Dorothy Carson Holstad
Beverly Ingwalson Polis
Fern Johnson LaRoque
Genevieve Johnson LaRoque
Duane Ertsgard
Donald Erickson

1949
Allan Olson
Richard Gunderson
Donald Mohn
Lloyd Breiland
Roland Olson

May 11, 1952
David M. Wheeler
Donald R. Breiland
M. Allan Rogenes
Wayne L. Ingwalson
Gen: A. Johnson

1943
Juanita Lorraine Knutson Good-
en
Robert Allan Wheeler
Thomas Arlen Carson
Oscar Maynard Johnson
Edgar Ferdinand Johnson

June 6, 1954
Beverly Hovet
John Wheeler

1944
Patricia Keller Douglas
Donald Rogenes

1945
Evelyn Johnson Nestlund
Mancur Olson
Lloyd Mohn
Janet Lerom Nelson

1947
Margaret Ertsgard Malcolm
Joan Keller
Margaret Mohn
Gaylord Olson
Orville Breiland

ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

FESTIVAL WORSHIP - 11 A. M.

Prelude Mrs. Ellef Ingwolson
Hymn "My God How Wonderful Thou Art." No. 64
Altar Service Pastor Carl J. Carlsen
Selection "Kirken den er et gammelt Hus." Grue Choir
Hymn "O Bread of Life From Heaven." No. 287
Anniversary Sermon Pastor Clarence J. Carlsen
Selection "The Lord's Prayer." Grue Choir
Hymn "O Happy Day When We Shall Stand." No. 52
Benediction

DINNER 12:30 P. M.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICE - 2:30 P. M.

Prelude Mrs. Ellef Ingwolson
Hymn "Come, Thou Almighty King." No. 73
Scripture and Prayer Pastor Carl J. Carlsen
Selections "Today There is Ringing," "Glory to Praise" Grue Choir
Anniversary Address Pastor Waldemar Anderson
Vocal Solo Methune Faleide
Greetings
Selection "Faith of Our Fathers." Grue Choir
Hymn "The Church's One Foundation." No. 78
Benediction

LUNCHEON

FELLOWSHIP HOUR - 7:30 P. M.

Organ Music
Hymn "Beneath The Cross of Jesus." No. 32
Scripture and Prayer Pastor Carl J. Carlsen
Vocal Solo Joan Keller
Vocal Selection Sandhill Congregation Girl's Trio
Recognition of Confirmands
Vocal Solo Allan Olson
Violin Duet Olger Lageson and Lander Nelson
Vocal Selection Eileen, Carole, Richard and George Gunderson
Closing Hymn "Savior Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise." No. 54
Benediction

REFRESHMENTS

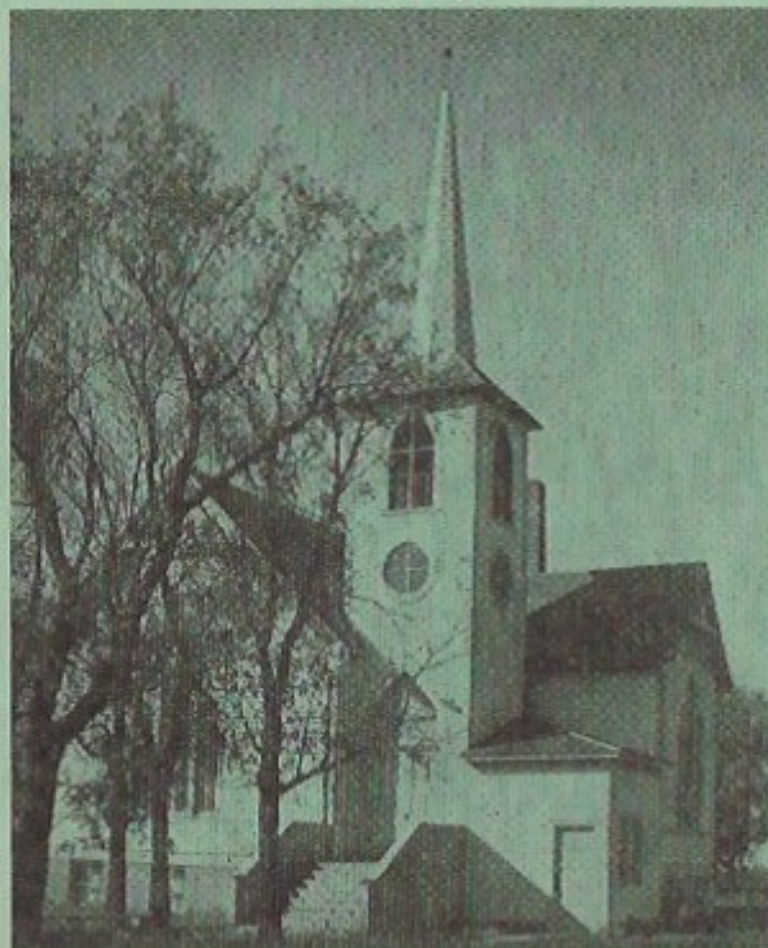
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