



Archives Finding Aid

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement

Accession. #2021.31

Size: linear feet

Condition: Good

Donation date: unclear

Donor: South Central Synod

Date Collection Committee Approved: July 14, 2021

Processing Level: Folder level

Processing following: Order of material type and date

Ownership: Beloit Historical Society

Prepared By: Elizabeth Brewer, Volunteer for the Beloit Historical Society, December 2021

HISTORY

Organized 1905 with 32 members. Three families were prominent in the founding: Mr. and Mrs. Edmund A. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. John Phompson, and Mr. and Mrs. George Luety. Rev. Dr. W. K. Frick, pastor of Redeemer Church, Milwaukee, assisted in the establishment. First services held in Presbyterian Church, corner of Broad and Pleasant St. Field Missionary Rev. A. C. Anda assisted congregation from April 1905 to November 1905, when 1st resident pastor Ref. Charles Dunlap was called in November 1905. He was followed in February 1906 by Rev. Paul H. Roth. Building site northeast corner of Harrison and Clary purchased 1908; cornerstone laid September 27, 1908. Services were held in the church basement until the upper structure was completed in 1915 under the supervision of Rev. F. R. A pipe organ was purchased from Beloit College. Despite hard times from 1915-17, the church remained solvent thanks to loans from the Synod and the Church Extension Society, and local fundraising. Under Rev. C. C. Roth the church became self-supporting in 1930. Rev. C. F. Schneider led the church through the Great Depression until October 1934 and was succeeded by Rev. F. A. Berg in 1935, for whom a parsonage was purchased at 843 Wisconsin Avenue. Ladies Aid Society founded near the church's establishment. Women's Missionary Society organized May 11, 1911. Brotherhood established soon after Pastor C. C. Roth's arrival; they improved the property and equipment. No founding date available for choir. Much of the church mortgage paid by 1934. "Mortgage burning" was part of the 40th anniversary celebration of the church on April 22, 1945. In 1962 the church became part of the Lutheran church in America. A parsonage was purchased in 1972 at 1331 11th

Street for Rev. Waggoner and his family and was sold in 1978, at which point the pastor began receiving a housing allowance. As of 1980, when the Church celebrated its 75th anniversary, there were 433 confirmed and 522 baptized members. The Church dissolved in 2020; as of January 2022 a non-Lutheran congregation had applied to the Beloit Planning Commission for permission to acquire the building to operate a church.

Scope of Collection

Documents related to church finances, including mortgages for the church building and the parsonage at 843 Wisconsin Avenue. Insurance related to the deeds. Invoice and receipts related to construction and repairs as well as the pipe organ. Correspondence related to the appointment of Reverend Frank A. Berg as well as an interim preacher and also an adjustment to Reverend Berg's salary. Booklets for the 40th, 50th, and 75th church anniversaries.

Container List

2021.31			
CONTAINER	FOLDER	TITLE	SUBJECTS
Box 01	1	Abstract of titles	Church
Box 01	2	Court Documents	Legal Documents Church
Box 01	3	Organization Chart	Church Cyanotype
Box 01	4	Mortgages	Church Financial Paperwork
Box 01	5	Mortgages	Church Financial Paperwork
Box 01	6	Insurance: Disability, liability, employee	Church Legal Documents
Box 01	7	Pipe Organ	Reuter Organ Co.
Box 01	8	40th, 50th, 75th Anniversary Booklets	
Box 01	9	Construction and repair, bills and receipts	Loose Paperwork
Box 01	10	Pledges, Decoration fund	Member & Donation Lists

Box 01	11	Correspondence: Quarterly Report Request, new Pastor, missionary speakers	Loose Papers looking for new pastor
Box 01	12	Call to Pastor form	Loose Papers regarding expenses and salaries