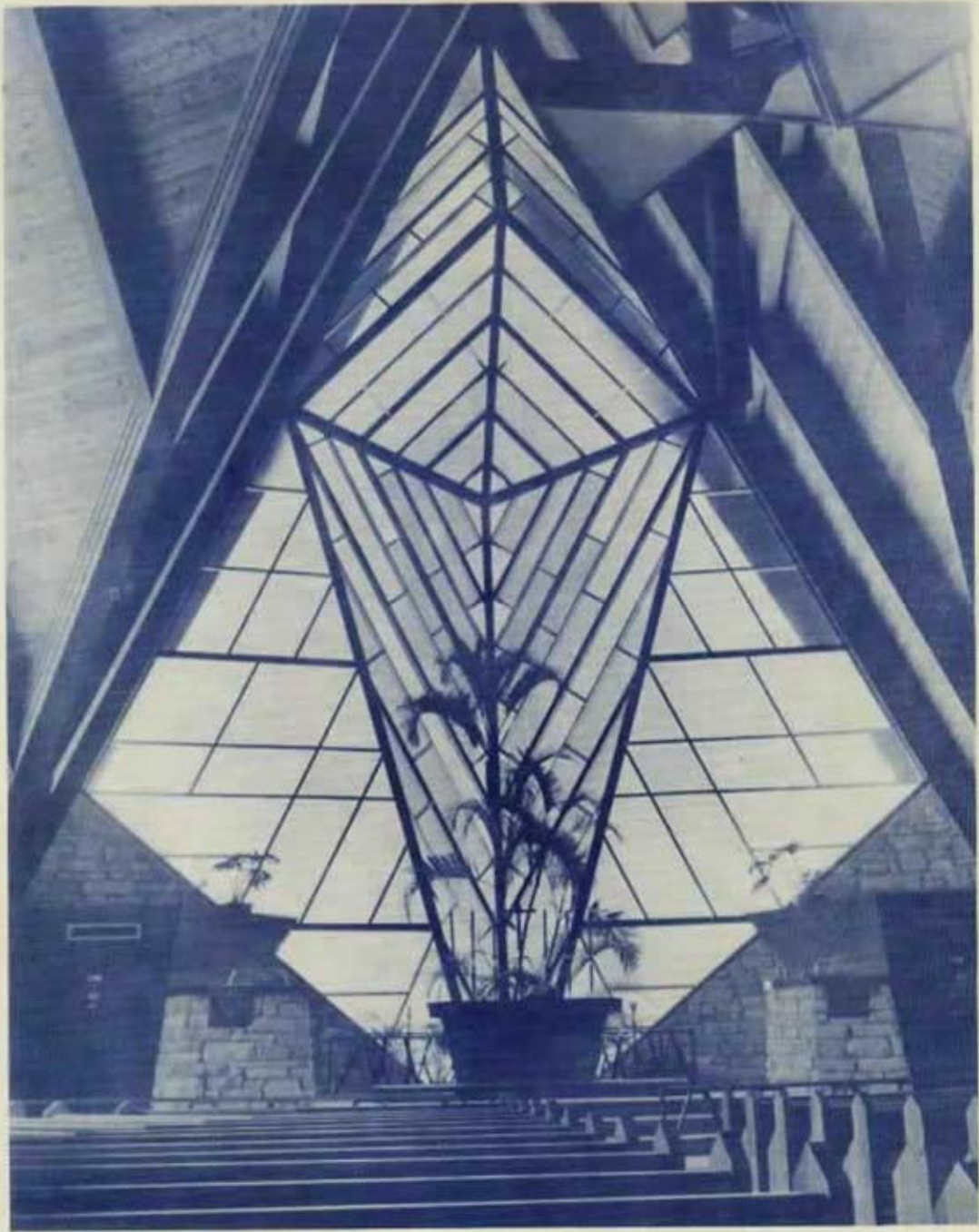


Dedication

March Fifth, in the year of Our Lord 1961



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
4301 - 16th Street North
St. Petersburg, Florida
Martin W. Rupprecht, Pastor



The Chancel and Prow of Grace Lutheran Church

THE ORDER OF THE DEDICATION SERVICE

Oculi, The Third Sunday in Lent
March Fifth, in the year of Our Lord 1961
8:30 A.M. and 10:45 A.M.

The Prelude "Finlandia" Sibelius

The Hymn of Adoration Processional # 1 Benjamin Schmolck, 1732

Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty, Waits for Him who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place, Filled with solace, light and grace.

Lord, my God, I come before Thee, Come Thou also unto me;
Where we find Thee and adore Thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, Oh enter Thou, Let it be Thy temple now!

Here Thy praise is gladly chanted, Here Thy seed is duly sown;
Let my soul, where it is planted, Bring forth precious sheaves alone
So that all I hear may be Fruitful until life in me.

Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee, Let Thy will be done indeed;
May I undisturbed draw near Thee, while Thou dost Thy people feed
Here of life the fountain flows, Here is balm for all our woes. AMEN.

Pastor: The Lord be with you;
Congregation: AND WITH THY SPIRIT
Pastor: Lift up your hearts;
Congregation: WE LIFT THEM UP UNTO THE LORD.
Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God;
Congregation: IT IS MEET AND RIGHT SO TO DO.

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

(Introduction by officiant)

Pastor: O God, our Father, Creator of all things visible and invisible,
Ruler of heaven and earth, Who elected us to everlasting life, by
Whose favor we have built this House - - -
Congregation: TO THEE WE DEDICATE THIS CHURCH.
Pastor: O Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, our Lord and only
Redeemer, Head of the church -
Congregation: TO THEE WE DEDICATE THIS CHURCH.
Pastor: O Holy Spirit, the source of light and life, our Teacher, Sanctifier
and Comforter -
Congregation: TO THEE WE DEDICATE THIS CHURCH.
Pastor: To the glory and honor of Thee, the Triune God, Father, Son, and
Holy Ghost -
Congregation: WE DEDICATE THIS CHURCH.
Pastor: To the preaching and teaching of Thy Holy Word, the proclamation
of the law and gospel -

THE FESTIVAL SERVICE

7:00 P.M.

The Prelude "March From Athalia" Mendelssohn

The Hymn of the Church # 462 T. Dwight, 1800

| | |
|---|---|
| I love Thy kingdom, Lord, The House of Thine Abode, The Church our blest Redeemer Saved With His own precious Blood. | I love Thy Church, O God Her walls before Thee stand, Dear as the apple of Thine eye And graven on Thy hand. |
| Should I with scoffers join Her altars to abuse? Nol Better far my tongue were dumb, My hand its skill should lose. | For her my tears shall fall, For her my prayers ascend, To her my cares and toils be given Till toils and cares shall end. |
| Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways, Her sweet communion, solemn vows, Her hymns of love and praise. | Sure as Thy truth shall last, To Zion shall be given The brightest glories earth can yield And brighter bliss of heaven. |

The Evening Suffrages - Page 115 in "The Lutheran Hymnal"

The Scripture Reading - Psalm 84

Anthem - "Lift Up Yout Heads" Senior Choir S. C. Taylor

The Hymn of the Communion of Saints - # 466

Christ, Thou art the sure Foundation, Thou the Head and Cornerstone;
Chosen of the Lord and precious, Binding all the Church in one;
Thou Thy Zion's Help forever - And her Confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call Thee, Come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With Thy wonted loving-kindness, Hear Thy servants as they pray
And Thy fullest benediction - Shed within these walls alway.

Here vouch-safe to all Thy servants - What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee forever - With the blessed to retain,
And here-after in the Glory - Evermore with Thee to reign.

Praise and honor to the Father, Praise and honor to the Son,
Praise and honor to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One,
One in might and one in glory, While unending ages run. AMEN.

The Sermon Hymn - "Lord Jesus, Bless the Pastor's Word" Jr. Choir

The Sermon

The Offertory

The Tithes and Offerings (For the Building Debt)

The Offertory Anthem - "Servants of God" Jr., Sr., & Chapel Choirs

The Hymn of Consecration - "Take my life and let it be" Chapel Choir

The Prayer and Our Lord's Prayer

"Hear our Prayer, Oh Lord!" Senior Choir

The Apostolic Benediction

Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou our lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our Balm in sorrow and our Stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace. AMEN.

The Narthex Prayer

The Postlude

SOLI DEO GLORIA



The Officiant - The Rev. Martin W. Rupprecht, Pastor of Grace Lutheran

The Preacher - Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, New York City

Speaker for the International "Lutheran Hour"

The Organist - Mr. Marvin Tiehaara

The Choir Director - Mr. Russell Bailey



Note: You are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall after the Evening Service
for light refreshments.

MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL GIFTS

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Altar and Chancel | Mr. and Mrs. August A. Heuser, in memory of their son |
| Balcony | Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Breckenfelder |
| Prow Window | Mrs. Henry Ruessmann, in memory of her husband |
| Pulpit and Lectern | The Steinbach Family, in memory of Pastor Robert C. Steinbach |
| Day School Rooms | Mrs. Henry H. Buenger, in memory of her husband Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Green Mrs. Max W. Ross, in memory of her husband Mrs. John H. Vinup, in memory of her husband Mr. and Mrs. Albert Zimmer |
| Sunday School Rooms | Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Beyer Mr. Charles Hoffman, in memory of Minnie M. Hoffman Mr. Charles G. Ruebel, in memory of his parents, Emma and Philip Ruebel Mr. Charles G. Ruebel, in memory of his wife Pastor and Mrs. Martin W. Rupprecht, in memory of Pastor Rupprecht's mother |
| Kitchen Equipment | The Ladies Aid Society |
| The Library | Mr. and Mrs. Oscar G. Bachman |
| The Youth Room | Mr. and Mrs. Norman H. Wagner, Sr. |
| The Sacristy | Mrs. Henry Lohse |
| Pastor's Study & Equipment | Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Rupprecht, in memory of Pastor Rupprecht's father |
| Outdoor Rough-hewn Cross | John and Gloria Rupprecht Strieter, in honor of Pastor and Mrs. Martin Rupprecht |
| Outdoor Bulletin Boards | Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ohrmund |
| Fountain in Reflection Pool | Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wittmann |
| Section Colored Windows | Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Benkemper Mrs. Henry H. Buenger Mr. and Mrs. Lewis L. Fraser, in honor of their children Mrs. Howard B. Haffner, in memory of her mother, Mary S. Swindell Mr. and Mrs. Floyd R. Mantz Dr. Paula Horn Rupprecht, in memory of her husband, Hilbert Rupprecht Mrs. Frances Strickling, in memory of her father, John Francis Quinn |
| Pews | Mr. David M. Amick |

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| Pews (cont'd) | <p>Mrs. Henry H. Buenger Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Bussian, in memory of their fathers, Paul E. Bussian and Bernhardt F. Freigang Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Dayton Mr. and Mrs. Albert Felde (2) Mrs. Eric K. Forster, in memory of her husband Mr. and Mrs. John R. Funk Mr. and Mrs. Herman A. Geisler Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Junge Mr. and Mrs. Wallace C. Keene Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Klatt (2) Mrs. William G. Nunez (2) Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm D. Ogden, Jr. in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm D. Ogden, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm D. Ogden, Jr. in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde J. Keys, Sr. Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Schulze Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Sokolis Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Staats, in memory of their parents Mrs. Henry G. Vackert (2) in memory of her husband</p> |
| Chancel Carpeting | Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Janssen |
| Aisle Carpeting | The Ladies Aid Society |
| Altar Ware | Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Jacobs, in appreciation of untold blessings received during their lifetime |
| American & Christian Flag | Mr. and Mrs. Oscar G. Bachman, in memory of loved ones |
| To Pipe Organ Fund | Mrs. John Vinup |
| Senior Choir Robes | Mr. Charles G. Ruebel, in memory of his wife |
| Chapel Choir Robes | Mrs. S. V. Snyder and Mr. and Mrs. William H. Barlow |
| Junior Choir Robes | In memory of Frieda Studier, by her daughters |
| Choir Music Covers | Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Benkemper |
| Usher Coats | Mr. and Mrs. William G. Henzler |
| Motion Picture Screen & 100 Folding Chairs | The Sunday School |
| Dictating Machines | Dr. and Mrs. James F. Jones |
| Piano | Mrs. Edward O. Jacobs |
| Chancel Chairs | Mr. and Mrs. Charles Betke |
| Guest Registers | Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bruss |
| Guest Register Stands | Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Eggersmann |

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| Altar Service Books | Mrs. Elmar Blomdahl, in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Jaeger |
| 200 Red Hymnals | In memory of Marie R. Rupprecht |
| 100 Red Hymnals | The Sunday School |
| 40 Red Hymnals | Mr. and Mrs. Herman Boettcher |
| 260 Red Hymnals | By many individual members and friends |
| Pulpit Bible | Mrs. W. H. Pruemers, in memory of her husband |
| Oil Paintings | Mrs. Ernest L. Steever Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Gutbier |
| Communion Kneeling Cushions | Mr. and Mrs. Gilman Randon |
| Altar Fair Linen | Mrs. Thurman E. Gore |
| Kindergarten Equipment | Darlene & David Rupprecht, in memory of grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hahm |
| Nursery Equipment | Mr. and Mrs. Ewing Bradford |
| Lamps | Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Mueller |
| To Completion of Roof | James A. Knowles, Inc. |
| Shrubbery & Palms | The Men's Club The Walther League Mr. and Mrs. M. Thompson McClure Garden Path Nursery Ray Amerson, Inc. |



Grace Lutheran Church gratefully acknowledges all of the above listed "Memorials and Special Gifts". In addition, there have been many monetary gifts (ranging from small sums up to \$3,000) which hundreds of individual members, winter visitors, and friends have given, but for which no specific memorial or item were desired or specified. For these donors we have reserved the most important part of the church, the nave, as their combined gift. We offer praise and thanksgiving to God also for all these gifts!

We also thank and praise God for having given so many of our laymen and laywomen the willingness and the strength to labor so long and so hard in so many ways towards the completion of our building project. The members of the Building Committee and "God's Landscapers" must especially be singled out as having rendered outstanding service. God bless them and all others who have "served the Lord with gladness".

Memorials are still available. These, together with special gifts which we may have inadvertently omitted, will be recorded in our permanent MEMORIAL BOOK, which will be on display on the center register stand in the narthex.

MARCH, 1961 - - - OUR DEDICATION MONTH

- March 5 - Dedication of the Church - Dr. Oswald Hoffmann, New York City
March 12 - Dedication of Fellowship Hall - The Rev. Fred Lorberg, Jacksonville, Florida
March 19 - Dedication to Missions - The Rev. August Bernthal, Winter Haven, Florida
March 26 - Dedication to Christian Education - The Rev. Harry Krieger, Traverse City, Michigan



THE BUILDERS

Original architectural drawings - John Randal McDonald

Contractors - First part - William Giles;

Main Work & Completion - James A. Knowles, Inc.

Liturgical Consultant - Dr. A. R. Kretzmann

Major Sub-contractors: Sunset Air Conditioning; Pinellas Lumber Company; Ace Roofing; Pinellas Machine; Southern Coating; William Lyons; L. J. Jansen; Bradenton Stone; Consolidated Services; Anderson Lumber; Omark Southeast; Lindsley Lumber; Florida Testing Lab.; Moderne Floors; Gulf Coast Industrial; Construction Equipment; LaCledde Steel Co.; R. H. Williams, Inc.; Service Roofing Co., Inc.; Hall's Glass Supply; Speedy Sheet Metal Shop; Fold A Wall & Door Co.; McIntire Flooring Co.; Coastal Steel Construction Co., Inc.; Doyle Electric Co.; Bay City Steel; Graves Masonry; Larson Paving Contractors; Southern Desk Company.



HISTORY OF GRACE LUTHERAN

In September, 1927 the Southern District Mission Board of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod called the Rev. Robert Steinbach as missionary to St. Petersburg for the purpose of canvassing the city; if conditions warranted it, a mission was to be established. Mr. E. C. Gale and other Lutherans who wintered here took the lead in this project.

The first service was held on September 18, 1927 in a small room in the former Masonic Temple at the corner of 4th Street and 2nd Ave., South. When attendance increased and facilities proved inadequate, a fund was started on March 12, 1928 for the purpose of purchasing property. Shortly thereafter two lots on which the former church now stands were bought for \$5,000. The congregation was organized on May 11, 1928 with 19 communicant members, 5 of whom were voting members. On June 24, 1928 ground was broken for the church. The cost of the building was \$18,404.75. First services were held on Nov. 4, 1928. The church was dedicated on Feb. 10, 1929.

Twenty years later, on February 13, 1949 the first floor of the Parish Building was dedicated. The front of this building plus a second story were dedicated on Dec. 17, 1950 (1½ years later). Two building programs within two years! The congregation became self-supporting and had grown to 245 communicant members under the leadership of Pastor Steinbach.

A heart attack suddenly terminated the God-blessed ministry of Pastor Steinbach on April 20, 1955. The congregation was then served by the Rev. Julius Walker as interim pastor until January 21, 1956 when he also was suddenly called Home by the Lord.

On February 19, 1956 Pastor Martin Rupprecht was installed as pastor of Grace Church. During the 5 years of his ministry the congregation increased to 850 communicant members, an increase of 350%. This growth, together with the anticipated continuance of population influx, motivated the Voter's Assembly to relocate and build adequate facilities for our many worshipers and for our Day School and Sunday School children. Our Sunday School also enjoyed a fine growth; a class had to meet in the kitchen; Adult Bible Class had to be discontinued because no room was available. Three Sunday morning services had to be held in "the season" to accommodate our members as well as up to 300 winter visitors per Sunday.

With the able help of Mrs. Rupprecht, the first teacher, a Christian Day School was started in September, 1956. It numbered 18 kindergarten pupils. The following year the first grade was added; enrollment now reached 95 pupils; 2 station wagons were purchased to transport children. In 1959 the 4th grade was added, and our first male teacher, Mr. Walter Wendt, was extended a solemn contract. Mrs. Rupprecht served as acting principal for the first four years. In August, 1960 Mr. Ed Eggersmann arrived as our first Day School principal, having been called from Bethlehem Lutheran School in St. Louis. In addition to his principal duties, Mr. Eggersmann is the teacher of our combined 5th and 6th grades. The present enrollment is 226 pupils. We now have 4 kindergarten teachers and 5 teachers for grades 1 through 6. All of our new classrooms are already filled; in fact, one class is meeting in the library. As time goes on and as God provides the means we shall build additional classrooms and meeting rooms in the two open, uncompleted wings, intended for future expansion.

God has blessed our church and schools. To Him alone be all honor and glory!



EXECUTIVE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Arthur Kessler and Richard Thoms, Co-Chairmen
August Heuser, Honorary; Frank Staats, Honorary
John Mackensen, E. C. Jacobs, Alan Steinbach,
Pastor Martin Rupprecht
M. Tom McClure; Graham Stansbury - Attorneys
Archie Parish, Architect consultant

Space does not permit us to mention all members of all committees. We shall acknowledge their assistance and counsel merely through the mentioning of their committees and their chairmen.

Landscaping Committee: H. Geisler & Mrs. E. Forster, co-chairmen
 Altar & Chancel Committee: Mrs. R. Steinbach & Mrs. A. Heuser, co-chairmen
 Building Fund Committee: E. C. Jacobs, Chairman
 Furniture Committee: Mrs. J. Funk & J. Boerker, co-chairmen
 Organ Committee: R. Baily & Mrs. R. Ossian, co-chairmen
 Construction Committee: Wm. Zimmerman & Wm. Elder, co-chairmen
 Public Relations Committee: D. Amick & L. Fraser, co-chairmen

OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION

President Walter F. Frillman
 Vice-President Norman H. Wagner, Sr.
 Recording Secretary Herman Boettcher
 Treasurer Richard Thoms
 Day School Treasurer Joseph Wieland
 Financial Secretary Richard F. Janssen
 Asst. Financial Secretary Oscar G. Bachman
 Sunday School Superintendent William F. Elder
 Asst. Sunday School Superintendent Alfred M. Hyde

Our Visitation Pastors - John Schumacher
 Carl Hoffmann

Our Ministers of Music - Marvin Tieharra, Organist
 Walter Wendt, Ass't.
 Russell Bailey, Choir Director

Our Day School Teachers Mr. Edwin Eggersmann, Principal

Our Day School Teachers - Mr. Edwin Eggersmann, Principal
 Mr. Walter Wendt Mrs. A. Evans
 Mrs. Wm. Mooneyham Mrs. B. M. Duggar
 Mrs. Bonacker Mrs. H. Rahmel
 Mrs. M. Mitchell Mrs. R. Dorman

Our Church Office - Mrs. Robert Steinbach, Sec'y
 Mrs. Thurman Gore, Ass't

ORGANIZATIONS - In the congregation:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Ladies Aid Society | Men's Club (L.L.L.) |
| L.W.M.L. | Married Couples Club |
| Altar Guild | Boy Scouts |
| Walther League | |
| Senior Choir | Golden Age Club |
| Chapel Choir | Parent Teacher League |
| Junior Choir | God's Landscapers |

COMMITTEES

Board of Elders - Carl Habel, Chairman
 Evangelism Committee - A. W. Schaefer, Chairman
 Board of Parish Education - Donald Sokolis, Chairman

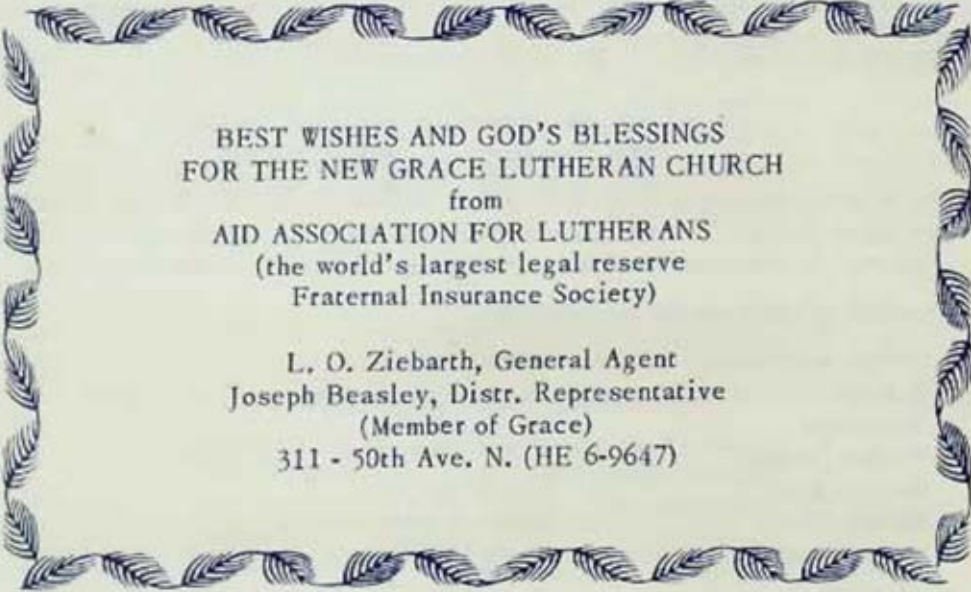
Trustees - Raymond R. Rollman, Chairman
Deacons - Leo E. Ludwig, Chairman
Stewardship Committee - Oscar Ohrmund, Chairman
Music Committee - James E. Sharp, Chairman
Nominating Committee - Wm. H. Zimmerman, Chairman

"Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee."

OUR NEW CHURCH seats 910. It is air-conditioned. There are 20 S.S. rooms. Our Christian Day School occupies 9 rooms. Our Fellowship Hall seats 300 and dines 300. This hall, together with the offices, are also air-conditioned. The tower rises to 74 feet high. A massive 40 foot rough-hewn cross will be erected on the lawn next week. Our property is slightly more than 5 acres. Our Hammond concert organ is temporary; we hope eventually to install a new pipe organ. Members of our Golden Age Club will be glad to guide you through our buildings and explain the spiritual and liturgical significance of various parts.

Dr. A. R. Kretzmann, nationally known liturgical consultant, has described Grace Church as "the South's most beautiful Lutheran Church".

Grace Church appreciates your interest in this Our Venture for Christ. We solicit your prayers for our Church and its ministry here. May our merciful God and Savior bless you and us!



BEST WISHES AND GOD'S BLESSINGS
FOR THE NEW GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
from
AID ASSOCIATION FOR LUTHERANS
(the world's largest legal reserve
Fraternal Insurance Society)

L. O. Ziebarth, General Agent
Joseph Beasley, Distr. Representative
(Member of Grace)
311 - 50th Ave. N. (HE 6-9647)

The Rev. Martin W. Rupprecht
The present Pastor of
Grace Lutheran Church
1956 -



The Rev. Robert Steinbach
The first Pastor of
Grace Lutheran Church
1927 - 1955 (†)

*"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay
thy vows unto the most High."
Psalm 50, 14*



*"I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord"
Psalm 122, 1*