



Rev. Phil Peterson, Pastor Don Fultz and Rev. Herbert W. Chilstrom, president of the Minnesota Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, bless the altar as part of Sunday's dedication ceremonies at the new Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. A large group of parishioners, special guests and visitors gathered at the church for the afternoon ceremony. [Mike Slavik photos].

President of Minnesota synod officiates at dedication of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

A bright, sunny afternoon, a waterlogged parking lot of gravel and mud, and a joyous congregation greeted the Rev. Herbert W. Chilstrom, president of the Minnesota Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, as he visited New Prague to dedicate the new Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Sunday's afternoon ceremonies took place at the site of the new worship facility, which stands just outside the city limits on Hwy. 19 East -- an impressive, one-story brick building which has been the goal of the local Lutheran congregation since the construction project was initiated back in 1973.

The Rev. Chilstrom was among the special guests who attended the dedication along with the parishioners and other local and area people. Rev. Don Fultz, pastor of Holy Trinity, and Rev. Phil Peterson, associate pastor, officiated at the 90-minute ceremony, which featured prayers, speeches, congratulatory messages and the singing of the Holy Trinity and St. Wenceslaus Catholic chorale groups.

The new church, which has already had a lengthy, and colorful, life as a longrange goal, a blueprint and, finally, brick and mortar, was constructed during the past year on acreage purchased from Dr. Elmer Doherty, who lives nearby. The new facility has a capacity of 435 parishioners, and also features a kitchen, bathrooms, mechanical and storage areas, lounge, fellowship hall, offices and classrooms. The former Lutheran church on First Avenue Northeast was sold in 1977 to the Living Praise Alliance Church congregation.

Sunday's service opened with several songs and prayers, and an invocation by Rev. Peterson.

The Rev. Chilstrom, who maintains the synod office in Minneapolis, told the congregation that it "had been blessed

(with a new church)... and you are now challenged to be a blessing." He referred to the many hardships which the church members had endured during the planning and construction phases of the project, especially when the several hundred worshippers had to utilize a local gymnasium for Sunday services.

"From conception, through a long and rigorous pregnancy... and now to enjoy the birth of your dream," said the synod president, "it is a truly marvelous and sacred event we are here to witness today."

Following the Rev. Chilstrom's talk, Rev. Fultz and Rev. Peterson joined him in blessing the altar, pulpit, baptismal font and church building. Lay members of the parish brought them a new service book, Bible and Communion vessels, to be placed on the altar and used at future services in the new church.

Rev. Fultz spoke for a short time, briefly tracing the journey his parish had undergone to get to the point of the dedication of the new church. He introduced a number of visiting clergy, including Rev. Raymond Zweber, pastor of St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church; Rev. David Sohl, pastor of Living Praise Alliance Church (both in New Prague); Rev. Gene Boschee, area Lutheran Council president and pastory of St. John's Lutheran Church in Belle Plaine; Rev. Carl Oslund, dean of the St. Peter District and pastor of First Lutheran in Le Sueur; Rev. Dallas Bienkus, pastor of St. John's Lutheran in Lakeville; Rev. Al Koschade, pastor of St. John's Lutheran in Montgomery; Rev. Lindsay Shaner, pastor of Grace Lutheran in Mankato; Rev. Paul Hesterberg, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran in Le Center; and Rev. Ornn Tietz of Hope Lutheran in Jordan.

Several of the clergymen offered brief messages of congratulation, including Rev. Zweber, who called the Holy Trinity

congregation's efforts "a sign of God's preserve and the assurance that He is in all of our hearts."

Rev. Fultz personally thanked many of the individuals who gave of themselves in helping with the project, including his wife, Eunice and Rev. Peterson's wife, Carol, and the following persons or organizations: Terry Drommerhausen, Holy Trinity choir director, and Bob Wagner, director of the St. Wenceslaus choir; Valdeen Tuma, who crocheted a 4 x 6-ft. scene of the Last Supper, which reportedly took her nearly 250 hours to complete; to Sister Jean Juennemann and the sisters at Queen of Peace Hospital who created a large banner for the church's dining hall; to Kratochvil Construction Company and Vince Kratochvil, the general contractor; to Tom Panek, who helped to supervise the project; to Joe's Electric of Cannon Falls, of which Holy Trinity member Phil Holm is an employee; by Grandahl Mechanical; to Architectural Design Group and architect Byron Stadsvoild; and to Tuohy Furniture Company of Chalfield.

Special thanks were accorded by Rev. Fultz to the Holy Trinity Church Council, of which Ron Aase, Wayne Anderson, Kerry Heckenlaible, Dennis Jaspersen, Janice Larson, Leonard Newman, Dr. Charles Puffer, Rev. Reishus, Roger Trittlewitz and Steve Zard are members; and to the church Building Committee, of which Don Annundson, Terry Drommerhausen, Gary Eagen, Sharon Ellis, Jane Hines, Lois Hendricks, Keith Rensberger, Jim Sandin and John Wieland are members.

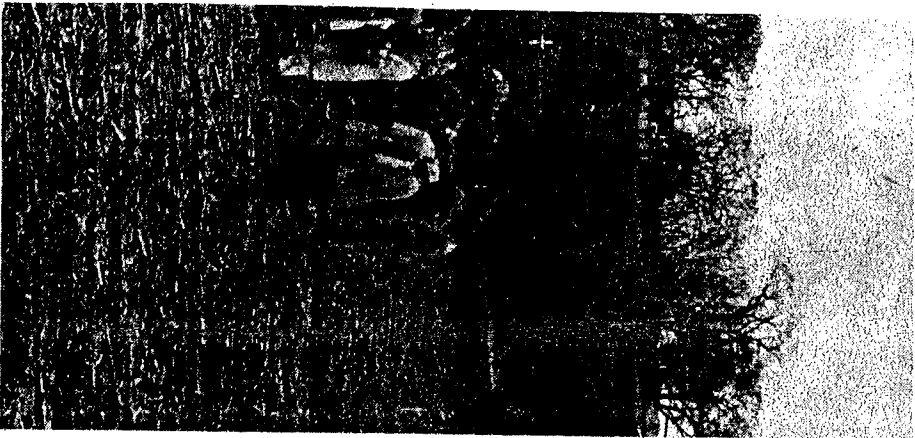
Following the service, tours were taken of the building and refreshments were served.

A year ago, Holy Trinity parish numbered 423 adults and 256 children -- a total of 679 parishioners. The church first came to New Prague in 1947.



Pastor Don Fultz thanked many people for their efforts in making the new worship facility a reality.

the beginning ”



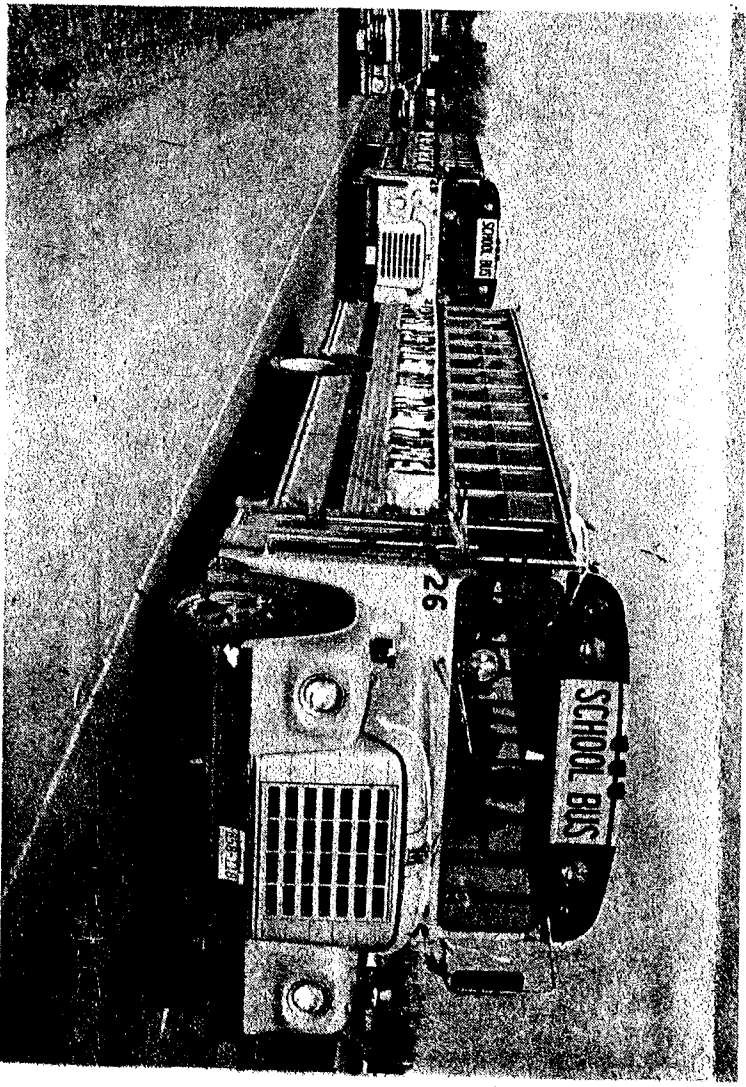
he new church.



teral area of their new musical "home," which could be completed yet this year.



Rev. Don Fultz, pastor at Holy Trinity, turned over the first shovel of earth.



Some of the parishioners arrived at the ceremony in school buses bedecked with banners and balloons.

... from ... puonic hearings will be conducted at the city hall on Monday, May ... for the purpose of receiving citizen input in a proposed Community Development block Grant application.

The grant application, which will ask for approximately \$500,000 for a rehabilitation project in the Bohnsack neighborhood, is the second effort to secure public money for the neighborhood.

plication had been sent to Housing and Urban Development in January of 1977, but several months later it didn't rank enough to be funded. The merits of

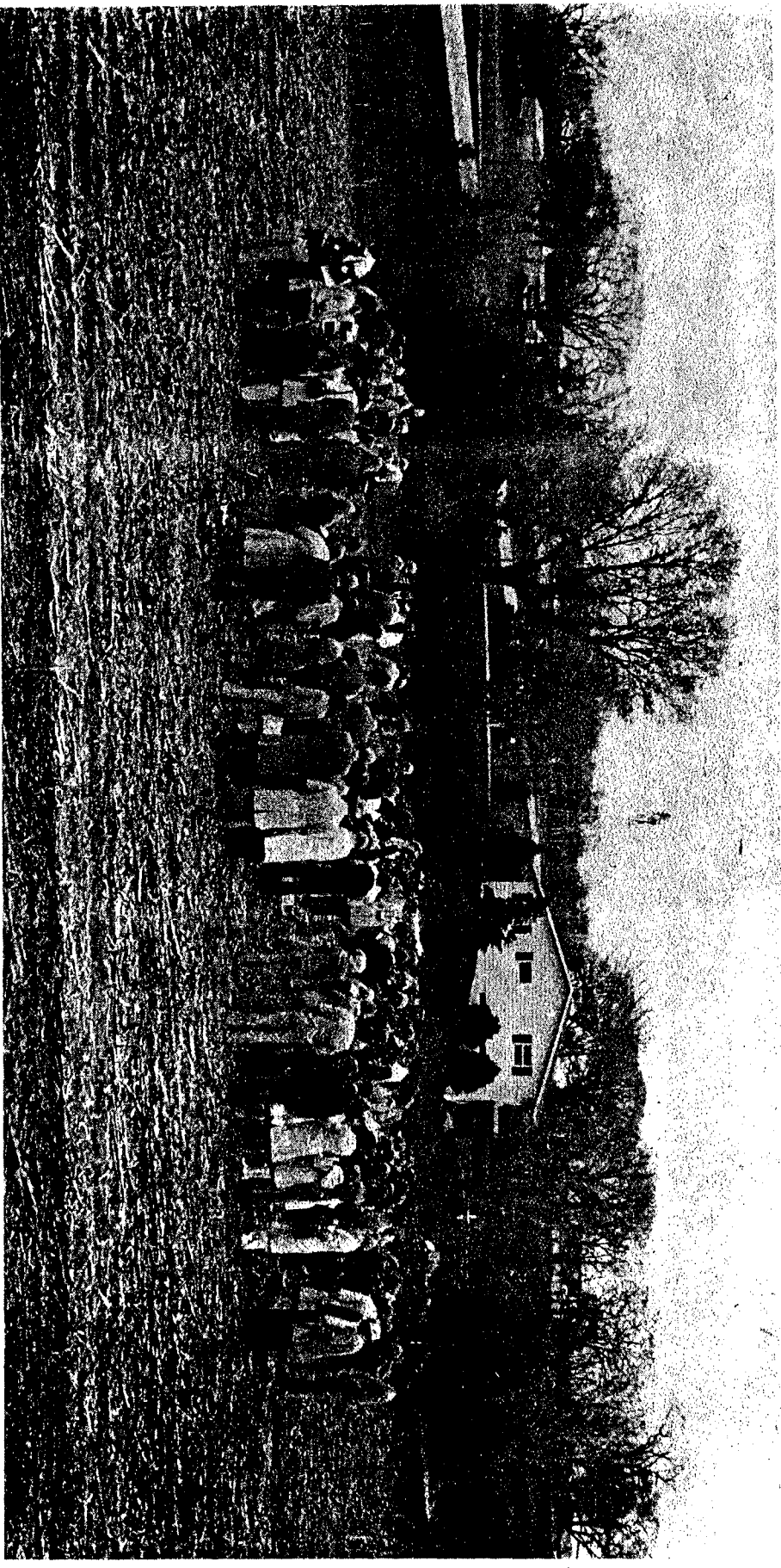
Development Block Grant program, and New Prague could have a better chance this time of receiving federal funds.

The Bohnsack Addition is situated north of Hwy. 19 West and west of Hwy. 21 North, in the Northwest sector of the city. City officials have determined that the neighborhood is in need of extensive street, water and sewer and light improvements, along with the upgrading of some housing units.

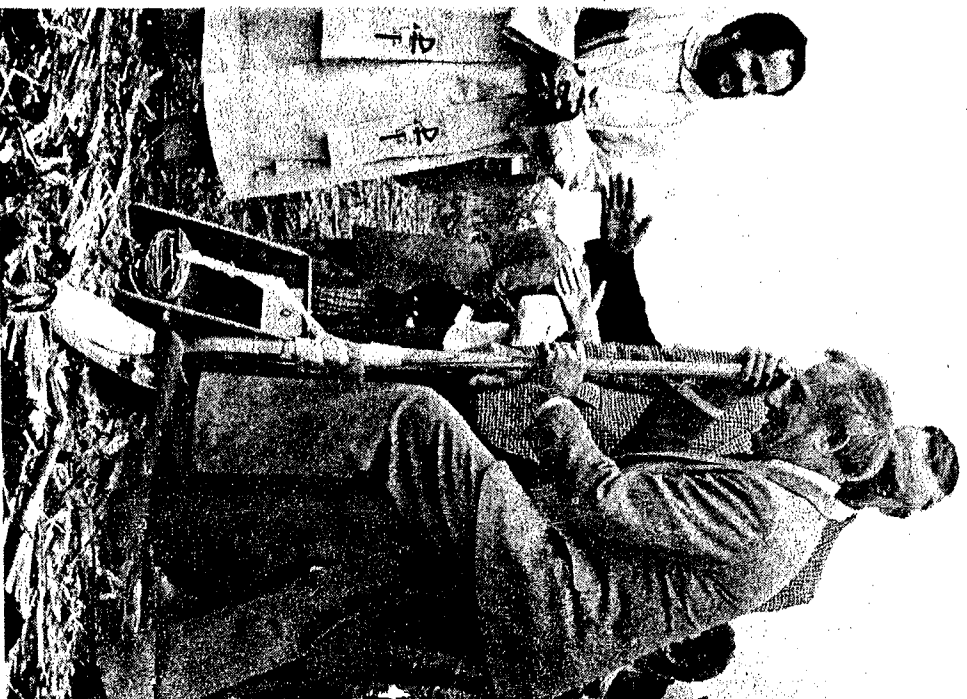
The grant application has been developed with the assistance of city planner, Dean Doysscher, who also wrote up last year's application.

The first hearing heine at 7 p.m. and at 10

Holy Trinity Lutheran: "This is the beginn



Arriving in cars and streamer and balloon-covered school buses, hundreds of parishioners of Holy Trinity gathered at the site of the new church.



Dr. Elmer Doherty, who resides immediately east of the site of the new church, was one of the shovelers on Sunday. He had owned the land on which the worship facility will rest.



Members of the Holy Trinity church choir stood in the general area of their new musical "home," Sunday, to sing in thanksgiving for their new worship facility, which could be completed yet this year.

Holy Trinity congregation worships in new facility

A bright sun filtering through the horizontal bands of windows that bordered the worship area, and an overflow crowd of parishioners greeted Reverends Don Fultz and Phil Peterson on Sunday morning, for the first service in the new Holy Trinity Lutheran Church facility on Hwy. 13-19.

Although the one-story, brick building has not been completely finished, workers did meet the weekend deadline for preparing the altar and seating area of the 355-capacity church. On Saturday a number of parishioners moved church fixtures and supplies to their new home, and Christmas wreaths and trees were decorated in time for the inaugural service.

Extra seating had to be arranged along the outer fringes of the worship area, but no one seemed to mind. The service lasted for nearly one hour and one-half, and was enthusiastic, inspiring and, at times, lightly humorous.

Rev. Fultz, who spearheaded the \$399,000 building project with the parish construction committee, opened the 9 a.m. service with words of thanks for being able to celebrate with his congregation the realization of "a dream." With his opening remarks, Rev. Fultz admitted that he hadn't anticipated one minor flaw in the building plan -- the eastern band of windows (which are clear-paned while the western bands are of stained-glass) allowed the strong, morning sunlight to strike him in such a way as to make normal vision almost impossible.

The service featured a medley of holiday and religious hymns by the adult choir, led by Terry Drommerhausen. The sermon was offered by Rev. Peterson, who blended humor with profound thoughts for the holiday season in his 10-minute talk.

These photos were taken by Mike Slavik, who attended the first service at the new worship facility. From upper right, in a clockwise fashion: Rev. Phil Peterson gives a meaningful sermon; the overflow congregation crowds into the worship area; parishioners bow their heads during a Scripture reading; Terry Drommerhausen leads the adult choir; and Rev. Don Fultz appears to be spotlighted by the bright sun as he thanks the congregation for its efforts in making the new church a reality.



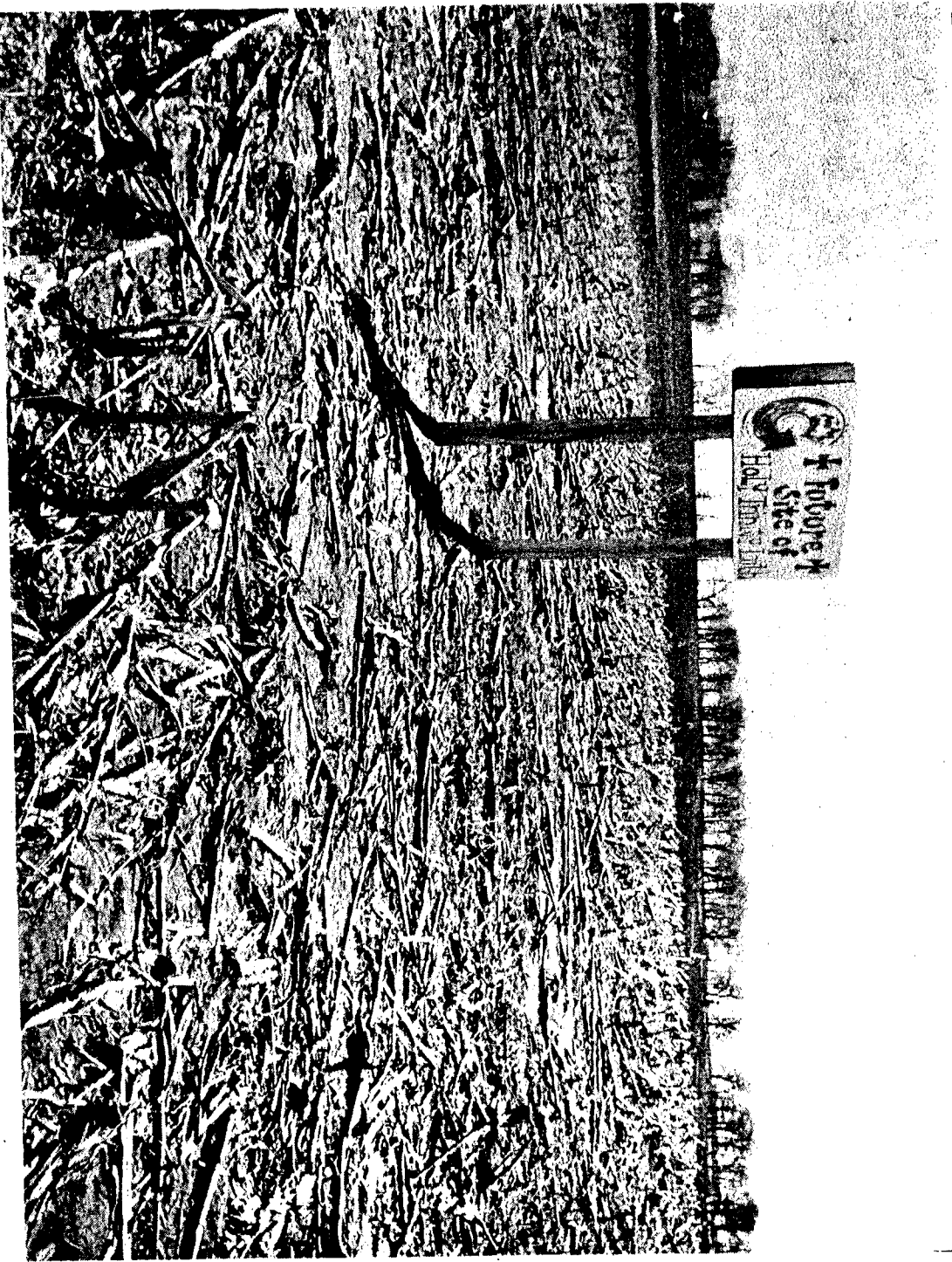
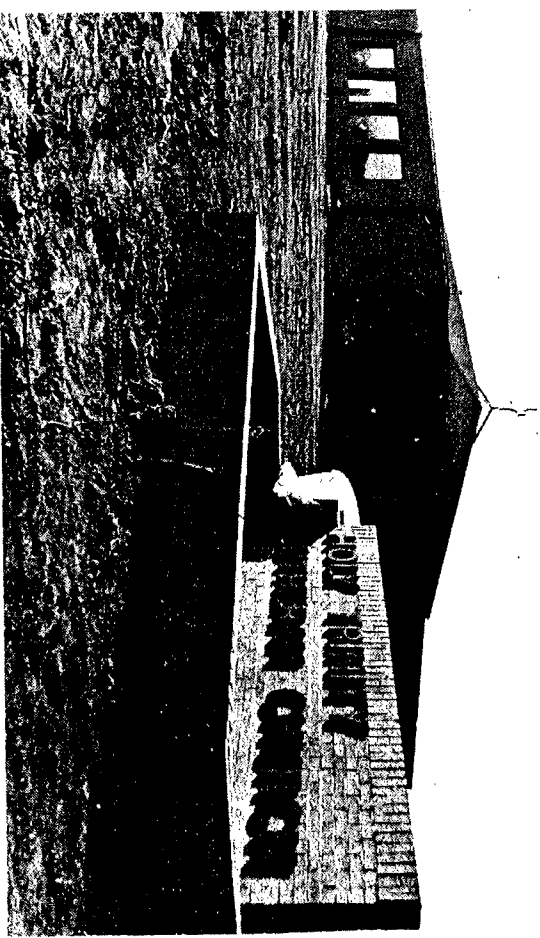
Cornerstone dedicated at Holy Trinity Church

The congregation of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in New Prague gathered after its weekly worship service at a local school to take part in an important event. Sunday marked the formal cornerstone laying for the new church, which is nearing completion on property located along Highway 19 East, just outside the city limits.

The event was an enthusiastic affair for the parishioners, who decided to sell their old church more than a year ago and set about planning for a new facility. The first

service in the new church is expected to be celebrated just before Christmas.

The brief ceremony was held outside the church, under a sunny sky. The crowd braved strong winds to sing, hear scripture readings and listen to comments made by Rev. Don Fultz, pastor of Holy Trinity (lower left photo), assistant pastor Rev. Philip Peterson, council president, Jim Holzer and Gary Eagen, building committee chairman. The latter three men took part in the ceremonial "tapping" of the cornerstone into place on the building's east wall (lower right photo). (Mike Slavik photos).



Ground-breaking set for Sunday

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in New Prague is making plans to hold a ground-breaking ceremony at its new site on Highway 19, just east of New Prague (across from Jerry's Fairway) on Sunday, April 30, between 10 and 11 a.m.

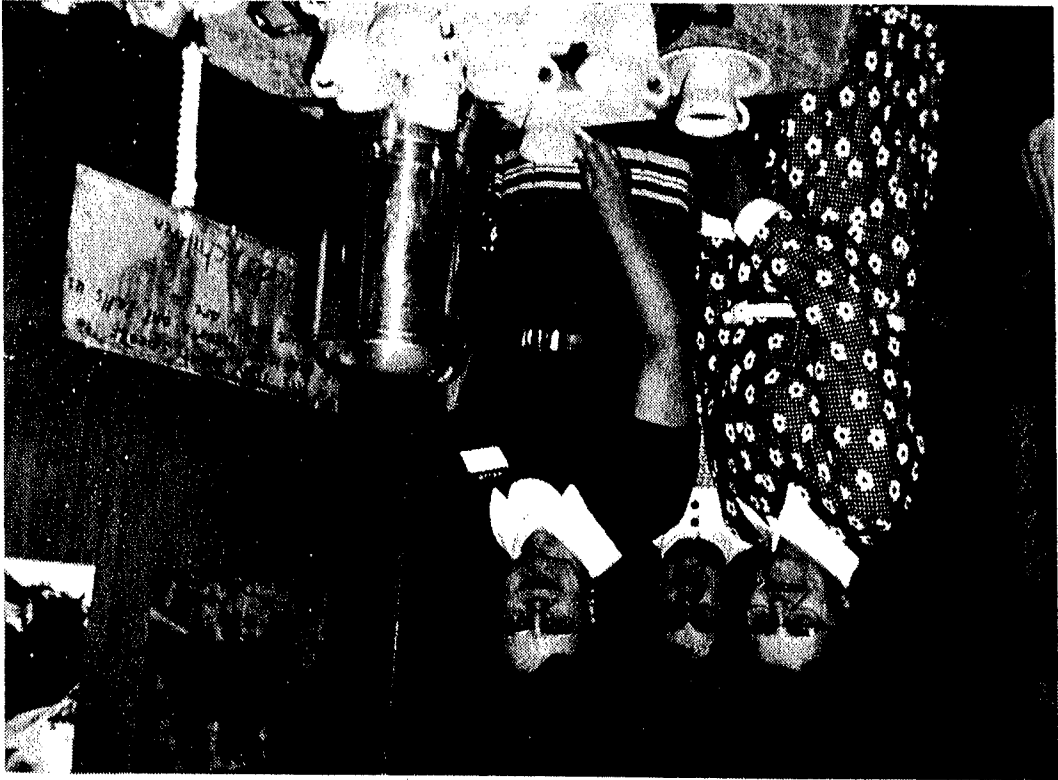
Bus transportation will be provided from the public elementary school, where services are presently being held, to the site and back again. Cars driven directly to the site may park in Jerry's Fairway

lot. Pedestrian safety in crossing Highway 19 will be provided by the State Patrol and local Police Reserve.

Holy Trinity, sold its former facility to the Living Praise Alliance Church and the congregation has been worshipping and holding church school classes in the elementary school since June of 1977. Construction at the site will hopefully begin in early May, with completion around Christmas of this year.

1974

Holy Trinity anniversary



Mrs. George Benesh, Mrs. Elmer Gerdes and Mrs. Leonard Voxland were pouring coffee during one of the informal gatherings, in the anniversary celebration, (Holy Trinity Lutheran Church photos).



Warren Egan and daughter, Colleen, at left, were visiting with Mrs. Irvin Walth of Rochester, when photographed.

Holy Trinity anniversary celebrated by hundreds

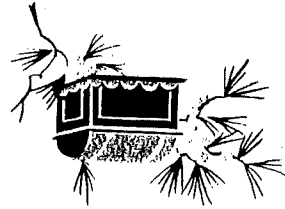
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church observed the 25th anniversary of its organization on Saturday and Sunday, with many past and present members of the congregation, as well as members of the clergy, area residents and other friends in attendance.

Among the clergy who attended from out-of-town were Dr. Thomas Wersell of Minneapolis; Rev. and Mrs. Birt Harris, Mrs. Roland Scheetz (Coy Harris) and daughter Shannon, of South Bend, Indiana; Rev. and Mrs. Lynn Strand of St. Louis Park; Rev. Herbert Gustafson of St. Peter; and Dr. Bernhard Erling of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter. Among the many other out-of-town residents were Mr. and Mrs. Ron Johnson of St. Cloud; Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Prescott of Princeton; Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Walth of Rochester; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Inlow of Hudson, Wisconsin; and Mrs. Marge Bundel.



Ralph Hendricks and Mr. and Mrs. George Proshok chatted with Irvin Walth of Rochester, at center, who was one of the former members of the congregation attending the event.

1974

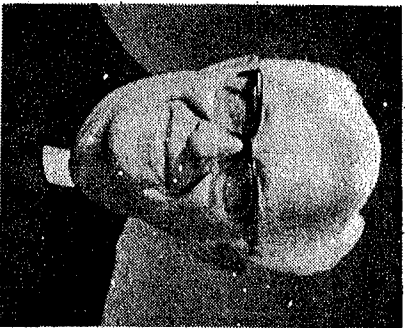


Montgomery

Former Montgomery Pastor

1983 Rev. Conrad Buehler Celebrates Golden Jubilee

Zion Lutheran Church of Waterville, Ohio celebrated the 50th anniversary of the ordination of the Rev. Conrad J. Buehler with a day-long Golden Jubilee celebration on Sunday, June 26. Rev. Buehler is a former pastor of St. John Lutheran Church in Montgomery.



Rev. Buehler was ordained on May 28, 1933 and served Zion from September 1949 until his retirement in January of 1974. Prior to going to Waterville, he served congregations in Iowa and Minnesota.

The June 26 celebration began with a 9:15 a. m. worship service, with Rev. Buehler delivering the sermon. The service was followed by a reception from 11 to 1:00.

A Golden Jubilee Service was held at 3:00 p. m., with Rev. Buehler's son, the Rev. David Buehler, delivering the sermon. A dinner began at 5. Since his retirement, Rev. Buehler has made his home in Clear Lake, Indiana, where he serves as supply pastor for neighboring congregations in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. He also spends his retirement days gardening and fishing. Rev. Buehler and his wife, the late Winifred Buehler, are also the parents of three other children - Peter lives in Arman, Jordan, and Genevieve in San Francisco; David is chaplain at Chatham Memorial Hospital in Fall River, Maine, and a third son, Conrad, Jr., died in 1966 while on active duty with the U. S. Air Force. Rev. Buehler also has two sisters and a brother, all living in Mason City, Iowa, and two grandchildren.



Peace On Earth



Pastor & Mrs. Strand family



Aug • 60



Pastor Birt Harris, wife Gen holding baby Dawn and Gaye & Coy

