



ABBREVIATED BRISTOL LUTHERAN TIMELINE 1907-2012

Through the years, this congregation had ups and downs, but God helped it survive the challenges.

Spring 1907 - Members of the Southern District of Spring Prairie Evangelical Lutheran Church and their neighbors who belonged to the Hauges Lutheran Church, both in Keyeser, met to discuss their desire to form a new congregation closer to their homes in Bristol Township.

June 19, 1907 - First documented meeting with Rev. L. S. J. Reque and members of Southern District of Spring Prairie Evangelical Lutheran Church about forming a separate congregation.

June 23, 1907 - 2:30 p.m. - First Lutheran worship service in Bristol Township led by Rev. L. S. J. Reque at Andreas Reinen home followed by first congregational meeting to form new congregation.

July 29, 1907 - At this second congregational meeting with Rev. Reque in Bristol Township, incorporation papers were signed to form a new congregation. The papers were filed the next day.

September 1, 1907 - 10:30 a.m. - Worship in Bristol Township in Norwegian then in English.

September 18, 1907 - Third congregational meeting with Rev. Reque in Bristol Township.

October 2, 1907 - Fourth congregational meeting with Rev. Reque in Bristol Township.

October 20, 1907 - Joint worship and whole parish meeting at Norway Grove to vote on reconfiguring the parish - Spring Prairie, Norway Grove, Bristol, and two congregations in DeForest.

October 23, 1907 - Fifth congregational meeting with Rev. Reque in Bristol Township.

November 13, 1907 - Sixth congregational meeting with Rev. Reque in Bristol Township.

December 1, 1907 - Worship and seventh congregational meeting with Rev. Reque.

December 14, 1907 - Signed "Agreement to Purchase," for \$1,200 with \$250 earnest money, the Methodist-Episcopal Church property – a one-room sanctuary with a basement divided into

Sunday school rooms, a meeting hall, a kitchen with a stairway up to the pulpit area, and a rear exit door.

January 5, 1908 - Rev. Johan Arnd Aasgaard preached in Bristol Township. He did not conduct worship that day but was asked to speak to see if the congregation would accept him.

January 13, 1908 - Targe O. Mandt conducted the eighth congregational meeting at which men aged 21 or older were permitted to vote as the first constitution was adopted. Rev. J. A. Aasgaard was not present, but at this meeting it was voted to call him to serve temporarily as pastor and for the congregation to seek approval to join the United Norwegian Lutheran Church in America.

February 9, 1908 - First worship service that Rev. J. A. Aasgaard conducted in Bristol Township.

February 12, 1908 - First meeting to organize a Ladies' Aid Society at home of Targe O. Mandt.

April 20, 1908 - Worship with Rev. Aasgaard and ninth congregational meeting. Voted for two-months religion school and pay teacher \$30 plus costs. Hans Larson elected as school superintendent.

May 6, 1908 - First meeting to organize a Young Folks Society at home of Arne Weigen.

May 28, 1908 - Meeting with Hans Larson to organize first summer "religion school."

June 16, 1908 - Warranty Deed from trustees of Methodist Episcopal Church was signed.

July 20, 1908 - Religion school taught weekdays by seminary student C. M. Horneland.

August 2, 1908 - Worship with C. M. Horneland and fall session of Sunday school began.

September 6, 1908 - First School Fest (end of summer weekday parochial school) with C. M. Horneland and enrolling catechism students for pre-confirmation instruction.

January 11, 1909 - Rev. Aasgaard authorized to purchase altar for \$155. It was dedicated April 4.

June 20, 1909 - Seminary student P. E. Nelson spoke about China where his parents were missionaries when he was a child. This was the first example of Mission Fest.

June 28, 1909 - Pastoral candidate M. J. Berge began two months of religion school with 30 children.

October 31, 1909 - Reformation Sunday - Extensive questioning of pre-confirmation class by Rev. G. G. Krostu who preached in Norwegian; confirmation; building dedicated by Rev. Gerhard Rasmussen; Rev. Otto Mostrum preached in the p.m. in English after reception into

United Norwegian Lutheran Church. After this acceptance, delegates were annually elected to represent the Bristol congregation at District meetings of the UNLC.

October 9, 1910 - Mission Fest - Offering sent to mission for Norwegian Children and to the Martin Luther Orphan's Home in Stoughton.

January 9, 1911 - Of 87 present, 41 confirmed members, only 21 men entitled to vote. Voted to hold six weeks of religion school, stake grave lots, fence cemetery, and repair sheds.

May 14, 1911 - Rev. Aasgaard resigned to accept a call to Concordia College. Pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Oconomowoc was asked to provide 12 sermons and be paid \$125 for 1912.

July 16, 1911 - Worship with catechization of pre-confirmation students by Prof. C. O. Solberg. Religion school with 36 students taught by Miss Marion Aasgaard, sister of Rev. J. A. Aasgaard.

August 27, 1911 - Worship, confirmation, communion, baptism, and resignation of Rev. J. A. Aasgaard. Confirmation and first communion the same day was unusual, but pastor was leaving.

September, 1911 – June, 1914 - Rev. Christian S. Thompson served part-time while serving full-time in Oconomowoc. Voted January 8, 1912, to pay half of his salary in June instead of all at end of year.

November 2, 1912 - Additional land on southwest corner was purchased for \$65 from Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Dahle for cemetery. Church bell paid for by Ladies' Aid and Young People's Societies.

November 7, 1912 - Plots drawn and lots sold for \$5 or single graves for \$2. Book to record purchases of lots and graves was started. Congregation gave trustees authority to borrow money.

May 1, 1914 - Rev. Thompson resigned. An interim clerk from Oconomowoc served temporarily.

July 12, 1914 - Rev. Peter Emil Nelson (also full-time at Oconomowoc) installed by Rev. Stubkjær.

January 10, 1916 - Collectors asked \$1 from each girl and \$2 for each boy confirmed where before they had collected only from head of household on an annual basis.

July 23, 1916 - Rev. P. E. Nelson resigned but served until next pastor came November 26, 1916.

January 1, 1917 - Merger of three Lutheran synods was finalized. Bristol was served by three neighboring pastors – N. A. Stubkjaer of the United Norwegian Lutheran Synod, L. S. J. Reque of the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and J. N. Walstead of the Hauges Norwegian Lutheran Synod. Each was paid 1/3 salary. Services were every two weeks in the afternoon.

January 8, 1917 - Ladies' Aid agreed to pay for cement for basement floor; Theodore Jensen to get the gravel; men to do the work of cementing floor in basement.

January 1, 1918 - Rev. L. S. J. Reque accepted a call to Bristol, in addition to his duties at Spring Prairie Lutheran Church, but resigned September 15, 1918, to accept a call to Galesville, WI. Rev. J. N. Walstead served temporarily and was paid \$35 for remainder of 1918 after Reque left.

November 3, 1918 - A committee conferred with Spring Prairie as to the possibility of sharing the pastor being called to that site. Since Rev. C. G. Naeseth would also serve the small Norway Grove faction in DeForest and the former Hauges Synod church in Morrisonville, the committee recommended to continue the arrangement with Rev. Walstead, who at that time was serving at Lodi.

January 1, 1919 - Worship every other Sunday at 2:30 p.m. was led by Rev. J. N. Walstead who also served Trinity in Madison full-time. On intervening Sundays, Bible class and Sunday school met. Quarterly congregational meetings opened with a hymn, scripture reading, and prayer.

May 14, 1919 - Bristol voted to be independent, not a part of Spring Prairie Lutheran Parish.

1920 -Worshipped in Norwegian 20 times, English 5 times, and 4 times led by Young Folks' Society.

January 10, 1921 - Andrew Reinen elected first superintendent of graves and asked to make a complete plat for cemetery. Rev. Walstead was paid for the year \$87.38 – what was left in treasury.

January 9, 1922 - Voted to start Men's Brotherhood. Logbooks and minutes 1907-1922 were in Norwegian. From 1922–1949 logbooks and minutes were a combination of Norwegian and English.

January 8, 1923 -Voted for new roof, improvements inside, and a new cement floor in lower level with two exits. Pastor's salary to be paid every six months instead of at end of year.

January 14, 1924 - New hot-air furnace installed for \$150.

January 18, 1926 - Approved alternate English and Norwegian worship services. Rev. Walstead to get \$200 per year salary. Committee elected to purchase organ. Collected annually \$10 per member family plus \$2 for each confirmed youth.

June 1926 - Pump organ purchased. The original had been lent from the parlor of T. O. Mandt.

February 27, 1927 - Addition to bylaws gave women the right to vote at congregational meetings.

July 16, 1928 - At 20th Anniversary Festival service in Norwegian 11 a.m. Rev. Aasgaard preached. He wrote a two-page history of the congregation, making it sound as if he had given

the first sermon in the area, arranged for the incorporation, presented the constitution, procured the building, and recruited the first members all in 1908. Rev. Aasgaard ignored the original documents from 1907 and did not have access to the logbook of Rev. L. S. J. Reque to find when, where, and how this congregation was formed prior to Rev. Aasgaard's being called. His version was repeated until 2007.

1931 - The building was painted and the kitchen remodeled.

1933 - Voted to have Easter service in English and Christmas service in Norwegian.

January 13, 1936 - Approved two English worship services for each Norwegian service. Trustees to purchase church pews from Huges Synod church in Keyeser. Steeple roof shingled that year.

1937 - New furnace installed was a coal stoker with a round vent in the middle of the floor. The sanctuary was insulated by covering walls and ceiling with celotex boards and the chancel with carpeting. All bills paid plus an amount paid to the Synod and over \$257 to the Centennial drive.

1938 - The church building was wired for electricity.

September 4, 1938 - Mission Fest - Rev. J. O. Twiten 11 a.m.; 30th Anniversary was celebrated 2 p.m. The inaccurate writeup from the 20th was repeated. No other special activities were mentioned.

January 8, 1940 - Voted to have three English worship services for each one Norwegian service, but the following year voted to go back to two English worship services for each Norwegian service.

January 12, 1942 - First mention of a budget rather than free will offering for missions. The congregation was assessed by Synod \$300.20 for missions and that amount was paid in full.

September 5, 1943 - Dedication of church flag and US flag.

December 20, 1943 - At 2:30 p.m. was the first Christmas worship service that was not on December 25. Dedication of the war service Honor Roll with 12 names and the service flag with 12 stars.

January 10, 1944 - Voted that yearly finance reports be printed and distributed on confirmation day.

January 8, 1945 - Voted to have worship in English except Mission Fest and Christmas and at 10:45 a.m. when can be arranged by pastor, to write meeting minutes in English, to repair roof, and to paint exterior.

January 14, 1946 - Voted that treasurer create a church building improvement fund and to collect for it on confirmation and Thanksgiving Sundays.

June 18, 1946 - Luther League song service directed by Rev. F. E. Olderr.

June 30, 1946 - Used collection plates for first time.

September 1, 1946 - Voted to buy seven book racks for back of pews and 50 hymn books. Prior to that, each confirmed member paid for his own hymn book and carried it to and from worship.

January 13, 1947 - Treasurer started a checking account, so all bills to be paid by check. Voted to use envelope system for one-year trial, to raise Rev. Walstead's salary to \$600 and omit giving him the Christmas and Easter offering, to give all money taken in January through Easter to Skaalen Old Folks Home, to have building committee submit plans, and to use English for all regular services.

April 27, 1947 - Blueprints presented to add a sacristy with basement for new kitchen, new stove and kitchen equipment, narthex with central entry and vestibule. Treasurer to start separate building fund. Bible class for post-confirmation high school students met same times as Sunday school.

May 15, 1947 - Voted to install oil-burning furnace and print Easter bulletins.

August 24, 1947 - Celebrated 40th Anniversary with 10:30 a.m. sermon by Rev. Lyle Gaugei; 2 p.m. sermon by Rev. F. I. Smith; organist Mrs. Matt N. Strand, choir director Prof. John Mael. History written for 20th was read. Offering added to building fund.

November 1, 1947– February 28, 1948 - Worship services, classes, choir practice, Luther League, and meetings held at schoolhouse while church remodeled. December annual church supper held at Sacred Hearts parish hall (600 attended). December 23 Sunday school program, December 25 Christmas worship, and December 28 Christmas song service used Methodist church building.

January 12, 1948 - Voted to make envelope system permanent.

July 30, 1948 - Mortgage for \$3,000 to DeForest-Morrisonville Bank.

November 7, 1948 - Although children's Christmas programs were held since 1908, this was the first mention of a day for rehearsal.

November 13, 20, 27, December 4, 11, 18, 1948–January 9, 1949 - Mrs. Art Rendall taught pre-confirmation classes while Rev. Walstead was in hospital.

November 14, 1948 - Rededication of building by Rev. J. A. Aasgaard 10 a.m.; Rev. Anderson and Rev. Mathre at 2 p.m. Services were tape-recorded. Rev. Walstead was in hospital.

December 9, 1948 - Mortgage of July 30, 1948, to DeForest-Morrisonville Bank was satisfied.

January 10, 1949 - Voted for five trustees instead of three, to raise caretaker's salary to \$150 with added duty to dust pews and furniture, to elect cemetery committee, and to pay for subscriptions to *The Ruralist* to be sent to all member families and to others who send children to Sunday school.

March 20, 1949 - Rev. Walstead back for worship at 10 a.m. with help of Luther League. Services every Sunday began as trial for three months with an active choir and Sunday school at same time.

April 3, 1949 - Trustees started meeting monthly. Raised grave lots to \$50 and not sold to non-members. First time pledge cards used. Committee elected to draft a new constitution.

June 16, 1949 - Served 700 at Lutefisk supper to earn \$1,983.35. Andrew Larson repaired windows. Cemetery committee helped Stanley Moe replat lots. The original church pews were refinished.

July 24, 1949 - Constitution proposed at quarterly congregational meeting. Call committee elected.

October 24, 1949 - Constitution adopted and name changed from First Lutheran Church of Bristol to Bristol Lutheran Church. Voting age set at 18 years. Voted that no mention of cemetery association be in new constitution and to organize a separate Bristol Lutheran Cemetery Association.

January 9, 1950 - Voted to ratify constitution and print copy for every member. Voted to write to Bishop Martin Anderson stating that Bristol was willing to share a pastor with Burke, but Bristol was not willing to start building in Sun Prairie, thereby abandoning its newly remodeled church. Luther League choir was active. Luther League paid \$100 to start organ fund.

February 19, 1950 - Letter from Mrs. Zillig, Clam Lake, WI, inquiring if Bristol Lutheran Church was interested in the Methodist Episcopal Cemetery across the street from the church. Voted "No."

April 11, 1950 - Letter from Dr. J. A. Aasgaard recommended Bristol church disband. Instead \$500 from Easter offering used to pay off debt. Call committee contacted Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sun Prairie about possible merger using same pastor but operate separate congregations.

May 14, 1950 - Reception for Rev. Walstead's 75th Birthday; Rev. Walter H. Kampen guest speaker.

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 1950 - worship with Rev. W. H. Kampen while Rev. Walstead on vacation.

July 30, 1950 - Peace congregation determined that merger was not possible because Peace could not leave its Synod at this time. Voted to call Rev. Walter Kampen.

September 3, 1950 - Rev. Walter H. Kampen installed by Rev. Walstead. Photo of transfer of *Ministerialbog I* and outdoor group photo were taken.

February 24, 1951 - Voted to purchase a two-manual organ for \$2,449 from Forbes Meagher Music

April 8, 1951 - Changed Article 7 of constitution to 2nd Sunday in January 2 p.m. for annual meeting.

June 29, 1951 - Rev. J. N. Walstead died.

January 3, 1952 - Voted to let trustees purchase additional acreage when possible. Rev. Kampen to report as Chaplain February 15, so formed joint call committee with Norway Grove.

June 13, 1952 - Land from Schulenberg on north and south side of church purchased for cemetery and parking lot cost \$400. Graded and graveled new parking lot.

January 11, 1953 - Voted to no longer print financial bulletins showing how much each had given.

April 22, 1953 - Dr. Martin Anderson, President of Eastern District of ELC, said either move church into Sun Prairie and enlarge it or remain as is and share a pastor and parsonage with a new mission in Sun Prairie. Voted no change. Parsonage fund begun.

June 1-12, 1953 - First time term Vacation Bible School used for summer weekday religion school.

January 10, 1954 - Ladies' Aid continued monthly meetings; made new drapes for kitchen and dining room; paid for running water, water heater, cupboards in kitchen, paint for basement floor; and put \$1,000 aside for building rest rooms. Cradle roll added 21 babies. Sunday school opened with 59 and grew to 100; 11 teachers taught for 35 Sundays. Trustees to check options for building addition.

March 17, 1954 - Voted to hire an architect and get estimates to build more Sunday school rooms and enlarge seating capacity for worship. Sacristy made into two rooms.

January 16, 1955 - Vote to add 20 feet defeated. Vote to proceed with restrooms and furnace passed.

January 8, 1956 - Luther League bought a new piano. First time head ushers were elected.

May 16, 1956 - Rev. Walter Kampen died. Rev. Peter Wee preached occasionally, but not as interim.

July 30, 1956 - Building committee authorized to buy a lot and use plans of Norman Simon and Sons.

September 23, 1956 - Authorized trustees to borrow money for parsonage at 829 Davis Street.

December 30, 1956 - Rev. Bruce W. Holter installed by Rev. Dr. Myron C. Austinson.

January 13, 1957 - Luther League hosted Area Christian Fellowship with 102 attending. Constitution amended: nominating committee elected in June would select candidates to be voted on by congregation in January, and Sunday school officers would be elected at end of June. Officers ending a 3-year term could be reelected after one year. Voted to let 4-H groups use building. First time that officers of Ladies' Aid were elected at their separate meeting instead of at the annual meeting.

June 30, 1957 - Motion that committee check possible land purchase for church in Sun Prairie failed.

October 1957 - Celebrated 50TH Anniversary for one month. No mention was made of what events were held other than the Ladies' Aid planned it and honored the older members.

January 12, 1958 - Rev. Hesla from Home Missions discussed building mission church in Sun Prairie. Voted to share a pastor with a possible mission church. Pre-confirmation class plus grades 3-8 met for Saturday school 9-11:15 a.m.; preschool-3rd grades and high school class met Sundays until June 19. Enrolled 127. Two children's choirs wore capes made by Ruth Circle. Two children's Christmas programs. Teachers met every 2nd Thursday afternoon for Bible Study and discussion of lessons produced by three merging churches ELC, ALC and AELC. VBS held June 3-14 with 89 pupils. Dartball teams organized. Ladies WMFC and Ruth Circle active. Ratified constitutional amendments.

October 5, 1958 - Congregation had grown to over 400 baptized. Proposal to purchase new site for building in Sun Prairie, expecting to worship at two sites with two services defeated Yes 57 No 60.

December 2, 1958 - Rev. Holter, Rev. C. J. Tellekson, Rev. Otto Hesla, and Rev. Herbert Hanson present to discuss space issue: estimated \$30-40,000 to add classrooms and

improvements to existing building. ELC officers wanted church in Sun Prairie whether or not Bristol congregation survived.

January 11, 1959 - Dr. Myron Austinson said Rev. Holter didn't qualify to start mission congregation and ELC had no plans to do so at that time. Motion to retain Rev. Holter as pastor 46 No 29 Yes. The congregation split with about half going to form Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

April 26, 1959 - Voted to accept Rev. Holter's resignation Dr. Austinson suggested sharing pastor with Our Savior's, since he thought Bristol people would ultimately become part of that congregation.

June 22, 1959 - Signed agreement between officers of Bristol and Our Savior's congregations.

September 14, 1959, - Our Savior's and Bristol held joint installation of Rev. John E. Midtling II at Bristol 8 p.m. by Rev. Myron Austinson, President of Southern Wisconsin District of the ALC.

January 1, 1960 - American Lutheran Church (ALC), Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELC), and United Evangelical Lutheran Church (UELC) merged to form new American Lutheran Church (ALC).

January 10, 1960 - Board of deacons and board of trustees united to form a council. Sunday school began September 13, 1959, with 48 pupils 8 teachers. Council given authority to pay 1/3 of pastor's utility and fuel bills while Our Savior's paid 2/3. Joint bulletins printed for Our Savior's and Bristol.

January 8, 1961 - Article III of constitution amended to read American Lutheran Church instead of Evangelical Lutheran Church. Ladies' Aid changed to American Lutheran Church Women (ALCW).

June 3, 1961 - Voted Merle Johnson to repair and paint building, new carpet in chancel, new pews.

January 14, 1962 - Rev. Midtling suggested Altar Society of women to prepare for communion and wash glasses. Congregation ratified amendment to change ELC to ALC on constitution with no other changes. Proposal to acquire two acres more land for cemetery from Mr. Schulenberg for \$2,000.

September 30, 1962 - celebrated 55th Anniversary by publishing an evangelism brochure.

January 13, 1963 - Motion to accept constitution change of synod from Evangelical Lutheran Church to American Lutheran Church ratified again. Implemented a monthly council instead of separate meetings for deacons and trustees. Started contributions to a scholarship fund.

May 13, 1963 - Shades installed in sanctuary \$64.70.

December 9, 1963 - Two flags were dedicated December 8, 1963 – Christian flag in memory of Peter Johnson; American flag in memory of Walter Roloff. Voted no telephone because of excessive cost.

February 10, 1964 - Mimeograph machine purchased. New postage machine. Communion cards used.

March 30, 1964 - Balance of parsonage paid.

April 13, 1964 - Men's Brotherhood painted basement floor and put tips on table legs. Bills for fire in parsonage. Fireproof file cabinet for \$300 suggested for permanent records was not purchased.

July , 1964 - Voted \$700 for basement furnace. Screens and combination storms purchased.

January 1, 1965 - Pocket Testament Banquet at Our Savior's for both congregations. At that time, Our Savior's had over 800 members; Bristol had 251.

June 8, 1965 - White fence across front of church property. New sign for cemetery. Workmen's Compensation required if three people hired by congregation.

January 9, 1966 - Proposed adding 30'x30' for Sunday school rooms, storage, and remodeling kitchen.

January 10, 1966 - Our Savior's wanted a separate pastor. Given choices to go alone, merge with Our Savior's, or align with another congregation, Bristol voted to wait. New 3-year confirmation program.

Confirmation League 7-9th grades; Senior High League 10-12th grades; Adult classes Sundays 4 p.m.

February 14, 1966 - Rev. Austinson again urged Bristol to disband and merge with Our Savior's.

November 27, 1966 - Accepted Rev. Midtling's resignation, effective December 31, 1966.

December 12, 1966 - Resolution to go alone presented to Dr. Austinson.

January 1, 1967 - June 1968 - Rev. R. Schmidt served part-time while earning an advanced degree at the University of Wisconsin. March letter of call and installation and reception April 2. He started communion first Sunday every month, a visitation committee to call on shut-ins, and a men's Bible study. While first circle Ruth still meeting, Dorcas, Naomi, and Martha circles were organized.

April 8, 1968 - Delano Tjugum shingled roof.

July 1, 1968– September 1968 Bristol congregation served by 80-year-old Rev. Joseph Lee.

October 14, 1968 - Parsonage painted. Black shutters installed. Carpets cleaned.

October 15, 1968 - Bristol congregation was served by Rev. Orlando Skindrud. He died of heart attack on Hwy 151 driving home from visiting a member in a Madison hospital May 31, 1971. During his time, a congregational calendar with dates of all meetings was started, confirmed boys lit candles, congregation paid for *Lutheran Standard* to every member household, and pre-confirmation classes were in 7th and 8th grades plus a volunteer commitment for 1 year before confirmation in 9th grade.

July 13, 1969 - Voted \$2,340 for new 25- footpedal organ minus \$900 trade-in from Conn Organ Co.

On November 9, 1969, Michael Skindrud played an organ concert to dedicate electronic organ.

January 18, 1970 - First time annual reports not read aloud at annual meeting. Alfred Reinen's sketch for addition to front of building was submitted and council asked to appoint a building committee.

Possible use of a "commentator" during worship for readings and prayers discussed.

April 26, 1970 - Architect Ed Solner presented plan to enlarge narthex to 28x20; add balcony over narthex for 80 more seats; remove or strengthen unstable bell tower; and add new women's restroom.

May 9, 1970 - No VBS for lack of teachers; Sunday school extended until end of June instead.

July 13, 1970 - Industrial Commission did not approve blueprint for addition because of balcony.

September 13, 1970 - Ed Solner explained plan A - two-story, side stairs entrance, new bell tower and portico; or plan B - narthex 28x20, side entrance and portico (24 fewer seats). Both omitted restroom.

October 14, 1970 - Get steeple from Texas, ground bell, omit fire escape south side; use existing stairway, patch roof. Omit paneling, paint doors, change side entrance, bell tower, and steeple.

October 9, 1970 - Mortgage for \$30,000 to Bank of Sun Prairie.

January 6, 1971 - Rafters up for balcony and steeple. Aluminum siding on. Interior repaired.

May 3, 1971 - Loan was \$16,900, of that \$9,000 was promissory notes signed for loans from members of congregation, \$2,000 from general fund, and \$5,500 from Sun Prairie bank.

May 11, 1971 - Luther League bought outdoor sign from Poblocki and Sons.

May 28, 1971 - Rev. Skindrud's sudden death.

June 7, 1971 - Voted to fasten pews to floor.

August 8, 1971 - Called Rev. Palmer A. Wahl. Voted not to lower voting age to 16.

August 11, 1971 - James Olia, first member of this congregation to be ordained.

October 4, 1971 - Locked doors of church for first time.

January 3, 1972 - Stained glass windows in balcony put back in by Delano Tjugum.

May 21, 1972 - Voted for white siding from Roetz of Windsor and colored shutters.

June 5, 1972 - John and Bernice Sherman and Betty Austin did inventory of contents of the church.

July 12, 1972 - Mortgage of October 9, 1970, satisfied.

September 11, 1972 - Voted to repair damage from lightning to steeple, add lighted cross, discontinue ushering out after services, and ask acolytes to also pick up glasses at communion.

December 4, 1972 - Candlelight service to be led by Luther League with Alan Wahl as guest speaker.

January 8, 1973 - Rev. Palmer Wahl began blessing children when their parents communed, began worship at Willows Nursing Home, and asked members to bring bulletins of their worship elsewhere.

January 28, 1973 - Raised cemetery lots to \$50 for members, \$100 for non-members. Permitted women to be elected as deacons and non-trustees to count money after worship. Newsletter began.

July 9, 1973 - Old hymn books [*The Lutheran Hymnody*] discarded. Confirmation choir eliminated.

September 23, 1973 - Approved draft of constitution. Omitted Thanksgiving Day service.

January 13, 1974 - Constitution approved unanimously. Mr. Kvam to paint Christ figure same as was.

August 12, 1974 - Rev. Wahl made 76 neighborhood calls in July. Letter from State about serving meals in church. If more than 4 meals per year, need a license.

January 19, 1975 - Rev Wahl resigned effective February 9, 1975.

February 17, 1975 - Voted for young pastor just out of seminary. Question about length of his hair and whether that was an indication he might be radical.

March 10, 1975 - Parsonage painted, new carpet with padding installed, and insulation added to attic.

July 13, 1975 - Installation service and potluck dinner for Rev. Carl Olson. He became first full-time pastor at Bristol after 68 years as a congregation, setup a pastor/parish committee, asked a "commentator" to read scripture and lead prayers, continued a newsletter every two months, used pre-confirmation retreats, printed a stewardship pamphlet, and asked members to send postcards and call on new people as an evangelism emphasis to make church in country known. Midthun memorial was given toward paneling and wallpapering basement, but not started for lack of funds to finish project.

October 9, 1975 - Voted to permit communion before confirmation after class on meaning of communion for 5th grade and older if both student and parent attend the classes.

October 16, 1975 - Warranty deed signed for one-half acre of land donated by Elmer Moe.

December 11, 1975 - Rev. Olson suggested committees according to the constitution – education, stewardship and finance, evangelism, worship, and building and grounds – meet every month.

January 18, 1976 - Bids to panel basement and lower ceiling. Voted to add to the constitution: "Since it is incumbent upon all members of the congregation to make diligent use of the Word of God in the public worship and to attend the Lord's Supper, any officer or board member who neglects these privileges shall forfeit the right to serve as an officer or board member. Any officer or board member who fails to attend several meetings without good excuse will be asked to resign, the position being filled by appointment of the church council until the next annual meeting of the congregation."

February 8, 1976 - Mortgage burning service.

March 11, 1976 - Luther League led sunrise Easter service.

April 25, 1976 - Decided on an oil rather than gas furnace. Voted to install telephone in church.

May 13, 1976 - Rory Scott graduated from seminary. Men's breakfast and prayer group begun.

June 10, 1976 - Grape juice option offered for communion.

July 8, 1976 - Adult social group formed. Education hour for all ages. Worship committee scheduled greeters and ushers, decorated, planned special services, recruited choir, and introduced changes.

August 12, 1976 - Smaller tables and chairs for smaller children suggested.

November 11, 1976 - Stanley Moe presented new maps for cemetery.

December 12, 1976 - member Rory Scott ordained at 2:00 p.m.

January 3, 1977 - New furnace in parsonage.

March 10, 1977 - Women allowed to serve communion. Children's sermons used. Parent/child class.

May 12, 1977 - New 16-lesson pre-confirmation program where each studied at his own pace.

June 9, 1977 - Voted to dig on both sides of church and put in sloped clay base, add new eave spouts and gutters to solve basement water problem, paint basement, install industrial heating unit and carpeting. Nothing planned for 70th Anniversary.

December 18, 1977 - Used mimeograph \$225 from Wisconsin PTA. Library started.

January 15, 1978 - Carpeting put in basement prior summer didn't cover whole floor, a patch of different style was used. Voted to ask supplier to replace patch with matching carpet or replace it all.

February 9, 1978 - Heat register put in ladies room.

February 26, 1978 - Voted to purchase a new water heater for parsonage.

March 9, 1978 - Voted council members get secretary's and treasurer's reports before each meeting.

March 26, 1978 - Easter bulletin as first written notice that "All are welcome to communion. The only requirement is that you trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins and look to Him for eternal life."

April 12, 1978 - Workdays for refinishing hardwood floors in sanctuary and sacristy. Chase deducted \$500 from price of carpet since it can not be matched. Aluminum soffit and gutters put on parsonage.

May 11, 1978 - Bought 2 microphones, 2 stands, 150 feet of wire to use with Jeff Austin's tape deck to record special events. Voted to put Bristol notes in *Sun Prairie Countryman* every week.

June 8, 1978 - Flower chart and only two vases of flowers per Sunday begun.

August 1978 - Cemetery committee told by council not to sell lots on south side of building.

September 17, 1978 - Opportunity to buy two pieces of adjacent land, 1 with house. Council given authority to purchase land with approval of congregation. Two Sunday services suggested.

October 12, 1978 - Rev. Olson to also serve as interim pastor at Bonnet Prairie for three months.

November 17, 1978 - Collected canned food for local chapter of St. Vincent de Paul at Sacred Hearts. Christmas dinner for lonely people cancelled because newspaper forgot to include announcement.

1978 - Learning sessions held for new *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Weekly communion began. High school class restarted. Vacation Bible School held evenings. Mission Fest flags made.

December 10, 1978 - Choir led worship at county jail and had a Christmas party for the inmates.

January 21, 1979 - Rev. Olson suggested Saturday service or two Sunday services and need for more classrooms rooms not a larger sanctuary. Discussion whether to buy the land for \$10,000.

March 8, 1979 - New liturgy used. Guidelines for committees suggested.

May 10, 1979 - Rev. Olson started Saturday evening. worship.

August 9, 1979 - Steel outside door hung.

December 13, 1979 - Church and parsonage insulated. Sacristy cabinets installed. Gifts given to Dane County prisoners. Guidelines accepted for membership, confirmation, baptisms, and weddings.

January 10, 1980 - Secretary's office moved to parsonage. Training sessions scheduled for ushers. Altar guild formed under direction of Mabel Anderson and deacons.

January 20, 1980 - Notice Social Security and taxes must be taken from checks to church employees.

January 27, 1980 - Amended constitution page 5, section II, congregational meeting, 2 F 10 - "Other standing committees will be appointed by the Pastor and the church council as needed. It shall be the responsibility of the church council president to see that evaluations of activities and programs from each committee are provided by committee chairpersons to the church council on a monthly basis."

February 14, 1980 - Students interested in re-starting a youth group. Luther League bank account closed and money put in savings account for youth group.

April 10, 1980 - Robert Olia elected representative for Madison Conference Council.

July 13, 1980 - Voted to drill own well and convert to natural gas heat in both church and parsonage.

October 29, 1980 - Rev. Olson's letter of resignation. He left December 10, 1980.

November 16, 1980 - member Thomas Arthur Skrenes ordained.

January 8, 1981–March 8 - Rev. Harold Schlachtenhaufen interim pastor. After March 8, Rev. Robert Brown, interim pastor at Trinity, came to do Lenten worship services and pre-confirmation classes.

January 18, 1981 - District office suggested pastoral relations committee of 5 – 1 council and 4 non-council members. Parsonage repair estimate \$7,000 with volunteer labor. Voted \$5,000.

February 22, 1981 - With donated material and labor, \$5,000 not enough for repairs; Voted \$7,600.

March 9, 1981 - WI Energy Conservation Department recommended hot air on exterior baseboard. Want separate phone number for church vs parsonage.

June 15, 1981 - Committees to meet monthly same night as and before council meets.

June 28, 1981 - District wanted Conference level to handle installations. Installation for Rev. Richard L. Thickpenny by Rev. Tom Loftus of Madison Conference and Harry Kuehn of District.

August 13, 1981 - Communion deacon opened to all active members (male and female). Lector to stand in front of congregation but not read from pulpit. Lector training offered. Guidelines adopted for use of church facilities. Refused offer of Wartburg archivist to microfilm Bristol's church records.

September 10, 1981 - Added hired auto and counseling professional to Church Mutual insurance on church and parsonage. Money available for five new sets of paraments. Relocated choir to front.

October 8, 1981 - Overhead projector needed for "Doctrines in Diagram" curriculum for 7th grade.

January 30, 1982 - Voted two copies of all committee meeting minutes be submitted monthly one for president, one for recording secretary. Anything to be discussed at council meetings should be given to president no later than three days prior to meetings.

February 11, 1982 - Luther League ended. Youth account closed and balance put in general fund.

September 1982 - Red choir robes bought. Painting and repair work in balcony, bell tower, bathrooms, entry way, narthex, and sacristy done. High winds turned cross 90 degrees.

September 25-26, 1982 - 75th Anniversary celebrated with Saturday p.m. banquet at United Methodist Church with guests Bishop Schumacher and Rev. Palmer Wahl. Sunday worship at

9:30; lunch between services 11-1:30; and worship 2:00 p.m. with former pastors Midtling and Olson. Offering designated for organ fund. Lou Stallman painted outdoor sign. Lorre Paulman painted small replicas of church for sale. Group photo outside church. Four banners made. Historic displays in narthex.

December 1, 1982 - Bristol Lutheran Church received notice it must comply with ALC Constitution.

1984 - sound system installed.

Sept 1984 – Apr 1985 - Rev. Terry Larson served as interim pastor. Shepherding for time and talent.

1985 - Rev. Sue Moline Larson installed as first woman pastor of Bristol. It was also the first team ministry as both Terry and Sue Larson were installed. Pastor/Parish committee restarted. Prayer chain begun. Ceiling fans installed in sanctuary. Handicapped parking area designated. Revised constitution.

1986 - Ratified changes to constitution. Added early Christmas Eve worship. *Songs for a New Creation* purchased as supplement to *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Parking lot on south side enlarged. Social committee became life and growth and planned first progressive dinner. TV purchased.

1987 - Caring Community formed. Two Sunday services started. An outdoor service used. Assisting ministers began. All loose offering went to purchase hay for drought-stricken farmers in Polk County.

1988 - Voted to join the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Started one-a-week club of blood donors. Building committee formed.

1989 - New furnace in basement. Funeral pall purchased. First live nativity begun by Julie Marshall.

March 21, 1989 - A "Resolution Authorizing the City of Sun Prairie to Exercise Plat Review Outside Their Boundaries" was signed 21 March 1989, so Sun Prairie could be reclassified as a third class city.

April 5, 1992 - Approved \$280,000 for Roberts Construction Associates, Inc. to build on north side. Rev. Terry Larson signed Dane County private sewage system maintenance agreement April 13, 1992.

May 31, 1992 - Groundbreaking for enlarged sanctuary and sacristy, offices, classrooms, new kitchen, fellowship hall, elevator, handicapped accessible bathrooms and entrance, new mound septic system, sidewalks, outside light fixtures, two new furnaces, expanded parking lot, and sidewalks.

August 1, 1992 - Mortgage obtained.

September 5, 1992 - Signed easement to Wisconsin Power and Light Company.

Spring, 1993 - Refurbished old fellowship hall and classrooms, refinished pews, painted Christ statue maroon, installed stained glass windows in entrance of new addition. Pictorial directory published.

June, 1993 - Hail damaged southwest siding, roof, and windows. Lost cross on steeple.

January, 1994 - Stained glass in side windows of balcony. Larsons purchased home. Parsonage rented.

November 1, 1994 - Rev. Terry Larson full-time, since wife Sue resigned to work full-time for South Central Synod of Wisconsin as Director of Lutheran Office for Public Policy.

November, 1994 - Wireless microphone installed. Windows and siding damaged in July hail replaced.

March, 1995 - Completed refinishing pews.

June, 1995 - South side of roof repaired and new eaves added. Added sidewalk on north side.

July, 1995 - Parking lot blacktopped and striped. New organ purchased and dedicated. *With One Voice* hymnbooks purchased. Parsonage sold to Jeff and Jan Dorner.

August 10, 1996 - Sun Prairie Fire Dept. put up new cross.

August 24, 1996 - Removed front fence. Landscaped north and west sides and south of parking lot.

April, 1997 - Bristol Butterflies program for 3-5-year-olds begun.

May 18, 1997 - Dedicated the 90th Anniversary project—gathering confirmation photos and purchasing a wall-mounted display rack. Project Grow Right begun for elementary age students in Sun Prairie.

July, 1997 - Installed new front fence and moved cemetery sign away from road and next to cemetery.

August, 1998 - Installed glass doors on old entrance. Tuck-pointed chimney. Painted sanctuary.

October, 1998 - Reformation Sunday celebrated 90th Anniversary by reminiscing during coffee hour.

1998 - Joint call with Burke, Our Savior's and Bristol congregations to Rev. Gerdt for new mission church in Sun Prairie, later called Living Waters Church. Purchased digital keyboard and chimes.

1999 - Well replaced. Iron filter added. Altar painted. Bell tower and foundation restored. South-side entrance closed. Track lighting added for choir. Saturday worship plus two Sunday services. Care Team Ministry formed. Web site created.

September 6, 2000 - First worship services led by Contemporary Worship Group. Brought 1926 pump organ back, upgraded sound system, resealed parking lot, removed old furnace.

2001 - Mentoring program begun with pre-confirmation students. Blue choir robes purchased. New furniture for pastor's office bought. AAL Branch begun by Frederick and Alice Zweifel.

May, 2002 - Visioning task force appointed. Proposal to start a preschool approved. AAL bought two cabinets for kitchen, so preschool could use cabinets in fellowship hall. Proposal to change annual meeting date to November and hold semi-annual meeting in May. Oak cabinet in sanctuary custom made for music program. Rev. Lisa Nelson began preaching one Sunday per month.

June 30, 2002 - Ordination of member Amy Engebose.

2003 - Added air-conditioning. Purchased Yamaha keyboard. Built pass-through from classroom into kitchen, replaced carpeting on lower level with vinyl tile, and painted all lower level with grant from Thrivent and volunteer labor from members of AAL and LB that combined to form Thrivent.

September, 2003 - Angels of the Prairie (preschool for 3-5 year olds) classes began.

June, 2004 - With a Thrivent grant, refurbished old kitchen/furnace room making it a meeting room for post-confirmation youth and an archives room by adding cabinets for Sunday school supplies and costume storage, a fireproof file cabinet for historical archives, whiteboard, and bulletin boards.

August, 2004 - BLCW made aprons and rosemailed them for use at Norwegian dinners. Made 306 quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Rev. Terry Larson deployed to Kyrgyzstan in Southeast Asia.

September, 2004 - Angels of the Prairie incorporated as a separate entity with a probationary license, separate insurance policy, and tax exempt number.

September 1, 2004–May 31, 2005 - Interim Pastor Ted Kalkwarf served. He started Befrienders.

November, 2004 - First fall annual meeting approved forming history committee with Alice Zweifel as chairperson to compile the history of the congregation and plan celebratory events for 2007.

April 1, 2005 - Pastor Larson back until July 1, 2005.

August 1, 2005–June 30, 2006 - Interim Pastor Larry Pinnow started the Discipleship Program and Milestone Ministry with youth. He also supervised the Intern from Wartburg Seminary.

August 15, 2005–August 15, 2006 - Intern Pastor Sylvia Lee-Thompson taught asset-based ministry.

August 21, 2005 - Angels of the Prairie teacher Jamie Stangl quit, so pre-school classes cancelled.

July 2006 – Sept 15, 2006 - Interim Pastor Lisa Nelson served. Paneling painted in narthex.

September 15, 2006 - Pastor Jonathan Baker installed.

March, 2007 - Two books, *Bristol Lutheran Church History 1907-2007* and *Bristol Lutheran Families 1907-1917*, were printed and distributed. New leather chairs bought for narthex.

June 10, 1907 - Celebrated 100th Anniversary with an Old Time Worship conducted by Rev. James Olia, first son of the congregation to be ordained. A special worship bulletin featured parts in Norwegian. Church historic documents and artifacts were displayed in the narthex, Participants were asked to wear clothing typical of 1907 and women to wear hats. A coffee hour followed.

June 24, 1907 - Celebrated 100th Anniversary with a Bridal Review and Reception featuring 87 gowns from 1881 to 2007 interspersed with wedding folklore. Members served as models. A reception with punch, coffee, cake, nuts, and mints followed in the church parlor.

June 30, 2007 - Celebrated 100th Anniversary with float “Yesterday, Today, and Forever” in Sun Prairie Flags of Freedom Parade. Same float used in DeForest Fourth of July Parade.

July 22, 2007 - Celebrated 100th Anniversary with outdoor worship, 1907 games, cemetery walk with brochure lauding volunteer work of founding families, prizes for 1907 attire, and a potluck picnic.

September 16, 2007 - Celebrated 100th Anniversary with another son of the congregation, Bishop of Northern Great Lakes Synod Thomas Skrenes, conducting both worship services. The first featured a Musicians’ Reunion; the second featured a Confirmation Reunion with a coffee hour and Cemetery Walk between. Members, former members, descendants of founding families, former pastors and those from the congregation who were ordained were invited to a catered dinner at The Round Table. A 20-minute photo loop highlighted building changes, pastors, congregational activities, and anniversary celebrations. The history committee was thanked for its three-year commitment to write the history books and implement the celebratory events. The descendants of families of the founders were honored, photographed, and invited to visit with one another.

Annual meeting scheduled for November 18, 2007, was cancelled.

February 11, 2008 - Michelle Meier hired as congregational secretary to replace retiring Cyndi Voeck. Committee assignments noted for council members to facilitate reporting. Proceeds from historical events and book sales of 2007 designated to buy fireproof cabinet were used to pay other bills.

April, 2008 - Pastor Baker lowered First Communion age to third grade.

April 26, 2008 - Garage Sale netted \$400 to be used to pay bills. BLCW salad buffet cancelled.

June 22, 2008 - A Task Force for Worship suggested only one Sunday service at 9 a.m. starting fall 2008. Semi-annual meeting approved it. Gluten-free bread option offered for communion.

July 14-17, 2008 - Paid counselors from Sugar Creek Bible Day Camp \$1,500 and provided their lodging and meals to provide Vacation Bible School free for 23 children in first through fifth grades. Endowment Fund paid \$1,000 of the cost.

August, 2008 - Photos taken by Olan Mills for pictorial directory. Pew cushions gifted by Lou and Sue Stallman. Laurie Goss resigned as Organist and Chancel Choir Director at end of August.

October 16, 2008 - Ken Forney hired as Director of Music. Speakers installed in Nursery room.

December, 2008 - Well installed in 1999 tested positive for bacteria. Water was "shocked" twice then air chamber of iron curtain system was cleaned and bed replaced. BLCW paid for this item.

July 12, 2009 - Term limits stated in BLC Constitution were suspended for all committees. Fundraising for piano began but motion not to purchase until have all the needed money.

September 8, 2009 - Scissor screen and projector purchased with Annetta Finger's memorial money.

September 17, 2009 - Council appointed a new Angels of the Prairie (preschool) Board and at same meeting moved to dissolve it, close the account, and give its money to the Endowment Fund. Its furniture and supplies were given to the Sunday School. Four southwest corner windows replaced.

November, 2009 - Joint Thanksgiving Eve worship held at United Methodist Church with Bristol, Our Savior's, and Good Shepherd.

January 6, 2010 - Meeting with council and parents to discuss pre-confirmation instruction. Roger Nolden retired after 12 years as congregational treasurer. Alan Sebranek elected as Treasurer.

January-April, 2010 - Evaluation discussions in pastor\parish and council meetings continued with Synod staff until a petition from members asked Pastor Jonathan Baker to resign. His last Sunday was May 23, but he was given a four months severance package.

June 13, 2010 - Pastor David Natzke began serving. A one-year contract with him was signed September 16, 2010. Council borrowed \$9,900 from perpetual care funds of Cemetery Association.

October 2, 2010 - Norwegian Specialties Food Sale replaced Norwegian meatball dinner as BLCW fundraiser for charities. Except this year proceeds were needed for the congregation's general fund.

January 20, 2011 - Council approved lowering first communion to third grade.

January 23, 2011 - Frederick & Alice Zweifel designated to chair committee to draft new constitution.

April 17, 2011 - Kwai baby grand piano purchased in April was dedicated on Palm Sunday.

July 11-14, 2011 - Children attending Sugar Creek Day Camp were asked to pay fees for first time.

August 21, 2011 - Adopted Constitution & ByLaws & Continuing Resolutions compliant with ELCA.

September, 2011 - Membership included no 7th grade students, so no pre-confirmation classes held in 2011-2012. Pastor Natzke's contract renewed for another year.

November, 2011 - Balcony window removed, casement repaired, new outer protective window inserted. Conference room, women's bathroom, and one wall in fellowship hall repainted. Storage shed power-washed and painted. A used, 4-drawer, fireproof cabinet was added for historical items.

November 22, 2011 - Bristol Lutheran Church hosted the joint Thanksgiving Eve Worship.

January 29, 2012 - Ratified Constitution and ByLaws and Continuing Resolutions adopted August 21, 2011. Audit Committee appointed. Call committee elected. Facebook page created by Life & Growth Committee. Congregational website redesign completed by Audrey Drake.

April, 2012 - Congregational information booklet revived for current members and new members.