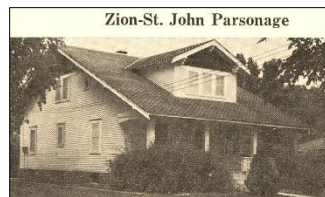


ZSJ HISTORY 1926-1935

Although both churches were filled with members and shared pastors, Peace (the town church) seemed to be growing at a faster pace and becoming more prominent, likely due to the Depression which forced many Iowa farm families off the land and into towns to make a living. Peace decided in 1929 to construct a parsonage adjacent to the church. After it was finished, the same year, Pastor Reuther and his family moved in. Chris Timmerman and his wife were given the privilege of living in the St John parsonage in the country. Even though the congregation had pledged more than enough money, by the end of the year, it was clear they were going to fall short, due to the beginning of the Great Depression. Pastor Ruether generously volunteered to cut his wages to help make ends meet. During this time, the offering was collected using a *Klingbeutel*, a black velvet bag on the end of a long stick. During the depression era, pennies were given. As the depression began to lessen, in 1935, Pastor began asking for nickels instead. In 1926 the cemetery lot owners called a meeting to set up a permanent care fund. The Tuecke picnics continued in the grove near the country church. Starting in 1932, the SS Christmas Eve programs became more and more elaborate and were publicized in the Press. It was common for the SS teachers to attend an entire Saturday of training in Waverly, before the SS year started. In January of 1935, the Sheffield Press ran a contest for all churches in their area. The church that had the most subscriptions (\$1.50 per year), won a \$50 prize. The town church Ladies Aid won!! Also in 1935, Sheffield hosted 160 Luther Leaguers in the memorial hall. Earlier the same year, Sheffield also hosted the Iowa District of the American Lutheran Church convention, with 110 pastors in attendance for 6 days. The delegates were housed by members of the church. At St John, there were 30 baptisms, 12 marriages and 18 deaths. At Peace, there were 69 baptisms, 15 marriages and 31 deaths. Unfortunately, infant and childhood mortality was still high with 9 children deaths between the two churches. Two former pastors, Joseph Westenberger (1935) and Herman Freytag (1933) passed away. There were 8 confirmation classes, 2 @ St John and 6 @ Peace, with an average of 10-12 students in each class.



Other notable historical events were:

1926, Price of land on Wall Street (NYC) is \$7 per sq inch; 1st rocket is launched in MA; Amundsen flies over the North Pole; Pilots and planes

require licensing in the US; *Winnie the Pooh* is published; US highway system is numbered; NBC is founded.

1927, Harlem Globetrotters play their first game; Chinese civil war breaks out and does not end until 1949; Charles Lindbergh makes the 1st non-stop transatlantic flight in the Spirit of St Louis; *The Jazz Singer* popularizes the “talkie” movie; Stalin takes control of the USSR; Model A is unveiled.

1928, The Olympics are split into winter and summer games; 1st regular TV broadcast is made; penicillin is accidentally discovered in London; Iron Lung respirator is used in Boston; Red Cross is founded; Iowan Herbert Hoover is elected president; Mickey Mouse appears in *Steamboat Willie*.

1929, 1st Academy Awards are given; Western Wall riots kill over 200 in Jerusalem; Fascist Party in Italy tightens control; Admiral Byrd flies over the South Pole; in October; the crash of Wall Street begins the Great Depression; There are over 1,100 people living in the town of Sheffield.

1930, Pluto is discovered; Ghandi begins civil disobedience in India; The pope condemns the use of artificial birth control.

1931, Porsche is founded in Germany; The Empire State building and George Washington Bridge are completed in NYC; American pilots complete a nonstop flight over the Pacific Ocean in 41.5 hours.

1932, Hitler obtains German citizenship; Infant son of Charles Lindbergh is kidnapped and later found dead; Amelia Earhart flies from US to N Ireland; Dow Jones average is lowest of the Depression Era @ 41.22; 1st Venice Film Festival is held; Buck Rogers debuts on radio; FDR is elected president.

1933, Hitler is appointed Chancellor of Germany; prohibition ends with passage of the 21st amendment; King Kong and Monopoly debut in the US; 1st of many fireside chats with president FDR; Dachau opens as a Nazi concentration camp and the Gestapo secret police are established in Germany; The Civilian Conservation Corps is started; 1st drive-in theater opens in NJ; 1st MLB All-star game is held; Iowan Henry Wallace becomes US Agriculture Secretary.

1934, 1st pictures of Loch Ness monster are taken; Bonnie and Clyde are killed in Louisiana; Donald Duck debuts for Disney; Hitler becomes the Fuhrer; John Dillinger robs a Mason City bank; The Nielsen family of Hampton continues to operate the Whiteside Dairy; the CCC construction of Beeds Lake State Park begins.

1935, Elvis Presley is born; 1st beer is canned in VA; a huge dust storm occurs in NM, CO and OK creating the Dust Bowl; Social Security is created as part of the New Deal.