

ZSJ HISTORY 1946-1955

Although Pastor Weber was a hard-working pastor, the two churches began to experience differences that began to separate them. By 1947, he decided to take a new call and Pastor Hein was called to serve Zion. St John was being served by Pastor Mueller from Mason City. On September 2,



1947, the Zion congregation voted to build a new church that would better meet the needs of the congregation. By December, they took a leap of faith and extended an invitation to St John to merge with them on an equal basis. After St John's acceptance, with Pastor Mueller's encouragement, the building plans were altered to create an even larger church. The Zion building was torn down and in May 1948, ground was broken for the new building. This new building included the sanctuary and fellowship hall and the total cost was \$57,000. During the construction, the congregations met in the Memorial Hall, sometimes competing with the fire sirens! The new church was dedicated on June 26, 1949. As a symbol of unity, the St John church bell was placed in the bell tower and the Zion bell was sold to St John Lutheran Church in Grinnell. In 1951, the St John parsonage was destroyed by fire. Chris Timmerman, who had been living there, purchased the schoolhouse and moved it to town as his residence. That house was placed across the street from the Zion parsonage and is now owned by Jon and Barb Swanson. The St John church was sold and moved to town and is now the home of the Apple Daycare. In 1951, ZSJ called Pastor Huck. In 1952 the windows above the altar were added. Through many fundraisers and preparations for the 80th anniversary celebration in 1955, the mortgage was paid in full!

Other notable historical events were:

1946- the new United Nations elect the 1st secretary-general; the Iron Curtain begins to fall over Eastern Europe; Japanese and German war crime trials begin; 1st drive up teller window opens in Chicago; 1st theme park opens in Indiana; Steamboat Rock Girls play in state basketball tournament; IA Centennial is celebrated; Mason City wins the boys baseball tournament; Bill Riley, from Iowa Falls, broadcasts for KRNT from the Iowa State Fair for the 1st time.

1947-the official beginning of the Cold War; Dead Sea Scrolls are found by Bedouin shepherds in Qumran Caves; Jackie Robinson signs with the

Brooklyn Dodgers; *Miracle of 34th Street* debuts; Anne Frank's diary is published; 1st UFO incident in Roswell, NM is reported; Chuck Yeager breaks the sound barrier; Princess Elizabeth (later Queen) marries Prince Phillip; The Volkswagon Beetle appears in the US; on May 29, the latest season blizzard of 10+'' is recorded in Iowa.

1948-Mahatma Gandhi is assassinated; NASCAR is founded; Apartheid era begins in South Africa; Berlin is blockaded; Congressional hearings usher in the beginning of McCarthy-ism; Harry Truman unexpectedly defeats Thomas Dewey to remain president; State of Israel is created.

1949-NATO and the NBA are created; Billy Graham begins his televised evangelism campaign; People's Republic of China is proclaimed; East Germany is established as a country; oil is discovered in the Caspian Sea; Wile Coyote and the Roadrunner become a staple cartoon; the Maytag plant in Newton begins production; Iowa's largest coal mine near Waukee closes; The Des Moines Coliseum is destroyed by fire and would later be replaced with Veteran's Auditorium and eventually Wells Fargo Arena.

1950-India organizes its 1st government as a free country; Jordan annexes the West Bank; Korean War begins; Peanuts debuts as a comic strip; US military advisors are sent into Vietnam; Davenport hospital fire kills 41 patients; Meredith Wilson composes the Iowa Fight Song; WOITV airs as 1st educationally operated station on the ISU campus.

1951-22nd amendment is passed limiting terms for presidency; the Rosenbergs are convicted of espionage; Stone of Scone is returned to Westminster Abbey after being stolen; *I Love Lucy* airs on CBS; a UFO is sighted near Sioux City.

1952-Queen Elizabeth II becomes monarch of the British Empire; 1st hydrogen bomb is detonated in the Marshall Islands; Eisenhower is elected president; Edward Murrow covers the record setting MO River floods near Omaha; Forest Evashevski begins coaching the Iowa Hawkeye Football team.

1953-71.1% of US TVs are tuned to watch the birth of little Ricky on *I Love Lucy*, a record that still stands; Joseph Stalin dies, Khrushchev becomes leader of USSR; Salk develops the polio vaccine; IRS is formed; Koren War ends; Meredith Wilson composed the ISU pep song.

1954-Unification Church founded in South Korea; Supreme Court rules that segregation is unconstitutional; *Fellowship of the Ring* is published; Tonight Show airs on NBC; Burger King opens in FL; 1st successful kidney transplant is performed in Boston; Cy becomes the ISU mascot.

1955-1st nuclear powered sub, *Nautilus*, puts to sea; US agrees to protect Taiwan; 1st McDonalds opens in Illinois; Kermit the Frog is introduced by Jim Henson; West Germany becomes a sovereign country; Disneyland opens in CA; Vietnam War begins; Rosa Parks is arrested for not giving up her seat on a bus.