## **ZSJ HISTORY 1916-1925**

After Pastor Westenberger left in 1914, and a new pastor, Herman Freitag, was called to serve the churches in 1915. He arrived by train and although he was older, he was quite capable of preaching in English. This solved one problem for the congregations but created another. The children could understand the pastor, but the older members could not. This change would prove to be a difficult transition, since many of the parents would not allow confirmation instruction in English. 1915 was also the first class



confirmed at Peace (Zion). In July of 1916, Peace (Zion) purchased the Baptist church they had been renting. Otto Schaefer purchased the building at auction for \$215. By August, a new basement was created, complete with a cornerstone and time capsule and the frame building was moved to the current location of ZSJ. The first services were held the week before Christmas! Pastor Freitag's two daughters were quite musical and sang often with John Greimann and Chris Timmerman. But Mrs. Freitag and the girls soon tired of rural life and the family left in 1917. In 1918, Pastor E A Hanff and his new wife came to serve the churches. Most people were still using horse and buggy for transportation, but since pastor did not

have a horse, he became the proud owner of a Model-T for the cost of \$365. Confirmation classes were now taught in English and attendance at the town schools was mandatory, by state law. The churches also began publishing their own newsletter, some of which was still in German. In 1924, yet another new pastor, L W Reuther, was called. During his service, the women of the church began mixing with their husbands instead of sitting separately. However, the men were still given communion first. The annual SS picnic, for both churches, was held in the Tuecke woods west of St John. This was a well-attended event and included the moving of the St John organ outside for the service. Along with worship, the day included picnic lunches, games and various contests. In 1924, Peace (Zion) celebrated 30 years and in June of 1925, St John celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 3 services on that Sunday!

## Other notable historical events were:

**1916,** 1<sup>st</sup> successful blood transfusion occurred; 1<sup>st</sup> woman was elected to Congress; Pancho Villa led an unsuccessful attack on New Mexico as part of the Mexican Revolution; Gustav Holst composed *The Planets*; tanks are used for the first time in warfare; Mary Pickford signs a one million dollar contract; John Rockefeller becomes the first billionaire.

**1917,** Mata Hari is arrested for spying in Paris; Germany attempts to bribe Mexico to enter WW I in exchange for the SW US; Puerto Ricans are granted US citizenship; Nicholas II abdicates ending the Russion Empire; 1<sup>st</sup> Pulitzer prizes are awarded, Lions International is founded; the US, China, Brazil and Greece declare war on Germany and enter WWI.

**1918,** WW I ends on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month @ the 11<sup>th</sup> hour; Spanish flu kills 50-100 million people worldwide; US time zones are established, which included daylight savings time; 1<sup>st</sup> drone is test flown, but scrapped for technical reasons.

**1919,** Theodore Roosevelt dies; League of Nations is founded in Paris; Grand Canyon becomes a National Park; The Russian Civil War continues; Oregon becomes the 1<sup>st</sup> state to place a 1 cent tax on gasoline; the US Army continues to fight Pancho Villa at the southern border; Babe Ruth is traded to the NY Yankees; Doc Schultz opens vet clinic in Latimer.

**1920,** Prohibition begins with passage of the 18<sup>th</sup> amendment; ACLU is founded; Summer Olympics are held in Belgium; 19<sup>th</sup> amendment is passed giving women the right to vote; NFL is established; Westinghouse radios cost \$10; the 1<sup>st</sup> case of HIV/AIDS is seen in Congo; Hampton Municipal band is founded; reduced post-war farm prices brings hardship to many Iowa farm families.

**1921,** 1<sup>st</sup> Women's Olympics are held in Monte Carlo; Hitler becomes Fuhrer of the Nazi Party; Tulsa Ok race massacre kills 100-300 African Americans; Chanel #5 is created; 1<sup>st</sup> baseball radio broadcast is made; FDR is diagnosed with polio; Russian Socialist Party fights for control of Russia.

**1922,** 1<sup>st</sup> successful insulin treatment is given in Canada; Gandi is arrested in India; Stalin is elected General Secretary of Soviet Communist Party; Lincoln Memorial is dedicated; BBC is created; Rose Bowl opens in Pasadena; the tomb on Tutankhanun is found; Ottoman empire abolished after 600 years.

**1923,** 1<sup>st</sup> issue of Time magazine is published; Prince Albert (later King George VI) marries the future Queen Mother, Elizabeth; Irish Civil War ends; Pancho Villa is assassinated; VP Coolidge becomes president after the death of Warren Harding; Walt Disney Company is founded; 1<sup>st</sup> US TV patent is filed; unrest continues in the Far East; Hollywood sign is dedicated. **1924,** Soviet Union is created; J Edgar Hoover is appointed head of the FBI;

Mercedes-Benz is established; US citizenship is granted to Native Americans; 1<sup>st</sup> aerial circumnavigation of the globe is completed in 175 days. **1925**, 1<sup>st</sup> two female governors take office in Texas and Wyoming; Art Deco is all the rage; *Great Gatsby* is written by F Scott Fitzgerald; the Scopes trial takes place in Tennessee; volume 1 of *Mein Kampf* is published; 1<sup>st</sup> radio broadcast of the Grand Ole Opry; Mt Rushmore is finished; NYC becomes the largest city in the world.