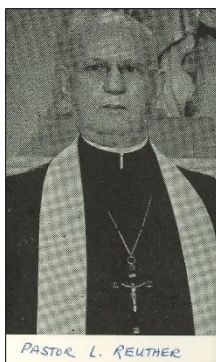


ZSJ HISTORY 1936-1945

Pastor Reuther continues to serve both churches as the Great Depression continues and WW II begins in Europe. The Lutheran denomination nationally starts to diminish as many of the churches are slow to change to English services. In 1937, Peace decides to change its name (Friedens Gemeinde, Peace in German) to Zion. As the town church continued to grow, an auction was held in 1939 to raise funds to enlarge the building. Pastor Reuther started a group that was called the Brotherhood, that met monthly for Bible study and fellowship. This group continued until the early 1960's. They were especially known for their Dartball skills, a version of baseball. The games even included venturing to other Lutheran congregations in the area, including Rockwell and Thornton. The Brotherhood was also known for their cooking and serving abilities, especially for the Mother-Daughter Banquets. After 20 years of service to these churches, Pastor Reuther decided it was time for the change. Pastor W G Weber succeeded him in 1945. Pastor Weber was very energetic and especially enjoyed helping church members do their fieldwork. Tech. Sargeant George Eckhardt died in WW II and was reburied in the St John Cemetery in 1948.



Other notable historical events were:

1936- The Hoover Dam is completed; Luther College becomes co-ed; European unrest continues due to the rise of the Nazi Party; Summer Olympics are held in Berlin, where Jesse Owens, a black American, won the 100-meter race in front of Adolph Hitler; The San Francisco bridge opens; King Edward abdicates the British throne to his brother, the Duke of York.

1937- Amelia Earhart disappears after taking off from New Guinea, she has not been found; Mae West is banned from radio; Toscanini begins his 17-year tenure as conductor of the NBC Orchestra; the first taxes for the implementation of Social Security are collected; ISU begins the development of the 1st computer; The Hindenburg, a German airship explodes, killing 150.

1938- The REA Power Plant near Reeve in Franklin County is completed; Disney's Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs is released as the first animated film in the US; Superman appears for the first time; The Austrian government adopts Nazism; Germany invades Czechoslovakia; All German Jewish passports are rescinded; The Holocaust officially begins with the opening of numerous concentration camps; The 2nd Japanese- Chinese War begins.

1939- Siam becomes Thailand; Nile Kinnick wins the Heisman trophy as a member of the famous Ironman U of I football team; The Wizard of Oz

premiers in US; Hewlett-Packard is founded; Poland and Hungary fall to Germany, officially beginning WW II; A number of British vessels are sunk by German U-Boats; Russia and Germany sign an agreement basically dividing Eastern Europe; The ship, St Louis, carrying 900 Jewish refugees is denied entry to Florida and after returning to Europe, nearly all died in concentration camps.

1940- WW II continues in Europe and the Pacific, the US remains neutral; Booker T Washington becomes the 1st Black American to be honored on a postage stamp; Bob Feller, from Van Meter, Iowa, throws an opening day no-hitter; Churchill becomes British Prime Minister; France falls to Germany; Auschwitz is opened where nearly 1.1 million will die by 1945; 1st Sturgis SD Motorcycle rally is held; Albert Einstein becomes an American Citizen; The PA turnpike is opened; Woody Woodpecker and Bugs Bunny appear.

1941- Puerto Ricans become US citizens; Cherrios are sold in US; Bob Hope performs his first USO show; 1st US TV commercial is shown; Charles Lindbergh speaks in Des Moines; Ho Chi Min takes over Vietnam; Joe Dimaggio has a 56-game hitting streak; The Japanese attack Pearl Harbor which results in a US declaration of war.

1942- The All-American Girls BB League begins; ISU aids in the development of the atomic bomb; FDR signs the WRA which results in the internment of Japanese and German Americans; the US Navy wins the Battle of Midway; Rationing of essential items like gas and sugar begins; Anne Frank's family goes into hiding in Amsterdam.

1943- Russia defeats Germany at Stalingrad; US wins the Battle of Guadalcanal; Italy surrenders; Eisenhower, MacArthur and Patton become prominent leaders in the Allies; Aaron Copland composes *Fanfare for the Common Man*; Norman Rockwell has his 1st cover for the Saturday Evening Post; JFK's PT boat is sunk by the Japanese, he is later rescued on the Solomon Islands; The Algona camp for German POW's is operational.

1944- Adm Wm Leahy of Hampton serves as Joint Chief of Staff; Hitler survives an assassination attempt of which Dietrich Bonhoeffer was later executed; Anne Frank and family are found and sent to Auschwitz where all would die except her father; June 6 is D-Day, the Allied invasion of Normandy France; Germans surrender Paris; FDR is elected for an unprecedented 4th term.

1945- The Yalta conference is held with Stalin, Churchill and FDR in attendance; Truman becomes president with the death of FDR; Hitler dies by suicide as Allied troops approach Berlin; WW II ends in Europe on May 8 and in the Pacific on Aug 15; Hiroshima (8-6) and Nagasaki (8-9) are the target of the first atomic bombs.