

# Moody County History

PUBLISHER'S NOTE: To Mr. H. D. Hales of Flandreau, South Dakota, we wish to express our appreciation for preparing a manuscript for our use in compiling the Moody County atlas.

## MOODY COUNTY HISTORY

--- by H. D. Hales  
County Historian

### Introductory

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BY H. D. HALES BEFORE THE OLD SETTLERS ASSOCIATION, contains, in part, the following:

"The practical value of associations of the early settlers of a community lies in the resultant cultivation of better citizenship, for no man or woman of ordinary faculties can attend and participate in one of these occasions without returning home with renewed and increased pride in the county and state, and with that pride ever comes better performance of the duties and obligations of the citizens.

It is the desire of the State Historical Society to obtain the hearty cooperation of the old settlers in preserving the stories of each one who so courageously took part in the heroic struggle which during the quarter century just past has converted South Dakota from a howling wilderness into the pleasant, beautiful, cultivated paradise which today surrounds the people; a paradise the fame of which has during the past five years extended to the ends of the earth and has attracted hither the hordes of cash-equipped seekers of the golden fleece, who today throng the state, clamoring to purchase an interest in the beautiful and abounding domain. It is upon the story of these struggles and hardships, trials and victories was that the grandeur of South Dakota shall forever rest.

For countless ages, the shallow but torrid ocean enveloped Moody County. The surface sloped gently down to the west whence the waters of the sea drained away to the mighty Missouri, then a hundred times mightier than today, and made its irresistible way down the valley now occupied by the James River. Though the sea was gone, nevertheless, the surface of Moody County was one vast swamp, soon covered with rank coarse grass and later with great forests of pine and deciduous trees, and through these slay swamps ranged the most gigantic and horrible reptiles, the very names of which are calculated to make the modern Moodyite shudder. There was the Mosasaurus, a great sea serpent with slender body, covered with shining scales, four paddles and flattened tail, and awful jaws three feet or more long, which terrified the inhabitants of Flandreau and Egan, and probably is responsible for the depopulation of ancient Roscoe. And the intimate associate of the Mosasaurus was the Plesiosaurus, Peripatetic Monster, terrible beyond description which ranged up and down Moody County, filling his crop with fragments of primitive granite, to assist in digesting the tough and leathery, oldest inhabitants upon whom he gorged himself.

But, with the passage of time, the swamps dried up more and more so that the reptiles were compelled to give way to a race of giant pigs which ranged from Medary to Treat and from Colman to the state line. That was the Golden Age of the hog industry in Moody County, an epoch in comparison with which you modern breeders of Chester Whites and Poland Chinas may well look with awe and wonder for a suckling pig was as big as a mule and the finished product ready for market was as big as a packing house. (pack horse?)

In the evolution of time, pig culture subsided and a race of mastodons and elephants monopolized the attention of the desizens of Moody County for a hundred thousand years or such a matter and might have continued as the chief attraction at the stock show, at the present time, had not an awful calamity come upon the fair land.

Suddenly, Moody County found itself in the relentless grasp of the continental ice trust. Slowly, this gigantic octopus poked its nose from the northeast across the fair domain until finally its adamantine cheek occupied the entire county. The population was congealed, the swamps frozen up and all was a dreary arctic waste. On slipped the flinty, but nonetheless, viscous mass, into the valley of the Missouri until that immeasurable stream was dammed up and its waters turned back into a vast lake, hundreds of feet deep and occupying all of the upper Missouri valley from Bismarck to the mountains. And when the ice stayed in its course of destruction by the fervid heat of the tropical climate which it had invaded at a point three hundred feet up the slope of the western bank of the river, the imprisoned water in the great lake began to trickle down the western boundary of the ice and so carved out the present valley of the Missouri a hundred and fifty miles west of its former course.

As the field of ice began to disappear over this eastern slope, the water escaping around the rim of the ice which still occupied the James valley, carved out the beautiful valley of the Sioux River and left Moody County with the pleasant face which she still wears and which at a period now far remote, became the home of the buffalo and the antelope and the bear, beaver and later still of the aboriginal redman."

MOODY COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, is situated on the Minnesota line and is intersected by the 44th parallel of north latitude about two miles south of the center. It is bounded on the north by Brookings County, on the south by Minnehaha County, on the west by Lake County, and on the east by the State of Minnesota. It includes twelve full congressional and four fractional townships, the tier along the Minnesota line being cut by the boundary, leaving about four miles in Dakota and two miles in Minnesota. The area of the county is about 528 square miles, equivalent of 337,920 acres. The Big Sioux River traverses the county in a tortuous course dividing it near the center. The valley of this stream is a very beautiful, scenic one. Several

small affluents of the Sioux discharge into it within the county. These streams afford considerable water power at various points. There are a few small lakes in the southwest part of the county.

There are two railway lines in the county, both under the management of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company. The main line traverses the county near the center east and west, and the other is the Sioux City branch which terminates at Flandreau.

EARLY SETTLEMENT - The earliest settlements in this county were made by a corporation chartered by the legislature of Minnesota, and known as the Dakota Land Company, in the winter of 1856-7. In May, 1857, a number of the incorporators left St. Paul by steamer bound for the Minnesota River which they ascended as far as New Ulm, and thence traveled by team to the Big Sioux River which they reached on the site of Medary in Brookings County where they laid out a town and named it in honor of Governor Medary of Minnesota, intending to make it the capital of a new territory to be carved out of western Minnesota. From Medary, the party proceeded down the Sioux to the site of Flandreau where another town was laid out and named in honor of Judge Charles E. Flandreau of St. Paul, Minnesota. However, a slight alteration in the orthography of the name was made by the insertion of an additional "e."

It would appear from all that can be learned of the delays of this company which also laid out the south part of the City of Sioux Falls in the same year that they left small colonies at Medary and Flandreau which remained for about one year. The predatory character of the noble redman together with his native hostility to the innovations of the pale face, rendered abortive the speculative efforts of the Dakota Land Company and brought their plans to a summary standstill in June, 1858, at which time the Indians rose in their might and drove the settlers from the valley of the upper Sioux. This is chronicled the rise, decline and sudden fall of the old Flandreau, and years elapsed previous to the rise of the present new and prosperous Flandreau in its stead.

The country in and about Flandreau was no doubt a favorite camping ground for the Indians who came from localities far and near to the Great Pipestone Quarry one mile north of Pipestone in Pipestone County, Minnesota, and about fifteen miles east of Flandreau. This celebrated region abounds in Indian folklore and traditions, more or less romantic and worthy of credence. It was here that the Pipe of Peace was obtained and here to this day the Wards of the Government get the material from which their pipes and other articles are carved in easy ride and fantastic designs. The legend of the Great Pipestone Quarry has thus been beautifully immortalized by the poet Longfellow.

### THE PEACE-PIPE

On the Mountains of the Prairie,  
On the great Red Pipe-stone Quarry,  
Glebe Manitó, the mighty,  
He the Master of Life, descending,  
On the red crags of the quarry  
Stood erect, and called the nations,  
Called the tribes of men together.

From his footprints flowed a river,  
Lumped into the light of morning,  
O'er the precipice plunging downward  
Glamed like Ishkoodah, the comet.  
And the Spirit, stooping earthward,  
With his finger on the meadow  
Traced a winding pathway for it,  
Saying to it, "Hus is this way!"

From the red stone of the quarry  
With his hand he broke a fragment,  
Moulded it into a pipe-head,  
Shaped and fashioned it with figures;  
From the margin of the river  
Took a long reed for a pipe-stem,  
With its dark green leaves upon it;  
Filled the pipe with bark of willow,  
With the bark of the red willow;  
Breathed upon the neighboring forest,  
Made its great boughs chafe together,  
Till in flame they burst and kindled;  
And erect upon the mountains,  
Glebe Manitó, the mighty,  
Smoked the calumet, the Peace-Pipe,  
As a signal to the nations.

Listen to the words of wisdom,  
Listen to the words of warning,  
From the lips of the Great Spirit,  
From the Master of Life, who made you!  
"I have given you lands to hunt in,  
I have given you bear and bison,  
I have given you roe and reindeer,  
I have given you breast and beaver,  
Filled the marshes full of wild-fowl,  
Filled the rivers full of fishes;  
Why then are you not contented?  
Why then will you hunt each other?"

"I am weary of your quarrels,  
Weary of your wars and bloodshed,  
Weary of your prayers for vengeance,  
Of your wranglings and dissensions;  
All your strength is in your knives,  
All your danger is in discord;  
Therefore be at peace henceforward,  
And as brothers lived together.

"I will send a Prophet to you,  
A Deliverer of the nations,  
Who shall guide you and shall teach you,  
Who shall toil and suffer with you,  
If you listen to his counsels,  
You will multiply and prosper;  
If his warnings pass unheeded,  
You will fade away and perish!"

And in silence all the warriors  
 Broke the red stone of the quarry,  
 Smoothed and formed it into Peace-Pipes,  
 Broke the long reeds by the river,  
 Decked them with their brightest feathers,  
 And departed each one homeward,  
 While the Master of Life, ascending,  
 Through the opening of cloud-curtains,  
 Through the doorways of the heaven,  
 Vanished from before their faces,  
 In the smoke that rolled around him,  
 The Pukwana of the Peace-Pipe!

Strange as it may appear, the first subsequent endeavor to found settlements for the improvement of this region was made by Indians of the Sisseton and Wahpeton tribes who under the tutelage of missionaries had begun to take kindly to the arts of civilization. For years after the abandonment of Flandreau in 1858, the Indians hunted and fished undisturbed by the white men, save by an occasional trapper who, for the most part, adopted their modes of life and lived with them on friendly terms. Yet the inevitable could not long be postponed, and the harbinger of advancing civilization began once more to appear, this time predicated permanent redemption of the soil from savage uses and foreshadowing the tanning industries and the church spires of the future.

These second settlements were made in 1869 when the Indians selected lands in what is now known as Moody County, along the Sioux, and began making homes for themselves. In the same year, a trading post was established at Flandreau by C. E. Howard, a prominent merchant at Sioux Falls.

In 1871, the Indian Presbyterian Society erected here a small house of worship which was afterward purchased by the United States government and has since been occupied for school purposes. The Indians hailed the lumber for this building from Wisdon, Cottonwood County, Minnesota. This Indian settlement has a church building near the Sioux River north of Flandreau. The Rev. John Eastman, an intelligent half-breed, has done great good in teaching among his people.

In April, 1872, F. E. Pettigrew settled on the townsite of Flandreau, and M.D.L. Pettigrew arrived in June following. F. W. Pettigrew entered a homestead covering the townsite and built a house in July of the same year. He laid out the original town in the following year, from which date the growth of the place has been steady and uniform. Mr. Pettigrew used his original homestead house for a real estate office. During the winter of 1872-3, F. W. Pettigrew, E. I. Heald and Almond Campbell kept bachelor's hall and also accommodated the traveling public, including an occasional itinerant minister. The first postoffice was established at Flandreau in 1872 under the name of West Bend, Mr. F. W. Pettigrew being the postmaster. The office at West Bend was discontinued in the fall of the following year, and the Flandreau office established. The first postmaster at Flandreau was Marshall Morse who arrived at the place in the same year and opened a general store. In 1874, William Jones who had followed hunting and trapping for several years in the neighborhood, engaged in mercantile business in company with C. E. Howard of Sioux Falls. Dr. Seals also began business as a merchant at Flandreau in 1873. The postoffice was kept in the building since occupied by T. Freeman as a tailor shop.

You will be interested in the following paragraphs from a biographical sketch of Mrs. Helen M. Locke, long a resident of Flandreau. Mrs. Locke came to Flandreau in 1873. Her full name was Helen M. Pettigrew Locke:

"Our postoffice was West Bend when we first came. The first real store was run by Marshall Morse in the fall of '73. Then the postoffice was changed to Flandreau, and was in his store. Previous to this, C. E. Howard of Sioux Falls had a trading post for the Indians.

The Indians were very friendly and there was a strong tie between them and the early settlers. There was a government school house for the Indians. This was originally a Mission Church. Before we came, the government had taken it over for a school house and Mr. P. A. Vannice was the teacher for the Indians. They were still having Sunday services there when we came and we often attended. We liked to hear them sing though we could not understand all they said. The first Presbyterian Church (Indian) was built in 1874, which is still in use.

In the Fall of 1874, my sister, Hattie, taught the first school in Flandreau for white children. It was held in the end of the old Presbyterian Mission Church which was sold to the government in 1872 for an Indian school."

You will also be interested in the following paragraphs from a biographical sketch of Giles Elton Pettigrew. Mr. Pettigrew came to Flandreau in 1872:

"Early in 1873 what is now Flandreau was called West Bend. Flandreau postoffice was just north of where the Flandreau Park now is, a mile east of town. Later in the Fall of 1873, the postoffice was changed back to what is Flandreau, where it had formerly been.

The county seat was first located two miles south of Flandreau on the John H. Eno farm on which Eno had erected a sod house. Father was the county clerk and held his office in the F. W. Pettigrew building. J. H. Eno was appointed county attorney and he insisted that my father keep the county records in his sod house. The record book was about 8 x 10 inches in size. Father refused to do so, and Eno had him arrested for concealing county records. He was taken before a justice of the peace, Mr. Bert Hopkins, who lived in the south part of the county. Melvin Grigsby, an attorney of Sioux Falls, defended him, and he was found not guilty.

The first Presbyterian Church for Indians was built that summer in 1874. The material was hauled from Marshall, Minnesota, and, as I recall, it had the distinction of having the first church bell in the Big Sioux Valley."

The growth of the town was seriously interfered with by the terrible grasshopper visitation in 1874 which continued with greater or less virulence for three successive seasons.

In 1875, M.D.L. Pettigrew built a portion of the present Flandreau House. From 1874 to 1878, on account of grasshoppers and short crops, the growth of the place was not rapid, but in the last mentioned year a great impetus was given the town and surrounding country, and the progress of Flandreau from that time has been very rapid. The county was organized under an act passed by the Legislature in 1873. The first commissioners were David Faribault, Harry Stoughton and Edward Pierce. Flandreau was made the county seat, and the following officers were appointed: Registrar of Deeds, M.D.L. Pettigrew; Treasurer and Judge of Probate, A. G. Hopkins; Sheriff, Thomas Davis. Subsequently, the following officers were elected: Commissioners, M. P. Hopkins, Morris Bebb, David Faribault; Registrar of Deeds, M.D.L. Pettigrew; Sheriff, E. I. Heald; Treasurer, Marshall Morse.

Flandreau was incorporated as a village under a special act of the legislature in 1879. It is located on Section 28, Town 107, Range 48.

The first paper in Flandreau was the Moody County Enterprise, established in 1878 by Messrs. Funk & Smith. On the retirement of Mr. Funk, the Enterprise was purchased by Williamson & Middleton and afterwards, H. W. Williamson became sole proprietor and has made it an influential journal.

CHURCHES - The Methodist Episcopal Society was organized in 1879 by the Rev. Mr. Suffring of Minnesota. The society is large and prosperous and has a good house of worship.

The Second Presbyterian Church was organized June 30, 1880, by the Rev. A. K. Baird from Iowa. A church edifice was erected in 1881 at a cost of \$1,000.00. The Indian Presbyterian and the Indian Episcopal congregations each has suitable buildings. David Weston is the catechist of the Episcopal, and the Rev. John Eastman the pastor of the Presbyterian congregation.

There are also English Episcopal, Baptist and Catholic churches in the place.

SCHOOLS - The earliest school in Flandreau was taught by Miss Hattie Pettigrew in the Summer of 1874, as mentioned earlier in this manuscript. A large and well arranged school building has since been erected, and the school is in a prosperous condition with a good attendance. Miss Mary Taylor was one of the first principals.

SECRET ORDERS - Flandreau Lodge No. 11, A. F. & A. M. was organized in the Fall of 1876. It now has a large membership.

Flandreau Lodge No. 15, I.O.O.F. was established October 5, 1879, with five charter members. It is now one of the strongest in the territory.

Flandreau Lodge No. 11, I.O.G.T. was instituted in the Spring of 1881, and has a large membership. The town has several good hotels, two banks, several lumber and coal dealers, a number of grain warehouses and thirty or forty mercantile establishments.

The Flandreau flouring mills were erected by A. H. Wheeler in 1876. Later, they became the property of Bates and the Lindsay Brothers who employed Mr. Henry J. Jacobsen as manager under whom they obtained a wide celebrity for excellence of their products. Mr. W. A. Lindsay of Lindsay Brothers was a native of Ontario, Dominion of Canada, where he was born in 1823. He was, for many years, a resident near St. Charles, Illinois from whence he removed to Dakota in 1861.

The courthouse, county offices and jail are located at Flandreau, and the town has the usual complement of attorneys, physicians, clergymen, real estate dealers, artisans and mechanics. It is in the midst of a very fine farming region and has a large and increasing trade. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway was finished to Flandreau late in 1879, the first train arriving from the east on the first day of January, 1880, and has contributed much to business and travel facilities.

EGAN - The beginning of this flourishing town was unique and peculiar, wholly unlike that of any other perhaps in America. The first house was a printing office, that of the Egan Express which made its first appearance May 27, 1880. The first citizen, a newspaper man, could sit down to breakfast and read the latest local news from his own paper and find no adverse criticism. The only other habitation was that of Mr. Alfred Brown a half-mile distant from the newspaper office, and it may be said that the Express had the unanimous support of the entire community.

The original town was laid out in April, 1880, by Alfred Brown, J. H. Eno and John Robert, and was incorporated as a village under a special charter in April, 1881. Additions have since been made in various directions by N. A. Leinbach and others. The town is near the geographical center of the county on Section 11, Town 106, Range 49, near the Big Sioux River, which, in all its wonderful circulations, flows to the east of the town. The location is a fine one, high above all possible overflows, and resting upon a plateau having a substratum of gravel in which is found at a convenient depth an abundance of pure water.

Egan is at the junction of two lines of railway, and consequently possesses excellent shipping facilities. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Company has made this point the largest coaling station west of La Crosse, besides making it an important center for other purposes. The first train ran to this point in August, 1880.

CHURCHES - There are Methodist, Baptist, Congregational and Catholic Societies all having comfortable houses of worship.

SCHOOLS - The place has a comfortable school building and a flourishing school. The first independent district in the county was organized here.

The Bank of Egan was established in October, 1881, by Mr. Grigsby and George W. Smith of Sioux Falls with Mr. Smith as manager.

CHURCH HISTORIES

COLMAN CONGREGATION

March 2, 1897 - The "Midway Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Moody County, South Dakota" was organized. The Rev. H. Langland was called as pastor together with the Vang, Vardahl and Gran Congregations. None of the congregations in the call existed very long because in 1890 the "Conference" became a part of the United Church.

1891 - The Midway Congregation became, for the time being, a part of the Flandreau Prairie Congregation organized in that year. For several years, was served in this way by the Rev. S. J. Nummedahl, the Rev. G. O. Skaret and the Rev. J. H. O. Rovik.

November 1, 1903 - The Effata Congregation was organized and centered about the cemetery which had been established some time earlier. The Rev. J. H. O. Rovik was the first pastor of this organization. He was succeeded by the Rev. C. J. Moen from 1903 to 1918.

May 11, 1908 - The Effata Ladies' Aid was organized. In 1915, this Aid joined with the Roscoe Ladies' Aid to form the Unity Aid.

June 19, 1909 - A young people's Bible class was organized. A choir was organized in 1913.

1919 - The Effata Congregation joined with the other congregations of the newly formed Norwegian Lutheran Church of America west of the Sioux River to call the Rev. C. M. Austin as their pastor. Later, in the same year, the Effata and Roscoe Congregations united to form the present Midway Congregation.

BETHANIA LUTHERAN CONGREGATION

June, 1888 - The Bethania Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was organized.

August 25, 1888 - A congregational meeting was called to accept C. O. Christenson's offer to give the pastor a temporary parsonage. Martin Paulson offered to donate ten acres of land for a parsonage. Christen Paulson offered to donate two acres of land for the church and graveyard.

1888 - The Rev. S. J. Nummedahl served as pastor until 1903. In September, 1888, the Eden Congregation in Minnesota decided to join this parish. At a meeting held a year later in September, 1889, it was decided to build a church, and in December, the constitution was drawn up and adopted.

August 29, 1891 - The first business meeting was held in the newly built church. The cornerstone was laid and the dedication was held May 27, 1897, by Pres. G. Hayne.

1903-1921 - The Rev. J. D. Swalestuen served as pastor.

1921 - The Rev. Edw. Hegland was called to serve these congregations.

December 16, 1928 - A new cornerstone was laid and the church was rededicated. In January, 1941, the Rev. Edw. Hegland passed away, having served the community for twenty years.

May, 1941 - The Rev. A. C. Anderson accepted the call to serve Bethania, Highland and Jasper parish. He served until 1947 when Pastor C. Gisselquist was called. He served until June, 1953.

1954 - Bethania Lutheran Church was re-aligned with Oslo and Lone Rock Lutheran churches to form a new parish. The Rev. Judeen O. Johnson was called as pastor.



CLARE CONGREGATION -

1919 - The Clare Congregation was organized by a union of Concordia and Flandreau Prairie Congregations. A new parish was formed consisting of Negro, Colman, Midway and Clare. Its first pastor was the Rev. C. M. Austin who served until 1930.

1920 - The parish parsonage was built in Colman. The Clare Ladies' Aid was organized in 1921. Luther League activities were carried on jointly with the Midway Congregation.

1943 - Clare Congregation joined the Flandreau Parish which was composed of Our Savior's, Lone Rock and Oslo Congregations, and the Rev. O. G. Salvesson became the pastor.

1947 - The Salvesson's were called to Denver, and the Rev. S. Iverberg, a returned missionary from Madagascar, served during the interim. That year the church constitution was translated into the English language and the women were given the right of suffrage.

1950 - Clare Cemetery Association was organized.

1953 - Seventy-fifth anniversary was observed.

Pastors that served:

C. M. Austin	1919-'30
O. H. Hove	1930-'43
O. G. Salvesson	1943-'47
R. A. Peterson	1948-'51
R. N. Nelson	1952-

April 25, 1892 - The Colman Congregation was organized.

July 25, 1893 - The cemetery, two miles west of Colman, was dedicated.

July 11, 1909 - A new church was dedicated after holding services in various places for many years, mostly in the Colman Presbyterian church which was rented for that purpose.

1907 - The congregation was incorporated.

1919 - The Rev. C. M. Austin came as pastor to the congregation which was now a part of the call composed of the newly formed Norwegian Lutheran Church of America in Moody County west of the Sioux River. The parsonage in Colman was built in 1920.

Besides the Colman Ladies' Aid, which began its work shortly after the organization of the congregation, other activities include the more recently organized choir, Luther League, Sunday School and Brotherhood carried on jointly with the Negro Congregation.

September 21, 1925 - The cornerstone for a new church building was laid.

Pastors that served:

S. J. Nummedahl	1891-'93
G. O. Skaret	1893-'94
J. H. O. Rovik	1895-'03
Carl J. Moen	1903-'18
C. M. Austin	1919-'30



CONCORDIA CONGREGATION

March 10, 1893 - The Concordia Congregation was organized. On March 17, a meeting was held to arrange for incorporation of the congregation. The articles were drawn up and recorded with the register of deeds in Flandreau on March 20, but apparently, never with the secretary of state. The Rev. J. A. Billie was formally called to be the pastor of the congregation.

The first recorded mention of religious school speaks of plans for a month of school in June of 1895. Christian Findahl conducted the school.

Little is known of the early history of the Concordia Ladies' Aid except that the ladies were active in supporting the work of the church.

July 3, 1898 - The first service and cornerstone laying was held in the new church. The organ was given by Mrs. G. Sorum.

1919 - The congregation went along with the other congregations west of the Sioux River to form the new call. The Rev. J. A. Billie continued to serve the congregations east of the river, but wrote his resignation to Concordia on February 9, 1910. He continued to serve, however, until the arrival of the Rev. Austin in July, 1919.

During the same year, plans were carried forward for consolidating the Concordia and Flandreau Prairie congregations, resulting in the Clare Congregation which the community has today.

EFFATA CONGREGATION

1878 - Though no record is too clear, the Effata Congregation had its early beginnings when the Rev. J. C. Jacobson of the syndical group known as the "Conference" began his visits in the neighborhood. The first meeting was held September, 1879.



FLANDREAU PRAIRIE CONGREGATION

January 17, 1891 - The Flandreau Prairie Congregation was organized. Arrangements were made with the Rev. S. J. Nummedahl of Jasper, Minnesota, for ministerial service.

1890 - Though the records are not clear, a Ladies' Aid was organized.

1892 - Flandreau Prairie, Pipestone, Little Rock and Colman congregations all affiliated with the United Church, and the Rev. G. O. Skaret was called as pastor.

1895 - The Rev. J. H. O. Rovik came as pastor and served until 1902. The Rev. Carl J. Moen began his term of service in 1903 and served until 1918.

In the early days, services were held in various places, among them the Smith-Arms school house, the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Midway and Hasvold school houses sometimes in winter. Plans for church building were discussed as early as 1892, but was not completed until in 1899 and was dedicated on May 27, 1900. In this same year, the congregation was incorporated. Religious school was early provided for, the first Sunday School dating back to 1892 and reorganized in 1908.

1909 - A month of parochial school was held, and in 1917, Sunday school was again reorganized.

February 7, 1904 - A Luther League was organized.

1919 - Flandreau Prairie became a part of the new call to which the Rev. C. M. Austin came as pastor. In that year also, meetings were held in regard to joining with the Concordia Congregation and the present Clare Congregation dates from that time.

Thy glory never hence depart  
Yet choose not, Lord, this house alone;  
Thy Kingdom come to every heart,  
In every bosom fix Thy throne.





HEGRE CONGREGATION  
(Formerly Salem)

March 25, 1892 - The name of the congregation was changed from Salem to Hegre, and the congregation was incorporated. At the same time, arrangements to build were made and accomplished on October 2, 1892. The tower was built in 1902, and the school-house in 1905.

June, 1904 - The church was dedicated, and the Ladies' Aid was re-organized.

1897 - A parochial school was begun.

1919 - Two years after the union of the Norwegian Synod, to which the Hegre church belonged, and the United Church and the Hauge Synod, a new call was formed consisting of the Hegre, Colman, Midway and Clare Congregations, the last two being combinations of four formerly separate congregations. The first pastor under this new order of things was the Rev. C. M. Austin who began his services in that year, preaching his first sermon in the Hegre Church in July.

1901-'02 - The congregation was served temporarily by the Rev. J. O. Scheie while the Rev. Billie served in home missionary work.

1936-'37 - The congregation was again served temporarily by Student George Evanson from Luther Theological Seminary while the present pastor was away on leave of absence to study.



INMANUEL EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1886 - The first church building was erected one mile north of Ward. In this House of God, the congregation enjoyed the administration of the Gospel, Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper until the Year, 1902.

October 6, 1901 - It was decided at a meeting of the congregation to move the church to the lots purchased in Ward, but this plan was not carried out.

March 31, 1902 - The congregation built a new church. There is no record of the dedication services of the new church, but it is assumed that such a service was held at the end of September or beginning of October, 1902. It was built during the pastorate of the Rev. C. Mikulski.

1952 - Fifty years of this churches' existence was observed. Those who were instrumental in the planning and building have passed away to their eternal reward. Into this church have come all that labored and were heavy laden, and Christ gave them rest.



LONE ROCK  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 5, 1877 - First service was conducted by the Rev. O. O. Sando pastor of the Nidaros Congregation near Baltic, Dakota Territory. Besides serving seventeen congregations, he acted as missionary among the Indians who lived on Dakota Territory.

November 21, 1877 - The Lone Rock Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was organized.

1878 - Formation of a new parish consisting of the Lone Rock, Oslo, and Roscoe Congregations took place. Johan A. Billie, a young theological student was called to shepherd the congregation, and in 1880, was installed as the first pastor.

1879 - The Lone Rock Congregation was accepted into the Synod of the Norwegian Evangelical Church of America.

1890 - The controversy over the doctrine of election caused a split, and the Little Rock Lutheran Church was formed. This congregation eventually disbanded and many members returned to the Lone Rock fold.

1888 - Early records show that the Ladies' Aid was organized, and has been the most prominent of the Lone Rock Church organizations. As time went on, the work of the Aid expanded and became more systematized due to the progress of the Women's Missionary Federation. In 1904, the Aid contributed generously to the expense of redecorating the church and laying a new carpet.

In the early days, the pastor conducted regular catechization of the children on assigned lessons at the worship services. This was the forerunner of their Sunday school.

November 26, 1897 - The Lone Rock Luther League, then known as the Lone Rock Young People's Society, met for organization. At their second meeting, January 9, 1898, the constitution was adopted.

July 7, 1901 - The laying of the cornerstone of the church was made; however, the dedication was not formally held until July 5, 1903. The altar painting, "Come Unto Me," was given by the Ladies' Aid. During this same year, the Rev. Billie served also as travelling Home Missionary for the District. The Rev. I. O. Scheie was resident assistant pastor. The Rev. Billie served in this parish for over half a century, retiring from active ministry in July, 1931. He passed away on May 26, 1935. His daughter, Katharina, in later years served as parish secretary and proved a wonderful source of help and inspiration to all.

March 1, 1948 - It was under the direction of the Rev. Russell A. Peterson that improvements to the Lone Rock Church were made. Re-consecrations laying and rededication services were held May 20, 1950.

April, 1951 - The Oslo-Lone Rock Parish came into being. A young pastor rather than an older man was called, and the Rev. David Halbakken became the first minister in the Oslo-Lone Rock Parish.

October, 1927 - The semi-centennial of the organization of the congregation was observed, and the sixtieth anniversary celebration was held in October, 1937.

1952 - The seventy-fifth anniversary was observed. Besides the Ladies' Aid, Sunday school and Luther League, this church has fine choirs, Brotherhood and a cemetery association.

Pastors that served:

O. O. Sando	1876-'80
J. A. Billie	1880-'31
H. O. Belgum	1931-'37
B. T. Anderson	1938-'41
G. G. Salvesson	1942-'47
R. A. Peterson	1948-'51
David S. Halbakken	1952-'54
Judeen O. Johnson	1954-



METHODIST CHURCH

Early in the history of Egan, Dakota Territory, there was felt the need of a church in this place. Mr. John W. Egan, patron of the small city named for him, was superintendent of the recently built Southern Minnesota Division of the C. M. and St. P. railway. An offer was made by Mr. Egan to furnish a bell for the first church to receive it. Then began a race between persons of the Baptist faith and those favoring the Methodist way of worship.

1881 - Both the Baptist and Methodist churches were completed the early part of the year; however, the Baptist Church was the first to be completed and received the bell.

The original Methodist Episcopal Church prospered under the itinerant leadership of such pioneer preachers as the Rev. J. B. Dibble, Sr., and the Rev. B. C. Arns, and were soon able to have a resident minister, the first of whom was the Rev. Jim W. Whaley.

After thirty years, the congregation had outgrown the church and a new building was needed, due to the fact that the Baptist Church discontinued services and many of the members joined the Methodist Church.

November 11, 1911 - The new Methodist Episcopal Church was completed and dedicated. The pastor was the Rev. N. A. Christensen. Considering that the bell given by the patron of the city belonged to the Methodist it was given them by Mr. George M. Stoenbough, and it soon replaced the bell on the new church which had been cracked.

1913 - A fine, new parsonage was built in keeping with the times. It is in excellent condition at the present time (1957) with every modern convenience. Under the leadership of devoted and faithful pastors and laymen, the church has been a powerful influence for good in the community. Several young men and women have gone from it as ministers and missionaries in foreign lands.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December 22, 1888 - The Methodist Episcopal Church was the first religious society to establish and build a church in Colman. The first services were held in the old school building where the organization was perfected and the articles of incorporation drawn up. After the church became a member of the conference, the Rev. W. O. Redfield was the first minister to serve.

May 23, 1889 - The church property was purchased.

1893-'94 - The Rev. George E. Dobb succeeded the Rev. W. C. Deffield, and in the same year, the Rev. W. C. Cloworth was appointed to the Episcopalian charge. Having started at the very early age of sixteen, he suffered a nervous breakdown in the course of one year and took the superannuated relation for several years.

1899 - The Rev. S. E. Shortliff was sent to the Colman-Prospect-Wellness charge. It was during his pastorate that the Wellness Church was erected.

1900-'09 - The records show that the Rev. G. L. Grainger, John Jones, H. J. Van Der Voort, R. McLeod, L. M. Scott served, and in 1909, the Rev. Thomas H. Evans served. In 1910, the Rev. H. A. Pitman was a supply pastor.

1909 - The Colman Methodist Episcopal Ladies' Aid was organized.

1911-'12 - During the term of the Rev. Carl Skinner, a new bell and electric lights were installed. In 1913, during the Rev. Perry Kinderdine's pastorate, a fire in the parsonage made it necessary to lay new floors and redecorate the parsonage. The Rev. G. H. Kilsback preached the following year.

1913 - The Rev. Gay Wilkinson served as pastor. Two of the highlights of his ministry are the union revival meetings in 1913 with the Presbyterian Church in a tent near the then Frank French's store on Main Street, and the acceptance of the pastor's plan for a new church building by the official board in 1917. By the middle of the summer, a new church was underway.

From Haron, greetings were sent for the fiftieth anniversary by the Rev. and Mrs. Vere Abbey, missionaries since leaving the Colman community in 1919. The Rev. Paul G. Dibble was supply pastor who finished the church year after the Rev. Abbey left for India.

October, 1920 - October, 1922 - The Rev. S. G. Gillette, in a message stated: "I spent two very happy years in Colman. Give my love to all my inspiring friends."

1922-'27 - The Rev. L. S. Johnson, member of the state legislature from Blagovoy County, served the Colman Parish. In 1927, during his pastorate, the Rev. F. E. Murrell built the front and back porches of the parsonage.

1931 - The Rev. E. G. Wachamer began his four years of ministry in Colman during whose stay the church membership was increased considerably.

1935 - The Rev. E. A. Tognist came to Colman. Under his leadership, all departments of the church progressed and many improvements were made. The history of any church is incomplete without a tribute to the long line of consecrated laymen and laywomen who have labored through the years and are now receiving their rewards with the Master. To name some of these without naming all would be unjust. However, it is fitting and proper to pay tribute to one who for more than twenty-five years served the church in some official capacity - Mrs. C. G. Swanson.



MIDWAY CONGREGATION

September 14, 1929 - The Midway Congregation was organized by a union of the former Bruce and Effete Congregations. A church building was completed in December, 1925, and dedicated on June 23, 1929. The Daily Ladies' Aid became the Midway Aid on January 6, 1920. In 1922, a Luther League was organized, and in 1937, a men's Brotherhood established.

The Rev. C. R. Austin, the first pastor of this new congregation, resigned in 1930, and he was succeeded by the Rev. O. H. Howe, in July of that year.



OLD LUTHERAN CHURCH

1876 - Congregation organized and was called the Old Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Moody County, Dakota Territory, and at the close of the service by the Rev. O. G. Sande on December 7, 1876, the constitution of the congregation was accepted.

1879 - The Old, Lone Rock and Boston Congregations joined to constitute a parish and were accepted as members of the Synod at a meeting at Wausau, Wisn.

1880 - The Rev. Johan A. Illie accepted the call and entered upon his services the 10th Sunday after Trinity just three weeks before that memorable blizzard October 12. His services continued for half a century.

1880 - The need for a House of Worship became apparent, but a large number of members of the congregation withdrew and this loss lessened the ability to build. When the Blinnson school was built, approximately in the center of the Old Congregation, worship services could be conducted there. However, inasmuch as those having long distances to travel with team and wagon, occasional services were conducted in the Quinell, the Jace, and the Thompson school houses until 1897 when the Old church was built.

1881 - The Old Ladies' Aid was organized by Pastor Illie's young bride. She was their president from the time of its organization until her untimely death eight years later. The Aid has faithfully served and still continues to support the work of the congregation locally as well as synodically.

September 25, 1900 - The completely furnished church was dedicated, the beautiful tones of the new Wesleyan bell summoned the community to the impressive ceremony conducted by the Pastor who had organized the congregation, the Rev. O. G. Sande. Ole G. Sande was born in Rock County, Wisconsin, May 4, 1849. Together with his parents, he came to Emmet County, Iowa, in 1863. After spending several years as a student at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, followed by three years at Concordia Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, he was ordained as a Lutheran pastor in the Summer of 1873. The Rev. and Mrs. Sande had seven children. At one time, Pastor Sande served seventeen congregations where he preached the gospel. It can be seen that the people in this section of the country are greatly indebted to him for his work. He retired from his active ministry in 1903, and he died on December 23 of that year.

Active in the early years of the congregation was the Young People's Society directed by the pastor and by Mr. Fiedhal. At the dedication of the church, this group donated the excellent Packard reed organ and the twelve-lamp chandelier which until recently hung from the ceiling.

The instruction for the young began at home with mother as the instructor, and as this teaching progressed, a Sunday School was started.

Pastors that served:

O. G. Sande	1876-'80
J. A. Illie	1880-'31
H. O. Helgen	1931-'37
B. T. Anderson	1936-'41
O. G. Salveson	1942-'47
E. A. Peterson	1948-'52
David Halbakken	1952-'54
J. Johnson	1954-

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 29, 1880 - The Flandreau Church (later called Our Savior's Lutheran Church) was organized by the Rev. J. A. Illie who had been called to serve the Lutheran churches in Moody County.

1882 - The Ladies' Aid was organized.

Early places of worship were in halls above stores, the school building where later stood the William Davis home in the east end of Flandreau, in the old Presbyterian church, and also in the Methodist Church.

1907 - A church building was erected and the corner stone was laid on August 23, but it was not dedicated until it was fully equipped in 1921.

1920 - The first Sunday school was organized.

1940 - Improvements to the church building amounting to \$9,000.00 were made, and later, more improvements were made at the cost of \$20,000.00.

Other organizations of the church besides the Ladies' Aid are the choir, L. S. L., two Luther League groups, Men's Brotherhood, Couple's Club and Reading Circle.

Early Christian instruction of the children was given on Saturdays at the parsonage. During the summer, daily instruction was given by the pastor for a two-week period.

Pastors that have served:

J. A. Illie	1880-'31
H. O. Helgen	1931-'37
B. T. Anderson	1936-'41
O. G. Salveson	1942-'48
E. A. Peterson	1948-'52
E. H. Nelson	1952-



RIVERVIEW METHODIST CHURCH

The history of the Riverview Church could begin at a dozen different points and with a dozen different persons, but because of a Christian Challenge to a man, this historical record begins with the Rev. Dewitt Clinton Arns. Long before a church was organized, he played a very vital part in the teaching and preaching of Christian doctrine in Riverview.

April, 1870 - D. C. Arns moved his family to Moody County and this was the beginning of the history of the Riverview Church. As early as 1880, nearly ten years before any church class was organized, many homes and schools were conducting Sunday School regularly.

January 1, 1890 - In the Quarterly Conference record, it shows D. C. Arns as pastor and J. G. Dohsen the presiding elder.

October 6, 1901 - The Riverview Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated after having been purchased from a group of Seventh Day Adventists and moved by slow and tedious process.

During the years up to and including World War I, scant records were kept. On June 25, 1917, the Rev. Arns lost his marriage partner and services were conducted by the Rev. W. H. Deller of Flandreau.

October, 1921 - The Rev. J. F. Arnold, a Kentuckian, served the parish until 1924. On Thanksgiving Day, two years after his farewell sermon, the countryside bade goodbye to the Rev. Arns whose death resulted from an automobile accident in loose gravel.

1924 - The Rev. and Mrs. Harlow H. Arns turned the church into a haven of activity as they labored in Riverview and Epau churches for six years.

1930 - The Rev. Paul Gardner was pastor for the next five years.

October, 1935 - The Rev. Roy E. Groves served until April, 1941, and immediately following him, James M. Turbert, wife and sons came to minister to the congregation.

1942 - The Rev. Ernest Carrier served until 1946. The competent and very capable Dr. W. H. Peterson, D. D., district superintendent, served the same region for six years from 1945 to June, 1951.

The newly named Women's Society bought a wide wool rug for the platform. The word "Episcopal" was dropped from the church name.

June, 1946 - The Rev. W. G. Howard, clergyman from Wesleyan Methodist Church in Flandreau, ministered to the congregation until April, 1947, at which time, the Rev. C. D. Arns took charge of the services.

Riverview can be proved and humbly grateful that God called three preachers from her ranks; namely, Francis Arns, George Thoms and Ernest Hobbie.

July 1, 1901 - The Rev. C. B. Ballou came to fill the pulpit for five Sundays until the Rev. C. L. Klimer could come and shepherd the flock.



#### RIVERVIEW CONGREGATION

November 20, 1878 - The Riverview Congregation was organized under the leadership of the Rev. G. S. Sunda. At the meeting held, it was also decided to affiliate with the Norwegian Synod, and to call a pastor together with the other Norwegian Evangelical Congregations in Moody County. The Rev. J. A. Billie was called and began his long service in Riverview on October 20 in a schoolhouse. Several places of worship were used such as the Smith school house; the Harvold school house, and sometime after that, the Midway school house. Erection of a church building was planned from time to time, but no church was built by the Riverview Congregation.

1896 - Several members withdrew from the congregation mainly for doctrinal reasons and later were active in forming the First Lutheran Congregation in 1891 which became affiliated with the newly organized United Church.

1893 - The Riverview Congregation was divided in two by the organization of the Concordia Congregation, both continuing to be served by the Rev. Billie. The Riverview Congregation centered its activities in the northwest section, now Midway.

There is no definite record of the first organization of the Riverview Ladies' Aid, but it occurred very likely sometime in the '90's. The first parochial school with a special teacher for the purpose was conducted during January and February in 1896 with Christiana Findehl as teacher.

1879 - The congregation of the newly formed Norwegian Lutheran Church of America west of the Sioux River met and organized a separate call to which the Rev. C. K. Austin came as pastor in July of that year. Arrangements were made to consolidate the Riverview and Effata Congregations to form the present Midway Congregation.

#### SALEN CONGREGATION

September 20, 1870 - The Salen Congregation was organized.

Since the first organization of the congregation, the center of its membership had shifted northwest of its original location. The circumstances made a re-organization advisable, and on July 22, 1881, such a meeting was held at the home of Ole T. Bakkehaug.

1880 - The Salen Ladies' Aid was organized.

March 13, 1882 - The first confirmation class was held.

In the early days, the congregation held services in various homes and school houses, to a great extent in the town of Colman.

1890 - The question of building a church began.

Pastors that served:

G. S. Sunda	1870-'80
J. A. Billie	1880-'89

#### SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

November 20, 1911 - The church was organized and Sabbath School and church officers elected.

June, 1912 - The Colman Church was admitted to the North Union Conference.

November 4, 1912 - Construction of a church building was begun, and dedication services were held May 4, 1913. This church became one of the strongest new churches in the Northern Union Conference.

1914 - A church school was organized, and through good Christian training, many members were sent to Flaxman Academy at Redfield, and from there to Union College and other Christian colleges.

Many foreign missionaries have gone forth from the Colman Church. John Gjording went as a missionary to China. He was later called "The Man of the Radio." Gus Youngberg spent many years in the mission field of Burma. During World War II, he forfeited his life in Japanese internment camps. "The Youngberg Sanitarium" was erected at Singapore in his honor. Alfred Youngberg spent many years of his life in the mission field in India. Both Youngberg Oswald and her husband were missionaries to South America. Alice Flaten Christensen and her husband have labored in South America as missionaries. Grace Flaten Bringle and husband went to the "Dark Continent of Africa" to labor for souls. Lela Thompson Cook and family also were in South America having endured many hardships. Mildred Thompson Olson and family were in Lebanon, the old Bible land. Violet Strives Wittichusen and her family were missionaries to China. They had the hard experience of being in Japanese concentration camps for thirty-three months during World War II.

This is the only Seventh Day Adventist Church in Moody County.

#### SIoux VALLEY CHURCH

March 20, 1871 - N. J. Norgaard arrived in Dakota and took up his claim five miles southeast of Dell Rapids near the Sioux River. At this time, there were no settlers but Indians. During the next two years, several families took up claims and nearly all the time regular worship and prayer meetings were held as well as Sunday school.

1874 - Jens Olson came direct from the Old Country with his family and also took up his claim on the Sioux River nearby. Being an ordained Baptist minister, he naturally took the lead in the church meetings. From then on, others arrived, some from Iowa, some from Nebraska, and also from the Old Country.

1876 - The Ladies' Aid was organized.

December 9, 1885 - The Baptists met and organized their church. It was known as the First Scandinavian Baptist Church of Moody County.

1886 - The Rev. Niels Tychsen was called as pastor.

November 2, 1886 - The church re-organized and named their church the Scandinavian Baptist Pilgrim Church of Dell Rapids.

1890 - The church was built on the main traveled road between Flaxman, Pipestone and Sioux Falls. Just a little ways from it there was one of the fjords of the river and right by it, a boat was kept to enable people to cross. On Thanksgiving Day, the building was dedicated.

July 13, 1924 - A Golden Jubilee to honor the pioneer Danish Baptists who settled in the community was observed. The Rev. Andrew Christophersen being pastor at that time.

1930 - The entire church was renovated. It was painted inside and out. Wallpapering and so-wood was put on the walls and ceiling. Pews from the old church were installed and new chairs were purchased for the choir. The addition of drapes at the windows gave a homely atmosphere. This work was completed in time to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the building. There were seven people present who were in the vicinity when the church was built. Each of the seven told of pioneer days. The Rev. O. E. Emerson was pastor at that time.

1947 - Gas lights were replaced by electricity.

1952 - A basement was dug and the original church building moved onto the new foundation. At that same time, a furnace was installed.

May 20, 1953 - Dedication of the new location was observed. This church has been known for years as the Sioux Valley Baptist Church. At that time, Nathan Gramerick, a student at North American Baptist Seminary of Sioux Falls was acting as student pastor.

#### St. SIMON & JUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1880 - The first mass to be offered in what is now St. Simon & Jude Parish.

1882 - The first rectory was built. The interests of the parish were taken care of by a number of missionary priests in the early years, but from 1880 on, there has been a resident pastor.

1925 - The present beautiful church edifice was begun by Father George E. Kelly. His completion of 40 years of service to the congregation marks the longest and most productive period in the development of the parish.

The Rev. Felix McCabe is the pastor at the present time.



#### St. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

1905 - The parish of St. Peter's was established in Colman under the auspices of Most Rev. Martin Wertz, Vicar Apostolic of Dakota Territory, and later, First Bishop of Sioux Falls.

The church was built by Father McNelly, then pastor of Dell Rapids. For awhile thereafter his successor, Father Charles Foley of St. Mary's at Dell Rapids took care of the spiritual needs of the new mission.

1907-'11 - St. Peter's Parish was a care of Charles City (Galt and Huntzler, South Dakota. The first resident pastor, Father Clement Cairns, took charge of St. Peter's for a year and during that time, built a rectory. He was followed by Father McManus who acted as pastor for the next two years. Father P. A. Eickly watched over the slow growth of the parish over a span of the next eight years.

During the depth of the depression as Father Jeremiah Lenz succeeded him, several thousand dollars that was gathered for the building of a new church were lost due to the bank failures. A parish report of the time is interesting. Father Lenz, in listing income and expenditures, has this item under the title: Pastor's Salary: The NORTHWEST WIND! During those years many a pastor failed to receive a salary, but the parish carried on, drawn closer together undoubtedly by the force of necessity.

The Altar Society played a leading role in helping provide for the financial and social needs of the parish. The annual parish dinner was inaugurated which has become one of the largest affairs of its kind in the State of South Dakota. A site and building was obtained by Father Hunter for a much needed parish hall. For many years now St. Peter's Hall, in the center of the shopping district of the town, has served a splendid purpose.

1944-'51 - Father D. J. Quillen succeeded Father Hunter as pastor. Considerable funds were raised during World War II days toward building a new church.

1951 - Under the leadership of Father Louis J. Miller, a new church was built and the cornerstone was laid by His Excellency Most Rev. Wm. O. Brady on May 27, 1952.

May 20, 1954 - The church was dedicated and the main altar consecrated by Bishop Brady.

#### WILLIAM WINDMILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH (Written in 1924 by C. H. Wellman)

May 10, 1875 - In addition to Mr. C. H. Wellman, a company from Bremer County, Iowa, the Rev. Thomas Frostwin, William Kreck, M. Winkleylock and families lived in wagons until in the fall when they built

sodhouses. In the Fall of 1879, Mr. Wellman's father went into the woods and picked the seed and sent them to this new community where Mr. Wellman and his brother planted them to provide trees.

1883 - Mr. C. S. Wellman, father of C. H. Wellman, came from Bremer County, Iowa, and homesteaded. The church was named in his honor. He also started a Sunday school in the Fall of 1883. The first Methodist minister was the Rev. J. W. Dibble. The next pioneer pastor who weathered many storms without a salary, was the Rev. Mr. D. C. Arms. He, with the help of the Rev. Bery Dibble, held the first revival in the school house in 1888. The first presiding elder was Elder Jordan, and the next was the Rev. Hartsuf.

1888 - The Rev. Sidney Shurtleff was in charge of Colman, Prospect (Later, Chester) and Wellman. On March 17, 1899, articles of incorporation from Pierre were received.

1898 - Wellman was united with Colman.

1899 - Building of the church was begun, and in June, 1900, it was dedicated, and remodeled in 1924.

1915 - The Rev. Guy Wilkinson served the Colman-Wellman charge. The line of ministers which has served the Wellman community since the combining of the Colman-Wellman churches is coincidental with those in Colman and are listed in the history of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Colman elsewhere in this atlas.

#### MOODY COUNTY GIDEON CAMP

January, 1950 - The Moody County Gideon Camp was organized by the Brookings County Gideons. The charter members were:

Arthur Hutton	Ray Jackson
John Wilson	Bill Toates
John Ernst	LeRoy Pickard

Four of these men are still active in the camp (1957). This camp has placed 7,249 Youth Testaments in the hands of the school children in Moody, Minor, Lake and Minnehaha Counties; 254 Bibles which have been placed in hotels, motels, hospitals and other places. The printing of these scriptures is supported by free-will offerings from the churches and personal gifts. The members have appeared in approximately seventy churches in the area to tell the story of this ministry, and have spoken at more than two hundred services. The Gideons have also filled pulpits for absent pastors on several occasions.

The Gideon Auxiliary is made up of the wives, mothers and daughters of the Gideons whose part of the work is to be prayer partners to the Gideons. Their slogan is: "The Auxiliary on their knees to keep the Gideons on their feet." This group was organized in April, 1950, and the charter members were:

Mrs. Arthur Hutton	Mrs. Oscar Hobbie
Mrs. John Wilson	Mrs. Ray Jackson
Mrs. Oliver Andahl	Mrs. LeRoy Pickard

Besides being prayer partners to the Gideons, the Auxiliary members place Testaments in the hands of nurses, their aides and others that work with the sick.

The present membership includes:

Arthur Youel	Trent
Oscar Hobbie	Flandreau
Martin Tusia	Egan
Freeland Lee	Colman
LeRoy Pickard	Colman
Oliver Andahl	Flandreau
George Larson	Nunda
D. Holsington	Egan
John Wilson	Colman
Arthur Hutton	Egan
Ray Jackson	Flandreau
Oliver Andahl	Flandreau



**CHURCH HISTORIES**

**BEAVER VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Valley Springs, S. D.

June 6, 1873 - The Beaver Valley Lutheran Church was organized by pioneers of Swedish descent.  
1879 - First parsonage built.  
1882 - First church built.  
1897 - Church remodeled.  
1907 - Present parsonage built.  
1917 - Pipe organ installed.  
1923 - Present church dedicated.

The following pastors have served:

I. F. Wretling	1873-'76	C. A. Larson	1912-'18
J. S. Sandahl	1876-'82	Albert Laerell	1918-'23
A. Sandberg	1886-'94	G. A. Winfield	1924-'25
Carl Klafson	1894-'98	J. R. Ford	1925-'30
J. Sundquist	1898-'02	J. Arthur Palm	1929-'42
J. R. Ford	1902-'08	Carl C. Lindor	1944-'49
G. Wallis	1908-'11	David E. Dettus	1950-

**BEAVER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Crooks, S. D.

May 4, 1870 - The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized although the beginning of the Beavert Lutheran Church dated back to the year 1868.

October 10, 1885 - Plans were made to build a church. The church was dedicated in connection with a mission meeting in 1891.  
1897 - Without musical instruments, a choir was organized.  
1894 - During this summer, the steeple of the church was completed and a bell installed as a gift from the Ladies' Aid Society.  
February 7, 1902 - A Young Peoples' Society was organized, and later, in 1914, the name was changed to Lether League. Down through the years, the League sponsored many worthwhile projects both within the congregation and the church at large. Purchasing and installing the organ was one of these projects.

June 24, 1903 - The 25th anniversary of the congregation was observed.  
October 9, 1913 - The church was struck by lightning and burned. The confirmation class of 1904 interested the Lether League in saving the bell. It was mounted on a concrete foundation back of the church where it still stands, a silent reminder of former days.  
October 10, 1913 - The members met and began making plans for a new church. It was completed and dedicated January 27, 1913.  
May 4-5, 1918 - The congregation observed its fortieth anniversary.  
1918 - The Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society was organized followed by the organization of a Junior Missionary Society in 1919.  
August 17, 1922 - Four escaped convicts from the State Prison hid in the stables near the church. A window of the prison was held as a hostage, but when no longer needed for protection, was tied to a chair in the altar of the church. The convicts were later apprehended during a gun battle in which one was shot. The rest were brought back to serve a term of life-imprisonment.  
June 1-2, 1928 - Fiftieth anniversary observed.  
June 3-5, 1938 - Sixtieth anniversary was observed.  
September 10-12, 1948 - Seventieth anniversary observed.  
The Sunday School dates back to the time the children of the pioneers learned to read.

Pastors that have served:

Lagerstrom	1876-'79	M. Gustafson	1915-'21
J. Sandahl	1879-'90	G. Lindsten	1922-'31
G. Ekberg	1891-'93	U. Ostergren	1931-'37
Alfred Anderson	1893-'94	A. Edberg	1938-'44
J. Franson	1895-'00	A. W. Knook	1944-'48
G. Lindsten	1900-'06	C. Grandquist	1948-'54
F. E. Sand	1906-'09	V. Johnson	1954-
C. Gustander	1909-'15		

**BRANDON LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Brandon, S. D.

1863 - The Split Rock Lutheran Church was built. The Rev. A. J. Lee conducted the services.  
1867 - The Ladies' Aid was organized, and Mrs. Nels Blom in the only living charter member.  
1921 - The Ladies' Aid joined the Women's Missionary Federation.  
1879 - The first Sunday School was established.  
1907-08 - A parsonage was built and the Rev. T. Sandater was the first resident pastor.  
August 14, 1932 - The Brandon Lutheran Church was dedicated to replace the former church which became old and inadequate.  
September, 1945 - Dates the beginning of the Brandon Parish Brotherhood, a new organization.  
1946 - The church celebrated its 75th anniversary. The Rev. A. R. Herbert Johnson, son of former Pastor T. A. Johnson, was chosen to preach the sermon.

Pastors that have served:

Ellif Glaw	1871-'75	N. K. New	1895-'00
D. G. Swedo	1876-'79	Henry Solon	1904-'06
C. K. Newstadt	1880-	Theo. Sandater	1907-'12
Alex J. Lee	1883-'84	T. A. Johnson	1913-'42
G.T.A. Stah	1885-	S. A. Stensteth	1942-
R. Thorgrimm	1885-'90	John M. Mason	1944-

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN TRINITY CONGREGATION**  
Burdett, S. D.

1881 - The Evangelical Lutheran Trinity Congregation was organized.  
1882 - The first church building was erected and dedicated on July 16, 1882. The first parsonage was erected.  
1906 - A second church building was erected and dedicated December 2, 1906, and is the one in use today. The first resident pastor was the Rev. G. Starnk who served from 1882-1890. He was succeeded by the following pastors:

G. Fisher	1890-'93	S. L. Brewer	1918-'21
C. Thorsen	1893-'98	A. C. Oberbee	1922-'30
G.W.F. Dunge	1898-'11	R. T. Schmidt	1936-'55
J. Wilschmidt	1911-'17	D. E. Scheller	1955-

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Sherman, S. D.

January 10, 1899 - Independent English Lutheran Church was organized.  
September 20, 1901 - Norwegian Lutheran congregation was organized.  
November 12, 1901 - Name of church changed to Salem Norwegian Lutheran Congregation.  
1904 - Church building was dedicated by Pastor N. S. Hanson.  
1922 - A chancel was added to the church structure.  
1928 - Salem and Highland Congregations merged after South Highland Church was destroyed by fire.

At this point, history of Highland Lutheran Church is as follows:

September 27, 1874 - Norwegian Lutheran Congregation was organized.  
1886 - A church was built south of Dell Rapids and dedication was held October 19, 1886.  
1892 - A church was erected in Highland Township.  
January, 1907 - Congregation was divided; the west part retaining the name and articles of incorporation and the two churches in and near Dell Rapids. The church and cemetery at Highland to belong to the east group who chose as their name, the Highland Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church.  
May 29, 1929 - The Highland Church was struck by lightning and completely destroyed by fire. They sought union with the Salem Congregation of Sherman. This became effective in October, 1929, and the same chosen was First Lutheran Church.

The following pastors have served:

G. L. Graves	1874-'75	G. W. Bruce	1907-'10
C. C. Helier	1883-'84	O. F. Johnson	1911-'15
C. C. New	1884-'91	A. J. Drenson	1915-'48
H. A. Mortvedt	1892-'00	Dr. S. Olson	1944-'51
R. G. New	1900-'04	C. W. Stearn	1951-
D. A. Anderson	1904-'06		

**LOGAN REFORMED CHURCH**

Dell Rapids, S. D.

March 7, 1906 - Ladies Aid organized.  
May 2, 1906 - A constitution was prepared by the Rev. E. A. Stah and adopted unanimously.  
July 30, 1907 - Decision was made to build a church which was dedicated the summer of 1908. Though the church was built at this time, missionary work by the Rev. G. Lindler had begun in February, 1902. In that same year, a Sunday School was established under the supervision of the late Mr. J. D. Stearn.  
1909 - Action was taken to build a parsonage, but it was not completed until several years later when the Rev. Peter DeBahr accepted the call September 10, 1912. When he left for his new field at Brown, Minnesota, there was a vacancy for two years.  
June 7, 1955 - Fiftieth anniversary observed.

Pastors that served after the Rev. Peter DeBahr:

E. F. Eerolis	1924-'30	R. W. Calbeck	1933-'54
Henry Husemann	1940-'47	Ray Kats	1950-
Chester Plesner	1947-'52		

**MEADOWS CHURCH**  
Ellis, S. D.

1911-1912 - Plans to organize a church began. Worship services were held every two weeks.  
March 30, 1913 - Ellis Sunday School was organized.  
April 19, 1914 - A church was organized.  
October 22, 1914 - Work was begun toward construction of a new church.  
May 2, 1915 - The new church was dedicated.

During its forty years, the following pastors served:

Rev. Stickle	1912-'13	Chester Warden	1917-
Rev. Sailer	1913-'15	Curtis Reedy	1918-'20
Rev. I. P. King	1915-'16	W. McClintock	1920-'26
Rev. MacNeil	1916-'17		

W. A. Black, Julius Hart, Paul Kerts, W. Pennington and Mr. Buskefahl were short term supply ministers until 1935 when Fred Cashman served until his sudden death. The Rev. J. L. Morris served four Sundays. The Rev. E. A. Polley served from 1943 to 1946. For awhile, Richard Moberly conducted services until he left to attend seminary. For short periods thereafter, William Winfree and Charles Thompson served. From 1952 to the present time, the Rev. Iver Walker has been serving as pastor.

**NORTH HIGHLAND CHURCH**  
Sherman, S. D.

Five churches have been built in Highland Township; only North Highland remains.  
1874 - South Highland church was organized.  
1880 - The Pentecostal Ladies' Aid was organized.  
In 1893, this Aid and Landstad merged and was known as Highland Ladies' Aid.  
1890 - A church building was erected. It was destroyed by lightning on May 29, 1925. The members joined First Lutheran Church at Sherman.

October 10, 1874 - Sandahl Church was organized. A church building was started, but it was destroyed by wind before it was completed. In 1892, it was rebuilt, and the Rev. Sandstad was the first pastor. In 1903, the church building was again destroyed, this time by lightning. North Highland Church was organized by some of the members of Sandahl. Others, for a time, went to Bechtels. In 1890, a sister church was organized and built, but was destroyed by a stray man who set it afire in 1922.  
1923 - North Highland Church was rebuilt on the same site and it still remains there.

Pastors that served at Sandahl Church were:

D. D. Sande	1874-'85
H. Sandstad	1885-'12
A. Larsgard	1912-'22
A. J. Drenson	1922-'45

Pastors that served at North Highland Church were:

Rev. Sandstad	1890-'02	A. C. Anderson	1941-'47
Rev. Sandstad	1902-'21	C. Glassquist	1947-'53
Rev. E. England	1921-'41	Martha Stearn	1953-

**NORWAY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION**  
Garrison, S. D.

March 23, 1874 - A meeting to organize was held under the leadership of the Rev. L. Lund. The name Norway Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was adopted. A mission society was also organized, and the small income was divided between Home and Foreign Missions. 1875 - Sunday School was conducted, but not officially organized until November 24, 1879.  
March 19, 1886 - The East Ladies' Aid was organized, and following that on March 30, the West Ladies' Aid also was organized.  
1890 - The new church was dedicated on May 18 after many years of deliberation as to its construction. Services were held in various places during this trying time.  
April 25, 1899 - The congregation celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its organization.  
1900 - The Ladies Aid financed the building of the addition to the church.  
1902 - The Young Peoples Lether League of Norway Lutheran Congregation was organized.  
March 15, 1912 - At a meeting, the Ladies' Aid, having increased its membership, offered to pay for material needed in adding a basement to the church.  
1917 - The United Norwegian Lutheran Church, the Beagle Synod and the Norwegian Synod united to form the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America.  
1924 - The fiftieth anniversary was observed.  
1926 - In addition to numerous projects outside the church itself, the Ladies' Aid helped generously with local problems such as remodeling the basement, installing a furnace, redecorating the church, etc.  
1947 - The seventy-fifth anniversary was observed.

In addition to the first sermon that was preached by the Rev. G. D. Sande of Nidarene Congregation on October 22, 1873, the following pastors have served:

H. J. Reid	1874-'76	A. Bergsaker	1911-'19
A. N. Klove	1876-'78	B. Ostensen	1919-'22
H. G. Ovesal	1878-'81	T. A. Mason	1921-'40
R. M. Widshe	1881-'90	H. Halverson	1940-'41
C. C. New	1893-'10	E. Ovesdal	1941-

**NIDARENE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
(Formerly Nidarene Lutheran Church)  
Sherman, S. D.

August 12, 1860 - The work of organizing the Nidarene Congregation began on this day. Pastor Christensen conducted services twice each year until a resident pastor could be secured.



July 22, 1869 - Services were held in a newly constructed log-schoolhouse on the west bank of the river between the Assen and Thompson homes by Pastors Christensen and Eilef Olson.

October, 1873 - O. O. Sando was installed as the first resident pastor.  
1874 - A church building was completed adjoining the parsonage to the extent that services could be held there. A strong windstorm visited this section in the early morning hours of April 9, 1879, that completely demolished the new church building. Volunteers helped clear the debris and sort out all material that could be used. A new building was completed on June 14, 1879.

1880 - Marked the beginning of organized activity by the women of Nidaros congregation, and from this modest beginning, the work of the women of the Nidaros congregation expanded until today it is represented by six different Aids; namely, the West Nidaros Nos. 1 and 2; East Nidaros, Baltic Nidaros, Renner Nidaros and Lyons Nidaros.  
1892 - Like that of the Ladies' Aid, an organization of a Girls' Society (Nidaros Pige-Forening) composed of girls 15 years and older, supplied the church with much needed equipment through their activities.

A volume could be written about the faithful workers, the accomplishments and activities of the Sunday School in the various churches of the congregation. The history of the Sunday School, however, shows that it has developed abreast with the development of the congregation.

1904 - A parsonage was built.  
While located in the City of Baltic the "Old" Church was used for the fiftieth, sixtieth and seventieth anniversaries of the congregation.  
Upon petition of people living in and about Renner, the congregation decided to move the "Old" Church to Renner. It is the oldest Lutheran Church in use every Sunday in South Dakota, having observed its 65th anniversary on August 16, 1953.  
Mrs. Berthina Feradahl, the first white child born in Wissehaha County, South Dakota, is a member of the parish.

**Pastors that have served:**

Emil Christensen and Eilef Olson	1868-'73
O. O. Sando	1873-'03
M. N. Boe	1903-'18
H. E. Solus	1918-'31
J. H. Nyrwang	1931-'39
P. M. Troen	1940-'48
E. L. Bentzen	1948-'52
Paul D. Sether	1953-
E. O. Munkvold (Assistant Pastor)	1953-

**SPLIT ROCK LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Brandon, S. D.

January 14, 1886 - The North Split Rock Evangelical Lutheran Congregation was organized.  
1897 - Building site was purchased and church was built.  
1924 - Church building was struck by lightning and completely destroyed. The local school house was used for place of worship until a new and larger modern church was completed.  
September 12, 1926 - Dedication services were held.  
1954 - Name of church was changed to "The Split Rock Evangelical Lutheran Congregation." This church grew from 59 members in 1886 to 206 in 1956.  
The Rev. Milton S. Johnson who is at present serving as pastor at Split Rock Lutheran Church is also the pastor at Brandon Lutheran Church, Brandon, South Dakota, and First Lutheran Church of Valley Springs, South Dakota. The latter was organized in 1912, and a building purchased in 1914; however, this building is now being replaced by a new building that will be completed about May 15, 1957.

**Pastors that have served:**

H. Anestad, Sr.	1886-'12	S. A. Stenseth	1943-'44
A. Larsgaard	1912-'22	John W. Mason	1944-'51
T. A. Johnson	1922-'43	N. S. Johnson	1951-

**ST. JACOBS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Buffalo Township

February 10, 1882 - St. Johannes Congregation was organized at the home of John Jendahl Severson.  
November 30, 1885 - Bethania Congregation was organized at the home of S. J. Dalen.  
February 4, 1887 - Members of St. Johannes met with members of Bethania at the John Arneson home and merged the two into St. Jacobs.  
1897 - The church building was completed.  
1907 - The chancel and sacristy were added.  
1922 - Parish Hall added, and seventieth anniversary observed in October.  
Auxiliary organizations: Ladies' Aid organized 1892; Luther League, 1904; Circles of Aid, 1952, and Brotherhood, 1953.

**Pastors that have served:**

O. O. Sando	1882-'87	O. Vangsness	1912-'16
Martin Shirley	1887-'90	A. N. Bradrig	1916-'28
Merkus Svaren	1890-'03	K. B. Vaaler	1928-'51
F. C. Birkele	1903-'12	A. G. Blom	1951-

**ST. MARY'S PARISH**  
Dell Rapids, S. D.

February, 1896 - The Rev. Fr. M. J. Martyn took charge of the Dell Rapids Mission, and plans for a church immediately began.  
1899 - The church building was completed.  
1904 - A parish rectory was built.  
1908 - An addition was built onto the church.  
1910 - A school was built.  
1951 - A new church and rectory were built.  
1957 - An extensive building program is underway for a new high school and gymnasium.

In addition to the present pastor, the Rev. P. P. Meyer, others that have served were:

M. J. Martyn	1896-'04	John Brosnan	1942-'50
James McNally	1904-'06	G. Estergaard	1950-'51
Charles Boley	1906-'37	Mrs. Isenbuth	1951-'54
Walter Roche	1937-'42	P. P. Meyer	1954-
H. C. Medicus	1942-'46		

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Garrettsen, S. D.

1868 - The Nidaros Congregation was organized.  
1873 - The St. Paul Congregation was organized.  
1886 - The St. Paul Congregation was now in parish relationship with Rosendahl and North Split Rock Congregations. In the Fall of 1886, a church was built, but not completed until 1894.  
1893 - The St. Paul Lutheran Ladies' Aid was organized.  
June 20, 1894 - The new church building was dedicated. A few years later, however, it was discovered that due to faulty surveying, the church was standing on land that did not belong to it. This church was torn down and a larger one built on the southwest corner of Sivert Hegge's homestead.  
May 28, 1911 - The church was dedicated by Pastor H. J. Strand.

Organizer and first pastor of the congregation was the Rev. O. O. Sando from 1873 to 1885. Other pastors who have served were:

H. Anestad	1886-'12	A. T. Tollefs	1934-'48
A. Larsgaard	1912-'22	A. J. Evesson	1949-'50
E. J. Rothman	1922-'27	F.O.W. Neaby	1950-'51
Iver Iverson	1927-'34	C. W. Svaren	1951-

**ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH**  
Hartford, S. D.

1888 - St. Joseph's Parish was organized under the direction of Fr. Flynn.  
1889 - A church was erected, and until 1907, was served by Frs. Flynn, Maher, Wiss, Link, Gavin, Grabig, Hogan, Mentzing, O'Hara, Feisler, M. J. Martin, James McNally and Charles Boley.  
1907 - A parish rectory was built and Fr. Traisor became the first resident pastor.  
1909 - A larger church adjoining the rectory was built on land which had previously been donated by C. B. Hestians. The parish was then served by Fr. Bouterre followed by Frs. Loftar, McCafferty, Keane, Bonning, Shannigan, Keefe, Manning, Victor, Barkle, Fitzgerald and Stolts.  
1925 - The parish became a mission of Dell Rapids. The following priests had charge of the parish under Fr. Charles Boley, pastor of St. Mary's of Dell Rapids: Frs. Coyse, Stasmeier, P. P. Meyer, Wolf and Kappunan.  
1931 - The parish became a mission of St. George's of Hartford, and was served by Fr. Kehoe, Msgr. Anisault, Frs. Barre, Heilly, H. C. Medicus, McEneaney, and at the present time, by Fr. Carroll.

**SWEDONA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH**  
Brandon, S. D.

April 9, 1877 - The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church of Swedona was organized and constructed of sod. This was replaced by a frame structure in 1881.  
1886 - A Sunday School was started by A. F. Brown.  
1906 - On the initiative of Mrs. Chas. Johnson, a Ladies' Aid Society was organized.  
1907 - The meetings conducted by the Rev. Elmer in 1890 during the ministry of the Rev. J. F. Wretlof, now become known as the Young Peoples' Society. Many worthwhile projects were financed by this group.  
In December, 1933, the name was changed to Young Peoples' League. This branch of the church work was a means of social and religious activity among the young people of the community.

Pastors that have served from 1877 to the present time:

J. F. Wretlof	1877-'09	Paul Nygren	1930-'32
G. F. Moline	1909-'13	H. Jacobson	1934-'45
Herman Carlson	1913-'16	F. Ericson	1946-'49
H. Gustafson	1917-	N. Anderson	1950-'51
E. Berggren	1917-'23	F. Anderson	1951-'52
Robert Larsen	1924-	C. Anderson	1952-'54
John Anderson	1924-'30	E. Hansen	1954-

**WILLOW CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Dell Rapids, S. D.

June 27, 1875 - The Willow Creek Norwegian Evangelical Congregation was organized.  
October 18, 1876 - The first confirmation service was held by the Rev. H. Z. Hvid.  
November 22, 1876 - Mr. Vadheim conducted the first religious school.  
February 8, 1886 - The Ladies' Aid was organized.  
1888 - A church building was erected. Plans for this had been made in 1885.  
September, 1890 - St. Asger, St. Olaf, Willow Creek and Norway organized into a parish.  
1911 - The Luther League was organized. During this same year, the St. Peter's Congregation in Dell Rapids was included in the parish.  
1919 - The parish was changed to include Dell Rapids and Willow Creek Congregations.  
1925 - The congregation celebrated its fiftieth anniversary.  
1928 - The pledge and envelope system was introduced together with the use of collection plates.  
June 22-24, 1935 - Sixtieth anniversary was celebrated.

Many changes have taken place since that little head first set in a sod hut to organize a Christian congregation.

September 16-17, 1950 - Seventy-fifth anniversary was observed.

Pastors that have served from 1874 to the present time:

H. Z. Hvid	1874-'76	A. J. Bergsaker	1911-'18
A. N. Kleven	1876-'78	B. J. Rothman	1919-'27
E. O. Opsal	1878-'81	A. J. Bringle	1927-'36
E. H. Midtbo	1881-'91	Ole M. Odland	1937-
C. C. Noe	1892-'10		

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Hartford, S. D.

June 6, 1881 - Zion Lutheran Congregation was organized.  
1883 - A church was built. The greater part of the present church is the original structure, erected by the founding fathers seventy-three years ago.

Pastors of the congregation that have served:

C. Schmidt	1881-'83
A. Hahn	1883-'86
E. A. Henneman	1886-'89
F. Voelker	1889-'91
L. Weisrich	1891-'94
J. Hanson	1894-'01
J. Durkop	1901-'06
F. Brauchitsch	1906-'09
W. Schroeder	1909-'20
E. H. Mueller	1920-'26
J. F. Drewelow	1926-'35
W. E. Berrick	1935-'43
E. Adams	1943-'45
B. Nagel	1945-

**THE McCROSSAN BOYS RANCH**  
Sioux Falls, S. D.

The founder of McCrossan Boys Ranch is Mrs. Melinda Nell McCrossan, a resident of Sioux Falls many years ago, and since 1917, a resident of Amarillo, Texas.

In 1947, Mrs. McCrossan made a substantial gift of Sioux Falls property to a Board of Trustees who has been working towards the establishment of a boys' home since that time.

Progress has been made so that a building is in place on the half section farm situated about three miles northwest of Sioux Falls.

The home was dedicated on June 26, 1955, and in September of that year, made a home for its first boys.

Activities of the Boys' Ranch are still in a formative stage. There are from four to six boys at various times, and the home is looking for more boys to serve. Its purpose is to furnish a home for needy boys who do not have a home or a satisfactory home of their own.

It is not equipped to handle disturbed boys, but it is hoped that in time it may develop to the point where it can meet all the problems that come its way.

Mrs. McCrossan died September 25, 1956.

COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Commissioners:  
Alfred Ingeman-Dist. 1-Flandres  
Albin Erickson-Dist. 2-Volge  
G. H. Hultzer-Dist. 3-Trent

Representatives:  
Roy Armstrong-Flandres  
Roy M. Johnson-Medison

Senator:  
O. J. Tommerhuson-Medison

County Auditor:  
Tilman Galbreath-Flandres

County Treasurer:  
A. C. Richter-Colson

Clerk of Courts:  
Mrs. Opal Ness-Flandres

Register of Deeds:  
Miss Margaret Bentley-Flandres

County Superintendent of Schools:  
Miss Selma Severson-Flandres

State Attorney:  
Holland G. Jones-Flandres

Highway Superintendent:  
Mr. Cose Jr.-Flandres

Veterans Service Officers:  
John Henderson-Flandres

Sheriff:  
Fletcher H. Faria-Flandres

Coroner:  
Dr. E. E. Fish-Flandres

County Public Welfare Director:  
C. H. Cotton-Flandres

County Agent:  
C. W. Colson-Flandres

Supervisor of Assessors:  
Mr. H. Kneha-Flandres

SCHOOL BOARDS

Egan Independent #1  
President: Francis DeLay  
Clerk: Charles Page  
Treasurer: Harry F. Dalbe  
Lloyd F. Youel  
Lawrence Buck  
R. J. Birnbaum  
Everett Wendell

Trent Independent #2  
President: Lloyd Peterson  
Clerk: L. E. Mutschekaus  
Treasurer: Vlasson Whiskey  
Vice President: Virgil Whiskey  
Verona Youel  
Emmet Feuerlein  
Walter Beedle

Flandres Independent #3  
Clerk: Gladys English  
Treasurer: Bert Smith  
President: Leo Patratre  
Ewrest Eak  
Earl Larson  
Vice President: Mrs. Myrtle Ehrlich  
Justia Jones

Colson Independent #20

President: John Branda  
Clerk: Mrs. Vera Sauge  
Treasurer: C. W. Harrington  
Donald Lease  
Herold Lee  
Lee Heisley  
Donald Wilson

Duchstadter #4  
Clerk: James Williams, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Kenneth Sam, Trent  
Chairman: Robert Svendsen, Dell Rapids

Hess #6  
Clerk: Albert Henry, Flandres  
Treasurer: Eva F. Peterson, Flandres  
Chairman: Francis Kuehl, Flandres

Durand #7  
Clerk: William Miller, Brookings  
Treasurer: F. M. Potts, Brookings  
Chairman: Tom Durand, Brookings

Johnson #8  
Clerk: L. J. Anderson, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Jens Neilson, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Henry Aasen, Dell Rapids

Blissom #9  
Clerk: Clifford Ingeman, Trent  
Treasurer: Howard Jacobsen, Flandres  
Chairman: Orville Olson, Flandres

Hunt #10  
Clerk: Albert Lamson, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Joe Alberta, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Raymond Scherff, Dell Rapids

Sparsville #11  
Clerk: Mrs. John Fitzgerald, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Harry Crisp, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Joe Piagge, Dell Rapids

Struble #12  
Clerk: Harold Blankenfeldt, Trent  
Treasurer: Elmer Scherff, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Howard Meyer, Trent

Simons #13  
Clerk: Vortex Plummer, Flandres  
Treasurer: William Erickson, Flandres  
Chairman: Dale Fustole, Flandres

Deater #14  
Clerk: Clarence Steen, Elkton  
Treasurer: Otto Swallfield, Elkton  
Chairman: Gillian Schalt, Elkton

Saxxy Hill #15  
Clerk: Mrs. Hazel Antoine, Egan  
Treasurer: Leo Kotes, Flandres  
Chairman: Vortex Schroeder, Flandres

Jure #17  
Clerk: Gabriel Berger, Flandres  
Treasurer: Conrad Erickson, Flandres  
Chairman: Lyle E. Johnson, Flandres

Dalley #18  
Clerk: Orvell Johnson, Pipestone  
Treasurer: Harold Smith, Pipestone  
Chairman: Curtis Dahlmeier, Pipestone

Thompson #19  
Clerk: Francis DeClerk, Jasper  
Treasurer: Julian Quissell, Jasper  
Chairman: Ralph Erickson, Jasper

Quissell #20  
Clerk: Curtis Quissell, Jasper  
Treasurer: John Leaning, Jasper  
Chairman: Henry Wilson, Jasper

Shady Lawn #21  
Clerk: Lloyd Bentachler, Egan  
Treasurer: John Bush, Egan  
Chairman: Verlin Johnson, Egan

Bell #22  
Clerk: Lyle Crook, Flandres  
Treasurer: Harley Bennett, Flandres  
Chairman: Hiram Davis, Flandres

Galle #23

Clerk: Mrs. Milton Erickson, Brookings  
Treasurer: Harold Balch, Brookings  
Chairman: Cecil Galbreath, Brookings

Gale Ridge #24  
Clerk: Jack Welles, Colson  
Treasurer: Harold Crisp, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: George Bremer, Egan

Dufasey #25  
Clerk: Joe Trevithick, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Arthur Morgan, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Norris Fox, Dell Rapids

Seythe #26  
Clerk: Oscar Hobbie, Flandres  
Treasurer: Arthur Pulscher, Flandres  
Chairman: Mrs. Esther Lottman, Flandres

Chamberlin #27  
Clerk: Bruce Chamberlin, Flandres  
Treasurer: Jennings Dahl, Flandres  
Chairman: Lester Jorgensen, Flandres

Fletcher #28  
Clerk: William Hultzer, Ward  
Treasurer: Edwin Anderson, Ward  
Chairman: Wilbur Scofield, Flandres

Ward #29  
Clerk: Walter Sundermeyer, Ward  
Treasurer: Mrs. Frank Lange, Ward  
Chairman: James Rice, Elkton

Wickness #31  
Clerk: Mike Wickness, Colson  
Treasurer: Dick Swart, Colson  
Chairman: Oliver Wickness, Colson

Midway #32  
Clerk: Lloyd Gallison, Flandres  
Treasurer: Ernest Doyle, Flandres  
Chairman: Silas Jensen, Colson

Harway #33  
Clerk: Henry Grafing, Elkton  
Treasurer: Morris Myers, Elkton  
Chairman: Harold Swallfield, Elkton

Vance #34  
Clerk: Peter F. Faulstich, Flandres  
Treasurer: William Meyer, Ward  
Chairman: LeRoy Myers, Flandres

Troupe #35  
Clerk: C. W. Anderson, Colson  
Treasurer: Basil Hamilton, Westworth  
Chairman: John Epleed, Colson

O'Brien #36  
Clerk: James Ulton, Flandres  
Treasurer: Thomas Ulton, Aurora  
Chairman: Raymond Kroege, Aurora

Moore #37  
Clerk: Leo Welbig, Colson  
Treasurer: Harry Koeber, Colson  
Chairman: Robert Botwell, Colson

Whaley #38  
Clerk: Kenneth Whaley, Colson  
Treasurer: Philip Jensen, Colson  
Chairman: Wendell Johnson, Colson

Wellman #39  
Clerk: Claude Anderson, Colson  
Treasurer: Lloyd Wellman, Colson  
Chairman: Robert Tompser, Colson

Bernmann #40  
Clerk: Clifford Pedersen, Jasper  
Treasurer: Valrie Mortenson, Jasper  
Chairman: Oren Hult, Jasper

Nelson #41  
Clerk: Walter DeLaney, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Merle Anderson, Trent  
Chairman: Raymond Christensen, Dell Rapids

Tide #42  
Clerk: Arthur A. Beyer, Flandres  
Treasurer: Herman Paper, Flandres  
Chairman: Oden Selnes, Flandres

Liberty #43

Clerk: Roy P. Smith, Flandres  
Treasurer: Lloyd Kohler, Flandres  
Chairman: Jay Bennett, Flandres

Lathrop #44  
Clerk: Jerome DeLay, Flandres  
Treasurer: James Latham, Flandres  
Chairman: Sheridan Pulscher, Flandres

Faria #45  
Clerk: Mrs. John McNeil, Flandres  
Treasurer: Mrs. Betty Armstrong, Flandres  
Chairman: Vincent McMahan, Flandres

Fleasant Valley #46  
Clerk: Lester Anderson, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Mrs. Arthur Nessens, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Harold Anderson, Dell Rapids

Lamson #47  
Clerk: Carl Nessens, Colson  
Treasurer: Elmer Mueller, Colson  
Chairman: Dave Smith, Colson

Bald #48  
Clerk: Donald Sorenson, Colson  
Treasurer: Alvin Liedholm, Colson  
Chairman: Thorval Pedersen, Colson

Jacks #49  
Clerk: Ed Budd, Colson  
Treasurer: Harold Niles, Colson  
Chairman: Clifford Nelson, Colson

Kluge #50  
Clerk: Biles Flattus, Colson  
Treasurer: John Miller, Colson  
Chairman: Clarence Nelson, Colson

Trygstad #51  
Clerk: Vern Gedulake, Volge  
Treasurer: Clifford Hanson, Brookings  
Chairman: Ernest Steen, Volge

Keith #52  
Clerk: Verden Kroege, Ward  
Treasurer: Arthur Christensen, Elkton  
Chairman: Earl Henry, Ward

Larson #53  
Clerk: Werner Leach, Colson  
Treasurer: John Anderson, Colson  
Chairman: Thorval Nelson, Colson

McCordy #54  
Clerk: Mrs. Myra Galbreath, Colson  
Treasurer: Edwigh Bothers, Colson  
Chairman: J. Arthur Thompson, Colson

Allen #55  
Clerk: Arnold Stangeland, Colson  
Treasurer: Thomas Thompson, Colson  
Chairman: Charles Morgan, Colson

Bellus #56  
Clerk: Laverne Jorgenson, Colson  
Treasurer: Sam Chamberlin, Flandres  
Chairman: Donald E. Kittelson, Flandres

Kirkland #57  
Clerk: Melvin Peterson, Trent  
Treasurer: Hedo C. Jensen, Trent  
Chairman: Louis M. Larson, Trent

Noyes #58  
Clerk: Tom Allen, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: John P. Miller, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Melvin Hess, Dell Rapids

Kringus #59  
Clerk: Elmer Christensen, Colson  
Treasurer: A. P. Melseth, Colson  
Chairman: Leonard Park, Colson

Jones #60  
Clerk: Andrew Wiese, Flandres  
Treasurer: Wile Mussen, Flandres  
Chairman: Oren Herrick, Flandres

Toates #62

Clerk: Merritt Nelson, Colman  
Treasurer: Lewis Lewis, Colman  
Chairman: W. J. Toates, Colman

Yeo #65

Clerk: Billy Jones, Aurora  
Treasurer: Leonard Caswell, Aurora  
Chairman: Albert Teal, Aurora

Pleasant Prairie #68

Clerk: Marvin Thomas, Dell Rapids  
Treasurer: Irving Johnson, Dell Rapids  
Chairman: Alvin Anderson, Dell Rapids

Cottonwood #71

Clerk: Jerald Anderson, Elkton  
Treasurer: William Weber Jr., Ward  
Chairman: Bert Van Dyke, Elkton

Coleman #63

Clerk: Kenneth Nass, Flandreau  
Treasurer: Marvin Gullickson, Flandreau  
Chairman: Dale Stokes, Flandreau

Stagelmann #66

Clerk: Ralph Jones, Flandreau  
Treasurer: Lisle Fargen, Flandreau  
Chairman: Clifford Headrick, Flandreau

Littig #69

Clerk: William Greenhoff, Flandreau  
Treasurer: Douglas Duncan, Flandreau  
Chairman: Ralph Steudeman, Flandreau

Saby #64

Clerk: Orville Waxdahl, Flandreau  
Treasurer: Floyd Larson, Flandreau  
Chairman: Elmer Erickson, Flandreau

Ash Grove #67

Clerk: O. C. Nikkelson, Colman  
Treasurer: Berg Holbeck, Colman  
Chairman: Hartwick Levenson, Colman

Riverview #70

Clerk: Ervin Doyle, Flandreau  
Treasurer: Harley Koch, Flandreau  
Chairman: LaMont Scofield, Flandreau