

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BUILDING

This building was designed by the architectural firm of Wigen, Tincknell, Meyer & Associates, Saginaw, Michigan, and built with the assistance of the Builders for Christ organization. The BFC project manager was Ray Zastrow from Rhinelander, Wisconsin. The total cost of the building project was approximately ~~\$195,000~~ ^{\$175,000}. \$55,000 was provided by a grant from the WELS Board for Home Missions. The mission board also arranged for a loan of \$80,000 through the WELS Church Extension Fund.

The facility is just under 4000 square feet. The chapel seats 125. There is an 800 s.f. fellowship area off the chapel which can also serve as additional worship seating. There are 3 classrooms, a kitchen, a mechanical room, the pastor's study and bathrooms. A 20'x20' storage building across the parking lot served as a multi-purpose room during the building project.

The altar, pulpit, baptismal font, flower stands, cross above the altar and communion rail were made by Builders for Christ member, Ralph Magel. The kitchen cabinets were made by Builders for Christ member John Thoma.

The pews were purchased from Delta Haven Presbyterian Church of Lansing, Michigan.

The light fixtures are a gift from Trinity Lutheran Church of Bay City, Michigan.

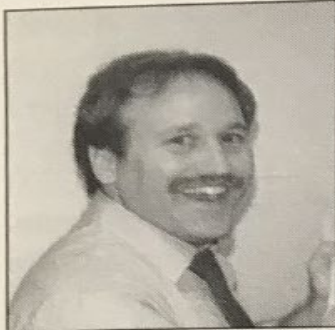
The stonework at the entrance of the church was done by Philip Golke.

The gravel for the parking lot was donated by Manthei Development Corporation.

AN UNEXPECTED SOURCE OF FUNDING

One interesting sidelight is the suggestion made by a member shortly after Beautiful Savior bought the property on Sheridan. Most of the property had been a field and the comment was made that there was probably a large amount of topsoil which might be sold yet leaving ample for our use. Not only was it true that there was more topsoil than we needed for our use but the sale of this excess topsoil amounted to about \$20,000.

HISTORY OF BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR



Pastor Chris Kruschel

In 1987 the Michigan District Mission Board of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod was contacted by WELS members living in the Petoskey area regarding the possibility of starting a congregation. As a result in 1988 the Mission Board called Pastor Christopher Kruschel. He served as the first resident pastor from 1988-1991 doing canvass work and phone surveys, offering Bible studies, and doing the other groundwork needed to begin a new church.

The first worship service was held March 12, 1989 at the 4-H Center of Emmet County Fairgrounds. This facility would serve as the regular place of worship till October of 1996. Occa-



4-H Center, Emmet County Fairgrounds

sionally other rented facilities such as North Central Michigan College and the Holiday Inn had to be used to hold worship services.

In 1990 the congregation was incorporated and bought a home at 1301 Highland Drive to be used as the parsonage. The cost was \$95,000 and was financed by the WELS Church Extension Fund through our mission board.



Parsonage



Pastor Jeff Londgren

In the summer of 1991 Jeff Londgren began serving Beautiful Savior as pastor. In 1992 Beautiful Savior was established as a mission congregation. A dual parish arrangement was formed with Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELS) of East Jordan.

*(l to r) Jeff Soderquist,
Lee Barta,
Grant Dittmar,
Dave Schwall,
Bill Lacross,
Pastor Jeff Londgren,
Barrie Batchelder*



In 1993 Beautiful Savior bought a 10 acre parcel of land on Sheridan Road in Petoskey at a cost of \$67,500 for which the congregation was able to pay cash. Groundbreaking for the project took place on May 12, 1996 and soon afterwards construction began.



Members of Builders for Christ, a WELS volunteer organization, began to arrive in June.

A steady stream of volunteer workers from throughout the Wisconsin Synod provided time and talent to help build this facility and greatly reduce the cost.



*Ray Zastrow,
Project Manager*



RV's were a common sight during construction.



The first worship service was held at the new church on October 6, 1996 followed by the dedication service on November 3, 1996 at 4 pm with Pastor Chris Kruschel as the dedication preacher.

We thank God for his grace and blessings upon our church and this project.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Above all else we thank our God who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ. We have the gift of our Beautiful Savior. The Holy Spirit gave us the gift of the Bible. We have the gift of faith created by the work of the Holy Spirit working through the Word. It is in grateful response to our Lord's abundant blessings that we desire to worship and work for our Lord.

We thank the members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod whose offerings enabled us to have the assistance needed to support the ministry here. We also thank them for the generous grant for our building as well as the low interest loan made to our church for this project. We thank the Michigan District Mission Board through which we were able to receive the synod financial help as well as guidance and encouragement.

We thank the members and friends of Beautiful Savior whose generous hearts provided the financial support and long hours of labor so this project could become a reality.

We especially thank our building committee - Dave Schwall, Ernie Koepke and Bill LaCross - who put in many, many hours in planning, meetings and work. We also give special thanks to our present church council - President Keith Moore, Secretary Bill LaCross, Treasurer Grant Dittmar, Financial Secretary Leland Barta - for their leadership during this project. We also recognize former congregational president Barrie Batchelder who from 1991 till July of 1996 led our congregation during the planning and preliminary work.

Another major task was finding housing for the many volunteers who did not have their own housing. We thank our housing co-ordinators, Bill and Shirley Brown, for making sure everyone had a place to stay.

The other large task of the project was providing a daily noon meal for all the volunteer workers. This meal was both a way of saying thanks to our volunteers and also provided the basis for workman's compensation coverage since most of the volunteers asked for no wages. Our co-ordinator of meals was Ruth Scheelk. Co-ordinating the meals as well as breaktime snacks brought Leo and Ruth Scheelk to the site almost every day. We also thank those from Hope Lutheran Church of Indian River and Faith Lutheran Church of East Jordan who also helped with the meals.

We also thank the ladies of our congregation for their individual time and talents in taking care of the many details needed to put the finishing touches on the church.

We thank AAL and our local branch for their help.

Our church was blessed with having our own plumber, Barrie Batchelder, who volunteered his time to install both the heating and plumbing systems.

ABOUT BUILDERS FOR CHRIST

One of the unique features of our building project was the Builders for Christ organization which is part of WELS Kingdom Workers. Builders For Christ was organized about 10 years ago to especially help mission congregations get their own facilities at a reasonable cost by using volunteer help recruited from throughout the Wisconsin Synod. We greatly appreciate the time and talent given by these volunteers out of love for Christ and his church. Without their help it would not have been feasible to build this church. We also thank God for the added blessing of growing in the bonds of friendship and fellowship with these brothers and sisters in Christ who became part of our congregation for a time and whose company will be missed.

And we thank the following volunteers from Builders for Christ:

Ray (project manager) and Carol Zastrow Homer Albrecht	Robert & Charlotte Jacob John Kehl Paul & Pearl Kock Emil Koltermann
Darrell & Beverly Anderson Irv & Judy Balenbaugh Harry & Zoe Barrett	Martin & Rose Leyrer Ralph & Irene Magle Walter & Dorothy Martini
Butch & Stella Behmlander Virgil & Geneva Bennett Ann Bitter John Blome	Edward and Carol Nelson Alfred & Jean Rabenhorst Clare & Alvina Reiter
William & Shirley Brown David & Kim Bubolz Dan & Brieda Carow	Douglas and Lorraine Stindt LeRoy and Violet Wangerin Leeun A. Werner Ed Zastrow
Robert & Marilyn Chapman Don & Imogene Fictum Wayne Gerdes	Roy & Betty Zastrow
Miles & Shirley Gladitsch Kermit & Dorrains Heckmann Richard & Jeanne Hamrick	<i>Additional volunteer workers:</i>
Darwin & Judy Hoefs Rueben & Gerri Hoffmann Elton & Lela Illes John & Caroline Inniger	Ed Foster Greg & Kristine Iles Raymond R. Schwall Raymond L. Schwall Jeffrey Schwall

(This was John's last project for on his return trip to home after helping with our project went to be with our Lord while sleeping in his motel room.)

CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS

Wellwork was done by Ramsby Drilling Inc.

Foundation and concrete slab work was done by
Statewide Concrete.

Site work, excavation and septic system was done by
Ron Dunkel Excavating.

Trusses and most of the building materials were bought through
Preston Feather of Petoskey.

Plumbing and heating materials were purchased from
Ballard's Plumbing and Heating.

We thank Ted Farnsworth for his role with
the electrical work of the project.

Drywall in the chapel and fellowship hall was done by
Mike Kahgee Drywall.

Carpet and vinyl were purchased through
Sweet's Kitchens and installed by Darrel Schultz.

ABOUT THE WISCONSIN SYNOD

A synod means a group of churches or a denomination. The Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, or WELS, had its origin in the mid-west in the mid 1850's. As of 1996 the WELS has over 1200 congregations throughout the USA and also has foreign missions in many parts of the globe. The WELS is in fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) which has its headquarters in Mankato, Minnesota. The term Lutheran comes from the church reformer Martin Luther who in the 1500's corrected many false teachings and sinful practices of the church at that time and did much to restore the faithful teaching of the Bible to the church. His dedication to the pure and faithful doctrines of the Bible has carried through to this day in the Wisconsin Synod.

