

MRS. GLADYS ARNDT - (Lutheran Our Saviour)

INTERVIEWED:

April 9, 1975

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Mrs. Arndt joined the church November 1959 after being informed that a church was being built in Richmond. It originated out of the Head Office in Saskatoon under the Board of Missions.

The church was located at 808 Francis Road, and the minister who came out was Pastor Philip Vorvick from Washington, U.S.A. His first duties were to inform residents in the area that a church would be open in the November and he did this by knocking on doors.

Lot

Slightly larger than 1/2 acre at present date - some sold off to repay large mortgage. Lot now backs on to subdivision. Ditch was filled in 2 weeks prior to interview.

Exterior

Flat roof building. Frame construction with stucco and later aluminum siding. Has stained glass windows. Education wing behind has clear glass windows. It is a rectangular chapel with the Education building joined on at back. The Sunday School class are in the Education building and a Day Care programme is held there during the week. Entrance is from the front, facing Francis Road.

Interior

Asphalt tile flooring with heating from gas furnaces in the floor. Lighting is incandescent. The seating capacity in pews is approximately 150.

Education Wing

Consists of one large room divided by curtains for classes. There are some portable divisions also.

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Original Congregation

The charter members who came to the newly-built church numbered 136 baptised members and 78 confirmed members, as of November 22, 1959. These numbers have fluctuated but at present are 292 baptised members and 192 confirmed members.

Background

Majority of congregation is from Richmond area - coming mostly from Saskatchewan originally. Ethnically, most are of German descent with some Danish and Norwegian families. There have been some Oriental families.

Groups

Ladies have a group - Lutheran Church Women. Boy Scouts and Girl Guides meet in the church. The Church Council meets monthly. Al-Anon use the facilities. A youth group for the ages 15 - 21 meets every two weeks.

Role of Women

Women serve on the Church Board. They can vote as full members.

Parsonage

It is supplied for the minister who lives rent-free. Originally was built before the church in front of the building, but it hid the church so was moved to the left of the church.

Ministers

1959 - 1965	Pastor Vorvick
1965 - 1966	Interim Pastor, Marvin Harvey
1966 - 1972	Pastor James Rasmussen
1972 - Present	Pastor James Von Schultz

Upkeep

Envelopes are distributed yearly. Tithing is encouraged and also free-will offerings.

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Alliances

As this was a Mission, there is a direct responsibility to Head Office in Saskatoon.

Special Events

They have celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the church and this was a great time of re-union with members who returned, including Pastor Vorvick. It was the Anniversary of the "Organization Sunday" of November 22, 1959.

Plans for the Future

The congregation intends to make a greater outreach into the community to share their faith with them.

Parking lot has just been paved.

M. NOBLE