



*St. Matthew's Lutheran Church  
Welland, Ontario  
Centennial 1876 - 1976*



# Pastor's Message



Rev. Paul Burgoyne

We are now celebrating one hundred years of serving our Master in Welland. During that time, our Loving God has nourished St. Matthew's family with both Word and Sacrament to provide spiritual growth and a steady increase in numbers. The accomplishments of this congregation result from the efforts of pastors and people who have been abundantly blessed.

There have been times of discouragement. In a booklet published for the Fifty-Fifth Anniversary of St. Matthew's, the Rev. S. Gartung wrote: The occasion is unique because it is also the fifth anniversary of the determination to live. For a period of practically fifty years the congregation did not have a resident pastor. For many years there was no pastoral oversight. The miracle really is that the congregation was sustained.

We do desire, for the above reason, to keep the two-fold nature of this anniversary in mind - the first half of a century, and the first lap of the second half. It is our confirmed opinion that God has favoured us with a new outlook, an outlook wherein a new opportunity of serving Him is granted.

Pastor Gartung's words seem prophetic. It was during the second fifty years that the visions and hopes of the organizers began to materialize. This was an era of opportunity, and God blessed the efforts of both people and pastors by multiplying the size of our Christian family and increasing the scope of its ministry.

The completion of one hundred years of ministering in the name of Christ must not in any way prompt a feeling of having finished the work entrusted to us. We have been stewards of God's treasures and shall continue in this trust as long as He provides the necessary strength. Our age must not suggest retirement, but a form of conditioning which prepares us for more strenuous accomplishments in the days and years to come. The past history of the congregation serves to indicate that we can share and anticipate great things if we seek to serve our Lord. In Him is life for the individual and also for the congregation committed to His Gospel. St. Matthew's in Welland will continue to live and prosper so long as the members are faithful servants of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.



Interior of Church

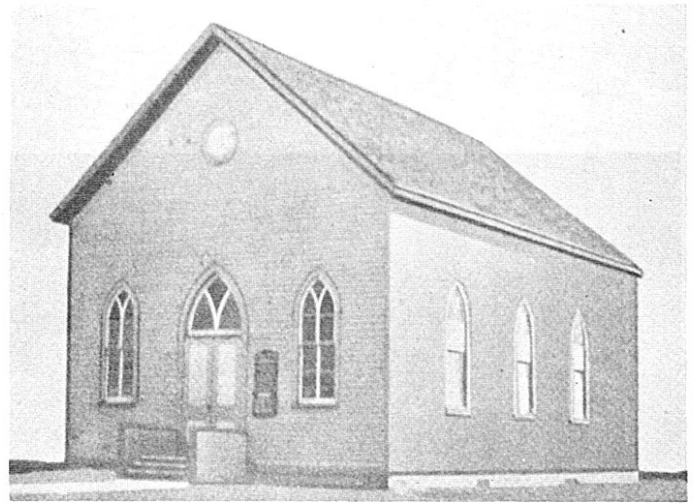
# Our History

Many of the German families who settled in the Niagara Peninsula were groups of people from Alsace and neighbouring districts, or United Empire Loyalists from the environs of Pennsylvania. On February 24, 1876, a small group of these German speaking Lutherans organized under the direction of the Rev. F. C. Ebinger, a circuit preacher, into the congregation of St. Matthew's, Welland. Moving quickly, the fledgling congregation purchased the present church site from Hooker and Asher for \$75.00 and proceeded with their plans to erect the first permanent Lutheran Church building in Welland.

Through collections and subscriptions \$600.00 was raised, and the cornerstone was laid on May 7, 1876. Contractors erected a wooden structure, measuring 40 feet by 28 feet, which served St. Matthew's for over 50 years until it was replaced by the present building in 1928.

The first 50 years of service of St. Matthew's were not easy ones. Gradually as the older members of the congregation died, and families moved away, the congregation shrank in size until there were only six families who were members of St. Matthew's. The arrival of a field missionary, Dr. M. J. Bieber, in 1913 reversed this trend, and the year 1926 saw the congregation call its first full-time pastor, the Rev. S. Gartung. During his pastorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the congregation was celebrated and plans were made for the erection of a new church building. The cornerstone of the new church was laid on August 19, 1928, and the dedication service was conducted on December 4 of that year.

The past fifty years have seen an expansion of Christ's ministry under the direction of Pastors S. Gartung (1926-1936), S. Cooper (1937-1942), F. Mueller (1942-1945), C. Cronmiller (1945-1953), R. Tubbe (1954-1959), M. Innes (1960-1963), P. Fischer (1964-1965), H. Lindeman (1965-1972) and R.L.P. Burgoyne (1973 - ). In 1958, several members who had worshipped in the original church participated in a sod-turning ceremony for the addition of a Fellowship Hall and Sunday School rooms, plus extensive renovations to the church proper.



First Church Building

To complete a block of property fronting on Griffith, Kent and Regent Streets, the following purchases were made: a house and lot on Kent Street in 1942, a house and lot on Griffith Street in 1956, and a lot on Regent Street in the same year. This provided space for a new parsonage built on Griffith Street in 1965, and a sizable parking lot on Kent and Regent Streets. A new organ was dedicated on March 31, 1968.

The history of the congregation of St. Matthew's cannot be told merely in a recording of dates and events, but rather through the living witness of those members who preceded us. The families whose pictures and names appear in this book are also part of the past history, as well as the future history of St. Matthew's which remains to be written. Let us pray that we remain as faithful to our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as those who came before us.



First Resident Pastor-Rev. S. Gartung



Our Organist



Senior Choir



Junior Choir





Church Council



L.C.W. Charter Members



L.C.W. Executive

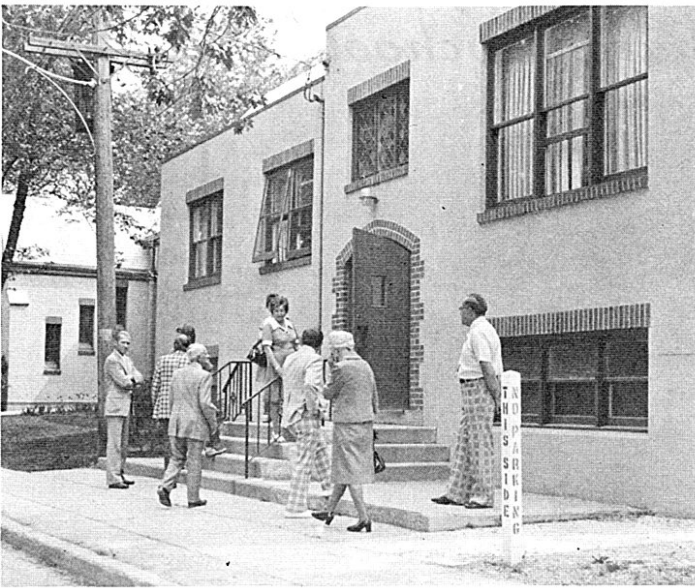


Youth Group



Altar Guild





Parish Hall



Fellowship Hour



Centennial Club



# Our Sunday Church School



Superintendents



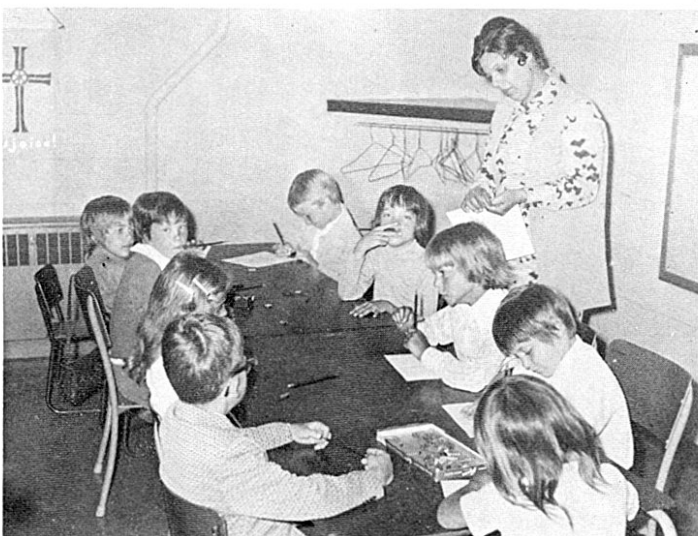
Pre-Kindergarten



Kindergarten



Grade 1

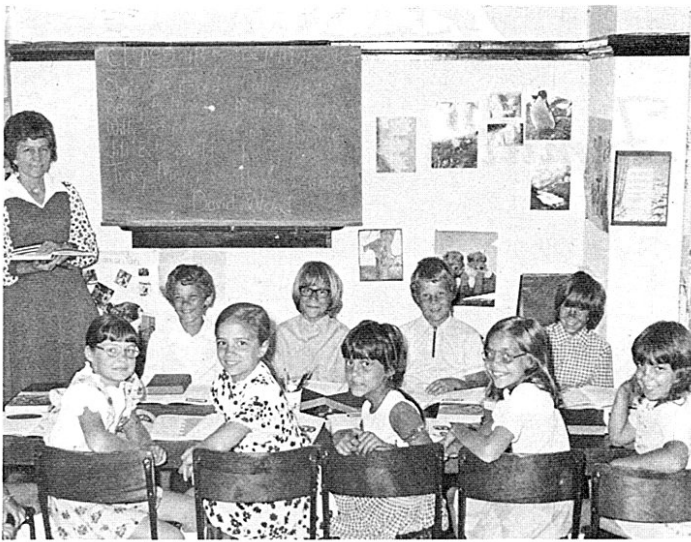


Grade 2



Grade 3





Grade 4



Grade 4



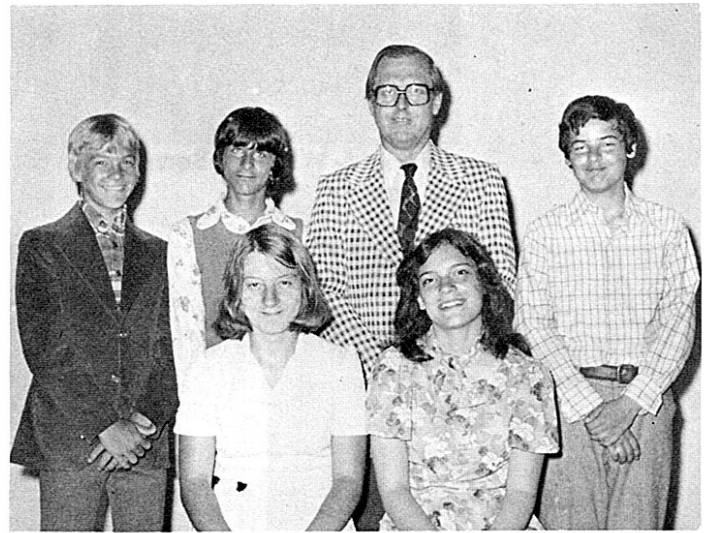
Grade 5



Grade 6



Grade 7



Grade 8



# Meet Our Families



Ellen & Manfred Arnds & Family



Greta & Bill Aulthouse



Jean & Jack Baker



Vera Bearss



Carol & Cecil Bender & Family



Diane & William Bernatz  
& Family



Bertha Beyer, Theresa Oster  
Erna Beaser



Eleanor & Alex Black & Leslie



Julia Blasko



Ann & Bill Bombeck



Wella Bottenfield & Family



Simone & Maurice Bowden  
& Family



William Boyd



Nan & William Buntrock  
& Family



Maryanne & William Buntrock  
& Aaron



Joan & Paul Burgoyne & Family



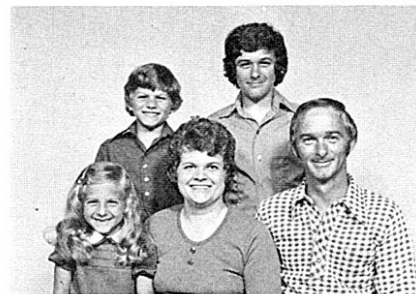
Patricia Buttigieg & Family



Reta & Douglas Caughell  
& Family



Betty & Frank Chase



Carol & David Cooke & Family



Marge & Sid Crow



Ella Duly



Marguerite & George Duly





Marjorie & Wilfred Duly & Glenn



Sylvia & Rudy Ebert & Family



Henry Eder & Richard



Clara Esser



Anne Everett



Lou Falkenhagen



Marguerite Falkenhagen



Marilyn & Robert Ferri & Family



Eunice & Rolf Frick & Carol



Margaret & Gerald Funk  
& Family



Jeanette & Robert Funk & Family



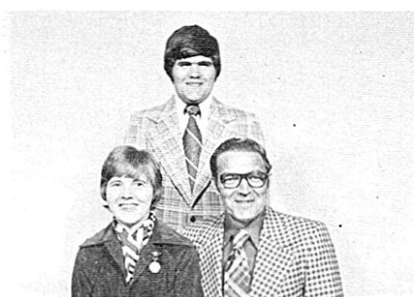
Anna & Wes Funk



Ruth & Rudy Glass & Annette



Dorothy & John Goman



Lorene & George Gram & Paul



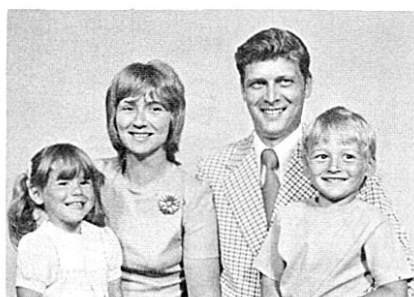
Sadie Gram, Donald & Jim



Brigitte Grote & Family



Hilia & Gordon Hansen



Barbara & Robert Hansen  
& Family



Christa & Burkhardt Heintze  
& Family



Emily & Frank Hesler



Rita & John Hill



Lena & Douglas Houghton  
& Family



June & Vince Huntingdon  
& Family



Lydia & Alex Jasinkas  
& Family



Linda & Robert Jones & Carol Ann





Ina & Richard Kannenberg  
& Family



Tiina Kastepold



Dorothy & Roy Kells



Marion & Tim Kenyon & Family



Ruth & John Kiers & Family



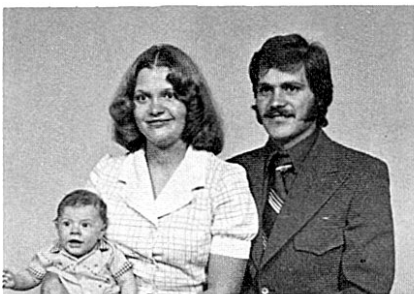
Cathy Kilty



Aini & Eino Kuronen



Donna & Ted Langille & Lonnie



Nancy & Norm Lessard & Mark



Sophie & Andrew Liptak



Wilma & John Losz & Family



Kathleen Losz



Doris Lynn



Erika & Gunther Madsen & Family



Linda & Heinz Madsen & Family



Irene & Don Martin & Family



Arlene & Cecil McGill  
& Family



Carol & Norman McLeod  
& Family



Mary & Carl Meyer & Family



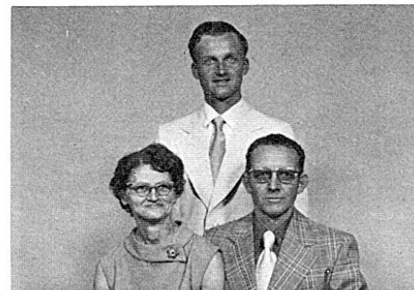
Mabel & Ed Meyer



Rose & Bill Meyer



Lillian & Michael Mezo  
& Family



Jean & George Moote & Evan



Edna & James Mullen & Sheila



Caroline & Les Ort & Nancy



Marge & Bill Patterson





Ursula & Joe Paul & Family  
Mrs. Linda Schafrick



Alta Pietz



Hazel & Alvin Pietz



Mary & Glen Reid & Kenneth



Roscoe Reilly



Edith & Harry Rominger & Leonard



Donna & John Rosbak & Family



Ida & Dick Russ



Dorothy & Joseph Schaefer  
& Jo Ann



Olga & Erhardt Schafrick  
& Family



Amelia & Gus Shafrick & Family  
Mrs. Ottilie Kannenberg



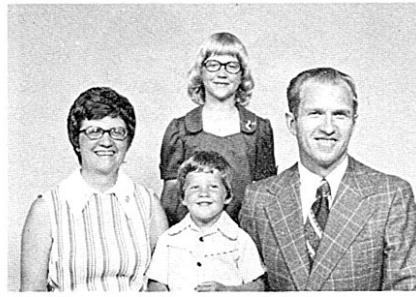
Martha & Herbert Schafrick  
& Family



Ruth Schmidt



Eva & Frank Schrock & Marlene



Marilyn & Clifford Schultz  
& Family



Theresa & Frank Selics & Family



Lumke & Edward Sprenger  
& Family



Lenore & Allen Stratford  
& Family



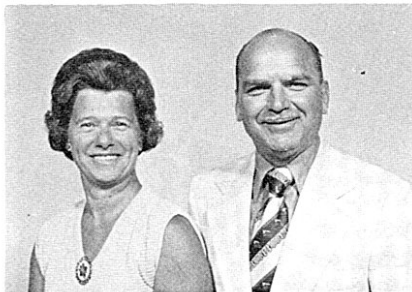
Marion Swick



Marjorie Templain



Edith & Harvey Thoms & Family



Marylou & Roy Tufts



Ida & Stan Tufts



Doris & Arthur Utz & Family



Marilyn & Wilfred Walker  
& Kristi



Ida & Gus Wannefried & Debbie





Ann & Harry Wannefried  
& Family



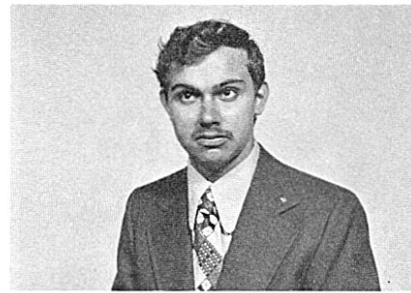
Brenda & Nick Warankie  
& Steven



Gertrude & Albert Webb



Jean & Calvin Weber & David



David Weber



Shirley Whalley



Clara White



Betty & Kenneth White & Family



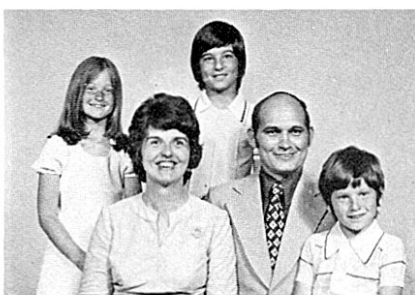
Judy & Roy Wikston & Family



Dolly & Jack Wilkinson



Edith & Lawrence Wood & Family



Dianne & Morley Yungblut  
& Family



Martha & Connie Ziegel



Gladys & Lorne Zimmerman



Helen Chistoff & Daughters

## *Supplemented Photographs*



Nick Chistoff & Sons



Eva Dryden



Ella Reilly



Susan & Shelley Wilkinson



The Harold & Jack Galbraith Families



Murray & Marie Tufts & Ronald



## SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES as shown on Pages 6 and 7

Pre-Kindergarten: Leslie Stratford, Kristen Hansen, Mrs. Sprenger, Peter Rosbak, Ronald Schafrick, Robbie Hansen, Carol Kenyon, Jeff Huffman, Annette Glass, Sean Bryan.

Kindergarten: Christopher Yungblut, Kathy Lazoren, Mrs. Kuronen, Beverly Boll, Barbara Madsen, Andrew McLeod.

Grade 1: Lonnie Langille, Robert Schafrick, Sandra Sprenger, Sherri Lock, Tammy Meyer, Kristi Walker, Linda McGill, Terry Ebert, Wendy Schafrick, Lori Ann Thoms, Janice Kiers, Kristen Rosbak, Robbie McLeod.

Grade 2: Kenneth Reid, Anne Cooke, Abby Bowden, Chris Hansen, Kevin Emrich, Michael Johancsik, Mrs. Friedlein, Derek Friedlein, Jeff Bowden, Tricia Friedlein.

Grade 3: Curtis Waldt, Paul McLeod, Lily Jasinkas, Mrs. Bowden, Kim Ebert, Lori Lorenz, Barbara Chistoff, Lori LaRiviere, David Martin.

Grade 4: Brenda Schultz, Linda Schafrick, Monica Kiers, Mrs. Atchison, Dana Martin, Jimmy McLeod, Lori Yungblut.

Grade 4: Mrs. Losz, Willy Schafrick, Benny Boll, David Wood, Chris Stratford, Marlene Friedlein, Kathy Mezo, Jill Bottenfield, Cindy Heintze, Helen Jasinkas.

Grade 5: Sylvia Madsen, Carol Frick, Melanie Funk, Mrs. Hansen, Bobby Boll, Leslie Black, Barry Yungblut, Michael Thoms.

Grade 6: Carole Mezo, Karen Friedlein, Darla Asselin, Peter Schafrick, Cheryl Losz, Kathryn Friedlein, Janet McGill, Suzanne Martin.

Grade 7: Lana Bottenfield, Kenny Kuronen, Henry Sprenger, Mrs. Black, David Bernatz, Linda Funk, Helen Marie Chistoff, Cindy Wood, Karen Stratford, Joy Thoms.

Grade 8: Anna Lorraine Funk, Dagmar Heintze, Ricky Arnds, Trent Meyer, Mr. Sprenger, Tim Noxel.