

Sixty-Two Years of God's Grace

A History of

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

By

David Rockhoff

Sr. Church History

Prof. Fredrich

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Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Library
11831 N. Seminary Drive. 65W
Mequon, Wisconsin

The word grace is used very often in Scripture. Its basic Scriptural meaning is "undeserved love," which we usually ascribe to God. Throughout the pages of the Bible, God displays His grace or "undeserved love" to sinful mankind. God first showed His grace to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden when He promised to send His Son as their Savior from sin. We also commonly associate God's grace to the children of Israel. Time and again as they traveled through the wilderness to return to Canaan, God showed His grace to them by feeding them, guiding and protecting them, even though they continued to grumble and complain against Him. When Israel took possession of the land, God continued to love them despite the countless number of times they fell away from Him only to worship foreign gods.

God's grace is also evident in the pages of the New Testament as well. God's grace is most obvious in the fact that He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to suffer and die for the sins of all mankind ⁱⁿ despite of the holy, innocent life Jesus led. It is then by the grace of God that the Holy Spirit works faith in the hearts of men who by faith are then saved to spend eternal life in heaven. In a nutshell, that is the grace of God as we find it recorded in Scripture.

God's grace does not end there, however, but we can safely say that all the blessings we receive, we receive by the grace of God, His love for us that we, in no way, deserve.

In that light, for the past 62 years, the congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin has been blessed by God. Despite the many hard and difficult times the congregation has gone through, by the grace of God it has enjoyed many blessings from God. By tracing the history of St. Paul's, as I will do in this paper, one can clearly see God's undeserved love to His people of St. Paul's.

Shortly after ~~World~~^{World} War I, the city of Milwaukee began to expand westward. As it did, the Mission Board of the Southwestern Wisconsin District of the Ev. Lutheran Joint Synod of Wisconsin and Other States decided to take advantage of that expansion by taking the necessary steps to begin a mission in western Milwaukee or precisely 73rd and Burleigh Streets in the year 1926. (25th ann. booklet, p. 2)

First of all, a number of lots were bought on the corner of 73rd and Burleigh. When a house-to-house canvas survey was done of the area, led by Pastor Arthur Voss, the pastor of near-by St. James Church, a nucleus of Synodical Conference Lutherans were gathered. The number was sufficient enough, with many other converts possible, that the decision to build the chapel on 73rd and Burleigh Streets was passed. With that, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, or the "Burleigh Mission" as it was first called, got its start. (50th ann. booklet, p. 3) With this beginning there was both a bright side but also a questionable side.

The bright side was very encouraging. In the summer of 1926, after a fire had done slight damage to some of the

lumber of a local lumber company, the lumber company sold this lumber to Pastor Voss at a very reduced price. A contractor, who was a member of another WELS church, was then hired and work was begun on the mission in the early fall of that same year. It did not take long to complete the modest chapel that seated 100 people, as it was completed in October of 1926. After an organ was purchased, and an altar and pulpit were made, with chairs serving as pews, the chapel was ready for use and dedicated to God in November of 1926. The name St. Paul's Lutheran Church was chosen. A total sum of \$4,000 was loaned by the Church Extension Fund of the Synod to pay for the building cost. (25th ann. booklet, p. 2)

Despite the great enthusiasm and joy over this new beginning, there was still reason for doubt concerning the future of the "Burleigh Mission." This doubt arose specifically because of the location of the mission at this time. Although the city was growing to the west, the "Burleigh Mission" was not ideally suited to expand with the city. In an interview I had with Pastor Arnold Schroeder, the second pastor of St. Paul's, he expressed this concern as well. Although the area to the east was developed, the other three directions were not. To the south, the area was sparse, to the west was farmland, and the several blocks to the north were filled with cemeteries, which are still there today, and which would never be a source of members for the mission. For this reason, the Mission Board had really started this mission as a "wait-and-see" or "trial-and-error" project with no certain guarantees.

(Schroeder interview) Despite these feelings, the Lord, we shall see, over a number of years, would graciously bless St. Paul's by allowing them to expand and grow along with the city of Milwaukee.

The year 1927 was a year of great thanks for the members of St. Paul's in several ways. It was on Palm Sunday that they held their first communion service as well as their first confirmation with two adults being confirmed. On May 12, 1927, the organization papers were signed by four men, to officially begin St. Paul's Lutheran Church as an organized congregation. The congregation numbered eighteen souls with eleven being communicants. A Sunday school was also started as well as a ladies group that studied God's Word under Pastor Voss's direction. (50th ann. booklet, p. 5)

It was in 1927 that St. Paul's also met their first means of adversity. Pastor Voss was seriously hurt in a car accident and for a time could not be available to serve as pastor. By the grace of God, the Mission Board sent Pastor Roy Gose to guide the church for the following six months.

²⁵
(~~50~~th ann. booklet, p.3.)

One of the biggest obstacles Pastor Voss had to face over his final four years at St. Paul's came from the economy of the nation. The years 1929-1932 were the height of our country's great depression, and St. Paul's also felt its effects. This put many of the members out of work, and it also caused a standstill in any growth of the church. The blessing in all of this was that the members pulled together and relied on each other when they needed to for any reason. The only re-

maining original member, Hilda Osten, told me that they would bring their own wood to burn in the stove heater for heat, or that her husband and others volunteered their time and the paint when the mission needed to be re-painted. In these ways the Lord graciously blessed St. Paul's through a very harsh economic period. (Osten interview.)

There was at this time enough growth between St. Paul's and St. James, the two congregations that Pastor Voss was simultaneously serving, that made it impossible for Pastor Voss to serve them both at the same time. In the year 1932 then, Pastor Voss was relieved of his duties at St. Paul's to give his full time and attention to St. James. (25th ann. booklet, p.3)

At a time when a long vacancy could have been very detrimental to the young congregation, the Lord blessed them by sending Pastor Arnold Schroeder in 1933 to serve them as their first resident pastor. He was installed in March of that year. (Schroeder interview.)

Although the church had been organized for six years at this time, Pastor Schroeder informed me that there were still many questions concerning its future. At the time that he began in 1933, there were only eight families in the congregation, all of which were still struggling through the depression. The Mission Board was still there to guide them, but hope was dwindling as different members were transferring to St. John's of Wauwatosa, which was more established than St. Paul's. (Schroeder interview)

Hanging over their heads still was a debt of \$5,000, the original construction cost of the chapel, plus other

accumulated expenses. Since many families were still unemployed due to the lingering depression, the annual income of the church was only \$150. Pastor Schroeder's salary was \$64.79, of which St. Paul's paid \$5.00 and the Synod the rest. (25th ann. booklet, p. 3) The 1933 ~~constitution~~^{contribution} records show one family giving \$7.00, another \$5.00, and three giving \$0.00. Pastor Schroeder informed me that the amounts given were all from welfare as well. The outcome for the congregation of eight voters and 40 communicants looked bleak.

Pastor Schroeder even expressed this concern in a "debt evaluation questionnaire" that he was to fill out for the Mission Board. In response to this question "How much of a reduction in your church extension loan do you believe proper?" Pastor Schroeder answered, "Considering the type of building erected for us, and the bad condition it is in because it has no foundation, furthermore the ill-chosen location, we feel rather bad that we must pay for the Mission Board's mistakes." In the same evaluation, Pastor Schroeder again showed concern for the future of St. Paul's. When this question was given, "How soon before you can become self-supporting?" he replied, "That is most difficult to say. Our field is in the midst of much new building. Our hope is that the chapel we now have will not 'scare' prospective members away. The homes being built about us are of the best. Our chapel is the 'almost worst' in the city of Milwaukee." Unfortunately, I have no date for this questionnaire.

By the grace of God, during the years of 1934-1937, the little church of St. Paul's began to grow. According

to the ~~constitution~~^{contribution} records of those years, they were able to give between \$400-\$500 per year, and their attendance average rose from 30-44. Their membership totals were also steady, averaging 88 members, 42 communicant members, with 10-12 voters. What they lacked in material blessings, they made up for with love for each other and the love and desire to give of their time and talents.

During Pastor Schroeder's years there, from 1933-1938, St. Paul's was blessed with many improvements as well as new beginnings. A new furnace was added to give better heat to the building, work was done to better support a sagging foundation, and much remodeling was done by members on the inside as well as painting on the outside. What they couldn't provide themselves, God led other congregations to provide for them. For example, Gethsemane gave them pews to use, and Zion gave them carpeting. (25th ann. booklet, p. 4) Another positive step was taken by the congregation as it signed its corporation papers on April 4, 1933, and upon filing for membership later that year, it was accepted as a member of the Wisconsin Lutheran Synod in 1934. These leaping steps were followed by another, when in 1935, under the leadership of Mrs. George Cerny, a new choir was begun which helped beautify their services to God. This too was a positive step in the right direction for this small group that wasn't always sure what God had in store for it. (25th ann. booklet, p. 4)

In 1937 Pastor Schroeder accepted a call to serve Mt. Lebanon along with St. Paul's. He did this for only a short

time until he then accepted a call to serve as the Institutional Minister of Milwaukee. St. Paul's would lose a very gifted worker, a man who had led them through some very trying years. One might be led to ask why God would take him from them as he was getting them through such times, but it is not up to us to question the Lord's ways.

In my conversation with Pastor Schroeder, he told me that his motto, so to speak, was "Stick with what you know is right." He mentioned one instance that portrays this very well. He had a family that wanted him to bury their grandfather who was not a Christian. Pastor Schroeder refused to bury the man, for which reason the family left the church. Six months later, however, a daughter came to Sunday School, and a time later the rest of the family to church as well. By remaining true to Scripture, the Lord continually blessed the work of Pastor Schroeder as he served St. Paul's during the years of 1933-1938. (Schroeder interview)

Following Pastor Schroeder at St. Paul's was Pastor Harold Schwertfeger, a candidate from the Seminary. He was installed at St. Paul's on October 2, 1938. He also served the small congregation called the "Homehurst Mission" in West Allis. Pastore Schwertfeger spent only a short time at St. Paul's, as he left in May of 1940 to serve the congregation at Woodlawn of West Allis. (25th ann. booklet, p. 4)

Despite the short time he served at St. Paul's, Pastor Schwertfeger also had concerns about the future of the congregation. In a letter that I received from him telling

me about his time at St. Paul's, he writes, "I did a lot of house-to-house canvassing in that area, but seemingly had little success. Would St. Paul's grow with that cemetery and all those empty lots?" He himself answered his own question when he continues, "But see how the Lord can and did bless under my successors." (Schwertfeger letter) A little later on in this paper we will see just how true this observation by Pastor Schwertfeger is.

In this same letter, Pastor Schwertfeger also thanks the Lord for the many faithful members that he had to work with. (Schwertfeger letter) We have seen this as a strong point of St. Paul's from Pastor Schroeder and it is a point that will be evident in the future years of Pastors de Galley and Kaiser as well.

After Pastor Schwertfeger took his call in 1940, Pastor James de Galley followed him, being installed in June of 1940. Little did anybody know that Pastor de Galley would serve them for 40 years until his retirement in 1980!

Upon his graduation from the Seminary in 1938, due to a shortage of calls because of the depression, Pastor de Galley taught one year in Midland, Michigan and also one year at St. Lucas of Milwaukee. On June 29, 1940 he was ordained and installed at St. Paul's, to serve there as well as Homehurst of West Allis just as Pastor Schwertfeger had done. (De Galley interview)

In an interview I had with Pastor de Galley, he admitted that ~~as~~ he began his ministry at St. Paul's with a great

deal of uncertainty, which was nothing new for this congregation. They were still using borrowed pews ^{and} the old pedal organ, there was no restroom or water. But as He had done so often in the past, the Lord would, by His grace, turn their uncertainty into many blessings. (De Galley interview)

Two years after he began his ministry at St. Paul's, this uncertainty became a reality, as Pastor de Galley was faced with a large task - to have work done on the original chapel that was deteriorating with age. This deterioration was caused mainly due to the fact that it was built with only a wooden frame without a concrete foundation. The Synod could only loan \$1200.00 which would never be enough to sufficiently rebuild the chapel. (25th ann. booklet, p. 5)

But just as He had blessed them before, He would do so again. As they had done in the past, the members pitched in to work together and do most of the work needed to rebuild the chapel. Much money was saved as the many hours of labor were donated by the members.

Pastor de Galley especially remembers the great work that was done by one member in particular, Mr. Jerome Brown. He did much of the planning of the work to be done, as well as watching over the work that was to be done. He also donated much of the lumber that was to be used and had two of his workers from Briggs and Stratton do the plumbing that was to be done. Just as the Lord had greatly blessed this man with much, so he gave back to the Lord as he gave countless numbers of hours and effort on the rebuilding of the chapel.

(De Galley interview)

By the grace of God, they also were able to continue worshipping as they conducted their worship services at the Lutheran Home for the Aging on 75th St. and North Ave. (25th ann. booklet, p. 5) On September 13, 1942 the newly-built chapel was dedicated and would serve them until the present church was to be built in 1959-1960.

There was, however, much activity during these years of 1942-1960. For example, these years brought a great deal of growth for St. Paul's, especially after World War II. This growth allowed them to purchase a new Hammond organ to replace the old reed organ. "In this undertaking, the members gave evidence of a fine spirit, the collection for the organ being oversubscribed." (25th ann. booklet, p. 5) Also because of this growth, they were able to become self-supporting in 1946 after 19 years of being partially supported by the Synod. In the 25th Anniversary booklet it remarks that this was a day to remember for St. Paul's as "this is one of the most serious steps ever taken by a mission congregation. St. Paul's did so with trust in the Lord." (p. 5)

Two things then occurred that helped to assure its fact as a self-supporting congregation that was there to stay where it was at 73rd St. and Burleigh. In 1950, they first of all bought the land to their north for future expansion and at the same time, they passed a resolution by one vote to decline a move to 84th St. and Lisbon that was available to them. Pastor de Galley told me that this was done for fear that

the extra moving would hurt the congregation more than to help them, even though Milwaukee continued to grow in this direction at this time. (De Galley interview)

The following year, 1951, they celebrated their 25th anniversary, debt free, as they collected \$2,300, which they had resolved to do. The other organizations also donated other gifts to be used by the church. November of that year also brought much joy to St. Paul's as they held many special services to celebrate their 25th anniversary. The former pastors conducted the services. I am not sure many ever thought this day would ever be possible, considering the many uncertainties that were there when the "Burleigh Mission" was founded in 1926. (25th ann. booklet, p.5)

Although he was the fourth pastor of St. Paul's, Pastor de Galley was the first married one. The addition of four children increased the need for a permanent parsonage. After first living in a house that the church rented, they then spent \$24,000 in 1954 to buy a parsonage on 81st St. (1960 dedication booklet, p. 5)

As the years continued to pass, the Lord continued to graciously add to their numbers, as they now numbered 400 members. Although there were two services conducted for a time each Sunday, the need for expansion arose. As early as 1957 the talk for expansion began. After much talk concerning this situation, the members decided that expansion would be done and the new church would be built on the lot to the north that had been bought in 1951 for that very purpose. The

current chapel would not, however, be destroyed, but the new facility would be added to the old chapel. The old chapel would later serve as a library, a meeting room, and a Sunday School room, in the upstairs and a choir/activity room and another meeting room in the basement. (50th ann. booklet, p. 10) After it was estimated that \$150,000.00 would be needed, Pastor de Galley formed a three year plan to collect the necessary money. By presenting this plan and their need in a twelve page booklet, entitled "For the Lord's Work We Need. . ." the members responded by meeting the monetary needs in two years instead of the planned three. Because of this generosity, ground was broken on August 23, 1959 with the corner-stone service on November 22, 1959. (1960 dedication booklet, p. 5)

Following the plans laid out by architect Alfred Siewert, and led by the contracting firm of Don Ganser and Associates, the building of the new church went rather swiftly with the result that on November 8, 1960, less than a year after the corner-stone laying, the worship facility was dedicated to the glory of God with three special services. The total cost was \$160,000.00. As mentioned above, this money was graciously given by the members, and they also generously donated many of the finishings for the new building through memorials. Some of the items that were donated as memorials include the ordinary furnishings such as the pews and hymnals, the altar and paraments, the pulpit, the lectern, the baptismal font, the communion set, the Agenda, Lectionary, and Church Bible, and others. Other such memorials include such items

as the kitchen stove and refrigerator for the kitchen, or office items such as an electric clock and typewriter. (1960 dedication booklet, pp. 9-10)

Former pastors Schroeder and Schwertfeger, and President Oscar ~~Naumann~~^{Naumann} preached the sermons on that festive day, and two guest organists beautified the services with their playing. (50th ann. booklet, p. 10)

With the completion of this new worship facility, the needs of St. Paul's were met for a number of years to come. It wasn't until 1969 that more work would be done at St. Paul's on the corner of 73rd St. and Burleigh. It was in 1969 that a new parsonage was built on the church property. Although the current parsonage on 72nd St. was adequate, it was felt that having the parsonage closer to the church would be even more convenient for the pastor. Not only was the parsonage built on the church property, it was built directly connected to the rebuilt chapel of 1942, which had been connected to the new church in 1960. A substantial bit of remodeling was done to accomplish this and also to make the old chapel into the rooms that they are now as was mentioned earlier. It is again clearly evident how by the grace of God St. Paul's was able to meet and carry out the needed up-dating of its buildings to continue to serve the Lord and faithfully preach the Gospel. The 50th anniversary booklet puts it this way, "Here, too, the work of faithful committees, the cooperation of St. Paul's members, and the guidance of Pastor de Galley helped to fulfill another dream under the blessing of our Lord."

(p.10.)

We, of course, do not know God's thoughts, nor are His ways our ways. In this respect, we don't always know why He takes His children to heaven when He does. Many at St. Paul's may have asked this question on two occasions, as Both Jerome de Galley, son of Pastor de Galley, and his wife, Esther de Galley were taken to their home in heaven. Jerome was killed on March 31, 1969 in battle during the Vietnam War. Esther de Galley died of a heart attack on June 2, 1971, at the age of 55. She had served her Lord in many ways, as an organist, choir director, Sunday School teacher, member of the Ladies Guild, and as a faithful wife and mother. (50th ann. booklet, pp. 10-11) Many I have spoken with have told me how well she was liked and what a shock her death was. Yet even in death, we can praise our God for taking His children to their home in heaven. Even in death, we can see the grace of God.

Just as many other congregations had helped St. Paul's in its early days, so St. Paul's was able to help out another congregation in need. That congregation was Saron's, located on 29th and Hadley Sts. in Milwaukee. In the fall of 1972, as they were suffering a good deal of losses in membership because of changes in the neighborhood, Saron's felt it was necessary to move. After looking at several possibilities, they inquired of Pastor de Galley and St. Paul's. (Pastor de Galley's mother had once taught at Saron's school, which may have made St. Paul's the most ideal place for them to relocate.) On April 9, 1973, Palm Sunday, the merge took place as both voters' assemblies passed the motion. (50th ann. booklet, p. 11)

As I talked with Mrs. Clara Lengling and Mrs. Ed Fenske,

the wife and daughter of the last pastor of Saron's, Pastor Arthur Lengling, they said the transition was basically smooth, but that there was a period of adjustment for both congregations. (Lengling-Fenske interview)

Along with some 125 members, Saron's also brought a gift of some \$65,000 to St. Paul's. Other items they brought included hymnals, tables, dishes, and a very ~~beautiful~~ ^{beautiful} carving of the Lord's Supper that had graced their altar for many years. Many of the members from Saron's took positions as officers of various organizations as well as joining the choir at St. Paul's. Some even felt as Mrs. Fenske told me, "that if not for Saron's, St. Paul's may not have survived." (Lengling-Fenske interview)

As I said, there were some rough times as far as the transition is concerned. For example, many of the members of Saron's wanted the name "Saron's" to be kept, but this was not done. Also, when a solo was sung by a choir member during the offering, the St. Paul's members did not receive this too well as they were not used to this from the choir. Also, since Saron's conducted a German service, a number didn't make the move to St. Paul's since St. Paul's did not have such a service. (Lengling-Fenske interview)

For Pastor and Mrs. Lengling, the move was especially difficult, as they had spent 37 years at Saron's. Pastor Lengling did help serve for a year at St. Paul's until illness did not allow him to do so any longer. (Lengling-Fenske interview)

There are still many of Saron's members attending St. Paul's today. As I have gotten to know many of them, I realize that it is by the grace of God that these two congregations

were brought together, to strengthen each other and to share God's many blessings together as well.

Pastor de Galley completed a 40-year-ministry at St. Paul's in July of 1980, when illness led him to retire from the full-time ministry. It was a very blessed ministry with its high points and low points. Pastor de Galley told me that there were two things that he did that helped a very close relationship to build between himself and his members. One thing he felt was important was to make home visits to the members as often as possible. He also conducted a special Monday night consultation hour for anyone who may have wanted to meet with him, not only to deal with a problem, but also to stop some from begining. (De Galley interview)

As we concluded our visit, Pastor de Galley did so by saying, "The good things outweighed the bad by far." (De Galley interview) This can be attributed to the fact that God will bless those who use their talents faithfully. From the respect that many members still give Pastor de Galley today, it is safe to say that he was truly a faithful servant of God, whom God gave a very gracious 40-year-ministry at St. Paul's.

After the retirement of Pastor de Galley in July of 1980, St. Paul's was vacant only for a short time, as Pastor Howard Kaiser accepted the call to serve St. Paul's. He was installed in September of 1980. Before accepting this call, Pastor Kaiser served at Faith, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin (1952-58); Bay Pines in Seminole, Florida (1958-66); St. Lukes in Oak Field (1966-72); and Redeemer in Cedarburg, Wisconsin (1972-80). With three of these being mission congregations, Pastor Kaiser

now serves as the chairman of the Home Mission Board of the Southeast Wisconsin district. It was during the short vacancy that former Pastor Arnold Schroeder was asked to fill in. He gladly did, even though he had retired by this time. He told me it was refreshing to be able to serve St. Paul's again. (Schroeder interview) The grace of God again is evident as He gave Pastor Schroeder this opportunity and as He led Pastor Kaiser to accept the call to serve at St. Paul's.

Although there have been no major building projects since he began his ministry at St. Paul's, there has still been plenty of work to keep Pastor Kaiser busy. Although the membership has slipped some from past years, there are still 360 souls in his care. With approximately two-thirds of them between the ages of 60-99, there are many shut-in calls to make, hospital visits, and funerals. St. Paul's has between 15-20 shut-ins today that are visited monthly. Pastor Kaiser also told me that in his 8½ years at St. Paul's, he has conducted some 80 funerals, which compares to 104 for the first 54 years of St. Paul's history. (Kaiser interview)

Because of the seniority of so many of its members today, there has been the need to adapt accordingly, which they have done very well. For example, carpeting was installed in order to cut down on the mess that can be brought in during the winter months. As of 1988, an electric chair-lift was installed to help those up the stairs who have difficulty climbing stairs. Members also help the elderly by bringing any number to church each week, and by visiting some of the shut-ins from time to time. The Ladies Evening Guild also had an "Adopt-a-Shut-In" program which was another thing they did for their elderly

members. In these ways, St. Paul's tries not to look on their age as a handicap, but a means for each other to show their love for each other. (Kaiser interview)

Another way that St. Paul's has adjusted to the needs of its elderly members is by scheduling various services, classes, or organizations in the afternoon, since many older members don't like to be out at night. There is a Tuesday afternoon Bible class, an afternoon Ladies Guild, and afternoon services for Advent and Lent. In this way, fellowship and the Word are not lost for these members, but they are able to make use of these blessings as St. Paul's has made them available.

Although St. Paul's has become an older congregation, Pastor Kaiser really doesn't see this as a problem. He told me that many of the retired members are able to give more of their time to the church because they are retired. He also feels that the area is very suitable for younger people, since there are a great number of available homes in a price range of \$50,000-\$60,000 which is suitable for young people today. (Kaiser interview)

With a Sunday School numbering between 25-30, with more on the way in a couple of years, Pastor Kaiser feels that the congregation shows no signs of "dieing out." Although it has no grade school of its own, due to a lack of space on the current premises, St. Paul's encourages its members to send their children to schools of neighboring congregations. They do this by giving the parents \$650.00 for each child to help pay their tuition. Almost all of the parents make full use of this opportunity to give their children the proper Christian

education they so need. (Kaiser interview)

To assist the pastor with various services, St. Paul's has had a senior from the Seminary to serve as a senior vicar. This they have done since 1977, with the vicar doing such services as preaching part-time, helping distribute the Lord's Supper, visiting the shut-ins, teaching catechism and Bible Class occasionally, and other tasks. This is yet another gracious act from God not only for the vicar who gets some valuable experience, but also for the pastor who gets some much-needed assistance.

With his own retirement near, Pastor Kaiser has expressed a desire to work his final one or two years at St. Paul's as a semi-retired pastor. He would continue to see the shut-ins and do other services as well. This he feels would give a second full-time pastor more time to get to meet each of the members as well as to do thorough evangelism canvassing. (Kaiser interview) Only the Lord knows what the future holds for His flock at St. Paul's.

When it began as the "Burleigh Mission," in 1926, there were no guarantees that it would survive. Despite many hard times and uncertainties, sixty-two years have since gone by by the grace of God, and the "Burleigh Mission" is now a congregation of over 350 members. Since we don't know what the future holds for St. Paul's and since "our times are in His hands," we can only pray and believe that God will continue to bless St. Paul's of Milwaukee, Wisconsin as graciously if not greater in the future than He has in the first sixty-two years of its history.

R E F E R E N C E S

Written material:

- 1) Various attendance and contribution records from 1930's.
- 2) Debt Devaluation Questionnaire from Pastor Schroeder.
- 3) St. Paul's 25th anniversary booklet.
- 4) Dedication booklet from Nov. 1960 church dedication.
- 5) St. Paul's 50th anniversary booklet.
- 6) Pictorial history of St. Paul's with notes compiled by Pastor de Galley.
- 7) Letter from Pastor Harold Schwertfeger--(3/9/89).

Personal Interviews:

- 1) Hilda Osten--original member--March 6, 1989.
- 2) Pastor Arnold Schroeder--2nd pastor of St. Paul's March 8, 1989.
- 3) Pastor James de Galley--4th pastor of St. Paul's March 20, 1989.
- 4) Pastor Howard Kaiser--current pastor of St. Paul's March 29, 1989.
- 5) Mrs. Clara Lengling and Mrs. Ed Fenske--wife and daughter of Pastor Lengling of Saron's--April 5, 1989.