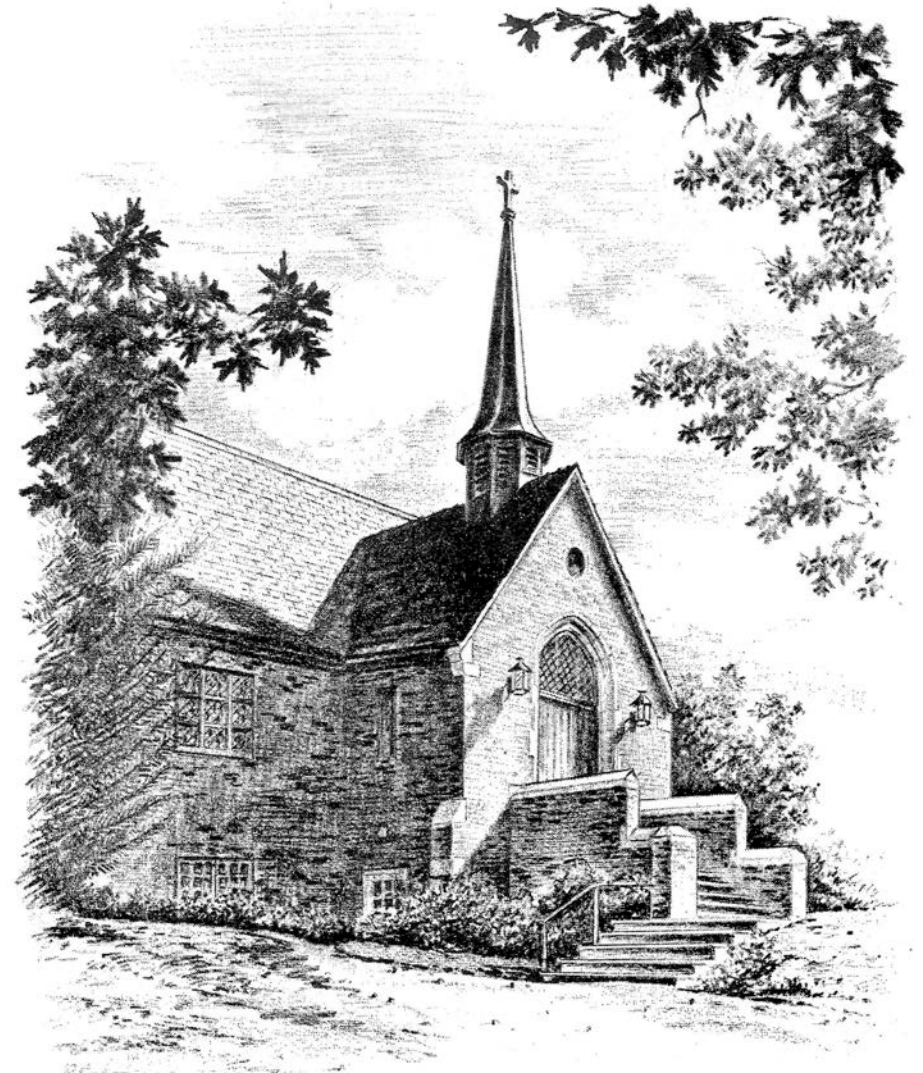


Our Saviour Lutheran Church 90th Anniversary

October 15, 2023

The first gathering of people who would become the congregation of Our Saviour Lutheran Church took place in 1933, the year Prohibition ended and the first year of Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration.

- 1935: Accepted into the United Lutheran Synod of New York
- 1939: Current church building dedicated
- 1963: Parish Hall dedicated



Early Worship Locations



Former First
Church of Christ,
Scientist, Penfield
Avenue, Croton

Harmon Lodge,
a bar or saloon



100
Benedict
Boulevard,
Croton



Church Groundbreaking 1939



Church Council and Building Committee



John Dorsch, ?, Alex Ruff, Howard Van Pelt, Pastor John Klahn, Oscar Anderson, George Kuch, Arthur Nelson, Otto Bruns, Ernest R. Frutiger, Ernest Frutiger, Sr., Herman Fechner
Not pictured: John Hofmann, Charles Maus, George Wallen

Church Construction



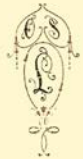
Church Dedication September 10, 1939

DEDICATION

of

Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church

Harmon-Croton-on-Hudson, N. Y.



The Reverend John W. Klahn, Pastor

September 1939



Membership List 1939

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

September, 1939



Mrs. Betty Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. William Long
Mr. & Mrs. O. Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Malueg
Mr. & Mrs. L. Barentzen	Mr. & Mrs. Charles Maus
Mr. Buhl Beach	Mrs. Lester Maylath
Mr. & Mrs. Otto Bruns	Mr. & Mrs. C. McLellan
Miss Mildred Bruzee	Mr. David McLellan
Mr. & Mrs. Bertel Buhl	Mr. & Mrs. A. MacKenzie
Mrs. Ugo Busch	Mr. Arthur Nelson
Mrs. Andrew Carolan	Mr. Rolf Nerder
Mr. & Mrs. John Dorsch	Mr. & Mrs. James Norris
Mr. & Mrs. William Dunn	Mr. & Mrs. Otto Plate
Mrs. James Edwards	Mrs. Harry Proctor
Mrs. Walter Eicker	Miss Laura Robb
Minnie & Bertha Ewald	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Ruff
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Ertel	Mrs. Robert Sharpe
Mr. & Mrs. H. Fechner	Miss Clarissa Sheffer
Elsie & Lulu Fechner	Mrs. Leo Shothafer
Mr. & Mrs. E. Frutiger	Miss Grace Smith
Mr. Ernest Frutiger, Jr.	Mrs. Meta Stapf
Mr. William Fyfe	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Stoll
Miss Helen Heckman	Mrs. Pierre Teller
Mr. Herman Heckman	Mr. & Mrs. William Trent
Mr. & Mrs. J. Hergenhan	Mr. William Trent, Jr.
Miss Ruth Hergenhan	Mr. & Mrs. H. Vanderbilt
Miss Ruth Hippert	Mr. - Mrs. H. Van Pelt, Sr.
Miss Elizabeth Hoerrner	Mr. & Mrs. Van Pelt, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John Hofmann	Mr. & Mrs. C. Vettermann
Miss Margot Jacob	Mr. & Mrs. C. Vetterman
Mr. Robert Keats	Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Wallen
Mrs. William Kelly	Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Wetter
Mrs. John Klahn	Mr. & Mrs. Aug. Winters
Mr. & Mrs. George Kuch	Mrs. Helen Wolf

Pastors Who Have Served This Congregation

The Rev. Carl A Romoser, Founder, November 1933-September 1934

The Rev. Paul J. Streng, May 1935-June 1936

The Rev. John W. Klahn, June 1936-November 1940

The Rev. Guy Brown, December 1940-February 1944

The Rev. Ellis K. Kretschmer, June 1944-March 1946

The Rev. Frederick C. Boos, July 1946-May 1949

The Rev. Frederick G. Gotwald, July 1949-1970

The Rev. Morton P. Talbot, 1970-November 1984

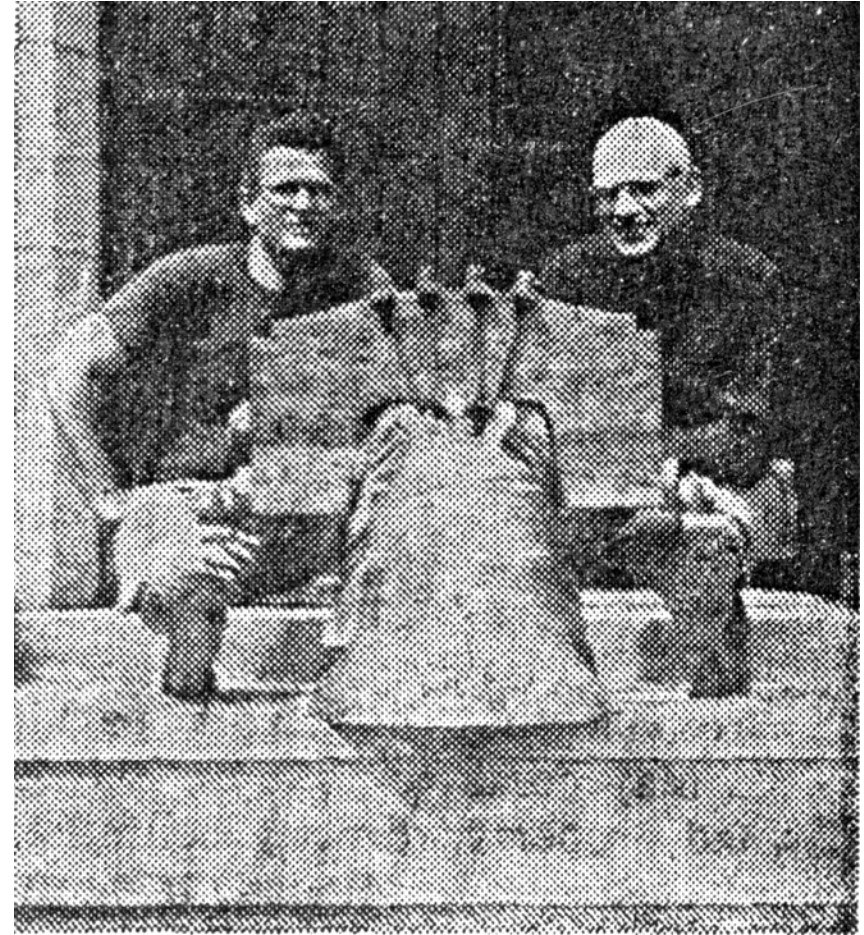
The Rev. Janet Fechner-Pelletier, October 1985-March 1991

The Rev. Rudolph David, February 1992-June 2001

The Rev. Anthony Stephens, April 2002-August 2016

The Rev. Justin Johnson, August 2018-Present

“The Morning Star” Donated by Ed and Dorothy Rondthaler 1954



Rev. Frederick Gotwald, Ed Rondthaler

I am the root and the descendant of David, **the bright morning star**. (Revelation 22:16)

Soli Deo gloria – Glory to God alone

Parsonage Constructed 1955



CORNERSTONE of the new parsonage being built by Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Croton, was laid at ceremonies following yesterday's morning

service at the church. The Rev. Frederick Gotwald, pastor, was assisted by members of the Church Council in conducting the Order of the Laying of the Cornerstone. Shown

after the ceremony, above left to right, are Gunnar Neilson, Johnny Henry, Herman Heckman, Ernest Frutiger and Pastor Gotwald—Staff Photo by Ray Hoover

Our Saviour Church Dedicates Parsonage

With the words "Blest and dedicated be this house," the \$24,000 parsonage of Our Saviour Lutheran Church will be dedicated at a special service on Sunday by the pastor, the Rev. Frederick G. Gotwald.

Designed by Douglas Diver and constructed by Joseph Moje, this new home for the pastor is the first half of the church's Sunday School—Parsonage Expansion project.

Work on the second half of the project, which will provide seven fully equipped classrooms, a Church parlor and office is now being done by volunteer members of the congregation. Completion of this conversion of the old living quarters of the pastor into Sunday School facilities is anticipated in the next few months.

An Open House for 300 invited guests will be held at the new parsonage on Sunday afternoon from 2 to 6 with the Church Councilmen and their wives as hosts for the occasion. Arrangements for the affair are being made by Mrs. Frederick G. Gotwald, with the help of members of the congregation.

The Sunday School-Parsonage expansion was made possible when a campaign for \$24,000 resulted in pledges of \$26,000 under the general chairmanship of Ernest R. Frutiger last fall. Building of the parsonage was supervised by Mr. Frutiger, Charles F. Schlechting and George B. Wilson. Construction of the new Sunday School facilities is under the leadership of Mrs. Alvin T. Rogers.



Painting of the church in the 1950's by Bunny Rowley, donated to the church by Elaina Hampton in 2022. Elaina's grandparents, Ernest and Julia Frutiger, were founding members of the congregation.

Senior Choir 1950's



Stan Kellerhouse, Dorothy Greiner, Alice Winter, Lauren Kingman, Ed Rondthaler;
Mary Hoffman, Ella Fechner, Rita Kozlowski

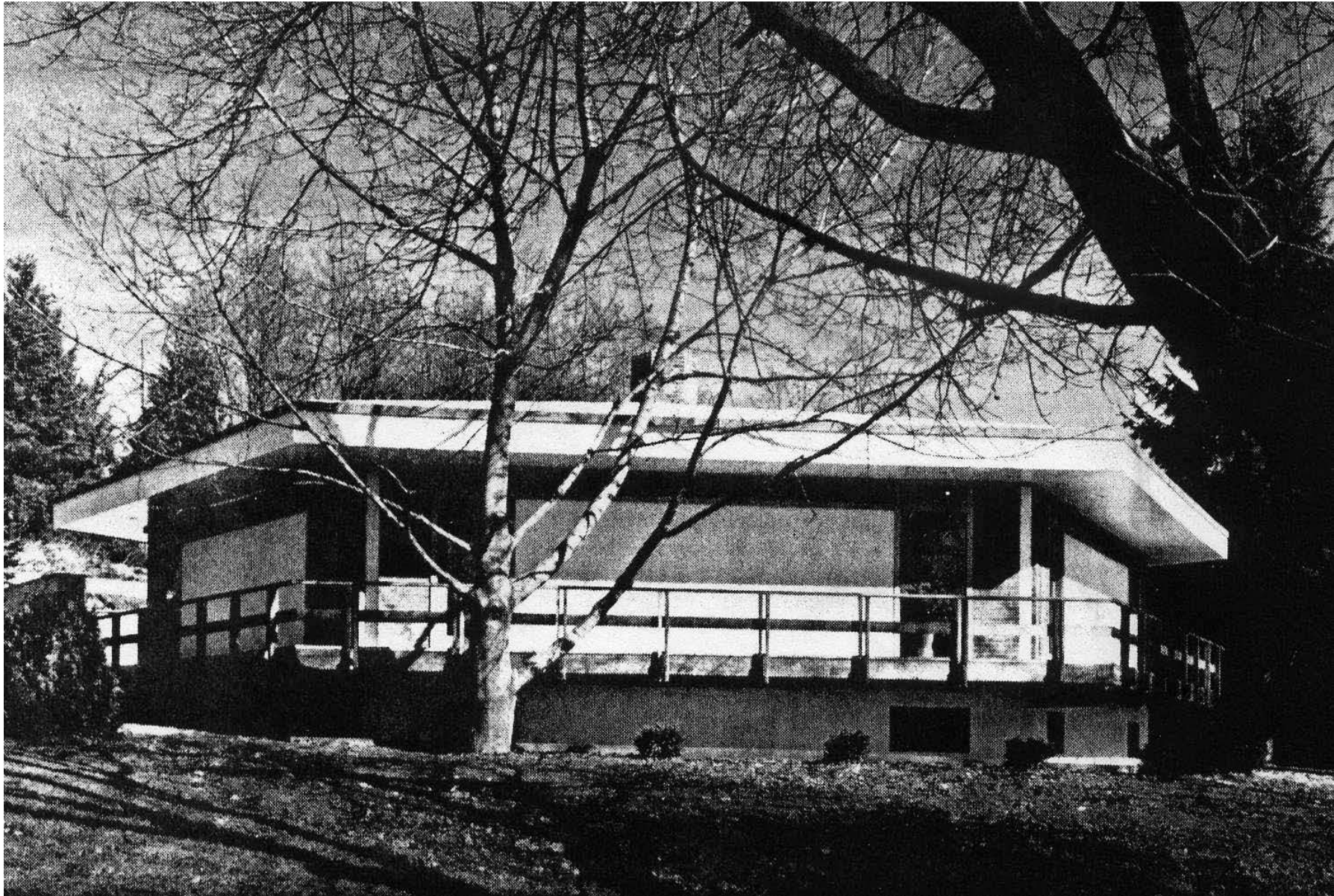
Parish Hall Groundbreaking 1961



Parish Hall Cornerstone Laying by Pastor Gotwald 1962



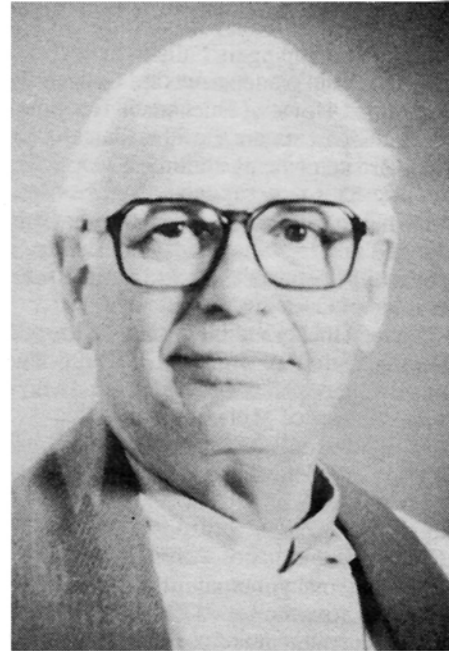
Parish Hall Dedication 1963



Parish Hall Named for Pastor Gotwald, October 24, 1983

The Gazette

Parish Hall renamed in honor of Gotwald



Frederick G. Gotwald

Our Saviour Lutheran Church will observe the 13th anniversary of the dedication of its parish hall by re-dedicating it on Sunday, October 25. The building will be named the "Frederick G. Gotwald Fellowship Hall" in honor of the man who served as the congregation's pastor for more than 20 years. Pastor Gotwald will preach at the 10:30 worship service. The re-dedication and naming of the fellowship hall immediately follows the service. There will be an

open house after the ceremony.

Frederick Gotwald came to Our Saviour Lutheran church in 1949. During his pastorate, the congregation experienced tremendous growth. By the 1960s, the Sunday School had over 200 students, and space was also needed to run its teen program. The hexagon-shaped structure, first known as the Youth Education Building, was dedicated in February 1963.

The multi-purpose fellowship hall has always been a resource for the community as well as the congregation. At the dedication, a key to the lower level was given to the Recreation Commission of Croton for its use. Today the hall is used by community groups as diverse as the Girl Scouts, AARP, and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Pastor Gotwald was very active in the Croton community. The circle of plantings at the intersection of Benedict Boulevard and Cleveland Drive was named "Gotwald Circle" after him, and for many years the church used Gotwald Circle as its address. Pastor Gotwald left Our Saviour and Croton in 1970 to take a Lutheran synodical position in Syracuse, N.Y. He is now retired and lives with his wife, Lee, in Salisbury, N.C.

Many former members from the 1950s and '60s have been invited to the ceremony and open house. The community is also welcome.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church is located at the intersection of Benedict Boulevard and Cleveland Drive. For further information call 271-4632.

Pastor Gotwald
died in 2012

40th Anniversary



Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Croton last Sunday were, from left, Rev. Morton Talbot, Pastor, Mary Hoffman, former Pastor Fred Gotwald, Robert Grant, Frya Barnes, John Dorsch, Rita Kozlowski, Bruce Barnes and Dorothy Greiner. Mrs. Hoffman and Mr. Dorsch are among the charter members of the church. [News Photo by Tom Buchanan]

Christmas Pagent 1977



Welcoming Pastor Janet Fechner-Pelletier, November 1985



Pastor Janet Fechner-Pelletier



Old-timers at the reception: Greta Dorsch, John Dorsch, Herman Heckman, Helen Rose, Alice Winter, Ernie Frutiger

50th Anniversary

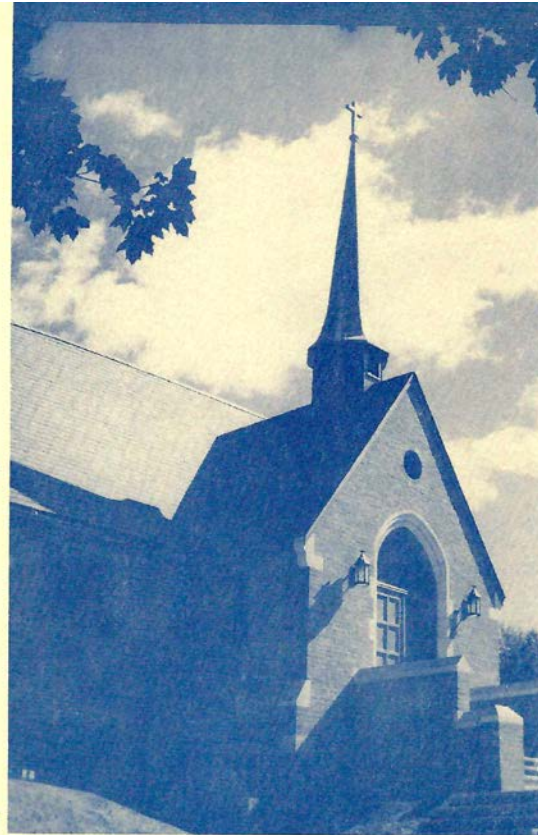
*Golden
Jubilee*



1935—1985



November 3, 1985



*Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.*

Ed and Dorothy Rondthaler 60th Anniversary 1990



George Matthew with Stan Kellerhouse, December 1992

George Matthew, an accomplished organist and good friend of Stan Kellerhouse, gave a Christmas organ performance at the church for many years.



Anna and Stan Kellerhouse on Stan's 80th Birthday 1995



60th Anniversary



Comic musical presentation "The Fortune Teller" with Rev. Bert Stracker, David Denham, Bob Riekert, Paul Vines; Pastor Stracker sang The Fortune Teller as a youth with his father, mother, and sister. He convinced Linda Denham to present it at the 60th anniversary. Pastor Stracker died about month later.

Pastor Rudolph David, 30 Years in Ordained Ministry 1996



Connie David and Pastor Rudolph David, who served here from 1992 until his retirement in 2001

Pastor Anthony Stephens, Served Here 2002-2016



Pastor Stephens with his mother and father, a retired priest in the Church of England, 2002

Lisa Stephens and
Pastor Stephens with
Alexandra and twins
Andrew and Phillip,
2003



Chaplain Anthony Stephens

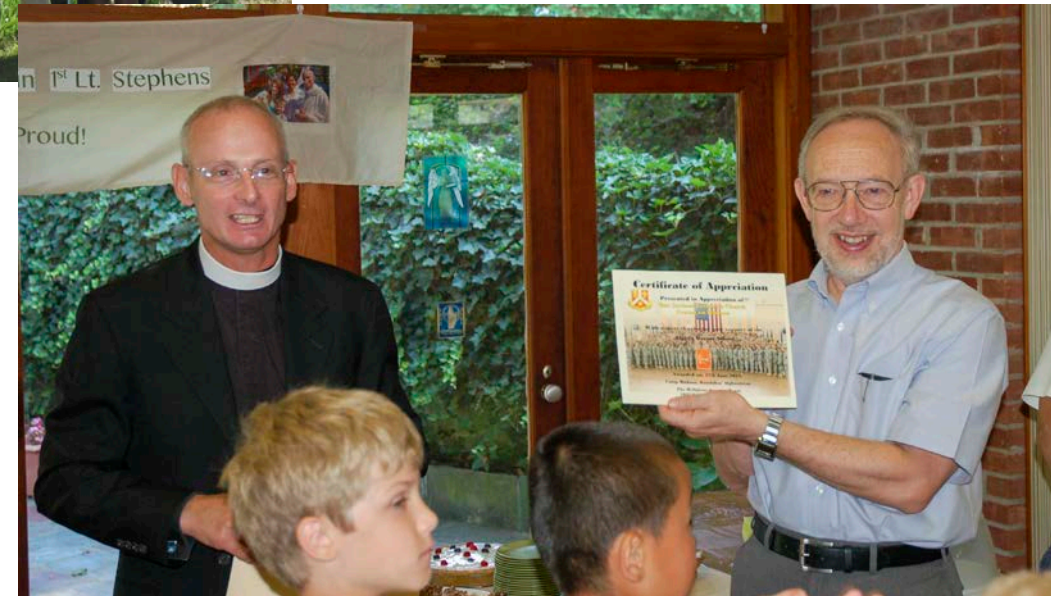


Return from US Army
chaplain training, 2012



Welcome home
from Afghanistan

Tour of duty in
Afghanistan, 2013



Church Secretary Melanie Mueller, 2009



Congregational Retreats at Koinonia 2002-2014



Congregational Retreats at Koinonia 2002-2014



Congregational Retreats at Koinonia 2002-2014



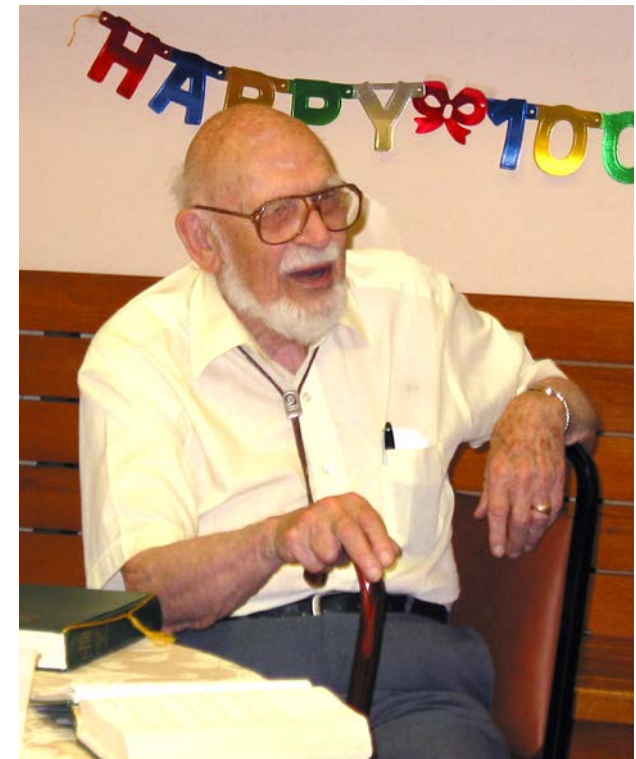
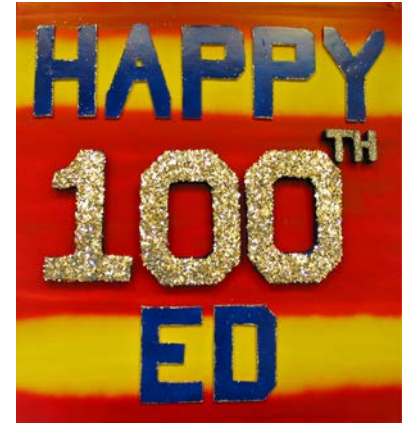
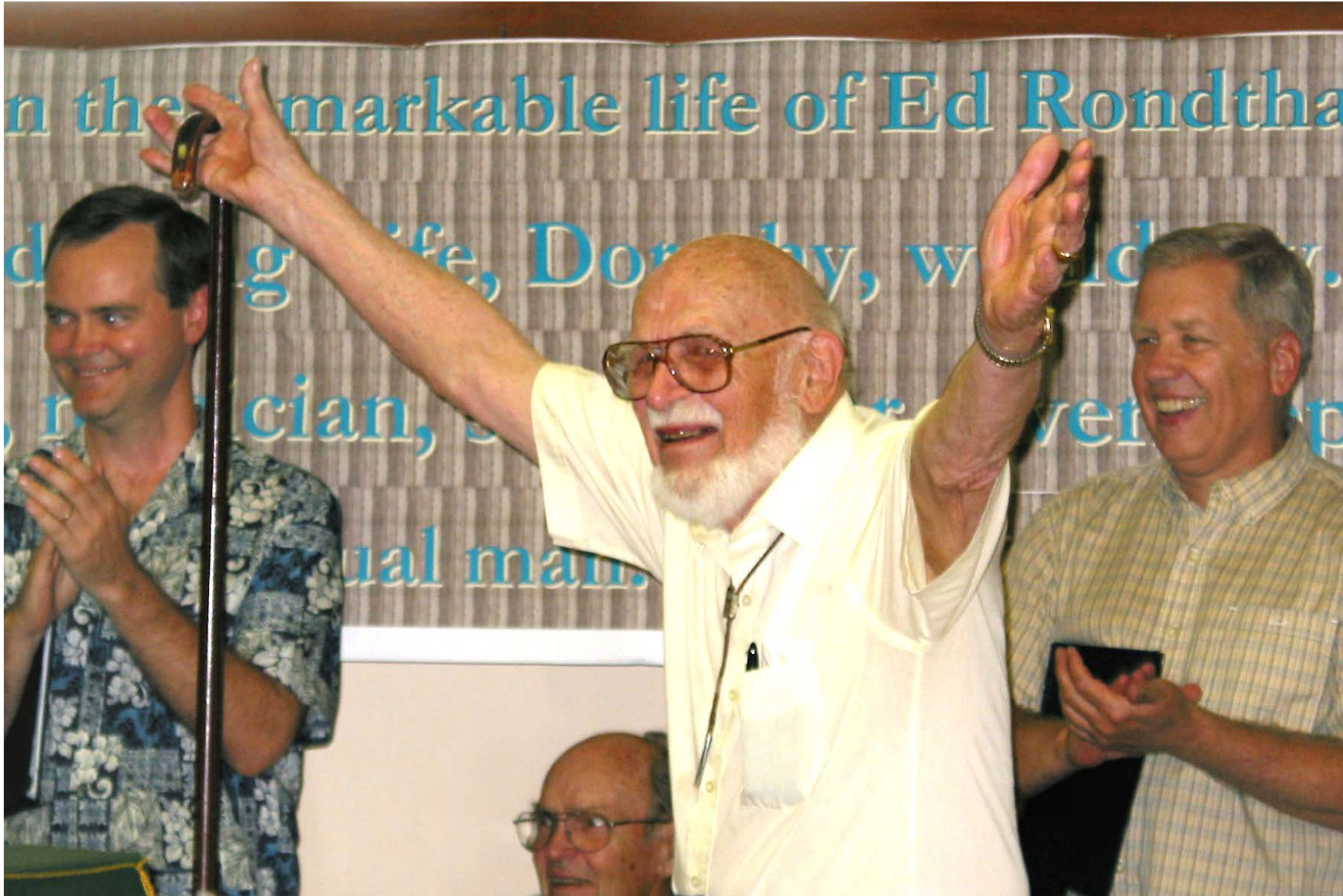
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Talent Night



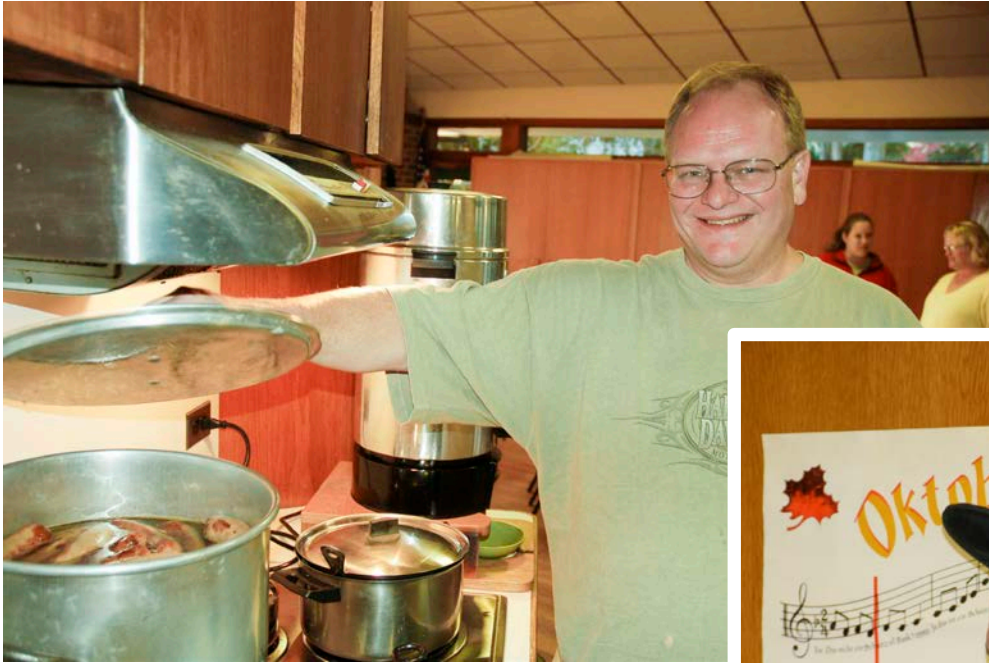
And the monkey is... You!

Ed Rondthaler did this trick for the children for many years

Ed Rondthaler 100th Birthday Celebration 2005



Oktoberfest



Bob Riekert: Ja, das ist ein Schnitzelbank

75th Anniversary



75th Anniversary



Baptism



Confirmation



1938



1976



1983



2010

Welcoming Pastor Justin Johnson, August 2018



Lutheran World Relief Donations



Christmas Fairs 2004-2022



Christmas Fairs 2004-2022



Christmas Fairs 2004-2022



Celebration after the Christmas Fair



Christmas Caroling 2006



Christmas Caroling 2013-2021



Christmas



Easter



Easter



Easter Bonnets



