

# ONE HUNDRED YEARS

Seeking

God's

Word

Sharing

Christ's

Love

Serving

God and

the World



1910 † MAY 23 † 2010

Ebenezer Lutheran Church, Lake Stevens, WA

# **EBENEZER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

2111 - 117TH AVENUE NE, LAKE STEVENS, WA 98258

425-334-0421

## **Pastor Lewis Benson**

### **Church Staff:**

Roseanne Cowles, Office Administrator  
Iris Ingram: Music Director & Organist  
Ricky Nicolet, Custodian  
Marcia Nearhoff, Nursery Attendant

### **Preschool Staff:**

Lisa Curtis, Director/Teacher  
Kathy Eliason, Teacher  
Kathy Parzyk, Teacher  
Jennifer Escalier, Teacher  
Beth Vickery, Teacher

### **Council Members:**

Sue Wilson, President	Gale Brandstetter	Lynne Charlot
Courtney Stepp, Vice-President	Rob Dutcher	Linda Hurt
Scott Sutton, Secretary	Tal Johnson	Eric Stewart
Irma Gross, Treasurer		

### **Ministries of Ebenezer**

Adult Choir	Mar-Cilla Circle	Quilters
Education	Memorial Committee	Social Ministry
F.A.S.T	Memorial Reception	Stewardship
Fellowship	Norwegian Pancake Breakfast	W.A.T.CH
Finance	Outreach	Worship & Music
Leah Circle	Property	Youth of Ebenezer

## **Ebenezer's One Hundred Years of**

### **Seeking God's Word Sharing Christ's Love Serving God and the World**

One hundred years ago Ebenezer Lutheran Church was founded on May 23, 1910, as a Swedish-speaking congregation in Hartford, Washington, which later became known as "Swede Town." With 19 charter members, the church was served by pastors from Seattle and Zion Lutheran Church in Everett.

Ebenezer called an intern, Earl Anderson, in 1951 to serve the congregation for one year. The first full-time pastor was called in 1952—Pastor Sidney Jones. The pastors who followed were: Earl Anderson, Jerald Furgurson, Art Collins (Associate), Paul Eriks, Richard Edmonds, Sheryl Biegert (Associate), William Humpries (Associate), Tor Berg (Associate), Interim Pastor Larry Olsen, and our present pastor, Lewis Benson. Under the leadership and guidance of these pastors, Ebenezer has grown rapidly over the years from the small little church in Hartford to our present church home. Ebenezer has had one son, Art McGee, who served in the Holy Ministry.

Over the last 100 years, Ebenezer has served God and the community with the Lake Stevens Food Bank, senior lunches, community suppers, preschool, Norwegian pancake breakfasts, offering meeting facilities for special-needs service organizations and fellowship activities, and quilters who have made quilts for Lutheran World Relief, Holden Village, Millennia Ministries, Everett Women's Shelter, Open Door Ministries and Lutheran wood. We have always been about serving and welcoming new people into our church home.

Ebenezer's next 100 years will bring us new challenges and goals in seeking, sharing, and serving God in our lives at Ebenezer and in our ministry to others.

**"Hitherto the Lord has helped us" I Samuel 7:12**

## DEDICATION

We cannot thank God enough for the diligent work which has been done and the sincere concern shown by all the pastors who have served here at Ebenezer Lutheran Church. Our thanks go to them and their families who stood by and supported them during their time of service here.

Many hills have been climbed by our charter members and by every generation since. The hard-working members have built and maintained our church into an icon in our community, and we should all be very proud.

There are many hills and valleys yet to go through, for we do not know what lies ahead. As evidenced in the past, our Christian faith is here, determined and strong, and with God's guidance will continue through the ages.

It is to all these people—and the members of Ebenezer Lutheran Church—that this book is dedicated.

### Charter Members

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Abrahamson

Mrs. Bertha Loth

Mr. C. F. Anderson

Mrs. Emma Lundberg

Mr. Alfred Benson

Mr. Alfred Norman

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Forsman

Mr. and Mrs. C. Scott

Mr. Carl Granfors

Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Worlund

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hendrickson

Mr. C. R. Zingmark

Mr. Charles Johnson

Mr. Oscar Zingmark



## **Pastor's Greeting**

One hundred years is a very long time. As we remember the past and look to the future, we are thankful that for 100 years Christian men, women, and children of Ebenezer Lutheran have remained faithful to God and His call to bring the message of God's amazing grace to an ever-changing community and world. From a small band of believers who gathered in the Hartford area of "Swede Town" on the First Sunday after Pentecost in 1910, God has grown our church

family to impact the lives of thousands throughout the Lake Stevens area and around the world.

Our church's name, Ebenezer, has a rich and colorful heritage. The full passage where it comes from in I Samuel reads: "Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah, and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, "Hitherto the Lord has helped us." It's a proclamation and a promise.

We celebrate God's faithfulness over the past 100 years, and we look forward with excitement to God's faithfulness in the future. We join the people of ancient Israel and proclaim: "Hitherto the Lord has helped us," and we know He always will.

Pastor Benson

Pentecost Sunday  
May 23, 2010

## Forward

A century ago 19 strong, determined people with a great Christian faith came up with the idea of joining together to start a faith community in Lake Stevens. They started meeting together at Yeoman Hall, the old Hartford School, or at family homes. These faithful pioneers became officially organized as Ebenezer Lutheran Church on May 23, 1910.

All of these families were Swedish-speaking and born in Finland, with the exception of two women from Sweden. They had all been brought up in the Lutheran faith. The majority of them had first settled in Minnesota, Wisconsin, or Michigan. But because of the beauty of the surroundings or the need to work in the woods and mills, they each bought a few acres and settled very closely together in a section of land near Hartford, Washington. For the next 40 years this was aptly named "Swede Town."

All felt the need for a place to worship. At first they joined together with other church groups and a lodge meeting in the Old Hartford School House. Then in 1909 they changed their meeting place to the Swedish-Finnish Zion Hall. They continued to meet with the other groups. Traveling pastors would come and hold services whenever possible. However this Lutheran group knew that the faith they had been brought up in could not survive worshipping as they did. Most meetings ended up with one group or another ridiculing the pastor, his message, or the Lutheran belief in baptism and confirmation.

After a great deal of hesitation and prayerful deliberation, these Lutherans got together and started planning a congregation of their own. On May 23, 1910, the most important day came. Together with their leader, Pastor John Gullans of Seattle, they heard services from Ephesians 4:1-6, scripture which made every member present know that with God's help they were now one. After the Pastor read his message, each man and woman present came forward and signed his or her name to become the charter members of this new congregation. The church was named Evangelical Lutheran Ebenezer Congregation of Hartford, Washington.

The first officers of the church were: Secretary - Alfred Benson; Deacons - Alfred Norman, C. R. Zingmark, and Jacob Abrahamson; and Trustees - Alfred Benson, Emanuel Worlund, and C. F. Scott. The organist was Miss Mina Zingmark, and the Sunday School Superintendent was Alfred Norman.

From 1910 to 1951 Ebenezer had no full-time pastor. Each of our first seven pastors served primarily in congregations in Seattle and Everett. They would come to Ebenezer as often as possible to conduct services and help in the work of the church. Because of this, a great deal of the work was carried out by the members themselves. We are deeply grateful to these faithful men and women of God who guided Ebenezer Lutheran Church in its early years.



**Ebenezer Hartford 1930**



**Ebenezer 2010**



## **Reverend John Gullans**

1910-1911

Pastor Gullans accepted the charge of becoming our first pastor. It wasn't easy in those days to travel from Seattle to Hartford. He would either come by train transferring in Everett to go to Snohomish and then on to Machias, after which he would hike the rest of the way; or he would come out from Everett by bicycle. Services were held every other Sunday and one evening a month, if possible. He was paid a salary of ten dollars a month.

The Ladies Aid Society, organized even before the congregation was chartered, bought a foot treadle-pumped organ, the church's first, with money they had raised. To meet all other expenses of the church, a monthly fee of fifty cents per family and twenty-five cents per single member was assessed.

The feeling of the congregation was that Zion Hall was not the ideal place for worship. They felt it should be located near the railroad station; and, therefore, a lot was purchased on what is now the Loth Road near Hartford (which later was sold). However as an interim solution to the problem of a church building, a committee of two was appointed to consult with the groups involved in Zion Hall and see if Ebenezer could buy out the others.

On May 23, 1910, the members met at the home of Jacob and Ida Abrahamson and heard Pastor Gullans read from Ephesians 4:1-16. The words from I Samuel 7:12, "Hitherto the Lord has helped us," were used to name Ebenezer. After the Pastor's message, 19 men and women present came forward to sign the charter and became charter members of the Evangelical Lutheran Ebenezer Congregation of Hartford, Washington.

The first confirmation class of 12 young people was confirmed on May 29, 1910: Carl Zingmark, Axel Zingmark, Arthur Worlund, Ernest Anderson, Vendla Hendrickson, Ethel Anderson, Augusta Anderson, Alma Benson, Anna Loth, Emma Benson, Carl H. Granfors, and Edith Benson.



**Reverend A. V. Anderson**  
1911-1917

Pastor A. V. Anderson was called to conduct worship services on the third Sunday of each month at a salary of \$10 a month plus the Christmas offering.

From 1912 to 1914 the first organist was Alfred Norman. In 1915 Olivia Forsman became the organist. Twelve year-old Vera Abrahamson was paid \$10 a year for the first time as the organist in 1916.

Ebenezer was admitted to the Columbia Conference in 1913, two years after the application. Charles Forsman was elected Sunday School Superintendent in 1912, a position he was to hold for 20 years. The Sunday School children typically presented three programs each year: Christmas, Easter, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Economic times were difficult and the Ladies Aid, with lutefisk suppers and other projects, supplemented the dues to the church and became the financial lifeline of the congregation. A Young Peoples Society, predecessor to the Luther League, was organized and joined in the work of the congregation. Ebenezer celebrated its fifth anniversary in 1915, with the theme, "Jesus Christ, the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever."



**Reverend M. L. Swanson**  
1918-1921

Pastor Swanson introduced several new practices into Ebenezer including one service a month in the English language. Holy Communion services were increased from two to four times a year. In 1917 the flu epidemic caused an interruption in the number of services held and there were no church services the last six months of 1918 due to the continuing flu epidemic.

In 1919 The Willing Workers (later the Dorcas Society) was organized under Mrs. Carl Clementson. In the same year the old system of dues was replaced by the envelope system with each member giving as they wished as God had prospered them. The Young Peoples Society became the Luther League and began holding their meetings in English. In 1919 Ebenezer held its first music concert for the community held at the K. P. Hall with a violinist and pianist.

In 1920 the pastor's salary was raised to \$150 a year. At the time of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the theme "Forward in Jesus Name," \$4,500 had accumulated in a building fund. This was enough to start a new church building and a Building Committee was formed. With a new building in mind, a lot was purchased across the tracks a little north of the old location.

As the English Swedish language came more and more into use in the community, the language in use in the church became a problem. Children who knew only English found no place in a Swedish Sunday School and the enrollment dropped sharply. To meet this need, two Sunday School leaders were elected, one to lead in English, Mrs. Helen Worlund, and the other in Swedish, Carl Foresman.



**Reverend C. G. H. Ahnquist**  
1922-1927

The early twenties were difficult years for Ebenezer, both spiritually and economically. Pseudo-religious sects began again to stir up unrest just as they had in 1910. Pastor Ahnquist provided strong leadership, stressing the importance of baptism in the church with godparents who were church members. Although the increased use of English brought higher attendance at services, the hard times meant that often the pastor did not receive his salary. The Luther League was active and fielded a

very good Hartford Ebenezer Luther League basketball team.

In 1922 the church purchased a lot from Mr. Abrahamson for \$40 which later was sold. Pastor Ahnquist's salary was raised to \$200 per year and again in 1925 to \$250 per year. The first confirmation reunion was in November of 1924.

In 1925 Pastor's message was on how infants should be baptized in the church and not at home.

Ebenezer was served in 1928 by a student pastor, **Harry Lindblad**. This was the first time the pastor's report was in English.



## **Reverend John Bildt**

1929-1938

The first formal pastor's installation at Ebenezer was that of Pastor John Bildt on October 31, 1929, with several pastors in the District taking part. The same year saw the first formal budget prepared and presented to the congregation with total budgeted expenditures of \$415.

Since its founding in 1910, Ebenezer did not have a church building it could call its own. In 1930 the congregation decided to lease the Finnish-Swedish Zion Hall and rebuild it into a church. It was leased for 99 years and rebuilt in three months with Pastor Bildt working with the laymen of the church and was dedicated on September 14, 1933, by Conference President Pastor G. K. Andeen.

During this period English became the language in common usage. All Sunday School classes were taught in English, and English hymnals were purchased by the Luther League. Sunday School was reorganized to use the new teaching materials, graded classes were initiated, and monthly teachers' meetings were held.

The *Great Depression* placed a heavy physical and spiritual burden on the congregation and its pastor. In 1934 the pastor's salary was dropped to \$150 at his suggestion. As his ministry drew to a close, many members were lost to the temptations of despair and material concern. Those who remained faithful found a new meaning of Ebenezer: "Hitherto the Lord has helped us."



**Reverend Caryl Benson**  
1939-1944

Ebenezer depended upon the availability of visiting pastors during this period. In 1939 worship services were held every Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm, but by 1941 would be held on Sunday mornings at 9:30. Also in 1941 a boys' choir was started by Ed Abrahamson, the first in the history of Ebenezer.

World War II impacted Ebenezer heavily in several ways. Many young people were in the military service, so the Luther League was disbanded for the duration of the war. Also, attendance at church worship services had decreased because of gas rationing. However, because of the increased availability of more and better jobs, the congregation was able to bring all its financial responsibilities up to date.

Church Council minutes from 1939 reflected that the church building value was \$3,010.15, including all assets. A new piano was purchased during this time. It was decided, however, to also keep the old organ (valued at \$9) for sentimental reasons.

In 1940 the 30th anniversary was celebrated with the theme, "Abide in Him."

The much admired painting, "Good Shepherd," which presently hangs in the hallway of the Sunday School wing, was painted by Ed Abrahamson. It was presented to the church in honor of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Abrahamson in 1943.



## **Reverend Merton L. Lundquist**

1944-1951

As World War II wound down, Pastor Lundquist cited Luther's "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" in his 1944 congregational report concluding that "Ours is a Kingdom wars cannot remove."

A survey by the Board of Home Missions of the Columbia Conference led to discussion of the possibility of securing the services of an intern from Augustana Seminary for one year with the results to be seen later.

After the war was over, both Sunday School attendance and Ebenezer's congregation grew along with the growth of the community. In 1946 as a gift from Mr. Sam Espeseth, Ebenezer obtained a small lot of property. Later an adjacent lot was purchased for \$250. These combined properties were sold to the Lake Stevens School District, and with the proceeds the congregation purchased the property on which the church now stands. Stirred by the leadership of Pastor Lundquist who said, "There are two kinds of people: those hitched to the past and those intrigued by the future," the congregation decided to relocate to the new site.

This was one of the most important decision ever made by Ebenezer. However, the church had difficulty disposing of the Zion Hall property, inasmuch as it was not owned by anyone in the United States. The owner, Mr. Andrew Stjohom, had returned to Finland and it was impossible to reach him. In a remarkable journey, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lund traveled to Finland to the small island where he then lived and secured his signature on a document that made it possible to obtain a clear deed to the hall property for one dollar.

Guided by Pastor Lunquist, the Board in 1949 made the recommendation to the congregation that Ebenezer undertake an expansion program having as its goal the establishment of an independent parish. As the first step in this program, they would secure the services of a resident pastor.

The Board was also authorized to launch a building fund, and to petition the Board of American Missions for the support necessary to inaugurate this program.

This was the plan that would change the life of Ebenezer and open a path toward becoming an independent parish serving the community. Ebenezer owes a debt of gratitude to Pastor Lundquist for the confidence he instilled in the congregation. The Holy Spirit was clearly at work at Ebenezer!

The Board of American Missions offered their aid in the amount of \$1,740, which financially enabled Ebenezer to secure a resident pastor.



**Mr. Earl Anderson**, an intern from Augustana Seminary, arrived in June of 1951 to spend one year in Lake Stevens. Under his leadership the membership grew swiftly so that two services had to be held each Sunday morning. The Sunday School attendance also increased to 150 students.

During this year the annual Candlelight Carol Service was given by the choirs for the first time. An annual Youth Sunday service also began, giving the youth an opportunity to express their faith as they conducted the services. Daily Vacation Bible School was also held that year using the old "White School" for a two-week period.

After the congregation prayerfully decided to call the first resident pastor from the Seminary Class of 1952, a building fund was begun so that funds would be available for the relocation of the church when the pastor arrived. The congregation also bought a parsonage for the first time. After much preparation it was ready for occupancy when the pastor's family arrived.

Earl Anderson taught the Confirmation Class of 1952. He believed in a two-year program for Confirmation which was becoming a practice in the Lutheran churches at that time. They met every Tuesday and Thursday after school, Saturday mornings for two hours, and on Sunday mornings.



## Reverend Sidney Jones

1952-1955

Pastor Sidney Jones was the first resident pastor, and under his guidance, the congregation membership and influence in the community continued to grow.

Mr. Oliver Olsen of Seattle was engaged to draw up the plans for the new church building, and construction began in July 1953.

Construction continued through much of 1954. The task was not an easy one, as much of the work was performed by congregation members without pay. A loan of \$10,000 was obtained from the Church Extension Fund of the Augustana Lutheran Church to finance the new construction. The loan was augmented by proceeds from turkey dinners, cake and bake sales, and self-work projects by the Ladies Aid, Women's Mission Society and the newly formed Ebenezer Guild. The choirs gave substantial assistance toward the purchase of an organ for the sanctuary.

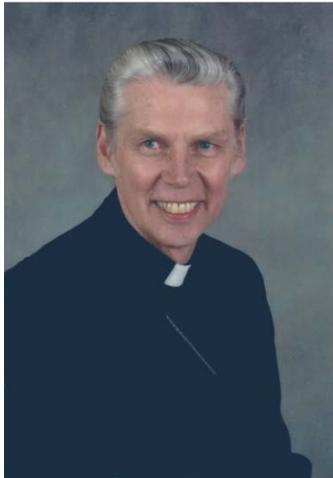
In addition to his pastoral guidance, Pastor Jones joined with the men of the congregation in the physical work of the construction. The culmination of all the work by the entire congregation came upon dedication of the new church building in October 24, 1954. In 1955, Pastor Jones resigned his position.



Dedication of the new home of  
Ebenezer Lutheran Church.

October 24, 1954

Pastor Caryl Benson, Pastor Sidney Jones,  
Bishop Swanson, and Pastor Earl Anderson



## **Reverend Earl Anderson**

1955-1964

Recalling his inspirational leadership as an Augustana intern in the year 1951, the congregation voted to call now Augusta graduate and ordained pastor, Earl Anderson. He accepted the call and began his ministry here on November 1, 1955.

Under his guidance, Ebenezer grew rapidly. Several progressive measures were taken including the increase of the Church Board from 5 to 6 then to 12 members. In addition the new "Red Book" service book and hymnal was added to the regular service on the first Sunday of each month.

A Family Service of Worship and Instruction was added as a second service, in which parents and children worshipped and received instruction together. A Cherub Choir was added to the Junior Choir to alternate at the Family Service.

A church secretary position was added as paid staff for the first time with the hiring of Mrs. Margaret Smith who is currently a church member.

The organization, "Women of Ebenezer," was formed and was one of the first in the nation to adopt the new constitution of the Augustana Lutheran Church Women in America. The women's group was divided into four groups (units): Martha, Leah, Ruth, and Naomi. They each met monthly working on mission projects and different projects for Ebenezer. The whole group of women would meet once a month for a monthly meeting. The Women of Ebenezer also sponsored a girls' group, "Little Women of Ebenezer," to include girls from third grade and up.

The Luther League provided a well-rounded program of work, play, study and prayer including training at Conference Leadership Schools for Ebenezer Youth making it one of the most active League groups in the District.

In 1957 the church undertook sponsoring a Boy Scout Troop and Explorer Post. The church basement was finished and signs were put up. Another key decision by the congregation was to sell the parsonage, giving the pastor the privilege of renting or purchasing a home.

The Building Committee had been active since early 1956 studying and determining the needs of the physical part of Ebenezer. The results were to finish the church basement, purchase over an acre of property north of the church to be used for parking, improve the sidewalks and lawns, and erect a sign on the corner to identify the church. Architectural plans for a new parish unit were secured by the committee. Construction started in 1963 to include a Choir Room, Youth Room, Fellowship Hall, Chapel, Secretary's office, and Nursery.

A few changes were made to the church building. The entrance was moved to the side of the church, the balcony at the rear was lowered, and an organ and choir pews were installed in the balcony. The lowered area became the Fireside Room with a side entrance installed enabling this room to be used as a meeting room and where small fellowship groups had the facilities for serving light refreshments. New side and overhead lighting also was installed. This addition was a "L" shaped-structured that formed a "U" with the current church building. Other features in the new building included a Music Room with tiered seating, a Youth Room, Kitchen, a Fellowship Hall that could also be used for the youth to play basketball in, enlarged parking area, and a partially enclosed space for a church garden.

The former basement of the church was redesigned and divided for Sunday School classrooms and storage.

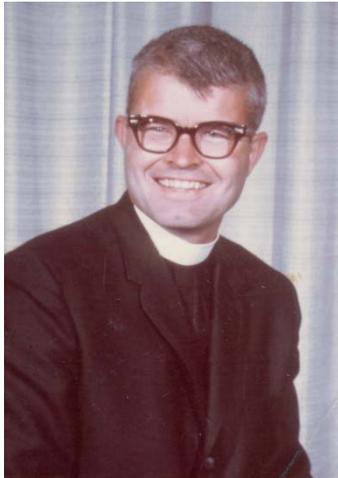
Two beautiful etched glass doors of Christ depicting two of his sayings from the Gospel of St. John, "I am the Resurrection and the Life" and "I am the Good Shepherd" were designed by Pat Cronen and were installed at the end of this construction in 1964.

Pastor Anderson was given an opportunity to attend a three-and-a-half month exchange scholarship in Germany sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation. One direct result was that an East German refugee family, whom Pastor Anderson met in Lubeck, was sponsored in the United States as immigrants into this country.

Pastor Anderson went on to serve congregations in Johannesburg, South Africa; Seattle; Longview; Boise and others. He retired in 1989 and resided in Oregon. He attended Ebenezer's 90th Anniversary and preached on the day of the celebration. He passed away in April of 2005.



Dr. A.G. Fjellmen (NW Synod), Pastor Earl Anderson,  
Keith Tidyman (Chairman of Building Committee) 1964 dedication



## **Reverend Jerald Furgurson**

1964-1974

The growth of Ebenezer continued under the leadership of another dynamic young pastor, Jerald Furgurson. Sunday morning worship included two services, a 9:00 Family Service, followed by Church School for the whole family at 9:45, and a main service with senior choir at 11:00. Communion was offered on the first Sunday of each month and on festival days. Nursery care was provided at all services. Confirmation classes for students in grades 7-9 met on Wednesday evenings.

An active music program included a Cherub Choir for children in grades 1 to 3, a Junior Choir for grades 4 to Junior High School, Christian Folksingers for boys in grade 4 to Senior High School and girls in Junior and Senior High School, and the Senior Choir for High School students and older.

At the end of 1966 there were 435 confirmed members of the church. The Church Council had 24 members serving as the governing body of Ebenezer.

The Koinonia House at Granite Falls was purchased in 1968 for the young people to hold retreats and camping. The funds for the down payment of the cabin were borrowed from the Memorial Fund. The balance of the cabin was paid by an anonymous donor. The youth used it for a short time before it was sold in 1977. The money borrowed from the Memorial Fund was paid back at that time. Other youth activities included drama, discussion and service groups, as well as camping activities at Camp Lutherwood. A Vacation Church School was held each year after school let out for the summer.

After leaving Ebenezer, Pastor Furgurson went on to serve Trinity Lutheran Church in Gresham, Oregon, for twenty years increasing its growth to 1400-plus members. He studied as a Lutheran World Federation Scholar in India in 1977 and had summer studies abroad. He is now retired and resides in Ocean Park, Washington.

Pastor Furgurson participated in Ebenezer's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and is participating in our 100<sup>th</sup> celebration as well.



**William Purdy, Intern**

1966-1967

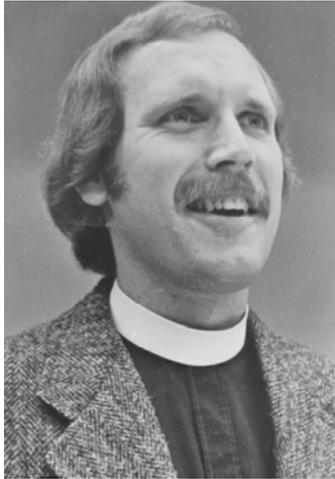
During his internship at Ebenezer, Mr. Purdy served the congregation as an assistant to Pastor Jerald Furgurson in addition to serving as chaplain at Luther Center in Everett. He was a senior at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. His primary duties at Ebenezer were working with youth and conducting worship when Pastor Furgurson was on vacation.



**Reverend Arthur Collins, Associate**

1969 - 1970

Pastor Art Collins was an associate pastor for one year. The Synod gave Ebenezer a grant to hire him for a year. This was the time when Boeing was going full force and the Synod wanted to have more pastors in this area. Ebenezer gave him a call for one year to assist Pastor Jerald Furgurson. He also taught the second year of the Confirmation Class of 1970.



## **Reverend Paul Eriks**

1975 - 1980

Under Pastor Eriks' guidance, the period during the last half of the 1970s was one of relatively stable congregational membership brightened by significant improvements to our church home and increased service to the Lake Stevens community.

The nave and chancel area as it is today was remodeled in 1977-1978 with all new sanctuary furnishings. The new furnishings were designed by Mr. Ernest Schwidder of Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington. They included a new altar with our name Ebenezer carved on the front side, the Cross of Christ (the central symbol of the cross stands alongside a heap of witnesses, each witnessing to Christ and His Church), the sacramental table, the sanctuary lamp, pulpit, flower stand, three candle stands, and the processional cross. A new pipe organ was also installed.

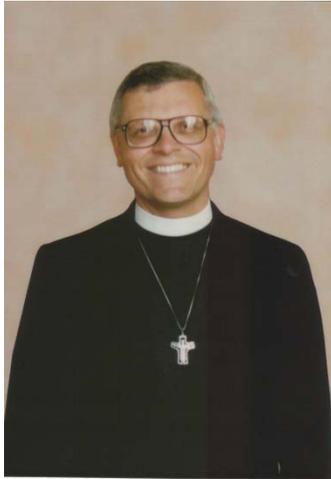
The choir music, women's organizations, and youth activities established by Pastors Anderson and Furgurson were generally the same during Pastor Eriks' rein.

As pastor of the only "non-fundamentalist" church in the area who would marry non-members, Pastor Eriks officiated at 42 weddings one year.

Ebenezer members sponsored the Keomongkhoun family from Laos in 1978. The parents Khampheng and Bounnoth and children Thay, Xay, Phet, and Pon lived in our community and worshiped here at Ebenezer. Don and Annette Silcox, Paul and Pat Tastad, and Pastor Eriks were instrumental in integrating them into our community.

In 1979 and 1980, Pastor Eriks was assisted by Pastor Richard Edmonds. Being noted as a singing congregation, Pastor Eriks and Pastor Edmonds would often sing duets during the offertory and other times as well.

Pastor Eriks accepted a call in 1981 to serve as pastor of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Seattle, a position he held for 10 years. He then served as pastor at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Arlington, Washington, from 1991-1992. After thirty years as a parish pastor and serving God, he retired from the ministry. He is presently living in Seattle.



## **Reverend Richard Edmonds**

1981 - 1999

Pastor Edmonds was called in 1981 to lead the congregation and to begin a pastoral relationship which was to last for eighteen years.

After attending St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, Pastor Edmonds graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in history in 1964. He completed his Master of Divinity degree at Luther Seminary at St. Paul, Minnesota, and was ordained at his home church, First Lutheran Church in Bothell, in June 1969. He served First Lutheran Church in Port Orchard, Washington, after which he returned to the University of Washington to earn his degree in education. This was followed by working for the Snohomish School District as a Curriculum Specialist for the next two years. He was also a part-time Assistant Pastor at Christ the King parish in Snohomish and then at Ebenezer from 1979 to 1980. He accepted the leadership of the Congregation in 1981, and served in this role until his retirement in August 1999.

In 1980 the Lake Stevens Community Food Bank was established and housed by Ebenezer and is still in operation today.

The church center underwent a major enlargement and redesign in 1990-1991 with the addition of an elevator and other facilities for the handicapped. A new second floor was added by lowering the ceiling in the Fellowship Hall, accommodating new Sunday School classrooms, an additional pastor's office, and kitchen remodel. Preschool facilities were located in the basement section of the church. The small chapel was remodeled to include space for the present office space for pastors.

The three stained glass windows that were located in the chapel are now located in the stairway going down to the Fellowship Hall. A third rank of organ pipes was installed. These improvements brought the church facility to how it is presently today.

The baptismal font was designed by a mentor of Mr. Ernest Schwidder who knew his work and had worked on the other sanctuary pieces that he had designed for Ebenezer. It was dedicated in 1997.

Several Associate Pastors worked with Pastor Edmonds during the years of his pastoral service.



From 1986 - 1988 **Pastor Sheryl Biegert** was his first associate pastor. Pastor Biegert worked with the Ebenezer Youth and preached on Sundays that Pastor was on vacation. In 1981 she became pastor of Peace Lutheran Church in West Seattle. She next became the pastor of Agnus Dei Lutheran in Gig Harbor, Washington, from 1991 to the present time.



From 1989 - 1993 **Pastor William Humphries** worked to develop youth programs and contemporary Sunday morning services for the first service. He served the next three years as pastor in Everett, Washington. He resigned from the ministry in 1996.



From 1994 - 1997 **Pastor Tor Berg** was heavily involved with organizations, youth, and Christian Education programs, and initiated the W.A.T.CH (Wednesday At The CHurch) program. Pastor Berg left Ebenezer to become the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Pullman, Washington. He has just recently accepted a call to First Lutheran Church in Bothell, Washington.

A part-time staff position for Christian Education was created in 1999 when **Kay Solvik** was hired as Director of Christian Education. She served until July 2005 when she and her husband moved to Bellingham.

After Pastor Edmonds' retirement in August, 1999, he was assigned by the Bishop as an interim pastor in 2000 at Morning Star Lutheran Church in Monroe, Washington, until 2004. He is now Music Coordinator for First Lutheran Church in Bothell, Washington, his home church; and where his father was once the pastor.

Pastor Edmonds attended our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and preached the first Sunday of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. He also preached on April 11, 2010, the first Sunday of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.



## **Reverend Larry Olsen**

Interim Pastor 1999-2001

In August 1999 Pastor Larry Olsen was named by Bishop Donald Maier to serve Ebenezer during the transition period marked by the departure of Pastor Edmonds until the calling of a new permanent pastor was completed.

Pastor Olsen guided us in ministry while the congregation completed a self-evaluation of its needs and ministries.

Pastor Olsen's relaxed leadership style was very well received. He introduced to the congregation new alternatives to the traditional Lutheran liturgical practices.

When asked, "What are your greatest joys and challenges in your work?" Pastor Olsen replied that he loved all aspects of parish ministry. The challenge was maintaining balance between his two calls—the call to serve the Lord and the call to be a single dad to his two daughters, Tessa and Grace.

Pastor Olsen was serving at the time of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration with its theme, "Upon this Rock," from Matthew 16:18 in May 2000. Visiting pastors from the past came to lead worship on the Sundays prior to the anniversary including Pastor Richard Edmonds and Pastor Jerald Furgurson. On the Sunday of the celebration, Pastor Earl Anderson led the service. After each service a luncheon was prepared and hosted by Priscilla Circle, the Preschool staff, Leah Circle, and the Anniversary Committee.

Pastor Olsen is currently serving at Edison Lutheran Church in Bow, Washington. He is participating in the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration at Ebenezer.



## Reverend Lewis Benson

2001-Present

On October 1, 2001, Pastor Lewis Benson began his ministry with Ebenezer. He brought calming leadership during a very anxious time in our country following the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks on American soil and the beginning of the war in Afghanistan.

Growing up in Colorado, he received his Bachelor's degree from Colorado State University in Business Administration and Master of Divinity degree from Luther Northwestern

Theological Seminary. While in seminary, he met his wife Debbie who is currently lead pastor at Anacortes Lutheran Church in Anacortes.

Prior to coming to Ebenezer, Pastor Benson served as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Hendrum, Minnesota; associate pastor of Salem Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon; interim pastor for the Lutheran Church in the San Juans and Anacortes Lutheran; Administrator of Camp Lutherwood in Bellingham; and Director of Mission Development at Josephine Sunset Home in Stanwood.

In 2003, Ebenezer adopted a new mission statement: To make disciples through the Holy Spirit's power by: Seeking God's Word; Sharing Christ's Love; Serving God and the World. As a congregation, we continually live out this mission in worship, education, and service.

On Sunday mornings, we offer a traditional worship service and a Praise and Worship contemporary service. Ebenezer is blessed with many musicians, organized by Iris Ingram our Music Director, who lead us in worship. A dedicated group of volunteers also prepare the PowerPoint slides which are used in our contemporary worship services. We continue to have midweek Advent and Lenten services along with Worship on Wednesday twice a month throughout the year. Our annual Christmas and Holy Week Cantatas are a highlight each year. On Reformation Sunday 2008, we dedicated our new *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnals, replacing the *Lutheran Book of Worship* hymnals and *With One Voice* songbooks. The new hymnals were purchased by Ebenezer's members in loving memory and honor of loved ones.

Service continues to be at the heart of who we are as a congregation. As the home of the Lake Stevens Community Food Bank, nearly 200 families each month receive assistance. In 2004, we made upgrades to our kitchen so it could be licensed as a

commercial kitchen. Our Thursday night Community Supper program feeds approximately 100 individuals each week; and our Senior Luncheon program, which gathers on the first Thursday of every month, consistently feeds 80 - 90 seniors. Our monthly Norwegian Pancake Breakfast serving an average of 160 people is a highlight for many in our community and assists in supporting youth, disaster assistance, and families in crisis and congregation needs. Ebenezer also sponsors the annual \$50 Sailboat Race at Lake Steven's Aquafest, as well as hosts a Root beer Float Booth.

Throughout our Centennial Year, our Mission projects are concentrating on the number 100 - 100 health kits, 100 layette kits, 100 school kits, and 100 quilts which will be sent all over the world through Lutheran World Relief. This is in addition to our annual support of Lutheran World Hunger, God's Global Barnyard, and Lutheran Disaster Response.

We said goodbye to Kay Solvik, our Director of Christian Education, in June 2005 when she and her husband Keven moved to Bellingham. Sunday School, Preschool, Bible Studies, and W.A.T.CH (Wednesdays At The CHurch) are all an important part of Ebenezer's educational ministry. Our Preschool currently has 11 classes each week with 90 students.

Brian Tomer was our Youth and Family Director from 2006 - 2009. He graduated from Trinity College with a Bachelor's degree in Youth and Family Ministry. Brian built many strong relationships and programs with our high school youth. His faithfulness, sincerity, leadership, and genuine care for our youth and their families have been missed.

On Sunday, April 11, 2010, Pastor Edmonds helped us begin our Centennial Celebration by leading us in worship and proclaiming: "You are the church - an Easter church, because Christ has come to you and given you His gifts of Spirit, Mission, and Forgiveness." And on April 16, 2010, choirs from Good Shepherd Lutheran, Bethlehem Lutheran, and Holy Cross Lutheran joined Ebenezer's choir for a Centennial Concert.

For 100 years, we have been living out our faith and proclaiming the meaning of our name Ebenezer, "Hitherto the Lord has helped us." Our prayer is that this celebration will propel us into an even more powerful future as we continue to pursue our mission of "Seeking God's Word; Sharing Christ's Love; and Serving God and the World."

## **Ebenezer Lutheran Preschool**

Ebenezer Preschool began as a part of Prince of Peace Preschool with the director, Sue Baxter, working at the South Everett church. It was originally housed in the room that is now the Food Bank. One of the teachers during that time was Kathy Brodniak.

Kathy Eliason began teaching about 1985 while the Preschool was still located in the "Food Bank" room. During the church remodel, the classroom was moved to the Youth Room. A year or so later, the class moved to the current room facing the Fellowship Hall and adjacent to the Food Bank but with still one teacher.

About 1991 Ebenezer Lutheran Church took over the Preschool under the guidance of Pastor Edmonds and Susan Lee Ogden. By 1992 the enrollment had grown to the point that a second teacher was needed. Kathy Parzyk came on board with lots of enthusiasm and fresh ideas. She has been teaching in the room across the hall and adjacent to the Food Bank office ever since.

Within a couple of years it was decided that we needed a director as well as another teacher. Susan Shephard became the director and also taught a class. Susan was an outstanding director and teacher and led the Preschool until the fall of 2008. There have been some terrific people on our Preschool Board currently and over the years. Ebenezer Preschool has been a caring, nurturing place of learning for as many as 140 children per year.

In 2010 Ebenezer Preschool has 72 students and 4 teachers: Kathy Eliason, Kathy Parzyk, Jen Escalier, and Beth Vickery. The director is Lisa Curtis, who also teaches two Toddler classes (2 year olds). There are three Pre-K classes, (4-5 year olds), and three Preschool classes (3-4 year olds) as well as the Toddler class which meets in the church Nursery. Parents volunteer when necessary.

Our pastors have led weekly chapel times and have extended their services to Preschool families when needed. Ebenezer Preschool has been a wonderful outreach to our community and a blessing to our congregation.



## **Reverend Arthur M. McGee**

May 23, 1934 - July 18, 1991

Pastor Arthur M. McGee is the only Son of Ebenezer to be called into the Holy Ministry.

This is a brief biographical sketch of his life.

Art was the son of William and Frances McGee and brother to Pat (McGee) Jackson.

He received his confirmation instruction under Pastor M. L. Lundquist and graduated from Lake Stevens High School. Art attended Pacific Lutheran College in Tacoma, Washington, and graduated from Augustana Theological Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois, in 1961. He was ordained in Seattle at the June 1961 Synodical Meeting of the Augustana Synod Lutheran Church with Pastor Earl Anderson as his sponsor. This was the last large ordination that took place at a Synod meeting. There were 52 pastors ordained on June 1961. After that they began ordaining pastors in their home churches.

Pastor Art began his ministry in Troy, Idaho, serving Troy Lutheran Church from 1961-1964. Pastor Art next served Central Lutheran in Morton, Washington, for the following three years. He was Pastor at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Kelso, Washington, for the next eighteen years (1967 to 1985). He then returned to this area closer to home and his family and spent the remaining years as pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sedro Woolley, Washington, from 1985 to 1991. Pastor Art completed thirty years of service in the Holy Ministry in June 1991.

He was a mentor to Brian Pederson one of his youth members at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Kelso, Washington, who is now a pastor in Rudyard, Montana.

Art made it his practice to serve his congregations and their communities by serving as a member of committees and as a participant in community projects.

He returned whenever it was possible to Ebenezer, his home church. As a youth he was very active in Luther League and choir. In 1952 Art McGee and Jules Wolf led the Ebenezer congregation in the first Youth Sunday. Jules preached and Art led the liturgy.

He attended the dedication of the new furnishings on September 17, 1978, and participated in the service. He was unable to attend the anniversary celebrations. However, he always sent a letter of congratulations to the congregation for any of their special gatherings and wishing he could be there to celebrate with the congregation.

Although Art is no longer with us, his ministry continues through the countless lives he touched in his service to the Lord.

Art passed away July 18, 1991. In his will he arranged to have his theological library and other religious books presented to his home church. His reference books are today in the Ebenezer church library. A library table and chairs were given in his memory by his family. The table was in the library for a time. The table and chairs are now used as a conference table in the conference room.

We hope that through our prayers the Holy Spirit will send His calling on to other sons and daughters of Ebenezer to follow Him into serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Mr. Ernest Schwidder (designer) and Pastor Arthur M McGee at dedication of Sanctuary furnishings 1978

*Dedicated to the Memory of the Saints of Ebenezer*

*The following pages reflect gifts and memorials located  
throughout Ebenezer Lutheran Church*

### *Memorial Committee's Mission Statement*

The Memorial Committee oversees undesignated funds donated to Ebenezer as memorial gifts. We coordinated these memorial gifts to purchase items which are a permanent nature, support the spiritual life of the congregation, and are appropriate to the dignity of a memorial. Our recommendations for purchases are forwarded to the Congregation Council, which provides final approval.

*“Hitherto the Lord has helped us” 1 Samuel 7:12*

# THE SANCTUARY



## Altar, Chancel, Communion Rail, and Pulpit

The redesigning of the Sanctuary by Mr. Ernst Schwidder of Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington, was completed in 1978. The principal objective was the restoration of the altar as a

Eucharistic table with a more central location. The general openness and flexibility of the chancel reflects other concerns as well. The communion rail is a series of individual kneelers which can be arranged in a variety of ways or eliminated entirely as the occasion demands. The pulpit is of lectern type and also is movable.



Another concern was to enrich the sanctuary with appropriate kinds of symbols that would be consistent with the unique background of this congregation, with Lutheran tradition, and with our heritage as Christians.

The theme of "Ebenezer" was chosen, which, of course, is the name of the congregation and refers to an incident in the Old Testament. One of the battles between the Israelites and their perpetual enemies, the Philistines, took place on a rocky plain bearing the name Mizpah. It was the memorial erected by Samuel that is being remembered here. After the final victory and the return of the Ark of the Covenant, Samuel piled stone upon stone to mark the place of this victory, calling it "Ebenezer" (the stone of help). This story is reflected in the saying inscribed on the altar and the "heap of witnesses" standing next to the cross of Christ.

## Sacramental Table and Baptismal Font



The Sacramental Table is a rather unique combination of traditions. In the early church the custom was to baptize in the courtyard (atrium) of the building, and this was retained through the centuries as a symbol of entry in *God's* family through baptism. At the time of the Reformation, the font was moved into the Chancel to reflect the concern that the congregational "family" be involved in witnessing the event. Here the table is located at the entrance to the Nave along with the baptismal font designed by a mentor of Ernest Schwidder as a sign that it is through baptism that we enter into this family. The baptism takes place at the altar as a sign that in this we become a part of the priesthood of all believers. The table is also used for holding the communion vessels which are brought to the altar during the offertory. Given in loving memory of loved ones from the general memorial funds.

## Sanctuary Lamp



The sanctuary lamp, symbolizing the continuing presence of *God* with his people, features a stand carved with the flames of the presence of *God's* Spirit. It was given to Ebenezer in loving memory of William McGee by his family—Frances Mc Gee, Rev. Arthur McGee, and Pat (McGee) Jackson.

## Cross of Christ



I Samuel 7 relates the story of Samuel erecting a pile of stones as a memorial. It was this idea which suggested the form of the central symbol. That pile of rocks on the ancient plain served as a "heap of witnesses" to the fact that God indeed helps His people. For us, in this time and place it means a long history of witnesses who have helped us along the way. The cross of Christ is the central symbol standing alongside a heap of witnesses each witnessing to Christ and his church: the apostle Paul, King Erik of Sweden, Birgitta of Sweden, and Archbishop Nathan Soderblom. Above the "heap of witnesses," the cross reminds us of the continuing presence of Christ with his people, a symbol of his great love. In his hands are the stigmata of the nails placed there as Redeemer of the World. The cross was donated by an anonymous donor.

## Heap of Witnesses

**Nathan Soderblom, Archbishop of Uppsala**, the recent witness, was born in 1866. Known for his interest in Christian unity, he supported the cause of ecumenism, advocated cooperation of Christians on social issues, and advanced the liturgical movement. He was a Nobel Peace Prize recipient in 1930. His date of commemoration is July 12, the date of his death in 1931.

**Birgitta (Swedish for Bridget) of Sweden** was a 14<sup>th</sup> century woman of great piety. Her family was of the ruling class, and she grew up in royal circles where she despised the wickedness she found. Living simply, she devoted her funds and efforts toward helping the needy. She died on July 23, 1373, which is now the date of her commemoration.

**Erik IX, King of Sweden**, ruled from 1150 to 1160 bringing Christianity to his own people as well as to other parts of Scandinavia. His cause was not conquest, but bringing the Gospel to other peoples. He was a man of great personal goodness who instituted laws to help the poor and showed concern for the sick and infirmed. Martyred in 1160, his commemoration is the date of his death, May 18.

**St. Paul, the apostle**, located at the bottom of the "heap of witnesses," is the virtual foundation of the Christian church and writer of much of the New Testament. It was through Paul that God spread his church throughout the ancient world and through his writing. He is shown holding the Bible as his witness.

### Altar

The altar serves as a Eucharistic table and occupies a central location. It is a substantial table of solid mahogany, laminated together into a singular massive form, one that serves a particular purpose and marks this as a very special place. On the altar are inscribed the words of Samuel, **"HITHERTO THE LORD HAS HELPED US"** (I Samuel 7:12)



### Piano



Funds for the purchase of the baby grand piano were donated in 1995 to Ebenezer in loving memory of Einar Hendrickson by his family.

## Hymnals and Pews

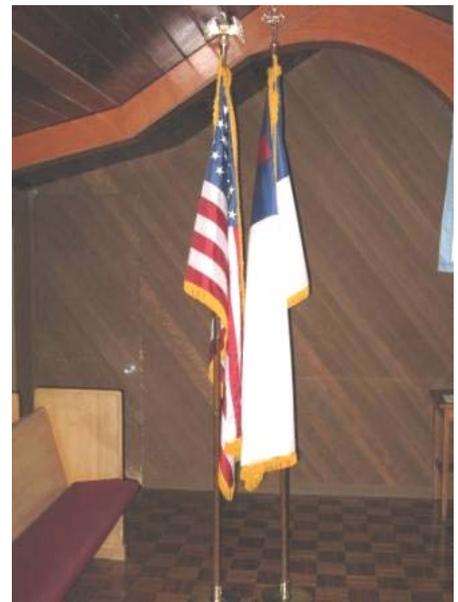


The hymnals and pews were donated by members of the congregation in loving memory or in honor of their loved ones.

The old hymnals were retired and the new hymnals were dedicated on Reformation Sunday 2008.

## Flags

The church flag and the American flag were purchased with general memorial funds and installed following the 9-11-2001 terrorist attack.



## Altar Flower Stand

The altar flower stand is used to display flowers given to the Glory of God and in honor or remembrance of loved ones and was purchased with general memorial funds.

## Organ



In order to remodel and have a new organ for worship services, a Memorial Organ Fund was established in 1991. Special gifts were given in loving memory of Minor Godfrey, Kenneth Loop, Ray Hoefler, Madeline Weisenburger, and John Gebstad, plus a large anonymous gift. The remaining balance was bequested by John and Haldis McLennon.

## Organ Pipes



The organ pipes were given in loving memory or honor of loved ones by members of Ebenezer. The first rank of 10 pipes was installed in 1978. The last rank of 15 pipes was installed 1991. Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Roberts also provided pipes and chimes. The "Nubs" for the organ was given in loving memory of Erick Johanson in 1995 with general memorial funds.

## Processional Cross and Paschal Candle



The Processional Cross with the carving "The Son of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings" and the paschal candle were purchased with general memorial funds.



## Stained Glass Windows



The stained glass windows were designed by artist Michael Chudzik and installed in 1982 and 1984, and are based on Jesus' parable of the mustard seed. In the final verse of this parable, Jesus says, "Yet when it (the mustard seed) is sown, it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." (Mark 4:32) The windows remind us of the great potential for growth that is always present within the people of God when the Holy Spirit "calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth." (Luther's explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed) These windows were purchased with general memorial funds.

## Piano and Organ Music

Piano and organ music to accompany the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal for hymns and liturgy was purchased with general memorial funds. Choir music was also purchased in loving memory of Erick Johanson with general memorial funds.

## Offering Plates

The offering plates were given in loving memory of Gayle Whitsell and Keith Morgan by Anne Whitsell and Edna Morgan.

## Choir Chairs

The red upholstered chairs were purchased for the Choir and Pastor's office with general memorial funds in 1981. The choir room chairs were also purchased with general memorial funds.

## Flagon, Patten, and Chalice

The Ceramic Flagon, Patten, and Chalice were purchased with general memorial funds in 1981.



Flagon



Patten



Chalice



A Centennial pewter communion set to be used on Festival days was given in loving memory of Reverend Arthur M. McGee by Jim and Pat Jackson and Pastor McGee's godchildren, Debra Snowden, Todd Jackson, and Heather Forsgren.

## Paraments

The fair linen (long cloth that covers the altar) and altar cloths for many years were handmade and embroidered by Nellie Granfors. New fair linen was purchased for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with general memorial funds. A new Easter parament and altar cloths were purchased by an anonymous donor.

## THE NARTHEX

### "Prayer for Peace" Painting



The "Prayer for Peace" painting by Thomas Kincaid was purchased with designated memorial funds in loving memory of Frances McGee.

### Mission Table

This table was designed, made, and donated by Mr. and Mrs. Hans Hansen. The baskets used with this table to organize gathered items for our community and world mission projects were purchased with general memorial funds.



### Memorial Book and Stand



The memorial book was given in loving memory of William W. McGee by Frances McGee and Pat (McGee) Jackson. The stand in which it is enclosed was purchased with general memorial funds. The picture over the stand is titled "Peace to all that enter here."



## "Last Supper" Sculpture



This copper sculpture was purchased with general memorial funds. Ebenezer's mission appears above this sculpture: "The mission of Ebenezer Lutheran Church is to make disciples through the Holy Spirit's power by seeking God's Word, sharing Christ's Love, and serving God and the World."

## "Last Supper" Carving

This carving was given in loving memory of Paul Backstrom by Jeffery Backstrom.



## Magnolia Picture



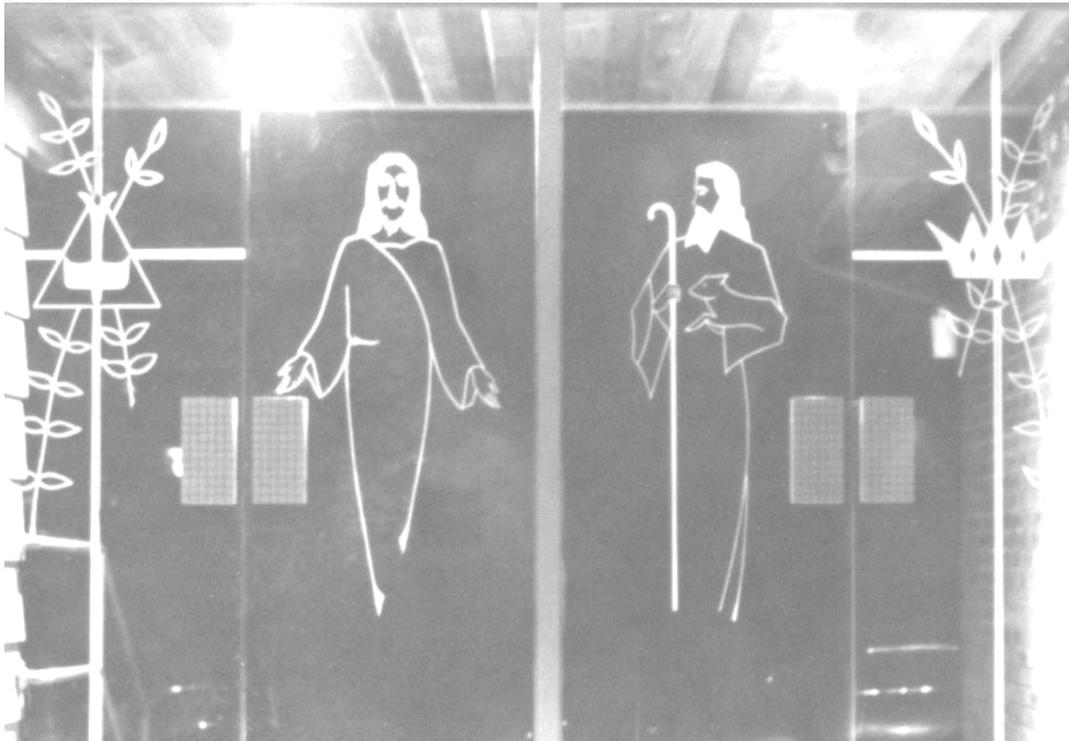
The magnolia picture was given in loving memory of Lorraine (Lund) Adrian by William and Carolyn Lund.

## Narthex Furnishings

The two love seats, two occasional chairs, two end tables, and a coffee table were purchased with general memorial funds. The Bible on the coffee table was given in loving memory of Margaret Nubgaard by her family.



## Etched Glass Doors



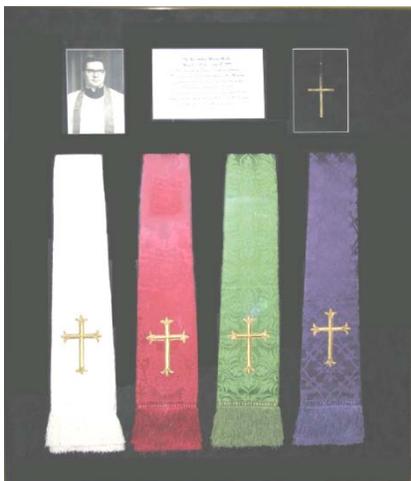
Beautiful glass doors were designed in 1963 by Ebenezer member, Pat Cronen and were installed in 1964. They depict Christ from two of his sayings in St. John: "I am the resurrection and the life" and "I am the good Shepherd." These doors remained at the entrance until the last remodel when the fire department required that they be removed since they did not meet fire code regulations. The Memorial Committee is hoping to be able to display them again so everyone can enjoy their beauty.

# THE FIRESIDE ROOM

## Pastoral Wall



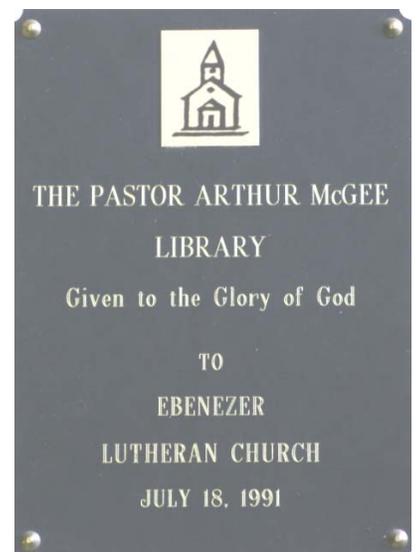
This wall includes pictures of Ebenezer's pastors for the past 100 years. These pastors include John Gullans, A. V. Anderson, M. L. Swanson, C. G. H. Ahnquist, John Billdt, Caryl Benson, Merton L. Lundquist, Sidney Jones, Earl Anderson, Jerald Furguson, Arthur Collins (Associate), Paul Eriks, Richard Edmonds, Sheryl Biegert (Associate), William Humphries (Associate), Tor Berg (Associate), Larry Olsen (Interim), and Lewis Bensen.



Reverend Arthur McGee is included on this wall as the only Son of Ebenezer to be called into the Holy Ministry. The stoles displayed were given to him by the Ebenezer congregation at the time of his ordination in 1961. The black stole that is currently used on Good Friday by our pastors was also part of this original collection.

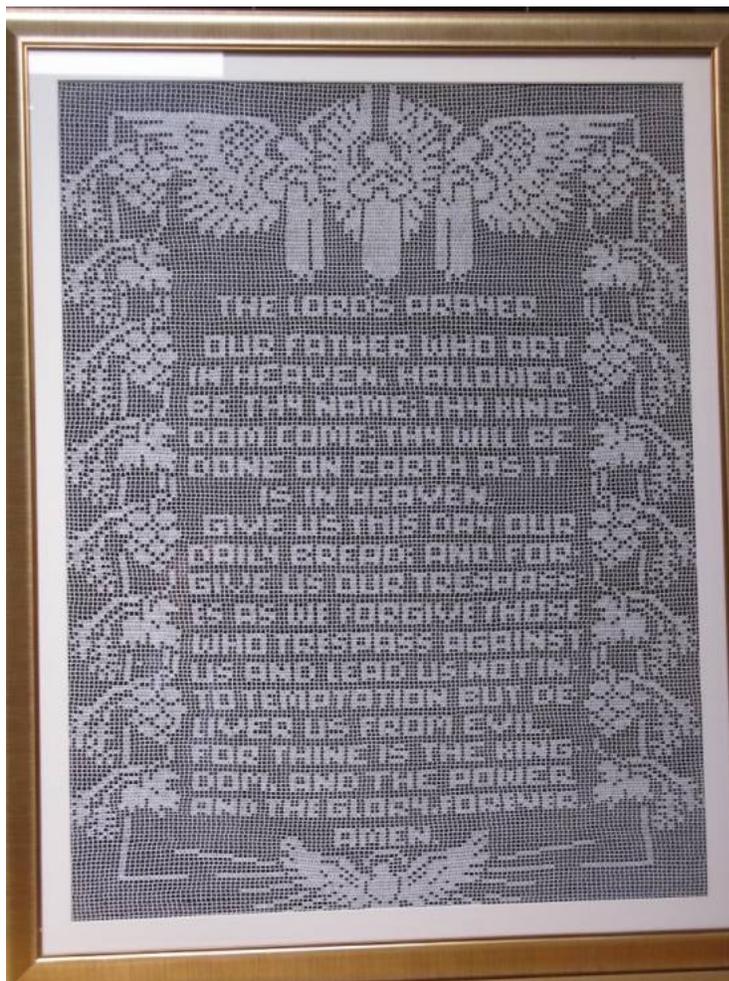
## Library

The original library was in the room that is presently the Conference Room. This library was moved to the Fireside Room and was enlarged with the donation of theological and religious books by the Rev. Arthur McGee in 1991. The library table that was given in loving memory of Art by his family is now located in the Conference Room.



## Ebenezer Lutheran Church Painting

This painting of Ebenezer Church is of the original church building located in Hartford and was painted and donated by Robert Hendrickson.



## Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer hanging was crocheted in the late 1960s by Hilda Hanson when she was in her late 80s. Each stitch of this work was completed with prayer and deep faith. Hilda presented it to Pastor Richard Edmonds' father with the intent that at his death it would be passed on to Pastor Richard. He and his wife chose to present it to the members of Ebenezer Lutheran congregation who were a significant part of their faith journey.

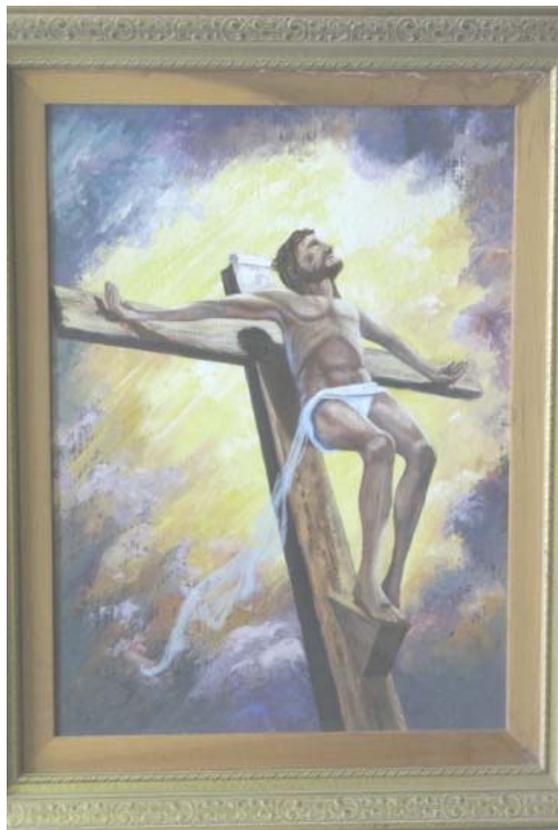
## Furnishings



The furnishings for the Fireside Room were purchased with general memorial and bazaar funds. These include two love seats, two occasional chairs, coffee table, library table, lamps, and other small decorations. The centerpiece on the table was donated by Jean Van Winkle. The Bible on the coffee table was given to the

Glory of God by the Memorial Committee members: Linda Hurt, Bryan Holmes, Kathy Parzyk, and Pat Jackson.

## Painting of Jesus on the Cross



The painting of Jesus on the cross was painted and donated by Joyce Cornish.

## HALLWAY

### "Good Shepherd" Painting



This painting was painted and donated in 1943 by Ed Abrahamson in loving memory of his parents Jacob and Ida Abrahamson who were charter members of our congregation. Originally this painting was hung on the wall behind the altar in the first church building located in Hartford.

### Mural

The mural located at the entrance of the Nursery was painted by Roy Dolphin.



### Faith Forest Sunday School Hallway



The mural at the beginning of Faith Forest Hall in the Sunday School wing was designed by Chris Cole and painted by Chris Cole and Lia Stuart and was given in loving memory of Ed and Nellie Granfors and family.

# NURSERY

## Murals

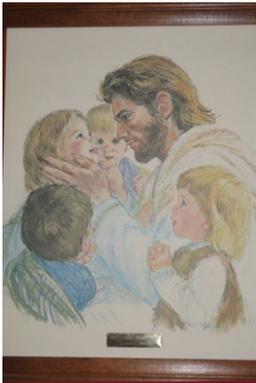


The mural starting in the hallway continues into the Nursery and was painted by Roy Dolphin.



## Pictures

The picture of Christ with the lamb was given in loving memory of Robert Lund. The picture with Christ sitting on the ground with little children gathered around Him was given in loving memory of Alice Boyd. The picture with Christ holding a child in his arms was given in loving memory of Luke Anglin by William and Carolyn Lund.



## Baby Crib

The baby crib was given in love for all of Christ's little children to use and was purchased with general memorial funds.

## CONFERENCE ROOM



Conference Table and Chairs given in loving memory of Pastor Arthur McGee by his family.

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11: 28-30). Given in loving memory of Ed Granfors by his the family.



## CHURCH OFFICE

### Wall Clock



The clock was made to the *Glory of God* and donated by Gayle Whitsell.

### Office Items

Computer, software, paper shredder, and other office items were purchased in loving memory of Bernard Albertsen by Leodyce Albertsen.

# STAIRWAY

## 3 Stained Glass Windows



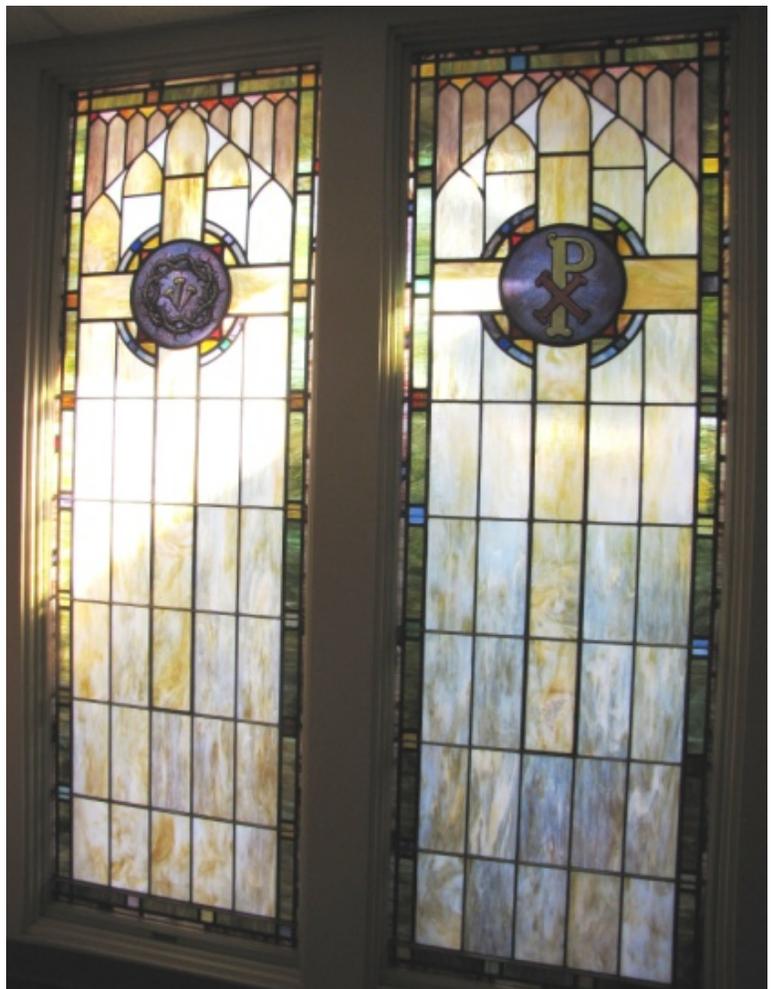
The three beautiful stained glass windows were given by the Abrahamson family in loving memory of Jacob and Ida Abrahamson who were charter members. The windows were originally installed in our small chapel. At the time of the last remodel, they were moved to the current location, and the chapel area was redesigned into the pastor's office.

## 2 Stained Glass Windows

Located at the bottom of the stairs are two additional beautiful stained glass windows that were donated by Lillian Loop.



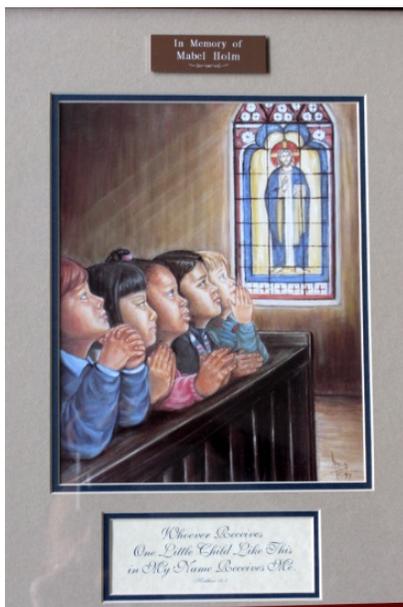
Donated by anonymous donor



## Confirmation Pictures



The confirmation pictures include all classes from 1910 to the present. These pictures have been framed and matted by the Memorial Committee and purchased with general memorial funds.



## Preschool

This picture was given in loving memory of Mabel (Gustafson) Holm by William and Carolyn Lund. "Whoever receives one little child like this in my name, receives Me." Matthew 18:5

## FELLOWSHIP HALL

### Clock



The large round clock was given in loving memory of Neil Cooper by the Cooper family.

### Quilt Photograph

This "Pieced Quilt" was given in honor of the Ebenezer quilters by Mrs. Judy Edmonds.



## "O Jerusalem" Stitchery



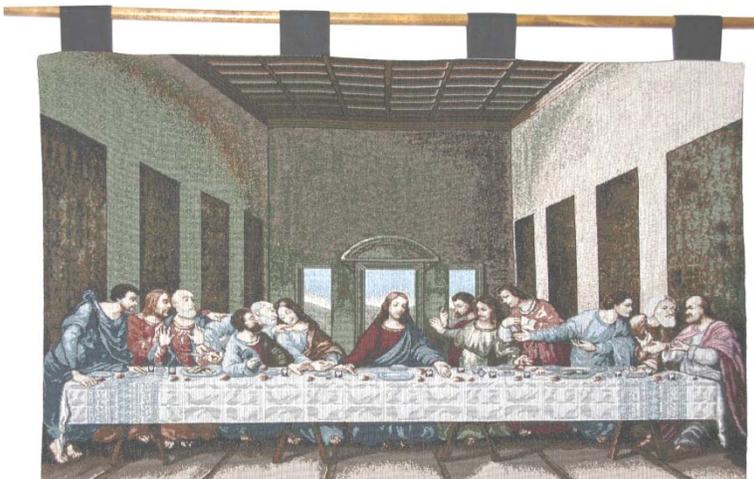
The "O Jerusalem" stitchery was given in honor of Edna Lason by William and Carolyn Lund.

## Angel and Children Stitchery

The angel and children stitchery was given in honor of Ebenezer volunteers by William and Carolyn Lund.



## "The Last Supper" Stitchery



"The Last Supper" stitchery was given in loving memory of the charter members of Ebenezer by William and Carolyn Lund.

## KITCHEN

### "Give Thanks unto the Lord" Picture



This picture was given in loving memory of Helga Lund by William and Carolyn Lund.

### "Give us this day our Daily Bread" Plaque



This wooden plaque was given in loving memory of Marge Anderson by William and Carolyn Lund.

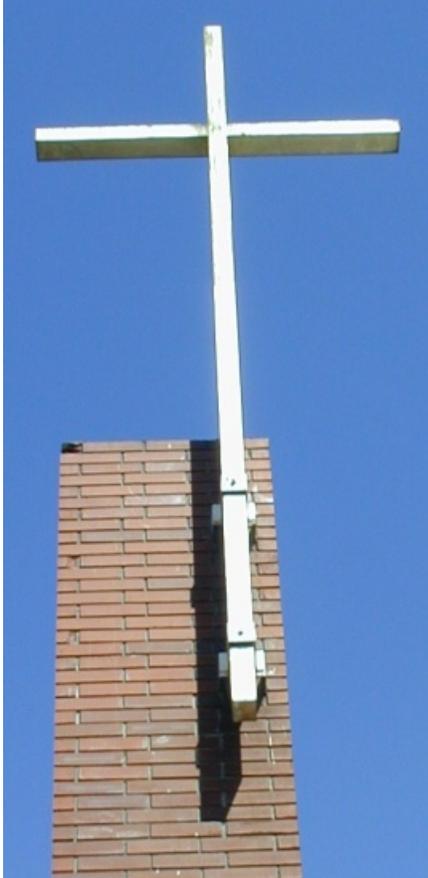


### Clock

The black frying pan clock was made and donated to Ebenezer by Neil Cooper.

## **EXTERIOR OF THE CHURCH**

### **Cross**



The cross located on the roof of the church was given in loving memory of Paul Backstrom by Mary Backstrom.

### **Handicapped Ramp**



The ramp was given in loving memory of Henry and Minnie Werner by the Werner family.

### **Awnings**



The awning located in the courtyard was given in loving memory of Dale Tilly. The designated memorial funds were used for an awning for the Lake Stevens Food Bank.

The awning located at the entrance to the Fellowship Hall was given in loving memory of Paul Backstrom by Mary Backstrom.

## Sidewalk



The sidewalk from the front of the church to the door to the Fellowship Hall was paid for by Mary Backstrom in loving memory of Paul Backstrom. This is to assist the handicapped leaving the ramp from the church to have better access to the Fellowship Hall. This was prior to the elevator installation.

## OTHER ITEMS NOT PICTURED PURCHASED WITH MEMORIAL FUNDS

Valence for the Narthex lounge area

Overhead projector and screen

Candle lighters for Sanctuary

Sound system

Teaching videos

Christmas wreaths and garlands for Sanctuary

Drum set for contemporary worship services

*With One Voice* song books

*Worship & Praise* song books

Tape recorder to tape the worship services for shut-ins

Acolyte robes

Computer for Education Director

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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Material on the early years of Ebenezer was drawn freely from the booklets, "Behold His Glory" prepared for the Fiftieth Anniversary and "Upon This Rock" prepared for the Ninetieth Anniversary of the Ebenezer congregation. Recent research was also added.



Ebenezer's Centennial Ornament was designed by Sue Snowden. The ceramic ornament has the Cross of Christ with the Heap of Witnesses.



Thank you to Fran Clapper for designing our Centennial Logo and Kirk Clapper for the stained glass art work which includes the open Bible, the cross, and a family reaching out sharing Christ's love and serving God in the community and world.