

Directory 1908 - St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Arenzville, Illinois

In January 1850, twenty-eight families of the Lutheran faith came together in the house of Fred **LOVEKAMP** and decided to build a house of worship. For this purpose they bought forty acres of land from Lovekamp. Through subscription, they soon got enough together to erect a building. In the month of April 1850 it was possible to lay the corner stone for their church and in June the church was dedicated. The building was 26 by 36 feet, for which 12 feet was partitioned for a parsonage. The cost was \$900.00.

The contractor was Mr. **HEGENER** of Beardstown. In September of that year, Rev. F. **REISS** was called as the first pastor.

The membership increased so that the building was soon too small and in 1855 it was decided to remove the parsonage so as to make more room and a new parsonage was to be built. The size was 32 by 36 feet. The builder was Mr. **WINKELHAK** of Beardstown. It was completed the same year for a cost of \$800.00.

In a few years the church building was again too small although some members had moved away, it was decided to build another church in 1871, the size to be 75 by 35 feet (25 feet high inside). A tower was erected seventy five feet high. The contractor was H. **KRUEGER** of Jacksonville. The cost was \$4,600.00. The corner stone was laid in April and the church was dedicated November 1871. Between 1871-1879 a large bell weighing 955 pounds and costing \$327.00 was placed in the tower.

Rev. **REISS** was replaced by Rev. **SCHMOEMPERLEN** (1872-1873), Rev. C. **PLUMBECK** (1873-1875), and Rev. H.H. **HOLT-GREVE** (1875-1878), who died December 6, 1878 and is buried in the church cemetery. Since that time various pastors have served this church. A pipe organ was installed between 1879-1897 and a kitchen added to the parsonage as well as a barn.

NOTE: This booklet was purchased several years ago at the Pelker estate sale in Morgan Co. The church on the cover was destroyed by fire in March 1971. A new church in the same location was erected in 1972 and continues to the present time. -

Source - The Cass County Historian, December 1997

The membership list in 1908 included the following: **BOCKEMEIER**, Mr. and Mrs. Ed

BEILSCHMIDT, Mr. and Mrs. W.

BALKE, H. and Lydia

CARLS, Mr. and Mrs. William , Mr. and Mrs. George and Nina

DAHMAN, Mr. and Mrs. John, Mr. and Mrs. Herman, Christ, Maria, Henry and Ida

DUFELMEIR, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. William Sr., Mr. and Mrs. William Jr., Lydia and Harry

FISHER, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Adelaide, Irwin, Ray and Irena

HEGENER, Mrs. Charlotte and Eva

HUEFEMEIER, H.W.

HEIERMANN, Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Louise, Ines and Edna

HINNERS, Mrs. Peter, Mrs. Ed and Clara

HOLTMAN, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph, Amanda, Hulda and Ed

HAMMER, Mrs. F.D.

KLOKER, Mrs. Wilhelmine, Henry, Fred, Mr. and Mrs. Ed and Norma

KRUEGER, Mr. and Mrs. Christ. Sr., Christ Jr., Henry, Charlie, John and Ben

KNIPPENBERG, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sr., Henry Jr., Frank, Sophia, and Albert

KOPPLEMAN, Mrs. Anna

KRUSE, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph, Henry, Harry, Bessie and Lucy

LOVEKAMP, Mr. and Mrs. William, Della

LAUNER, Mr. and Mrs. Theoph. and Cora

MEYER, Mr. and Mrs. H.C., Lena, Carry, Will, Mr. and Mrs. H.H., Ed, Henry, Harvey, Irvin and Louise

MUHLERT, Mr. and Mrs. Henry

MUSCH, Mr. and Mrs. William

NEISTRADT, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sr., Louise, Anna, Herman, Mr. and Mrs. William, Anna, Harry, Mr. and Mrs. John, Arthur, Mr.

and Mrs. Louis, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jr. and Virginia

NORDSICK, Mrs. Wilhelmine, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. John

NIEMANN, Mrs. H., Lilliam, Cora, Otto, Oscar, and Julius

OSTERHOLDT, Mr. and Mrs. William

PELKER, Mr. and Mrs. John, Nora, Frank, Mr. and Mrs. Herman

PHEIL, Mrs.

RING, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sr., Carl Jr., Helena, Anna, Rose, William, and Lydia

SCHNAKE, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Sr., Mr. and Mrs. David, Henry, Benjamin, Tillie, Lydia, Mr. and Mrs. H.W. and Fred

SCHUMANN, Mr. and Mrs. Adam, Mr. and Mrs. John, Mamie, Fred, Elmer and Myrtle

SCHWEER, Mr. and Mrs. John, Velma, Mr. and Mrs. George

STOCK, Mr. and Mrs. Christ., John and Melinda

SCHMIDT, Arthur E., Erna J., and Zella A.

TRAEGER, Mr. and Mrs. Herman, Emma, Lena, Elsie, Olga and Anna

TALKEMEIER, Mr. and Mrs. William, Mr. and Mrs. Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Harry

WEDEKING, Mrs. Marie

WALTER, Mr. and Mrs. Valentine and Walter