I. A New Church in the Village of Brillion (1984-1920)

“The spiritual welfare of the early settlers (in the community now called Brillion) was at first looked after by the circuit rider,” as written by Elmer G. Fuller in A Pioneer Boy’s Story of Brillion. The circuit riders included Methodist, United Brethren and Evangelical preachers, who traveled through forest trails to preach the gospel wherever there were settlements of people. The circuit riding preachers typically first met with small groups of people in private homes to read and discuss the Bible and to lead worship. Fuller reported that in the late 1860’s and early 1870’s, a United Brethren preacher held services throughout a period of four years in the “White School,” which was located about one mile north of the settlement of Brillion. The “Union Church”, built in the village in 1873, was open to all denominations. Worship services were frequently held there until a fire destroyed the building. Dr. I.N. McComb, who started his medical practice in the village of Brillion in 1877, was quoted as having said that there were “no churches, two stores and two saloons” when he arrived. (An article about Dr. I.N. McComb, Brillion physician for 51 years, was printed in the Milwaukee Journal on July 8, 1928.)

The population of Brillion Township in 1860 was 300 persons, as reported in the U.S. Census. Of that total, 74 were born in Wisconsin, 159 were born in other states, of which most were eastern states, 45 were born in German states and 22 were born in other countries. By 1870, the population of Brillion Township had increased to 672, which included 383 born in the United States, 238 born in German states and 51 born in other countries. The above data shows that the population of German citizens in Brillion Township grew from 15% in 1860 to 35% in 1870, resulting in a significant cultural impact on the predominantly English speaking citizens in the village of Brillion.

One of the German families that came to the village of Brillion after 1870 was that of Phillip C. and Marie A. Enders. Phillip was born in August 13, 1827 in Prussia, and Marie was born August 28, 1832 in Hesse Darmstadt. Phillip was about age 22 when he immigrated to the United States of America in 1848. Phillip met Marie, and they were united in marriage in about 1852. Although German was their first language, they both learned to speak English, and Phillip also learned to read and write in English. The children born to their marriage were: son, Jacob, born about 1852; son, William, born about 1853; son, Paul, born about 1855; son, Frank, born 1858; daughter, Amelia, born June 1860; daughter, Mary, born about 1862; daughter, Christina, born 1867; son, Henry S.B., born about 1870; and daughter, Laura, born August 29, 1873 in Fond du Lac.

On July 20, 1860, when the U.S. Census was taken, Phillip and Marie Enders were residing in Herman Township, Sheboygan County. Phillip worked as a day laborer to support his family, which included his wife and their first five children. One more child was born into the family by the time Phillip enlisted in the Union Army on August 21, 1862 at the rank of sergeant. Records show that during his enlistment in the army he was promoted to first sergeant and later to second lieutenant. He was assigned to Company C, 27th Regiment when he was mustered out as first sergeant on September 25, 1865.

When the U.S. Census was recorded on June 2, 1870, Phillip, Marie and six of their
children were living in the fourth ward in the city of Fond du Lac. Phillip’s occupation was reported as notions peddler, and the value of real estate owned was shown as $400.00. Phillip and his family later moved to Brillion, where he continued his career as a merchant. Records researched clearly show that Phillip C. Enders was a man dedicated to serving his family, his adopted country and God.

Sometime during the year 1879, Phillip and Marie Enders invited friends and acquaintances into their home in Brillion to a worship service, which was conducted in German by Rev. William Zickerick, who was at that time stationed at Gravesville, Calumet County. That worship service was the beginning of the congregation, which years later was to become known as Faith United Methodist Church. Circuit riding pastors from the Evangelical Association continued to serve this new congregation for the next five years. (Brillion News, December 24, 1909) If the year 1879 is the correct year, Rev. Zickerick was at that time pastor in Appleton and would most likely have come to Brillion from Appleton rather than Gravesville. On the other hand, if Rev. Zickerick did come to Brillion from Gravesville, the year would have been sometime between 1875 to 1878 or 1881 when Rev. Zickerick was pastor for the Calumet Circuit.

Phillip Enders became acquainted with Rev. William Zickerick a long time before arriving in Brillion. In 1856, Phillip had informed Rev. Zickerick of settlements, which eventually became the cities of Mishicot and Two Rivers, where Evangelical Association congregations might be established. “In June 1856, the Right Reverend William Zickerick and layman Phillip Enders of Sheboygan, visited Two Rivers and Mishicot to ascertain if it would be feasible for the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Church to establish a mission in the Two Rivers/Mishicot area.” (History of Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Two Rivers, Wisconsin) The Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association was established on April 19th of that same year, and Rev. Zickerick was an Evangelical Association missionary and preacher stationed in Sheboygan. Preachers of the Evangelical Association sought out German speaking settlements where they would preach the gospel and organize new congregations.

Rev. William Zickerick served as circuit pastor for the Calumet Circuit from June 1875 to May 1878 and again from June 1881 to May 1883. His assistant pastors included: Rev. William Kolander, 1875; Rev. F. Ilian, 1876; Rev. Gustav Friedrich, 1877; Rev. John Schneller, 1881 and Rev. G.F. Kiekhofer, 1882. The Calumet Circuit headquarters was located at Gravesville, which is now part of the City of Chilton. Rev. Zickerick’s ministerial service during those years included Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Rantoul Township, Calumet County.

Rev. Zickerick, his wife, Henrietta, daughter, Emma and son, Silas were living in Appleton on June 12, 1880 when the U.S. Census was taken. William Zickerick was born in Brandenburg, Prussia on September 8, 1825. He immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1849 when he joined his parents who had settled a year earlier in Lomira, Dodge County, Wisconsin. William’s wife was also born about in Prussia about 1838. Their daughter, Emma was born in Wisconsin in May 1856, and son, Silas was born in Wisconsin in October 1859. Rev. William Zickerick served as pastor of the Appleton Mission of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association from June 1878 to May 1881.
Rev. William Zickerick was ordained preacher at the Eleventh Annual Session of the Illinois Conference of the Evangelical Association in June 1855. He was ordained Deacon at the First Annual Session of the Wisconsin Conference in May 1857, and at the Third Annual Session of the Wisconsin Conference in May 1859, he was ordained Elder. Rev. Zickerick’s thirty years of ministerial service included: Milwaukee District, Menomonee Circuit, 1855-1856; Sheboygan Circuit, 1856-1857; Oshkosh Mission, 1857-1859; Madison District, Dane County Circuit, 1859-1861; Fox River Circuit, 1861-1862; Inactive Elder, 1862-1866; General Collector, 1866; Inactive Elder, 1867-1872; Fond du Lac District, Oshkosh Mission, 1872-1874; Morrison Circuit and Oconto Mission, 1874-1875; Calumet Circuit, 1875-1878; Appleton Mission, 1878-1881; Calumet Circuit, 1881-1883; Fond du Lac Mission, 1883-1886; Neenah Circuit and Mission, 1886-1889; Ripon, 1889-1892; Oshkosh, 1892-1896; Member of Oshkosh Quarterly Conference, 1896-1899 and 1902-1906. Rev. William Zickerick was age 81 years when died on November 19, 1906 at Oshkosh.

The Sixth Session of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association passed a resolution in April 1862 stating “that it is the duty of every citizen of this land to support our government in suppressing this Rebellion” and “that slavery will finally be abolished”. (Fritsche, G., p. 113-114, U.M. Archives, October 2003) Many German Americans, who were members of congregations of the Evangelical Association, enlisted in the Union Army and fought in support of these beliefs.

Rev. William Zickerick, who had served three years in the Prussian Army before immigrating to the United States of America, enlisted in the Union Army on January 1, 1862 at the rank of Private. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on March 1, 1862 and to Captain on July 18, 1862. He served in the 12th Regiment Independent Battery, Wisconsin Light Artillery. His military service included the Battle of Vicksburg with General Grant’s army and the March to the Sea with General Sherman’s army. At the end of the Civil War, William Zickerick mustered out of the army on June 7, 1865 at the rank of Captain. He was reported as an inactive Elder at the Annual Sessions of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association during his years of service in the Union Army.

Rev. G.F. Kiekhoefer served as assistant pastor to Rev. William Zickerick on the Calumet Circuit in 1882. Gustavus F. Kiekhoefer, son of Frederick and Wilhelmina Kiekhoefer, was born December 1853 in Prussia and came to America with his parents in 1863. When the 1880 U.S. Census was taken, Gustavus was living with his parents on their farm in Arcadia, Trempealeau County, Wisconsin. He was married in about 1882 to Christina, who was born February 1863 in Wisconsin to parents born in Switzerland. Rev. G.F. Kiekhoefer's later ministerial service included: pastor, Prairie du Sac 1900; pastor, Oshkosh 1905; presiding elder, Milwaukee 1910; and pastor, Milwaukee 1920. The children born to Rev. G.F. and Christina Kiekhoefer included: son, William, born February 1883; daughter, Manda, born April 1885; daughter, Alma, born June 1888; son, Ben, born November 1889; daughter, Viola, born August 1893; daughter, Erna, born August 1896; and daughter, Adelia, born November 1899.

Land on which to build a church for the new congregation of the Evangelical Association of North America was purchased for the sum of two hundred dollars from Charles and Frideriche "Rica" Tesch on November 22, 1882. The trustees whose names are shown on the warranty
deed and who were empowered to make the land purchase on behalf of the congregation were J.H. Timm, P.C. “Enders” and Henry Kasch. The property was described as “Lot No. Six (6) and Lot No. Seven (7) Block No. Two (2) of Daskam’s Addition to the Village of Brillion.” The first church built for this congregation was constructed on that site on West Water Street in 1884 by John Timm. The new church named Emmanuel Evangelischen Gemeinschaft Kirche, in German, or Emmanuel Evangelical Association Church, in English, was dedicated on November 6, 1884 by the Rev. Zimmerman of Oshkosh, Rev. Emmet of Neenah, Rev. Runge of Two Rivers and Rev. Huelster of Appleton. The cost of construction of the first structure was not reported, however, in 1895, Emmanuel Evangelical Church was insured for $1,000.00. (Knoespel, Rev. Kenneth S., 1946, p. 12-14)

Charter members of the new Emmanuel Evangelical Church were: Mr. and Mrs. John Jesse, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tesch, Mr. and Mrs. C. Schwartz, Mr. and Mrs. P.C. Enders, and Mr. and Mrs. William Schwabe. The first pastors who served in that church in 1884 were Rev. F. Nickell and Rev. George Reichert. They came from the Calumet Circuit, which had its headquarters in Gravesville, and conducted worship services in German. (Knoespel, Rev. Kenneth S., 1946, p. 13-14) Two other families to be added to the list of charter members are those of the trustees of the congregation, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Timm and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kasch,

George Tesch, son of Mr. And Mrs. Charles Tesch, was believed to have been the first baby baptized in Emmanuel Evangelical Church. Phillip C. Enders organized the first Sunday School and served as Sunday School superintendent. William Schwabe often furnished music on his violin for worship services and hymns were sung in German. (Knoespel, Rev. Kenneth S., 1946, p. 13-14)

Of the charter members of Emmanuel Evangelical Church in the settlement of Brillion, Phillip C. and Marie Enders have already been introduced. When the Brillion settlement officially incorporated as the Village of Brillion in 1885, P.C. Enders was elected supervisor. The family of Phillip C. Enders had continued living in Brillion, as reported in the State of Wisconsin Census on June 20, 1895. Phillip and Marie Enders were residents of the Village of Brillion, when the U.S. Census was taken on June 5, 1900. Phillip, who was age 70 at that time, was employed as foreman at the brick yard, and his wife, Marie was caring for her family. Living with them were their daughter, Laura “Chaykowski”, age 26, and granddaughter, Marie Lillian “Chaykowski”, age 2 years. (In records researched, this surname has most often been spelled as either Chaykowski or Chaykowsky. Three other variations of this surname are Chaykowske, Chakoski and Czykowsky.)

Laura Enders was married to John “Chaykowsky” on December 14, 1897 in Brillion by Rev. L.M. Sievert. A daughter, Mary Lillian was born to them on December 4, 1898 in Brillion and was baptized on December 15, 1898 by Rev. L.M. Sievert, as recorded in church records. A twin son, John Anton “Chaykowski” died at birth on the same date, as reported in Wisconsin birth and death records. John Chakoski, Sr., who was born in 1861, was also deceased in 1898 and buried in the Brillion Cemetery. Baby John Chakoski, as the family name is spelled on the gravestone, is also buried there with his parents.
Laura's second marriage was to August Otto on November 18, 1909. Their marriage was solemnized by Rev. J. Trautmann. August Otto, who was born in August 1861 in Wisconsin to German parents, married his first wife, Ernstine, in about 1884. Ernstine Otto, born March 1865 in Germany, died in 1908 and was buried in the Brillion Cemetery. August and Ernstine Otto had six children, as reported in the 1900 U.S. Census: a daughter, Bertha, born June 1887; a son, Charles, born April 1889; daughter, Emma, born March 1891; son, Arthur, born March 1893; son, John, born June 1895; and daughter, Helen, born October, 1897.

Anna Marie Enders, wife of Phillip C. Enders, was deceased on May 14, 1907 and buried in the Brillion Cemetery. Her name is engraved on the gravestone as Anna M., seine gattin, which is "his wife" in German. In 1910, Phillip Enders was residing with his daughter and son-in-law, Laura and August Otto. Phillip C. Enders died on March 20, 1911 and was buried next to his wife in the Brillion Cemetery.

John Jesse, born in June 1856 in Prussia, was a blacksmith. His wife, Anna, was born to German parents in March 1857 in Wisconsin. They were residents of Charlestown, Calumet County when the 1880 U.S. Census was taken. The family of John and Anna Jesse was residing in the Village of Brillion in 1895 when the Wisconsin Census was taken. Included in the family of John and Anna Jesse, when the 1900 U.S. Census was taken in Brillion, were three daughters: Hattie, born October 1880 in Wisconsin; Laura, born April 1885 in Wisconsin; and Eveline, born May 29, 1895 in Brillion. Otto Kloehn, a nephew, was also living with them in 1900. Otto was born to German parents in January 1880 in Wisconsin. Hattie, who was age 19, was teaching school, while Laura and Eveline were attending school. John Jesse was employed as a stationary engineer, and nephew, Otto Kloehn was a telegraph operator. It appears that Anna had more than enough to do taking care of her family and home. Church records show that a daughter, Katie was born to John and Anna on January 10, 1891 in Brillion and was baptized on January 16, 1891 by Rev. T. Schauer. Eveline was baptized on September 8, 1895 in Brillion by Rev. C.W. Wells. Many of the early baptisms were done in the family's home rather than in church. Daughter, Katie probably died in infancy since she is not reported in the 1900 census. John and Anna Jesse were residing in the Village of Mattoon, Shawano County in 1920 and 1930. Anna Jesse died in 1931, and John Jesse died in 1943. Both are buried in the Brillion Cemetery.

Charles Tesch, born August 9, 1851 in Prussia, came to America with his parents, who located on a farm in Waukesha County, Wisconsin. In 1874, Charles left Waukesha County and came to the settlement of Brillion. The first railroad line through Brillion, also known a Spring Creek at that time, extended from Manitowoc to Appleton, by 1872. The railroad provided a way for farmers in the Brillion area to ship their grain to markets. When Charles Tesch arrived in 1874, he ventured into business as a grain buyer and dealt in real estate as well. (History of Calumet County.) In that same year, Charles Tesch bought Abraham Delano's general store, which was located on the east side of Main Street next to where Pete's Barber Shop now stands. Charles or Charlie, as he was commonly known, operated his store and served as Brillion's postmaster from 1874 through 1878. Charles was elected trustee of the Village of Brillion in 1885 when P.C. Enders was elected supervisor. The population of Brillion was 577 in 1885. Charles Tesch was treasurer of the Brillion School District in 1887 while Mathias Thomson was clerk. During that time, the school board was involved in the planning for the second school to be constructed in the Village of Brillion. That two story brick school was constructed in 1888.
In addition to being an enterprising business man and community leader, Charles Tesch was also a family man. In 1875, Charles was married to Friederick Kasch, who was born March 1854 in Prussia. When the U.S. Census was taken in June 1880 in Brillion, Charles and Friederick had one son, Edward, age three months, born in Wisconsin. Charles’ sister, Mary Tesch, who was born about 1860 in Wisconsin, was living with her brother and sister-in-law and working as a store clerk. Residing in the household of Charles Tesch, when the 1895 state census was taken, were six males and four females. In the 1895 state census, only the name of the head of the household was given. Two of the males shown in the 1895 state census were a son Edward, born February 1880 and a son, George born August 1884. (Records of baptisms, marriages and deaths for Emmanuel Evangelical Church prior to 1885 have not been found by the church historians.) Church records show two daughters born to “Carl” and Friederick Tesch. Irene Hette Maria Tesch was born July 7, 1888 in Brillion and baptized on September 30, 1888 by Rev. F.T. Eilert. Hatie C. Viola Tesch was born on November 28, 1890 in Brillion and baptized on March 29, 1891 by Rev. F. Schauer. Residing in the village of Brillion with “Charlie” and “Ricka” C. Tesch in 1905 were daughter, Irene, age 16; daughter, Alice, age 10, born July 1894; and father-in-law, John Kasch, age 85, born July 1819 in Prussia.

Charles Tesch was deceased in 1914, and his wife, Rica Tesch, as her name is spelled on their gravestone, died in 1921. They were buried in the Brillion Cemetery.

Carl Schwartz was born 1845 in Prussia, and his wife, Emelia was born 1853 in Prussia. When the U.S. Census was taken in June 1880, Carl and Emelia Schwartz were residents of Maple Grove Township, Manitowoc County, where Carl was farming. The Charles Schwartz farm was located on the southeast quarter of section 30 in Maple Grove Township, as shown on 1872 and 1893 plat maps. Their farm was about one and one-half miles east from the settlement of Brillion, which was much closer to them than Reedsville or the settlement of Kasson, located in the northwest corner of Maple Grove Township. The Schwartz household, in 1880, included: Carl, age 33; Emelia, age 26; son, Richard, age 2, born in Wisconsin; daughter, Ida, age ten months, born in Wisconsin; Friedrich Schwartz, Carl’s father, age 68, born in Prussia; Johanna Schwartz, Carl’s mother, age 64, born in Prussia; Robert Freitag, nephew, age 11, born in Wisconsin and Walter Freitag, nephew, age 9, born in Wisconsin. In June 1905, when the State of Wisconsin Census was taken, “Charles” and “Amelia” Schwartz were still living in Maple Grove Township, where Charles was farming. Living with them were: son, Richard, age 27, born in Wisconsin, farmer; son Fred, age 23, born in Wisconsin, teacher; daughter, Johanna “Hanna”, age 22, born July 1, 1883 in Wisconsin, teacher; and son, Adolph, age 20, born in Wisconsin, student.

Wilhelm “William” Schwabe, age 45, who was born about 1835 in Saxony, and his wife, Bertha, age 42, who was born about 1838 in Saxony were residing in Rantoul Township on June 4, 1880 when the U.S. Census was recorded. Wilhelm was farming, and Bertha was taking care of her family. Their children included: a son, Bernard, born about 1859 in Saxony; a daughter, Emilia, born about 1862 in Saxony; a daughter, Ida born 1863 in Saxony and a son, Emil, born about 1877 in Wisconsin. Although the names and places of birth for this Wilhelm and Bertha
Schwabe closely match those of the William and Bertha Schwabe in the next paragraph, there are some discrepancies in their dates of birth. Saxony was a German state, which later became a part of the country of Germany.

William or “Wilhelm” Schwabe was residing in the Village of Brillion in 1895 when the state census was recorded. Living with William and Bertha Schwabe on June 5, 1900, when the U.S. Census was taken in Brillion, were a son, Edward, born November 1878 in Wisconsin and a granddaughter, Atina John, born February 1891. William Schwabe was born on November 7, 1839 in Germany, and he immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1872. Bertha was born in Germany on April 23, 1842. William’s occupation was musician, his son, Edward was a carpenter, and granddaughter, Atina was attending school. This is believed to be the same William Schwabe who was reported to have been a charter member of Emmanuel Evangelical Church and who provided music for worship services.

Wilhelm and Bertha Schwabe, who were still residing in the Village of Brillion in 1910, had been married 47 years. Bertha Schwabe, wife of Wilhelm Schwabe, died on August 4, 1913, and Wilhelm Schwabe was deceased on January 12, 1933. Both were buried in the old Brillion Cemetery.

The family of John H. Timm was residing in Brillion Township in the area served by the Brillion Post Office when the U.S. Census was taken on June 22, 1870. John Timm was reported as age 36, and his wife, Maria was reported as age 27. John Timm’s occupation was lumberman. When the 1880 U.S. Census was taken, the family of John H. Timm was still residing in Brillion Township. John Timm was reported as age 47, and his wife, Wilhelmina was age 42. From these two census reports, it is unclear whether Maria, born about 1843 in Prussia and Wilhelmina, born about 1838 in Prussia are two different people. Living with John and Wilhelmina Timm in 1880 were their children, who were all born in Wisconsin: a son, Robert, age 18; daughter, Ida, age 15; daughter, Catherina, age 11 and daughter, Johanna, age 5. Also living with the Timm family in 1880 was a boarder, Fred Zick, age 21, born in Prussia. John Timm supported his family as a grist miller, and Fred Zick worked in a saw mill. An 1893 plat map of Calumet County shows that J.H. Timm owned 128 acres of land and a saw mill in section 3 of the north central part of the Town of Brillion. John H. Timm was born about 1833 in Prussia, and his wife, Wilhelmina Timm was born February 4, 1839 in Prussia. Wilhelmina “Minnie” Timm died March 14, 1902 and was buried in the Bluff Cemetery, which is located about three miles north of Brillion at the intersection of County PP and County K.

Heinrich “Henry” Kasch, born July 21, 1831 in Prussia and his wife, Johanna “Hanna”, born May 2, 1842 in Prussia were living on their farm in Brillion Township in 1880 when the U.S. Census was taken. Their farm was located about half way between the villages of Brillion and Forest Junction and included land in sections 15 and 16, as shown on an 1893 plat map of Calumet County. Their children who were living with them in 1880 were: daughter, Johanna, age 14; daughter, Emma, age 10; daughter, Martha, age 7; son, Gustaf, age 5; daughter, Ida, age 3 and son, Edward, age 1. All of their children were born in Wisconsin. Henry and Johanna were still farming in Brillion Township when the U.S. Census was taken in 1900. In 1900, daughter, Ida, age 22 and son, Edward, age 21 were still living with their parents and helping with the household duties and farm work. Henry Kasch died October 18, 1905, and his wife,
Johanna Kasch was deceased December 5, 1919. Both were buried in the Forest Home Cemetery, which is located about one mile north from Forest Junction on Cemetery Road.

In summary, when considering those reported to have been charter members, the congregation of Emmanuel Evangelical Church consisted of seven married couples, a total of fourteen persons. Of these fourteen persons, thirteen were born in the German states, ten in Prussia, two in Saxony and one in Hesse Darmstadt. The fourteenth person, Mrs. John Jesse was born in Wisconsin of German born parents. The seven men were engaged in various occupations including three in farming, two in business and two in industry. The seven women were stay-at-home moms, who had full-time jobs managing their households and raising their children. These fourteen charter members felt a need to join together in Christian fellowship as a new congregation in the village of Brillion. They also realized their need as a congregation to be led in their worship of God by a dedicated pastor, who spoke the German language, the language most familiar to them.

Emmanuel Evangelical Church was assigned to the Calumet Circuit of the Evangelical Association from 1882 through 1895. From 1896 through 1915, Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion and Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Maple Grove Township, Manitowoc County were assigned to the Forest Junction Circuit, which had its headquarters at Zion Evangelical Church in Forest Junction. Zion Evangelical Church in later years became known as Zion United Methodist Church. (Fritsche, G., Reprinted in English, 2003)

The earliest known membership list for the Evangelical Church in the Village of Brillion dates back to 1887 and possibly earlier. The list as shown below was copied from the Calumet Circuit records dating from 1885 to 1938. Included in the Calumet Circuit records were the Evangelical congregations that existed in the Village of Brillion, Forest Junction, Rantoul Township, Gravesville and Stockbridge in Calumet County, and Reedsville, Rockland Township, Eaton Township and Maple Grove Township in Manitowoc County. The early Calumet Circuit records, which were held by the Lark Emmanuel United Methodist Church, include membership lists for the various congregations, baptisms, marriages and deaths. The names were recorded in German letters, many of which are very different than the letters that we are acquainted with today. Therefore, the reader should allow for some spelling errors due to misinterpretation by the church historians of the German letters or the pastor’s handwriting. Also, the early pastors, whose first language was German, contributed to some of the misspellings of names. That being said, the 1887 membership list for Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion, in the order as originally recorded, was as follows:

1. *Philipp Enders
2. *Maria Enders
3. Julia Rusch
4. Carl Perseke (Belongs to Maple Grove)
5. Augusta Perske (Belongs to Maple Grove
6. August C. A. Krueger
7. Johanna Krueger
8. *Johann Jesse
9. *Anna Jesse
10. Johann Kasch
11. Maria Kasch
12. Schw. Schroeder (Moved in 1887)
13. Anna Olson
14. Bertha Krueger
15. Philippine Piepenburg (Transferred with letter, 1888)
16. Edward Piepenburg (Transferred with letter, 1888)
17. Lydia Piepenburg (Transferred with letter, 1888)
18. Clara Piepenburg (Transferred with letter, 1888)
19. Albert Frederich (Belongs to Rockland Congregation)
20. Augusta Frederich (Belongs to Rockland Congregation)
21. *John H. Timm (Moved from Calumet County)
22. *Heinrich Kasch
23. *Johanna Kasch
24. Ferdinand Hase (Transferred)
25. Schw. Hase (Transferred)
26. Otto Hase (Transferred)
27. Schm. Hase (Transferred)
28. *Carl Schwarz
29. *Emilie Schwarz
30. Gustav Habermann (New February 1888)
31. Ida Habermann (From Rockland)
32. Schw. Isack (From Rockland)
33. Wilhelm Isack (Transferred with letter, 1889)
34. Pauline Isack (Transferred with letter, 1889)
35. Henry Isack
36. Ardina Isack
37. Emilie Isack
38. Emma Funk (From Woodville Congregation, 1888)

An asterisk is shown in front of the names of the charter members whose names appear on the above list. Charter members whose names were not recorded on the above list include: Charles and Rica Tesch; Wilhelmina Timm; and Wilhelm and Bertha Schwabe. With the exception of Wilhelm and Bertha Schwabe, research has not given the church historians any clues as to why the names of the other three charter members were not included on the list shown above, and any attempt to explain why would at present be purely speculative. An 1887 membership list for the congregation in Rantoul Township reported Wilhelm and Bertha Schwabe as members of that congregation, and an 1893 membership list for the congregation in the Village of Brillioin reported that Wilhelm and Bertha Schwabe had transferred from the Rantoul congregation to the Brillioin congregation in 1893. The names of members who had transferred to other congregations were lined out and had a notation written in German after those names. Using a German - English dictionary, an attempt was made to interpret the German notations, however be aware that your church historians have very limited knowledge of the German language.

Because the charter members of the Brillioin congregation have already been introduced
earlier in this chapter, our attention will next be on those other members who had not moved or had not transferred to another congregation.

Julia Haellfrisch, born February 14, 1867 in Wisconsin to German American parents, was married about 1886 to Albert H. Rusch, who was born October 1857 in Wisconsin to German American parents. Calumet Circuit records show two children born to Julia and Albert H. Rusch: Ella Emilie Bertha, born January 10, 1887 in Brillion and baptized on April 3, 1887 in Brillion by Rev. C. Wiegen; and son, Arnold Ferdinand August, born May 4, 1888 in Brillion and baptized on July 29, 1888 in Brillion by Rev. F.T. Eilert. Julia Rusch was deceased September 24, 1898 and was buried in the Evangelical Church Cemetery in Rockland Township, Manitowoc County. Albert H. Rusch was married to Ernstina on January 5, 1900 in Calumet County. When the U.S. Census was taken in June 1900, Albert H. Rusch and his wife, “Tena” were residing in Reedsville, where Albert owned and operated a saw mill. Living with Albert and Tena Rusch at that time was August, age 12 years, born May 1888. Arnold Ferdinand August was the son of Julia and Albert H. Rusch.

August and Johanna Krueger had two children whose baptisms were recorded in the Calumet Circuit records. A daughter, Ella Louise was born January 8, 1886 in Brillion and baptized on February 17, 1886 by Rev. F. Nickel. A son, Ruben John was born April 18, 1888 in Brillion and baptized on July 27, 1888 in Brillion by Rev. F.T. Eilert. August Krueger, husband of Johanna (Brandt) Krueger, was reported deceased in January 1893. In the 1895 State of Wisconsin Census, Mrs. “Augy” Krueger was reported as head of her household in the Village of Brillion. Living with her at that time were one male and one other female whose names and relationships were not reported in that census. The male was most likely her son and the female was her daughter. When the U.S. Census was taken in June 1900, Johanna Krueger was residing in the Village of Reedsville. As reported in the census, Johanna was born April 1863 in Wisconsin to German American parents, her daughter, Ella was born January 1886 in Wisconsin and her son, Raymond was born April 1891 in Wisconsin. Ruben John, son of August and Johanna Krueger was probably deceased before the 1895 Wisconsin Census was taken.

Johann “John” and Maria “Mary” Kasch were farming in Brillion Township when the U.S. Census was taken in June 1870. Their household included: John, age 50, born 1819; his wife, Mary, age 45, born about 1825; their daughter, Rica, age 16 and son, John, age 16, all born in Prussia. Their daughter, Rica was later to marry Charles Tesch. In June 1880, John and Mary Kasch were living in the Village of Brillion, and because their names were on the 1887 membership list, it is very possible that John and Mary Kasch were also charter members of the congregation. John and Mary Kasch continued their membership in the congregation, as shown on the 1893 membership list. As noted on that membership list, Mary Kasch died on May 31, 1895. As reported in census records, John Kasch was living in the Village of Brillion in 1900 and 1905 with his daughter and son-in-law, Rica and Charles Tesch.

Anna was married to Ole Olson in about 1881. Ole Olson was born in April 1847 in Norway, and Anna was born in May 1858 in Wisconsin to German American parents. Ole Olson and his family were residing in the Village of Brillion on June 30, 1895 when the State of Wisconsin Census was taken. Living with Ole and Anna at that time were one other male and two other females, who were probably their three children. Church records show the births and
baptisms of three of the children of Ole and Anna Olson: daughter, Ernstine Helena Carolina, born April 18, 1885 in Brillion and baptized on June 21, 1885 by Rev. F. Nickel; daughter, Nette Augusta Anna, born March 12, 1888 in Brillion and baptized on July 29, 1888 by Rev. F.T. Eilert; and son, Freddie Willie Charlie, born June 13, 1895 in Brillion and Baptized September 18, 1895 by Rev. F.T. Eilert. In 1900, the Olson family was still residing in Brillion, where Ole was employed as a watchman in a factory. Living with Ole, age 53 and Anna, age 42, when the 1900 U.S. Census was taken, were three children: daughter, Edna, age 17, born April 1883 in Wisconsin; daughter, Nettie, age 12, born March 1888 in Wisconsin; and son, "Freyd", age 4, born June 1895 in Wisconsin. It appears that daughter, Ernstine Helena Carolina Olson was deceased sometime between June 21, 1885 and June 30, 1895. The earliest record of baptisms available to the church historians is 1885, so daughter, Edna Olson was most likely baptized before 1885.

Bertha Krueger’s name appears on three membership lists dating from 1887 to 1915 for the congregation of Emmanuel Evangelical Church in the Village of Brillion, however her husband’s name is not recorded on any of the membership lists. On the 1896-1915 membership list, her name was recorded as Bertha Wittman Krueger. Bertha M. Wittman, who was born December 1858 in Wisconsin to German American parents, was married about 1878 to Charles Krueger. Charles “Carl” Krueger was born February 1857 in Wisconsin to German born parents. Census records show the names of two sons of Bertha and Charles Krueger: Emil B., born about 1883 in Wisconsin; and Mark, born May 1892 in Wisconsin. Calumet Circuit records reveal that Carl and Bertha Krueger had a daughter, Clara Louise Ottolie, who was born July 15, 1888 in Brillion and was baptized on September 2, 1888 in Brillion by Rev. F.T. Eilert. Godparents for baby Clara Krueger were Louise and Julius Krueger. When the State of Wisconsin Census was taken on June 30, 1895, Charles Krueger and his family were residing in the Village of Brillion. That census reported three males, which included Charles and probably two sons and one female, who would have been his wife, Bertha. Clara Louise Ottolie, daughter of Bertha and Charles Krueger was probably deceased before June 30, 1895.

Charles and Bertha Krueger were residents of the Village of Brillion when the 1900 U.S. Census was taken. Only their son, Mark, age 8 years was living with them in 1900. Charles was at that time employed as a lime burner. When the 1905 state census was taken, Bertha M. Krueger, who was then a widow, was residing in the Village of Brillion. She had two sons living with her at that time: Emil B., age 22, who was working at the lime kiln and Mark A., age 13. Emil Krueger was killed by a train on Sunday morning, July 5, 1908, after walking a young lady home from a dance, as reported in the Brillion News on Friday, July 10, 1908. Rev. Trautmann, pastor of Emmanuel Evangelical Church, officiated for the funeral of Emil Krueger at the family’s home. Bertha, who was age 52 when the 1910 U.S. Census was taken, was still residing in Brillion. Living with her was her son, Mark, who was age 17 and working at the lime kiln.

Gustav Habermann, who was born August 1859 in Wisconsin to German American parents, was married to Ida M. Isack about 1887. Ida Isack, who was born May 1868 in Wisconsin, was the daughter of August and Carolina Isack, who were both born in Prussia. Church records show the baptisms of four children born to Gustav and Ida Habermann. A son, Arnold Friedrich, born July 1, 1888 in Brillion, was baptized on July 24, 1888 in Brillion by Rev. F.T. Eilert. The sponsors for Arnold’s baptism were Emilie Heimke, Heinrich Isack and Otto
Habermann. A son, Anton Robert Rudolf, who was born December 4, 1890 in Brillion, was baptized on January 25, 1891 in Brillion by Rev. T. Schauer. Anton’s sponsors were Rudolf Zorn and Ida Habermann. A daughter, Lydia Ardina was born April 20, 1895 in Brillion and was baptized on May 28, 1895 in Brillion by Rev. C.W. Wellso. Lydia’s Godparents were Heinrich Isack and Johanna Krueger. A daughter, Arina “Rena” Elore, born August 10, 1898 in Brillion, was baptized on September 11, 1898 in Brillion by Rev. L.M. Sievert, and her sponsors were Emilie Piepenburg and Ida Schwarz. Gustav Habermann and his family were residents of the Village of Brillion in 1895, as reported in the 1895 State of Wisconsin Census. When the 1900 U.S. Census was taken, Gustav Habermann, age 40, was residing in the Village of Brillion, where he was self-employed as a contractor. Residing with him were his wife, Ida, age 32; son, Arnold, age 11; son, Anton, age 9; daughter, Lidy, age 5; and daughter, Arina, age 1. Ida (Isack) Habermann, wife of Gustav Habermann, was deceased sometime between June 1900 and January 1903.

Gustav Habermann was married to Johanna Krueger, a resident of Reedsville and widow of August Krueger, on January 28, 1903 by Rev. H.W. Lutz. Attendants for their wedding were Richard Schwarz and Bertha Krueger, as shown in Rockland Circuit records. Gustav “Gust” and Johanna Habermann were residing in the Village of Brillion in June 1905, when the Wisconsin Census was taken. Gustav was age 45, and his wife, Johanna was age 42. Living with them were the children born to Gustav and Ida Habermann: son, Arnold, age 16; son, Anton, age 14; daughter, Lydia, age 10 and daughter, Rena, age 6. Also living with Gustav and Johanna Habermann was Ray C. Krueger, age 13, who was the son of August and Johanna Krueger. Gustav was working in a planning mill, and his son, Arnold was a carpenter.

Schw. Issack was most likely Carolina Isack, who was the mother-in-law of Gustav Habermann and the mother of Ida (Isack) Habermann. (Schw., as shown three times on the above membership list, could have been the abbreviation for schwester, which means sister in German. The Evangelical pastors commonly addressed another man as brother or a woman as sister. Therefore, Schw. Isack could have meant “Sister Isack”. The 1893 list of members shows a Schw. Mutter Isack, which would be the abbreviation for schwiegermutter or mother-in-law.)

Carolina W. Zahn, who was born January 8, 1845 in Prussia, was married on February 25, 1864 to August Wilhelm Isack, who was born about 1824 in Prussia. In 1870 and 1880, when the U.S. Censuses were taken, August and Carolina Isack were residents of Rantoul Township, where they were engaged in farming and raising their family. A daughter, Christina, who was born about 1857 in Wisconsin, and a son, Peter, who was born about 1862 in Wisconsin, are believed to have been August Isack’s children from a previous marriage. The children born to Carolina and August Isack include: son, Wilhelm “William”, born about 1864 in Wisconsin; son, Heinrich “Henry”, born July 1866 in Wisconsin; daughter, Ida, born May 1868 in Wisconsin; daughter, Emilie, born about 1870 in Wisconsin; and daughter, Ardina, born July 7, 1873 in Wisconsin. All five of the children of Carolina and August Isack are shown on the above membership list. August Isack’s name, which was not written on the above list, is believed to have been deceased before 1888. Carolina Isack was deceased on August 6, 1899 in Brillion.
The marriages of two of the children of Carolina and August Isack, as written into the Calumet Circuit records, are shown below. Wilhelm Adolph Friedrich Isack of Brillion was married to Pauline Augusta Habermann of Eaton Township, Manitowoc County on November 17, 1887 by Rev. F.T. Eilert. Attendants at their wedding were: Charles Gother, Heinrich Isack, Emilie Isack, and Otto and Ida Habermann. Emilie Isack of Brillion was married to Friedrich Pastzh on January 3, 1889 by Rev. Theo. Schauer. Their attendants were: Heinrich Isack, Ernstina Pastzh, Otto Habermann, and Ardina Isack.

Research by the church historians did not reveal any additional information about Emma Funk, who had come to Brillion from Woodville Township, Calumet County. There were families with the surname, Funk residing in Stockbridge Township and Harrison Township as reported in U.S. Census records from 1870 to 1900, but no positive connection could be made with the family of Emma Funk.

The 1896-1915 membership list for Emmanuel Evangelical Church in the Village of Brillion was copied from the Forest Junction Circuit records of Zion Evangelical Church in Forest Junction. The names on this list were also written in German letters. The 1896-1915 membership list for Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion was as follows:

1. *Schwabe, Wilhelm
2. *Schwabe, Bertha (Deceased 1913)
3. Zorn, Rudolf
4. Zorn, Ardina
5. Zorn, Otto
6. *Schwarz, Carl
7. *Schwarz, Emelia
8. Schwarz, Johanna
9. Habermann, Gustav
10. Habermann, Johanna (Deceased Feb. 1913)
11. Habermann, Lydia
12. Habermann, Arnold
13. Kruger, Ella (Moved to Appleton)
14. Isack, Heinrich (Henry)
15. Isack, Louisa
16. Isack, Clara
17. Schroeder, Otto
18. Schroeder, Clara
19. Schnell, Adam (Deceased Nov. 1913)
20. Schnell, Caroline
21. Otto, Laura
22. Kruger, Bertha Wittman
23. Haese, Theodore
24. Haese, Bertha
25. Haese, Herman
26. Haese, Fritz
27. Haese, Elenor
28. Haese, Elenor
29. Haese, Clara
30. Haese, Helene
31. Engel, Heinrich (Henry)
32. Engel, Ida
33. Kloehn, Edw. Dr. (of Dentistry)
34. Kloehn, Otto
35. Schmidt, (Julius) Dr.
36. Prieve, Fred
37. Prieve, Sella
38. Fischer, David - June 15, 1913
39. Fischer, Bertha - June 15, 1913
40. Fischer, Elsie - June 15, 1913
41. Fischer, Karl - June 15, 1913
42. Zorn, Mrs. Edna - Dec. 20, 1914
43. Peglow, Mrs. Alb. - Feb. 21, 1915

The names of four of the charter members shown on the above list are Wilhelm Schwabe, Bertha Schwabe, Carl Schwarz and Emelia Schwarz. Laura (Enders) Otto, daughter of Phillip and Marie Enders, is also on the membership list. Although the reason is unclear for listing the members’ names in the original order as shown above, it is apparent that the names of the newest members are listed in the order in which they joined. The members, who have not yet been introduced to the reader, will be introduced in the order shown above.

In both 1895 and 1905, when the Wisconsin Censuses were taken, Rudolph C. and Ardina P. Zorn were residents of the village of Brillion. Rudolph Carl Zorn, born October 14, 1867 at Louis Corners, Town of Schleswig, Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, was the son of Frank G. and Elizabeth (Loos) Zorn, who were both born in Germany. Rudolph C. Zorn married Ardina Isack on October 2, 1890 in Brillion. His wife, Ardina, born July 7, 1873 in the Town of Rantoul, Calumet County, Wisconsin, was the daughter of German born parents, August Wilhelm and Caroline W. (Zahn) Isack. Rudolph and Ardina had one son, Otto Henry, born October 6, 1891 in Brillion, Wisconsin. In his early working years, Rudolph was employed by Ormsby’s Western Lime and Cement Company in the Milwaukee area. Sometime prior to 1907, Rudolph became a partner with Gustav Habermann in the building contracting business in Brillion. Advertisements for R.C. Zorn, builder and contractor, began appearing in the Brillion News as early as January 4, 1907. “By (1907), he was the owner of his own contracting business and employed a steady crew of fourteen carpenters.” One of Rudolph C. Zorn’s buildings, which is still standing, was known as Emmanuel Evangelical Church and later became known as Emmanuel United Methodist Church. This church, which is located about one mile south from Lark, Morrison Township, Brown County, was closed on December 31, 2008. (Zorn, Vernon D., unpublished notes)

The family of Heinrich “Henry” and Louisa Isack was residing in the Village of Brillion in June 1895, as recorded in the state census. Henry L. Isack, born July 1866 in Wisconsin, was the son of Carolina and August W. Isack, who were both born in Prussia. Henry Isack and his wife, Louisa, who was born March 2, 1873 in Germany, were married about 1890. Henry and Louisa were still residents of Brillion in June 1900 and June 1905, as reported in the U.S. Census and the State of Wisconsin Census respectively. Henry was working as a carpenter, and Louisa
was taking care of her family. In 1905, their daughter, Clara A. was age 13, and son Arthur G. was age 10. The following baptisms of children of Henry and Louisa Isack are shown in church records. Clara Emilia, born October 9, 1891 in Brillion, was baptized November 26, 1891 in Brillion by Rev. J.E. Klein. Hette Elisebet Ida, born August 27, 1893 in Brillion, was baptized September 17, 1893 in Brillion by Rev. J.W. Dorau. (Hette Elisabet Ida Isack is believed to have died in infancy.) Arthur Gustav, born March 29, 1895 in Brillion, was baptized April 7, 1895 in Brillion by Rev. C.W. Wellso. Hildegard Anna Christina, born June 19, 1907 in Brillion, was baptized July 7, 1907 in Brillion by Rev. Johannes Trautmann. Lillian Adina Louise, born November 20, 1909 in Brillion, was baptized November 21, 1909 in Brillion by Rev. J. Trautmann.

Otto Schroeder and Clara Schnell were married on December 5, 1900 in Brillion by Rev. F. Krueger, as reported in church records. Otto Herman Schroeder, who was born September 18, 1877 in Forest Junction to German born parents, worked as a building contractor. Clara Schnell, born August 13, 1876 in Milwaukee, was the daughter of Adam and Caroline Schnell. Otto and Clara Schroeder are known to have had one son, Ruben G., born about 1907 in Wisconsin.

Adam and Caroline Schnell, who were residents of the Village of Brillion in June 1905, had transferred their membership from Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Kasson, Maple Grove to the Evangelical Church in Brillion. Adam was age 70, and Caroline was age 59. Adam was born about 1835 in Germany, and his wife, Caroline was born March 19, 1846 in Germany. Adam Schnell, who was a veteran of the Civil War, was deceased in November 1913 and buried in the Brillion Cemetery.

"Theodor Haase", which is how he spelled his name, retired from farming in 1901 and sold the family's 106 acre farm in section 1 of the northeast corner of the Town of Brillion, Calumet County. Although their farm was located in Calumet County, it was near the hamlet of Kasson, Town of Maple Grove, Manitowoc County. Theodor and Bertha Haase continued to reside on the farm until after 1910 when they moved their family to the Village of Brillion and transferred their memberships from Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Kasson to Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion. Theodor Haase and Bertha Beckman were married on January 17, 1885 by the Justice of the Peace in Brillion. On their anniversary in 1886, their marriage was reaffirmed when they were married in Brillion by Rev. G. Friedrich. Theodore was born August 7, 1837 in Germany, and Bertha was born September 20, 1860 in Germany. Theodore had four children with his first wife, Johanna Wilhelmina "Minnie" (Wickesberg) Haase. She died during childbirth on July 10, 1884 and was buried in the Kasson, Maple Grove Emmanuel Evangelical Cemetery. The children born to Theodore and his first wife, Minnie were: Emil, born December 13, 1875; Otto, born July 7, 1877; Emma, born May 1, 1880 and Bertha, born November 23, 1881. Theodore and his second wife, Bertha were blessed with nine children, all born in Wisconsin: Herman, born December 6, 1886 in Brillion; Fred, born March 28, 1888; Hattie, born October 2, 1889; Edwin, born December 2, 1892 in Maple Grove Township; Elenor, born August 25, 1894; Clara, born April 13, 1897; Helen, born July 21, 1898; Alma, born October 12, 1901 and Hulda, born September 14, 1903. (History of Theodore Haase Family, 1999) Church records show the baptisms of the children of Theodore and Bertha Haase as follows: Herman Carl Erald, baptized January 16, 1887 in Brillion by Rev. C. Wiegand; Friedrich Ernst Walter, baptized April 3, 1888 in Brillion by Rev. H.H. Brockhaus; William Edwin Theodore, baptized
December 26, 1892 in Maple Grove by Rev. M. Gauerke; Minnie Ida Helena, baptized August 14, 1898 in Maple Grove by Rev. L.M. Sievert; Matilda Emilie Alma, baptized November 22, 1901 in Brillon Township by Rev. F. Krueger and Hulda Louisa Emilia, baptized November 7, 1903 in Brillon by Rev. G. Friedrich.

Heinrich "Henry" Engel, born September 7, 1865 in Forest Junction, was the son of German born parents. His wife, Ida A. was born June 9, 1869 in Germany. Their son, Paul George, born October 18, 1892 in Brillon Township, was baptized December 3, 1892 in Rockland Township, Manitowoc County, by Rev. M. Gauerke, and Alfred August, born April 14, 1899 in Rockland Township, was baptized April 25, 1899 in Rockland Township by Rev. F. Reichart.

Edward H. Kloehn received his degree in dentistry in 1900 from Milwaukee Medical School, which is now part of Marquette University. Doctor E.H. Kloehn started his dental practice in Brillon in 1900 and continued his practice in Brillon for about sixty years. When his brother, Otto Kloehn joined his dental practice in 1904, they rented space in the First National Bank Building on South Main Street and later purchased that building, which is now Pete's Barber Shop. (Brillion, the First 100 Years, published by Zander Press Inc., 1985, p. 108) Edward H. Kloehn was born about 1879 in Wisconsin to parents, who were born in Germany. On December 18, 1910, he married Irene H. Tesch, who was the daughter of Charles and Friederice Tesch.

Otto Kloehn, brother of Edward Kloehn, was a boarder at the Hotel Schneider in the Village of Brillion in 1905 when the state census was taken. Otto was born about 1880 in Wisconsin to German born parents. "Dr. O.R. Kloehn and Miss Mertie Seip were united in marriage by Rev. Elske last Wednesday evening" in Forest Junction, as reported in the Brillion News on July 10, 1908. Mr. And Mrs. John Jesse of Antigo were in Forest Junction visiting relatives and most likely attended the wedding as well, since Otto Kloehn was John and Anna Jesse's nephew. Church records show baptisms of two children born to Otto and Myrtle Kloehn: Lois Christina, born January 1, 1910 in Brillion, was baptized July 17, 1910 in her parent's home by Rev. J. Trautmann, and Kenneth Edward, born March 9, 1912 in Brillion, was baptized February 21, 1913 in Brillion by Rev. H.G. Koten.

Priebe was the closest match found to the surname, Prieve for the area surrounding Brillion in the time period from 1880 to 1920. Friedrich W. Priebe, born about 1886 in Wisconsin, was the son of Fred and Henrietta Priebe, who were both born in Germany. In 1905, Fred "Friedrich" Priebe was living with his parents in the Town of Rockland, Manitowoc County and was working as a cheese maker. In 1910, he was working as a hired man for Fred and Amanda Schultz in the Town of Rockland. Friedrich Priebe of Rantoul Township and Sella Fischer of Reedsville were married on July 18, 1912, as reported in the Rockland Circuit records. Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Priebe were charter members of Zion Evangelical Church, which was established in Reedsville in 1912. Sella Priebe, wife of F. Priebe was born October 21, 1892 and deceased on July 31, 1916. She was buried in the Zion Evergreen Cemetery in Rockland Township. In 1930, Fred W. Priebe was a dairy farmer in Rantoul Township, Calumet County. Fred W. Priebe was married to his second wife, Minnie about 1918. Minnie was born about 1899 in Wisconsin. Living with Fred and Minnie Priebe in 1920 were a daughter, Arline, age 5 and a
son, Armond, age 3.

Dr. Julius A. Schmidt, a physician, was residing in the Village of Brillion in 1905 when the state census was taken. He was born about 1876 in Wisconsin to German born parents. His wife, Clara H. was born about 1882 in Wisconsin. Clara’s father was born in Germany, and her mother was born in Wisconsin. Julius and Clara Schmidt are known to have had two sons: Wilbur William, born about 1909 in Wisconsin and Edward J., born 1915 in Wisconsin. Dr. Schmidt began his medical practice in Brillion in 1904. Dr. Schmidt’s home and office were in the building on South Main Street, just north of the building which is now Schroth’s Floral and Gifts. Dr. Schmidt moved from Brillion in 1928 to set up a practice in Milwaukee. (Brillion, the First 100 Years, published by Zander Press Inc., 1985, p. 108)

The family of David and Bertha Fischer was residing in Brillion Township in 1895 and 1905 when the state censuses were taken. David was farming in section 13 of the Town of Brillion, where he owned 40 acres of land located about two and one-quarter miles north of the Village of Brillion, as shown on an 1893 plat map of Calumet County. David was born March 21, 1837 in Germany, and his wife, Bertha, born December 17, 1857 in Wisconsin, was the daughter of German born parents. Their children were: a son, Charley, born about 1885 in Wisconsin, and a daughter, Elsa “Elsie” Johana, born October 18, 1886 in Wisconsin and baptized on December 19, 1886 in Maple Grove by Rev. C. Wiegand. In 1905, Charley, age 20, was employed as a carpenter, and Elsie, age 18, was employed in domestic work. The family of David and Bertha Fischer transferred their memberships from Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Kasson, Maple Grove Township to Emmanuel Evangelical Church in the Village of Brillion on June 15, 1913, as recorded in the Forest Junction Circuit records.

Otto H. Zorn was married to Edna Della Emily Wagner on October 1, 1914 at Menominee, Michigan. Edna, born December 21, 1891 at Port Washington, Wisconsin, was the daughter of Fred and Lena (Moelk) Wagner, who were both born in Germany. Edna Zorn became a member of Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion on December 20, 1914. Otto followed his father’s trade as a builder until 1927, when he established the Brillion Hatchery business. Four children were born to Otto and Edna Zorn: Allen Otto, born 1915; Vernon Daniel, born 1920; Elizabeth “Betty” June, born 1924 and Chester Arnold, born 1926. (Zorn, Vernon D., unpublished notes)

Albert J. and Eliza C. Peglow were residing in Menominee Falls in April, 1910 when the U.S. Census was taken. Albert was born March 1863 in Germany, and his wife, Eliza was born November 1863 in Germany. Albert was a self-employed boiler maker. Their children were: daughter, Marie E., born June 1890 in Germany; son, Albert J., born November 1892 in Germany; daughter, Emma W., born May 1895 in Wisconsin; daughter, Aldolphine E., born January 1900 in Wisconsin; son, Elwin C., born about 1902 in Wisconsin and daughter, Florence C., born about 1907 in Wisconsin. The Peglow family moved to Brillion between 1910 and 1915.

The Women’s Missionary Society of Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion was organized on November 4, 1914. Charter members included: Mrs. Louise Wolf, Mrs. Louisa Isack, Mrs. Eliza Peglow, Mrs. Augusta Korb, Mrs. Bertha Haase, Mrs. Ardina Zorn and Mrs. Laura Otto. (Brillion News Article, May 31, 1944)
When considering what has been learned about the members of the congregation as shown on the 1896-1915 list, twelve were born in Germany, twenty-five were born in Wisconsin to German born parents, and four were born in Wisconsin to parents who were born in Wisconsin to German American parents. No additional information was found about Ella Kruger, who moved to Appleton.

On April 21-26, 1915 at the 59th Annual Session of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association, Emmanuel Evangelical Church in the Village of Brillion was removed from the Forest Junction Circuit, and the Brillion-Reedsville Mission, which included Emmanuel Church in Brillion and Zion Church in Reedsville, was created. At the 60th Annual Session on May 1, 1916, Zion Church in Reedsville was assigned to the Rockland-Reedsville Mission. The Annual Session in 1916 also established the Brillion Mission, which included Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion, Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Rantoul Township and the Evangelical Church in Stockbridge. (Fritsche, G., 2003 translation, p.324 & 331)

The German heritage and culture was still dominant at that time among the members of Emmanuel Evangelical Association Church in Brillion. Worship services and church business continued to be conducted primarily in the German language, as revealed by the fact that the minutes for annual meetings and special meetings of the congregation were in written in German in the years 1895 through 1918.

However, change began to take place around 1920 to provide for the spiritual needs of persons who were more comfortable with the English language or who were not fluent in the German language. Some evidence of that change is indicated in the following announcement, which was printed in the Brillion News on April 2, 1920 in the column titled In Our Churches:

Evangelical Association

“Quarterly meeting next Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. Evening services at 7:30 p.m. The services will be in English. Rev. C.F. Rabaehl, presiding Elder of Appleton will preach. All invited.” Geo. Reichert, Pastor

The ministers who served Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion from 1884 to 1923 were:

Calumet Circuit

F. Nickell and Geo. Reichert 1884-1885
F. Nickell and C.W. Wellso 1885-1886
C. Wiegand, H.H. Brockhaus 1886-1887
F.T. Eilert, H.H. Brockhaus 1887-1888
F.T. Eilert, J.C. Hoffman 1888-1889
T. Schauer and H. Goetz 1889-1891
T. Schauer and J. Klein 1891-1892
M. Gauerke and J.P. Dorau 1892-1894
C.W. Wellso and F. Reichert 1894-1895
C.W. Wellso and G. Scheible 1895-1896

**Forest Junction Circuit**

L.M. Siewert (Sievert) 1896-1899
F. Krueger 1899-1902
F. Ditte 1902-1903
G. Friedrich 1903-1907
John Trautmann 1907-1912
H.G. Koten 1912-1915

**Brillion-Reedsville Mission**

J.C. Sippel 1915-1916

**Brillion Mission**

J.C. Sippel 1916-1918
George Reichert 1918-1923

Rev. F. Nickell was born January 7, 1850. He was licensed as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1871, ordained Deacon in 1873 and ordained Elder in 1875.

Rev. C. Wiegand was born November 1, 1840. He was received as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1877, ordained Deacon in 1878 and ordained Elder in 1880. He served as an Evangelical minister for 36 years. He died in Milwaukee in 1912.

H.H. Brockhaus was born May 11, 1860. He was licensed as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1886, ordained Deacon in 1888 and ordained Elder in 1890.

Frank T. Eilert was born September 4, 1848 in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1860. He was accepted as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1872, ordained Deacon in 1874 and ordained Elder in 1876.

John C. Hoffman was born March 3, 1862 in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1865. He was received as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1887, ordained Deacon in 1889 and ordained Elder in 1890.

Rev. Theo. Schauer was born December 18, 1859. He became a licensed preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1883, was ordained Deacon in 1885 and ordained Elder in 1887.
Rev. J.E. Klein was born March 12, 1868. He was received as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1889, was ordained Deacon in 1892 and ordained Elder in 1894.

H. Goetz was born September 24, 1862. He was licensed as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1887, was ordained Deacon in 1892 and ordained Elder in 1894.

Rev. John P. Dorau was born November 8, 1865 in Wisconsin to German born parents. He was accepted as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1891, was ordained Deacon in 1893 and ordained Elder in 1895.

Rev. F. Reichert was born September 7, 1863. He was received as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1891, was ordained Deacon in 1893 and ordained Elder in 1895.

Rev. George H. Scheible was born July 9, 1866 in Wisconsin to German born parents. He became a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1896, was ordained Deacon in 1898 and ordained Elder in 1900.

Rev. Marks Gauerke served as pastor for the Calumet Circuit from 1892 to 1894. M. Gauerke was born December 12, 1858 in Brown County, Wisconsin. He became a licensed pastor in 1881. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor at Lomira 1881-1882; Antigo 1882-1883; Oconto 1883-1886; Pella 1886-1889; Seymour 1889-1892; Calumet Circuit 1892-1894; Monroe 1894-1898; Portage 1898-1900; Hartford 1900-1904; Milwaukee, Tabor 1904-1907; Milwaukee, Friedens 1907-1912; Milwaukee, Layton Park 1912-1917; Milwaukee, Ebenezer 1917-1919; Sheboygan and Plymouth 1919-1925; Arlington 1925-1927; assistant pastor at Menomonee Falls 1927-1929; and assistant pastor at Forest Junction 1929-1930. He retired in 1930. He was deceased August 7, 1941 in Milwaukee and was buried there in the Evergreen Cemetery. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 22)

Rev. Carl Wilhelm Wellso served as head pastor for the Calumet Circuit from 1894 to 1896. C.W. Wellso was born April 20, 1852 at Belkow in Pomerania, Germany. He came to America in 1872 with his parents who settled in the Town of Herman, Dodge County, Wisconsin. He was recommended for the ministry by the Tabor Congregation in Milwaukee and was licensed in April 1885. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor in the Calumet Circuit 1885-1886; Dorchester 1886-1888; Sheboygan 1886-1891; Monroe 1891-1894; Calumet Circuit 1894-1896; Milwaukee Bethel 1896-1900; Milwaukee Ebenezer 1900-1903; Oshkosh 1903-1906; Lake Mills 1906-1911; Horicon 1911-1913; Tomah 1913-1915; without appointment 1915-1917; and South Milwaukee 1917-1921. He retired in 1921. He was deceased October 27, 1927 in Milwaukee, where he was buried at Pilgrim’s Rest Cemetery. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 19)

Rev. Lewis Martin Siewert (Sievert) served as pastor for the Forest Junction Circuit from 1896 to 1899. L.M. Siewert was born November 28, 1857 in Kahlsteadt, Germany. He came to
America in 1870 with his parents who settled near Colgate, Waukesha County, Wisconsin. He became a licensed pastor in 1882. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor for Washington Circuit 1882-1883; assistant pastor in Hartford 1883-1884; Barron 1884-1887; Black River 1887-1889; Alma 1889-1891; New Glarus 1891-1893; Ash Creek 1893-1896; Forest Junction 1896-1899; Seymour 1899-1903; Greenfield 1903-1904; Hartford 1904-1908; Portage 1908-1911; without appointment 1911-1913; Whitewater 1913-1918; Sparta and LaCrosse 1918-1921. He retired in 1921. He died August 25, 1938 in Waukesha and was buried in the Waukesha Cemetery. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 19)

Rev. Frederick Krueger served as pastor for the Forest Junction Circuit from 1899 to 1902. He was born June 2, 1857 in Germany. After coming to America, his family lived near Green Lake, Wisconsin. He became a licensed pastor in 1883 while he served as assistant pastor in Dunn County from 1882 to 1884, after which his ministerial service included: assistant pastor for Hartford 1884-1885; assistant pastor for Sauk 1885-1886; Sharon 1886-1889; Greenfield 1889-1892; Arlington 1892-1895; Clintonville 1895-1899; and Forest Junction 1899-1902. He died December 28, 1902 at Forest Junction and was buried in Weiser Cemetery at Green Lake. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 19)

Rev. Ferdinand Ditte served as pastor for the Forest Junction Circuit from 1902 to 1903. He was born February 4, 1847 in Bohemia, Austrian Empire. Ferdinand Ditte and a younger brother sailed from Europe on October 20, 1861 and arrived in New York, U.S.A. on January 1, 1862. He first settled with his family in Muscoda, Iowa County, Wisconsin and later lived in Port Washington. On January 10, 1864, he enlisted in the Second Wisconsin Battery of Light Artillery and served until the Civil War ended in 1865. He then attended the Biblical Institute in Plainfield, Illinois. Ferdinand Ditte became a licensed pastor in 1868 after preliminary service at Lomira. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor for Neenah 1868-1869; assistant pastor at Buffalo 1869-1870; Black River Falls 1870-1872; New London 1872-1873; Waushara 1873-1874; Sheboygan 1874-1876; Two Rivers 1876-1879; Seymour 1879-1882; Oshkosh 1882-1884; Whitewater 1884-1887; Portage 1887-1889; Arlington 1889-1892; Brandon 1892-1895; Eau Claire 1895-1899; Tomah 1899-1902; Forest Junction Circuit from December 1902 to April 1903; without appointment at Appleton 1903-1910; and DePere 1910-1913. He retired in 1913 and served as chaplain for the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) post at Appleton. He was deceased April 17, 1917 at Appleton and was buried there in the Riverside Cemetery. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 20)

Rev. Albert Robert Gustav Friedrich served as pastor for the Forest Junction Circuit from 1903 to 1907. Gustav Friedrich was born October 18, 1852 in Prussia, Germany. When he came to America in 1869, his family settled in Guthen County, Minnesota. In 1873, he came to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, where he was recommended for the ministry and licensed in 1877. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor for Calumet Circuit 1877-1879; Shawano 1879-1883; Morrison 1883-1886; Brandon 1886-1889; Washington 1889-1892; Dunn County 1892-1895; Portage 1895-1898; conference collector 1898-1903; Forest Junction Circuit 1903-1907; Milwaukee Ebenezer 1907-1912; and Milwaukee Friedens 1912-1917. He retired in 1917. He died in October 1923 in Milwaukee and was buried there in the Evergreen Cemetery. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 20)
Rev. John Trautmann served as pastor for the Forest Junction Circuit from 1907 to 1912. He was born March 27, 1857 at Muehlheim on the Ruhr in Germany. When he came to America in 1883, he settled at Twin Bluffs, Wisconsin. He was recommended for the ministry by the Ash Creek congregation and was licensed in 1885. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor for Hartford 1885-1886; Oconto 1886-1889; Morrison 1889-1892; Clintonville 1892-1895; Brandon 1895-1899; Lomira 1899-1903; Jefferson 1903-1907; Forest Junction 1907-1912; Sheboygan and Plymouth 1912-1917; New Richmond 1917-1921; and South Milwaukee 1921-1923. He was retired in 1923. He died on March 20, 1924 in Brooklyn, New York and was buried in the Riverside Cemetery at Appleton, Wisconsin. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 20)

Rev. Herman Gustav Koten served as pastor for the Forest Junction Circuit from 1912 to 1917. H.G. Koten was born on December 25, 1873 in Germany. He came to America in 1888 with his parents who settled in Juda, Wisconsin. After preliminary service on the Jefferson Circuit, he was licensed in 1896. His ministerial service included: assistant pastor at Neenah 1896-1899; Hartland 1899-1903; Marion 1903-1907; Seymour 1907-1912; Forest Junction 1912-1917; Two Rivers 1917-1922; Clintonville 1922-1927; and Berlin 1927-1928. He died on August 23, 1928 at the Forest Junction campground and was buried at the Clintonville Cemetery. (Haese, Robert, 1945, p. 21)

Rev. J.C. Sippel was born September 19, 1887. He was licensed as a preacher of the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1913. He was ordained Deacon in 1915 and ordained Elder in 1917.

George Reichert was born May 19, 1852 in Wisconsin to German born parents. George Reichert was received as a preacher with the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association in 1883, ordained Deacon in 1885 and ordained Elder in 1887. Rev. George Reichert and his wife, Mary E. were residing in the Village of Brillion in January 1920 when the U.S. Census was taken. George was age 67, and Mary, who was born in 1858 in Wisconsin, was age 61. Her father was born in Germany, and her mother was born in Ohio. Living with George and Mary in 1920 was their daughter, Lillian Christina, age 23, born December 11, 1896 in Wisconsin. Mary (Becker) Reichert, wife of Rev. George Reichert, was deceased in 1920, and Rev. George Reichert lived until 1934. Both were buried in Zion Evergreen Cemetery located southeast from Reedsville in Manitowoc County. Rev. George Reichert along with Rev. F. Nickell had served as pastor of the Brillion Emmanuel Evangelical Church in 1884-1885, when the church structure was new. Rev. George Reichert again served as pastor of Emmanuel Evangelical Church in 1918-1920, which were the last years that worship services were held in the first church structure built for this congregation.

The church historians have not found any existing records of annual meetings or other meetings of the congregation for the years from 1882 through 1894, however records, which include 1895 and succeeding years, are still retained in the office of the church secretary. The records from 1895 through 1918 are written the German and to date, have not been translated into English.

It can be determined from the records written in both the German and English languages that the church trustees were elected by the members of the congregation at the annual meetings. There were three trustees, who each served for a term of three years. The terms of the trustees
were staggered so that the Board of Trustees always had at least two trustees continuing their terms and one recently elected trustee, who was beginning a new three year term. The Board of Trustees elected its own officers, which included a president, secretary and treasurer. The trustees at that time were responsible for church finances and financial records, building maintenance and improvements, hiring the church custodian (kirchendienner), appointing the ushers, and appointing the organist. The church custodian was hired each was based on the person who submitted the lowest bid.

The church trustees for the years 1895 through 1920 were:
- Henry Engel, 1918-1920
- G. Haberman, 1895-1909
- H. Isack, 1904-1909, 1913-1918
- O.R. Kloehn, 1918-1920
- W. Schwabe, 1895-1913
- O. Schroeder, 1914-1920
- C. Schwartz, 1896-1903, 1909-1914
- R. Zorn, 1895, 1915-1917

The church custodians for the years 1985 through 1920 were:
- G. Haberman, 1901, 1907-1908, 1912
- John Jesse, 1897
- W. Schwabe, 1900
- R. Zorn, 1918

A special meeting was held on July 15, 1919 to discuss the damage, which was caused by lightning, to the church steeple. The damage was covered by insurance and a settlement was forthcoming. A motion was approved to have the steeple repaired at the least possible cost and to save the balance of the insurance money "for remodeling the church."

At the annual meeting of the congregation on December 31, 1919, a motion was approved that a committee be established to investigate the possibility of remodeling the church, which was built in 1884. The committee consisted of E.H. Kloehn, Henry Engel and R. Zorn. A special meeting would be called when the committee had prepared its recommendations.

On February 13, 1920, a special meeting of the congregation was called to order by the pastor, Rev. George Reichert, and Miss Lillian Chaykowski was elected to record the minutes of the meeting. A motion was made and adopted that would delay the report from the committee on church remodeling until a future date when the presiding elder of the Appleton District, Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Church could be present.