IV. Same Church, New Name (1946-1965)

The Evangelical Association or the Evangelical Church was founded in 1800 by Rev. Jacob Albright. Jacob Albright (1759-1808) was a German-speaking Christian and a native of Pennsylvania. His theology and thoughts about church organization were influenced by John Wesley and the Methodist movement. Teaching and preaching by the Evangelical Church pastors was done primarily in the German language up to the early 1900s.

The first missionary and preacher of the Evangelical Association came to Wisconsin in 1840. He was the Rev. John Lutz, who began his ministry in Granville, Milwaukee County. The Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Association was created on April 19, 1856.

Phillip William Otterbein (1726-1813) and Martin Boehm (1725-1812) were founders of the United Brethren in Christ Church in 1800. Although Otterbein and Boehm both spoke German, the work of the United Brethren in Christ Church was from the beginning mainly in the English language.

Missionaries of the Wabash Conference, Indiana, United Brethren in Christ Church arrived in Wisconsin shortly after the first ministers representing the Evangelical Association. The Wisconsin Conference of the United Brethren in Christ was established September 16, 1858.

"In a historic meeting at Johnstown, Pennsylvania on November 16, 1946, the General Conferences of the United Brethren in Christ Church and the Evangelical Church united to form the Evangelical United Brethren Church. This consummation came after twenty two years of study and planning." (A Century in Wisconsin - 1856-1956, E.U.B. Church, p. 10) Emmanuel Evangelical Church in Brillion, Wisconsin became known officially as Emmanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church in November 1946. However, the union of the Wisconsin Conferences of the Evangelical Church and the United Brethren in Christ Church did not occur until May 17, 1951 when the two conferences merged to establish the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Kenneth S. Knoespel, son of Raymond and Esther Knoespel, was born May 7, 1922 in Forest Junction, Wisconsin. During his childhood years, he lived in Kohler, Wisconsin where he attended elementary school and high school. After graduating from Kohler High School in 1940, Kenneth enrolled in North Central College, Naperville, Illinois. He graduated from North Central College in 1944, then he attended the Evangelical Theological Seminary, (which is now Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary), in Evanston, Illinois. After completing his studies at the seminary in 1947, he was ordained a minister of the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Rev. Kenneth and his wife, Hilda G. were parents of a son, Kenneth J. and a daughter, Kathryn A.

Rev. Kenneth Knoespel served as pastor of Emmanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church in Brillion from 1946 to 1951. During those years, he preached many inspiring sermons, united couples in marriage, baptized babies, and officiated for funerals.

In addition to his regular pastoral duties, Rev. Knoespel served with the Chancel and
Sanctuary Improvement Committee, which was responsible for planning and overseeing the sanctuary redecoration of the twenty-nine year old Emmanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church structure. The committee included: Dr. E.H. Kloehn, Arthur Radloff, William Degner, L.H. Huibregtse, Hilmer Johnson, Elmer Piepenburg and Rev. Knoespel.

The redecoration of the Chancel included a new altar, pulpit, communion rail and parapet rails, all of which were presented as a memorial to Johanna Schwartz. Johanna Schwartz (1883-1948) was the daughter of Carl “Charles” and Amelia Schwartz who were charter members of Emmanuel Evangelical Church. The lectern was presented as a memorial to Theodore and Bertha Haase by their children, and the pulpit chair was a gift from the Mr. and Mrs. Club. The chancel furniture was designed by Edward A. Erdman, who was a registered architect, and the furniture was made by the Standard Manufacturing Company of Appleton, Wisconsin. The cross placed on the altar was given as a memorial to Mrs. Pauline Horn (1862-1947). The candleholders for the altar were donated as a memorial to Mrs. Laura (Enders) Otto (1873-1948), who was the daughter of Phillip C. and Anna Marie Enders, the founders of the congregation of Emmanuel Evangelical Church. A monetary gift to help beautify the chancel was given as memorial to Claus John Thiel (1865-1947). Other gifts for the redecorated chancel included: offering plates, donated by Mr. and Mrs. L. Huibregtse; a Bible marker, given by the Youth Fellowship; and a pulpit hymnal, given by the Bible Club.

The sanctuary was painted by J.J. Stradel of Wayside. Aisle carpet was a gift from the Women’s Society of World Service, and sidewall light fixtures were given by the youth and adult Sunday school classes. Monetary gifts for the redecoration and improvements were given by all of the members of the congregation. The H.A. Verhulst family of Sheboygan and the Ed. Braunel family of Manitowoc were recognized for their generous gifts to the church for the sanctuary improvements.

On Sunday, May 15, 1949, a Service of Dedication of the Chancel and Redecorated Sanctuary was celebrated at Emmanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church, Brillion, Wisconsin. The dedication service included: Prelude, played by Wilma Wolfmeyer; Choral Call to Worship, sung by the Male Chorus; Invocation, by Rev. Paul Lambrecht, Conference Superintendent; Hymn, “The Church’s One Foundation”; Collect for Dedication Day, prayed by the minister and congregation; Anthem, “Souls of the Righteous”, sung by United Male Chorus and directed by Rev. K.S. Knoespel; Responsive Reading, lead by Rev. F.A. Trautmann; Pastoral Prayer, offered by Rev. Kenneth S. Knoespel; Hymn, “Prayer Is the Soul’s Sincere Desire”; Sermon, “My Heart an Altar” delivered by the Rev. Wesley M. Westerburg, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Naperville, Illinois; Offertory; Anthem, “Seek Ye the Lord”, Albert Enneper; soloist; Service of Dedication (litany); Hymn, “O Where Are Kings and Empires Now”; Benediction; and Postlude.

Rev. Herman W. Siedschlag was the next pastor assigned to serve Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Brillion and Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Rantoul Township, Calumet County. Prior to his assignment to Brillion, Rev. Siedschlag had served as pastor at Oak Creek. Rev. Siedschlag served as pastor of the churches in Brillion and Rantoul from 1951 to 1954. Herman William Siedschlag I, son of Herman F. and Minnie (Hartwig) Siedschlag, was born November 18, 1917 in Juda, Green County, Wisconsin. Herman W. Siedschlag attended college and was employed as a telephone systems maintenance technician prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army on March 17, 1941. At the time of his enlistment, he was single and without dependents. He served for the Panama Canal Department during World War II. After he was married, Herman W. Siedschlag and his wife, Nelva had four sons born to their union: Herman William “Bill” II, born July 24, 1944 in Ozark, Alabama; Dan; Paul; and Bryan, who was born in Kentucky after Rev. Siedschlag and his family were transferred from Brillion.

During Rev. Siedschlag’s third year serving the Brillion and Rantoul E.U.B. congregations, a tragic accident occurred on Sunday, July 26, 1953. At 7 P.M. on that date, Herman Bill, the oldest son of Rev. and Mrs. Siedschlag, was riding his bicycle on U.S. Highway 10 about one mile west from the City of Brillion when he was struck by a car and was critically injured. He died from his injuries on the morning of Friday, July 31, 1953 at Bellin Hospital in Green Bay. His funeral was held a few days later with Rev. Lambrecht and Rev. Hayes as officiates. Herman William “Bill” Siedschlag was buried in the cemetery at Juda, Wisconsin. (Sheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WI, Friday, July 31, 1953)

Dr. John Knauf, coroner for Calumet County, conducted an inquest in December 1953 at Brillion High School regarding the accident that took the life of Herman Bill Siedschlag, who was nine years old at the time of the accident. The coroner’s jury found that the eighteen year old driver from the Forest Junction area could not avoid the ensuing tragedy that happened on July 26, 1953. (Sheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WI, Wednesday, December 23, 1953)

Only their trust and faith in God and his son, Jesus Christ could have sustained the family of Rev. Herman Siedschlag and his wife, Nelva, a faith that allowed them to continue their ministry in the Brillion and Rantoul E.U.B. churches. On Saturday, August 1, 1953, the day after their son’s death, Rev. Siedschlag officiated for the wedding of Caroline Fischer and Allen Wolfmeyer. On the following Saturday, August 8th, Rev. Herman Siedschlag was officiate for the wedding of Louise A. Landmann and Stanley Arthur Heimke at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Brillion.

In addition to his ministerial duties while caring for the members of his two congregations, Rev. Siedschlag was frequently invited to be the featured speaker for various events. One week in February 1954, Rev. Siedschlag was the speaker for a Tuesday evening father-son banquet at Zion E.U.B. Church in Marshfield. In the same week, he was the speaker for the Appleton Women’s Club on Thursday afternoon, and on Friday evening he delivered a talk for the youth banquet at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Milwaukee. (Sheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WI, Saturday, February 27, 1954)

After serving the E.U.B. churches in Brillion and Rantoul for three years, Rev. Herman W. Siedschlag was assigned ministerial duties at Red Bird Mission in an impoverished area of southeastern Kentucky near Beverly. Red Bird Mission was established in 1921 by the
Evangelical Church and has continued to provide educational, health and community outreach services to the residents of the Red Bird Valley. Rev. Siedschlag served at the Red Bird Mission from 1954 to 1958.


Rev. Gordon C. Core, who succeeded Rev. Siedschlag, served as pastor of Emmanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church in Brillion from 1954 to 1958. Gordon Clark Core, son of Clark and Sarah (Sutton) Core, was born January 28, 1915 in Richland County, Wisconsin. He received his bachelor degree from the University of Indianapolis and his Masters of Divinity Degree from United Seminary. Gordon C. Core married his first wife, Odessa A. Staum on August 9, 1939. Children born to Rev. Gordon and Odessa (Staum) Core include one son, Roger K. and two daughters, Genette S. and Cynthia G.

On April 3, 1955, the Palm Sunday worship service at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Brillion included special music sung by the choir under the direction of Miss Shirley Wolfmeyer, daughter of Gilbert and Eulalia Wolfmeyer. Rev. Gordon Core led the service, which also contained a confirmation service. The confirmands were: James Behnke; Bonnie Halstrom; Marilyn Weaver; Marleen Wolfmeyer; and Noel Zander. A midweek communion service was held on Wednesday, April 6th. On Easter Sunday, the church youth sponsored a breakfast, which was served after the sunrise worship service. The Easter worship service followed at 10:30 a.m. (Sheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WI, Saturday, April 2, 1955)

Timothy Roy Knoespel, son of Roy and Lois Knoespel, was baptized by Rev. Core on Sunday, April 3, 1955 at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Brillion. The baby wore the baptismal gown that had been worn by his great grandmother Clara Krause seventy five years earlier. Following the baptism service, a party celebrating the seventy fifth birthday of great grandmother Clara Krause was held at the home of the Knoespel family. The party was hosted by Mrs. Lawrence Finlayson (Lois’ mother), Mrs. Sheldon Doughty and Mrs. C.A. Fullerton, who were the daughters of Mrs. Clara Krause. (Sheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WI, Saturday, April 9, 1955)

The Woman’s Society of World Service (W.S.W.S.) of Emmanuel E.U.B. Church played a vital role in the life of the congregation and the community. A summary of the meeting of the W.S.W.S. held on Wednesday, April 27, 1955 reveals some of the various programs and services, which were planned and implemented by the organization. During that meeting, which was led by President Alice Huibregtse, the group decided to purchase twenty four chairs and paint for redecorating the fellowship hall at their church on West Water Street. Next, the members decided to have a “Bring and Buy Sale” at the next meeting to raise funds to purchase new drapes for the fellowship hall. Then a report was given on the rummage sale that had been previously held. Two hundred baskets, which had been woven by the members, were sold and an additional twenty two baskets were donated to the Salvation Army. Another report was concerned with the Jayceee dinner, which had been prepared and served by the W.S.W.S. Other activities planned for the year included: mother-daughter banquet to be held on May 18th; Silver
Tea in June; junior choir picnic in July; and ice cream social in August. Mrs. Gilbert Wolfmeyer, Mrs. Charles Adams and Mrs. Edward Janke were in charge of the arrangements for the mother-daughter banquet, which would be served by the men of the church.

Following the W.S.W.S. business meeting, Rev. Gordon Core led the installation service for the newly elected officers. The new officers were; Mrs. Hilmer Johnson, president; Mrs. Ed Janke, vice president; Miss Emma Horn, secretary; and Mrs. Elmer Schneider, treasurer. Two new members of the W.S.W.S. were Mrs. Clara Krause and Mrs. Stanley Heimke. (Sheboygan Press, Sheboygan, WI, Saturday, April 30, 1955)


In 1958, Rev. Gordon Core was transferred to Ohio, and the next pastor assigned to serve the E.U.B. churches in Brillion and Rantoul was Rev. Vernon R. Miller. Vernon R. Miller, son of William and Emma Miller, was born October 6, 1902 in Arcadia, Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, where he grew up on his family’s farm. He attended North Central College and the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Naperville, Illinois, and after graduating, he was ordained as preacher in 1931. Vernon was married to Ruth Wegner in Norwalk, Wisconsin in 1927. Their marriage was blessed with five children, one son and four daughters. Prior to his appointment in Brillion, Rev. Miller served as pastor in E.U.B. churches in Dorchester, 1949-1950, and Berlin and Borth, 1950-1958. Rev. Miller preached his first sermon at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Rantoul Township at 9:00 a.m. and at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Brillion at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 8, 1958. A church picnic followed the worship service in Brillion as a way to welcome Rev. Miller and his family into our church.

The Woman’s Society of World Service (W.S.W.S.) held their annual silver tea on Wednesday, June 11, 1958. Organ selections played by Mrs. Ray Frisby preceded the program, which was arranged by Mrs. L.T. Huibregtse, Mrs. Elmer Schmelter, Mrs. Cora Wiegert and Mrs. Hilmer Johnson. The food committee was co-chaired by Mrs. Emil Landmann and Mrs. Edmur Behnke. Rev. Miller led the opening prayer and the benediction, and Mrs. Miller poured tea. “Poetry in the Bible” was the title of the program address, which was given by Mrs. Helen Linely, a faculty member of Ripon College. (Brillion News, June 19, 1958)

Darwine Rae, infant daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Jerome Wink of Brillion was baptized by Rev. Miller during the morning worship service on Sunday, July 27, 1958.

“When God Forgets” was the title of the sermon delivered by Rev. Miller during the Wednesday evening communion service on March 25, 1959. On March 27th, Rev. Vernon Miller participated with area pastors in the Union Good Friday worship service held at Brillion High School. The Youth Fellowship, under the leadership of President Florence Behnke, was
responsible for the sunrise service held at 6:30 a.m., Sunday, March 29th. A breakfast, which was prepared by the Mr. And Mrs. Club, was served after the sunrise service. Sunday school, which was held at 9:30 a.m., was followed by the Easter service at 10:30 a.m. Rev. Miller’s sermon theme for the worship service was the “Glory of His Peace”.

A Bible class, which would be led by Rev. Miller, had its first meeting on Sunday evening, April 12, 1959. The class was hosted by the Mr. And Mrs. Club and met during the usual Sunday evening gatherings of the club.

Jennie Rae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Laurent Behnke of Brillion, was christened by Rev. Vernon Miller during the worship service on Sunday, April 12, 1959.

The Emmanuel E.U.B. Church dartball team held its annual banquet on Saturday, April 25, 1959. Laurent Behnke, president of the dartball team, was toastmaster for the event. Rev. Quentin Moerschberger, pastor of the United Church of Christ in Chilton, gave a motivational talk on the topic of teamwork. The dinner was prepared and served by the Mr. and Mrs. Club. Dartball is a game like baseball but is played between two teams using darts and a special dart board. Teams consisted of nine players and sometimes a few substitutes. The games between two teams were generally quite sociable; however the games sometimes became quite heated between two teams when competing in tournaments, according to Milton Behnke, who played on our church dartball teams for many years. Emmanuel E.U.B. Church had dartball teams as far back as 1945 and up to about 1979. Our church teams competed with other dartball teams from churches in the Brillion area.

A mother-daughter banquet, sponsored by the W.S.W.S. was held at Emmanuel E.U.B. Church in Brillion on Thursday evening, May 14, 1959. Rev. Miller gave the invocation for the program and Mrs. Hilmer Johnson, president of the W.S.W.S., gave the welcome. Dinner was prepared by Mrs. Edmer (Adeline) Behnke with the assistance of Mrs. Emil Landmann and Mrs. Elmer Schmelter. Several men of the church served the meal and helped with the kitchen detail. Following the dinner, a short play was presented to show how a mother is like the parts of a clock. The performers included Mrs. Gilbert Wolfmeyer, Mrs. Roy Knoespel, Mrs. Stanley Heimke, Sandra Piepenburg and Joyce Behnke. (Sheboygan Press, May 18, 1959)

Sunday school was in session under the leadership of Elmer Piepenburg at 9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 17, 1960. During the Easter worship service at 10:30 a.m., confirmation exercises were conducted by Rev. Miller. The confirmands were: Helen Schultz, Sandra Wolfmeyer, Joyce Behnke, John Frisby, Robert Jentink and James Weaver, all of whom had passed both an oral and a written examination earlier in the week.

Following the worship service on Sunday, May 15, 1960, the W.S.W.S. held a reception for Dr. Ed H. and Mrs. Kloehn. Dr. Ed Kloehn was recognized for having recently completed sixty years of dental practice in Brillion. He and his wife, Irene were also recognized for their many years of membership and dedicated service to the E.U.B. Church. Mrs. L.H. Huibregtse summarized the history of Dr. Kloehn’s life in the community, and Rev. Miller reviewed the highlights of the efforts of Dr. and Mrs. Kloehn in service to their church.

The sampling of worship services, baptisms and church activities shown above provides
the reader with some history of the ministerial duties performed and the social activities sponsored by church organizations during the tenure of Rev. Vernon R. Miller, who was pastor of Emmanuel E.U.B. Church from 1958 to 1961. This history was recorded in area newspapers including the Brillion News, Sheboygan Press, and Manitowoc Herald Times.

Rev. Vernon R. Miller left Brillion in 1961, when he was appointed by the Wisconsin Conference to serve as pastor in churches in Ontario, Monroe County and Valley, Vernon County, where he ministered from 1961 to 1964. From there he went to Tomah where he was pastor for E.U.B. and Methodist churches in Tomah and Tunnel City from 1964 to 1966. Rev. Vernon Miller, age 63 years, was deceased 10 p.m., Monday, April 18, 1966 at Tomah following a heart attack. He was survived by his wife, Ruth, son, Paul of Chicago and four daughters: Mrs. Howard Smith, Flanagan, Illinois; Mrs. Walter Skibby, Seymour; Mrs. Ronald Larson, Watertown; and Miss Hope Miller, who was serving as an instructor with the U.S. Army at Midway Islands. (Daily Northwestern, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, April 21, 1966)

Throughout the years, the members of Emmanuel E.U.B. Church took pride in how their house of worship looked and in how it was maintained. There were frequent discussions on that topic, and action was often taken to repair and improve the church building and to replace church fixtures. For example, at a special meeting of the congregation on February 6, 1949, the church trustees were directed to proceed with the painting and decorating of the sanctuary. A second example was at the annual meeting of the congregation in April 1951 when a motion was adopted, “to decorate the basement at a cost not to exceed $250.00.” Since the second church was built, the basement had been used for Sunday school classrooms and as a fellowship hall. The minutes of the annual meeting in April 1952 show that the congregation had established two separate funds, the budget fund and the building fund.

As time moved on, the church members recognized that there was a need for additional Sunday school space. There was also a question raised as to whether the back stairway leading to the basement could be widened, which must have meant that there was some concern for the safety of persons using the stairs. At the annual meeting in May 1953, “Rev. Siedschlag presented plans for remodeling the church.” The plans were given to a planning committee to review and bring back at a later date for consideration. The planning committee enlisted the help of the architectural firm of Satre and Senescal, who did some preliminary sketches of the proposed remodeling in September 1953.

At the annual meeting held on December 5, 1954, two of the resolutions adopted were: (1) that the congregation set a goal to have $2,000.00 in the building fund by the end of the 1955 church year; and (2) “that the pastor (Rev. Core) would appoint an investigating committee to determine the opinion of each member of the congregation with respect to future remodeling of the present church or building a new church.”

When the administrative council met in October 1955, they discussed: the need for additional Sunday school classrooms, the possibility of enlarging of the church basement and sanctuary, the need to improve the church heating system, and the need for additional parking space. Architectural drawings of a proposed addition to the existing church consisting of a fellowship hall and Sunday school space were discussed at the annual meeting on December 4, 1955. The building committee established at that time included: Rev. Gordon Core, Allen Zorn,
Mrs. Charles Adams, Mrs. Louis Huibregtse, Mrs. Howard Bailey, Mrs. Lawrence Filyes and the church trustees.

A congregational meeting was held on May 6, 1956 at which time a vote was taken on the proposed building project. The average attendance for Sunday morning worship at that time was 129, and there were 82 members who voted at the May meeting, with 54 votes in favor of the building proposal and 28 votes against the proposal.

A new furnace was installed in the church basement by Paul Engel in July 1956. At the annual meeting on November 25th of the same year, the problem of water seeping into the church basement was discussed and possible ways to correct the problem were considered.

The congregation wanted a more substantial amount in the building fund before starting the proposed building addition, so at the annual meeting on December 2, 1957, approval was given to loan the $6,000.00 building fund balance to the Wisconsin Conference of the E.U.B. Church at the rate of 4% interest. A suggestion to insulate around the church balcony windows was also discussed at that meeting.

There was no mention of a proposed building project in the minutes of the annual meeting held in December 1958, however at the administrative council meeting in July 1959, possible ways of providing for more Sunday school space were again discussed. At the annual meeting on December 7, 1959, Allan Zorn, who was chair of the building committee, discussed the "matter of the proposed church building." A congregational meeting was scheduled for January 11, 1960 and was later rescheduled to January 18th.

At the congregational meeting held on January 18, 1960, architectural plans and cost estimates, which had been prepared by the architects Satre and Senescal, were presented. A ballot with five different choices had been prepared so that an advisory vote could be taken. The ballot choices and votes cast were as follows:

1. Construct an educational unit to the south of the present building and connect same to the present church. (8 votes)
2. Remodel present church building to incorporate added classrooms for growing Sunday school enrollment. (4 votes)
3. Construct an educational unit at a new location due to limited space at the present location. (0 votes)
4. Construct a new educational unit and sanctuary at present location or new location. (5 votes)
5. Do nothing at all. (0 votes)

Of the 17 members who voted, all were in favor of some kind of building program. This number was only a small part of the congregation, so it was decided to hold another meeting of the congregation to try to get more members involved in the building decision.

Several weeks later, a survey was prepared and sent to the 169 members of the congregation to get their opinions regarding the church building proposals. Out of the 118 surveys returned, 15 favored remodeling, 39 favored a new church structure on the same site or new site, 49 wanted building planning to stop for the present, and 19 expressed no preference.
At a meeting of the congregation later that year, it was reported that several meetings had been held during the year to discuss building proposals, but no clear majority had been reached on a specific building plan. Rev. Miller stressed that all church members are called to serve as evangelists, not only elected church officers, Sunday school teachers and the pastor.

In the minutes of the annual meeting held on January 9, 1961, Hilmer Johnson, treasurer of the building fund reported that the balance in that fund was $8,721.15. There was no mention of a report from the building committee. Allen Zorn did express that an electrician should be hired to inspect the electrical wiring in the present church and make necessary repairs. A motion was approved to allow up to $275.00 for electrical repairs.

Willard V. Albertus, son of Dewey and Bernice Albertus, was born about 1928 in Prairie du Sac, Sauk County, Wisconsin, where he lived during the years of his youth. After he was ordained a minister, Rev. Willard V. Albertus served churches in: Eden, 1952-1954; New Richmond, 1954-1957; and Richland Center, 1957-1961. In 1961, he was appointed to serve the E.U.B. churches in the City of Brillion and Rantoul Township. On Sunday, June 14, 1961, a potluck lunch was served following worship service to welcome Rev. Albertus, his wife, Connie and their children, Jered and Joanna.

During the administrative council meeting in July 1961, a motion was adopted to get cost estimates for a new furnace or for repairing the old furnace in the church. The church council also appointed Mrs. Louis Huiibregtse to the office of church historian. At the August meeting, the administrative council approved taking $125.00 from the building fund for parsonage improvements. The W.S.W.S. had already donated $125.00, and the Mr. & Mrs. Club had given $50.00 toward the parsonage improvements. In September, the administrative council authorized the purchase of a new 40 gallon water heater for the parsonage. On October 11, 1961, when the annual meeting of the congregation was held, the usual business was carried out including appointing church ushers and adopting the budget for the 1962 church year. There was also discussion about an upcoming church dinner, which would be paid for by a free will offering. The minutes of that meeting did not mention any report by the building committee or the status of the building proposals.

When the administrative council met on December 16, 1962, considerable work had already been done toward building a new church on a new site. An offer to secure a building site on Horn Street had already been made, and the closing on the purchase of the property had been set for January 2, 1963. During the council meeting, which was chaired by Ray Frisby, plans were made to visit a new church in Sheboygan. Reports from the various church groups expressed their vision for space and facilities in the new church including: a kitchen and fellowship hall, Sunday school classrooms and furnishings, choir seating and storage space for robes and music, and the janitor's storage space and tool room. Allen Zorn was directed to contact the architects, Satre and Senescal, to have them prepare preliminary drawings for the proposed new church.

The next meeting of the church council was held on January 7, 1963, at which time a unanimous ballot was cast for Ray Frisby to serve as chair of the building committee. At the annual meeting on January 16th, consideration was given to the possibility of building the educational unit first on the new site and constructing the new sanctuary at a later date, however
no decision was reached.

At the administrative council meeting on February 14th, Rev. Willard Albertus asked the council members “to consider the will of God for our congregation” in regards to the proposed new church. The council members were divided into three small groups to discuss the feelings of the congregation toward starting construction on the new church in the approaching summer. Later, the trustees reported that they had signed a contract with the architects to do the preliminary plans. It was also announced that members of the council would visit a church in Green Bay on April 21st.

On March 4, 1963, when the administrative council met, there was discussion about the city’s proposed extension of Francis Street through the new church property and the need for removal of an old barn, which was located on a portion of the land where the street would be constructed. When the proposed street extension was discussed with the architects, the architects felt that the new street would be beneficial to the church site development. There was also mention of a planned visit by council members to the Presbyterian Church in De Pere on March 25th. In addition, some discussion during the council meeting was about the possibility of the E.U.B. churches in Rantoul Township and in Reedsville merging with our church.

When the administrative council met on April 1, 1963, the council established the building committee which included: Ray Frisby, chair; Allen Zorn; Harold Jentink; and Fred Landmann, alternate. The information, which Ray Frisby would send to the architect, L.C. Senescal, would include church group reports on the needs and furnishings in various spaces in the new building, enrollment figures in Sunday school and other groups, average church attendance, and sanctuary and choir needs.

A meeting of the congregation was held on April 29th, when the architect discussed the preliminary drawings of the proposed new church. He also showed colored slides of churches that he had designed and discussed contemporary church design and construction methods.

The administrative council met three times in May 1963, at which times issues related to the proposed new church dominated the discussions. The council members estimated that the congregation could afford to spend up to $153,000.00 on the new building, and Joyce Zorn discussed a possible loan repayment schedule. Rev. Albertus met with Dr. M. Berger from Dayton, Ohio to have Dr. Berger review and critique the preliminary architectural plans. At their meeting on May 28th, after receiving Dr. Berger’s input on the building plans, the council considered the possibility of beginning construction in the spring of 1964. The council also talked about the need to have a stewardship drive prior to beginning construction.

At the meeting on October 16, 1963, the church council selected the building plan that they would recommend to the congregation. This was followed up with a meeting of the congregation on October 20th, at which time the architect and Conference Superintendent, Rev. Herbert E. Zebarth, were present. After various options and cost estimates were discussed, the congregation cast a unanimous vote in favor of the “Y design”, which would consist of three wings. Elmer Piepenburg was quoted as saying he believed “that the congregation should look to the future and not cut costs and corners.” He expressed his belief that a nicely designed and finished church would attract new members.
In December 1963, the administrative council made plans to visit all church members to discuss church finances and plans for building a new church. Three year pledges would be sought for both the church operating budget and for the building fund. Ray Frisby reported at the annual meeting on January 15, 1964 that the Wisconsin Conference of the E.U.B. Church was willing to sign a note for $120,000.00, if needed, for the construction of a new church.

A meeting of the congregation was called to order by Rev. Albertus on February 16, 1964 to get authorization to build a new church and to borrow money for that purpose.

On ballot #1, the congregation voted “To build the new church at a cost not to exceed $130,000.00.” That amount would pay for two wings and the heating system, but not the chancel. The votes cast for ballot #1 were: 71 yes, 4 no, and 5 undecided.

On ballot #2, the congregation voted “To authorize the borrowing of up to $130,000.00 for the construction of the church.” The votes cast on ballot #2 were: 72 yes, 3 no, and 5 undecided.

In a letter to the members of the congregation on June 23, 1964, the building committee reported on the progress made in preparation for beginning the construction of the new church. A contractor had been engaged to do the building site preparation, and the Maile house would be removed by July 1st. The building committee had met on June 22nd with the architect, Rev. Zebarth, Conference Superintendent, and fifteen contractors, who had submitted bids for the project. The total cost of the new church and furnishings was calculated to be $168,729.00.

The building committee, church council, and Rev. Zebarth met with the architect on July 1st to review the bids. The low bids were as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Contractor</th>
<th>Bid Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Contractor, Oudenhoven</td>
<td>$107,381.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selig Heating</td>
<td>12,895.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rec-Marold Plumbing &amp; Drainage</td>
<td>6,586.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mel’s Electric</td>
<td>17,627.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jochman Painting</td>
<td>4,175.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wieting – flooring</td>
<td>1,948.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $150,612.00

After reviewing the bids, the church council approved plans to build a new sanctuary and chancel, a foyer and a Sunday school unit for a cost of $160,000.00. A third wing, which would serve as a fellowship hall, was planned for the future.

A meeting of the congregation was held following worship service on Sunday, July 12th. After receiving information on the bids approved by the administrative council, the congregation voted their resounding approval to proceed with the building of the new church.
Albertus, Rev. Willard
Albertus, Mrs. Willard (Connie)
Arians, Mrs. Francis (Georgia)
Becker, Adolph
Becker, Mrs. Adolph (Alice)
Behnke, Elmer
Behnke, Edmer
Behnke, Mrs. Edmer (Adeline)
Behnke, Donald
Behnke, Joyce
Behnke, Arlen
Behnke, Mrs. Arlen (Donna)
Behnke, Kenneth
Behnke, Mrs. Kenneth (Kay)
Behnke, Milton
Behnke, Mrs. Milton (Ruth)
Behnke, Roger
Behnke, Howard
Belanger, Warren
Belanger, Mrs. Warren (Sandra)
Boettcher, Mrs. Martha
Boettcher, Rueben
Boettcher, Mrs. Rueben (Dorothy)
Boettcher, Glen
Brochman, Werner
Brochman, Mrs. Werner (Ruth)
Brochman, Barbara
Caflisch, Mrs. Florian
Caflisch, Neal
Day, Colman
Day, Mrs. Colman
Foster, Michael
Degner, William
Degner, Mrs. William (Della)
Dexheimer, Kenneth
Dexheimer, Mrs. Kenneth (Pearl)
Dexheimer, Mrs. Anton (Virginia)
Dexheimer, Susan
Dragosh, Mrs. Steven (Faye Wittmann)
Ebert, Gerald
Ebert, Mrs. Gerald (Joanne)
Engel, Paul
Engel, Mrs. Paul (Letitia)
Huibregtse, Louis
Huibregtse, Mrs. Louis (Alice)
Huibregtse, Joan
Jandrey, Mrs. Edwin
Janke, Edward
Jentink, Harold
Jentink, Mrs. Harold (Peggy)
Jentink, Robert
Jentink, Barbara
Johnson, Hilmer
Johnson, Mrs. Hilmer (Marion)
Krueger, Lester
Landmann, Emil
Landmann, Mrs. Emil (Frieda)
Landmann, Fred
Landmann, Mrs. Fred (Lila)
Landmann, Anthony
Landmann, Cheryl
Mumm, Mrs. John (Anna)
Nevenhoven, Mrs. James (Nellie)
Nevenhoven, Miss Ruth
Ott, Miss Hattie
Peters, Wilmer
Peters, Mrs. Wilmer
Pfeffer, Mrs. Lewis (Jeanette)
Piepenburg, Elmer
Piepenburg, Mrs. Elmer (Bernice)
Piepenburg, Kenneth
Piepenburg, Elliot
Piepenburg, Roger
Piepenburg, Mrs. Roger (Carol)
Radloff, Mrs. Mary
Reidy, Mrs. Jerome
Reinke, Edwin
Reinke, Mrs. Edwin (Leona)
Schmelter, Mrs. Elmer (Hildegard)
Schroeder, Mrs. Alfred (Nadia)
Schroeder, Tom
Schultz, Emerald
Schultz, Mrs. Emerald
Schultz, Helen
Schwabe, Elmer, Sr.
Schwabe, Mrs. Elmer, Sr.
Engel, Charles
Engel, Warren
Engel, Gwen
Enneper, Walter
Enneper, Mrs. Walter (Florence)
Filyes, Mrs. George
Filyes, Lawrence
Filyes, Mrs. Lawrence (Helen)
Fischer, Robert
Frisby, Ray
Frisby, Mrs. Ray (Joan)
Frisby, John
Galloway, Mrs. Anna
Gier, Richard
Gier, Mrs. Richard (LaVerne)
Haelfrich, Ray
Haelfrich, Mrs. Ray
Haise, Edward
Haise, Miss Emma
Haise, Miss Ella
Haise, Miss Esther
Heimke, Mrs. Arthur
Heimke, Stanley
Heimke, Mrs. Stanley (Louise)
Heinga, Robert
Heinga, Mrs. Robert
Hintz, Miss Louise
Horn, Miss Emma
Hogstad, Richard
Hogstad, Mrs. Richard
Schwabe, Elmer, Jr.
Stellbrink, Paul
Stellbrink, Mrs. Paul (Emma)
Stellbrink, Kenneth
Tamm, Mrs. Nora
Thielke, Mrs. John (Hattie)
Wallschlager, Mrs. Elmer
Weaver, Harrison
Weaver, Mrs. Harrison (Jean)
Weaver, Marilyn
Weaver, Robert
Weaver, James
Wiegert, Mrs. Cora
Wink, Jerome
Wink, Mrs. Jerome
Wittmann, Alfred
Wittmann, Mrs. Alfred (Anna)
Wittmann, Donald
Wittmann, Lee
Wolfmeyer, Elmer
Wolfmeyer, Mrs. Elmer
Wolfmeyer, Gilbert
Wolfmeyer, Mrs. Gilbert (Eulalia)
Wolfmeyer, Rueben
Wolfmeyer, Sandra
Wolfmeyer, Marlene
Zorn, Mrs. Otto (Edna)
Zorn, Allen
Zorn, Mrs. Allen (Joyce)
Zorn, Ann

Non Resident Members

Endries, Mrs. Raymond
Haberland, Mrs. Emil
Kloehn, Mrs. Ed H. (Irene)

Krause, Miss Clara
Lintner, Miss Olive
Schnell, Mrs. Erna

Friends of the Church

Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph
Albert, Mr. & Mrs. John
Campbell, Mr. & Mrs. Glen

Konya, Mrs. & Mrs. Peter
Strandberg, Mr. & Mrs. Oliver
Pastors of Emmanuel E.U.B. Church (1946-1964)

Kenneth S. Knoespel   1946-1951
Herman W. Siedschlag  1951-1954
Gordon C. Core        1954-1958
Vernon R. Miller      1958-1961
Willard V. Albertus   1961-1964

Church Trustees (1946-1964)

Edmer Behnke          1958-1960
Milton Behnke         1957-1959
Jerome Clavers        1953-1955
William Degner       1948-1950
Ray Frisby           1963-1964
Robert J. Hacker      1946-1948
Ed Haise             1946
Louis Huibregtse      1946
Dr. Ed H. Kloehn      1946-1949
Elmer Piepenburg      1964
Arthur Radloff        1947-1949
Edwin Reinke          1951-1953
John Thielke          1949-1951
Harrison Weaver       1956-1959
Jerome Wink           1962
Gilbert Wolfmeyer     1964

Budget Treasurers

Georgia Ariens        1958-1962
Laurent Behnke        1957
Ray Frisby            1954-1956
Louise Heimke         1963-1964

Building Fund Treasurers

Kenneth Dexheimer     1963-1964
Ray Frisby            1957
Hilmer Johnson        1958-1961
Wilmer Peters         1962
Edwin Reinke          1954-1956
Financial Secretaries

Louise Heimke 1962
Stanley Heimke 1957
Hilmer Johnson 1963-1964

Sunday School Superintendents

John Ellison 1953
Lawrence Filyes 1954, 1962
Roy Knoespel 1957
Norman Lillybeck 1956
Elmer Piepenburg 1952, 1959-1961
Eulalia Wolfmeyer 1963-1964

Church Custodians

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Bastian 1958
Milton & Ruth Behnke 1959-1964

Church Organists

Margie Bailey 1954
Joan Frisby 1955-1964

Note: Names of persons holding church offices and church positions are shown only if the names were included in the minutes of annual meetings of the congregation.

The ground breaking ceremony, which was held to bless the building site of the new church, took place on Sunday, July 26, 1964. A brief service was conducted by the Rev. Milton Giese, conference Director of Christian Education, and Rev. Willard Albertus, pastor of the congregation. Those turning the first shovels full of earth were: Ray Frisby, Allen Zorn, Elmer Piepenburg and Gilbert Wolfmeyer, who were trustees and members of the building committee. Others who took turns with the shovel were: Robert Fischer, who was the oldest member of the congregation; Ed Haise and William Degner, who had been members of the former church at Kasson, Maple Grove; Mrs. Gilbert (Eulalia) Wolfmeyer, Sunday school superintendent; Kathy Brockmann and Clifford Behnke, confirmation students; and other members of the congregation. Also present were Mayor Clarence Wolf and his wife; Attorney H.J. Lepla; and representatives from the architectural firm and building contractors. (Brillion News, July 30, 1964)

A loan in the amount of $127,000.00 was approved by the Two Rivers Savings and Loan Association, and the mortgage for the construction of the new church was signed on September
1964 by the church trustees, Ray B. Frisby, Gilbert Wolfmeyer and Elmer Piepenburg. Monthly payments of $865.00 would begin on May 10, 1965.

The building of the new church on a new site, which was first considered in 1954, was begun. By October 10, 1964, the foundation of the new sanctuary and chancel had been laid, mason work on the walls had begun, and the roof trusses were being raised into place. Construction of the new church continued into 1965. (Appleton Post-Crescent, October 10, 1964)