

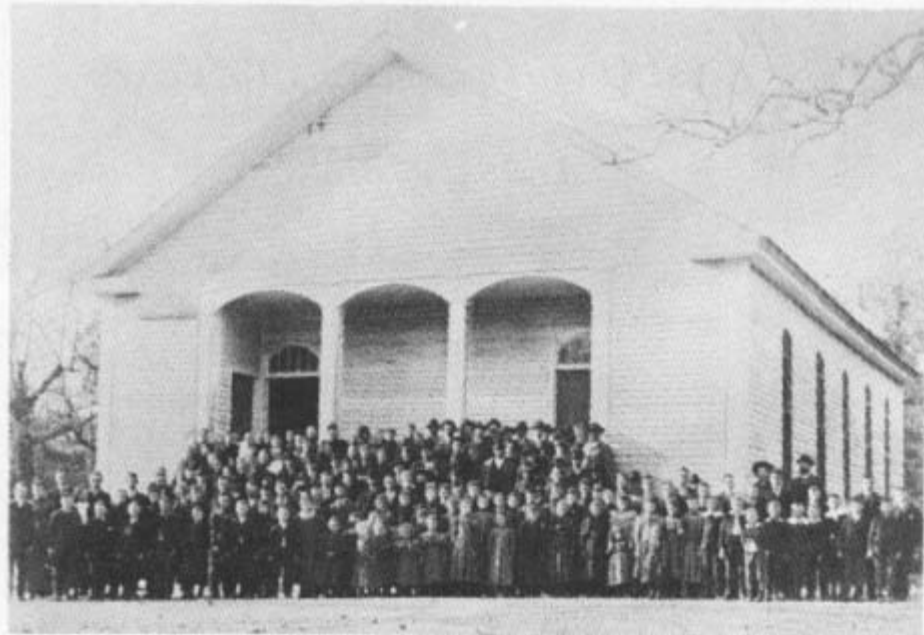
The First One Hundred Fifty Years

1828-1978

A HISTORY
OF
St. Luke's
Lutheran Church
Route 2
Prosperity, South Carolina 29127

by

John V. and Rebecca B. Pugh



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Built 1845
Remodeled 1883
Congregation of 1896 Shown



St. Luke's Church
Renovations and Additions
1915



St. Luke's Lutheran Church
Built 1955

Preface

This history of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Prosperity, South Carolina was prepared for the occasion of its 150th anniversary. It consists of a narrative and appendixes which include biographical sketches of the ministers who have served the congregation, programs of special services, as well as other statistical information.

A diligent effort was made to examine all available materials relating to the subject, and the references used in compiling this booklet are listed in the bibliography.

It should be noted, in this account, the origin differs from the accepted version which credits the Rev. John G. Schwartz with organizing the congregation. The conclusion that the Rev. John D. Scheck actually began the church was drawn from information found in the 1827 and 1828 minutes of the South Carolina Lutheran Synod and is supported by many facts gathered from other reliable publications.

St. Luke's 1828-1978

On May 23, 1827, three years after the organization of the South Carolina Synod, the Rev. John D. Scheck was appointed as its first home Missionary (1827 Synod Minutes, p. 10). In this capacity he was authorized to visit areas of the state which had need and the potential resources for the establishment of Lutheran congregations.

The Minutes of the South Carolina Lutheran Synod for 1827 which was held November 23-26 reveal several facts about the Rev. Mr. Scheck's missionary work (pp. 15-16). On Tuesday, July 3, 1827, he visited and preached to a very receptive group of individuals in the settlement of Peterbaugh. References (Holcomb, p. 46) show this location to have been in the Stoney Battery section of Newberry County, presently known as the Stoney Hill community. Also, it was reported at this meeting (p. 13) that the Rev. Mr. Scheck had organized two new congregations in the Newberry District and one in the Edgefield District since the last session of Synod.

At this same Synod Convention (1827) petitions were received from Stoney Battery, Newberry County. Although there is no record as to the contents of these letters it is reasonable to assume they dealt with the establishment of a church.

While the initial beginning was probably on that July day in 1827, certainly 1828 was an organizational year for St. Luke's. During this time period a plain log building known as the Baptist Meeting House located on road No. SC-36-407, 1.5 miles southeast of the present location on property now owned by Mrs. Merle Quattlebaum Anderson was used for all church related activities. Evidently this building served

all the people of the neighborhood for Sunday School and Prayer Meetings. In those days it was not very often that an itinerant preacher passed through, but when one did, worship services were held.

By December 1828, the congregation had chosen Elders. According to Newberry County records on December 6, 1828, John Enlow deeded three acres of land to Frederick Schumpert and Henry Bedenbaugh, Elders, for the purpose of constructing a Lutheran Church. The first church building was probably started the following year and it should have been completed by 1830. The site of this structure was the same as the present location.

From the 1829 Synod minutes (p. 6) it is recorded that a letter of petition was received from St. Luke's praying for ministerial services. In response to this request the Synod Committee engaged the Rev. John G. Schwartz of Charleston to serve four congregations in the Newberry District, one of which was St. Luke's. It is interesting to note the Rev. Mr. Schwartz presented to the 1830 Synod (p. 5) the first contribution from St. Luke's in the amount of \$3.31¼.

In the early part of 1831 while still serving the same four churches, he became the professor at the newly organized Theological Seminary in Pomaria; however, the Rev. Mr. Schwartz died in August of that year at the age of twenty-four.

During the 1831 Synod meeting (p. 13), St. Luke's requested ministerial aid and the Rev. Jacob Moser was sent to serve one Sunday a month.

The earliest available records of the congregation are dated February 2, 1832, as recorded by the Rev. Mr. Moser. There were 78 members and four Elders listed. (See Appendix IV) Incidentally, these four were chosen by ballot

February 1, 1832. During the early years of the church, Elders were elected to serve on Council for two year terms by the male communing members of the congregation. On May 20th of that same year, the records show 54 communicants.

The first lay delegate from St. Luke's to a Synod Meeting was Levi Bedenbaugh who served November 17-21, 1832 (p. 4), and at that time he was a student at the Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of South Carolina and adjacent States. Mr. Bedenbaugh later graduated with the first class of this institution in 1835 to become one of the first Sons of the congregation.

The South Carolina Synod united with the General Synod in 1833 and remained with this organization until 1886.

In 1839 the Rev. William Berley became pastor of the church. As the congregation continued to grow, a new spacious frame building, 40' x 60', was erected in 1845 at the same location. It was built with a slave gallery and during the period from 1845 until slavery was abolished, St. Luke's had a membership of approximately 40 slaves.

There were several outside doors, one of which was located on the west side of the building and which opened into a stairway leading to the gallery. It has been told that this entrance was affectionately called "Aunt Lucy's door" as she was one of the best known slave members. References indicate this sanctuary had family pews. Apparently the pews were grouped into sections which were designated for use by individual families. Outside, there were hitching racks for horses and mounting blocks for the ladies.

Under the successful ministry of the Rev. William Berley, that portion of the congregation residing in the northeastern end of the charge purchased material from the little church

built in 1830 when it was torn down in 1845. They constructed a house of worship and organized a separate congregation in their midst which was called Colony Church.

The first cemetery, located adjacent to the present building, must have been started around 1845 as this is the earliest date which can be found on a marker.

The financial records of this period show on September 15, 1847, one Brittain Communion Set and one large gilded Hymn Book were purchased for \$13.68³/₄. For the years of 1847, 1848, and 1849 the minister's annual salary was \$100.

During this time period the Communion wine was served from a common cup.

From the personal diary of the Rev. Thaddeus S. Boinest who became pastor of St. Luke's on December 14, 1851, much is revealed about how the church functioned during the mid nineteenth century. Serving four congregations, the Rev. Mr. Boinest traveled from church to church normally spending one Sunday a month at each. About once every quarter he would arrive in the St. Luke's community late in the week and have services on Friday, Saturday, all day Sunday and sometimes on the following Monday. At these monthly services he also baptized infants and confirmed new members. There did not seem to be a set schedule for Communion, as on occasions it was administered both on Saturday and Sunday of the same week, while at other times several months elapsed.

In his diary, the Rev. Mr. Boinest also tells of how he ministered to the needs of the slave members. On some Sunday afternoons he would have a special sermon just for them. It is recorded that the Rev. Mr. Boinest received black members. He baptized their infants as well as their adults

and on at least one occasion married a slave couple. Services were greatly affected by weather conditions, as is exemplified when on one occasion the sacrament of Holy Communion was postponed for one month due to rain.

When the Rev. Mr. Boinest was in the community, he would have meals and lodging with local members.

By 1853 the congregation had grown to approximately 156 members with six Elders, each serving two year terms. Also, on July 10th of that same year the Rev. Thaddeus S. Boinest who was the minister at St. Luke's organized Luther Chapel (Redeemer, Newberry).

While serving as pastor of St. Luke's for the third time, the Rev. William Berley organized Newville, now Grace Lutheran Church, Prosperity, S. C. in 1859.

There is not very much recorded about the status of the church during the Civil War years, but we know many of its men answered their country's call and a number of them did not return. Even during this dark period, St. Luke's did experience some limited growth.

At the meeting of Synod in 1869, (p. 24) the churches were grouped into pastorates, of which No. 12 consisted of St. Luke's, Colony and Newville (later the name changed to Grace). It was the responsibility of each pastorate to agree on securing a minister, the amount of his salary, a schedule for services, and to provide a parsonage. In the early years of the church, ministers furnished their own homes.

On February 19, 1871, the Rev. Jacob H. Hawkins was installed to serve the congregations of Pastorate No. 12. He resided in Frog Level (now Prosperity), as a parsonage had not yet been constructed. This man was born in 1828, and his parents were charter members of the congregation.

Two events which occurred in 1875 are noteworthy.

Sometime during the year the first parsonage was constructed which was located at the present site of the Tony Turner residence. The Rev. J. D. Bowles and his family were the first to reside here. For the first time in its history, St. Luke's hosted the annual Synod Convention which was held October 14th-19th.

In 1878 the church was fifty years old. At this time the Rev. J. D. Bowles was minister for Pastorate No. 12 which consisted of Colony and St. Luke's. All available membership records were for the Pastorate rather than the individual churches. The communicants for both congregations were 427 and for this year \$25.30 was reported as contributions to the Synodical Funds. (p. 41)

A significant period in the life of the congregation was the 1880's. Dr. Jacob H. Hawkins served as pastor for the second time for the most of these years. (1882-1887)

While at St. Luke's Dr. Hawkins was editor of the *Lutheran Visitor*, a twice monthly publication circulated primarily in the southeastern states. One phase of life as a country minister is exemplified in the Thursday, March 22, 1883 edition from the article entitled "The Editor Remembered" where Dr. Hawkins states:

We take pleasure in making public the fact that the St. Luke's Charge remembered their pastor. From some of our members we have received tokens of kind affection in the shape of fresh meat, sausage, lard, six fine hams, and other things for which we are truly thankful.

At the Council meeting on September 10, 1882, the question concerning repairs to the church building was discussed and councilmen were intrusted to contact their list of congregational members as to the amount of funds

which could be given for this purpose and report the information at the October 7 meeting.

A building committee was appointed by council on February 10, 1883, and one month later on March 10 at 11:00 A.M., D. F. Clamp was awarded a contract to repair and remodel the church building which was constructed in 1845. At this time new weather boarding was installed except for the north end, the gallery removed, an entrance porch built, the chancel area changed, new pews added, and for the first time ever the building was painted both on the interior and exterior.

The newly renovated church was dedicated on Sunday, October 14, 1883. For details of this service see Appendix V.

In the years that followed, it became a custom for the ladies and children to sit on one side of the sanctuary and the men on the other. This practice lingered on mostly with the older members until recent times.

At its meeting on July 14, 1883, Council agreed to withdraw connections with Colony and to stand alone. A letter was read at the Synod meeting (p. 33) the following November stating that "St. Luke's has withdrawn from Pastorate No. 12 and asks to employ its own pastor." St. Luke's was the first rural church in the South Carolina Synod to have the entire service of one pastor. Statistics for the first year the church was on its own are given in Appendix VII.

During this time period auxiliaries of the church began to develop. Although an exact date of the establishment of the Children's Missionary Society is not available, it is recorded in the 1883 Synod Minutes (p. 37) that this organization contributed \$7.50. Records (p. 37) show St. Luke's had an active Women's Missionary Society in 1885 which is the

same year the organizing convention was held at Luther Chapel (now Redeemer, Newberry) for the South Carolina Synod. The Lutheran Church Men's organization had its initial beginning April 24, 1887, when on that Sunday afternoon the young men of St. Luke's met and established a Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) with twenty-three active members enrolled.

Three months after a committee was appointed on April 25, 1885, to make arrangements to build a dining room and kitchen at the parsonage, this addition had been completed.

The cemetery across the highway in front of the present structure was established in the summer of 1888.

It was noted in the church records of the late 1800's that members involved in certain types of misconduct had to be represented before council and judged as to whether they could remain in the church with the privilege of full membership. If one had been involved in moral misconduct, he could expect a committee from council to visit for the purposes of ascertaining a true statement of facts concerning the case and of citing him for trial before council. At the trial, council members attempted to determine if the offender had truly repented, and if they felt he had, full membership privilege would be maintained; otherwise, the offender could be excommunicated from the church. Regardless of the decision, the results were announced to the congregation the following Sunday.

By 1896 the Sunday School attendance averaged about 55 or 60, and on August 11 and 12 of that year St. Luke's hosted the County Sunday School Convention.

On April 26, 1896, the first Luther League was organized with twenty-three members. In its early years this auxillary consisted of young people as well as adults. There

was a Central Luther League of Newberry County composed of St. Philip's, Luther Chapel (Redeemer), Grace and St. Luke's. At that time this was the only regional organization in the South.

A second Synod Convention was hosted by St. Luke's October 18-22, 1899. In those days when a major meeting was held at a church, the entire membership became involved. This occasion was no exception, as St. Luke's families provided lodging and food for many delegates.

By the turn of the century the confirmed membership had grown to 399, and contributions of \$43.00 were made to the Synod, although the apportionment was \$80.00. (1899, p. 41)

In 1904 the entire church building was repainted. Two coats were applied to the inside walls and three coats to the exterior at a cost of approximately \$140.00.

During the ministry of the Rev. S. P. Koon (1903-1912) a second parsonage (now the Tony Turner residence) was erected at the site of the first. The building of 1875 was sold to Dr. J. I. Bedenbaugh and Mr. Willie Bedenbaugh. Mrs. Amelia Mills purchased the kitchen and dining room section which had been added in 1885. Construction for this new parsonage was begun July 21, 1906 and was completed about three months later. From the *Record Book 1901-1938* it is quoted: "The new parsonage is a double story, eight room, smooth ceiled building valued at \$1,500.00." The following year a telephone was installed. Although no records are available, it is believed that the first individual communion set was purchased during the Rev. Mr. Koon's ministry.

While still serving St. Luke's in 1908, the Rev. S. P. Koon organized Silverstreet Lutheran Church. This was the fourth congregation to have been formed by an active St. Luke's pastor.

In 1914 with the leadership of the Rev. B. W. Cronk, a campaign was begun to raise funds to recover the sanctuary and erect a 30' x 40' Sunday School annex. In December of that year members began cutting timber from the church property which netted approximately 25,000 feet of lumber. The carpentry work was completed in the autumn of 1915. In this wing there was a primary room 12' x 22'. Also, there were nine separate classrooms divided by walls and curtains. This addition was designed with roll down panels so that it could be opened to become a part of the main sanctuary. With this renovation the church had a steeple for the first time in its history.

The 1915 minutes of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Society show this auxiliary met after the divine service on the third Sunday of each month with 15 members enrolled. This year the thank-offering was \$10.00 and the total contributions were \$53.00.

In the summer of 1916, slight changes were made to the chancel area and carpet was added for 82 cents per yard. During the winter of that same year and extending into 1917, two coats of paint were applied to the exterior and interior of the church as well as to the exterior of the parsonage at a cost of approximately \$275.00.

The church records show that \$21.00 was paid for the purchase of a secretary's table and six chairs.

Many young men from St. Luke's were called into the military services during World War I. The church was sensitive to the needs of the servicemen and funds had been raised in the amount of \$425.00 by March of 1918 to assist the soldiers. Also the young people's society provided some entertainment for those stationed in Greenville at Camp Sevier.

On November 14, 1918, the South Carolina Synod became a part of the United Lutheran Church in America (ULCA). Prior to that time, beginning in 1886, the South Carolina Synod had been a member of the United Synod of the South.

Through the years the governing body of the church was called the Council, but its members were known as Elders and Deacons. After this synod merger, the members became Councilmen; however, at St. Luke's the old terminology lingered on until the early 1930's.

Sometime during 1919 concrete steps were added to both the main sanctuary and Sunday School annex entrances.

In the early 1920's there were annual revival services commonly known as "Big Meetings". These services would begin on Sunday and extend through Tuesday evening.

About 1921 the organizational name for children under 14 years of age became the Light Brigade. This group was sponsored by the Women's Missionary Society.

In January 1924, the Chancel area was slightly renovated so as to accomodate a suite of furniture consisting of an altar, a pulpit, a lectern and two chairs which were used for the first time on Palm Sunday, April 24 of that year. Records show this furniture was purchased from L. H. Helms & Co., Waynesboro, Virginia at a cost of \$250.00 f.o.b. and \$27.50 for the freight.

Although Luther League had its beginning in 1896, the earliest available minutes of this organization are dated August 16, 1925. Approximately forty members were enrolled. It appears that the group met about twice a month on Sunday afternoons. Because of limited transportation in these years, this organization also helped meet the social needs of the young people.

It was during the ministry of the Rev. Julian B. Harmon

that the congregation celebrated its centennial anniversary. This was an all day service held on Thursday, August 9, 1928. (For details see appendix V.)

The parsonage was recovered with heart pine wood shingles in the spring of 1929 at a cost of approximately \$275.00.

The depression years were hard ones, and St. Luke's struggled diligently with her finances. There were many times in the 1930's and 40's that the budget could not be met in full.

In 1933 a Delco lighting system was installed. The system provided electricity for the church only and consisted of a generator and a one cylinder gasoline engine. It was used until the REA extended electric power into the community in 1938. This brought a convenient supply of electricity to both the church and parsonage.

In 1938 the Light Brigade became the Children of the Church. This organization met one Friday afternoon each month.

For the third time in her history, St. Luke's was called on to give of her young men for military service. The Rev. J. Virgil Long who became Pastor on February 1, 1937 tendered his resignation effective September 24, 1943, to serve his country as a Chaplain in the U. S. Army.

During the ministry of the Rev. C. E. Seastrunk (1944-50), an attempt was made to construct a new church building. Some funds were raised and blueprints drawn, but the plan never materialized.

In this time period a double contribution system was used. Members were issued offering envelopes with two divisions so that contributions could be divided between local expenditures and synodical apportionments.

In 1947 cabinets were built, a new sink installed and the kitchen repainted at the parsonage for a cost of approximately \$300.00. Also during this year a new Estey electric organ was purchased for \$900.00.

A well was drilled, a new pump installed, and a brick well house built in the spring of 1948 for a total cost of \$747.45.

From the council minutes of February 28, 1948 "a motion was made and passed that the Charter for the Boy Scout Organization be renewed".

By the Last Will and Testament of the late Dr. John J. Dominick, the church received from his estate 78 acres of property on April 23, 1949.

For many years it was a custom to hold an annual public barbecue for the purpose of raising funds for special projects. The last of these was on July 27, 1949. Also during this time period, homecoming services were held almost every year. In the summer of 1949, two large attic fans were installed in the sanctuary.

The 1950's were memorable years to the history of St. Luke's. Beginning his ministry May 1, 1951, Dr. Thomas F. Suber served as pastor most of this time period.

For the first time ever, in April of 1950, water was extended to the church through a pipeline from the parsonage well.

The division of the Women's Missionary Society into circles originated at a special meeting of this auxillary on March 4, 1951. Shortly afterwards, two circles were established: The Rhoda Hawkins Circle which met on Sunday after the Worship Service and the Lula Hunter Circle which met on Saturday afternoons.

In this same year (1951) major renovations were made to the parsonage which was erected in 1906. These repairs

included a new roof, a gas heating system, the repainting of the exterior, and the refinishing of the interior. Although most of the labor was donated for this project, the total cost to the congregation was \$3,779.42. Also, in this same year an amplifying system was installed in the sanctuary for \$162.50.

At a meeting on November 18, 1951, the members of council formally discussed a future building program. On December 23 of that same year, J. P. Hawkins was elected treasurer of the building fund, and he ably served in this position throughout the construction of both a new sanctuary and parsonage.

Early in the ministry of Dr. Suber, the pledge system of raising funds for the operation of the church was discontinued. Some form of a commitment system had existed for at least 100 years prior to this time.

On October 21, 1952, a new Hammond organ was purchased from W. S. Rice and Son Music House, Columbia, S. C. for a total cost of \$2,678.08. By March 28, 1953, this amount had been paid in full.

Under the capable leadership of Dr. Thomas F. Suber, the congregation had decided to proceed with the construction of a new church when \$25,000.00 had been received into the building fund. Having met that goal, a Building Committee was appointed April 4, 1954. Eighteen days later a contract was given to Garvis M. Bradley to move the old church twelve feet east and twenty-five feet south to make room for the new structure. This was done the following May 3-8 at a cost of \$800.00.

Although some work had already begun, the Ground-breaking Ceremony took place on Sunday afternoon, June 13, 1954 (See Appendix V).

The bricklaying was begun on August 2, 1954, and the cornerstone was put into place at a special service on July 24, 1955 (See Appendix V).

With the labors of many dedicated members skilled in various phases of building and the service of a local contractor, Carol Hipp, the third church in the history of the congregation was completed in September 1955 at a cost of approximately \$84,000.00. Considering the many manhours contributed the total property value was \$110,000.00.

The 44' x 108' solid brick, double floor building was constructed with a sanctuary having a seating capacity of 550, an assembly room, nine classrooms, a kitchen, and two restrooms.

The long anticipated day arrived when Sunday School and Worship Services were held in the new building for the first time on Sunday, October 2, 1955. At 4:00 P.M. on that same Sunday afternoon, Miss Shirley Hawkins and Mr. Emory Hipp were united in Holy Matrimony. The sacrament of Holy Communion was administered the following Sunday.

The pews which had been ordered from Southern Desk Co., Columbia, S. C. at a cost of \$6,561.49 plus sales tax were not ready for the October services, but they were installed sometime the following December.

Upon completion of the building there was only a \$15,000.00 indebtedness. This mortgage was retired in July, 1958.

The Service of Dedication was at 4:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 21, 1957. (See Appendix V). The following May, Council authorized the installation of a public address system.

Having served the congregation well for 110 years, the second church which was built in 1845, renovated in 1883,

and enlarged in 1915 was sold in the late fall of 1955 to T. P. Mills.

The 1906 parsonage was vacated January 3, 1955, when Dr. and Mrs. Suber moved into their own home. This house was rented from April 1956 until it was sold at public auction on October 6, 1962 to Eldred and Bernice H. Connelly.

At the Church Council meeting on March 5, 1961, the Building Fund treasurer was authorized to have Hamm Furniture Co., Prosperity, S. C. cover the floors with tile in the educational department of the building at a cost of \$1,140.00.

Concrete walkways were constructed around the entire church building in 1961 for a cost of \$1,625.80. The contractor was Redi-Mix Concrete Company, Saluda, S. C.

On March 4, 1962, Dr. Thomas F. Suber submitted his resignation as Pastor of St. Luke's to be effective May 31, 1962, to enter into retirement. He remained Pastor Emeritus until his death on December 12, 1969.

The congregation voted on May 20, 1962 to build a new parsonage. It was to be located between the 1906 parsonage and the church. This spacious eight room dwelling was completed in April 1963 at a cost of \$18,630.07. The contractor was Olin Amick. It was dedicated in conjunction with the installation of the Rev. J. Hilton Roof on October 27, 1963. (See Appendix V)

In 1962 the United Lutheran Church in America merged with three other Lutheran bodies to form the Lutheran Church in America. The constituting convention for the South Carolina Synod was held September 24-25, 1962. As a result of this action, the auxiliaries of the church changed names during the following years. The women of the church became the Lutheran Church Women (LCW), the men of the

church became the Lutheran Church Men (LCM), and the youth of the church became the Youth Ministry; however, in August of 1978 this group became the Lutheran Church Youth (LCY).

After the retirement of Dr. Suber, the Rev. J. Hilton Roof became pastor on August 15, 1963. During his ministry several improvements were made to the church and parsonage. The Church Council at its meeting on January 5, 1964, authorized the purchase of new chancel furniture which was received later that year. In the spring of 1970 the entire church building was air conditioned by Kaminer Heating Co., Columbia, S. C. for \$12,000.00. The heating system was replaced and air conditioning was added to the parsonage in the early summer of 1973 at a cost of \$2,550.00. A new roof was installed on the church by Greenville Roofing Company in October 1975 at a cost of \$3,875.00.

In the early 1970's, St. Luke's had the distinction of being the largest rural Lutheran Church in the South Carolina Synod.

At a meeting of council on September 6, 1970, a motion was passed establishing the Memorial Trust Fund.

The Church library had its beginning on March 25, 1973, when the family of the late Dr. Thomas F. Suber presented his personal library to the congregation.

The interior of the parsonage was repainted and some carpet was installed in December of 1977.

On Sunday, September 3, 1978, Council authorized the construction of a handicap entrance ramp to the front of the church building. This project was started the following Tuesday. Also, that same week the task of restoring the original beauty to the old cemetery of 1845 was undertaken by the J. B. Kiker Monument Service.

Having begun his ministry on January 1, 1978, the Rev. Henry N. Brandt had served the congregation only ten months when the 150th anniversary of the Church's organization was celebrated on October 18th and 22nd, 1978. He has demonstrated well his excellent leadership ability in coordinating a memorable program for this historic occasion.

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Appendix I

Ministers of St. Luke's (including supplies)

Information for this appendix was primarily obtained from the Minutes of the South Carolina Synod of the Lutheran Church for the appropriate time period along with the Church Record Books of St. Luke's. References for the year and page number for the synod minutes are given in parenthesis. Other sources of information are listed with the biographical sketch and in the bibliography.

JOHN D. SCHECK

While on a missionary tour during the summer of 1827, the Rev. Mr. Scheck came into the area presently served by St. Luke's. (1827 Synod Minutes, pp. 15-16 and Holcomb, p. 46). On Tuesday, July 3, 1827 he preached in the Peterbough settlement (see narrative). In the history of St. Luke's that Dr. Jacob Hawkins published in 1883, Mr. Scheck is given credit for organizing St. Luke's in 1827.

1829-1831—JOHN G. SCHWARTZ

After teaching at the Charleston College and traveling in the northern states, the Rev. Mr. Schwartz returned to the Synod Convention in 1829 to resume his duties as a missionary (*Lutheran Observer* I:7, p. 97-99). The Lutheran Missionary Society in Charleston engaged his services to serve as a missionary, and the Synod committee sent him to serve four churches: Bethlehem, St. Luke's, St. Matthew's and St. Mark's. This was in response to the petition from St. Luke's requesting ministerial services. (1829 Synod Minutes, p. 6). As the church's first regular pastor, St. Luke's in 1830 (p. 8) petitioned that his services be continued with increased monetary support given to the society for this purpose. In 1830, Synod approved the beginning of the Seminary. ". . . at his own instigation he was permitted to return to his former congregations in Newberry District and receive students for the present year at his own residence." (*Lutheran Observer* I:7, p. 99). Levi Bedenbaugh was one of his students. The Rev. Mr. Schwartz died August 26, 1831 and is buried at Bethlehem Church, Pomaria, S. C.

DECEMBER 1831-1838—JACOB MOSER

In December 1831, Synod (p. 13) received a request for ministerial aid and the Rev. Mr. Moser agreed to visit St. Luke's once a month.

In February 1832 he began keeping the first written records of the church.

In 1832 at the convention, Synod (p. 22) received a petition from St. Luke's "praying for the labors of the Rev. Mr. Moser. The committee recommended that he accede to their request."

From 1832 to 1838, Mr. Moser reported the amount given to the Synod

from St. Luke's.

The Rev. Mr. Moser was one of the organizers of the South Carolina Synod in 1824.

1839—WILLIAM BERLEY

St. Luke's contributed \$3.25 to the synod according to Pastor Berley's report (p. 8).

1840—WILLIAM GEORGE HARTER

St. Paul and St. Luke were together under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Harter.

1841-1850—WILLIAM BERLEY

The Rev. Mr. Berley returned to St. Luke's for a second time. St. Luke's contributed to the synod each year. During his ministry, the second church building was erected in 1845, and Colony Church was organized in that same year.

1851

St. Luke's was vacant at the time of the synod convention (p. 10).

DEC. 14, 1851-OCT. 15, 1854—THADDEUS STREET BOINEST

The Rev. Mr. Boinest's first sermon at St. Luke's was preached on December 14, 1851 (1871, p. 30). He had just finished the seminary and received his license to preach. His charge included Bethlehem, St. Matthew's, St. Luke's and Colony. His diary gives the text of each sermon preached as well as many facts about his pastorate. He organized Luther Chapel (Redeemer, Newberry) on Sunday, July 10, 1853. On Saturday, August 20, 1853 he revised the church membership roll (63 males and 93 females) and listed the elders for 1853 to serve for two years. (This book is a part of St. Luke's records still). He resigned from St. Luke's on Sunday, October 15, 1854 to devote more time to Luther Chapel (Bethlehem Church Records).

1855-1856—JOHN PHILLIP MARGART

The Rev. Mr. Margart was installed the third Sunday in May 1855 (p. 6). He resigned in 1856 (p. 5).

1856-1859—WILLIAM BERLEY

The Rev. Mr. Berley became pastor for the third time when the Rev. Mr. Margart resigned. His charge consisted of St. Luke's and Luther Chapel (Redeemer), (1857 p. 26). In 1859 Mr. Berley organized Newville, Frog Level (now Grace, Prosperity).

1860-1862—J. L. SMITHDEAL

The Rev. Mr. Smithdeal's congregations were Newville and St. Luke's. The convention for 1861 was held in January 1862, and Mr. Smithdeal reported \$6.00 contributed to the Synod from St. Luke's.

FEB. 1862-NOV. 13, 1870—*THADDEUS* STREET BOINEST

According to his diary Mr. Boinest preached at St. Luke's on Sunday, February 9, 1862. On Sunday, March 30, of that same year he promised to preach at St. Luke's. His congregations consisted of St. Luke's, Bethlehem, and St. John's. He wrote in his diary on Sunday, November, 13, 1862 that he preached his "valedictory" sermon at St. Luke's. In 1869, synod (p. 24) grouped the churches into pastorates, to take effect at the November 1870 convention (held November 17-21, 1870).

FEB. 19, 1871-1872—JACOB H. HAWKINS

The first and as of 1978 the only son of the congregation to serve as a regular pastor. Installed on February 19, 1871 as minister for pastorate #12 (St. Luke's, Newville and Colony). On July 24, 1872 he left South Carolina to go to the Virginia Synod. (p. 5).

1872-1874—HENRY SAMUEL WINGARD

On September 10, 1872, the church records were revised by the council and the Rev. Mr. Wingard, pastor. He confirmed members in 1873 and 1874.

1875-1881—JOHN D. BOWLES

The church records show that the Rev. Mr. Bowles confirmed 7 males and 1 female in 1875.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: The first parsonage was erected and St. Luke's hosted the synod convention (1875) during his ministry. His charge consisted of St. Luke's and Colony. Some minutes of council during his pastorate are on file in the St. Luke's library.

FEB. 1, 1882-JAN. 15, 1888—JACOB H. HAWKINS

This son of the congregation returned to serve his home church a second time. As a writer possessed of rare gifts, he contributed to many periodicals, was author of a series of Catechisms, and was editor of the *Lutheran Visitor* for twenty years. While at St. Luke's this paper was printed in Newberry. Many articles about St. Luke's were printed including a history of the church that he read at the 1883 dedication. ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Remodeling and renovation of church (1883); dining room added (1885), St. Luke's Stands Alone. Some Council minutes during his pastorate are in the church library.

JULY 2, 1888-JAN. 1, 1895—*MONROE* JACOB EPTING

The Rev. Mr. Epting served St. Luke's 4 months prior to accepting the call in July, 1888, (p. 6). On Sept. 6, 1894 he revised the church roll. Council consisted of six elders and six deacons. He resigned Sept. 8, 1894 to take effect Jan. 1, 1895. (p. 6)

JAN. 1, 1895-JULY 16, 1895—JACOB H. HAWKINS, D.D.

For the third time Dr. Hawkins returned to the church in which he was baptized and confirmed and here he lived within one mile of the

place of his birth. He was still editor of the *Lutheran Visitor*. He preached his last sermon on June 30, 1895. His funeral service was held at St. Luke's. (Buried in Prosperity Cemetery). He is the only pastor who died while actively serving the congregation.

JULY 16, 1895-OCT. 24, 1900—GEORGE STEELE BEARDEN

Called to supply St. Luke's in July after the death of her pastor, The Rev. Mr. Bearden took active charge of the church immediately after his ordination by the synod in October 1895 (1929, p. 104). He married Miss Katherine Luther at Grace Church, Prosperity, in 1895. While pastor he served other churches in supply services as well as being editor of a church paper, *The St. Luke's Lutheran*. He resigned October 13, 1900 to take effect at the synod meeting the next week (p. 6).

1901—ZACCHEUS WRIGHT BEDENBAUGH (supply)

In January and February 1901, the Rev. Mr. Bedenbaugh, a son of the congregation had three funerals at St. Luke's. He signed the church records as "Rev. Z. W. Bedenbaugh, Supply."

JUNE 1, 1901-APRIL 22, 1903—HENRY JULIAN MATHIAS

On July 28, 1901 the Rev. Mr. Mathias was installed by the President of the Synod (p. 5). The congregational statistics for 1902 included an enrolled communicant membership of 399; this represented 117 resident families. (1902 Congregational statistics).

SUMMER 1903—DR. ANDREW JACKSON BOWERS, Supply
Professor of Ancient Languages at Newberry College.

NOV., 1903-SEPT. 25, 1912—SAMUEL PATRICK KOON

In 1903 he began to visit and perform ministerial services to the Silverstreet area. He organized the congregation in 1908. Since Silverstreet's congregation was mostly of members from St. Luke's, it has been called a child of the church. He resigned in 1908 to become President of Summerland, a woman's college, in Batesburg, S. C., sponsored by the Synod.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS: parsonage built (1906)

NOV. 1, 1913-JUNE 24, 1917—BENJAMIN WESLEY CRONK

The Sunday School Annex was added and renovations were made to the church during the Rev. Mr. Cronk's pastorate.

SUMMER, 1917

The Congregation was supplied by Dr. A. J. Bowers, Dr. R. A. Goodman (both at Newberry College) and the Rev. Mr. Cronk.

AUG. 5, 1917-MARCH 31, 1922—WILLIE HARDEE ROOF

The Rev. Mr. Roof came to St. Luke's from the Holston Synod. He transferred back to that area upon his resignation (p. 12).

JULY 1, 1922-NOV. 15, 1926—EDWIN H. SECKINGER

The Rev. Mr. Seckinger was installed Nov. 26, 1922 by the president of the Synod (p. 15). ACCOMPLISHMENTS: New altar furniture (1924), Church steeple repaired (1925).

NOV. 15, 1926-JULY, 1928—DR. REUBEN ALONZO GOODMAN
(supply)

Dr. Goodman was a professor of Bible, Philosophy and Greek at Newberry College from 1921-1957 (p. 14).

JULY 15, 1928-OCT. 31, 1936—*JULIAN BACHMAN HARMON*

The Rev. Mr. Harmon was pastor of St. Luke's as she celebrated the centennial anniversary. He received the D.D. degree from Newberry College in 1946. He died in 1958 and is buried in St. Luke's Cemetery.

NOV., 1936-JAN., 1937—DR. R. A. GOODMAN (supply)
(see 1926-1928)

FEB. 1, 1937-SEPT. 24, 1943—*JOHN VIRGIL LONG*

After being ordained in 1928 and having served St. Paul's, Gilbert, S. C. for nine years, the Rev. Mr. Long assumed his Ministerial duties at St. Luke's. Together he and his congregation weathered the beginning of World War II. He left St. Luke's to serve his country as an Army Chaplain, and for his military services he was awarded a Bronze Star. The Rev. Mr. Long retired from the active ministry in 1977, and he maintains a busy schedule doing supply work. He and Mrs. Long reside in Prosperity, S. C.

SEPT. 24, 1943-NOV. 2, 1944

Supplied by students from the Seminary and Newberry College professors.

NOV. 2, 1944-NOV. 26, 1950—*CHARLES ERNEST SEASTRUNK, SR.*

The Rev. Mr. Seastrunk was ordained in 1930 and he came to St. Luke's from Ebenezer parish, Rincon, Georgia. He was active with the Boy Scout Organization while at St. Luke's. He retired in 1968 and departed this life on February 5, 1975. Mrs. Seastrunk now resides in Columbia.

NOV. 26, 1950-MAY 1, 1951

Synodical supplies

MAY 1, 1951-MAY 31, 1962—*THOMAS FRANK SUBER, D.D.*

Dr. Suber was installed by the president of the Synod on July 1, 1951. He will best be remembered by the leadership he gave the congregation during the construction of the present church building. Dr. Suber was Pastor Emeritus of St. Luke's from 1962 to 1969. He received the D.D. degree from Newberry College in 1947. He passed from this life in 1969 and is buried in St. Luke's church cemetery. Mrs. Suber continues to reside at Route #4, Newberry, South Carolina.

JUNE 1, 1962-AUG. 15, 1963—HARRY WEBER (supply)

During this interium period, the Rev. Mr. Weber, chaplain and professor of Bible and Religious Education at Newberry College, ably served the congregation as supply pastor.

AUG. 15, 1963-JUNE 15, 1977—JOHN HILTON ROOF

The Rev. Mr. Roof came to St. Luke's from Corinth and St. Mark's, Prosperity. Serving St. Luke's more consecutive years than any other minister, Mr. Roof was pastor here for 13 years and 10 months. Several improvements to the church and parsonage were made, and during this time period many memorial gifts were given to the church. The Roof's daughter, Leah, was the first child born to the parsonage family in over fifty years. He and his family now reside at Route 3, Leesville, South Carolina, where he is pastor of Cedar Grove Lutheran Church.

JUNE 15, 1977-DEC. 31, 1977—JAMES VIRGIL ADDY (supply)

The Rev. Mr. Addy retired after 39 years in the ministry of which 30 of these were spent as pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Graniteville, South Carolina. He and Mrs. Addy now reside in Chapin, South Carolina.

JAN. 1, 1978 TO PRESENT—HENRY NEWTON BRANDT

The Rev. Mr. Brandt was installed on Sunday, February 19, 1978, by the Rev. Paulwyn L. Boliek, D.D., secretary of the Lutheran Synod of South Carolina. A native of Walhalla, S. C., the Rev. Mr. Brandt is a graduate of Newberry College and the Southern Seminary. Ordained in 1954, he served Trinity-Good Hope Parish, Saluda (1954-56), Georgetown (1956-62), Supt. of Franke Home, Charleston (1962-65), and St. Michael's, Irmo (1965-77) prior to coming to St. Luke's.

Pastor Brandt is married to the former Rose Smith of Saluda, S. C. They have three children: Paul, Tim, and Carol.

The following have been listed as ministers prior to 1883. It appears that they were actually supply pastors, but records of their exact ministry are not available.

J. B. Anthony

Herman Aull

J. C. Hope

J. A. Sligh

Appendix II

Members of the congregation who have entered the ministry*
(alphabetical order)

Bedenbaugh, *Clyde* Eugene. Ordained in 1954 (S. C. Synod); presently serves as pastor of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, Hollywood, Florida.

Bedenbaugh, *Levi*. Member of St. Luke's in 1832; member of the first class of the Theological Seminary in Lexington, S. C. (1835); ordained in 1836 (S. C. Synod); pastor in S. C. (1835-1839); in Georgia (1839-1874); deceased (c. 1879-1883).

Bedenbaugh, *S. Wilson*. Brother of Levi Bedenbaugh; ordained in 1854 (S. C. Synod); served pastorates in Georgia, Alabama, Florida; deceased (1879).

Bedenbaugh, *Zaccheus Wright*. Ordained in 1874 (S. C. Synod) and served churches in S. C.; supplied St. Luke's in early 1901; buried in Prosperity Cemetery (1921).

Boozer, *Benjamin Martin*. Became a Methodist minister; deceased (1882).

Boozer, *Cornelius Proileau*. Son of George and Suzannah Lagrone Boozer who were members in 1832; ordained in 1871 (S. C. Synod) and served churches in S. C.; one of the founders of Summerland College and first chairman of Summerland's Board of Trustees; deceased (1921).

Boozer, *J. D.* Minister who became a medical doctor.

Elmore, *Elijah*. Ordained in 1854 (S. C. Synod) and served churches in Georgia and Alabama; deceased (1877).

Elmore, *J. S.* (No records available).

Frick, *Vernon A.* Adopted son; grew up in St. Peter's (Pineywood), Chapin, but was a member of St. Luke's when he entered the ministry; ordained in 1953 (S. C. Synod); pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Troutman, N. C.

Hawkins, *Elijah*. Member and elder of St. Luke's in 1832; licensed 1836 (S. C. Synod); ordained 1838 (N. C. Synod); pastor of churches in Virginia; uncle of Dr. Jacob Hawkins; deceased (1868).

Hawkins, *I. P.* Ordained 1881 (S. C. Synod); did most of his ministerial work in Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Hawkins, *Jacob H., D.D.* Son of Peter W. and Mary Hawkins who were members in 1832; ordained in 1857 (S. C. Synod); North Carolina

granted D.D. degree in 1882; Newberry College granted S.T.D. in 1882; editor of *Lutheran Visitor* from 1874-1895; deceased (1895) while serving St. Luke's as pastor the third time. (see notes under pastors 1871-72, 82-88, 95).

Hawkins, Peter W. Member in 1832; father of Jacob Hawkins; licensed to preach in 1842 (S. C. Synod).

Pugh, William Edward. Ordained in 1911 (S. C. Synod); pastor of churches in S. C. (1911-1913) and in Florida (1913-1960); deceased (1964).

Shealy, Joseph Alonzo, D.D. Brother of P. E. Shealy; confirmed at St. Luke's but later transferred to Grace, Prosperity, S. C.; ordained in 1916 (Va. Synod); deceased (1975).

Shealy, Perry Edgar. Brother of J. A. Shealy; confirmed at St. Luke's but transferred to Grace, Prosperity, S. C.; ordained 1910 (Georgia-Alabama Synod); deceased (1967).

Shepherd (Sheppard), Stanmore R. Member in 1832; ordained in 1841 (S. C. Synod); served churches in S. C. (1839-1852) and in Mississippi (1853-1871); deceased (1871)

Smith, *Gerald* Whitman. Ordained in 1970 (S. C. Synod); presently serves as associate pastor of Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, E. St. Paul, Minnesota.

Smith, *Larry* Wesley. Ordained in 1970 (S. C. Synod); presently serves as pastor of Mt. Herman/Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church Parish, Peak, S. C.

*Information from:

1. "Biographical Sketches", *A History of the Lutheran Church in South Carolina*, 1971, pp. 831-915.
2. Boozer, James Earle and Mrs. Essie M. Hawkins, "St. Lukes Church History Prepared for Cornerstone Laying Service", part II, *Newberry Observer*, vol. 93, no. 58 (Friday, July 22, 1955), pp. 2 and 5.
3. *Lutheran Visitor*, vol. XVI, no. 7, (Oct. 18, 1883), p. 5.

Appendix III

Physicians who were members of St. Luke's

Dr. Drayton Boozer*
Dr. David Shepherd*
Dr. W. E. Lake*
Dr. George Y. Hunter*
Dr. T. Jeff Hunter*
Dr. James J. Dominack
Dr. James Ira Bedenbaugh

*listed in *St. Luke's Lutheran, 1896.*

Appendix IV

(February 2, 1832—Roll of Full Members, from Record Book 1832-1857)

Frederick Shumpert—w, Maryan Shumpert; c, Katharine Conwell, Jacob K. Shumpert, Elizabeth Shumpert, William Shumpert.

Henry Bedenbaugh—w, Elizabeth Bedenbaugh; c, Elizabeth Bedenbaugh, Eve Bedenbaugh, **Jacob Bedenbaugh, *Levi Bedenbaugh, Fanny Bedenbaugh.

John Counts—w, Mary Magdalen Counts.

Michael Bedenbaugh—w, Magdalen Bedenbaugh; c, Katharine Bedenbaugh.

Adam Rickard—w, Mary Rikard; c, David Rikard, Rebecca Rikard, Elizabeth Rikard, Mary Rikard.

George Myers—w, Laodicea Myers.

Jane Hawkins (widow)—****Elijah Hawkins, Jane Hawkins.

Jacob Long—w, Polly Long.

Michael Rikard—w, Rejoicey Rikard.

Barbery Prisock—c, John McMaster, Martin Koon, Eve Koon, Rosannah Koon.

*Peter Hawkins—w, Mary Hawkins.

**Royal Alden—w, Malinda Adeline Alden.

John Paysinger—w, Christiana Paysinger.

Mary Magdalen Lagrone (widow)—c, Susannah Lagrone.
Frederick Boozer, Sr.—w, Nancy Boozer; c, Margaret Boozer.
John Enlow—w, Margaret Enlow; c, Elizabeth Enlow.
Henry Boozer—w, Margaret Boozer.
Barbery Bedenbaugh (widow).
Sarah Shumpert
Elizabeth Holts
Rhoda Shumpert
Elizabeth Whitman
Nancy Bickley
Nancy Devaul
Anna Feaser
Daniel Enlow
*Stanmore R. Sheppard
John Fiegle—w, Mary Fiegle.
William Bedenbaugh
Polly Rankin
Rebecca Bedenbaugh
George Boozer
Sarah Devaul
Nancy Whitman
Temperence Whitman
William Washington Boozer
David Boozer
Joseph Hunter—w, Elizabeth Hunter.
Dorcas Taylor

w—wife

c—child (children)

*—son of the congregation

**—elected elder on Feb. 1, 1832

Appendix V

Special Services

Services at St. Luke's
July 29-August 4, 1853
Thaddeus S. Boinest, Pastor

In his diary the Rev. Mr. Boinest gave the details of this week of worship services at St. Luke's. It is interesting to note the number of pastors involved as well as frequency of services.

Friday, July 29--Berly preached.

Saturday, July 30--Rev. Moser preacher "Go ye into . . ."; Rev. Sheppard preached (afternoon) from Acts; Berly had prayer meeting (night).

Sunday, July 31--Austen had prayer meeting; Berly preached 2 Cor. V. 10; Stingley preached 2 Peter II. 9; Bro. Sheppard preached (night) from Psalm "The Lord Reigneth"; Boinest exhorted.

Monday, August 1--Boinest had prayer meeting; Bro. Boyd preached Timothy 2.9; Bro. Sheppard preached Ephesians "But now ye who were afar"; Boinest preached; Bro. Stingley preached (night) "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do".

Tuesday, August 2--Boinest had prayer meeting; Bro. Moser preached Jeremiah VIII last; Sheppard preached Isaiah 1 vs. 6; Stingley preached; Boinest preached (night) Mark II.17.

Wednesday, August 3--Bro. Boyd had prayer meeting; Boinest preached Hebrew II.3; Bro. J. Boyd preached; Bro. Sheppard preached (night) 126 Psalm.

Thursday, August 4--Hawkins had prayer meeting; Sheppard preached Isaiah 32:1, 2; Boinest preached (afternoon) 2 Peter I.5. 8.

Rededication of 1845 Church

October 14, 1883

The Rev. Jacob Hawkins, D.D., Pastor

On Sunday, October 14, 1883 the newly renovated church "was solemnly dedicated to the service of the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, in the presence of, perhaps, 500 persons." The dedication sermon was preached by the Rev. Jefferson A. Sligh. The building was dedicated by

the pastor Jacob Hawkins, assisted by Professor H. Dysinger, who also preached in the afternoon. Ten members were received into the church. "The communion was the largest ever witnessed at St. Luke's, about 300 surrounding the Lord's Table." The Rev. Jacob Hawkins read a sketch of St. Luke's history. "There was general rejoicing and the feast of dedication was kept with glad hearts". His sketch ended with:

While St. Luke's has thus given her sons to the Church, and her members have scattered themselves into various parts of our country, and her own graveyards have gradually filled with her departed, she is stronger and more vigorous to-day than at any former period of her history. In blessing others she has blessed herself. And to-day we join in this feast of dedication with a membership of over 300, with possibilities of future usefulness than can scarcely be estimated. Let us then, while we rededicate our beautiful temple to the worship of Almighty God, reconsecrate ourselves to His service, that we may, indeed, enjoy not only this occasion, but the continued smiles of our kind heavenly Father, and be a still greater blessing to the world. St. Luke's is the first church in the country in our synod that has determined to stand alone, and support her own pastor. She thus stands in the front of all our country churches and deserves the need of praise of setting a good example which we hope to see followed by others.

(quotes from October 18, 1883 issue of *The Lutheran Visitor*, pg. 5)

New Furniture Consecration

August 3, 1924

Rev. Edwin H. Seckinger, Pastor

A consecratory service was held on August 3, 1924 for the New Chancel furniture. The Rev. H. J. Black, President of the South Carolina Synod, preached. The Rev. Mr. Seckinger performed the act of consecration. (1924 Synod Minutes, p. 19).

Centennial Celebration

August 9, 1928

Rev. Julian B. Harmon, Pastor

This celebration was held on Thursday, August 9, 1928. This all day service was attended by a large crowd of members, former members, and friends of the congregation.

The program began at 10:00 A.M. with the choir singing an anthem; this was followed by a devotional service conducted by the Rev. W. D. Haltiwanger of Newberry. An address of welcome was made by Mr. Otto Boozer, and Mr. Alden F. Pugh gave the history of the congregation.

Addresses were made by the Rev. S. P. Koon, the Rev. W. H. Roof, and the Rev. E. H. Seckinger, all former pastors and Dr. A. J. Bowers, a former supply pastor. The Rev. George S. Bearden and the Rev. B. W. Cronk, both former pastors who could not be present, sent letters of greeting.

Strong and appealing addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. E. Pugh of Jacksonville, Florida and Professor Rufus Michael Monts, Sr. of Statesboro, Georgia, both sons of the congregation. Letters of greetings were read from the Rev. C. J. Shealy, president of the South Carolina Synod and George B. Cromer, LL.D., a leading layman of the Lutheran Church in South Carolina. A bountiful picnic dinner was served on the ground. The afternoon was spent in social contact. It was a great day for St. Luke's and the community. [Lutheran Messenger and Newberry Observer, XLVI:63 (Aug. 7, 1928), pg. 3].

Groundbreaking Ceremony

June 13, 1954

Rev. Thomas F. Suber, D.D., Pastor

The officers of Council and the Chairman of the building Committee participated in the groundbreaking ceremony on Sunday afternoon, June 13, 1954. Dr. Karl W. Kinard, president of the S. C. Synod preached. The pastor, Dr. Thomas F. Suber, conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. J. Shelton Moose, Synodical Field Worker. Mrs. Essie Hawkins and Mr. Rufus M. Monts, Sr. responded as representative voices for St. Luke's Church. (Building Committee Minutes).

Laying of Cornerstone

July 24, 1955

Rev. Thomas F. Suber, Pastor

On Sunday afternoon, July 24, 1955, at 5:00 P.M. the cornerstone was put into place. The Rev. R. A. Goodman, D.D., of Newberry delivered the address. The Rev. Thomas H. Weeks, president of the Newberry conference and the Rev. Karl W. Kinard, D.D., president of the South Carolina Synod, gave greetings. The contents of the cornerstone were announced prior to the laying of the stone. (Contents given in Appendix VI.) (Details from program).

Dedication of 1955 Church

April 21, 1957

Rev. Thomas F. Suber, D.D., Pastor

The dedication service was held on Sunday afternoon, April 21, 1957, at 4:00 P.M. The prayer of dedication was given by the Rev. Thomas H.

Weeks, Pastor of the Beth Eden Parish and president of the Newberry Conference. The dedication was made by Dr. Thomas F. Suber, Pastor. The Rev. Karl W. Kinard, President of the Lutheran Synod of South Carolina, presented the dedicatory sermon.

The program included a picture of the 1845 church after the Sunday School Annex was added in 1915 and a photo of the church being dedicated. A brief history of St. Luke's written by Mrs. Essie Hawkins was included. (Details from program).

Dedication of Parsonage

October 27, 1963

Rev. J. Hilton Roof, Pastor

The Rev. Karl W. Kinard, D.D., President of the Lutheran Synod of South Carolina, participated in the dedication of the new parsonage on Sunday afternoon, October 27, 1963, at 3:00 P.M. The Pastor, the Rev. J. Hilton Roof, also took part in the ceremony. On this same day Dr. Kinard installed the Rev. Mr. Roof as pastor and gave the sermon at the morning worship. (Details from program).

SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

October 1978

Rev. Henry N. Brandt, Pastor

Festival of St. Luke, Evangelist

October 18, 1978

The 150th Anniversary celebration began on Wednesday night, October 18, 1978 at 7:30 p.m. This special worship service was a historical pageant consisting of a narrative of the history of St. Luke's along with dramas depicting outstanding and interesting events of her history, such as:

1. Communion service using the common cup and a loaf of bread.
2. Reading of scripture lesson as minister descended from pulpit to walk among his parishners carrying a lighted candle to provide light for reading.
3. Lining out of a hymn by the "singing school teacher."
4. Review of Children's Day Exercise.
5. Portions of the tape recording of the first service in the 1955 church (October 2, 1955).
6. Introduction of the 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*.

The pastors participating in this service were the Rev. J. Virgil Long and the Rev. J. Hilton Roof (both former pastors); the Rev. Gerald Smith and the Rev. Larry Smith (both sons of the congregation); and Pastor

Henry N. Brandt.

The Senior, Junior, Children's, and Cherub choirs participated by presenting music which represented the 150 years of the church's history. Persons dressed in period costumes dramatized historical scenes. The entire congregation participated in the group singing.

Festival Celebration and Homecoming

October 22, 1978

The festival celebration was held on Sunday, October 22, 1978. Sunday School began at 10:00 a.m.

The Morning Worship Service commenced at 11:00 a.m. with the festival procession. The liturgy was given by the Rev. J. Virgil Long (former pastor), the Rev. Gerald Smith (son of the congregation), and the Rev. Henry N. Brandt (pastor of the congregation). The scripture lessons for the day were read by auxiliaries of the church: L.C.M., L.C.W., and L.C.Y. The Rev. Paulwyn L. Boliek, D.D., Secretary of the Lutheran Synod of South Carolina, delivered the sermon. Music was provided by the Senior, Junior, Children's, and Cherub choirs.

A picnic lunch followed at approximately 1 p.m. The program of reminiscing and hymn singing began at 2:30 p.m. followed by a period of time for visiting. Old pictures and other memorabilia were on display in the historical exhibit.

Former members, former supply pastors, and friends of the congregation joined the members as they worshipped together and celebrated this milestone in St. Luke's history.

Appendix VI

(Contents of Cornerstone, laid July 24, 1955)

1. History of congregation
 - a. organization
 - b. date
 - c. charter members—roll of 1832
 - d. pastors
 - e. parish relationships
2. Building committee
3. St. Luke's Directory (1954-1955)
4. Names of present Sunday School classes, teachers, and assistants
5. Copies of current issues of newspapers:
 - a. *The Lutheran*
 - b. *The S. C. Lutheran*
 - c. *The State*
 - d. *The Greenville News*
 - e. *The Newberry Observer*
 - f. *The Sun*

6. Copy of current Congregational Constitution (model)
7. A fifty-cent coin (1954)
8. Copy of 1955 minutes of Synod
9. Copy of the Word Edition of the *Common Service Book*
10. Copies of the *St. James* and *Standard Revised Versions of The Bible*
11. List of membership today; list of deceased since Jan. 1, 1952
12. Pictures of old church building
13. Copy of the program for the laying of the cornerstone

Appendix VII

Synod Report in 1884

The 1884 Synod Minutes (p. 55) give the following report for St. Luke's. This was for the first year St. Luke's stood alone and supported its own pastor, Dr. Jacob H. Hawkins.

25 infants baptized
 10 confirmed
 2 received by certificate
 2 dismissals
 4 infant deaths
 6 adult deaths
 325 communicants
 6 teachers in Sunday School
 80 scholars in Sunday School
 \$50 Synodical Fund assessment
 \$50 Synodical Fund paid

St. Luke's Statistics for 1928 (100th Anniversary)

Total budget \$2,006
 Membership
 545 baptized
 348 confirmed
 275 communing

22 infant baptisms
 2 adult baptisms
 34 confirmed
 11 received from Lutheran churches
 4 removed by death
 7 removed by transfer
 Sunday School
 14 teachers
 164 scholars
 Woman's Society—16 members
 Luther League—21 members

(Information from St. Luke's Record Book and 1929 Synod Minutes, pages 36 and 53)

St. Luke's Statistics for 1978 (150th Anniversary)

Current Expenses	\$21,496.00
Apportionments	<u>12,672.00</u>
Total Budget	\$34,168.00

Membership (as of January 1, 1978)
 786 baptized members
 590 confirmed members

Changes in church membership roll from January 1—September 15, 1978:

6 infant and child baptisms
 3 adult baptisms
 11 confirmed
 7 transferred to St. Luke's
 4 removed by request
 7 adults removed by death

The number of communing members as of September 15, 1978, is 433.

Church Council Members—1978

J. P. Hawkins, Vice-Chairman
 Thomas R. Mitchell, Secretary

Bernard Boozer	Rufus Kitchen
Enoch Boozer	Joe Kunkle
Joseph S. Boozer	Charles Lake
Ronald Boozer	James R. Lester
Michael Hawkins	Bernard Nichols
John D. Hunter	J. W. Pitts
Fred Kesler	Ellis Shealy*

*Congregational Treasurer

Sunday School

Leaders and teachers	51
Total pupil enrollment	336

Lutheran Church Men

The L.C.M. meets on Monday after the second Sunday. The current membership is 18.

Lutheran Church Women

The L.C.W. is divided into 7 circles each of which meets monthly. The entire group meets quarterly. There are 80 members.

Lutheran Church Youth

The youth are divided into two groups: Intermediate (grades 6-8) and Senior (grade 9-College). Both groups meet on the first and third Sunday nights. The two groups meet together for Bible study on the fifth Sunday nights. The Intermediate group and the Senior group each have 21 members.

Appendix VIII

Property Transactions (from the records of Newberry County Court House)

John Enlow to Frederick Shumpert and Henry Bedenbaugh, Elders. 3 acres for a Lutheran Church (site of all 3 churches). 6 December 1828. Book CC, page 20.

Jacob Hawkins to Colony, Newville and St. Luke's. $12\frac{7}{8}$ acres. 29 July 1872. Book SS, page 173.

Colony, Newville, and St. Luke's to A. Logan Wyse. $12\frac{7}{8}$ acres. 19 March 1875. Book 17, page 76.

Andrew Nichols to St. Luke's and Colony. $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres (site of 3 parsonages). Recorded 1 August, 1876. Book YY, page 440.

Colony Lutheran Church to St. Luke's. $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres. 29 September, 1884. Book 2, page 476.

George W. Rankin to St. Luke's. 0.5 acre. 11 September, 1918. Book 24, page 44.

Mary M. Thomas to St. Luke's. 2.84 acres. About October 11, 1920. Book 109, page 399.

St. Luke's Church to J. O. Moore 0.5 acre. J. O. Moore to St. Luke's 1 acre (land exchange). 24 June 1926. Book 32, pages 38 and 39.

St. Luke's signed right-of-way authority for REA 21 March, 1938. Book 45, page 207.

Fred and J. C. Cook to St. Luke's Church. 0.5 acre. 11 March 1944. Book 106, page 438.

Through the last will and testament of John Jacob Dominick, M.D. from his estate 65 acres and 13 acres (total 78 acres) to St. Luke's Church. 23 April, 1949. Book 9, pages 324-326.

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church to N. V. and Lucille T. Boozer. 13 acres. 22 August, 1953. Book 61, page 455.

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church to Lucille B. Boozer. 65 acres. 13 October, 1962. Book 83, page 50.

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church to Eldred Connelly and et. al. 2.68 acres and building. 13 October, 1962. Book 80, page 579.

Fred Cook to St. Luke's 0.5 acre. 30 November, 1972. Book 112, page 84.

Appendix IX

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