

Inventory of the

Salem Lutheran Church
Sandwich, Illinois

Records

In the

Regional History Center

RC 84

INTRODUCTION

Reverend Philip Lund deposited the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church records with the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on November 26, 1979.

Property rights in the collection are held by Salem Lutheran Church; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 3.5
Number of containers: 4 + 1 volume
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 84

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records in this collection document the history of the Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church from 1904 to 1978.

The collection contains official church records describing the congregation's origin, growth, and service organizations. Documents include the original constitution and official advisory board minutes, correspondence, annual reports, membership records, and financial accounts dating from 1904 to 1976. Also included are records from committees and organizations charged with responsibility for the congregation's mission in the Sandwich community. Researcher Note: Since Salem Lutheran was a religious center for many Swedish immigrants, much of the earlier documentation is in the Swedish language. The collection also contains the Church's printed material, publications, and include volumes of Salem Co-Worker, The Salem Spectator, and Salem Church Bulletins and guest registers dating 1944 to 1978.

For related material, researchers may wish to consult the following collections: First Congregational Church Collection (RC 17), DeKalb First United Methodist Church Collection (RC 24), and St. Paul's Episcopal Church Collection (RC 55).

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sandwich, Illinois, was organized on April 20, 1904 for the purpose of serving Swedish immigrants who settled in the area around the turn of the century. By 1908, the pastoral leadership of Reverend Ostrom encouraged membership and made possible the purchase of their own church building where the congregation worshiped until 1957.

For the first forty-one years, Salem Lutheran shared pastoral service with Grace Lutheran Church in Aurora, Illinois. In 1946, the congregation took steps to secure its own pastor. Dedicated efforts from the Board of American Missions of Augustana Lutheran Church enabled

Salem Lutheran to establish a full parish program with T.C. Peterson serving as the first resident pastor. Salem's membership continued to grow and by 1957 the congregation had built a new church facility where they continue to worship today.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Lutherans
Salem Lutheran Church, Sandwich
Sandwich(Ill.)
Swedish Americans

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Anniversary Publication, 1944-1964
	2	Church Dedication, May 1965
	3-4	Annual Reports, 1948-1972
	5	Local Parochial Reports, 1946-1969
	6	Congregation Directory, 1967, 1976
	7	Transfer Records, 1946-1969
	8	Correspondence, 1958-1960
	9	Smorgasbord, 1964-1965
	10	Salem Guild Minutes, 1951-1957
	11-12	Luther League, 1927-1941
	13	Luther League, Financial Records, 1962-1969
	14	Luther Men's Club, 1955-1963
	15-16	Ladies Missionary Society, Minutes and Financial Records, 1909-1950
	17-19	Ladies Aid Society, Minutes, 1925-1956
	20	Ladies Aid Society, Financial Record, Membership Roll, 1927-1953
	21	Friendship Circle, 1951-1959
	22	Salem Lutheran Church Women, 1957-1966
	23	American Missions Aid, 1946-1952
	24	Oberg Estate, 1962-1963
	25	Memorial Fund, 1958-1960
	26	Pledges, 1959-1960
	27	Financial Ledger, 1954-1959
Oversize	1 volume	Original Membership Records, 1904-1916?

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	3
2	1	Church Building Fund, 1958-1966	
	2	Financial Secretary's Reports, 1957-1967	
	3	Treasurer's Reports, 1966-1972	
	9 volumes 8 volumes	Financial Account Books, 1904-1977 Salem Bulletins, 1944-1955	
3	1-18	Bulletins, 1956-1974	
	19	<u>Salem Co-Worker</u> , 1960	
	20-29	<u>The Salem Spectator</u> , 1961-1970	
4	1-4	<u>The Salem Spectator</u> , 1971-1974	
5	3 volumes	The Salem Guest Register, 1957-1978	