FULTON UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MINUTES BOOK OF THE FULTON EVANGELICAL CONGREGATION AND CHURCH COUNCIL, JULY 22, 1889 – AUGUST 2, 1913

NOTES BY THE TRANSLATOR

Translation by Walter A. Schroeder, begun August 9, 2011, and finished October 11, 2011.

Material within brackets has been added by Walter Schroeder for comment or clarification.

Some minutes are out of chronological order in the book. Here, they are all in chronological order, with the page in the minutes book noted.

Personal names are sometimes spelled differently. They were not standardized in this translation, because the correct spelling was not known. Among them are: Perman, Pirman, Pirmann. Piermann, Piermann; Smit, Smidt, Schmidt, Schmid; Sulzer, Sultzer; Berghauser, Berghouser; Neukomm, Neukamm, Neukom, Neucomm; Hoffmann, Hofmann; Fischer, Fisher; Hild, Hilt; Menke, Menker; Bonath, Bonad; Osfald, Osfard. Those who search the CD for personal names should be aware of these various spellings.

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- pp. 160-167 Constitution of the congregation (approved Aug. 5, 1889).
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Fulton, Mo. July 22, 1889

Not long after several Evangelical pastors and students preached here, Pastor Wm. Meyer was sent here, upon request, to organize an Evangelical congregation and to serve the same. After he preached several times, he invited all Germans to assemble in the school house to discuss forming a German Evangelical congregation in Fulton. The meeting was opened by Pastor Meyer with prayer. Then the matter was discussed. Pastor Meyer was directed to draft a constitution and to present it at the next meeting. Since the reformed congregation would purchase its property, three trustees were elected by the assembly, namely Fr. Lorenz, Aug. Fischer, and J.G. Mueller, who shall buy the property for the congregation. Then followed adjournment until August 5.

The meeting of **August 5**, **1889** was opened with prayer. Fr. Lorenz was elected secretary. Pastor Meyer read the constitution [that he drafted for the congregation] discussing each paragraph, and then it was unanimously adopted. The election for deacons gave the following result: Dan. Petri, 1 year; Peter Wichmann, two years; J. Langenbach, 3 years. For trustees and elders: Fr. Lorenz, 3 years; Aug. Fischer, 2 years; J.W. Mueller, 1 year. In this way the congregation created its constitution. May the Lord give his blessing upon this action. Amen.

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Fulton, September 23, 1889

The council met in the house of Mr. Langenbach. Absent was Mr. Mueller. Mr. John Neucomm was welcomed as a provisional member. The meeting was opened with prayer. It was moved to compensate Fritz Lorenz ten dollars for the food and housing he provided for the visiting preacher. Approved. A table was bought. Langenbach and Fischer were elected to be a committee to build a coal shed. Mr. Neukomm was assigned to take care of the cash box. Pledges for the pastor's salary will be made for the half year ending January 1. Pledges for 1890 will be made at the next meeting. Then, adjournment.

Wm. Meyer [the Pastor, who served as secretary] Approved by the president.

Fulton, Mo. January 1, 1890

The congregation met at 2:30 in the church. [Note: This cannot be the church that they were yet to build.] The meeting was opened with prayer. The names of the members were read. Present were 15 members, plus 2 who had applied for membership. Seven were absent. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as read. Misters Hilt and Menke were approved as voting members. Further, Misters Ch. Hoffmann, H. Velta, and M. Backer were accepted in the congregation. The motion was made to elect the next officers on January 1, 1891, to serve one year, so that the current elected officers will serve the congregation for one and one half years. John Neukomm, Dan and Ed. Petri were elected to keep the treasurer's books. They reported a surplus of \$8.88. The motion was made to build a church, and after long, give-and-take discussion, the motion was unanimously approved. Then the building was discussed, and the decision was reached **[p. 5]** to build it as large as we could, but it was yet to be seen how much money could be brought in on behalf of the congregation. For this purpose, the Pastor and John Langenbach, Fr. Lorenz, and Wm. Backer were named as committee to solicit pledges. Also, the entire congregation will be a committee-at-large to work for the cause. Pastor Meyer was elected treasurer of the building committee. The congregation adjourned after prayer.

Wm. Meyer Approved by the president.

Fulton, Mo. January 10, 1890

Pledges have already reached one thousand dollars. Therefore the congregation met to take steps for building the church. It was decided to build the church on Asylum Street, since then the English-speaking residents would be helped; but not on the street, rather on the upper part of the lot, some 20-30 feet from the fence. Aug. Fischer, John Neukomm, and John Langenbach were elected as building committee. After some discussion on approximately how big to build, the congregation adjourned.

Wm. Meyer Approved by the president.

Fulton, Mo. January 24, 1890

The building committee presented to the congregation the plan prepared by Mr. Fred Bell. The plan was unanimously approved, as well as the decision to have the church built.

Wm. Meyer Approved by the president.

Fulton, Mo. May 27, 1890

The congregational meeting began after the worship service. The building committee had the books that of the building committee treasurer kept and now reported the total receipts and

expenses for the church. The congregation had collected and received as gifts a total of \$1,858.25, of which \$63 was from sister Evangelical congregations. (If the congregation does not remain Evangelical, it must re-pay this money to the Mission Fund of the Evangelical Synod of North America.) Therefore a debt of \$298.20 remains. [**p. 6**] The treasurer reported that he could collect \$98.20 from the pledges. It was decided to borrow the remaining \$200, but nevertheless still try to bring this amount in right away through pledges. To do this, a list of names of absent members was passed around. Also, Mr. Dan Petri was elected congregational delegate to the July 5 conference in Lexington, so that the congregation would be represented. Then, adjournment.

Wm. Meyer, secretary

Fulton, Mo. May 29, 1890

Pursuant to the decision of May 27, the officers borrowed \$200 at 6% interest for an indefinite period. One hundred dollars came from Mr. John Langenbach and one hundred dollars from Pastor Meyer, to whom promissory notes were made. Mr. E. Bauer insured the church for \$900 for three years. The Ladies Aid contributed \$167.90 for new furnishings in the church building. The Sunday School contributed \$30 for pulpit and altar.

Fulton, Mo. September 1, 1890

The congregation met for its regularly meeting. The motion was made to convert the old house into a dwelling. Approved. More discussion on how best that could be done. There was agreement that \$200 of collected money would be used to pay off the promissory notes. A building committee consisting of Fr. Lorenz, John Neukomm, and Pastor Meyer was elected. They were instructed to have the house removed from being near the street by tearing down the objectionable part [the part next to the street] and to build a new kitchen 9 x 16 feet so that there would be enough space remaining [in the house] for a school room of 8 x 17 feet. Wm. Meyer

[p. 7]

Fulton, January 1, 1891

The congregation met for its regular annual meeting. Fifteen 15 voting members were present. After a quorum was proclaimed, the meeting opened with prayer. The annual report of the treasurer was read first, and a committee appointed to review the books reported that they found the treasurer's books in order. Mr. Joh. Klick was accepted into the congregation. The books of the building committee treasurer were again presented and audited by a committee as correct, so their purpose was served. Mr. Aug. Jatho was elected trustee for three years in the place of the deceased John Mueller and Mr. Dan Petri was re-elected. Since a decision had never been reached on how much salary to guarantee the pastor, the pastor left the room, and the congregation decided to pay the pastor \$400 annually. Then the meeting adjourned. Wm. Meyer [pastor]

On the second Sunday in January [January 11, 1892], Aug. Jatho was introduced as officer to the assembled congregation.

On February 1, 1892, B. Schiller and L. Hinderer were accepted into the congregation.

On March 29, 1892, Joh. Klick was elected delegate to the Conference.

On April 13, 1892, the council borrowed \$100 from C. Berghauser and repaid the debt to Pastor Meyer.

On May 29, 1892, the Ladies Aid paid Joh. Langenbach \$6 for the annual interest for the \$100 borrowed from him.

On November 2, 1892, the Ladies Aid paid \$14 to the treasurer for interest on the borrowed capital.

Wm. Meyer

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Fulton, Mo. January 11, 1892

The scheduled meeting for January 1, 1892 could not be held because of bad weather. Therefore the congregation called a meeting for 2:30 in the afternoon of January 11. Pastor Meyer opened it with prayer. Upon calling the roll, it was shown that only ten voting members were present. The minutes were approved as read. Since no new members had applied for membership, Pastor Meyer gave a report for the council about the status of the congregation. It was reported that the council has had a cistern built at the parsonage, for which the Sunday School gave the necessary money. Also, that a number of friends of the congregation had aided in this project, and that they immediately earned the thanks of the congregation. Since the terms of office for Aug. Fischer and Peter Wichmann had expired, a new election was held. Aug. Fischer was unanimously re-elected, and Peter Wichmann re-elected with 6 votes for, and 4 votes for Wm. Geren. Then the treasurer presented his report. He reported that several had not completely paid their pledges for this year. The amount in arrears amounts to about \$13, and in fact two voting members had not paid anything. The total income, including \$25 from the Sunday School and \$14 from the Ladies Aid, amounted to \$526.59. The total expenses amounted to \$521.46. Remaining in the treasury, \$5.13. Fr. Lorenz, D. Petri, and Wm. Backer were elected to audit these accounts. Then the council organized itself and elected Dan Petri as President and Fritz Lorenz as secretary, and Aug. Fischer was again elected treasurer. However, the latter firmly turned down the position, because another could do the work as well. The council decided to hand over the election of a treasurer to the congregation [p. 9] and Wm. Backer was elected treasurer and Louis Petri collector.

The church janitor, August Diehl, who, according to the treasurer's books, took \$27 in the last year, which left \$10 for the Pastor's salary, announced to the congregation that he would need more, and requested \$30 for his work [as janitor]. The congregation didn't accede to his request and laid the matter on the table. They decided next Sunday after the sermon to come to a decision. Then, adjournment.

Wm. Meyer

Fulton, Mo. January 17, 1892

Pursuant to the decision at the last congregational meeting, the congregation assembled after the worship service to make a decision on the matter of the church janitor. After long debate, it was unanimously decided to give the janitor the requested \$24 without deduction from it for a contribution to the maintenance of the congregation. On motion, adjournment followed.

[p. 10]

Sunday, March 14, 1892

Meeting of the members of the German Evangelical Church, Fulton, Mo.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

2. On motion by Daniel Petri the resignation of Pastor Meyer was approved.

3. Members proceeded to the election of a successor to Pastor Meyer upon a motion by Daniel Petri.

4. Pastor Struckmeyer (of Ferguson, St. Louis Co.), who earlier had given a guest sermon in our church, was put forward as a candidate for election on motion by John Langenbach.
5. There were 22 voting members present. The voting was 1 vote for "no," 2 ballots left

unmarked, and the other 19 were cast with a "yes." Louis Petri and Heinrich Wichmann had earlier been named by Pastor Meyer as ballot counters.

6. On motion by Pastor Meyer, Pastor Struckmeyer was declared to be elected unanimously.

7. Pastor Meyer's request to the congregation that he might be permitted to leave his position somewhat earlier was granted.

8. Pastor Struckmeyer was notified of the result of the election and it was explained to him to let us know this week whether he would take the **[p. 11]** position here, or not.

9. On motion by August Jatho the meeting was adjourned and the council was left the responsibility of determining salary.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 12]

April 24, 1892

Sunday, April 24, 1892, members of the congregation met in the church in a special meeting. 1. Conrad Berghauser was elected delegate to the Conference of the Evangelical Missouri District, which this year meets in St. Charles.

2. The rooms in the Pastor's house were inspected, and Peter Wichmann directed to put them in good shape. Pastor Meyer preached his departure sermon in the morning worship service and introduced in an evening worship service his successor Pastor Carl Struckmeier in his position as pastor and care giver in this congregation.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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April 30, 1892

On Sunday, April 30, 1892, the congregation met in a special meeting made the decision to have the following printed in *Gemeindborte*, a [German-language] Sedalia newspaper:

"Since Pastor W. Meier heard to a call from the Lord and accepted it [to become pastor of the Sedalia congregation], we now release Pastor W. Meier only because we are much indebted to him and we have won his sincere love as friend, care giver, and preacher of the Evangel. Be it hereby resolved that we

1. gratefully thank Pastor W. Meier for his faithful and unselfish work in our congregation.

2. ask him to remember us in his prayers.

3. commend him to God's care in his journey and in all his works in his calling, with God's richest blessings.

4. ask the congregation in Sedalia to accommodate him with love, to come to trust him, and to stand with him in his work in your congregation."

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, September 4, 1892

The congregation met in the church. Pastor Struckmeyer explained to the congregation that his health does not permit him to continue the call, because the doctor has advised him to give up the position of pastor for a while and to seek out a better climate, and in general to take it easy. From Pastor Struckmeier we learned of Pastor E. Berdan of Kansas, and he was invited to preach a guest sermon on Sunday, September 11.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, September 11, 1892

After Pastor Berdan gave his guest sermon, he was unanimously elected Pastor and will have the office of pastor of our Evangelical congregation in Fulton beginning October 1, 1892. So God wills.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo. January 8, 1893

The congregation met in the church for their annual meeting to elect the council for the coming year and especially to make important decisions. The meeting was opened by Pastor E. Berdan with prayer.

On motion of Fritz Lorenz all required offices were to be voted on.

John Langenbach and August Jatho were nominated as candidates for trustee for 3 years. Jatho received 6 and Langenbach 11 votes. So John Langenbach, with a majority of votes, was elected trustee for 3 years.

A. Fischer and August Jatho were nominated as candidates for trustee for 2 years. Jatho received 11 votes and Fischer 6. So Aug. Jatho, with a majority of votes, was elected trustee for 2 years.

A. Fischer and William Gern were nominated as candidates for trustee for 1 year. August Fischer received 11 votes and William Gern 6. So August Fischer, with a majority of votes, was elected trustee for 1 year.

Then came the election of three deacons. Fritz Lorenz, W. Sultzer, and W. Gern were nominated as candidates for deacon for 3 years. Fritz Lorenz was unanimously elected deacon for 3 years.

Then W. Sultzer and W. Gern were nominated as candidate for deacon for 2 years. William Gern was unanimously elected deacon for 2 years.

[p. 16] Then Daniel Petri and W. Sultzer were nominated as candidate for deacon for 1 year. W. Sultzer, with a majority of votes, was elected deacon for 1 year.

From the above elected officers, August Jatho was elected president of the congregation. Fritz Lorenz was elected secretary of the congregation. Wilhelm Backer was elected treasurer.

All serve without salary. August Diehl was named church janitor with an annual salary of \$24. Langenbach, Fischer, and Gern reported that they had audited the treasurer's book and found them correct, and, at the same time, announced that the

total income for year 1892 was \$541.36

expenses <u>\$515.15</u> balance 26.21

Then, it was decided to build a cellar under the parsonage and, at the same time, to circulate at the meeting a list to sign up for voluntary labor for building the cellar, and collected \$11 from the members present in the church. Building the cellar was put in the hands of John Langenbach, Peter Wichmann, and August Fischer.

Since there was nothing left to decide and do, the meeting adjourned with prayer by the expresident Dan Petri.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 17]

Fulton, April_, 1893

The congregation met after the worship service and elected Mr. Hy. Klick as delegate to the Conference, which takes place April 22 in St. Louis. Because there was no more business to take care of, the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, June 11, 1893

The congregation met in the church after the worship service. Pastor Berdan was permitted to preach every fourth Sunday in Audrain County, in the country (compliant to the request of the president of the Missouri District), because in the country of the above county there were several Evangelical Christians without a pastor.

August Jatho made the motion to insure the church building through the Synod Association. Approved. Since, however, a minority were not be satisfied with that, the majority yielded so that they, at another meeting, could discuss further whether it would be better for the church to be insured with a local company.

Then, adjournment.

Fulton, Mo., December 17, 1893

The congregation met in the church. Pastor Berdan explained that he understood from a letter from John Langenbach that some of the members were not happy with the permission granted to the pastor in the last meeting to preach every fourth Sunday in Audrain County. So, now to put everyone into a friendly, Christian frame of mind, he asked the congregation once again to voice their opinions whether he could preach every fourth Sunday in the named county, because he would comply immediately with their wish. Mr. Klick moved that the pastor not be allowed to preach in that county. Voting was done by show of hands. Result was 6 for, 6 against, and president August Jatho decided the question because his vote was against the motion. Whereupon he declared the vote done unanimously by all members. So the pastor was given permission to preach every fourth Sunday in each month up until June 1894 (therefore a whole year) in the named county.

Because the church was not insured for enough, another insurer was sought, which all the officers could agree upon, so that the same plan **[p. 19]** could be had, and it will be presented to the congregation in their meeting.

Then, adjournment.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 11][Note: the secretary went back to earlier pages to write the minutes] Fulton, December 31, 1893

The congregation met for its annual meeting [on December 31, 1893 for year 1894]. The meeting was opened by Pastor Berdan with prayer. The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and found correct.

It was moved to thank the Young People's Association [*Jugendverein*], through Pastor Berdan, for the faithful help and the motto above the pulpit.

A committee of D. Petri, A. Fischer, and W. Gern to audit the treasurer's books.

T. Petri was unanimously elected trustee for 3 years in August Fischer's place, who resigned as trustee. Louis Petri was elected deacon for 3 years in W. Sultzer's place, who resigned as trustee.

The congregation took a break. Then the board elected the following officers from the council members. Aug. Jatho president for one year. Fritz Lorenz secretary for one year. August Diehl was again elected as church janitor with an annual salary of \$24. The trustees were ordered to insure the church and its contents in the Synod Insurance Association for \$1,998.75. The following are now the council with its officers for the present:

[p. 12]

August Jatho	trustee for 1 year
John Langenbach	trustee for 2 years
Teo. Petri	trustee for 3 years
Fritz Lorenz	deacon for 2 years
Wilhelm Gern	deacon for 1 year
Louis Petri	deacon for 3 years
August Jatho	president for 1 year
Fritz Lorenz	secretary for 1 year
Wilhelm Backer	treasurer for 1 year
August Diehl	janitor for 1 year

January 13, 1894

The above name committee reported to the congregation about their inspection of the treasurer's books. The report was approved and the committee dismissed.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 20]

Fulton, Mo. January 6, 1895

The annual meeting of the congregation took place in their church and was opened by Pastor Berdan with prayer. The minutes were read and found correct.

Pastor Berdan read his annual report and the congregation found it good. The congregation thanked him for the faithful work that he as preacher had done during the course of the year. The treasurer read his report about income and expenses for the year and then a motion was made for the president A. Jatho to name a committee of three members to review the treasurer's books. The committee consists of Peter Wichmann, August Fischer, and William Langenbach. They will present a report of the results of their inspection of the treasurer's three books at the next meeting, January 13. At the same time, the treasurer was thanked for his commendable work. The secretary was also thanked for his work. August Jatho, whose term as trustee expired January 1 of this year, was re-elected for 3 years. William Sulzer was elected in the place of William Gern, whose term as deacon ran out on January 1 of this year. August Jatho was elected president. **[p. 21]** August Diehl was again elected church janitor at an annual salary of \$24. The board of the congregation again elected Wilhelm Backer as treasurer for one year, and Fritz Lorenz as secretary. Then the meeting adjourned with prayer and blessings by Pastor Berdan.

Thus the officers are as follows:

Trustees	August Jatho	3 years
"	John Langenbach	l year
"	Teo. Petri	2 years
Deacons	Fritz Lorenz	1 year
"	William Sulzer	3 years
"	Louis Petri	2 years
Secretary	Fritz Lorenz	1 year
Treasurer	Wilhelm Backer	1 year
Janitor	August Diehl	1 year

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Sunday, February 17, 1895

[scribbled and difficult to read]

Concerning the report (named above) by Peter Wichmann, August Fischer, William Langenbach. The treasurer is still lacking \$76 and needs to pay the Pastor E. Berdan his salary. Fritz Lorenz

Fulton, April 21, 1895

In a special meeting of the congregation Gustav Klick was unanimously elected delegate to the Conference, which takes place in May of this year in St. Louis.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 23]

Fulton, January 5, 1896

The congregation held its annual meeting in its church, and it was opened by Pastor E. Berdan with prayer. On motion of president A. Jatho, the minutes were read and approved. Thomas Klick was approved as a full member of the congregation. Pastor E. Berdan read his annual report, which showed a slow progress for the congregation. Then president A. Jatho thanked Pastor Berdan on behalf of the congregation.

The report of treasurer Wilhelm Backer was read and, on a motion, three persons, namely Wilhelm Langenbach, August Fischer, Chr. Backer, were directed to review the treasurer's books and report back in another meeting on Sunday two weeks from today.

Then the election of officers took place:

Phillip Backer and Chr. Backer were nominated as candidates for trustees for 3 years to replace John Langenbach whose term had expired. Phillip was elected trustee for 3 years.

Then Chr. Backer and August Fischer were nominated as candidates for deacon to replace Fritz Lorenz, whose term had expired. **[back to p. 22]** Chr. Backer was unanimously elected deacon for 3 years.

On motion of Pastor Berdan the treasurer and secretary were heartily thanked for their efforts in the past year.

Thus, for year 1896 the officers are:

Trustee	Phillip F. Backer	3 years	
"	August Jatho	2 years	
"	Teodor Petri	1 year	
Deacon	Chr. Backer	3 years	
"	William Sulzer	2 years	
"	Louis Petri	1 year	
The following officers were elected by the council:			
Treasurer	W. Backer	1 year	
Secretary	Fritz Lorenz	1 year	

Janitor Aug. Diehl 1 year

After prayer, Pastor Berdan left the meeting and it was decided that the treasurer should ask each member for help to make up for the deficit in the treasury, through voluntary giving. Then the meeting adjourned until two weeks from today.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 24]

January 19, 1896

The committee that reviewed the treasurer's books, consisting of August Fischer, Wilhelm Langenbach, and Chr. Backer, reported to the congregation at a special meeting, Sunday, January 19. The congregation accepted the report. Then the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

April 5, 1896

On Sunday, April 5, the congregation met in a quarterly meeting. It was decided that the treasurer should report in the next quarterly meeting. Further, the election of a delegate took place and August Jatho was unanimously elected, and

Wilhelm Sulzer as first substitute, Fritz Lorenz as second substitute. Then, adjournment. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Wilhelm Sulzer became the delegate, later, to the conference, which took place in St. Louis.

[p. 25]

Fulton, July 5, 1896

The congregation met in the church. The meeting was opened by Pastor Berdan with prayer. Treasurer Wilhelm Backer gave the following report. In the treasury account, from January 1 on, from collection in the worship services was a total of \$31.05. Expenses overall totaled \$29.80, leaving a balance of \$1.25. From members, for pledges for the pastor's salary, the treasurer had collected \$114.35. Therefore, the congregation still owed Pastor Berdan \$85.65 for his half year's salary [of \$200; \$400 for full year]. Since several members had not yet fulfilled their written promises to underwrite the pastor's salary and the pastor had been overly patient, it was decided to bring in more money through [Sunday] collections in the next quarter year, but not only through those collections but also through other legitimate means, like picnics, etc. There being no more business, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 27]

Sunday, October 4, 1896

The congregation met in a special meeting. The meeting was opened by Pastor Berdan with prayer. Pres. August Jatho was absent and Pastor Berdan chaired the meeting.

1. The report of the treasurer, Wilhelm Backer, over the previous quarter year, was, after review, approved as correct.

2. The parsonage, in case the old insurance expires, will be immediately insured.

3. The secretary will remind all members, who have not paid anything on their pledges for the pastor's salary since year 1895, of their obligation.

The meeting adjourned with prayer.

Pastor Berdan took the place of the absent secretary.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

In a meeting on **December 13, 1896,** it was decided to insure the church and the parsonage under one policy with the Synod Association. Pastor Berdan took the place of the secretary, because he was absent.

[p. 28]

January 24, 1897

The congregation met Sunday, January 24, 1897, in the Evangelical Church for its annual meeting. At around 3:45 the meeting opened with prayer. W. Sulzer presided in the absence of August Jatho. Pastor Berdan acted as secretary in the place of Fritz Lorenz, who was absent. The minutes of October 4 and December 13 were read and approved.

Pastor Berdan read the officers' report and presented the results of how much money was received by collections and also all the entries in the church book.

In regards to his own commitment, Pastor Berdan was released from making a contribution. The election of officers gave the following result:

Teo. Petri was re-elected trustee for 3 years.

Fritz Hoffmann was elected deacon in the place of Louis Petri for 3 years.

The meeting adjourned with prayer and blessings by Pastor Berdan.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

The officers are as follows:

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Trustee	Teo. P	etri	3 years
"	Ph.F. I	Backer	2 years
"	Augus	t Jatho	1 year
Deacon	H. Wi	chmann	3 years
"	Chr. B	acker	2 years
"	Wm. S	Sulzer	1 year
August Jatho		President	1 year
F. Lorenz		Secretary	1 year
Aug. Diehl		Janitor	1 year
Heinrich Wich	hmann	Treasurer	1 year
Ph. Backer		Collector	1 year

[p. 26]

Fulton, January 27, 1897

The church council met in the home of Ph. F. Backer at 12:30 in the afternoon. All members of the council were present, and the meeting opened with president A. Jatho presiding. The secretary was absent, and Ph. F. Backer was elected in his place.

A. Jatho was nominated for president again for year 1897. The nomination was seconded and approved, and A. Jatho was unanimously elected.

Fritz Lorenz was nominated and seconded to be secretary again for year 1897. Approved. Henry Wichmann was nominated and seconded to be treasurer again for year 1897. Approved. Ph.F. Backer was nominated and seconded to be collector of pledges in the church, and was unanimously elected.

The treasurer Henry Wichmann was directed to collect pledges for the pastor's salary next Sunday, January 31, 1897, after worship service and to report how many had paid their pledges for the pastor's salary.

The board of the church thanked Wilhelm Backer for the faithful service that he has given the service for several years as treasurer.

Since there was no further business to take care of, the meeting adjourned. The above minutes taken by Ph.F. Backer as temporary secretary.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 29]

Sunday, February 28, 1897

The congregation met in the church immediately after the worship service. The meeting was opened with prayer.

Aug. Jatho presided over the meeting. Pastor Berdan took over the minutes in the place of Fritz Lorenz, who was absent.

After some debate concerning the pastor's salary, the following motion was made. The congregation is satisfied if the pastor receives \$350.00 in addition to costs and preaching one Sunday every month in the branch at Mexico. Should Mexico be in favor of this, to pay a salary of \$350 and costs, from that date on, the pastor is definitely employed here.

Should Mexico be against it, then the pastor will be released and leave the congregation after finishing out his office according to the constitution, which requires a quarterly notice of dismissal.

Voting was by ballot. The result of voting was 10 with "yes", 4 with "no", and 1 blank. Then, the meeting adjourned with prayer and blessings.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

The above written down by Pastor Berdan

[p. 30]

Sunday, March 28, 1897

The congregation met in a special meeting. Pastor Berdan opened the meeting with prayer. August Jatho presided over the meeting.

Pastor Berdan said that the branch at Mexico offered only partial payment and that he would only be satisfied with much for an indefinite time. However, he could have a branch in Vandalia. He then let it up to the congregation to decide whether the one at Mexico or the one at Vandalia would be right. Discussion then went back and forth that he definitely had to raise the \$400 or \$350 annually. The female members said that they would let all the decisions about the church to the male members. After long, heated debate, the question came to vote by ballot. The motion was made was that all who were in favor of Pastor Berdan going to Vandalia to preach one Sunday a month, should write "yes" [*ja*] on the ballot, and the same for "no" [*nein*] After counting the votes, there were 7 "nos," 5 "yeses," 1 "*nicht*," and 1 blank. Then, Pastor Berdan said he would look around for another position.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Berdan.

Fritz Lorenz

[p. 31]

German Evangelical Church, Fulton, Mo., April 4, 1897

The quarterly congregational meeting was held and opened with prayer by Pastor Berdan. Because August Jatho was absent, Pastor Berdan presided. Pastor Berdan asked in writing for his release. A copy of it follows word for word.

Fulton, Mo. April 5, 1897

To the esteemed German Evangelical Congregation here:

In view of the events that occurred in the last meeting, I have come to the conviction that it is best, as much for the congregation as for me, to resign my position.

To everyone in the congregation: For $4\frac{1}{2}$ years I have been permitted to work among you with faith and perseverance with the blessings of the Lord. I give you my sincere thanks for your having given me your trust and confidence for so long a time. I herewith depart from my office. I will leave it on July 5, 1897, for my replacement, to whom I sincerely wish all success.

Respectfully signed, (his name)

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[here, the minutes of the meeting of April 4, 1897, continue]

Pastor Berdan's request for release from the congregation was approved.

It was moved and seconded that the congregation not send a delegate to the Conference for lack of money. Motion was approved.

August Jatho's and Wilhelm Sulzer's requests to no longer serve as board members were refused.

Treasurer H. Wichmann presented his report for auditing. A committee of members A. Fischer, W. Backer, and Chr. Backer was named to audit the books. The books were examined and certified as correct.

After the minutes were read, there was nothing more to do, and the meeting adjourned. Closing with prayer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 33]

Fulton Evangelical Church, June 28, 1897

The secretary earlier was given the instructions by the church council to write to the president of the Missouri District of the Synod to inform him that the office of pastor of the local congregation would be vacant, as of July 4.

The president, Pastor Klick of St. Louis, with some effort, has proposed a young student, who this year underwent his final examination at the Theological Seminary [now Eden Seminary] at St. Louis, as very suitable for the position here.

At today's special meeting, the congregation then proposed to leave the matter of a new preacher up to the president. That means that the congregation accepts the student that the president of the Missouri District sends, without any salary.

Since there was nothing more to decide, the meeting adjourned until its quarterly meeting next Sunday, July 4.

[**p. 34**]

Fulton, Mo. Evangelical Church, July 4, 1897

The congregation met for its quarterly meeting, and the meeting was opened by Pastor Berdan with prayer. President August Jatho presided. The minutes of the April 4 and June 28 meetings were read and approved.

Treasurer H. Wichmann presented (through his substitute Th. Backer) his books and gave a report over income and expenses during the last quarter year. President August Jatho named a committee of three members to audit the treasurer's books and report back about them. The committee of T. Petri, L. Petri, and Wilhelm Backer reported that the treasurer's books were in order, and the committee was dismissed.

The treasurer was authorized to pay Pastor E. Berdan his salary to date.

The motion was made and seconded to lower the salary of the church janitor from \$24 to \$18, and to ask him to reply whether he is satisfied with that.

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As a tribute to our revered preacher, Pastor Berdan, the following resolution was passed and the secretary was to send a copy of it to Pastor E. Berdan:

Since it was not meant for Pastor E. Berdan to stay with us any longer as our preacher, and since he has administered his difficult and responsible office as preacher for us for several years so faithfully and conscientiously, therefore the council and the entire congregation, resolves:

1. that we very reluctantly released our respectable preacher Pastor E. Berdan.

2. that we sincerely thank him heartily for his dedication and love that he showed us during the time he was with us.

3. that we will never forget the heartfelt sermons and readings from holy scripture, which became part of us through him, each Sunday, during the time he was with us.

4. that we wish him well in all that he does in the future, with heaven's blessings.

[p. 36]

5. that we ask him truly to forgive us where we either knowingly or unknowingly grieved him, or we did not properly help relieve him in his difficult and arduous office as pastor.

6. that we also sincerely ask him to keep us in his thoughts and to include us all in his prayers.

7. that we wish to see each other again. If not that, then still write. Amen. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Sunday, August 8, 1897

This morning Pastor G. Bode preached his first sermon in the church. After the worship; several members of the congregation remained for a while in the church to make an offer, through August Jatho, president of the congregation, to Pastor Bode immediately, whom they had come to know better.

[**p. 37**]

Fulton, Mo, Evangelical Church, October 3, 1897

The congregation met after the morning worship service for its quarterly meeting. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor G. Bode.

Since President August Jatho was not present, Pastor G. Bode took the position as chairman and called the meeting to order.

The minutes of July 4 were read and approved.

Pastor Bode said that Wilhelm Gern again wished to join as member of the congregation. The congregation unanimously allowed Wilhelm Gern to join again.

Since treasurer H. Wichmann was not prepared to give a report of the income and expenses for the last quarter, he was allowed to present his books two weeks from today, October 17, and give a report.

Since no further business was on hand, the meeting adjourned until fourteen days from today. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

October 17, 1897

Since not enough members were present to make a decision, the meeting was postponed until Sunday, October 31, 1897.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, October 31, 1897

The congregation met in the church after the morning worship service in order to take care of the quarter-year business, which had been postponed from October 3 to October 17, because treasurer Heinrich Wichmann could not present his books for auditing. Then, since not enough members were present on October 17 because of rainy weather, it was decided to postpone the meeting until October 31.

The meeting today was opened by Pastor Bode with prayer. August Jatho, president of the congregation, presided at the meeting and called it to order.

Treasurer H. Wichmann presented his account. August Jatho named Aug. Fischer, G. Klick, and Teo. Petri to audit the books. A short pause was taken, while the committee took the opportunity to review the books. Later the committee reported that they had found the books in order. The committee was dismissed.

Since the congregation had not had a janitor during the summer and since it would not be good to go through winter and more work without a janitor, therefore Ch. Backer was directed to offer Aug. Diehl his former church janitor position at \$2 a month, **[p. 39]** and if he would not take the job for that amount, then to find another janitor.

Then the pastor's salary was discussed. It was decided to set it at \$350 a year.

Then a motion was made and seconded to rent a buggy from some livery or from a private family for the pastor's use, so that he could visit more often the sick and members who live in the country. Pastor Bode offered to pay three quarters of the cost, if the congregation paid the other one quarter. President A. Jatho named a committee of three, namely Ch. Backer, L. Petri,

and H. Wichmann to look into where the vehicle might be gotten for the best and cheapest. There being no further business to do, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 40]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 2, 1898

The congregation met for its annual meeting after worship service in the church. The meeting was opened by Pastor Bode with prayer. President A. Jatho called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and declared correct.

Then the election of the council took place.

August Jatho, whose position as trustee expired on January 1, was nominated for the position of trustee, and W. Gern was nominated for the same position. August Gatho was re-elected with a majority of votes for trustee for the next 3 years.

Wilhelm Sulzer's position as deacon also expired on January 1, and John Langenbach and Louis Hinderer were nominated as candidates for it. John Langenbach was elected with a majority of votes for deacon for the next 3 years.

Aug. Jatho was also re-elected president of the congregation for 1 year.

Thus the council of the congregation is composed as follows:

President	August Jatho	1 year
Trustee	August Jatho	3 years
"	Teo. Petri	2 years
"	Ph.F. Backer	1 year
Deacon	John Langenbach	3 years
"	Henry Wichmann	2 years
"	Chr. Backer	1 year

[**p.** 41]

Fritz Lorenz, secretary, was re-elected secretary of the congregation for 1 year.

Heinrich Wichmann was re-elected treasurer of the congregation for 1 year.

Ph.F. Backer was elected collector and church janitor at a salary of \$2 per month. Treasurer Heinrich Wichmann was absent because of illness and unable to present his books for auditing. President A. Jatho named a committee of three, namely Chr. Backer, Teo. Petri, and Ph.F. Backer to examine the treasurer's books and present a report next Sunday, January 9. It was resolved to sincerely thank the Ladies Aid of the congregation, who helped out financially during the past year and that the congregation wished the dear Ladies Aid good fortune and blessings in all their works. The congregation asked the pastor to make known the above resolution to the Ladies Aid next Sunday, January 9, in the church, after the worship service.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 42]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 17, 1898

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service in order to take care of pending business in its quarterly meeting.

Pastor Bode asked whether or not enough money could be collected to paint the church steeple and especially the exterior woodwork. After give and take talk, Pastor Bode proposed to elect a committee of two to find a painter who would do the job at the cheapest cost. He, Pastor Bode, would try to collect the money so that there would be no trouble over expenses. Motion made, seconded, and approved. President A. Jatho appointed Ph. Backer and Heinrich Wichmann the committee to carry out the above.

Since the committee named on January 2 to review the treasurer's books had not yet reported, they were allowed to report soon to the secretary Fritz Lorenz so that he could enter the status of the accounts in his minutes book. Committee: Chr. Backer, Ph. Backer, Teo. Petri.

Aug. Fischer moved, and it was seconded, that we should collect money in the Sunday evening worship service **[p. 43]** to pay off the outstanding debt.

Then we turned to the election of a delegate to the Conference of the Missouri District of the Evangelical Synod of North America. Ph.F. Backer was elected delegate and Teo. Petri alternate. Then the meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor Bode.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

April 22, 1898

Ph. Backer reported on behalf of the committee, that the treasurer's books were audited and found correct.

June 5, 1898

In the quarterly meeting, the congregation decided that every meeting will take place after the 8^{th} of the same month.

As was reported to me by Pastor Bode.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

October 16, 1898

In the quarterly meeting that took place today and was opened by Pastor Bode with prayer, it was decided

1. that each member of the congregation shall pay 50 cents to put together money for the pastor's salary.

2. Pastor Bode was asked to report to the Insurance Association of the Synod that changes in the parsonage were made and also that the chimney flue in the church was changed.

3. The council was authorized to get a granite stove for the church.

After that the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Evangelical Church, January 8, 1899

The congregation held its annual meeting. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer. President A. Jatho called the meeting to order. Since secretary Fritz Lorenz was absent, Pastor Bode acted as secretary.

The minutes of the 1898 annual meeting were read and approved.

Pastor Bode gave his report and it was well received. Immediately the congregation thanked him for his faithful work that he had done during the year.

During the year 3 persons were accepted as members of the congregation. They were John Renner, Oscar Renner, and Miss Augusta Neukomm.

Today 2 more persons applied for membership, whom the congregation will accept if nothing against them comes up, namely Schnyder and John Osfald. There was no objection raised by the congregation.

Now attention turned to the election of the council.

Ph.F. Backer's term as trustee expired as of January 1, 1899. Nominated for the position of trustee for 3 years were Ph.F. Backer, Chr. Backer, and A. Fischer. Ph.F. Backer was elected by ballot.

Chr. Backer's term as deacon expired as of January 1, 1899. Nominated for the position of deacon for 3 years were **[p. 45]** Chr. Backer and Louis Hinderer. Louis Hinderer was elected by ballot.

Nominated for deacon for 2 years in place of John Langenbach (emotional) were Chr. Backer and Aug. Fischer. Aug. Fischer was elected by ballot.

Then the following officers were elected. Aug. Jatho, president. Fritz Lorenz, secretary. Ph.F. Backer, treasurer, collector and church janitor.

Then the women of the Ladies Aid were sincerely thanked for the work and help that they had given the congregation during the year, and Pastor Bode was asked to tell them that at the first opportunity.

A committee was named to read and report on the treasurer's books.

Thus the officers of the council of the congregation are as follows:

1 year		
3 years		
2 years		
1 year		
3 years		
2 years		
1 year		
d with prayer by Pastor Bode.		
Above, as reported to me right away by Pastor Bode.		

F. Lorenz, secretary

[p. 46]

Fulton, Mo. Evangelical Church, April 9, 1899

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor G. Bode opened the meeting with prayer, and President A. Jatho called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Treasurer Ph. Backer reported on the collection of money, on the request of the president. He hoped by the next meeting to report something more hopeful.

Ph. Backer was directed to have new gutters installed on the parsonage so to have it repaired. Also the chimney on the church should be repaired and the bill for expenses turned over to the trustees.

The next meeting of the Missouri District of the Evangelical Synod will be held this month in St. Louis, and Teo. Petri was nominated and voted delegate and Chr. Backer as alternate. Miss Renner, who was confirmed in the church today, applied for membership in the congregation.

Pastor Bode announced that the congregations in Callaway County wanted to form a Sunday School Association and have asked him if his own congregation wanted to join. It was decided to send a delegate to today's meeting **[p. 47]** to see and find out what the purpose of the association will be, before we decide to join it. Ph. Backer asked Pastor Bode to go to today's meeting in his place, because he [Backer] could not attend.

Because there was nothing more to be acted upon, the meeting adjourned and was closed with prayer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo. Evangelical Church, July 9, 1899

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor G. Bode opened the meeting with prayer. President August Jatho called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer Ph. Backer reported that not enough has come in for the pastor's salary, but imagined before long to collect all of it. The current expenses for utilities and little repairs amounted to \$17.15, which was taken from the church [Sunday pew] collections. Further, the treasurer reported that the Ladies Aid had paid the bill of \$13.98 for repairs on the parsonage from their own treasury.

Pastor Bode reported that the following persons had applied for membership: H. Rapps, Frank Standhardt, Fritz Metz and **[p. 48]** Mrs. Teo. Miller. Because there was no objection raised, the three were accepted as members. Further, Pastor Bode proposed whether it would not be nice and proper this fall to celebrate the establishment of the congregation ten years ago, and since also the women's Ladies Aid was founded ten years ago, we could celebrate with the women on a Sunday their founding, and also at the same time hold the Mission festival and remember each one in a unified worship service. The morning worship service would commemorate the founding of the congregation, in the afternoon the mission festival, and in the evening worship service commemorate the founding of the Ladies Aid, in which finally we could have, in the English language, a speech and overview of the ten years of the women's work. The congregation approved the Pastor's proposal. It was unanimously decided to hold these three festivals on a Sunday in September, and especially on a Sunday when there would be evening moon light. The pastor will discuss this more with the women.

Since the church chimney was not yet repaired, Heinrich Wichmann was directed to take care of it soon, as soon as his time allows.

Because the congregational meeting had no more business before it, it adjourned until the next quarterly meeting and was closed with prayer by Pastor Bode.

[p. 49]

Fulton, Evangelical Church, October 29, 1899

The congregation held its quarterly meeting after the morning worship service and it was opened with prayer by Pastor Bode. President A. Jatho presided. Because the secretary forgot to bring the book of minutes, the minutes of the previous meeting were not read.

The treasurer reported on income and expenses. Income, \$23.55, and expenses \$19.85, during the quarter year just ended. It was then discussed whether it would be better if the collection at evening worship services were stopped for the time being. But the majority at the meeting believed we should continue with it until no more interest has to be paid on the debt.

Further, it was discussed whether it would not be expedient that the quarterly meetings could be held just by the council of the congregation, since only business that should be taken care of by the council was done at those meetings.

Since there was no more business, the meeting adjourned until the next meeting, and it was closed with prayer by Pastor Bode.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 50]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 7, 1900

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its annual meeting. Pastor Bode opened it with prayer. Since president A. Jatho was absent, substitute A. Fischer called the meeting to order.

The minutes of last year's annual meeting were read by the secretary and approved.

Treasurer Ph. Backer reported an income of \$20.18 for the quarter just ended and expenses of \$12.17, for a balance of \$8.01 in the treasury.

Next was the election of officers. In the place of D. Petri, whose position as trustee had expired, H. Wichmann was unanimously elected for 3 years.

In the place of H. Wichmann, whose position as deacon had expired, Chr. Backer was unanimously elected for 3 years.

The council then elected from its members the following officers: A. Jatho, president. Fritz Lorenz, secretary. Ph. Backer, treasurer, collector, and church janitor.

Pastor Bode then read his annual report, which was approved as very good. A. Fischer thanked the pastor on behalf of the congregation for his faithful pastoral work, that he had done for the congregation during the year just ended.

Pastor Bode further reported that he had \$3.50 in the treasury that was collected **[p. 51]** at the Thanksgiving Day worship service, and asked at the meeting for what purpose the congregation wanted this to go. Since the congregation had no needy member, it was decided, after give-and-take discussion, to turn the \$3.50 over to the Committee for the Poor of the Ladies Aid, who would know best what should be done with it. Pastor Bode was asked to give the money to the Ladies Aid.

Further, it was resolved to sincerely thank the Ladies Aid for the financial help they gave the congregation during the past year, and Pastor Bode was asked to announce that to the women in church after the worship service.

Pastor Bode then reported that Mr. Rapp, who asked for membership in the congregation, had not yet appeared, and asked that we, as he thought, regard him as no longer a candidate. H. Wichmann promised that the chimney will be repaired soon. Since there was no more business to take care of, the meeting adjourned. Pastor Bode closed the meeting with prayer. The officers for this year are as follows:

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Ph. Backer was again named collector and janitor with a salary of \$2.00 per month.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 52]

Fulton, Mo., April 8, 1900

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer, and president A. Jatho called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was presented and read: income from collections at worship services in the last quarter year, \$22.68, and expenses for light, coal, and other expenses, \$9.43, leaving a balance of \$13.25. It was reported that all debts were paid, and that the church property was now completely free from any debts. Further, treasurer Ph. Backer reported that not all the pledges of money for the pastor's salary had been paid, and that he hoped to have the remaining money by the next meeting, so that he could report better after the pastor would finish out his first year and when the treasurer's books would be reviewed up to that time.

The congregation had given Pastor Bode permission earlier to occasionally rent a carriage from a livery or other place in order to visit members who live in the country, for which the congregation was to pay one quarter of the cost, but that payment has been overlooked up to now and neglected. **[p. 53]** Therefore, the treasurer was directed to compensate Pastor Bode accordingly.

Pastor Bode called to the congregation's attention that the parsonage was in need of repair, that the roof gutter leaked and other repairs needed to be done, and he wanted a porch over the door on the north side of the house to be built. President A. Jatho named a committee of three, namely Aug. Fischer, Will. Willhagen, and Chr. Backer to find out what things need to be done to repair the parsonage and to report to the church council within two weeks from now. Since there was no further business to take care of, the meeting adjourned until the next quarterly meeting, which will take place in July, God willing. Pastor Bode closed the meeting with prayer and blessings.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Addendum. Omitted in the above minutes was that the congregation unanimously elected Gustav Klick as delegate to the next Conference of the Missouri District. Also Fritz Lorenz was elected alternate.

F.L., sec.

[**p.** 54]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 22, 1900

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service, and also members of the Ladies Aid, to hear the report of the committee named in the last quarterly meeting, to report on the parsonage.

Pastor Bode spoke on the topic and offered at the same time that for the time being he would be satisfied with the living room on the west side of the parsonage, if it could be made better, and if the congregation would have the two rooms in the east side of the house made into one room, so that it could be made into a school room.

According to his estimate, that proposal would cost approximately \$150, including the purchase of a sufficient number of school benches.

It was discussed back and forth, and finally the conclusion was reached that the school room would be made and that the previously named committee of Aug. Fischer, Wil. Willhagen, and Chr. Backer was authorized to take care of the building, as soon as possible, so that the children as soon as possible could receive instruction. In the meantime the trustees will borrow the money and pledges be collected from congregational members by voluntary giving for the improvement of the school house. Pledgers have time to pay, until December at the latest. The women were unanimously in favor of this and promised to help pay the costs. Then, adjournment.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 55]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 8, 1900

The quarterly meeting was held after the morning worship service. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer, and president A. Jatho called the meeting to order. The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved.

Treasurer Ph. Backer gave his report over income and expenses of the past quarter year. Income from collections during worship services was \$25.93, and expenses were \$20.55, leaving a balance of \$5.38. Also, the treasurer reported that he borrowed \$50.00 from Mrs. Louise Renner and \$100.00 from Mrs. Minna Jatho in order to pay the expenses for the improvements of the parsonage and schoolroom. Since the money for the pastor's salary was not yet all received, the treasurer was directed to report that to the congregation next Sunday after the worship service.

President A. Jatho named a committee of members A. Fischer, Chr. Backer, and H. Wichmann to review the treasurer's books and report on them.

Pastor Bode reported that everything in the parsonage and schoolroom had been done extremely well, and sincerely thanked the congregation for it, and invited the members to come have a look at it all after **[p. 56]** the end of this meeting.

Since there was no more business pending, the meeting adjourned until a special meeting, which president Jatho announced would be next Sunday, July 15, after the morning worship service. At the closing, Pastor Bode offered a prayer and blessings.

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 15, 1900

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to hold a special meeting. President A. Jatho chaired the meeting.

According to the report of treasurer Ph. Backer there was still \$148 remaining of the \$150 borrowed to remodel the parsonage and schoolroom. The treasurer was directed to transfer the \$148 and the balance of the Sunday church collections into the account for the pastor's salary. Also, the treasurer was directed to collect additional pledges from members for contributions to the pastor's salary, because money is still lacking to pay his full salary.

Since there was no further business pending, the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 57]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 6, 1901

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to hold its annual meeting. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer. Chr. Backer acted as president in place of Aug. Jatho who was absent and called the meeting to order. The minutes of last year's annual meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer presented his report as follows. Income in the quarter year before last was \$18.62, and expenses were \$22.07. Income in the quarter year just finished was \$13.87, and expenses were \$15.10, which leaves a balance on January 1, 1901, of 70 cents.

Further, the treasurer reported that the Ladies Aid gave him \$50 to pay off the church indebtedness. He used this \$50 to pay off a promissory note to Mrs. Minnie Jatho. The treasurer said he would remind members who had made pledges to the pastor's salary but have not yet paid them, to pay them.

Pastor Bode made an oral report that all the money that was collected for missions and other benevolences was sent to its destinations. Also Pastor Bode reported how faithful and conscientiously once again the Ladies Aid has helped during the past year in financial matters. It was resolved to thank the Ladies Aid sincerely for their assistance, and Pastor Bode was asked to express that to the Ladies Aid.

Also, Mrs. Chr. Backer was sincerely thanked for the effort and work that she put in to have [Christmas] entertainment in her house for the Sunday School children, and that such good **[p. 58]** material success came from it for the improvement of the Sunday School treasury. Then, the election of officers was held.

Wm. Backer was elected trustee for 3 years in replace A. Jatho, whose term had expired. Wm. Willhagen was elected deacon for 3 years to replace Aug. Fischer, whose term had expired.

Chr. Backer was elected president for 1 year.

Fritz Lorenz was elected secretary for 1 year.

Ph. Backer was elected treasurer, collector, and janitor, and to be paid \$2 per month for the last position.

At the closing, Pastor Bode was thanked for his faithful pastoral work, which he showed as caregiver for the congregation, and may we be granted, with God's help, many more years of holding such meetings in association with Pastor Bode.

Because there was no more business pending, the meeting adjourned until its next meeting, which will take place in April of this year.

Closing with prayer and blessing by Pastor Bode. The officers are now the following: Trustees: Deacons: Wm. Backer, 3 years Wm. Willhagen, 3 years H. Wichmann, 2 years Chr. Backer, 2 years Ph. Backer, 1 year Louis Hinderer, 1 year President, Chr. Backer, 1 year Secretary, Fritz Lorenz, 1 year Treasurer, Collector, Janitor, Ph. Backer, 1 year

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 59]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 14, 1901

The council remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer, and president Chr. Backer called it to order.

Since the secretary had not brought the minutes book with him, the following business was done without reading the minutes of the previous meeting.

Treasurer Ph. Backer reported on income and expenses of the last quarter year. Since more members were still in arrears with their pledges for the pastor's salary, and since the treasurer said that he would soon be collecting them, his books were not examined. Income, \$14.21. Expenses, \$12.15. Balance \$2.06.

The trustees were directed once again to have the fence on the west side of the property repaired.

The following delegates were elected to the annual Conference of the Missouri District of the Synod, which will take place in St. Charles, Mo. Wilhelm Willhagen, delegate, and Fritz Lorenz, substitute.

Since there was no more business pending, the meeting adjourned until its next half-year meeting.

Pastor Bode closed the meeting with God's blessing.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 60]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 21, 1901

Members of the congregation remained in the church after morning worship service for a special meeting. Ph. Backer announced that it was almost impossible for the roof of the parsonage to be patched again, because it was in such a bad condition. He said he inquired of carpenters, and they told him that a new roof would cost about \$45.00.

It was decided to give the trustees the authority to have a new roof put on the parsonage. Ph. Backer promised to see to collect contributions to pay the cost and also for the repair of the fence on the west side.

Then, adjournment with blessings from Pastor Bode.

[p. 61]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 7, 1901

The congregation held its quarterly meeting after the morning worship service. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer, and then president Chr. Backer called it to order. The minutes of the previous meeting and the one before that were read and approved.

Treasurer Ph. Backer reported that the income of the last quarter year was \$18.79 and expenses were \$18.64, leaving a balance of 15 cents.

The cost of the new roof on the parsonage came to \$51.05 and was paid by a special collection. All the money for the pastor's salary had not yet come in, but it was hoped that it would soon come in.

The Ladies Aid contributed \$34.50 towards the pastor's salary and the Sunday School children \$10.00 for the same purpose.

Treasurer Ph. Backer submitted his resignation and it was accepted. W. Willhagen was unanimously elected treasurer of the congregation.

Since an addition to the parsonage has been promised and many special meetings have been held to discuss it, which, however, have always been without result, therefore today, again for another time, it was discussed and finally voted on whether to build an addition to the parsonage or not. The result was 13 votes for and 5 votes against. However, since the school is still in session and the labor **[p. 62]** of the workers would disturb school instruction, it was thought best to delay work on the parsonage addition until September.

Since there was no further business pending, the meeting adjourned, and Pastor Bode closed it with the Lord's Prayer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Sunday, August 25, 1901

On the request of Pastor Bode, the congregation remained after the morning worship service for a special meeting.

Pastor Bode announced to the congregation that last Wednesday, after a guest sermon at Immanuel congregation in St. Louis, he was unanimously elected pastor of that congregation, and that he therefore presented his resignation from our congregation. It was accepted, and Pastor Bode was so allowed to leave, but he would have to follow the stipulation of giving a quarter-year's notice as required by our constitution, before he could enter into the service of the congregation in St. Louis.

At the same time, Pastor Bode was asked to write to the President of the Missouri District and request him to send us a candidate for pastor to preach a guest sermon here.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 63]

Fulton, Evangelical Church, September 15, 1901

In today's meeting, which was held after morning worship service, Pastor Bode reported that he had requested the President of the Missouri District to send a candidate here to be his successor, namely Pastor Mensch from Iowa. Pastor Bode will invite him to deliver a guest sermon on one of the next Sundays. The salary will be not less than \$350 a year.

[p. 64]

Fulton, Mo,. Evangelical Church, September 29, 1901

This evening at 7:30 the church council met in the church. Pastor Bode opened the meeting with prayer and led the meeting.

Pastor Bode reported that Pastor Mensch, to whom he had written to invite him to deliver a guest sermon here, could not come and that he completely wanted to remain preacher of his own congregation. Pastor Bode was then asked by the council once again to write to the President of the Western District to send us another candidate. Also to write to the Inspector of the Seminary, requesting him to send a seminary student each Sunday to preach here, until we once again have a pastor.

It was resolved that Chr. Backer, president of the congregation, should send sincere thanks in the name of the congregation to Mr. Aug. Alke for the beautiful, new organ that he presented to the church as a gift.

Pastor Bode, who this morning delivered his farewell sermon in church, said goodbye to the church council with an appropriate admonition to them to conduct their duties faithfully, and he wished for the congregation God's help and grace for the future.

Following the meeting the council instructed the secretary Fritz Lorenz to record a written tribute to the pastor in the minutes book **[p. 65]** and to send a copy to Pastor Bode.

Since it has pleased God to call Pastor Bode to another congregation, and since he has performed his difficult office of pastor in our congregation for so long, faithfully, and conscientiously, therefore be it resolved that the following be recorded in the minutes book.

We have very reluctantly released our Pastor Bode, but since it is God's will, we must follow it. We thank you now for the faithful administration of your office here and also for your sincere admonishments of the congregation and also your pastoral actions that you have shown to the church here. We wish you good fortune and blessings in your new field of labor. We ask you to forgive us, where we consciously or unconsciously have grieved you. We ask you to think of us in your prayers to the Highest. In the name of the congregation we say to you and shout out to you: Farewell!

Chr. Backer, Wm. Backer, Louis Hinderer, Ph. Backer, H. Wichmann, Wm. Willhagen.

Frits Lorenz, secretary

[p. 66]

Fulton, Evangelical Church, October 27, 1901

Pastor O. Waldmann, who was invited to give a guest sermon, presented it this morning. After the morning worship service the congregation remained in the church and unanimously elected Pastor O. Waldmann of Lewiston, Minnesota, as pastor of the congregation to replace Pastor G. Bode who had resigned.

The church council met at 3 p.m. in the church to talk with Pastor Waldmann more specifically. The council promised to keep the parsonage in good condition, to have all necessary repairs done, and to have it all done by the next meeting. If the congregation is in agreement with this, then the secretary will send a letter of call to the above named Pastor Waldmann. Then adjournment until the next meeting.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

P.S. The pastor's salary would, until further notice, be set at \$350 a year.

[**p.** 67]

Fulton, Evangelical Church, November 3, 1901

In today's meeting, which the congregation held at 7:30 in the evening, the secretary was directed to write a letter to Inspector Haeberle [of the Theological Seminary] asking him to send a student to preach next Sunday.

Also, Pastor Waldmann should be informed that the congregation will repair the parsonage and pay him a salary of \$350 per year.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 68]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 5, 1902

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to have its annual meeting.

The Ladies Aid was also present to let it be known that their association would contribute another \$50 to the pastor's salary if \$400 is necessary for a pastor. They want to have a pastor soon so that the congregation can have regular worship services, because it is not sufficient for them to be served every two weeks by a seminary student.

The congregation accepted their offer and directed the secretary to write to the president of the Missouri District to inquire whether a pastor could be obtained for the above named salary. Then the Ladies Aid left, and the congregation began its meeting.

The meeting was opened with prayer by president Ch. Backer and he called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and approved.

Because no pastor was present to officiate at the installation of officers, the current officers remained in their offices until a later time.

The secretary was directed **[p. 69]** to inform the Synod that the parsonage is now empty and stands there uninsured against a possible fire.

The treasurer presented his accounts and they were examined and declared correct. The \$12 remaining on a note payable to Miss Minne Jatho was paid.

There being no further business pending, the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, February 2, 1902

After the morning worship service, at which candidate Moritz of Femme Osage, Mo., preached (specifically as a trial sermon), the congregation members remained in the church to have a meeting.

Mr. Moritz had applied for the position of pastor of the congregation. Since the congregation was pleased very much with his trial sermon, Mr. Moritz was unanimously elected for that office. This evening, after the evening worship service, he will be informed and more detailed discussion will take place.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 70]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 13, 1902

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Since no officers were elected in the annual meeting because the congregation had no pastor to install officers, officers were elected today until January 1903. It was also agreed that all decisions, which up to this time were recorded in the minutes book and were not done with proper authority, were declared approved.

Thomas Klick was elected trustee for 3 years in the place of Ph. Backer, whose term had expired.

August Fischer was elected deacon for 2 years in place of W. Willhagen.

Louis Hinderer was re-elected deacon for 3 years.

Chr. Backer was elected president for 1 year.

Fritz Lorenz was re-elected secretary.

W. Backer was re-elected treasurer.

W. Sulzer was elected church janitor, salary \$2 a month.

T. Klick was elected delegate to the next Missouri District Conference, which takes place this month in St. Louis.

H. Wichmann and Ph. Backer were named by president Chr. Backer to audit the treasurer's books and report to the congregation.

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It was decided to cease holding quarterly meetings of the congregation and instead have meetings of the church council.

The officers are as follows:

Trustees:Deacons:Thomas Klick, 3 yearsL. Hinderer, 2 yearsWm. Backer, 2 yearsA. Fischer, 2 yearsWichmann, 1 yearChr. Backer, 1 yearPresident, Chr. Backer, 1 yearChr. Backer, 1 yearSecretary, F. Lorenz, 1 yearTreasurer, Wm. Backer, 1 yearJanitor, Wm. Sulzer, 1 yearSince there was no more business to take care of, the meeting adjourned and was closed with

prayer by the pastsor.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 72]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January _, 1903

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to hold its annual meeting. The meeting was opened in the usual way by prayer.

The treasurer's report was read and approved as read, whereupon the president named a committee to audit the books, consisting of H. Wichmann, Ph. Backer, and Aug. Fischer. Because the secretary was absent, the pastor read the minutes of the last annual meeting, and they were approved. The pastor presented the recommendations of the church council.

1. A building fund will be established. Into this building fund each member, including widows who belong to the Ladies Aid, will pay \$1.00 annually. The purpose of this is pay for the cost of repair to the buildings.

2. Repairs of the church, putting in roof gutters, and painting the steeple, will be undertaken as soon as possible.

3. The sidewalk on the east side will be renewed with coal cinders.

4. The wood and coal house will be improved.

5. The parsonage will be painted.

Since no other business was pending, the election of officers took place.

For trustee in place of H. Wichmann, Chr. Backer was elected. For deacon in place of Chr. Backer, Fred. Renner was elected.

Then, adjournment.

[Fritz Lorenz, secretary]

[**p.** 73]

In a special meeting of the council the following officers were elected: President, Chr. Backer, Secretary, Fritz Lorenz. Treasurer, W. Backer. Janitor, W. Sulzer. Thus the officers of the church are as follows: Chr. Backer, president, 1 year. Trustees: Deacons: Chr. Backer, 3 years Fred. Renner, 3 years Louis Hinderer, 2 years Th. Klick, 2 years Wm. Backer, 1 year Aug. Fischer, 1 year Fritz Lorenz, secretary, 1 year Ph. Backer, treasurer, 1 year W. Sulzer, janitor, 1 year

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

The above notice received from Pastor Moritz.

February 22, 1903

The council remained in the church after the morning worship service. Louis Schmidt was elected church janitor in place of Wm. Sulzer, who resigned his office.

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 5, 1903

The quarterly meeting, which was held in the church after the morning worship service, was opened with prayer by Pastor Moritz, as usual. President Chr. Backer called the meeting to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The committee of three members, namely H. Wichmann, Ph. Backer, and Aug. Fischer, whom President Chr. Backer directed to audit the books of treasurer W. Backer, could not yet give a report and were given more time to give a report at the next meeting.

The treasurer reported on income and expenses of the last quarter year: income, \$10.98; expenses \$10.06.

It was decided that the janitor, whose job includes digging graves, will be paid 50 cents for each burial in the church. He will be allowed more for those that take place on Sundays. Fritz Lorenz was elected delegate to this year's Conference of the Missouri District, which takes place in April in St. Louis. Chr. Backer was elected alternate.

President Chr. Backer named a committee of members Louis Hinderer, Ph. Backer, H. Wichmann, August Fischer, and Fritz Lorenz to review the list of members of the congregation and put it in order, and on March 15 assemble in the parsonage for discussion of it. **[p. 75]** Pastor Moritz is of the opinion that this is necessary because he had found clear irregularities in the list of names of members.

Painting the church (which was already approved in the previous meeting) was further discussed and also the cutting of certain trees in the church yard that had withered. Finally, all the trustees agreed that all should take care of it at their own discretion.

Since there was no more business pending, the meeting adjourned and was closed with prayer by Pastor Moritz.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 76]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, June 12, 1903

The morning worship service was held by Pastor Moritz, father of our Pastor John Moritz, in his place. Pastor Moritz (senior) asked to stay for a special meeting in the church after the morning worship service.

Pastor Moritz (senior) explained to the congregation that it is impossible for the time being for his son to serve the congregation as pastor and perhaps will never again be able to serve in the capacity of a pastor. Therefore, he asks the congregation to accept the resignation of his son. Under these circumstances the resignation of Pastor Moritz was accepted with regrets, and the secretary was directed to write to Rev. Retlerich [Ratlerich?], St. Charles, Mo., with the request to recommend a suitable candidate for the vacant pastor position of our congregation. Since there was no more business pending, the meeting adjourned, and the meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Moritz (senior).

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 77]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church July 9, 1903

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service for a special meeting.

President Chr. Backer said it is very necessary to build a new parsonage in the place where the old parsonage stands. After pro and con discussion, the meeting came to the conclusion to postpone the above plan and to discuss it further and vote on it in a congregational meeting to take place on July 23.

Since no other business was pending, the meeting adjourned.

All members of the church council were present except Louis Hinderer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[**p.** 78]

Fulton, Mo., July _, 1903

Pastor Johannes Moritz, who went to St. Louis to seek medical help for his illness, died on July 15.

The following obituary was composed by the secretary of the local congregation, and a copy was sent to Pastor P. Moritz of Femme Osage, Mo., father of Pastor Johannes Moritz.

It has pleased the Lord of life and death to call home from us his faithful servant, our dear caregiver and pastor, Johannes Moritz.

The deceased was a faithful caregiver, an able preacher, and a good pastor to our congregation.

The loss that the congregation has felt from his death is very difficult to put into words. During his sixteen months of pastorate here in Fulton the deceased earned many friends and admirers by his tactful, honest, and open actions with other church organizations and citizens of our town and region.

He was sick well before his death. Many with a less strong will would have long before left his term of office. But Pastor Moritz did not put his office aside because of his health or to take care of it to get himself healed. Pastor Moritz did not complain.

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On last Sunday, July 5, he stood upright but unsteady, and, with his hands supporting him on the altar, read a sermon from senior preacher Stoerker, but he, owing to severe head aches and sweat, could not read it to the end. He was strong in spirit, but weak in body.

Now one is tempted, as people often do with their narrow concepts of the omniscient God and his ways and his rules, to mull and to ask:

Why have you done this, Lord?

Why have you called your servant home? He was such a faithful worker!

Why have you taken him away from your congregation, where he was so needed? Why have you called such a talented, willing worker from the mission field, when the workers are so few?

Why have you taken away from an old father his promising, loving son, who was such a loving son?

No, we would not wish this to happen, we do not wish to grumble, but rather mourn in silence for the one now passed away. And when we follow his admonishments and sermons and take them to heart, we will see him again up there in the light.

We want to cry out with Job: The Lord has given, and the Lord has taken away. The name of the Lord be praised!

We want to call out to him: You were a devout and faithful servant, you came to your Lord joyfully, just as he surely promised in scripture.

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The congregation you left behind will keep a loving remembrance of you and look towards a reunion, up above, where there are no more pain and tears, where all imperfection has ended, and perfection results.

In the name of the Evangelical Church at Fulton, Missouri.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., September 6, 1903

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service, which was held by Pastor Slupianek of St. Charles, Mo., and unanimously elected Pastor Slupianek as their pastor. The pastor's salary was set at \$400 per year, and the congregation agreed to pay the freight costs of having his household possessions sent here. Pastor Slupianek agreed to preach every Sunday and the congregation will pay his travel costs here until the time he comes here to his permanent position. [Note: There is no evidence in the minutes that he came.]

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 81]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, December 6, 1903

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to discuss whether we should have a student in our midst to lead the upcoming Christmas services. It was unanimously decided to have a student again, and the secretary was instructed to send Dr. Becker of Eden College [Seminary] a letter with the request to send a student to us. It was also decided to give the student a gift of \$15 for his effort and travel costs. Then the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

After today's evening worship service president Chr. Backer asked the members present to remain a little while, since he had something to share with them. He explained in the meeting that it was not possible to ask for a student, since we still could have nothing for even a \$15 gift. The secretary explained that he thinks a student should come and he was to write to Rev. W. Becker, Director of the Theological Seminary, because it had already been decided in the meeting after the morning worship service. It would not be right that the members of the congregation would not have their will fulfilled.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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January 3, 1904

After the morning worship service (which was led by student G. Orlowsky, who also led the Christmas services and the following worship service), president Chr. Backer asked the congregation to stay a little while, since he had something in discuss. In the meeting president Chr. Backer explained that the student would be satisfied with [that is, he asked for] \$25 for his

effort and work for the past holidays, which was not reasonable to many present members, because it was known beforehand that it was \$15 that the student would be paid for his efforts. The secretary objected to giving him \$25 and said that the student was satisfied with \$15, or at least so it was agreed between the congregation and Director W. Becker of Eden College. However, he [the secretary] was well aware that the student should receive an extra gift for all the help he gave during the Christmas season and the several sermons, including those after Christmas. It was not right to expect him to do all that without payment. It was then decided to give the student a gift of \$10 from the church treasury. Several members protested against such a large gift and said that the congregation should give only \$5, because we know our treasury is in a tight condition. The student will also receive a gift of \$5 from the Ladies Aid, which adds a total gift of \$15 to the initial agreement of \$15, so that the total payment to the student amounts to \$30.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 17, 1904

After morning worship services, which were led by student Stelzig of Eden College [Seminary], the congregation remained in the church for their general meeting. Because no pastor was present, president Chr. Backer opened the meeting with prayer and called the meeting to order. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

It was decided that the people who have not yet paid their one dollar (as it was stipulated in last year's general meeting) should be excused, because it could not be determined who had paid in the past year and who had not. However, members should be held, from now on, to pay the pledge of one dollar per year into the building fund, and Ph. Backer was named to collect the pledges.

It was further decided that all decisions of the previous year, which were enacted in the meetings and not fulfilled, now shall now be regarded as not in force.

The church janitor shall from now on have no special compensation for irregular jobs that he has to do for the congregation at burials, etc.

The treasurer reported income in the church of \$51.06, and current expenses of \$56.21. Income for pastor salary, \$265.05. Payment of \$314.80. President Chr. Backer named H. Wichmann, Ph. Backer, and L. Hinderer as a committee to audit the treasurer's books and present a report over it.

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It was decided to reimburse the Ladies Aid the \$5 that they had given as a gift to student Orlowsky.

The following officers were elected:

H. Wichmann was elected trustee in the place of Wm. Backer, whose term had expired.

L. Petri was elected deacon in the place of A. Fischer, whose term had expired.

Both H. Wichmann and L. Petri were elected for three years.

Then, the council elected from itself the following officers: L. Hinderer, president; Fritz Lorenz, secretary; Ph. Backer, janitor.

Since no further business was pending, the meeting adjourned with prayer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Officers of the congregation for the current year 1904:

President Louis Hinderer, for 1 year.Trustees:Deacons:Henry Wichmann, 3 yearsLouis Petri, 3 yearsChr. Backer, 2 yearsFred. Renner, 2 yearsThomas Klick, 1 yearLouis Hinderer, 1 yearFritz Lorenz, secretary, 1 yearPh. Backer, janitor, 1 yearWm. Backer, treasurer, 1 yearPh. Backer, collector and treasurer for the building fund, 1 year

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Fulton, Evangelical Church, May 13, 1904

Obituary and tribute for August Fischer, born July 25, 1836, in Schleswig-Holstein; died February 25, 1904, in Fulton, Mo.

It has pleased the Lord of life and death to call home to himself our dear brother and member of the Evangelical Church here in Fulton, Mo., Johann August Friedrich Fischer.

The deceased was a member of our congregation, one of the few remaining charter members of the congregation.

He was always an active member both in everyday and spiritual affairs, and therefore be it resolved in this council meeting, which today holds a special meeting, that the following resolution be written in the book of minutes and also a copy of it to be sent to the surviving, bereaving family of the deceased.

1. That with the passing of August Fischer we have lost a faithful and active member of the congregation in all respects.

2. That we, the council of the congregation, are moved to deep grief and feel inner sorrow with the relatives of the former member.

3. That we all hope and wish to see him again there above, in company with God and his angels, where no sorrow and tears no long exist.

4. That we, since we are instructed as Evangelical Christians in have faith in an everlasting life, can confidently remind the surviving family of the deceased: Do not weep. Your husband, father, and grandfather is not dead. **[p. 86]** His earthly body has gone as all flesh goes, but his soul yet lives and waits for you above in eternal salvation.

These are the wishes and thoughts of the remaining church council of the Evangelical Church of Fulton, Mo.

President, Louis Hinderer; Heinrich Wichmann, Chr. Backer, Thomas Klick, Louis Petri, Fred Renner, Louis Hinderer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 4, 1904

After the morning worship service, which student Orlowsky led, the congregation remained in the church to have a meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and the congregation approved them as read.

The committee that was named by the president in the last meeting to audit the treasurer's books reported that they found the books in order, and so the committee was dismissed. Treasurer W. Backer reported income and expenses for the last quarter year as follows: for pastor salary, income of \$42.00, and other income of \$5.55 and expenses of \$6.75. It was announced that the congregation needs a new parsonage, and upon motion of Fr. Klick it was decided that the president L. Hinderer should appoint a committee of three to determinine how much could be gotten for the old parsonage and then come up with a plan for a new parsonage, which would have no fewer than five rooms, would be built of brick or wood frame, whichever would be the cheapest yet effective. The committee shall discuss with builders in order to find approximately how much such a house would cost. Elected to the committee were Fritz Lorenz, Heinrich Wichmann, and Ph. Backe,r and they shall in four weeks from today, on May 1 present a report to the congregation.

It was decided that the ringing the bells during the Lord's Prayer after the sermon should no longer be done.

Fr. Klick was elected delegate, and Fr. Lorenz as alternate, to the District Conference. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, May 1, 1904

In today's meeting, which was held in the church after morning worship service, and which had been called for in the quarterly meeting of April 4, the following decisions were made. The committee of Fritz Lorenz, Heinrich Wichmann, and Ph. F. Backer presented their report, as follows. The parsonage can be sold for \$325 on the offer of Henry Davis, and a new brick house can be built for \$1,100-\$1.200. Heinrich Wichmann would later present the plan for the new house to the congregation.

After long discussion, it was decided to approve the report of the above named committee and to sell the old parsonage for the stated price. The building a new parsonage should be started. The above named committee was to remain in office.

Every single member of the congregation should contribute in money all that is possible for this purpose and the remainder of the cost shall be borrowed and church property used as collateral. The meeting adjourned until a later date.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[Note: pages 89 and 90 are missing.] [p. 91]

Fulton, Mo., July 10, 1904

Candidate H. Mueller of Niles Center, Illinois, who had graduated from the Theological Seminary, conducted the morning worship service. H. Mueller, who was ordained in Illinois as pastor in the Evangelical Synod of North America, was suggested to us by President Allrich of the West Missouri District, as pastor in our Evangelical congregation here and was sent here by the Synod administration.

After the morning worship service Pastor Mueller informed the congregation that on July 17, after the morning worship service, a congregational meeting will be held in the church in place of the quarterly council meeting.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 17, 1904

The minutes, which were read after the opening of today's meeting that Pastor Mueller opened with prayer, were approved as read.

Treasurer W. Backer reported income and expenses as follows: income \$147.59; expenses \$62.59; balance, \$85.00.

After some pro and con discussion about building the parsonage, it was agreed to give the building committee the authority to build the house and borrow the necessary money.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, October 9, 1904

The church council remained in church after the morning worship service for its quarterly meeting.

Treasurer Wm. Backer reported that in the past quarter year income collected in worship services was \$13.47 and expenses for the same time were \$12.85.

Pastor F. Grabau of Little Rock, Arkansas, who is secretary of the Fire Insurance Agency of the Evangelical Synod, sent a bill for \$5.87 for fire coverage, and the secretary was instructed to send him that amount.

Since no further business was forthcoming, the meeting adjourned by Pastor Mueller with prayer and blessings.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., November 27, 1904

This morning after the morning worship service the trustees remained in the church and completed the application of the Evangelical Church to the Insurance Agency of the German Evangelical Synod of North America for coverage by the insurance agency, namely for the parsonage and the church and all movable property of the congregation. Trustees were Chr. Backer, Heinrich Wichmann, and Thomas Klick.

The value of the property and the insurance coverage were given as follows:

Church	\$3,000.00 value, insured for	\$1,600.00
Parsonage	\$2,700.00 " "	\$1,500.00
Outbuildings	\$ 80.00 "	\$ 50.00
Steeple	\$ 400.00 "	\$ 200.00
Organ	\$ 150.00 "	\$ 80.00
Pulpit and altar	\$ 60.00 "	\$ 40.00
Bell	\$ 150.00 "	\$ 100.00
Stove	\$ 40.00 "	\$ 20.00
Rugs	\$ 20.00 "	\$ 10.00
Colored windows	<u>\$ 20.00 "</u>	\$ 10.00
Total	\$6,620.00	\$3,610.00

The surety note for \$361.00 was signed by the above named trustees. The application was examined and found correct by congregational pastor H. F. Mueller. Application fee of \$3.61 shall be sent by secretary Fritz Lorenz and \$1.00 to the secretary for postage.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Address of the secretary of the Insurance Agency is Rev. F. Grabau, 900 W. 5th street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 8, 1905

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold their annual general meeting. Pastor H. Mueller opened the meeting with prayer after which President L. Hinderer called the meeting to order. Last year's minutes were read by secretary Fritz Lorenz and were approved as read.

President Hinderer asked if Pastor Mueller had a report to give, and the pastor replied with a "no."

Treasurer W. Backer was not ready to present his report and was allowed to do it at the next special meeting, which will be held next Sunday, January 15.

Also the building committee of Fritz Lorenz, Ph. Backer, and Henry Wichmann were allowed to postpone their report until the next meeting, because they did not have it ready for today's meeting.

Also the report of Ph. Backer, who was to collect one dollar from each member each year for the building fund, was postponed until the next meeting.

Mrs. G. Kreutz, who had applied for membership in the congregation, was unanimously accepted.

Then the election of officers took place. In the place of Thomas Klick, whose term as trustee had expired, Klick was unanimously re-elected trustee for 3 years.

In the place of Louis Hinderer, whose term as deacon had expired, Ph. Backer and Wm. Willhagen were nominated, and the latter was elected with a majority of votes as deacon for 3 years.

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Since the newly elected deacon W. Willhagen was absent, it was decided that the election of officers from within the church council, namely president, treasurer, secretary, and janitor, would take place in the next meeting, January 15.

The meeting adjourned with prayer and blessing by Pastor Mueller.

The church council for the current year is as follows: [N.B. Their election is recorded on p. 98.] President, Louis Hinderer

Trustees: Thomas Klick, 3 years Heinrich Wichmann, 2 years Chr. Backer, 1 year Treasurer, Wilhelm Backer Secretary, Fritz Lorenz Janitor, Ph.F. Backer Deacons: Wilhelm Willhagen, 3 years Louis Petri, 2 years Fritz Renner, 1 year

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 15, 1905

This morning after the worship service the congregation remained in the church for a continuation of the meeting that was held on January 7, but the business was not all finished. The treasurer reported that income during the past year was \$354.02 and expenses were \$327.33, with a balance of \$26.99 [Note: The arithmetic is not correct.], but that all the pastor's salary has not been received. Ph. Backer, treasurer and collector for the congregation, will give his report at a meeting in April.

The committee named to build the parsonage reported the following income and expenses: Building expenses as following:

Dunuing expenses us following.	
Expenses for foundation	\$ 8.25
Labor " S. Hopkins	190.00
Bricks	197.25
Brick walls (labor)	192.20
LaCrosse Lbr. Co. (lumber)	298.58
A.D. Smith (lumber)	505.85
Carpenter (labor)	305.60
W.E. Berghouser (iron ware)	36.46
Chr. Backer (labor ")	80.40
Callaway H.C. (iron ware)	3.50
Judl [?], Craghead "	5.58
F. Bell (building windows)	25.00
Moore & Son (house paint)	27.80
Chas. Wright (")	20.60
Godfrey, Atkinson (chimney sealing)	39.50
F. Brand (cement work)	11.00
Gilbert Foundry (weights)	7.90
S. Fischer (roof)	234.14
G. Bellemann (painting)	32.17
Gray & Sutter (plumber)	180.00
McKee (chimney pipe for heating)	125.00
Douglas (plastering)	180.00
W. Scott (hauling)	15.80
Hauling in general	38.70
Other expenses	36.95
Total \$2	,798.37

Remaining debts as follows:	
A.D. Smith	284.05
LaCross Lbr. Co.	158.66
Ch. Backer	51.44
A. Jatho	100.00
F. Renner	100.00
Mrs. E. Lorenz	600.00
Mrs. A. Fischer	<u>500.00</u>

Total \$1,794.15

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There is still \$165.00 to collect in signed pledges, and there is still some money available. Also, more members have promised (but they could not pay at this time), so soon more is to be paid. Those who have not yet paid, should do it as soon as possible. So thanks to the committee that the debt in short time can be reduced from \$1,000 to \$1,200. [Note: Does this mean "reduced about \$1,000-\$1,200"?]

The committee: H. Wichmann, Fritz Lorenz, Ph. Backer.

President Hinderer thanked the committee for the work they had done and also for the work that they personally did for directing the work on the house. Also, all people were encouraged to thank the committee in the newspaper for their faithful leadership in the building of the house and also for those who paid pledges for its construction. Also, donors should be named in this minutes book and how much they paid and also those who are yet to donate. [Note: The list of donors and amount given is recorded in the back of the book on pages 156 and 157.] Since not enough members of the church council were present to elect officers, the meeting was adjourned until an unstated time when enough members could meet to hold the election. The president named the following as a committee to audit the treasurer's books and give a report at the next meeting: H. Wichmann, Ph. Backer, and F. Lorenz. The above named building committee was retained intact until the money is collected and debts

paid and all put in order. Also the committee's authority shall continue as before.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 21, 1905

Since not enough members of the church council were present for a meeting to elect a president and janitor, so these remained unfilled until today's evening worship service to elect officers for those named positions. Since President Louis Hinderer was not present, Pastor Mueller opened the meeting and acted as chairman.

H. Wichmann was nominated and seconded, and unanimously again elected by all officers present. President, Louis Hinderer; secretary, Fritz Lorenz; janitor, Ph. Backer.

The committee of H. Wichmann, Ph. Backer, and F. Lorenz, which was appointed by president Louis Hinderer at the last meeting on January 15 to audit the treasurer's books, gave its report. They found the books in order. They found recorded there \$_____ income; \$_____ in expenses; and \$_____ balance. [Blanks are in the minutes book.] The committee was dismissed. Since there was no more business, the meeting adjourned.

The names of the officers of the congregation for the current year are found on page 95 of this book.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Postscript: Wm. Backer was re-elected to the position of treasurer. It was omitted in the above minutes.

[p. 99]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, February 19, 1905

The church council remained in church after the morning worship service on the request of the secretary. He read a letter from Pastor F. Grabau, R.R. 8, Dulken [Oulken?] Sta., St. Louis, Mo., which was a notice for Assessment 9 of the Mutual Insurance Association of the Evangelical Synod of North America. The congregation owes \$18.20, which is at the rate of \$5.00 for each \$1,000 of the insured amount of \$3.610.00. [See minutes of November 27, 1904.] The council came to the agreement that each one of them shall pay \$2, but as voluntary payment. The secretary and janitor also offered to pay that amount, and the congregation should pay the remainder.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 9, 1905

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor Mueller opened the meeting with prayer and President L. Hinderer called it to order.

The secretary did not bring the minutes book to the meeting and therefore the minutes of the previous meeting were not read.

The treasurer reported that income during the past three months was \$9.29 and expenses were \$12.65.

Fritz Lorenz was elected delegate to the next Conference and Th. Klick elected substitute. Improving the sidewalk on the east side of the church with coal cinders was discussed.

Pastor Mueller would like to have his salary raised. Action on this was postponed until two weeks from today so that it could be discussed in a special meeting when all members will be present.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 100]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 30, 1905

Upon request of Pastor Mueller, the congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service. Pastor Mueller acted as chairman in the absence of President L. Hinderer. Pastor Mueller explained that his health no longer allowed him to live in Missouri and gave his resignation orally.

Pastor Grefenburg of Warrenton, Mo., who gave a trial sermon, explained that President Allrich had sent him to present himself as a candidate for the position of pastor of the congregation.

It was decided in the meeting that a congregational meeting will be held two weeks from today to determine whether the above named pastor should be our pastor and caregiver.

The secretary shall communicate in writing with President Allrich about proposing other candidates.

Then, adjournment.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, May 14, 1905

Because not enough members of the congregation were present after the morning worship service for the special meeting scheduled two weeks ago, and because the vote on Pastor B. Dresenborg, who applied for the position of pastor in our congregation, therefore was not taken, therefore the congregation remained in the church after the evening worship service to vote. There were 17 votes turned in, with 15 votes "no", and 2 votes "yes." So the above named pastor was not elected.

Then, adjournment.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, May 28, 1905

On request of Pastor Mueller the congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service for a special meeting, at which the pastor explained to the congregation that it was not advisable for him to preach any longer in the warm weather or to officiate and lead the congregation, because of his health.

Therefore, it was decided to authorize a theological student to preach in place of Pastor Mueller until the congregation has an ordained preacher in that position.

Then, adjournment, since no other business was presented.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 102]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 9, 1905

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting, student Brazel [spelled Pratzel in the next minutes] opened the meeting and President L. Hinderer called it to order. The secretary had not brought the minutes book with him, so the meeting went on with its business without reading the minutes of the previous meeting. The treasurer reported on income and expenses during the last quarter as following: income \$227.94; expenses \$204.45.

Then attention turned to the election of a trustee to replace Chr. Backer, who had died. However, since the minutes book was not at hand, in which one could see if Chr. Backer was one of the oldest [that is, he was one of the oldest serving trustees, as a 3-year or 2-year or 1year trustee], and since not all were aware if he was one of the oldest, therefore the meeting adjourned until next Friday, July 16.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, August 27, 1905

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to hold a special meeting. student Pratzel [spelled Brazel in minutes above] opened the meeting and served also as chairman, since President L. Hinderer was absent.

Pastor R. Fischer of Mexico, Mo., was unanimously elected pastor of the congregation. Since there was no further business to attend to, the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 103]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, October 22, 1905

The church council remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor Fischer opened the meeting with prayer. President L. Hinderer called it to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer W. Backer reported income since January 1 of \$349.06 and expenses of \$348.82. Ph. Backer reported, in the name of the building committee, that he is now and then at the evening meetings in the church to collect money as the collector for money for lumber. That money for lumber and its delivery for the parsonage has not yet been fully paid. Since there was no further business to do, the meeting adjourned with prayer and blessings by Pastor Fischer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 104]

Fulton, Evangelical Church, January 7, 1906

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its annual general meeting.

Pastor R. Fischer opened the meeting with prayer and the president called it to order. The minutes of last year's meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer Wm. Backer reported income and expenses as following. Collected during the whole year in the morning worship services, \$54.94, and there was surplus for the year of \$29.23. In total, \$448.42 was collected and expenses were \$437.22, with a remaining balance of \$11.20. However, Pastor Fischer was not paid his full salary, and there was still money that was pledged to the pastor's salary that has not yet been collected.

President L. Hinderer named the following committee to audit the treasurer's books and report on them at the next meeting. Members of the committee are Fritz Lorenz, Wm. Schmidt, and Louis Petri.

The building committee for the parsonage, Ph. Backer, H. Wichmann, and F. Lorenz, who were retained in their positions for an undetermined time, had nothing worthwhile to report at this time.

Ph. Backer, who was named to collect money for the building fund, into which every member who has the ability to pay has the obligation to pay one dollar, had nothing to report. He would, however, have a report at the next meeting.

It was decided that there were some unacceptable difficulties with the treasurer's preliminary report, as shown by the receipts that he had given each one who paid into the treasury. **[p. 105]**

The secretary was directed again to ask for further details of the Mutual Aid Association of the Evangelical Synod and to write to the proper authorities about temporary possibilities.

Then the election of officers took place. H. Schmidt was elected trustee for 3 years in place of Chr. Backer. F. Renner was re-elected deacon for 3 years.

Then the congregational meeting adjourned, and the meeting of the church council was opened to elect the officers, who according to our congregation's constitution are to be elected by the council.

Pastor Fischer chaired the meeting in place of L. Hinderer.

The council elected the following officers: Secretary, Fritz Lorenz. Treasurer, W. Backer. Janitor, Ph. Backer.

Then the congregation re-opened its meeting. L. Hinderer chaired the meeting.

It was decided that the treasurer, secretary, and pastor should be part of the church council as advisors and be elected in a meeting of the council.

President L. Hinderer was again unanimously elected president in the council meeting. H. Wichmann, H. Schmidt, and L. Hinderer moved his election.

The treasurer was orally thanked by the president of the congregation on behalf of the whole congregation for his faithful and sincere work in the preceding year.

Then, adjournment, and the congregation was dismissed with blessings by Pastor Fischer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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[[·· - · ·]		
Officers for year 1906 are as follows:		
Pastor	R. Fischer	
President	Louis Hinderer, for 1 year	
Treasurer	Wilhelm Backer, for 1 year	
Secretary	Fritz Lorenz, for 1 year	
Church janitor	Ph.F. Backer, for 1 year	
Collector for the building fund P.F. Backer, for 1 year		

Trustees:		Deacons:
H. Schmidt	3 years	F. Renner, 3 years
T. Klick	2 years	W. Willhagen, 2 years
H. Wichmann	1 year	L. Petri, 1 year

[<u>Note</u>: The following two paragraphs are stricken out in the minutes book, with the clear intention that they were <u>not</u> to be part of the official record. However, they are translated here, for whatever interest they might have.]

The treasurer was asked to get a receipt for every payment he makes, and also to give a receipt to everyone from whom he receives money for a pledge to the congregation, so that everything can have a record.

The secretary was directed to write soon to the authorities of the Mutual Aid Society of the Synod in order to learn more details about that society, because some congregational members would perhaps like to join it.

Secretary of the congregation

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Fulton, Mo., January 28, 1906

The undersigned, named as committee by L. Hinderer, president of the congregation, to review the treasurer's books, met in the residence of H. Wichmann, where they read the books and concluded the following:

Income in year 1905 for pastor's salary \$302.00

Carry-over in treasury from 1904 Received from the Ladies Aid for Received late payment for pastor Surplus from money collected for Borrowed from L. Hinderer Collected in the church [in worsh	or pastor's salary r's salary from 1904 or insurance hip services]	3.58 44.50 25.25 .40 50.00 55.04 $$480.77$
Expenses in 1905 Salary to student Pratzel Salary to Pastor H. Mueller Salary to Pastor R. Fischer Ongoing expenses in 1905 Total Income Balance in treasury	83.35 166.65 133.35 103.69 487.04 480.77 6.27	

The congregation is still in debt to L. Hinderer, who, as shown above, was borrowed from. The committee found from the treasurer's books that not enough has been pledged for pastor's salary for a long time and that also the special collections leave much to be desired. To remedy the debt, it would be desirable that all, or at least most, of the members might contribute a little more.

Louis Petri Wm. Schmidt Fritz Lorenz

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 1, 1906

The congregation held a meeting in the church after the morning worship service.

Pastor R. Fischer opened the meeting with prayer. President L. Hinderer called it to order.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer W. Backer had nothing to report.

W. Backer was unanimously elected delegate to the District Conference, and H. Wichmann elected as substitute.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned and closed with blessings by Pastor Fischer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

July 1, 1906

The church council remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting.

The treasurer reported income and expenses as following:

Income in this year \$173.95

Expenses in this year \$163.70 Pastor Fischer presented to the council an assessment from the Insurance Agency for \$14.98, which must be paid by August 1. The council decided that that sum should be collected from members of the congregation. Since no more business was presented, the meeting adjourned and was closed with blessings by **[Pages 109-112 are missing]**

[p. 113]

Pastor Fischer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, October 7, 1906

The church council held its quarterly meeting after the morning worship service. The treasurer reported that collections for the pastor's salary are not coming in as they should, so that he doesn't have enough money to pay the pastor his salary regularly. After long give and take discussion over how the problem should be corrected, the meeting came to the conclusion that each member of the congregation should voluntarily chip in something. A beginning was made towards that among the council members, and more contributions from the council members would be quickly forthcoming to remedy the deficit in the treasury. Since no more business was presented, the meeting adjourned and was closed with blessings by Pastor R. Fischer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 6, 1907

Members remained in the church after morning worship service to hold their annual meeting. Pastor R. Fischer opened the meeting with prayer and President L. Hinderer chaired the meeting.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and found correct and approved as read. Treasurer's W. Backer's report showed the following: Collections at morning worship services, \$42.86, and current expenses, \$39.15.

Total collections for pastor's salary and other income, \$388.68, and total expenses for pastor's salary etc., \$383.15. There would be somewhat more in the treasury, not included in the above, if some members would have paid what they had pledged to give for pastor's salary. F. Lorenz, H. Schmit and H. Wichmann were named to examine the treasurer's books and report back at the next meeting.

After give and take discussion how it can be possible to remedy each annual deficit in the treasury, Ph. Backer declared himself ready to take care of it and by asking other members for further contributions.

Ph. Backer, chairman of the building fund, had nothing to report, since no one had contributed anything to it last year. It was decided to discontinue contributions to the building fund until further notice.

Then the election of officers took place.

H. Wichmann, whose term as trustee had expired, was unanimously re-elected for 3 years.

In place of L. Petri, whose term as deacon had expired, Fred Klick was unanimously elected for 3 years.

Then the congregational meeting adjourned for a while, and the church council went into its meeting to elect its officers. Pastor R. Fischer served as chairman. All officers, who are elected for terms of one year, were re-elected: President L. Hinderer; treasurer W. Backer; secretary Fritz Lorenz; church janitor Ph.F. Backer, and the latter also as chairman of the building fund. Then it was discussed how one could best attract more members into the congregation, especially to accept the confirmation children of church members as full members of the congregation. Finally, the conclusion was reached that it would be best if each member took it upon himself to speak with the young people about it.

Finally, President Hinderer, on behalf of the congregation, thanked the Ladies Aid, the treasurer, and janitor for faithful service.

Pastor Fischer thanked the congregation for the gift they had given him at Christmas. Then, adjournment with blessing by Pastor Fischer.

Officers for 1907: Pastor R. Fischer President L. Hinderer Trustees: H. Wichmann, for 3 years H. Schmit, for 2 years J. Klick, for 1 year Fritz Lorenz, secretary W. Backer, treasurer Ph. Backer, janitor

Deacons: Fred. Klick, 3 years F. Renner, 2 years W, Wilhagen, 1 year

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., January 10, 1907

The undersigned, the committee elected in the last congregational meeting to review the treasurer's books, met in the residence of H. Wichmann where the books were read for review. The books were found as following:

Income

From members of the congregation	\$267.75
	15 50
Collections from worship services	45.52
From the Ladies Aid, carryover from 1905	5.50
From members, carryover from 1905	4.75
From the Ladies Aid, 1906	67.00
Borrowed from H. Wichmann	6.00
Carryover in treasury from 1905	6.27
District collection	1.25
Total	\$402.74

Expenses

To Pastor R. Fischer	\$350.00
To Ph.F. Backer	24.00
For city water	2.00
For the city light on the street	1.00
For the light from the city	5.37
To John Backer for materials bought	
from Mrs. Sulzer: soap, lye, and	
oven black, for cleaning the church	.35
To Gray & Sutter for patching the	
water pipes in the parsonage	3.15
For communion wine	1.25
For delegate's travel costs to	
District Conference	3.75
District collection	1.25
Total	\$392.12

Income \$402.79 Balance in the treasury to date \$9.42.

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The congregation still owes the pastor \$50.00 and H. Wichmann \$6.00, which he says the congregation got from him. Also there was some more money to collect from some members who had pledged for pastor's salary, and many other members still have paid hardly anything in 1906, from whom the treasurer thought he would receive something. The treasurer thought he would collect the remaining balance here and there from members. The committee concluded that for a long time not enough was pledged from members to pay the pastor's salary in full. The committee pondered different ways to remedy the situation, that the annual deficit in the treasury be stopped, but without any result. The Ladies Aid is too strained and overburdened with their incidental expenses for the congregation and it would be wishful that they could help. The salary of the pastor is anyway so low, so that we cannot think about lowering it and for that reason it would be good and expedient if all this could be discussed in a called general meeting of the congregation in which all members were present.

It just cannot keep going on as it now does.

W. Schmit, H. Wichmann, Fritz Lorenz

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 7, 1907

The quarterly meeting of the church council took place after morning worship service. Pastor R. Fischer opened it with prayer, and President L. Hinderer chaired the meeting.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved as read.

The committee of three persons appointed at the last meeting by President Hinderer to review the treasurer's books presented their report and then were dismissed from their roles. Members of the committee were H. Wichmann, H. Schmit, and Fritz Lorenz.

The report of the committee was discussed. The decision was finally reached that Pastor Fischer, at the next best opportunity, when the morning worship service was well attended, will

call a mass special meeting after the worship service to discuss the question of <u>how</u> more income could be brought in, so that the congregation could meet its obligations on time. Thomas Klick was unanimously elected delegate to the next District Conference, and Fritz Lorenz, as substitute.

Since no other business came before the meeting, it adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 7, 1907

The church council held its quarterly meeting after morning worship service.

Pastor Fischer opened the meeting with prayer, and President L. Hinderer called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted as read.

Treasurer W. Backer was not present and had not sent any report.

Ph. Backer, special treasurer of the parsonage and church building fund presented his report over his work from July of last year to July of this year. Collected in evening worship services, \$21.21 and paid out \$20 of it for ongoing expenses. \$142.75 was paid to Smith Lumber Co. and \$47 paid to La Crosse Lumber Co. \$200 was paid off of the debt for the parsonage and the interest was also paid. \$15 was transferred to treasurer W. Backer for the pastor's salary. In total, Ph. Backer collected approximately \$600 for debt liquidation, truly excellent work for the betterment of the congregation. On motion of L. Hinderer, Mr. Backer was sincerely thanked for his faithful work.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, July 7, 1907

Pastor R. Fischer announced to the congregation after morning worship service that he accepted a position as pastor of a congregation at Femme Osage, Mo. and announced his resignation as pastor of the local Evangelical church, which will go into force on October 1 of this year. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., August 4, 1907

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to discuss various things. It was agreed to hold a garden festival next Thursday evening, August 8, in the church garden and on Thursday, August 15 to have a party in the country, specifically at A. Jatho's farm.

The resignation of Pastor Fischer was accepted.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 5, 1908

Members remained in church after the morning worship service for a special meeting at which President Schettler of the Theological Seminary officiated.

Pastor F.B. Cunz of 640 W. Lombard St., Baltimore, Md., whom the District President Mr. Baur had recommended as candidate for the position of pastor in our congregation and who himself had sent a letter, was unanimously elected pastor.

The secretary of the congregation was directed to send the results of the election to the above named pastor.

The letter of call that Pastor Cunz had sent to the council to present his credentials to the congregation was personally returned to that pastor, because some small and insignificant changes need to be made in it.

Since the parsonage is rented under contract until the middle of this year and probably cannot be rented again during that period of time, it was decided that either the congregation rent for Pastor Cunz a residence wherever in the city, or else add the cost of \$12.50 a month for house rental to his salary and let him find a house himself.

Since no further business was presented, the meeting adjourned until two weeks from today, January 19, when the annual general meeting will take place.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 19, 1908

Members remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold their annual general meeting.

Because President L. Hinderer was not present, August Jatho opened the meeting and called it to order.

Because so few members were present on account of sickness, therefore it was decided to take care of only unimportant things. Election of officers will be postponed until January 19 [Note: This doesn't make sense, because today's date is January 19.] when very likely our newly elected pastor F.B. Cunz will be with us.

Treasurer W. Backer reported that for the whole year income was \$442.93 and expenses were \$430.81. From the income, \$89.00 has been borrowed.

Aug. Jatho appointed a committee of members to review the treasurer's books and report back at the next meeting.

Then, adjournment followed until the next meeting, when the unfinished business from today, like the election of officers, etc., will be taken care of.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Addendum to above: It was decided to compensate Pastor F.B. Cunz ten dollars for travel costs and to send it to Baltimore.

F.L.

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, March 1, 1908

Members remained in the church after morning worship service to continue the unfinished annual meeting, which was held on January 19.

Pastor F.B. Cunz, who delivered his inaugural sermon on February 22, acted as chairman, because President L. Hinderer was absent, and he opened the meeting with prayer. The following officers were elected: P.F. Backer as trustee for 3 years to replace Thomas Klick, whose term had expired. Louis Petri as deacon for 3 years to replace W. Willhagen, whose term had expired. Fritz Lorenz as secretary, W. Backer as treasurer, and PF. Backer as janitor, were unanimously re-elected for the same officers that they previously held. Then the meeting adjourned with the Lord's blessings by Pastor F.B. Cunz. The officers for the year 1908 are as below: Pastor, F.B. Cunz President, Louis Hinderer Trustees: Deacons: Louis Petri, for 3 years P.F. Backer, for 3 years H. Wichmann, for 2 years Fred Klick, for 2 years H. Schmidt, for 1 year Fr. Renner, for 1 year Fritz Lorenz, secretary Wilhelm Backer, treasurer P.F. Backer, church janitor Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., March 8, 1908

Today, W. Backer, treasurer of the congregation, handed over to the secretary of the congregation the results of the review of the treasurer's books, by the committee appointed in the general meeting, which shows the following.

Up until March 1 of this year, total income for the year, \$448.54, and expenses for the same time, \$456.81, leaving a deficit in the treasury of \$8.27. The committee consisted of Louis H. Hinderer and H.F. Smith.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., April 5, 1908

The council remained in the church after morning worship service to hold its quarterly meeting. Pastor F.B. Cunz opened the meeting and acted as chairman, because President L. Hinderer was absent. Since not enough members were present to do business, the meeting adjourned until after the evening worship service with President L. Hinderer chairing the meeting. H. F. Schmidt was unanimously elected president in place of L. Hinderer for one year, or until

H. F. Schmidt was unanimously elected president in place of L. Hinderer for one year, or until January 1, 1909.

W. Sulzer was elected delegate to the Missouri Conference and Fr. Klick substitute.

Then, adjournment and dismissal with the Lord's blessings by congregational pastor F.B. Cunz. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, May 10, 1908

The church council remained in the church after the morning worship service for a discussion. President H. Smith opened the meeting and then explained to the council that the city of Fulton has asked to have a cement sidewalk put on the north side of the church.

The council agreed to this, but made it with the condition that a cement sidewalk would also be put on the south side, from the corner of Nichols Street and Fifth Street, up to the corner of Jefferson Street and Fifth Street. The council directed the president to present this before the city council.

Then the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, May 17, 1908

President H. Smith asked the congregation to remain in the church after the morning worship service for a discussion about the sidewalk on the north side of the church property. The city council sent a written order to the congregation that the sidewalk should be made right away and of cement. The congregation decided that President H. Smith will make it himself, and if some of the members could help him a little with the labor, or with money, it would be done very quickly.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 5, 1908

The church council held its quarterly meeting after the morning worship service. Pastor F.B. Cunz opened the meeting with prayer and President H.F. Schmidt called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved.

Treasurer W. Backer reported that income for the past three months was \$175.69 and expenses were \$175.02.

President H.F. Schmidt reported that the needed sidewalk on the north side of the church for the time being has not yet been made, because several property owners of the houses on the street had protested to the city council, namely that the sidewalk from the corner of 5th and Nichols Streets to the corner of 5th and Jefferson Streets should also be done.

Then the meeting adjourned and members dismissed with the Lord's blessings by Pastor Cunz. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., November 27, 1908

Copy of a notice of dismissal to Pastor F.B. Cunz on his term as pastor of the local Evangelical Church.

The undersigned, as church council of the local Evangelical Church, after careful consideration–after hearing repeated complaints from members–after seeing that the congregation is more and more mismanaged and all respect before long will completely vanish–came to the conclusion that it would be best if another pastor would serve the

congregation, one who could work with more care with the congregation. Therefore the council has decided to serve notice of dismissal to the above named Pastor F.B. Cunz as pastor of the congregation, which shall be in force on March 1, 1909.

If the named pastor can get a position earlier in another congregation, then his resignation can take place earlier and it would be accepted by the council of the congregation.

The present council is composed of the following members: President H. Smith, P.F. Backer, H. Wichmann, Louis Petri, Fred Klick, Fr. Renner.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, December 20, 1908

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service for a special meeting, to discuss the dismissal that the council sent to Pastor Cunz on November 27, two weeks earlier.

Pastor Cunz protested at the meeting against the dismissal, which he insisted was not legally done, because the decision was not made in an official meeting of the congregation.

The congregation, however, after long give and take discussion, voted to agree with the council and declared unanimously that the dismissal be allowed.

Then Pastor Cunz was permitted to submit his resignation, which shall come immediately after Palm Sunday, when the children will be confirmed, and on the next Sunday when he would distribute holy communion. After that his resignation shall be in force.

Because no further business was presented, the meeting adjourned and members were dismissed by Pastor Cunz with the Lord's Prayer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 24, 1909

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to hold its annual meeting.

Pastor F. Cunz opened it and President H. Schmit called it to order.

The minutes of the past year's meeting were not read on wish of those attending the meeting, because it takes to much time to read. Only the last minutes of the special meeting of December 21, 1908 were read, and then approved as read.

The treasurer W. Backer reported that in the past year income was \$388.41 and expenses \$375.86, leaving a balance of \$12.55.

President H. Schmit appointed Ph. Backer, H. Wichmann, and L. Hinderer the committee to examine the treasurer's book and report on them at the next opportunity.

The parsonage building committee was not yet dismissed, and so the motion was made to dismiss them, namely L. Hinderer and Fritz Lorenz, and only Ph. Backer be retained in order to take care of the important work of the debt.

Thomas Klick was elected trustee for 3 years in place of H. Schmit, whose term had expired. John Renner was elected deacon in place of Fr. Renner, whose term had expired.

The council then elected the other officers unanimously for 1 year, namely, President H. Schmit; Secretary Fritz Lorenz; Treasurer, Wm. Backer; Janitor, Ph. Backer. The congregation took into consideration the resignation of Pastor Cunz, since he requested we take it up, but it was unanimously decided that the decision should remain standing just as it was resolved in the minutes of December 20, 1908. **[p. 130]** So the pastor handed in his resignation, and it was accepted. The pastor said he would leave the congregation as its pastor on April 20, 1909. His resignation letter read rather harsh towards the congregation, and the congregation said it was not proper for a pastor to write like that, but it was accepted without protest.

Since there was no further business to take care of, the meeting adjourned and members were dismissed with an admonishing prayer by the pastor.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

The officers for 1909 are as follows: President H. Schmit

Trustees: Thomas Klick, 3 years P.F. Backer, 2 years H. Wichmann, 1 year Secretary, Fritz Lorenz 1 year Treasurer, Wm. Backer, 1 year Church janitor, P.F. Backer, 1 year Deacons: John Renner, 3 years Louis Petri, 2 years Fred Klick, 1 year

Evangelical Church, July 18, 1909

The council remained in the church after the morning worship service for its quarterly meeting. Student Kascher, who preached the sermon in place of candidate Bierbaum, opened the meeting with prayer, and President H. Schmit called it to order.

The minutes of the previous meetings were not read, and treasurer W. Backer did not file a report, because he could not present his books and calculations.

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Ph. Backer, who had the job to collect money to pay off the parsonage debt, reported that \$750.60 debt remained, but that he soon could pay off more of it, and he now will collect more from members who promised to pay their pledges for the debt.

Since there was no more business before the meeting, it adjourned and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by the above named student.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., January 9, 1910

The congregation held its annual meeting in the church after morning worship service. The treasurer reported that the income for the entire year was \$380.09 and expenses \$372.40, leaving a balance of \$7.69.

It was resolved to thank P.F. Backer for his work he has done to collect money for the new sidewalk and for the removal of the parsonage debt, and to have this resolution recorded in the minutes book.

All officers whose terms had expired were re-elected. Therefore the officers for the coming year are as follows.

Trustees: H. Wichmann, 3 years Thomas Klick, 2 years P.F. Backer, 1 year Deacons: Fr. Klick, 3 years John Renner, 2 years Louis Petri, 1 year Then the meeting adjourned and members were dismissed with prayer and blessings by student Grunewald, who had officiated in the worship service.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

P.S. Fritz Lorenz, secretary. W. Backer, treasurer. P.F. Backer, janitor. H. Schmidt, president.

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, September 10, 1910

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service to hold a congregational meeting.

Because the officers of the church were elected almost a year ago but a pastor had not yet been found for the congregation [to install them], it was voted to elect all new officers who would serve until 1912, so that there would be no election of officers in January 1911.

Heinrich Wichmann was unanimously elected trustee effective until 1914.

Louis Hinderer was unanimously elected trustee effective until 1913.

P.H. Backer was unanimously elected trustee effective until 1912.

Deacons were also unanimously elected as the above trustees:

L. Petri until 1914.

W. Backer until 1913.

W. Willhagen until 1912.

It was also decided that every member of the congregation of 18 years of age will be a voting member, and that all members of the congregation, whether male or female, shall be voting members, since it often occurs that not enough male members were attending congregational meetings in order to make decisions or to conduct other kinds of business.

Since not all elected officers were present in order to conduct official business, the meeting adjourned until this evening after the worship service to continue the meeting. Members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor T. Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Continuation of the meeting in the evening.

The elders elected from among themselves the following officers effective until January 1912. President, H. Schmidt, until 1912.

Secretary, F. Lorenz, until 1912.

Treasurer, P.F. Backer, until 1912.

Janitor, P.F. Backer, until 1912.

At the evening meeting many things were taken in consideration that had been discussed in the morning. It was decided that all children after confirmation shall be accepted as voting members and not, as decided in the morning session, be accept only after reaching the age of 18 years.

The treasurer will compose a list of names and collect the pastor's salary money each month. Also, the constitution shall be amended to do these things.

The president who chaired the meeting adjourned it, and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 8, 1911

The congregation remained in the church after the morning worship service for its annual meeting.

President H. Schmit chaired the meeting and Pastor Th. Baur opened it with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read.

The treasurer presented his report of income and expenses as following. In the last 5 months in which P.F. Backer was in the office, \$45.59 was collected in the morning and evening worship services and current expenses were \$43.36, leaving a balance of \$2.23.

Collected for pastor's salary was \$62.50 and paid out was \$166.75

It was decided that the council will have a get together next Thursday at 7:30 in President H. Schmit's residence to examine amending the congregation's constitution and to present the amendments to the congregation in a special congregational meeting for certification. Also at the meeting the treasurer's book will be brought and for this purpose a committee ws named consisting of W. Willhagen, L. Hinderer, and L. Petri.

It was decided that the Pastor will order a number of new song books as church property, and each Sunday they will be shared with church guests who do not have their own song books. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned, and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Th. Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., January 12, 1911

The church council met at 7:30 this evening in the residence of President H. Schmit to amend the congregational constitution and to present the changes to the congregation in a special meeting for adoption, as it was decided in the meeting on January 8.

Present were P.F. Backer, L. Petri, L. Hinderer, H. Schmit, Pastor Baur, and secretary Fritz Lorenz.

Article IV, Section IV. Instead of only male members over 20 years old shall have a seat and vote in the congregational meetings, now all members who are now joined to the congregation, whether male or female members, who are confirmed, or have transferred membership from another Christian church.

If someone wants to join the congregation, then he or she shall announce it to the local pastor, and if there is no objection raised to it by the council or the local pastor, then he or she can be approved by the assembled congregation as a member of the congregation with full voting rights.

Article VI. Instead of paying the pastor's salary in quarterly payments, payments will be made monthly.

Article VII, Section 1. Instead of the vote for congregational officers having to take place by ballot, voting can also take place by acclamation after the candidate has been nominated. Instead of the council electing a president, treasurer, and secretary from among themselves, they will be elected by the congregation.

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Section 6. Instead of the treasurer paying only the pastor's salary without getting prior approval, he can also pay other small current expenses without prior written approval by the president and secretary.

Rules on church property

Should the congregation ever dissolve, congregational property will devolve to the Evangelical Synod of North America and Canada, and they can do what they want with the property at their discretion.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 29, 1911

In a special meeting of the congregation, which took place today after the morning worship service, the congregation unanimously approved the amendments to the constitution as written in the above minutes.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Evangelical Church, April 2, 1911

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service for its quarterly meeting.

Pastor T. Baur opened the meeting with prayer, and President H. Schmit called it to order. The previous minutes were read and approved as read.

Treasurer P.F. Backer reported that collections and other small income in the past quarter year came to \$37.56, and current expenses were \$34.41. Balance in the treasury, \$3.15.

P.F. Backer was elected delegate, and L. Hinderer substitute, to this year's District Conference, which takes place in May in St. Louis.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned, and members were dismissed by Pastor Baur with the Lord's Prayer.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, July 9, 1911

The congregation held its quarterly meeting after morning worship service.

It was opened with prayer by Pastor Th. Baur, and President H. Schmit conducted the meeting. The treasurer report that during the past quarter year collections in the worship services together with the balance in the treasury from the previous quarter year came to \$27.82. Current expenses were \$23.16, leaving a balance of \$4.66.

Further, the treasurer reported that \$60 still remains of the debt for the parsonage, but that some money is still to be collected, which members had pledged, and he thought that the remaining debt could soon be paid off.

Then, it was discussed back and forth, to organize an excursion for congregational members into the country and so a common [probably "potluck"] dinner on green grass will be arranged. Then the meeting adjourned and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by P. Baur. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, October 8, 1911

The quarterly meeting took place after morning worship service.

Pastor Baur opened it with prayer, and President H. Schmitt called it to order.

The minutes of the previous meetings were not read, since they were not available.

Treasurer P.F. Backer reported income and expenses as following.

A balance of \$4.66 was in the treasury on July 9. Income in this quarter year was \$17.86,

making \$22.52. Expenses were \$15.20. Balance is \$7.32.

The treasurer also advised that the income for the pastor's salary during the year of his office, from September 30, 1910 to October 1, 1911, was more than the pastor's salary required, which has never happened as long as the congregation has existed. Also, the congregation is just only \$60.00 in debt on its property.

Also, the parsonage was painted and was also paid for.

Since there was no other business to do, the meeting adjourned, and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by P. Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 14, 1912

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service to hold its annual meeting.

President H. Schmit conducted the meeting, and Pastor T. Baur opened it with prayer. The following officers were elected: L.H. Lorenz was elected trustee for 3 years in place of P.F. Backer, whose term had expired.

Paul Perman was elected deacon for 3 years in place of W. Wilhagen, whose term had expired. W. Wilhagen was elected president of the congregation for 1 year. P.F. Backer was again elected treasurer and janitor for 1 year. Fritz Lorenz was again elected secretary for 1 year. Thus, the officers are as following.

Trustee: L.H. Lorenz, for 3 years

H. Wichman, for 2 years

L. Hinderer, for 1 year

Deacon: Paul Pirman, for 3 years L. Petri, for 2 years

W. Backer, for 1 year

President, W. Wilhagen, for 1 year

Treasurer, P.F. Backer, for 1 year

Secretary, Fritz Lorenz, for 1 year

Janitor, P.F. Backer, for 1 year

Treasurer P.F. Backer reported that with the balance from the previous quarter year and the income from worship services of the just-ending quarter year, he has collected \$30.82, and paid out \$23.99, leaving a balance of \$6.83. Also the pastor's salary has been paid regularly, on time.

It was decided to raise the pastor's salary \$50.00 to make a total pastor's salary now of \$450.00 a year.

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It was decided to install a light right behind the curtain so the pastor could see better. Also a lectern should be installed there.

A committee of three, namely Fritz Lorenz, H. Wichman, W. Wilhagen, was elected to examine the treasurer's books and report back in two weeks.

Upon a motion, the meeting adjourned, and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

April 21, 1912

In a special meeting after the morning worship service, Carl Lorenz was elected delegate and Fritz Lorenz substitute to this year's Conference of the Missouri District, which takes place on May 1 in St. Charles, Mo.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

The committee consisting of Fritz Lorenz, H. Wichmann, and W. Willhagen met in the house of P.F. Backer to review the treasurer's books. They found the books in order. Absent was H. Wichmann.

The committee

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Fulton, Evangelical Church, May 19, 1912

Pastor Baur asked the congregation to remain for a moment after the morning worship service. Pastor Baur asked permission to give instruction in the German language to the children of members of the congregation during the summer months. He asked no salary for this. The congregation allowed Pastor Baur to do it, and that he could cancel the evening worship service during this time.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[Note: Pages 145 and 146 are missing.] [p. 147]

Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, January 25, 1913

The congregation held its annual meeting after the morning worship service.

President W. Wilhagen conducted the meeting and Pastor T. Baur opened it with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved as read.

Treasurer P.F. Backer read his report as follows: Income for the entire year, excluding pastor's salary: \$103.40 and expenses for the entire year 103.25

leaving 18 cents balance in the treasury [Note: arithmetic not correct!]

Then the election of officers took place.

L. Hinderer, whose term of office had expired, was unanimously re-elected for 3 years.

Wm. Backer, whose time of office had expired, was unanimously re-elected for 3 years.

P. Pirman was elected president for 1 year.

P.F. Backer was elected treasurer for 1 year.

F. Lorenz was elected secretary for 1 year.

P.F. Backer was elected janitor for 1 year.

A committee of three, namely P. Pirman, Pastor Baur, and P.F. Backer, was named to buy a lectern for Pastor Baur and to install it in the church.

A committee of three, namely P. Pirman, L.H. Lorenz, P.F. Backer, with Pastor Baur as advisor, was named to find new benches [or pews] to be bought for the church.

P.Pirman, L.H. Lorenz, L. Hinderer were named to review the treasurer's books.

Then, adjournment, with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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The officers	for year 1913 are:	
Trustees:	L. Hinderer, 3 years	
	L.H. Lorenz, 2 years	
	H. Wichmann, 1 year	
Deacons:	Wm. Backer, 3 years	
	P. Pirman, 2 years	
	L. Petri, 1 year	
President, P.	Pirman, 1 year	
Treasurer, P	.F. Backer, 1 year	
Secretary, Fritz Lorenz, 1 year		

Janitor, P.F. Backer, 1 year

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, April 6, 1913

The quarterly meeting took place after morning worship service.

Pastor Baur opened the meeting with prayer and also conducted the meeting.

The treasurer reported that in the course of the quarter year income was \$20.02 and expenses were \$21.40.

The committee of L.H. Lorenz, Paul Pierman, and L. Hinderer, which was named at the last meeting to review the treasurer's books, reported that the books were in order.

L.H. Lorenz was elected delegate to this year's Conference of the Missouri District, which takes place on April 17 in St. Louis, and Thomas Klick, substitute.

The meeting closed and members were dismissed with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Baur. Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Pastor Baur asked members to remain in the church for a moment after the morning worship service for a special meeting to hear the report of the committee consisting of Louis Lorenz, P.F. Backer, and P. Pirmann.

P.F. Backer presented, separately, how much the benches [pews] for the congregation, the chairs for the church choir, and 2 altar chairs would cost.

The entire cost would come to approximately 250 dollars, and he hoped that the total could be collected, for it would make a complete set. Members offered to assess themselves ten dollars and he thought that some members would follow that example and the balance will be collected in small amounts.

H. Schmidt proposed and it was seconded that the above named committee shall buy the benches, etc., and it was then put to a vote. On motion of Pastor Baur it was voted to amend the motion so that the chairs and benches to be bought would be labeled with the names of those who bought them. Those who were in favor of labeling were in the majority, so the motion of H. Schmidt was approved.

Then the meeting adjourned.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

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Fulton, Mo., Evangelical Church, August 3, 1913

The congregation remained in the church after morning worship service for their quarterly meeting.

Pastor Baur opened the meeting and also conducted it.

After the minutes of the preceding meeting were read, treasurer P.F. Backer reported that during the period, income was \$26.19 and expenses \$22.96, leaving a balance of \$3.18. Also he reported that a debt of \$29.00 still remained for the church benches, etc., but he hoped to collect that in the next period. Also the sidewalk stretching from the parsonage to 4th Street has been made, which the associations of the church paid for.

It was discussed whether it would be good and proper to dedicate the new church benches [pews] at a special celebration. The congregation agreed unanimously to the proposal and directed Pastor Baur to invite one or more pastors to deliver appropriate addresses at the celebration.

Also it was discussed that the Sunday School picnic usually held each year be held again this year and soon so that the Piermann family who will move away from here soon can take part in it.

Since no further business was pending, the meeting was adjourned, and members were dismissed with prayer by Pastor Baur.

Fritz Lorenz, secretary

[p. 151] Expenses Balance \$1.82 Treasurer Income \$43.00 \$41.18 \$1.44 \$41.68 \$40.28 Committee: L. Lorenz, P. Pirman, W. Wilhagen President: Pirman Secretary, F. Lorenz Treasurer, P.F. Backer Deacon, P.F. Backer Trustee, H. Wichmann, leaving and re-elected for 3 years Deacon, L. Petri, leaving; F. Renner, elected for 3 years P. Pirman leaving; Carl Lorenz, elected for 1 year

NOTE: Page 151 is the end of the minutes of meetings.

NOTE: From Page 152 to the end, the book contains various materials. The book's contents are given on the first page of this translation.

[p. 152]

Call to an Elected Pastor of the Congregation

Through its church council representatives signed below, the Congregation (German Evangelical) at Fulton, Mo., hereby calls (insert the name of the pastor) to be its pastor to serve it in Scripture and Sacrament to the best of his knowledge and belief, to serve the youth to the best of his ability, to be an example in all matters of the congregation that is entrusted to him, and to conduct his office according to the constitution and bylaws of the German Evangelical Synod of North America.

In return, the congregation calling him joins with its pastor as a worker for Jesus Christ in reverence and love, and assists him in his position as much as possible with mutual concern for the church's interests – to aid him through intercession and faithful practice of the means of grace – and to set him an annual salary of _____ dollars in _____ payments, as well as granting the usual accident insurance benefits and the parsonage as a residence, free from rent.

In abiding trust that the Lord of the Church will let this completed contract give credit to His name and to the salvation of the soul, the church council of the Evangelical congregation at Fulton, Mo. signs it with all respect.

> President Council

Secretary

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Names of the Members of the Congregation.

Fritz Lorenz
 <u>August Fischer</u>
 <u>Louis Metz</u>
 Teo. Petri
 Aug. Diehl
 Louis Petri
 <u>P. Wichmann</u>
 <u>John Neukamm</u>
 <u>Conrad Berghouser</u>
 Aug. Jatho
 Elisabeth Fisher
 Wilhelm Sulzer
 <u>Wil. Hild</u>

14 Henry Velte 15 Wm Backer 16 Carl Menker 17 Fr. Klick 18 Chr. Hoffmann 19 Ben. Schiller Mrs. Schiller 20 Louis Hinderer 21 Henry Wichmann 22 Elise Bonad 23 Chr. Backer 24 Mrs. Gross 25 Mrs. Pauline Lorenz 26 Katharine Sartor 27 Rosa Lorenz 28 Mrs. Gern 29 Mathilda Gern 30 Mrs. C. Neukomm 31 Th. Klick 32 W. Willhagen 33 John Renner 34 Oscar Renner 35 Augusta Neukomm 36 Wm. Snyder 37 John Osfald 38 Mathilda Osfard 39 Herman Langenbach 40 Mrs. John Langenbach 41 Fritz Renner 42 Frank Standhardt 43 Regina Miller 44 Ludwig Metz 45 Wm. Brandis 46 Fritz Metz 47 Louisa Renner 48 Wm. Renner

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1904

Voluntary Contributions for the Parsonage

Money or Work, as is	s labeled under the name.
Name	
Louis Petri	25.00
Ph.F. Backer	25.00
Christian Backer	25.00
Fred Renner	25.00

J.R. Penn	5.00
J.R. Carter	2.50
Pauline Lorenz	10.00
Henry Lorenz	5.00
Emma Rabsahl	5.00
L. Berghauser	2.50
J.H. Backer	5.00
Emilie Petri	6.00
Mrs. Geo. Kreutz	5.00
Mrs. C. Neukom	5.00
Mrs. Fanny Wenger	3.00
W.E. Berghauser	15.00
L.H. Backer	2.50
C.C. Hofmann	15.00
Emil Brooks	5.00
Geo. McIntire	10.00
Choir	20.00
Lacrosse Lumber Co.	
Catherine Gross	5.00
Henry Diehl	10.00
Oscar Renner	5.00
Louise Renner	5.00
John Renner	5.00
Augusta Frank	10.00
Mrs. Aug. Fischer	5.00
Wm. Willhagen	10.00
Louis Schmidt	10.00
A.D. Smith Lumber C	
Aug. Hockaday	2.50
J.A. Leavell	2.50
John Jameson	2.50
C.A. Patton	2.00
Fred Klick	15.00
Thomas Klick	10.00
August Boeger	5.00
Elizabeth Fischer	5.00
Geo. Fischer	2.50
Charlie E. Sartor	2.30
	2.00 5.00
Jas. Murphy	
Henry Oestreich J.K. Smith	2.00 2.00
	2.00
Dave Whanger	
W.D. Bush	2.50
Dutton & Hudnall	5.00
Dr. G.D. McCall	2.50
Dr. N. F. Baker	2.50

W.E. Jameson 2.50 Backer & Backer 5.00 Theo Kruegel 2.00 J.W. McIntire 2.00 Wm. Backer 15.00 L.F. Hinderer 10.00 Tompkins & Tucker 4.00Montgomery, Bell & Co. 2.50 Payne & Alexander 1.00 W.D. Thomas 1.00 J.F. Henderson 1.00 J.E. Sallee 1.00 Mrs. Chas. Landman 1.00 E.W. Grant 2.50 Rose Lorenz 5.00 **Conrad Berghauser** 5.00 Dr. Martin Yates 1.00 G.W. Hamilton 1.00 M.E. Leavens 1.00 C.M. Wright 3.60 Herman Crist 1.00 J.D. Henderson 2.00 T.C. Martland 1.00 L.L. Collett 1.00 J.F. Smith 1.00 B.B. Muir 1.00 A. Stahlman 1.00 Dr. Bayliss 1.00 Harve Garver 1.00 Rood & Cook 1.00 D.V. Dunn 1.00 S.R. Yantis 1.00 Chas. Dachsel 1.00 J.A. Moore 1.00 J. McDonald 1.00 W.W. Winn 1.00 Miss Lizzie Hockaday 1.00 Dr. W. H. Renoe 2.00 John McGregor 1.00 Mrs. J.A. Hockaday 1.00 C.F. Wilkerson .50 W.J. Ross .50 .50 Geo. Brown [pp. 157-158 missing] [p. 159] [Continuation of the list from page 156] Wm. Everhart .50

Sisera Threlkeld	.50
Lute Smith	.50
J.H. Douglass	.50
Nichols & Herndon	.50
Judge P. Beavens	1.00
Robt. McVeigh	1.00
A.M. Jameson	1.00
J.A. Dickinson	1.00
Dan'l Tucker	1.00
J.C. Humphrey	1.00
R.H. Fowler	1.00
Dr. Roy McCall	2.00
Wm. Dawson	5.00
Mrs. Wm. Dawson	1.00
John S. Harris	1.00
Ed. Carter	1.00
Frank Payne	.50
Dr. J.J. Brown	.30 1.00
J.J. Neukomm	2.00
J. Wolz	10.00
John Neukomm	20.00
Carl Lorenz	5.00
Fred Lorenz	5.00
Ed Crowson	1.00
W.W. Arnold	2.50
J.S. Henderson	1.00
J.E. Maughs	1.00
Wm. Carter & Co.	5.00
E.L. Edwards	1.00
Jas. Leach	1.50
E.E. Farris	2.00
J. Sanderon	2.00
Fred Torrey	1.50
Jesse Maughs & Co.	2.00
Emil Neukomm	2.00
Greger Bros.	1.00
O.C. Sims	1.50
Aug. Jatho	10.00
Robt. & Tom Rogers	1.00
N.D. Thurmond	1.00
Joe McCortle	1.00
D.P. Bartley	1.00
W.C. Harris	1.00
Louis Klee	5.00
Elizabeth Lawther	4.00
Mrs. M. Wilkerson	1.00
1,110, 1,1, ,, 11K010011	1.00

Willie Renner	5.00
Gilbert Foundry	3.95
J.B. Harris	1.00
Ned Thurmond	.50
Mrs. W.T. Hume	.50
N.L. Townsend	1.00
Mrs. John Bonard	1.00
A. Friend	1.00
Sam Watson	1.00
Wm. McCray	.25
Capt. Summers	1.00
Judt & Craighead	2.58
Lee Pasley	1.00
A.P. Holt	.50
Dr. John T. Brown	2.00
H. Freiberger	2.50
Prof. N.B. McKee	1.00
Godfrey Watkinson	10.00
Dr. S.S. Rowe	1.00
C. Merkle	.25
Moore Drug Store	.80
P.F. Backers	.00
Entertainment	35.05
M.F. Bell	12.50
Mary Deuschle	3.00
F. Klick	• • • •
Hauling Cinders	2.00
Mr. Adcock	.50
H. Wichman	
in work	150.00
Work by	50.00
Carl Lorenz	
Louis Hinderer	
F. Lorenz	
Ph.F. Backer	
L. Lorenz	
Ladies Society	75.00
Dedication Collectio	
F.Mearz 1,000 brick	
H. Frank laying brick	K 0.30
Fritz Langenbach	5 50
laying brick	5.50
Wm. Langenbach	11.00
laying brick	11.00
Geo. Bellaman	
painting	3.00

Dennis Douglass	
plastering	8.00
Suter & Gray	
plumbing	20.00
(?) Lehman	
2000 brick	11.00
Jack Kistler	
carpentering	5.70
Wood sold	2.50
Lumber sold	1.00
Matting sold	1.50
Ice cream	.25
Sam Moore for dirt	5.55
Stove sold	1.50
C. Holt work	1.63
Arnold Backer	1.25
C. Backer & Son	6.00
L. Petri	
hauling brick	
F. Renner	
hauling brick	
Rocks from side walk	5.00
Ladies Society	12.00
Band Fair	57.90
Building Fund	9.40

[p. 160] Constitution of the German Evangelical Congregation at Fulton, Mo.

According to scripture, "Let all things be done decently and in order" (I Cor. 14:40), therefore, we, the undersigned, confess to the following constitution:

Article I - Name

The congregation has and retains the name: German Evangelical Congregation at Fulton, Mo.

Article II - Purpose

The purpose of our church organization is, shall be, and remain: To create and promote the fellowship in the devotion and knowledge of the Word of God [Scripture], as it is expressed in the Evangelical Church, through song and prayer and principally through the preaching of the pure and unadulterated Word of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as well as through the administration of the holy sacraments, which are holy baptism and holy communion according to the sacramental words of Jesus Christ.

Article III Creed

The congregation acknowledged the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the Word of God and as the sole and unmistakable guiding principles of faith and life. In so doing, it confesses to the interpretation of Holy Scripture as laid down in the symbolical books of the Lutheran and Reformed Churches, of which the principal ones are: the Augsburg Confession, Luther's Catechism, and the Heidelberg Catechism **[p. 161]**, in so far as they are in agreement with each other. In their differences the congregation retains for itself the freedom of conscience of interpretation of the pertinent points of Holy Scripture that is accorded by the Evangelical Church.

Article IIII - Membership

§I Every member is required to:

a) be baptized and confirmed or already be partaking of holy communion in an Evangelical Congregation and confessing to Article III of this constitution.

b) lead a Christian life style.

c) attend worship services diligently and participate in the holy sacraments.

d) take part in financing the expenses of the congregation to the best of his ability and take interest in all that is to the betterment of the congregation's welfare.

e) profess to the congregation's constitution by signing it.

§II If someone wants to join the congregation, he must apply to a member of the council or to the pastor. The council publicly announces this application for joining two times. If no objection against approval arises, the applicant is approved in a public congregational meeting by vote, whereupon he then signs the constitution.

§III Women and young women, whose husbands or parents are not members of the congregation, can **[p. 162]** be members, if they sign the constitution.

§IIII Each male member, who has reached 20 years of age, has the right of voice and vote in all congregational meetings. All members have the duty to have their children baptized, instructed, and confirmed and to raise them in a Christian way and to be subject to the rules of the constitution and the decisions made at congregational meetings.

Article V – Church Discipline

Those who do not comply with the duties of a member of the congregation under Article IIII b, c, d, and e, after repeated, unsuccessful admonishments, will be stricken from the list of members and lose thereby all rights to church property. Still, the congregation is willing, at any time, to accept back those who recognize their wrong.

Article VI - [Pastor]

§1 The congregation has the exclusive right to call and dismiss its pastor. But the congregation may call and elect only a pastor who either is already a member of the Evangelical Synod of North America or is recommended for election by the President of the Missouri District.

§2 A written call, signed by the council of the congregation, will be issued to the elected pastor by the secretary of the congregation, in which his rights and duties are clearly and specifically given.

§3 As soon as the pastor has taken up his office, no one has the right to carry out official acts of the congregation or church, without his permission.

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§4 The pastor has to conduct his office as preaching the Word of God faithfully and knowledgeably, without respect to persons, and to vigorously promote the welfare of the congregation. He, jointly with the council, has to practice church discipline, and he has to be in charge of and keep the church registers accurately.

\$5 Should the pastor cause offenses himself, or should disputes occur between the pastor and the congregation, then, if the trouble remains unresolved by the church council, the congregation will turn to the District authorities of the Synod to settle the dispute.

§6 When the association between pastor and congregation is broken, three months' notice of dismissal, on both the side of the pastor and the side of the congregation, will be required. Only through gross negligence on the side of the congregation and through a great wrong on the side of the pastor, can this association be mutually broken.

§7 When the election of a pastor is necessary, the church council, through its secretary, will turn to the District President of the Synod to propose a suitable man for election, who will

be voted on at the next opportunity. A majority of members present decides the election, after which all members will be informed of the election.

§8 The pastor will be elected in a public congregational meeting for an unspecified term.

§9 The salary of the pastor will be paid by the treasurer in quarterly installments.

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Article VII – Officers of the Congregation

\$1 The church council consists of the current pastor, three elders who are also at the same time the trustees of the congregation, and three deacons. Each year, the two who have served for the longest time leave the council, and they will be replaced by a new election. The departing ones may be re-elected. The election takes place in the general congregational meeting by paper ballot. Each year the council elects from among itself a president, secretary, and treasurer. The officially elected council will be introduced by the pastor on a suitable Sunday in front of the assembled congregation. The council has the duty to see that the salary of the pastor will be collected and paid, and that the congregational property is maintained. The council has no authority to spend a sum of more than \$25.00, unless it is authorized by the congregation to do so.

§2 The deacons have to see that all goes well and orderly in the church building, to show visitors to seats in the church, to collect for benevolences each Sunday, and that, in the absence of the pastor, a worship service by readers takes place, if possible.

§3 The trustees are entrusted with the management of church property. They buy and sell only on the direction of the congregation. They also represent the congregation in legal affairs.

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§4 The president conducts the meetings of the congregation and church council. The pastor conducts them in his absence.

§5 The secretary records the ongoing business and decisions of the congregation in the minutes book, after reading aloud the minutes of the previous meeting at the opening of the meeting. He takes care of all monetary transfers and promissory notes, etc., with the president's signature, and in general looks after all written actions of the congregation.

§6 The treasurer has to faithfully keep the property of the congregation, whether in cash or paper. He has the authority to pay the pastor's salary. However, he has no authority to make any other special expenditures without instructions signed by the president or secretary. He has to file each year at the general meeting a report over income and expenses backed up completely with receipts. A committee consisting of 3 members of the congregation will be called to review on it. Also the council can examine the account books at any other time.

Article VIII – [Synod]

In order not to stand isolated and to ensure better its continued existence, the congregation, with its pastor, joins the German Evangelical Synod of North American at the next District meeting.

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Article IX – [Meetings]

§1 The general meeting takes place the first week of every January. Order of business is: Opening by prayer. Reading of the minutes. Acceptance of new members. The council reports on the status of the congregation. The treasurer presents his account. The congregation elects a committee for three members to examine the reports. Election of new officers takes place. The chairman announces the results.

§2 Other congregational meetings may take place when the council or pastor deems such necessary. They will be announced 14 days prior to the meetings. The members present constitute a quorum. For a decision to be approved, one vote over one half of the cast votes is required.

§3 Amendments that do not contradict the main clauses of the constitution of the congregation, may be made in any properly called congregational meeting.

Article X

§1 Changes to this constitution can only be made when two thirds of all voting members vote in favor.

§2 Articles I, II, III, and X are unalterable, as long as three members adhere to the constitution.

§3 All property of the congregation is and remains the indivisible property of the congregation, as long as three members **[p. 167]** adhere to this constitution of the congregation.

§4 The congregation seeks statutory legalization by the State through incorporation.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with us all. Amen.

Fritz Lorenz, Secretary

Approved, August 5, 1889. Names of congregational members . . .

Amendment to the above Constitution

Amendment to Article IX, §2: Voted in the congregational meeting on January 3, 1896. Every first Sunday in the quarter year, at 2 in the afternoon, a regular congregational meeting will take place, in which pending business will be acted upon.

[p. 168 blank] [pp. 169-170 missing] [p. 171-172 blank] [p. 173]

Voting Members

	1892	1893	Deceased Widow	Single	Family
J. Langenbach Fr. Lorenz			1 Family		1
E Petri			Deceased 2		1
Aug Fischer			Ditto Widow 3		
L. Metz	+				2
Fr. Hoffmann			Moved away		
G. Auerswald Theo Petri	1 1			1	
Aug Laub	1 1		Moved away	1	
Aug Diehl			-		3
H. Metz			Moved away		4
L. Petri P Wichmann			Deceased		4
John Neucomm		I	Deceased		5
Dan Petri			Deceased 4		
L Berghauser				2	6
Aug Jatho Wm. Hild				3	6
Wm. Sulzer		I		5	7
?	+	I			·
John Scherer			Moved away		_
Wm. Gern			Marrad		8
H. Oestreich Wm. Backer		I	Moved away		9
H. Velta	+	I			10
C. Menke	+				11
F. Klick					12
H. Wichmann					13
L. Hinderer B Schiller					14 15
H Wichmann	+		Deceased		13
H. W. Fischer			Moved away		
Mrs. Bonath			5		
L H Lorenz				4	
			5 Widows	4 Singles	15 Families

[pp. 174-176 blank]

End of book