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## FOREWARD

Articles dealing with the history of the church frequently recognize and honour the service of people who have given their lives in longstanding meritorious service. In this issue we do that, with respect to Rev. Charles Gutensohn, but we also take a look at the accomplishments and activities of an outstanding organization: The Ladies' Aid of the Edmonton Moravian Church.

In the annals of the history of the Moravian Church in western Canada, the conclusion of the 65 years of service by the Ladies' Aid, which took place in 2009, is worthy of commendation and recognition. The article covering their many years of faithful activity gives a glimpse of what held them together over those many years.

The Rev Charles Gutensohn and his wife Edna came to Bruderheim, Alberta as a newly married couple in 1912. He was a recent seminary graduate, 27 years old. Neither of them could have imagined that their pastoral service would span the next 28 years, all of it in the Canadian District. He served full time at Bruderheim, Strathcona (Edmonton), Calgary and in his retirement at Vancouver. Rev. Gutensohn served on the Canadian District Board for 21 years. He was Secretary of the Board for 6 years and the President of the Board for 15 years, succeeding the founding President, Bishop Clement Hoyler, in 1925.

The Gutensohn's were the parents of ten children, eight of whom were born at Bruderheim.

Retirement from pastoral service took place in 1940, when they moved to Vancouver Island. Edna Gutensohn died in 1962 and Charles in 1973. He was 88 years old.

One particular distinguishing characteristic of Charles Gutensohn was his sense of history in the making. His good penmanship makes it easy to read what he transcribed in the official church records. His work displays a desire to record what was happening at the time. Not only is the life of the Bruderheim Moravian congregation revealed in the church diary entries, which he faithfully made; but he includes information about the wider community and current events. I found my way into this account by looking for his description of the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic, when the H1N1 flu was so topical recently. When I realized how comprehensive the Bruderheim Moravian Church diary was, I felt that it was well worth sharing with our readers.

Wm. G. Brese  
Editor

**Edmonton Moravian Church Ladies' Aid**  
**The Conclusion of 65 years of Faithful Service**  
 Compiled by Wm. G. Brese, with help from Sadie Adam

Over the years the Edmonton Moravian Church has seen many organizations come and go, but the end of 65 years of service by the Ladies' Aid which has just concluded is worthy of special recognition and commendation. September 9th, 2009 marked the end of an era as far as the Ladies' Aid was concerned. They had met almost without fail on the first Wednesday of the month since its inception on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1944. Over the years they must have met between 700 - 800 times for regular meetings and for the celebration of anniversaries and special events.

The following is the concluding entry in the fourth and final book which contains the Minutes of the meetings of the Ladies' Aid.

***“After 65 years the Edmonton Moravian Ladies' Aid members, Meta Adam, Sadie Adam, Edith Henkelman, Frieda Kiel, Clara Zwick are disbanding. Date: Sept. 9, 2009”***

During these 65 years the following people have been Presidents:

Lydia Sampert 1944-1953  
 Edith Henkelman 1954-1960  
 Mary Kittlitz 1961-1962  
 Rofina Liske 1963-1968  
 Bertha Sommers 1969-1970  
 Rofina Liske 1971-1978

Lydia Schubert 1979-1984  
 Rofina Liske 1985-1991  
 Olga Prochnau & Rofina Liske, Co-presidents 1992-1995  
 Olga Prochnau 1996  
 Sadie Adam 1997-2009

Thanks to them and God for their leadership. Reading the Minutes--Edith Henkelman was the longest Treasurer & Frieda Kiel served the most years as Secretary. Thanks to them and many other members as Vice. Pres., Secretary, Treasurer during these 65 years.

Our meetings consisted of Devotions, Bible Study, Guest Speakers, Singing, Prayer, and Roll Call - answered with a Bible verse, Business Meeting, giving money to many worthy causes and always a good lunch.

Submitted by Sadie Adam, Pres.

The seeds for the establishing of a Ladies' Aid organization were sown back in Bruderheim. The pastor of the Bruderheim Moravian Church, the Rev. Charles Gutensohn, was nearing the completion of his 14 years of service at Bruderheim when, in 1925, he helped the ladies of that congregation set up a Ladies' Aid. It remained for his successor at Bruderheim, the Rev. Samuel Wedman, to mentor the newly established endeavor. At first the pastors served as President of the Ladies' Aid, but this changed over time. Lydia Sampert was President of the Bruderheim Ladies' Aid from 1940-1941.

In 1944 when the Rev. Samuel Wedman began his service at the Edmonton Moravian Church, one of the first matters which he addressed was the establishment of the Ladies' Aid. We can

assume that he had experienced the benefits which arose from having a Ladies' Aid in the congregation during the years when he was at Bruderheim.

The following is the transcript of the Minutes of the organizational meeting held in Edmonton on March 22, 1944:

***“Our first Ladies' Aid meeting of March 22, 1944 was held at the home of sister Alice Wedman. The meeting was opened by Brother Wedman. Gospel songs were sung and Brother Wedman read the scriptures.***

***Then there was discussion if all were in favor of having a Ladies' Aid and it was agreed that there should be one. So elections were made as follows:***

***President - Lydia Sampert***

***Vice-President - Emily Cybart***

***Secretary - Martha Pockrant***

***Treasurer - Adeline Damer***

***The rest of the committee were supposed to be elected at the next meeting. Collection was taken which amounted to \$5.30 . The number of sisters present were 12.***

***Refreshments were served after the meeting by sister Alice Wedman.”***

It would appear that the newly formed Ladies' Aid followed the meeting format which had gained popularity at Bruderheim. It was tried and true and the ladies were apparently happy to follow the same order of service for their meetings. Both Lydia Sampert and Rev. Wedman would have been thoroughly familiar with this.

There was a unique aspect to this meeting format. They made a practice of having roll call at every meeting. When a person's name was called, the person would signify their presence by reading a Bible verse.

Some research reveals that the calling of the roll and having the respondent reply with a Bible verse had its origins with the Bruderheim Ladies' Aid. The Minutes of their meeting of February 1, 1927 have recorded the following which is a translation from the original German record: ***“It was proposed and decided that the list of names would be read and the respondent would reply with a Bible verse.”***

Visitors to the Ladies' Aid, including the writer, always found this aspect of the Ladies' Aid meeting to be particularly pleasing and worshipful. It took time and preparation, but it was well worth the effort, as it showed how devoted the participants were to Bible reading and to the sharing of favorite verses.

Right from the very beginning the Ladies' Aid followed the practice of having Anniversary celebrations to mark the year of their founding. These services were held in the evening, usually at 7.30 pm. Without fail the ladies went to extra effort to arrange a special programme, which would feature a special speaker and special music. These meetings were well attended and were always followed by a sumptuous lunch.

On the occasion of anniversaries which marked each passing decade, the Ladies' Aid, organized extra special celebrations. For example at the 20th Anniversary, the programme featured special music and the Rev. Joe Lafortune from Heimtal and New Sarepta as the guest speaker.

At that meeting a letter from the Rev. Samuel Wedman was read. Besides congratulating the ladies on reaching this milestone, Rev. Wedman reminded the ladies of the three goals of their organization:

1. To foster the spiritual lives of the members, and through them that of their homes, by meeting regularly for prayer, Bible study and Christian fellowship.
2. To help in any and every way possible to further the work of the congregation, its social as well as its spiritual life, and with material assistance wherever possible.
3. To further and stimulate the interests of our church in missionary outlook and activities.

The 50th Anniversary of the Ladies' Aid stands out as being a particularly significant event. Again another special programme was arranged. At that meeting Lydia Sampert read an updated poem which she had written previously. This poem recapped the activities and service of the Ladies Aid:

### **OUR LADIES' AID**

By Lydia Sampert

Fifty years ago this congregation was small and weak,  
 It had no Ladies' Aid and how for members we did seek.  
 But with the help of Brother Wedman and his loyal wife  
 It was so nice to meet with them and plan a better life.  
 'Twas in their home that first we met to see what we could do,  
 We prayed and planned, discussed it all, although there were but few.

All were eager to get started and hoped that it would work  
 If we were willing to help out and not from work would shirk.

So on March twenty-second in nineteen forty-four  
 Our Ladies' Aid was organized in hopes of serving more.  
 Eleven members joined that day which was a meager start,  
 Since then we had three times that many who were loyal in  
 heart.

We have our meetings each month on Wednesday of the week,  
 The Ladies lead in prayer and song, our Pastor then does speak,  
 By alphabetic order rules our hostess serves us lunch  
 Which is enjoyed by every one who joins our happy bunch.

In nineteen forty-seven our Church was renovated.  
 It was a thing for which all had long anticipated.  
 Our congregation membership was not as high as now,  
 Funds were low, faith and hopes were high, so we managed  
 some how.

Our Ladies' Aid then skimped and saved to give a helping  
 hand  
 To this our Church which must be built, but not on sinking sand.  
 We were thrilled and happy when we could make an offer  
 To give five hundred dollars, which emptied out our coffer.

Our treasurer tells us when we're short of money, so beware  
 We put on plays and socials, then the money soon is there.  
 We planned to entertain - but how? With who? We are so few,  
 We then invited our young ladies and fine men we knew  
 To lend their fine gifts of music and blend their voices true  
 To sing the songs they knew, God bless them for all they do.

As everybody knows, our basement kitchen it was bare  
 You need dishes, pots and pans and soon a stove was there

We soon found out we needed spoons to stir our coffee sweet  
 The need was great for plates and forks to serve the pies to eat  
 And tables where to serve thereon, our men then six did make  
 The Ladies' Aid then paid it all, and money it did take.

One hundred fifty dollars we donated as our share  
 For the paint that had to cover the outside walls so bare.  
 The next thing that had to be done was change the old rough  
 floor  
 You know it was so terrible and such an ugly chore.

Two hundred fifty dollars willingly we then did pay  
 For lino on the floor which took some time for men to lay.  
 The windows too were bare you know, the sun shone in so bright  
 We had to buy some drapes and blinds with which to keep out  
 light.

Another purchase then made in nineteen fifty-one  
 It was a Hammond Organ grand, the best that could be done.  
 Our gift for this was very small, the price of it was high  
 One hundred fifty dollars then we gave without a sigh.

Our next thought was our platform here, a rug we hoped to buy,  
 A gracious couple from our midst they came & said they'd try  
 To buy a carpet of our choice and with their wealth would pay.  
 We were so grateful for their gift, a "thank you" we did say.

Then later on we added some and paid for felt and work  
 And had the work all finished up from which we did not shirk.  
 Some ladies then went out and bought a sweeper for the rug  
 Which really helps to keep it clean and need no other drug.

We've helped so many needy folks that live in foreign lands  
 We were so glad to pack some food in small and larger cans.  
 'Tis not in vain the work we do, the Lord will really bless  
 When we with willing hands and heart do help those in distress.

Our Missions we do not forget, our gifts to them we send  
 To help some one who is in need and may his ways amend.  
 With flowers sweet we visit the sick to bring them good cheer  
 To let them know they're not alone, but God is always near.

We may have worked long hours and days for funds like this to  
 make  
 But do not think it would be right the credit we should take,  
 It came from you dear friends, you were so very generous  
 With all your gifts and offerings you so kindly handed us.

So once again we come to you accept our heartfelt thanks  
 For all you've done to help us on from your accounts in banks.  
 God bless you all and keep you well till once again we meet  
 So let us carry on this work from which we'll ne'er retreat.

We've had some losses that were hard to bear through these 50  
 years  
 Many times the death toll we have heard, our eyes were dimmed  
 with tears.  
 Our Father knew when it was time to call our sisters home  
 Their work was done, so went home on earth no more to roam.

We miss them all, they were so faithful in their tasks well done  
 And we hope to meet them all when this our race is won.  
 In heaven there is room for all who want to find their rest  
 From their life's travels here on earth, by Him we can be  
 blessed.

Two of those first eleven members are here to-night  
 To celebrate this day of days, the future still looks bright.  
 We hope to work and carry on and try to win some more  
 To join as members of our group and hear our roll-call soar.

Come dear sisters, join our ranks, our membership is yet small  
 We'd love to have so many more before this coming fall  
 Remember friends it's nineteen ninety-four and we celebrate  
 Here in our church our Golden Jubilee, isn't that great?

Could we not bring our membership in this our Ladies' Aid  
 To fifty members for this year, let's hope we'll make the grade  
 And then with glad and thankful hearts our voices we will raise  
 To sing the songs of joyfulness and to our Lord give praise.

\*\*\*

Lydia Sampert did an excellent job of summarizing the work of the Ladies' Aid in verse, but she could not hope to cover all of their benevolent work. True to one of the main purposes, the Ladies' Aid has been a staunch supporter of Mission work. They would maintain correspondence with missionaries, send them gifts of money, send Christmas gifts to children in the orphanage in Alaska, bandages to Honduras, support a child at Rajpur. The list goes on and on. In addition they would faithfully contribute to the welfare of the local congregation. Noteworthy to mention also is the effort the Ladies' Aid made to assemble, pack and ship care parcels to needy people in Europe after the Second World War.

Picked at random from the records of the Ladies Aid is the following account of the Minutes of the Ladies' Aid, for May 7th, 1969 which shows what a typical meeting was like:

*“Our Ladies' Aid met on May the 7th as usual in the basement of the church. Renata Frisk, Acting Chairman, opened the meeting with hymn No. 76, “I must tell Jesus.” Hulda Nering led in prayer. Hymn No. 49, “In the Garden” was sung. Renata read the scriptures from Acts. 5:27-32. Also an interesting reading “Loving our neighbour.”*

*After singing hymn No. 37, “If Jesus goes with me I'll go anywhere,” Rev. Ullrich spoke to us about the Study of Apostles Evangelism. Open prayer followed. Edith Henkelman read the roll call and Minutes of the last Meeting. Mary Kittlitz read a letter from the Moravian Childrens' Home in Alaska, by Pauline Henkelman. Erna Schmidt volunteered to write to Gordon Sommers. We paid \$9.50 for bandages. It was decided by show of hands we do not help to sell on Sunday with Promonade for Klondike. Christina Dreger will again plant geraniums in planter in front. The Ladies' Aid will pay for pine or shrub. We also decided to spend \$25 for tea shirts and shorts for the Alaska Childrens' Home. It was decided we donate whatever is in the birthday box toward a scholarship fund in Honduras. Bertha will write to Ethel Seutter for information. Hulda Nering is our next hostess. A thank you note was read from Christina Dreger for the flowers and cards sent to them on their 60th Wedding Anniversary, also a thank you note from Marg Schwanke during her illness, and from Erna Schmidt for sympathy cards and donation and prayers and especially to the ladies who helped with serving lunch at her husband's funeral. The meeting closed with a prayer by Bertha. Martha Fenske served a delicious lunch. There were 16 members present. The offering was \$15.25. Lydia Sampert donated \$5.00 instead of serving lunch.”*

It is worth noting that two of the ladies who were present at the last meeting of the Ladies' Aid had been in attendance at the first meeting 65 years earlier. Edith Henkelman was a founding charter member and Sadie Adam was a visitor at the first meeting. At that time Sadie was a member of the Bruderfeld Moravian Church (now Millwoods) and Sadie had taken her mother to the meeting. Sadie later joined the Edmonton Ladies' Aid and served as its President for the last 12 years, while Edith Henkleman was the longest serving Treasurer .

In retrospect, the Ladies Aid remained true to its objectives throughout the years. Through Bible study, prayer, hymn singing and attentiveness to the many messages which were presented, the members deepened their faith and commitment. This was expressed in Christian service which took so many forms. The ladies cared for and supported each other. They were steadfast in supporting the pastor and in building up the congregation. Their support of missionaries and mission work was exemplary. Where ever they saw a need, they gave freely of their time, talents and resources.

The record of their activities is found in four volumes of Minute Books which chronicle their activities and 65 years of service in a thorough and complete manner. The Edmonton Moravian Church Ladies' Aid left to us an example of Christian service for all to admire, be inspired by and to emulate.

**A Portion of the Bruderheim Moravian  
Church Diary from 1912 – 1915  
and Excerpts from 1918-1919  
Recorded by Rev. Charles Gutensohn**

**1912**

**July 16, 1912 – Pastor and his wife arrived at Bruderheim**

Sister Gutensohn and I arrived at Bruderheim this evening. We were received most cordially by many of the members at the station. Our trip from Gnadenhutten, Ohio to Bruderheim was a pleasant one. We visited at several places on our way; in St. Paul and Springfield, Minn., Fargo, N. Dak., and Dundurn, Sask., but we were thankful that our destination has been reached. Bro. and Sister Edward Kittlitz invited us to stay at their home till we would be equipped to set up for housekeeping in the parsonage.

**July 18, 1912 – Parsonage**

I have already met the acquaintance of many members of the congregation. Today we, for the first time, occupied the parsonage. Several new articles have been furnished for the parsonage within the last few weeks. The ladies bought a cook stove and linoleum, etc. which added to the comfort of several rooms.

**July 20, 1912**

Br. Suemper came this evening from Bruderfeld to spend Sunday and Monday in Bruderheim, especially for purpose of installation.

**July 21, 1912 – Installation Service**

Br. Suemper installed the new pastor into office. After Br. Suemper installed me into office, I preached my first sermon

in Bruderheim, the text being 1 Cor. 16:13. The church was crowded and an opportunity offered itself to meet many strange faces. Mrs. Gutensohn, Mrs. Sentner (the organist), Br. Suemper and I were invited to dinner at the home of Br. and Sr. August Henkelman. In the afternoon Br. Suemper preached the sermon.

### **July 22, 1912 – Geminerat (Church council)**

I conducted my first church council. The aid of Rev. Suemper was much appreciated. Business went smoothly, although parliamentary rules were not strictly observed. It was decided to have a new cement foundation placed under the church and parsonage. Arrangements for foundation were discussed and planned. Br. Suemper left for Bruderfeld this afternoon.

### **July 25, 1912 – First Baptism**

Have visited several members, living on south and east road on foot. The roads were very muddy due to the rainy summer. At 7:00 this evening the son (Lawrence Walter) of Gottfried Henkelman and Amelia (Strauas) Henkelman was baptized at the home in town. This was my first baptism.

**July 27, 1912** – Br. Hauptert, pastor of Moravian Church in Green Bay, Wis. came today.

### **July 28, 1912 – Rev. Albert Hauptert's Visit**

Rev. Hauptert preached two excellent sermons today. The spirit of the discourses struck fertile soil. He visited at the home of Br. G. Henkelman in the evening. The day was one of great blessing.

### **July 29, 1912 – Visits with Br. Hauptert**

I bought a horse from Br. Samuel Kittlitz which was delivered today. This afternoon Br. Hauptert and I visited at the homes of

Aug. Henkelman, Gottlieb Sampert, Gus Sampert, Jacob Schultz, Gus Prochnau and Aug. Waschleska. Br. Aug. Waschleska is sick in bed and chances for recovery are poor. A stroke laid him up since early spring. In the evening Br. Hauptert wrote articles for publication to the Moravian and Botschafter.

**July 30, 1912** – Today we visited at the homes of Aug. Schultz, Gus Werner Sr., Werner Jr., Wm. Schultz, Aug. Hauer Sr., Gus Bartz, Adam Frauenfeld and Aug. Hauer Jr. At the homes of Aug. Hauer and Adoline (Werner) Hauer, the son Benjamin was baptized at which Br. Hauptert gave the address. Br. Samuel Hauer who is at his home is ill. Every indication seems to point towards consumption. While visiting at Br. Bartz, the horse tore loose, running away with hitching post and smashed buggy and damaged the harness. We had to walk to Aug. Hauer Jr. where friends were awaiting us for the baptismal service. Mosquitos are very bad. They were the cause of the horse running away.

**July 31, 1912** – This forenoon Br. Hauptert wrote an article for the church papers relating to the government of the church. Our spare time was occupied in the discussion of the “District Development”. This afternoon we borrowed a buggy and harness from Mr. Sentner (a merchant) to continue visits south of town. Bro. Hauptert left for Strathcona this evening. His visit to Alberta will remain in the minds of the Bruderheimers. The real aim of his visit to Canada, is to act as chairman of the coming Synod in Strathcona, as no member of P.E.C. is able to be present. All congregations are to be visited by him.

**Aug. 8, 1912** – Today Sr. Gutensohn and I finished visiting the members.

**August 9, 1912** – All arrangements made to leave for Strathcona for Synod, which will take place Aug. 10-14. Pastor and Mrs. Schleef of the Bruderheim Lutheran Church paid us a friendly visit; also asking us to return the call.

**August 15, 1912 – District Synod at Strathcona**

We left for Strathcona on 10 of August. Mrs. Gutensohn and I were met by Br. Schultz and Drebert at Edmonton and escorted to Mr. and Mrs. Stebner's where we stayed during Synod. The delegates from Bruderheim were Aug. Hauer, Gus Werner, and Adolph Schultz. Edward Kittlitz being there as a member of the D.E.B. The Edmonton Fair being held at same time, caused ministers and delegates to secure cheap rates. The main discussions at Synod were the question of "District Development" and Home Missionary activity. Sr. Gutensohn and I returned on Aug. 15, 1912.

**Aug. 25, 1912 – Communion**

The Communion which is to be held on the nearest Sunday to the 13<sup>th</sup> of August was held today. This was the first Communion service for the new pastor to officiate. As usual it took place after the morning service. In the early part of the afternoon a short communion service was held at the home of Br. and Sr. Hauer for the benefit of their ill son, Samuel. Several friends being present and the gathering proved a blessing. The afternoon services were held at 4:00 p.m. In the evening the first English service in the new pastorate was held. They used to be conducted in years gone by, but for several reasons they were dropped. Another attempt was made to continue to hold them regular every other Sunday. The attendance was fifty-one. An audience of fifty-one would seem encouraging, but many came out of mere curiosity while some English speaking people came to be helped. Many of the

Germans seem to be somewhat prejudiced towards having English services in the church.

**August 22, 1912 – Funeral of Lydia Arndt**

The funeral of Lydia Arndt (child), the daughter of Carl Arndt and the late Lydia Arndt, was buried. She was the pastor's first funeral in Bruderheim.

**August 29, 1912 – Funeral of Carl Edward Lehn**

The funeral of Carl Edward Lehn took place today. The parents of the child are not members of the Moravian Church. The father is of the Presbyterian and the mother of the Methodist faith. The pastor of the Lutheran Church (Rev. Schleef) had charge of the rig which carried the casket. He also attended the funeral. The service was conducted in the English language.

**Improvements at church and parsonage** - During this time the improvements were made, which were discussed at the first Church Council. A cement foundation was built around and under the parsonage and church. It improved the appearance considerably.

**Sept. 8, 1912 – Ehre Chor Fest**

Married peoples love feast. The audience was large at both services. Br. Suemper spoke both in the a.m. and p.m. English service in the evening.

**Sept. 10, 1912 – Funeral of Aug. Waschleska**

Funeral of Aug. Waschleska, a member of the congregation.

**Sept. 15, 1912 Ehre Fest in Bruderfeld**

Ehre chor fest in Bruderfeld, at which place the pastor spoke

both in the forenoon and afternoon. Br. Hauer conducted services in Bruderheim.

### **Sept. 16, 1912 – Ministerial Conf. Bruderfeld**

Meeting of ministers in the Bruderfeld parsonage. It was there decided that it is necessary to have Ministerial Conferences, also to have them frequently. It was decided to have the first Conference in the Bruderheim parsonage during the week after the Mission festival.

### **Oct. 20, 1912 – Mission Festival at Ger. Ref. Church**

The pastor preached a missionary sermon in the Beaver Hills Reformed Church in the afternoon. The morning service was poorly attended in Bruderheim because of the snowstorm on the 19 of Oct. In the afternoon it was discovered that the morning service was poorly attended in Beaver Hills, at which service they celebrated their “Dank Fest”. The afternoon meeting, at which the pastor spoke, the attendance could have been better.

### **Nov. 10, 1912 – Mission Festival**

Br. Hoyler and Br. Schultz spoke in the forenoon and Br. Hoyler and Br. Henkelman in the afternoon. The benches were filled. The offering amounted to \$196.70; this was the largest missionary offering which the Bruderheimers ever contributed.

### **Nov. 11, 1912 – Ministerial Conference**

Ministerial Conference held in the parsonage. The Brethren Hoyler, Drebert, Suemper, Henkelman, Schultz, Schultze, and Gutensohn were present. The essayist was Bro. Schultz. The next meeting is to be held in the new Edmonton Church. The Sisters present were Mrs. Schultz, and Mrs. Schultze, but not present at the actual Conference.

**Nov. 18, 1912 – Improving Grounds**

Several brethren assembled at the parsonage in order to tear down the two log shacks behind the barn. The shacks were formerly used as a horse barn and cabins for the Brethren Wm. Schwarze and C. Hoyler, whenever they came to conduct services in Bruderheim. The one (barn) shack was torn down and the logs prepared for fuel. The other (cabin) shack now stands rebuilt on the building place of Br. Albert Werner. Br. Werner uses it for his blacksmith.

**Nov. 19, 1912** – The church vestibule work began today. It will take several days to finish it.

**Nov. 19-30 – Improving church**

The vestibule has been finished, also other repairing has been done; doors, hooks for overcoats, etc. An active interest has been shown by several members in the improving of the church property.

**Dec. 18, 1912 – Wedding of Carl Arndt**

Church wedding. Carl Arndt (widower) and Henriette Wende. This was the first wedding the pastor ever officiated.

**Dec. 31, 1912 – End of 1912 and Beginning of 1913**

The Children's Program was held on Christmas Eve. The program was a success. About eighty recited. The church was beautifully decorated by the young people. The usual Christmas services were held. Services were well attended. The weather was favorable during the holidays. Services were held in church on the 31 of Dec., 10:00 p.m. The church was crowded. The New Year was ushered in by the hymn, "Nun Danket Alle Gott" which was followed by prayer, hymn and benediction.

## 1913

**Jan. 1, 1913** – New Years Service at 10:30 a.m. Text Heb. 13:8. Gemeinrat held 3:00 p.m.

**Prayer Meetings** – The meetings for prayer were held during the first week in Strathcona and Bruderfeld; the second week in Heimtal and New Sarepta; during the third week, Jan. 19-26, in Bruderheim. They were supposed to be held in Edmonton during the third week, but had to be delayed because the Edmonton Church was not completed. I preached during those weeks in Strathcona, Bruderfeld, New Sarepta, and Heimtal. The meetings were interesting and well attended in spite of the cold weather.

### **Death of Aug. Henkelman**

On Monday, a.m. Jan 6, 1913, August Henkelman, while hauling hay to his home, met his last misfortune. While trying to fasten the hay poles, it broke and he fell headfirst on the hard ground. One rib was broken and skull fractured. He was removed to the Lamont Hospital. There he suffered for days. On the 16<sup>th</sup> he quietly passed away. He was relieved from the sufferings of this world. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of January he was buried. Services were held at the house and church. Br. Hagar of the Baptist Church led in prayer. Br. Emil Suemper spoke; he was followed by the local pastor. Then Gottfried Henkelman, brother of the departed soul made a few closing remarks. The church was over crowded in spite of it being more than 30 below zero. The congregation lost a faithful brother. At his death he was 54 yrs. old. He left behind, his mourning widow, seven children and his aged father.

**Wedding of Wm. Arndt** – On 9<sup>th</sup> of January, Wm. Arndt to Hervina Wende in church.

**Jan. 19, 1913 – Prayer Week in Bruderheim**

On Jan. 19th (Sunday), our Week of Prayer began. The funeral of Aug. Henkelman took place in the afternoon. It evidently made a deep impression on the minds of the congregation. The first meeting was held at 7:00 p.m., Sunday eve, at which meeting Rev. Hagar of the Baptist Church, Rev. Emil Suemper and Rev. G. Henkelman spoke. About twelve of the brethren offered prayer.

**Jan. 20, 1913** – Rev. Emil Suemper spoke and about sixteen persons offered prayer.

**Jan. 21 – 25, 1913** – Rev. Emil Suemper addressed the congregation. On the following evening, Rev. Schultze from Heimtal assisted in the meeting. On Thursday eve. Rev. Schultze and Rev. Riemer spoke, then on Friday we were privileged to listen to Bishop Hoyler and Br. Riemer. Preparatory services were held on Saturday evening.

**Jan. 26, 1913 – Communion**

Rev. Reinhold Riemer preached at the morning service. Communion followed. Sixty-two took part in the communion. Before the Communion the following persons were received by right hand of fellowship: Augustinus Hadelt and wife, Wm. Wende, Mrs. Carl Arndt, and Mrs. Wm. Arndt. In the afternoon communion was served to Sr. Ernestine Henkelman and also to father, Gottlieb Henkelman.

**April 9, 1913 – First Delegate elected for Prov. Synod**

Gemeinrat was held in the church after the evening service. The purpose of the meeting was to elect a delegate for the Provincial Synod to be held in Nazareth, Pa. in June. Edward Kittlitz was elected as delegate and Adolf Schultz as alternate. Our application to become a Synodical congregation has been

accepted by P.E.C. and thus Bruderheim is allowed to send its first delegate to a provincial synod.

**April 15, 1913 – Birth of Dorothy Margaret Gutensohn, daughter of the pastor**

At nine o'clock this morning, Dorothy Margaret, an eight pound daughter arrived to cheer up matters in the parsonage. This is the first daughter born in the Bruderheim parsonage. The mother is well and the little daughter seems contented.

**May 4, 1913** – Br. E. Drebert preached and an offering was taken for the benefit of the Edmonton congregation.

**May 9, 1913 – Organization of Young People's Society**

The young people organized a Young People's Society. Meetings to be held every Sunday afternoon. Elected Pres. C. A. Gutensohn, Vice Pres. Edw. Sampert, Sec. Lydia Henkelman. We at this time consider all the young people of the congregation that attend as members. Later we expect to have them sign pledges.

**May 18, 1913 – Gemeinfest and Baptism of Dorothy Margaret Gutensohn**

Today our Gemeinfest was held. The speakers were the following: A. Schultz, G. Henkelman, and E. Brunoehler from the Reformed Church. After the morning service, Dorothy Margaret, daughter of the pastor was baptized by Br. A. Schultz, pastor of Strathcona.

**June 2, 1913 – Funeral**

Funeral of Mr. Anderson, a bachelor near Chipman. The ministers from Chipman and Lamont were attending a Conference and thus I was called to conduct this particular burial service.

### **June 3 – July 26, 1913 – Vacation and Synod at Nazareth Pa**

This evening Sr. Gutensohn, Bro. Edw. Kittlitz, and I left for Nazareth, Pa. to Prov. Synod. We rode together as far as St. Paul, Minn. E. Kittlitz went from St. Paul to Laketown to visit Br. C. Albrecht, the former Bruderheim pastor. Sr. Gutensohn and I went to Bethesda, Minn. to spend several days with our sister and brother in law, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. R\_\_\_\_\_. On May 8, I preached in Bethesda, both a.m. and p.m. On the 10<sup>th</sup> we left for Gnadenhutten where Sr. Gutensohn and little Dorothy stayed while I was attending Synod at Nazareth, Pa. After Synod I returned to Gnadenhutten where I had to preach on July 6 and also conduct two mid-week prayer meetings during the absence of Br. Strohmeier, pastor. On July 16 we left for Regan, N.D. to visit our brother Peter and family. I had not seen him for seven years. We could tell him of Father and Mother in Gnadenhutten, etc. From there we left for Bruderheim which place we reached on July 25. We were indeed glad to see friends, relatives, and our parents in Ohio, but we were also glad to be in Bruderheim again. We reached the parsonage at 11:00 p.m. The grass and weeds around the parsonage were high, but the garden was well tended to through the efforts of Father Wm. Schultz and Ernstine Henkelman and daughters.

### **July 27, 1913 – First Sunday after Vacation and Synod**

The pastor again occupied the pulpit after being away for seven Sundays. Before the a.m. Service, the little son of Br. & Sr. Aug. Schultz was baptized. The a.m. text was Luke 19:41 and p.m. John 9:27.

**Sept. 7, 1913 – Married People's Festival**

The Chor Fest was celebrated today. The pastor preached the sermons, both morning and afternoon. The forenoon text was 1 Cor. 11:11 and afternoon Gal. 3:28. This time there was no love feast held. On the Chor Fest, it was the custom for this congregation to have its yearly love feast. Some felt hurt because the love feast was dropped, but the majority did not in any way regret it.

**Sept. 28, 1913 – Missions Fest**

Mission fest was held today in New Sarepta. Br. A. Schultz (elder) conducted services, while the pastor preached in New Sarepta on Acts 16:9. I drove to New Sarepta from Bruderheim with my horse, Nelson. I drove to Edmonton and from there E. Drebert accompanied me to New Sarepta, where we were well cared for in the bachelor quarters of Br. Riemer, pastor of that congregation. After the festival I drove to Strathcona.

**Sept. 30, 1913 – Strathcona C.E. Anniv.**

This evening the Strathcona C.E. celebrated its first anniversary. At this gathering Br. Suemper and I were the invited speakers.

**Oct. 3, 1913 – Drive from Scona to Bruderheim**

This morning Fred Stelter and I started from Strathcona for Bruderheim. The entire trip to and from New Sarepta was a pleasant one and the weather was excellent.

**Nov. 3, 1913 – Bruderfeld Mission Fest**

Bruderfeld Mission fest. The following speakers: the Brethren Schultze, Schultz, Drebert, and Gutensohn. The weather was favorable and a large audience assembled.

### **Nov. 9, 1913 – Bruderheim Mission Fest**

The Bruderheim Mission fest: the brethren Suemper, Drebert, and Henkelman spoke. The collection reached the sum of \$191.45. Last years offering amounted to \$196.70. That was the largest offering Bruderheim ever collected. The weather was excellent and the church crowded.

### **Dec. 8 – 13, 1913 – Trip to Myrnam**

The pastor, Br. G. Bartz, Mrs. Schitz and son and Lydia Sampert undertook a trip to Myrnam, about thirty-five miles north of Mannville, Alta. to visit a few German families, relatives to G. Bartz. The pastor preached three different times while out there. The Myrnam country is new and pioneer life can be seen. The people living in that part of the province are mainly Russians. Their methods are primitive and the homes are small, ancient and filthy. It was a new experience to take such an interesting trip.

### **Dec. 24, 1913 – Christmas Eve**

Christmas Eve Program as usual. The spirit of the Christmas holidays was somewhat hampered by the quarrels and ill feelings several members had over against others. The pastor was called on to settle such matters, which were very interesting but sadly unpleasant.

### **Dec. 24 – 29, 1913 - Christmas**

The Christmas, 2<sup>nd</sup> Christmas and Sylvester services were held in their usual way. The different services were well attended.

**Dec. 28, 1913 –** Twenty-three young people signed the C.E. pledge. Now the total C.E. membership is 23. The elected members are C.A. Gutensohn, president, and Fred Stelter, vice president.

## 1914

**Jan. 1, 1914** - New Years sermon on Luke 2:21.

### **Jan. 2, 1914 – Gemeinrat**

Gemeinrat in afternoon. The Gemeinrat was a success. As a rule our people know how to quarrel at meetings of this kind, but this happened to be a quiet, peaceful, Gemeinrat. Business went fast and everybody felt happy that at least one yearly Gemeinrat went off smooth!

### **Jan. 11, 1914 – Visit of Rev. W. Schattschneider**

Br. Wm. Schattschneider was called to Heimtal because of the death of his sister. On his way home to Goshen, N.D. he stopped at Bruderheim, his former charge to spend the Sunday. Our people were glad to see and hear him and he was glad to see them.

### **Jan. 18 – 25, 1914 – Bruderheim Prayer week**

The brethren Suemper and Schultze spoke. Communion was held on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Feb. 9, 1914** - Funeral of little Emil Frauenfeld.

**Feb. 11, 1914** Wedding of Frank Drye and Elsa Rhefel. They came from Berlin, Germany and now live west of Bruderheim.

### **Feb. 13, 1914 – Visit of Rev. H. Richter**

Br. Henry Richter, pastor of Unionville, Mich. spoke in a.m. and evening to the Bruderheimers. He was on his way home from Calgary where he helped Br. Weingarh for several weeks. He spoke well especially in the evening. He took for his theme, "Growth in Grace". He left the same evening for Dundurn, Sask. and from there to his home in Michigan.

**Mar. 15, 1914 – Edmonton Gemeinfest**

In the morning I preached in Edmonton where that congregation celebrated its Gemeinfest and in the evening in Strathcona, which congregation is without a pastor. Their pastor, A. Schultz, accepted the call to Windsor, Ohio and C. Hoyler, the new pastor, went to Herrnhut, Germany as a delegate to General Synod. He does not expect to be back till some time in August. So the different ministers change off in serving the vacant congregation. Today during my absence, Rev. Hager from the Edmonton Baptist Church preached in Bruderheim in the Moravian Church.

**April 5, 1914 – Confirmation of Fifteen**

Palm Sunday and Confirmation. This is the largest class ever confirmed at one time in this congregation. The church was over filled. The Strathcona Choir sang. The text for sermon, Rev. 2:12. The confirmands were: Sr. Sampert, Bertha Jadeschke, Wm. Sampert, Rozalia Werner, Adolf Sampert, Lena Henkelman, Alvina Sampert, Martha Arndt, Bertha Sampert, Anna Dey, Martha Schwanke, Marie Prochnau, Regina Schinsky, Bertha Prochnau, Ida Schultz

The last year's class only had seven while this year there are fifteen. Three boys and twelve girls.

**April 5-13, 1914 – Passion Week and Easter**

Passion services unusually well attended and also communion on Good Friday. Several were present who did not come to the Lord's table for several years. On 2<sup>nd</sup> Easter, I accepted the invitation to speak in Bruderfeld in the a.m. and in the evening at their first anniversary of their C.E. Br. Suemper got up a fine program. The main feature of the program was its music.

**April 23, 1914** - Wedding of Heinrich Hauer and Pauline Rosine

**May 13, 1914 – Rev. Knechtel visits Bruderheim**

Wed. eve: Rev. Knechtel from the Baptism Church of Edmonton preached this evening.

**May 17, 1914** - Gemeinfest: Br. Schulze from Heimtal preached a.m. and p.m.

**May 18, 1914 - Rev. Rafftesaeth, a former Moravian missionary in Africa, is now pastor of Lutheran Church in Bruderheim**

Today Br. Schultze and I called on Rev. Rafftesaeth, the new Lutheran (Missouri Synod) pastor. Rev. Rafftesaeth is a graduate from the “Brueder Missions Anstalt” in Germany from which institution Br. Schultze is also a graduate. Br. Schultze and Rev. Rafftesaeth talked about Nisky, Germany while together. Rev. Rafftesaeth was born in Norway, educated in Germany, served seven years as Moravian missionary in Africa and then turned Norwegian Lutheran while in Africa. He served the Lutherans also in the United States and now he changed to the Missouri Synod. He does not care to have his members know that he has once been a Moravian.

**June 22-24, 1914** – The church floor was being painted. G. Bartz, S. Kittlitz, G. Schwanke, F. Stelter, A. Frauenfeld and G. Frederking painted the floor.

**June 28, 1914** – The church floor was not dry so services were held in the parsonage. The weather was bad and rained somewhat. But in spite of bad weather, 60 persons attended the service. This is an unusual spring for rain and high water.

**July 3, 1914** - It rained today and services were poorly attended. The following attended the a.m. service. R. Otto, A.

Frauenfeld, Ernestine Henkelman, Olga Henkelman, Kropp, Edward Henkelman, Allen Henkelman, Jacob Schultz and three children. We have had very much rain this spring and from all reports, southern Alberta is drying up because of the lack of rain.

### **July 6, 1914 – Pastor criticized for attending picnic on July 3**

The pastor while in town discovered that he has been harshly criticized for attending the yearly Bruderheim picnic. Many of our members were present at the school picnic on July the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but others are very much opposed to picnics, sports as baseball, running, etc. But some of the very same persons that object to picnics, do not object going in the bar room. Many of our members are very inconsistent in their views, but at the same time very earnest in their strivings.

### **July 12, 1914 – Birth of Karl Gerhart Gutensohn/ Bapt. of Lydia Otto & Dorothy Hennig**

Born this morning at 8:00 an 8 ½ pound boy in the parsonage. His name is Karl Gerhart Gutensohn.

Before the morning services the little daughter of Karl Hennig and the daughter of Rudolf Otto were baptized. The sermon text was Luke 4:42. The church was filled. This was the first beautiful Sunday for several weeks.

### **July 19, 1914 – Pastor conducts two preaching services, S.S., C.E. and two house baptisms**

This has been a busy day. I, as usual conducted the morning service. The text was from Matt. 5:20-26. The service was again well attended. Sunday School followed preaching. After Sunday School I was invited at the Bartz home to baptize their little son, Willfried Theodor. At 4:00 p.m. we had preaching and the text was from Matt. 5:16. After the p.m.

service the C.E. met and also had their bi-annual election of officers. The pastor was re-elected as president, Fred Stelter as vice-president, Gus Schwanke as secretary and treas., Emil Henkelman as chairman of the prayer meeting committee, and Heinrich Hauer as chairman of Look Out committee. About fifty young souls were present. Following the Young People's meeting, I went to the home of Jacob Schultz to baptize their little daughter Dorothy Martha. It has been a long day for the pastor.

### **July 26, 1914 – Funeral in Ref. Church**

A.M. Service as usual. Text Mark 8:1-10. In afternoon the pastor conducted funeral of Philip Thomas, aged 68, member of Reformed Church in Beaverhills. At this time they were without a pastor. Services were conducted at house and Ref. Church.

**Aug. 1, 1914** - Ethel Morton Sentner died in Lamont Hospital. She suffered from peritonitis. She was well known as the wife of a Bruderheim merchant and also as music teacher.

### **Aug. 2, 1914 – Funeral of Mrs. Sentner**

A.M. Service at 10:30. Text Matt. 7:15. Baptism of Edna Schultz. Funeral service of Mrs. Sentner in Lamont Union Church at 3:00 p.m. and from there proceeded to our cemetery for burial. A large crowd was here awaiting the funeral procession.

### **Aug. 22, 1914 – A trip to Heimtal via Clover Bar and Bruderfeld**

Sr. Gutensohn, Dorothy, Karl and I started with horse and buggy for Heimtal. We started in the forenoon and drove via Fort Saskatchewan and Clover Bar to Bruderfeld, which place we reached in the afternoon. We stayed overnight with Rev.

Suemper's and on Sunday morning drove in company with Br. and Sr. Suemper to Heimtal to celebrate with that congregation their yearly fest.

### **August 23, 1914 – Heimtal Fest**

The following ministerial brethren were present with Br. Schultze: Br'n. Suemper, Hoyler, Drebert, and Henkelman. We had an enjoyable fest. In the a.m. on their congregational fest, Br. Hoyler and I spoke and in the p.m. Br. Hoyler and Suemper spoke.

### **Aug. 24-25, 1914 – Our trip from Heimtal via Strathcona and Edmonton to Bruderheim**

We stayed in Heimtal till Monday morning and then drove to Strathcona. Br. Ernst Drebert accompanied us to Strathcona. There we visited several families and on Tuesday morning, Nelson took us home safely via Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan. We enjoyed our long drive. The weather was good with the exception of Sunday. Farmers were cutting grain, along the road and that made the sights and scenery very beautiful. One disagreeable feature of the trip was that everywhere, especially in Edmonton and Strathcona, people were discussing the European War with great excitement and enthusiasm. We saw some of the Canadian soldiers getting ready to lend England a hand in her struggle with Russia, Japan, Belgium, France, and Servia, against Germany and Austria.

**August 27, 1914** – While splitting wood, through awkwardness, a piece of wood flew in my face. It caused several nose scratches and a swollen mouth. It was rather painful.

**August 30, 1914** – The text for Sunday was Rom. 14:10. Baptism of Emma Louisa Prochnau. It was difficult to preach because of swollen mouth. P.M. services dropped.

**August 31, 1914 – My parents in law came from Ohio to visit us**

We expected our folks (Father and Mother Demuth) from Gnadenhutten, Ohio to reach Bruderheim on Tuesday or Wednesday to visit us. We looked forward with great pleasure to meet them at the depot at their arrival, but to our surprise, they came this (Monday) morning unexpected. Br. Adolph Schultz brought them from town to the parsonage. It was all unexpected but the surprise was an enjoyable and happy one.

**Sept. 6, 1914 - “The Chor Fest”**

The married people's festival was celebrated today. Br. & Sr. Suemper were present. Br. Suemper preached sermons both in the morning and afternoon. After the afternoon service our little son, Karl Gerhart, was baptized by Br. Suemper. The sponsors were his grand parents, Father and Mother Demuth.

**Oct. 28, 1914 – Canadian Relief Fund organized in our church**

The European War is causing great anxiety in this land. Volunteers have gone to the front. So the Canadian Government found it necessary to organize a Canadian Relief Fund for the benefit of the soldiers and their families. Branches to this general organization were organized in every part of the Dominion. So Bruderheim was asked to organize a Branch. This meeting was called to be held in our church. There were present Germans and English, Lutherans, Moravians, etc. The local pastor was elected as presiding officer.

The following officers were elected: President, Geo.

Oberthauer (Postmaster); Vice Pres., W.O. Eggins (Handiman), Secretary, F. Shears (Stock Buyer); Treasurer, W. O. Parse (Station agent). The elected Ex. Com. consisted of the following: F. W. Gabert (farmer), G. Werner (farmer), Gus Sampert (farmer), Heinrich Schultz (farmer), S. Kittlitz (farmer), Edw, Kroening (business man), G. Ress (farmer), F. Weder (farmer).

The duty of the Ex. Com. is to collect funds and thru its officers have them sent to head quarters. Everybody was in good humor. Everyone seemed willing to contribute to that cause although the majority do not sympathize with the Allies. The Germans living in Bruderheim are Canadian citizens but sympathize mainly with Germany. But their conduct is quiet, decent and exceptionally orderly. They are all anti-Russian. The meeting adjourned.

### **Nov. 2, 1914 – Mounted police visits pastor**

A peculiar incident happened today. A North West mounted police came to pay me a visit in order to find out my views concerning the war. The name of the police is Stone. He acted friendly and kind. Somebody must have reported me. I told him my position was the neutral one and that I was a citizen of the United States. He said that he was also ordered to visit the German Reformed minister on the Correction Line in order to find out how he stands on this disastrous war. He was a fine police. We chatted together in the most friendly manner.

**Nov. 3, 1914** – Another visit from the police. Conditions are still favorable and quiet in Canada. One is safe as long as one is quiet and peaceful.

### **Nov. 15, 1914 – Missionfest, Offering \$271.00**

Our annual Mission festival was held. The church was crowded both in the morning and afternoon in spite of the

sudden disagreeable weather which consisted of snow and rather cold weather. Br. Drebert and Br. Hoyler preached in the forenoon and Br. Schultze and Br. Hoyler preached in the afternoon. The true missionary spirit was shown by the offering. The combined offerings of the a.m. and p.m. services reached the sum of \$271.00. Two hundred and seventy-one dollars is the largest offering our congregation ever gave towards the mission cause. The crops were excellent and the farmers sold their products for very good prices. For that reason a good offering was expected.

The guests at the parsonage were the Hoyler and Schultze families, our parents in law and Br. Drebert. In the evening Br. Suemper came to attend the Monday Conference. Sr. Henkelman found ample sleeping room for several of our guests.

### **Nov. 16, 1941 – Ministerial Conf.**

The Ministerial Conference was held in the parsonage. The local pastor read the paper entitled, “The Unity and Church Federation.” The discussion was a very interesting one. The usual business was attended to. Schedule for the January Prayer Weeks was made out. Other valuable topics were discussed with great interest. At 3:00 p.m. all the guests left for their destinations.

### **Dec. 24, 1914 – Christmas Eve**

The usual program took place. About 70 children recited. The choir sang. The Sunday School took active part both in singing and in the general program. About 190 bags with candies, nuts, apples, etc. were distributed among the children. The program evening was well attended and proved to be a great success.

**Dec. 25, 1914 – Christmas Day**

A.M. service well attended. Text Titus 2:11-14.

**Dec. 26, 1914** - Second Holiday. Church crowded. Text Cor. 8:9.

**Dec. 27, 1914 – Sylvester Abend. / New Years Eve**

Sunday after Christmas. Text Luke 2:33-44.

Text Luke 24:29. Church services began at 10:30. Daily Texts were drawn, Choir sang. Memorabilia read and sermon. The yearly report finished and sent to Bethlehem. The congregation closed the year with 142 com., 11 non-com. 112 children, Total 265.

**1915**

**January 1, 1915** - The church was well filled. Text 4M.6:24-26

**Jan. 2, 1915** - Church Council held at 3:00 p.m. The usual business took place. The usual questions came up as to fuel for church and parsonage, feed for pastor's horse, the church land and discussion of the work of the past year. Br. S. Kittlitz was re-elected as Trustee, Br. Werner as Elder, Edw. Kittlitz as treasurer, Br. Gutensohn as secretary and Br. Otto as janitor.

**January 3, 1915 – Prayer Week**

The a.m. Text – John 6:68, p.m.. 7:00 Luke 12:35.

On Monday Br. Schultze, Tuesday Br. Schultze, Wed. Br. Schultze in a.m. and p.m. 7:00, Thurs. Br. Suemper (175 present), Fri. Br. Suemper (about 220 present), Sat. Br. Suemper (about 200 present)

**Jan. 10, 1915** – Br. Suemper preached in am. & p.m.. At 12:00 Communion service, 65 were present at the Lord's Table.

**Jan. 12, 1915 (Tuesday) – War**

Called on Sr. Hadelt, formerly a German resident, who seems somewhat worried about the present European war. Many Germans in Canada are beginning to feel worried about the war, because of the strong hatred on the part of British subjects towards Germans in Canada. Many Germans are out of employment because of their German blood.

**Jan. 13, 1915 (Wednesday) - Went to Heimtal**

This a.m. I left for Ellerslie where Br. Schultze met me to take me to Heimtal to help in Week of Prayer. This evening I preached on Matt. 27:22. About 40 were present.

**Jan. 14, 1915 (Thursday) – Ministerial Conf. At Bruderfeld**

This a.m. Br. Schultze and I drove to Bruderfeld to attend the Ministerial Conference. The Brethren Hoyler, Suemper, Henkelman, Schultze, Bahnsen, Reimer, and Gutensohn were present. At this meeting I was elected Secretary of the Conference, that is relieving Br. Drebert of the office, who accepted a call to Bethel, N.D. After the meeting we enjoyed a splendid dinner prepared by Sister Suemper. In the p.m. Br. Schultze, Bahnsen and I returned to Heimtal. Br. Bahnsen and I spoke at the evening meeting. About 50 were present. After the service I drove back to Bruderfeld with Br. Suemper's ponies to assist him in prayer meetings. It was 14 degrees below zero this evening.

**Jan. 15, 1915 (Friday) – In Bruderfeld for Prayer Meeting**

Today Br. Suemper and I visited the Rentz and Drebert families. Evening service at 7:00. I spoke on Matt. 27:22. The church was filled. Active part in prayer was taken.

**Jan. 16, 1915 (Saturday)** - Br. Suemper conducted his usual German school. Evening service 7:00. I spoke on Acts 9:1-6.

**Jan. 17, 1915 –(Sunday) –** Service at 10:30. I preached on Luke 22:19-20. Communion after sermon at which the visiting pastor officiated. Service 3:00 p.m. Text 2 Cor. 3:9. After the service I went with Br. & Sr. Suemper to Rentz's to serve communion to Mrs. Rentz who is sick. In the evening I spoke to the Young People in Bruderfeld on John 6:18. Message reached me to return to Bruderheim because of a death.

**Jan. 18, 1915 (Monday) – Left for Bruderheim**

Early this morning Br. Suemper took me to Edmonton that I could take the local (train) and reach Bruderheim in the a.m. As soon as I reached Bruderheim, news came that the child of Aug. Hauer was born dead and was to be buried this afternoon. I was glad to reach Bruderheim again after being absent for a week. I found Sr. Gutensohn, Dorothy, Karl and my parents in law happy and healthy.

**Jan. 19, 1915 (Tuesday) – Marriage of Fr. Schultz and W. Krause**

At 3:00 p.m. the marriage ceremony of Fr. Schultz and Wilhehmina Krause took place in the bride's home in town. The local pastor officiated, a small crowd gathered to witness the affair. The sermon text was taken from Eph. 4:32. After a refreshing supper, a short devotional service was held after which Sister Gutensohn and I went home. My parents in law from Gnadenhutten, Ohio, who are at present visiting with us, were caring for Karl and Dorothy, thus enabling Sister Gutensohn to attend the wedding.

**Jan. 22, 1915 (Friday) – Roland Bahnsen visits Bruderheim**

Br. Roland Bahnsen from Dundurn, Sask., who has been assisting in the Week of Prayer in Bruderfeld, Heimtal, and

New Sarepta, came to Bruderheim this evening to spend several days here.

**Jan. 23, 1915 (Saturday)** – Catechetical instruction and German School as usual. Sister Waschleska died at 3:30 p.m. today.

**Jan. 24, 1915 (Sunday) – Election of C. E. Officers**

Roland Bahnsen preached a.m. He also addressed S.S. and C.E.. The C. E. had election of officers. The elected officers were: C. Gutensohn as president, Lydia Henkelman – vice president, Gus Schwanke as Sec. & Treas., Karl Werner – chairmen, Look Out committee, Martha Schwanke – chairman, Prayer meeting. Br. Bahnsen left for Dundurn this evening.

**Jan. 26, 1915 (Tuesday) – Funeral of Caroline Waschleska**

At 9:30 a.m. it was 40 degrees below zero. Funeral of Sister Caroline Waschleska. She is the mother in law of Br. Aug. Prochnau. Her husband died about 26 years ago. She was a good sister and died in peace. Services were held at home of her son in law, church and cemetery. The band and choir rendered their services.

**Jan. 27, 1915 (Wednesday) – Baptism**

Baptism of Hannah Marie Schultz at the home of parents, Br. & Sr. Wm. Schultz, the child being sick and not expected to live. Evening prayer services in church. Text 1 M 16:7.

**Jan. 28, 1915 (Thursday)** – My parents in law visited Schwankes, John Samperts.

**Jan. 29, 1915 (Friday)** – This a.m. 20 degrees below zero. So far the winter has been exceptionally mild.

**Jan. 31, 1915 (Sunday)** – Text Lev. 32:23. Weather fine and church filled.

**Feb. 3, 1915 (Wednesday)** - Wed. eve service. Text Matt. 5:4. This evening we used the “Es Lieder Buch” for the first time. About fifty were present.

**Feb. 4, 1915, (Thursday)** - My parents in law drove to the Sask. River today. Rev. and Mrs. Rafftesneth called on us to congratulate the pastor on his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. He presented him with one of Otto Fimke's Works.

**Feb. 5, 1915 (Friday)** - Birthday of Rev. Rafftesneth. Called on him but he was not home.

**Feb. 6, 1915 (Saturday)** – Catechetical Instruction at 10:00 a.m. and German School in p.m. as usual on Saturdays.

**Feb. 7, 1915 (Sunday) – Aug. Schultz meets with accident on way home from church**

Sermon Job 1:25. On the way home from church Aug. Schultz received several blows from a team of wild horses. It happened as he was getting off a sleigh to enter his yard. While the teamster stopped to let him off, the team pulling the sled in the rear switched around and ran over him thus injuring him severely.

**Feb. 10, 1915 (Wed.)** - Wed. evening service.

**Feb. 11, 1915 (Thurs.)** - Father in law visited Aug. Schultz and G. Bartz who are ill.

**Feb. 12, 1915 (Fri.)** - Lincoln's birthday; an American holiday.

**Feb. 14, 1915 (Sunday)** – Sermon from 1 Pet. 5:7

**Feb. 15, 1915 (Monday)** – **My parents in law leave for home after a visit with us**

This evening my parents in law left for home via Winnipeg, St. Paul and Chicago to Gnadenhutzen, Ohio. They visited with us since Aug. 31, 1914. They enjoyed themselves up here and were very much impressed with the Canadian West as well as with our Moravian work.

**Feb. 16, 1915 (Tuesday)** – I ordered Topic Books for our Young People's Society. The C.E. Meetings are held every Sunday afternoon. They have been held at that time ever since the C.E. has been organized. It has been organized May 9, 1913.

**Feb. 17, 1915 (Wed.)** - Sister Gutensohn and I called on the Grams family today. Evening service sermon was taken from 1 Cor. 9:27.

**Feb. 18, 1915 (Thurs.)** - Visited G. Wagner's and Julius Sampert's. One hears so often of people suffering from appendicitis. It has attacked many within the last year within this congregation. The following were operated on in the Lamont Hospital within the last year: Emil Schultz, Edw. Schultz, Mrs. Alex Schneider, Rudolph Prochnau and Alvina Sampert.

**Feb. 21, 1915 (Sunday)** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent. Sermon text Matt. 4:1-11.

**Feb. 22, 1915 (Monday)** - Called on Edw. Kittlitz's.

**Feb. 23, 1915 (Tuesday)** - Called on S. Kittlitz, A. Werner, G. Werner, and G. Bartz.

**Feb. 24, 1915 (Wed.)** - A splendid Wed. eve meeting. Text 1 Pet 4:8. Good meeting.

**Feb. 25, 1915 (Thurs.)** - This evening at the parsonage several gathered to settle troubles between S. Kittlitz. and A. Werner and between S. Kittlitz, A. Schultz and A. Werner. Witness being G. Werner and G. Bartz. The beginning of all this dates back at least 8 years. All of a sudden the sore broke open. Br. A. Werner refrained from communion, etc. until settlements were made. It's hard to make settlements, but both parties and all gave in, shook hands and left in peace. Similar happenings are constantly being reported at the parsonage for settlement.

**Feb. 26, 1915 (Friday) & Sat. Feb. 27 – S. Kittlitz visits us and men saw wood**

This p.m., Mr. S. Kittlitz came to saw the church and parsonage wood. They sawed here till Saturday p.m. The members bring the wood together and then it's sawed and piled up at the expense of the congregation. Fuel is always furnished here. The following men assisted: C. Kittlitz, A. Werner, Aug. Schultz, R. Werner, Rudolf Prochnau, Fr. Schultz and C. Arndt. The following members brought wood to church for church and parsonage use. Each one load: G. Werner, Gottl. Schultz, Carl Arndt, S. Kittlitz, Wm. Schultz, Wm. Arndt, Edw. Kittlitz, J. Schneider, David Schitz, Aug. Schultz, H. Hauer, Aug. Hauer, Gott. Sampert, G. Riske, John Sampert, Aug. Prochnau, G. Bartz, G. Prochnau, S. Grams, S. Prochnau, S. Schwanke, G. Frederking. About 2 or 3 loads have been brought, without my knowledge. So I cannot record those names.

**Feb. 28, 1915 (Sunday)** - Text Matt. 15:21-28. Sunday School always after a.m. preaching sermon and C.E. in the afternoon. During summer months we also have p.m. preaching services.

**Mar. 1, 1915 (Monday) – S. Kittlitz saws logs on church farm**

S. Kittlitz begins to saw logs. He saws logs on the church farm yearly. People bring logs to the mill on the church farm. Aug. Prochnau, G. Arndt, and S. Prochnau have also bought outfits to saw logs. There are still many logs to be sawed in this neighborhood.

**Mar. 3, 1915 (Wed.)** - Called on Fr. Helms, E. Werner, & Fr. Schneider. Broke cutter today. Sleighing is fine. It has been good all winter. Better than any year before. Evening service. Text Matt. 16:26.

**Mar. 4, 1915 (Thurs.)** - This evening Reinhold Sampert came to the pastor to begin his course in engineering. He expects to take the examination soon. He has the practical experience but his desire is to take a course in books on that subject.

**Mar. 7, 1915 (Sunday)** – Samuel Kittlitz, a trustee, visited us this evening. He expressed his willingness to have a porch built to the parsonage and have a basement put under the church for furnace and for school purposes. We hope that this will soon take place. He also informed that Fr. Schultz was hired to split the church and parsonage wood and pile it up. Fr. Schultz agreed to do it for one dollar per day.

**Mar. 9, 1915 (Tuesday)** – Sister Gutensohn and I visited John Sampert and Aug. Prochnau. Aug. Prochnau began sawing logs today.

**Mar. 10, 1915 (Wed.)** - Today Fr. Schultz begins to chop and split the church wood. Evening services. Text Matt. 26:6-13.

**Mar. 11, (Thurs.)** - Called on A. Werner's.

**Mar. 12, 1915 (Fri.)** – Snow is thawing rapidly. The winter so far was mild and sleighing excellent. Got my buggy in order and put the cutter aside.

**Mar. 13, 1915 (Sat.)** - Catechetical Class and German School as usual.

**Mar. 14, 1915 (Sun.)** - Text Rom. 1:14. In p.m. I visited Carl Werner who is sick.

**Mar. 17, 1915 (Wed.)** - Eve. Service Luke 22:16

**Mar. 18, 1915 (Thurs.)** Visited Carl Werner. He is still sick.

**Mar. 19, 1915 (Fri.)** - Called on Father Wm. Schultz. He is sick.

**Mar. 21, 1915 (Sunday) – Br. Hoyler visits Bruderheim**

Br. Hoyler preached in am. and p.m. In evening he showed lantern slides in the church of the Oberammergau Passion Play.

**Mar. 22, 1915 (Mon.)** - Today Br. Hoyler and I visited A. Werner's, Aug. Schultz's, and his father, Hadell's, G. Arndt's, Otto's, Edw. Kittlitz's and Rev. Rafftesaeth. In the evening Br. Hoyler showed lantern slides of Rome. Again the church was crowded.

**Mar. 23, 1915 (Tues.)** - Early this morning Br. Hoyler left for his home in Edmonton South.

**Mar. 24, 1915 (Wed.)** - Wednesday evening Text Is. 58:11.

**Mar. 25, 1915 (Thurs.)** - Called on David Schitz, H. Hauer's, and Gottlieb Sampert's.

**Mar. 26, 1915 (Fri.)** - Called on Fr. Schultz's.

**Mar. 28, 1915 (Sunday) – Palm Sunday and Confirmation**

Palm Sunday. Confirmation – sermon Matt. 10:22. The following were confirmed today: Christian Arndt, H. Sampert, Magreta Hadell, Frida Bartz, and Martha Schneider. The following were received by right hand of fellowship: Pauline Hauer, wife of H. Hauer, Fr. Schultz and his wife, Wilhemme Schultz with three children. Friederich Schultz came from Russia about a year ago. He has been married to Wilhemmina Krause, a widow. Today both joined our congregation. Beginning of Passion services at 7:00 this evening.

**Mar. 29 & 30, 1915** – evening Passion services

**Mar. 31, 1915 – Son born to G. Riske's**

Called on G. Riske's. A boy was born in this family on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Also drove to Kittlitz's place where a barn in being erected. Passion service in the evening.

**April 1, 1915** - Passion services held in the evening.

**April 2, 1915, Good Friday** – A.M.-- The church was filled; evening passion service well attended. Communion right after the preaching. Eighty one partook. The confirmands, John Henkelman and Fr. Schneider had dinner at the parsonage. In the p.m., Reinhold Suemper took snapshots of the confirmands of Dorothy and Karl. This afternoon we had our last passion service for this year.

**April 3, 1915** – Our horse “Nelson” was very sick in the night and I had to be up with him from 12:30 am till 4:00 am. At 12:30 am I noticed the first signs of rain for the season, in fact I never noticed rain any earlier in Alberta.

**April 4, 1915 – Easter Sunday**

Sermon from John 20:11-18. Due to rain there were only 54 in church this a.m.

**April 5, 1915** - Sermon on Luke 24:13-35. Church was over crowded. This Easter offering amounted to \$16.65.

**April 6, 1915 – Temperance workers pay pastor a visit**

Dr. Archer and Rev. Smith from Lamont came on behalf of the Temperance Cause. They came to make arrangements to have the Dry's in Bruderheim organize, so as to help in this present fight against the Bars.

**April 7, 1915 – Hammersteins Meeting**

Text for evening meeting John 20:19-31. Mr. Hammerstein lectured in the Village School House this evening. He spoke on behalf of the German Canadians who in many cases seem to be mistreated. The hatred in some sections of Canada towards the Germans is terrible.

**April 8, 1915** – Called on the Henning family. The little daughter is very sick with lung fever.

**April 9, 1915 – “Dry Forces” Organize**

I acted as chairman at a meeting held this evening in the Town School House, to organize the Dry's of Bruderheim. The provincial organizer was present to organize. The following officers were elected: C. Gutehsohn as president, Edw. Kittlitz as Secretary and Treasurer. The Ex. Com. consisted of the

following: Mr. Ross, Lane, Heffner, Nork., Brown, Bolton and Mrs. Lane. The speakers for the evening were Rev. Cone, and Rev. Smith. Messrs. Brown, Heffner and Ross spoke briefly. The Dry's are organizing everywhere to defeat the Bar's on July 1, 1915.

**April 11, 1915, Sunday** – The text was taken from John 21:1-14

**April 12, 1915, Monday** Wm. Arndt works on church farm today. Sr. Ernstine Henkelman sprains her ankle. It was her wish that I take her to Br. John Schneider who evidently has the reputation of setting bones and tending to sprains. He examined her ankle and put bandages around it.

**April 13, 1915** – Aug. Schultz drags on church farm. The congregation rented out the church farm to Albert Werner for several years. Last year it was summer fallowed. So this year the congregation decided to tend to the working of the land so as to receive the full harvest. Next year they will probably rent it out again.

**April 14, 1915** - Gustav Sampert sows wheat on church farm.

**April 15, 1915** – Dorothy Gutensohn's birthday. She is 3 years old. The weather is fine.

Burial of the still born child of John Schneider.

**April 16, 1915** – G. Bartz finishes sowing wheat on church farm. The wheat field contains nearly 20 acres.

**April 18, 1915** – AM Fest John 10:27 & 28. Preached at Good Hope in afternoon on John 10:27 & 28. A little son born to Heimrick Hauer's.

**April 25, 1915** – Text John 21:18-22

**April 26, 1915, Monday** – Baptism of Robert Samuel Hauer at the home of parents Br. & Sr. Heimrick Hauer.

**April 28, 1915** – Called on John Sampert's.

**April 29, 1915** – Visited Gus Prochnau's. Sister Gutensohn and children drove along. It was very stormy today.

**May 1, 1915 – Trip to Edmonton**

I went to Edmonton with Reinhold Sampert to write the engineer examination papers for him. Visited the Hoyler, Brecking, and Henkelman families in South Edmonton today. Br. Suemper sent some small elder trees for me to plant in Bruderheim. While in Edmonton South, Br. Wensel (a merchant) and member of our Strathcona congregation showed me where somebody smashed a front store window. At present the Germans are being ill-treated on the part of the so-called English and Canadian patriots. Somebody evidently thought it was a heroic trick to smash a store window for a German. Before this present war, the German people were honored and respected, but now because England has war against Germany they are hated.

**May 2, 1915 – Baptism of Clarence Riske**

Sermon on John 16:5-15. Baptism of Clarence Leander Riske in church, first born of Br. & Sr. Gus Riske. The church was over crowded. As usual C.E. in the afternoon.

**May 3, 1915** – Adam Frauenfeld and his hired man fixed the place where horses are being tied up on Sundays.

**May 5, 1915 – Working in Garden**

Got my seed potatoes from G. Bartz. Planted potatoes, beans and began putting up the new garden fence. Today we received many fish. Albert Werner gave us 14, Ernst Schwanke gave us 10 and Martha Arndt brought us 3. Albert Werner, Ernst Schwanke and several others went fishing south of Chipmen and in a few hours caught about 10 wheat sacks full. They used the net. Everybody has good luck at that place in spring time.

**May 6, 1915** – Visited Adam Frauenfeld today. I assisted them in selecting suitable verses for a tombstone for the parents of Sr. Frauenfeld. They showed me the two-headed calf which was just born on the same day. It was dead, although a perfect developed calf.

**May 7, 1915** – Called on John Schneider's, Busenius boys, Wagner's and Renas. This evening the choir boys put the stove out of the church. This gave more room for seats.

**May 8, 1915** – Samuel Kittlitz worked at the church today. He presented to the congregation for the use of the band 13 music stands. The gift was appreciated. New benches were made for the church balcony. Br. Suemper and family came to Bruderheim with team this afternoon. He came to be here for the congregational fest which will be held tomorrow.

**May 9, 1915 – Congregational fest**

In the forenoon the church had about 300 visitors. Br. Suemper and Br. Henkelman preached. In the afternoon, Br. Suemper preached. The band boys played and the choir sang. Both band and choir are improving. They practice every Friday evening. The offering for the day amounted to \$34.85.

**May 10, 1915** – Br. Suemper and family left for home today. We sowed ground cherries, turnips, carrots, radishes, etc. this afternoon.

**May 12, 1915 – Fence repairing**

G. Bartz, S. Kittlitz, A. Frauenfeld, G. Prochnau, Gus Sampert, hired hand, Aug. Prochnau, Reinhold Sampert, A. Werner, G. Werner, and Jacob Schultz fixed fences on the church farm. They erected a new fence on the south boundary of our forty acres.

**May 13, 1915** – Ascension Day. Sermon on Luke 19:11-13. Visited G. Bartz's, Sister Gutensohn and children went along.

**May 14, 1915** – Called on G. Arndt's. Ludwig Schwanke, Chs. Arndt, and Gustav Schwanke finished fixing the church fences.

**May 23, 1915** – Pentecost sermon (AM) Apg. 2:1-13.  
Sermon (PM) John 14:15-31

**May 24, 1915** - Pentecost sermon John 3:16-21.

**May 28, 1915 – Temperance meetings**

Rev. Benn from Ontario, minister of the Ev. Assoc. spoke on the liquor Act in Mud Lake School house. He plead with the people to vote Dry on July 21, 1915. His address was good.

**May 30, 1915 – Mr. Benn speaks of Prohibition in church**

Sermon text John 3:3. In the evening we had a well attended Temperance meeting in the church. Rev. Benn spoke in both German and English. About 200 persons were present to hear the presentation. To my knowledge this was the first

Temperance meeting ever held in our church. Some thought the meeting was fine, others opposed it bitterly. Both the Drys and Wets are working hard. We hope the Drys will win so as to banish the Bars from Alberta.

### **June 5, 1915 – Trip to Edmonton**

Went to Edmonton to write out the examination papers for Gus Schwanke. He wants his license as an engineer. G. Arndt and Sister Hadelt also went along to the city.

### **June 6, 1915 – Reception of Mrs. D. Henkelman**

Morning text 1 John 4:16-21. Afternoon text Phil. 2:12-13. Mrs. Daniel Henkelman, formerly a Baptist, joins the congregation thru the right hand of fellowship.

**June 10, 1915** - Funeral of Ewald Domres. The child was born on July 22, died in Lamont Hospital on June 8, 1915. The parents of the child are Baptists.

**June 11, 1915** – Baptism of Antonia Arndt in the parsonage. Antonia Arndt is a daughter of Carl Arndt's. Wm. Arndt & Martha Arndt acted as sponsors.

### **June 13, 1915 – Fest in Scona**

Gemeinfest in Strathcona. I preached in p.m. on Hag. 2:11. My family went along to the fest. I was glad that several of the Bruderheimers were present: Br. & Sr. S. Kittlitz, Lydia Henkelman, Chs. & Rudolph Kittlitz, G. Bartz and daughter Emma, Adolph Schultz and daughter Matilda, Br. & Sr. Aug. Schultz, Jacob Schultz, Emil Henkelman and family, G. Werner, etc. I was glad to see so many of our members present. Most all the ministerial brethren were present. In the evening the ministerial conference was held in the Strathcona parsonage. Br. Hoyler asked me to spend two Sundays with

our Calgary congregation, which is at present without a pastor. I agreed.

**June 14, 1915 – Visit in Bruderfeld**

This a.m. we went to Br. Suemper's. Heavy frost last night. Potatoes, beans, etc. damaged. A slight snow this morning (especially in Bruderheim).

**June 15, 1915** - Br. Suemper drove with us to Edmonton so that we could leave on the evening train for Bruderheim. Br. Schultze, pastor of our Heimtal congregation is compelled to report to the Police headquarters of Edmonton on the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month because he is a German subject. The German subjects are being watched closely.

**June 16, 1915** - It's very rainy. We have had much rain this spring. The weather has been cool this entire spring.

**June 19, 1915 – Trip to Calgary (Calgary without pastor)**

I left Bruderheim for Calgary this morning. Reached Calgary at 3:00 pm. Peter Luft, J. Gerlitz & J. Schmick met me at the station. Had supper with Peter Luft and family. At evening prayer service, I spoke on Rom. 1:14. The members of the Calgary congregation take active part in meetings, but their singing is peculiar, beyond description.

**June 20, 1915** - 10:30 am Preaching and baptism of Evelyn Befus, daughter of Johanna Befus. 3:00 pm Sunday School and 7:00 pm evening service. I am staying with Br. & Sr. Aug. Stolz. He lives about a block from the church. He is originally a Bruderfelder.

**June 21, 1915** – I walked around the city of Calgary and visited H. Gerlitz's. Also had supper with them. Mrs. Gerlitz is a Dreger daughter from Bruderfeld.

**June 22, 1915 – A trip to Banff**

Early this a.m. I left Calgary for Banff. Reached Banff at 8:30 a.m. The scenery is excellent in the noted Canadian National Park. The Rocky Mountains are more than beautiful. In the afternoon I walked to the summit of Mt. Sulfur about 8000 ft. above sea level. I visited all places of interest in and around Banff. It's a beautiful sight to look at the snow covered mountains.

**June 23, 1915** - I was awake early to see the beautiful sun rise. At 10:00 am I boarded a train for Calgary. In the Wednesday evening meeting at Calgary I preached on John 3:5.

**June 24, 1915** - Had supper with Conrad Befus and family. In evening a prayer meeting was held at Hergenheim's about 5 miles from the church.

**June 25, 1915** - Had dinner with J. Schmick's and supper with G. Gerlitz's. The members are very cordial in giving the visiting invitations to their homes.

**June 26, 1915** - I had dinner at Henry Schmick's and supper at Peter Luft's. Also visited other members today. Text for evening service John. 3:30. Calgary is having the highest flood it has had for 13 years. Centre Street bridge washed away. Thousands of people are witnessing the disastrous scene. The snow on many of the Rocky Mountains is melting and that with the rain causes the many high floods.

**June 27, 1915** - A.M. Text 2 Cor. 3:2-3. 3:00 p.m. Sunday School. 7:00 p.m. text John 14:27. Had dinner at Gerlitz's and supper at my regular place. I left Calgary at 11:45 p.m. for Edmonton. I enjoyed my short stay in Calgary. The customs, ways, etc. of our Calgary members are entirely different from the people of our Edmonton District congregations. The Calgary people mainly come from Saraton, on the Volga in Russia, while our Bruderheimers are mostly from Volhynia or Russia Poland.

**June 28, 1915** - I reached Edmonton this a.m. about 7:30. I stayed with Br. Hoyler till evening time. During the day we watched the flood in Edmonton. The water touched the Low Level Bridge. Many streets were covered with water. I saw many shacks go down stream. Many houses and homes had to be deserted. It caused poverty for many a poor family. This is the highest water in Edmonton for many years. The last high flood occurred in 1898. I reached home at 11:00 this evening. I was glad to get home and see my family, congregation and friends.

**June 29 & 30, 1915** – Prepared for the C. E. Convention to be held in Bruderheim on July 1, 1915.

**July 1, 1915 – Moravian Young People's Convention held in Bruderheim**

Moravian C.E. Convention held today. The following ministerial brethren are present: Hoyler, Suemper and Schultze. 1<sup>st</sup> meeting: 9:00 a.m. Pastor \_\_\_\_ gives address of weekend. Response by Br. Suemper, the District president.

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting: 10:00 a.m. Br. Hoyler spoke on “Young People and the Bible”

1<sup>st</sup> meeting: 2:00 p.m. Br. Schultze spoke on Young people

and the Congregation. After the meeting refreshments in the form of ice cream and cake was served to guests and friends. Everybody enjoyed this feature of the program on the lawn between church and parsonage. Then after the refreshments followed a business meeting at which meeting the old officers were re-elected namely: Br. Emil Suemper as president, Br. C. Gutensohn as vice-president and Br. Theodor Henkelman as secretary & treasurer.

Evening meeting at 7:30. Br. Hoyler spoke on "For Christ and the church." The meetings were well attended. It was nice to see so many young people. Visitors also came from the other congregations. Everybody present, whether young or old felt that the spirit of Christ was prevailing. It was an encouragement to both ministers and young people as well as to the older folks. This was the second Convention of its kind. The first one was held last fall in Strathcona.

**July 2, 1915** - Most of the convention guests left today

**July 4, 1915** - Sunday a.m. Text Jer. 31:3. P.M. Matt.18:1-13

**July 6, 1915** - John Hus service text, Rev. 2:10.

**July 9, 1915** – Meeting of the "Drys" in the Village School house. The meeting was fine and the discussion interesting. Rev. Daum from Edmonton spoke.

**July 11, 1915** – Sunday a.m. Matt. 5:20-26. P.M. Rom. 14:11. In the evening I preached in the Methodist place of service on Matt. 5:16.

**July 18, 1915** - Sunday a.m. Rom. 6:19-23.

**July 19, 1915 – The Wets have meeting but badly defeated by Drys**

Sr. Gutensohn and I visited the Ludwig Schwanke family. Their daughter Martha was sick, and has been in the Lamont Hospital for several days.

The election on the Liquor Act against the Bars is to take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of July. The Wets advertised a final meeting to be held this evening. Printed ads were posted within a radius of 10 miles and probably more. Special speakers have been engaged. This was to be the climax meeting. The Drys got together and decided to attend this meeting and also tried to get a good dry speaker to debate with the Wet speakers.

The meeting began at 8:00. Mr. Marshmeier acted as chairman. The only outsider speaker for the Wets on hand was Mr. Becker. The Wets were disappointed. The Drys were well represented at the meeting. All the local pastors were there including Dr. Archer, Rev. Cameron and others from Lamont. Mr. Becker gave a speech for the Wets and Dr. Archer and Rev. Cameron spoke for the Drys. The meeting was a victory for the Drys. The Wets left and were very much disappointed over their defeat. The Wets could only produce lame arguments.

**July 20, 1915** - Today everybody is thinking in terms of the Election to be held tomorrow.

**July 21, 1915 – Alberta goes Dry, (2 to 1) by the vote of its men**

Election Day—Bruderheim Polling District result: 89 Wet votes and 59 Dry votes. The Wets plugged the box. Several Drys did not appear. The scrutineers for the Drys were Emil Henkelman and Mr. Bolton and the Wets had Mr. Marshmeier and Bill Darris (the Bar tender). Alberta went Dry according to report with a majority of 21,000. Most of our members voted Dry. All our officers voted Dry. The Elders are Adolf Schultz, G. Werner; the Trustees are S. Kittlitz, G. Bartz, and

G. Frederking. The secretary & treasurer is Edw. Kittlitz. I am glad that the officers fought with the pastor against the Bar. Most of the Dry votes in this polling place are from our congregation. The young voters are (nearly all) Dry. The Drys were well organized in the Province. Our local organization consisted of myself as president and Edw. Kittlitz as secretary & treasurer. The committee men consisted of all temperance workers.

**July 22, 1915** - The papers today state “Alberta went Dry 2 to 1”

**July 23, 1915** - The papers today state “Alberta went Dry by an overwhelming majority.” Better than expected.

**July 24, 1915 – Trip to Heimtal**

This morning I took the 5:26 train from Bruderheim to Ellerslie via Edmonton. Br. Schultze met me at Ellerslie and took me to Heimtal, which congregation is to celebrate their Congregational and Missionary Fest tomorrow. In the afternoon Br. Schultze drove to Strathcona to bring Sister Hoyler and children to Heimtal for the fest. Br. Hoyler is at Newberg visiting several Moravian families.

**July 25, 1915 – Heimtal Fest**

Br. G. Werner conducted service in Bruderheim. Today there were two services at Heimtal. In the a.m. I preached the Congregational Fest sermon on Hos. 14:5-7. The little church was crowded. The members of Heimtal prepared dinner and supper for the guests on the yard of Leo Klapstein, a near member. The long tables were put under a tent cover. Everybody enjoyed their noon hour. The afternoon service was a missionary service. Br. Suemper from Bruderfeld preached the missionary sermon. His sermon was followed by

some remarks by the pastor. At the close, I left with Br. Suemper to Bruderfeld where I stayed over night. Br. Suemper is quite busy keeping house with his two children, Clement and Florence, while Sister Suemper is in the Strathcona Hospital.

**July 26, 1915** – This a.m. Br. Suemper and children and I drove to Strathcona. We saw Sister Suemper who underwent an operation. She is getting along fine. In the evening I left for Bruderheim.

**July 27, 1915** – I worked around the place and in the garden.

**Aug. 1, 1915** – The a.m. Text was taken from 1 Cor. 10:6-13; about 200 present. Sunday School after a.m. service. At 4:00 p.m. afternoon preaching. Text Luke 16:1-13. C.E. was held immediately after the p.m. service. About 30 were present at today's C.E. Conservation meeting.

**Aug. 10, 1915** - I cut grass on church farm with G. Bartz's team.

**Aug. 11, 1915** – Church wedding of Christian Schneider to Renate Klammer.

**Aug. 13, 1915** – E. G. Frederking's hired man (a Bavarian Catholic and ex-German Cavalry man) raked the hay which I cut on Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Aug. 14, 1915** – E. G. Frederking's hand and I finished hauling and stacking hay.

**Aug. 20, 1915** – Samuel Kittlitz commenced cutting grain on the church farm.

**Sept. 5, 1915** – Ehre Chor fest. Br. Schultze of Heimtal preached at both services. A men's meeting was held in an informal way on the lawn, after the afternoon service. The men expressed their willingness to raise the church and have a full basement made for furnace and school room.

**Sept. 8 & 9, 1915** – Reinhold Riemer resigned from his position as pastor of New Sarepta. He intends going to Yale to study in the Yale School of Religion. He visited us on his way from New Sarepta to the east. He is a very capable man.

**Sept. 10, 1915** – Wedding of Wilhelm Sager to Selma Heffner.

**Sept. 29 to Oct. 7, 1915** – Herbert Kant who is now stationed at New Sarepta, visited us. He just graduated from the Theological Seminary in June.

**Oct. 12 & 13, 1915** – Thrashing on church farm. The wheat yielded 582 bushels from 17 acres. The trustees gave 10 sacks of wheat to the pastor to be ground to flour.

**Oct. 16, 1915** – Funeral of Augustine Zeretzke—a non-member.

**Nov. 4, 1915** – Irwin Paul Gutensohn arrived at 10:40 a.m. He weighs 9 pounds and is a healthy child.

**Nov. 21, 1915** – Bruderheim Mission Fest. The outside speakers were Br. Kant and Br. Suemper. The collection was \$380.00—the largest thus far. The Bruderfeld Mission collection of Oct. 31 was \$305.00. Strathcona Mission collection of Nov. 14 amounted to \$107.00.

**Nov. 24, 1915** – Br. Kant bought a young sorrel horse from Emil Henkelman today for \$70.00.

**Nov. 26, 1915** – My parents arrived at Bruderheim tonight on the C.N.R. They visited in Minnesota and North Dakota. They expect to stay here at least till after the New Year.

**Nov. 27, 1915** – Today Father and I drove via Fort Saskatchewan towards Clover Bar to meet Br. Suemper from Bruderfeld, who came to meet us to take the horse which Br. Kant bought in Bruderheim to Bruderfeld. Br. Kant, Br. Suemper and I decided that I take the horse from here to half way between Fort Saskatchewan and Clover Bar, Br. Suemper from there to Bruderfeld and Br. Kant from Bruderfeld to New Sarepta.

**Nov. 30, 1915** – Mrs. Andreas Lilge visited at the parsonage today. She knows my parents from Hebron, Minnesota. Father used to be pastor of Hebron and Uncle Peter Gutensohn of Bethany, Minnesota. The two places are five miles apart. The families from Volhynia, Russia (namely: Ludwig Grams and family, Franz Heffner and family, and Andreas Lilge and family) came to America via Herrnhut, Germany, Bethlehem, Pa., and settled in Winiona County, Minnesota, in the neighborhood of our congregations, Berea, Bethany and Hebron. There my parents first met Mrs. Andreas Lilge, who is now residing in the village of Bruderheim. Ludwig Grams is a member of our church. He resides on his farm four miles east and one mile south from here. Franz Heffner lives in the village and belongs to the sect called “Church of God”, but formerly a Moravian. Andreas Lilge deserted his wife in the spring of 1912 shortly before I reached Bruderheim. He for one summer taught the Hebron day German school. He has been my school teacher for about six weeks. Father during that time was on a collecting tour for the new church at Hebron. I did not get to see my old German school teacher. Andreas Lilge in former years played a prominent part in the

local Moravian undertaking. He was not admired here nor in Hebron, Minnesota. It was interesting for my parents to meet former acquaintances of 1893.

**Dec. 4, 1915** – Christmas recitations were distributed today.

**Dec. 5, 1915** – Father preached today to a large audience.

**Dec. 15, 1915**-Irwin Paul Gutensohn, who was born on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> was baptized at the evening prayer service by his Grandfather.

**Dec. 21, 1915** – Father, Mother, Mrs. Gutensohn, the children and I had our pictures taken at Reif's Gallery.

**Dec. 22, 1915** – Father celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday today. He was born in Germany on Dec. 22, 1845.

**Dec. 24, 1915** – Christmas Eve program. 82 children recited.

**Dec. 25, 1915** – Christmas Day. Father preached the sermon on Mica . 5:1-3

**Dec. 31, 1915** - Burial of still born child of Edward Kittlitz's...

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### **1918 - 1919 (Partial)**

#### **Oct. 6, 1918 – Influenza**

Today I conducted services in Calgary – German churches were all open again. My little son, Karl, accompanied me to Calgary. He enjoyed his Calgary trip. The Spanish Influenza is beginning to spread in Calgary.

**Oct. 7, 1918** - We reached home tonight.

**Oct. 13, 1918** – Thanksgiving Sunday. At the morning service Ps. 145:15-16; at the afternoon service Rom. 2:4.

**Oct. 14, 1918** - Canadian Thanksgiving Day. The barley was being thrashed on the church farm today—254 bushels @ 95 cents per bushel.

**Oct. 20, 1918** - Churches in Edmonton closed because of the Spanish influenza.

**Oct. 22, 1918** - Our little Wilma is sick—she has been sick since Friday. It may be the influenza.

**Oct. 26, 1918** – The Board of Health closed the Bruderfeld church because of the threatening epidemic.

**Oct. 27, 1918** – Sunday sermon at the morning service on 1 Moses 7:1. 275 present. Sunday school as usual. Our church closed today; the Lutheran likewise. The Mansfield Lutheran likewise and the Josephburg Reformed closed a week ago. The Lamont churches are closed. There are several cases of Influenza in the community. Our little daughter, Wilma, has the “flu”.

**Nov. 1, 1918 – Jan. 1, 1919**

The churches and schools were closed for two months. The people were compelled to wear masks made of three-ply cheese cloth. The village of Bruderheim was quarantined for three weeks. The epidemic was terrible. At one time 170 of our members were in bed—all at one time. I had the “flu” at the same time. Very few escaped the “flu”. There were only two deaths in our congregation due to the epidemic—August Hauer Jr. & Emma Bartz. Br. Hoyler conducted the funeral service of Emma Bartz as I was sick in bed at the time.

Sixteen persons died in this vicinity during this “flu” period. The doctors were faithful but over burdened. The village hotel was turned to a hospital. Many country school houses were converted into hospitals especially in the northern district.

The Armistice was signed during this period on Nov. 11, 1918. It is a joy to believe that peace may now be within reach. If only our Masters words would be reality—among nations and individuals. “Peace on earth and good will among men.”

Our congregation ended this most eventful year with 210 communicant, 25 non-communicant, and 165 children—being a total of 400 souls.

**Jan. 1, 1919** - New Years sermon on Luke 2:21.

**Jan. 6, 1919 – Epiphany** – Geimenrat. Pastors salary was raised to \$1100.00 and janitors to \$95.00 per year. Wm. Kroening was elected as elder. G. Bartz as trustee. E. Kittlitz as treasurer.

**Feb. 2, 1919** – Mission fest could not be held sooner because of the “Influenza”. Br. Suemper was the speaker. The offering amounted to \$570.50. Prayer services began tonight...

**July 7 – 12, 1919** – Br. Gustav Prochnau who has as yet not recuperated from the Influenza has been under the good care of Dr. Archer. He went to Edmonton to be examined by Dr. Latham's wonderful cures. Dr. Latham told him he had a growth on his stomach and it ought to be removed before two months, otherwise it would be too late. So Br. Prochnau decided to go to Rochester, Minnesota to the famous Mayo Clinic. He he unable to speak English, so he asked me if I would escort him and act as interpreter. I first hesitated, then

debated, and finally out of pity, decided to fulfill his wishes. The church board gave me permission and encouraged me going with him. So I began preparing for the trip.

**July 13, 1919** – Sunday service a.m. and p.m., Sunday School and Christian Endeavor as usual. Br. Prochnau and I boarded the Winnipeg train at Bruderheim tonight bound for Rochester.

**July 16, 1919** – Arrived safely. We had a fine trip. Br. Prochnau registered at Mayo Clinic for a thorough diagnosis. Towards evening I also reported for a thorough examination. I have had serious ailments for years, which hindered my work greatly.

**July 26, 1919** Both Br. Prochnau and I have been thoroughly examined by the many specialists. Br. Prochnau needed no operation. He was advised to have his teeth pulled because of pyorrhea. He was still unwell because of influenza effects. So Br. Prochnau went home, somewhat disappointed because no operation was necessary. Dr. Archer of Lamont told him the same as did the Mayo Clinic doctors.

The doctors advised me to stay for four operations. I stayed and Br. Prochnau went home. A certain man with whom he became acquainted, travelled with him to Winnipeg. That was welcome company for him.

**July 28, 1919** – Dr. Hunt operated on me this afternoon in the Colonial Hospital for appendicitis, hernia, and growth on knee.

**Aug. 20, 1919** – Dr. Lyons removed my tonsils today.

**Aug. 26, 1919** - I left Rochester this morning bound for Waseca and from there to St. Paul.

**Sept. 11, 1919** – Arrived at Bruderheim tonight on the 10:10 train. On my way I stopped off at the following places: Waseca, Wilmar, Minnesota, Larimore, Lagus, Aurelia, and North Dakota. I was glad to be again with family and congregation. The Lord's ways are wonderful. I escorted the sick man to Rochester. He was sent home and the escort was kept for a four-fold operation. I ought to have been operated some years before...



**Rev. Charles Gutensohn**

## THE MORAVIAN BELL

*(The following is a letter received from Mr. Bob Bell who is the current owner of the Bruderfeld Moravian Church bell, which was replaced after it cracked.)*

The history of the bell as published in the April 2005 Canadian Moravian Historical Magazine continues.

As written, Maurice Drebert rescued the cracked bell and as I was looking for a bell as part of my advertising campaign as “Bob Bell Chevrolet Oldsmobile Cadillac Dealership”, Maurice Drebert brought the bell to Camrose. I gave a donation in cash to the church as monies were needed to fund a Bible program. The bell was sandblasted and painted. The bell was placed on the east top corner of my dealership for all to see. It stayed there for some 15 years. I then renovated the dealership with a tower as shown by the published picture. The bell was again hoisted to the very top of the tower, again proudly displayed for all to see.

I sold the dealership, but not the bell. It was taken down and it now has a new home that I hope will be the final resting place proudly hung on the north east corner of Sec. #12-48-27-W4.

My grandfather, Robert Bruce Bell moved to the area in 1917. The quarter became the Bell Corner which is located nine miles south of Calmar on Hwy. 795. The bell now has a permanent home as a tribute to the pioneering dedication that he had. The quarter has never left the “Bell” name, as it is still in the family.

Emil Wudel is mentioned in the article, I believe his brother Ed Wudel had the quarter just south of us. Also Aletha Wolfram was raised a half mile west of the corner the bell stands on.

I am enclosing a picture of the new location and you are more than welcome to visit the bell as I and my family are so proud to display this treasure, in honor of my grandparents and the spirit of the Moravian churches.

Yes the bell has had a very lengthy journey.

Sincerely,  
Bob Bell



