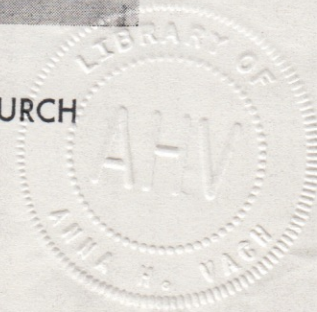


# Golden Anniversary

Fifty years 1906 - 1956



MILBURN EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH  
Route 1, Pine City, Minnesota





Rev. Albert Taxdahl, Pastor

*"To have this occasion of the Golden Jubilee Observance of the Milburn Evangelical Free Church take place during the time of our ministry as pastor is indeed a great privilege and pleasure to us.*

*In behalf of the church we extend a hearty welcome to all. May the rich blessings of our Lord and Saviour attend this gathering in a signal manner, and may His approval and benedictions rest upon all the future work and activities of this church."*

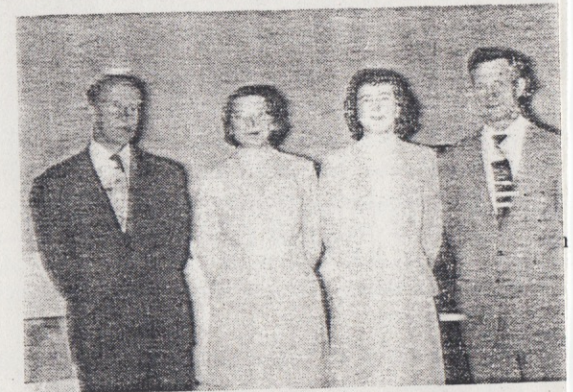


#### CHURCH INTERIOR

This view shows the recently remodeled interior as well as the new pews.

#### CHURCH BOARD

Chairman—Clarence Nordstrom  
Secretary—Helen L. Sundgaard  
Treasurer—Eileen J. Anderson  
Vice-Chairman—Edwin Nordstrom



(l. to r.) Edwin Nordstrom, Eileen Anderson, Helen Sundgaard and Clarence Nordstrom

*"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever." Psalm 106:1*

## "For The People Had A Mind To Work"

A brief history of the Milburn Evangelical Free Church, Pine City)

In the early 1890's a number of Scandinavian folk settled in the area east of Pine City.

Motivated by a desire for the things of God and a zealous love for souls, soon started worship services in the homes. From time to time an itinerant preacher "stopped by" to encourage them and bring a message from the Word. However, they soon felt the need for a central place of worship and thus it was on March 31, 1906 a fine group of believers met at the Swan Nelson home to officially organize as a church. A constitution was then drawn up and officers elected were as follows:

Chairman—Mr. August Ekberg  
Secretary—Mr. Rudolph Sundgaard  
Treasurer—Mr. Swan Nelson

Original records were written in the Swedish language and we find the original name recorded as, "Den Skandinaviska Evangeliska Mission" (The Scandinavian Evangelical Mission Church). Charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Sundgaard, Mr. and Mrs. August Ekberg, Mr. and Mrs. Swan Nelson and Mr. Sam Charnley. Firm believers in proper organization and in the addition, "Let all things be done decently and in order," Mr. Rudolph Sundgaard and Mr. August Ekberg proceeded to Pine City immediately following the business meeting and had the church incorporated under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Early in 1907 work began on the church building. Carefully and diligently the folk planned and worked, consecrating every moment of their service to the Lord. The land on which the church stood for quite a number of years was purchased from Mr. Erik Lindquist and the logs were cut and sawed into lumber. In a short time the building was erected and then gratefully dedicated to the Lord.

Flipping through the records, we note with interest the names of some of the itinerant preachers. Men such as Anton Olson, A. Aarvold, Alfred Stone, and Alf Sundstrom, John Kjenner, Al Nelson and C. E. Peterson visited regularly. The first full-time pastors called were John Kjenner and then Alfred Stone. Peterson served the church from 1920 until February, 1928. Then followed Sunde, Carl Nicholson, Walter Steen and Alfred Amundson.

The church soon felt that the regular preaching services did not meet the needs of the children and it was then that the first Sunday school classes were organized with Rudolph Sundgaard, Knute Sandberg and Pete Carlson in charge. The early leaders prominent in the Sunday school were, Mrs. Jonas Lindquist, D. H. Moen, Joseph Sundgaard and Arvid Johnson.

During his ministry in the church, Rev. Alfred Amundson started a young people's service. This meeting became very popular, so he then proceeded to organize the "Young People's Society" which has been very active since that time.

We would not forget the "Ladies Aid" of the church which has been active for many years. How we thank the Lord for our ladies who have been so helpful in many ways and have had such an active part in the progress of the work of the church these many years.

In 1939 the name of the church was changed to, "The Milburn Evangelical Free Church" and in 1940 Rev. Ambrose Collins took up the pastorate. Collins served the church seven years. The church continued to progress and it is noted with interest that in 1946 a basement was built and the building moved to its present location. A short time later electricity was installed and this was a great help to the improvement of the building.

Pastors who have served the church in recent years are, Roy S. E. Erwin Carlson, Gordon Addington and Marlin Jones. The present pastor, Albert Taxdahl has served as interim since the first part of January, 1956.

Present elected officers of the church are:

Chairman—Mr. Clarence Nordstrom  
Vice Chairman—Mr. Edwin Nordstrom  
Secretary—Miss Helen Sundgaard  
Treasurer—Miss Eileen Anderson

Through the years, our folk have prayed much, worked hard, shed sweat and blood, intermingled with joy and the Lord has blessed abundantly. To Him belong all glory and praise!



## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

### Sunday—

- 10:00 A.M. Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship Service  
8:00 P.M. Evangelistic Service

### Wednesday—

- 8:00 P.M. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

### Thursday—

- 1:30 P.M. Ladies Aid  
8:00 P.M. Sr. F.C.Y.F.

### Friday—

- 8:00 P.M. Jr. F.C.Y.F.

## CHURCH OFFICERS

tor ..... *Rev. Albert Taxdahl*  
F.C.Y.F. Leader ..... *Miss Hazel Nordstrom*  
F.C.Y.F. Leaders ..... *Mrs. Edwin Nordstrom and Miss Patricia Shuey*  
Superintendent ..... *Mrs. Clarence Nordstrom*  
Secretary ..... *Miss Joyce Engh*  
Organist ..... *Mrs. Albert Taxdahl*  
Cantor ..... *Miss Patricia Shuey*

## LADIES AID ORGANIZATION

President ..... *Mrs. Edwin Nordstrom*  
Chairman ..... *Mrs. Russell Pitkin*  
Secretary ..... *Mrs. Ever Madison*  
Treasurer ..... *Mrs. Clair Shuey*

## TRUSTEES

Edwin Nordstrom — Arvid Johnson — Edwin Nordstrom

*Co. Historical Society*