

The Cedars of Lebanon

A History of the Work of God
At
Mount Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church

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British author Aldous Huxley once said, “My father considered a walk among the mountains as the equivalent of churchgoing.” One might also say that churchgoing could be considered a walk among the mountains. For God once crowned one geographically insignificant mountain Moriah with a churchgoer’s dream – Solomon’s glorious temple. And were it not for another mountain, Solomon’s might never have been so beautifully crowned. Because to experience the gilded beauty of Mount Moriah’s temple was to see the service of Mount Lebanon’s cedars. Cedars which once crowned Lebanon’s high hills gave up that glory for the glory of crowning the worship life of Israel – the glory of building God’s temple. For eighty years, the glory of building God’s temple of believers has been shared by another mount, this one far more distant from Jerusalem but no less glorious in God’s sight – Mount Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Before the Building are the Blueprints

Over time, even mountains change. Mount Lebanon Lutheran Church is no different. Take, for example, Mount Lebanon’s location on Hampton Avenue. What today is a bustling thoroughfare was once, not so long ago, a rambling dirt farm-road. In fact, both before and a long while after Mount Lebanon was formed, all the land north and south of the then Hampton Road was farm land. What is today well within Milwaukee city limits, was then on the outskirts of the cities of Milwaukee and North Milwaukee. Milwaukee reached north and west out to North 35th Street and West Fond du Lac Road. North Milwaukee ended at the corner of West Hampton and Hopkins Roads. And of course, what is today a busy city neighborhood was then much different:

Being on the outskirts of the cities, there was no city water nor sewage system. There were no building codes. Young adventurous couples built their homes by themselves. They proceeded to continue to build their homes as they had the necessary funds. Hampton Road itself was more like a cow path than a street, and the side streets were

even worse, at times even impossible. There were no sidewalks and hardly any business places.¹

It was this pastoral setting in which Mount Lebanon was built. But the best structures arise from blueprints and this was no different. The plans for Mount Lebanon congregation began in the early years of the Wisconsin Synod. With churches throughout Milwaukee and surrounding towns and cities, the Synod's Mission Board looked for more opportunities to share the gospel. And the pastoral landscape around the future Mount Lebanon would become one of many mission fields. However, first indications of a Mount Lebanon congregation, which can be found in the early Synodal Berichte (Synod Reports), seem to point to another location. Early Synod mission reports (1917) indicate that the infant congregation and mission board were considering rental of land on 39th and Center Street, about three miles south and east of the eventual location. This group, along with the congregations of Messiah, St. James, and Timothy, are categorized in these reports as mission-plants "where English is spoken exclusively" – something rather forward for the time.² From these first reports, it is evident that, as was the case with most churches at that time in the synod, these four were to be served by one man, Pastor Emil Schulz who, it seems, had been called by the Synod Mission Board to serve as "city-missionary".³ Mount Lebanon congregation seemed to have committed itself to this first lot at

¹ The Little White Church on the Outskirts of Town (Church History document) p. 1.

² „Ein anderes Feld, das wir gleich nach der Synode in Angriff nahmen, ist Mount Lebanon. Dort wurde uns zeitweilig eine Lot zur Verfügung gestellt zum Bau einer portable chapel. Sie steht an der 39. und Center-Strasse... So haben wir nun vier Missionsplätze in Milwaukee, wo ausschliesslich English gepredigt wird: Messiah, St. James, Mount Lebanon und Timothy.“

“Another field, which we likewise tackle as a Synod, is Mount Lebanon. Therefore we would temporarily purchase jointly a lot for the building of a portable chapel. It stands at 39th and Center Street... Thus we have now four mission plants in Milwaukee, in which English is spoken exclusively: Messiah, St. James, Mount Lebanon and Timothy.” Synodal Berichte, Südoit-Wisconsin Distrikt, 1-10, 1918-1936, vol. 1, 48.

³ An interesting note – the impossibility of serving four congregations every Sunday necessitated the following request: „Da es nun unserm Stadtmissionar, Herrn Pastor Emil Schulz, unmöglich war, alle diese Plätze des Sonntags zu bedienen, bat die Missionsbehörde Herr Prof. H. Meyer und die Studenten aus unserm Seminar um Hilfe. Diese erklärten sich bereit.“ *Since it has been impossible for our city missionary, Reverend Pastor Emil Schulz, to serve all these places on Sundays, he asked the Mission Board, Reverend Professor H. Meyer and the*

the same time as it requested incorporation into the Synod.⁴ Later, mention is made by Pastor Schulz in the synod reports, that Mount Lebanon congregation was worshipping in a chapel provided by the Synod and that they had in mind to purchase two lots for a church.⁵

The two lots at 57th Street and West Hampton Avenue were purchased after some preliminary work by the synod. In 1926, the South East District Mission Board approved an area canvass around the present day church. According to church documents they found a field ripe for harvest: “[the canvass] revealed a small group of members of other Wisconsin churches, a number of fallen away Lutherans and many unchurched people.” Pastor Johannes Karrer was called to lead this small group of Christians in the formation of a church. Though he was over sixty years old, church documents describe him thus: “From house to house, block after block he went and talked to people about their Savior and the need they and their children had of having a church and a school in their community.”⁶ Still in the situation aforementioned, with no building of their own and a growing group, the Synod took action on Mount Lebanon’s behalf. The Mission Board approved the purchase of three lots on the corner of N. 57th St. and West Hampton Avenue. There, for \$9,000, they erected what would come to be known by members as the “little white church”. And on October 17, 1926, the building was dedicated.⁷

students from our seminary for help. For this they declared their willingness. Synodal Berichte, Südoit-Wisconsin Distrikt, 1-10, 1918-1936, vol. 1, 48.

⁴ „Mai geschehen—Mount Lebanon hat sich am 21. Mai 1918 organisiert und sich verpflichtet, vom August 1918 die Miete für die Lot zu bezahlen. Der Besuch der Gottesdienste ist von 10-35. Hier wurde auch regelmässig Mittwoch abends Passionsgottesdienst gehalten. Die Sonntagsschule, geleitet durch zwei Studenten und zwei Damen, zählt 55 Kinder. Die Gemeinde bittet um Aufnahme in die Synode.“ *May’s happenings—Mount Lebanon, on May 21, 1918, has organized itself and, since August 1918, has committed itself to pay the rent for the lot. The attendance at worship is about 10-35. Here regular Passion worship services were held regularly on weekday nights. The Sunday school, conducted by two students and two ladies, numbers 55 children. The congregation asks for incorporation into the Synod.* Synodal Berichte, vol. 1, 49.

⁵ „Hier werden die Gottesdienste in einer Kapelle der Synode gehalten. Die Gemeinde hat jedoch schon Lotten erworben für eine Kirche.“ *Here worship is held in a chapel from the Synod. The congregation has, however, already considered two lots for a church.* Synodal Berichte, vol. 2, 41.

⁶ The Little White Church, p. 2.

⁷ Sometime in 1927, after previously operating under the name “Hampton Road Lutheran Mission”, the congregation decided to change the name to Mount Lebanon Lutheran Church. Church records explain, “This is a

Blueprints Lead to Building



Through their facilities, the people of God at Mount Lebanon strengthened their efforts to build the temple of God. The “little white church” (pictured left) was a dual purpose facility. Since the

number of children in Sunday School was so high, the operation of a day school was a part of the Mount Lebanon’s ministry from the very beginning. The chapel and school room were dedicated on October 17, 1926. Essentially, half the building housed the church and the other half the school. As was the case in many U.S. churches of the day, the pastor taught the day school lessons. Classes began October 19 with 32 students.⁸ The first day of classes was apparently very revealing from a pastor’s standpoint:

The pastor opened the school day with the Lord’s Prayer, but not one of the children joined him because some did not know it or only knew it in German and did not wish to pray along. This incident showed the need of a mission in the community.⁹

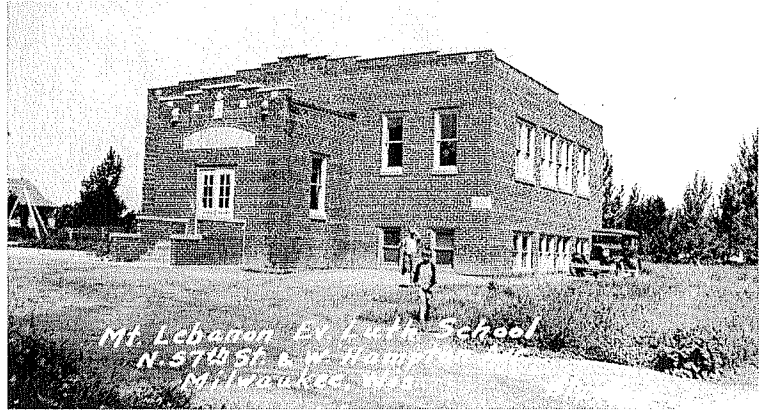
The need was evident also in the number of children served in that first year. The enrollment is reported to have grown so quickly that a female teacher was also called for the beginning of the second year. Quickly the school outgrew its half of the multiuse building. This required the congregation to remove and replace the school desks and other materials every Sunday for

very distinctive name. To this day no Lutheran church ha[s] the name our father[s] chose for our congregation. Why was this name chosen? Mt. Lebanon is mentioned in the Bible when Solomon built his most beautiful temple. It was stated there that the cedars for this outstanding temple were brought down from Mt. Lebanon. Since the [site] on which the little white church was built was the highest point on Hampton Road, and it had a number of cedar trees on it, the congregation chose this distinctive name.”

⁸ Dedicatory Services of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran School (pamphlet)

⁹ The Little White Church, p. 2.

worship. It was at this time of rapid outgrowth of the facilities that Mount Lebanon approached the Synod for money, in order to fund the building of a separate school building. \$13,500 was offered by the Synod, while the



congregation procured a bank-note for the rest. Subsequently, a new two-room brick school building was dedicated nearby on the property on October 28, 1928.¹⁰

About the era that followed Isaac Asimov once said, “No one can possibly have lived through the Great Depression without being scarred by it. No amount of experience since the depression can convince someone who has lived through it that the world is safe economically.” Though Christians don’t rest their securities in the economic capabilities of the world, it doesn’t mean they aren’t affected when economic security fails. When the Great Depression struck, it struck hard, and it struck Mount Lebanon too. Everywhere all building came to a halt and all men became unemployed, or nearly so. “There were so many homes with just tar paper [for siding] that this community was referred to as ‘tar paper shanty town’.”¹¹ During this difficult period the congregation was unable to pay its mortgage so the Synod picked it up. And even though the Synod was also paying all Mount Lebanon salaries, the congregation still couldn’t even pay for its fuel costs. Some of the elders would gather funds during the week from the members; other congregations donated clothing for the poor students; school enrollment

¹⁰ It was at this time as well, that the congregation’s pastor began using a parsonage. Synod purchased an old farm house with two additional lots for \$7,500. With this purchase, a total of six lots covering the section from North 57th Street to North 58th Street on Hampton Road were titled to either the Synod or the congregation, bringing the congregation’s total indebtedness over \$30,000.

¹¹ The Little White Church, p. 5.

fluctuated from anywhere between 60 and 110 students.¹² Yet, it is noted in their history, that one blessing of this time period was the Public Works Administration which employed many of the congregation's men to build the Lincoln Creek Parkway near the current property.

As Mount Lebanon struggled through the thirties, there was a change of pastors. Rev. Karrer resigned his call and the Synod assigned Jonathan Mahnke CRM as vacancy pastor and to teach the lower grades. And on November 28, 1937 Reverend Arnold Schroeder was installed as pastor. He served both St. Paul's at N. 37th and West Burleigh and Mount Lebanon for one year, until he was called to institutional ministry and accepted. Candidate Mahnke was then called as pastor. He was ordained and installed on September 26, 1938.

The 1940's marked a change in the almost everyone's fortunes as the economy climbed back to comfortable levels. Mount Lebanon experienced many blessings at this time as well, which enabled them to continue their work of building the kingdom. The congregation was able to pay down its Church Extension Fund debt from \$30,000 to \$26,275. And by their 20th Anniversary celebration on February 9, 1947 they had collected enough bonds to completely break free of their indebtedness. At that time, the congregation had 375 communicants and an average Sunday attendance of 290. The prosperity also enabled the congregation to make the purchase of 5 ½ acres of undeveloped land on the corner of North 60th and West Hampton Avenue for \$7,500. This is the plot of land on which the present day church rests. "Its worth cannot even be estimated in dollars and cents."¹³ When one thinks of the many hundreds, even thousands of souls that would be reached through this property alone that statement is proven to

¹²Dedicatory Services of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran School (pamphlet)

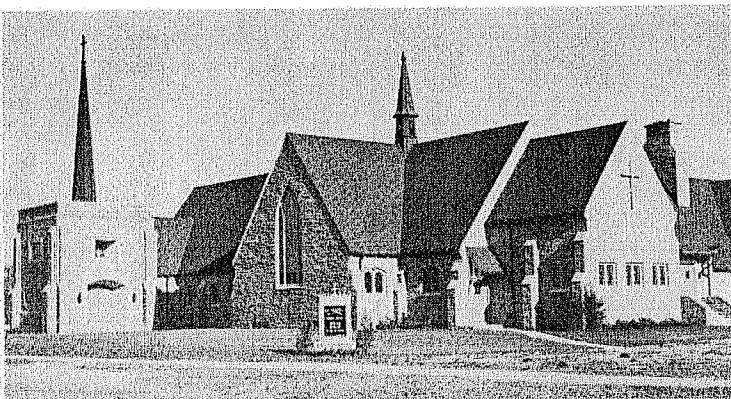
¹³ The Little White Church, p. 7.

be quite true. Finally, in 1948, the church burned its mortgage and became self-sustaining so that it could be said, “When Mount Lebanon was 21 years old it became of age.”¹⁴

Building Leads to Expansion

In the 50’s, Milwaukee annexed the towns of Granville and Wauwatosa, there was a general population increase, and Mount Lebanon’s membership experienced the same kind of growth. In the seven short years from 1947 to 1954, the congregation’s membership nearly doubled. By 1954, Mount Lebanon congregation numbered 700 communicants and average 421 persons in worship every Sunday. The church building could seat a maximum of 200. “Many a Sunday some people had to leave because they could not find room in the basement or standing room in the small narthex.”¹⁵ The congregation sought relief from this unacceptable situation in 1955 when they decided to build a church and parsonage, with an additional school building to follow shortly after.

Agreeing to construction contracts totaling \$303,821.00, the congregation began building immediately and was able to celebrate their ground-breaking ceremony on March 11, 1956. The parsonage, yet unfinished, was dedicated June 9, 1957. Finally, on Sunday July 21, 1957 the church building itself was dedicated as well.



The church building was of Tennessee sandstone in tones of browns and tans with a decidedly “Old World” styling that would offer its worshipers “warmth and stability”. The interior was a

¹⁴ The Little White Church, p. 7.

¹⁵ The Little White Church, p. 8.

continuation of the theme, with gray elm pews, a hand-run Gothic plaster arch at the chancel, massive hammerbeam arches over the nave, and deep-set arched and lancet windows throughout. In the dedicatory folder Pastor Jonathon Mahnke waxed eloquent about this beautiful building's elegant purpose:

The symbolism so richly embodied in its structure is a study in itself as are the systematic arrangement of the church areas. Let us in humble pride rejoice that we were able to erect so magnificent a building to the glory of the Triune God. But let us acknowledge that our being able to do this was but another measure of His grace upon a chosen people that they could more effectively "Preach the Gospel."¹⁶

Preaching the Gospel was the foremost purpose. Again, in the dedicatory folder for the day's worship activities, Pastor Mahnke mirrored that same purpose for the congregation's new facilities in a prayer:

May the gracious Lord hold His protective hand over this new structure and our Mt. Lebanon Congregation, so that we may remain dedicated to the preaching of His pure saving Word and to the administration of the Holy Sacraments according to the institution of our Lord Jesus Christ. Then this building will truly glorify our God and be for the spiritual welfare of many souls.¹⁷

The goal is obvious and the intention spiritual. As they expanded their physical church buildings, it was always with the goal of expanding the temple of believers God was building through them.

Their stated purpose having been to expand the school as well, plans progressed in that respect shortly after the building of the church. The school's expansion was as necessary as the church's expansion had been. Only one year after the building of the church, there were 884 communicant members with an average Sunday attendance of 599. These numbers had obvious implications for the school as well. School enrollment, by this time, had reached 205 students. The growing problem was that the growing student body was already too large for the static

¹⁶ Dedication of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church (Dedication folder, archives)

¹⁷ Dedication of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church (Dedication folder, archives)

school building which was built to fit a maximum of 80 students. By January 3, 1960 plans for the expansion of the school were approved. The contractors' bids totaled \$185,858.00. The firm of Stephan & Kemp had proposed a floor plan of approximately 15,000 ft², which included six classrooms, sufficient bathroom and office space, as well as a spacious "play room". The floor plan also included the capability of adding three more classrooms off of the play room.

Altogether, in its space, amenities, and materials, the school was meant to serve as a modern extension of the church's mission. The school was dedicated on October 20, 1960. The purpose of building God's temple of believers by expanding the school is evident in the opening words of the dedicatory folder:¹⁸

We dedicate this educational unit with all its facilities to the Glory of the Triune God. We thank Him for His guidance in permitting us to erect a modern school where our children may be trained in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.¹⁹

One major step taken at this time was the expansion of the pastoral ministry at Mount Lebanon. As Mount Lebanon built, the Lord blessed. The congregation continued to grow and expand. Around the time of the school's completion, membership passed the 1,000 mark and average Sunday attendance was 791 persons, with 256 students enrolled in the school. Only three years later, in 1963, the congregation counted 1,909 souls, 1,207 communicant members, and an average church attendance of 866 persons. Pastor Mahnke could not serve this number alone, and had been helped in the past by various part-time vicars from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Even this help was not truly sufficient and finally forced the congregation to call a second pastor. Pastor Marvin Otterstatter accepted the call to serve Nov. 29, 1964.

Beautifying in order to Build

¹⁸ That purpose is also evident in this look back from *The Little White Church*, p. 13: "During the years, thousands of children received a Christian education and had their faith in their Savior strengthened."

¹⁹ Dedication of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church

As they built and expanded, as they reached out into their community, Mount Lebanon sought also to build from within. Part of building up the temple of God is to do what those first cedars of Lebanon did: to help beautify God's temple. This happened at Mount Lebanon in two grand ways: through their organ and their windows. The organ, being the older of the two projects, deserves first consideration.

When the present facility was dedicated in 1957, a small pipe organ was included. That organ was a seven rank (401 pipe), Wicks organ "admittedly much too small for the church but...as much as could be managed financially at the time."²⁰ This organ served the church for a few years, until 1961, when Lawrence Mawrowsky, Mount Lebanon's music director and "organ builder hobbyist" offered his skills for the congregation's benefit. Consequently, the congregation purchased an "old Vogelpohl 9 rank tubular pneumatic organ" from Friedens Lutheran Church of New Prague, MN for \$300. Mr. Mawrowski quickly set to work dismantling, reconditioning, and electrifying this organ. In the process he added seven of its ranks of pipes to Mount Lebanon's organ, thereby doubling its size. A few years later, from the purchase of a portion of St. Matthew Lutheran's larger organ, 14 ranks were salvaged for use in the existing organ. In addition, six more ranks were purchased to make a more complete instrument. At that point the completed organ included: 34 ranks, 2005 pipes. It was dedicated in 1973 with a recital by Alfred Bloedel, who played selections from Bach, Purcell, Walther, and Boellman to name a few. It's estimated value at the time was over \$65,000.²¹

²⁰ Mt. Lebanon's Organ (Historical document)

²¹ "Because of the manner in which the organ was constructed, its tone tends more toward the type found in churches of years ago rather than toward the classic type of instrument built today. In principals of tonal design, this organ tends to follow the so-called romantic type of instrument of the earlier days before any church organs degenerated under the influence of theater-style pipe organs, particularly in the 1920's. At today's prices (ca. 1973), an organ of this size would cost an estimated \$65,000.00 or more." (1973 Organ dedication pamphlet)

Over time, the electrical system began to show wear. Other issues arose as well. The pipes needed to be better organized, and several of the chests, which power the pipes, were in need of rebuilding. An organ committee was established in 1980. And, upon consultation with various reputable organ builders, a major project was found to be the unanimous recommendation. The organ committee finally recommended the congregation enter into contract with Temple Organ Company of St. Joseph, MO to replace the organ for \$112,850. To cut costs, certain pipes from the old organ were reused. The project was completed in November of 1986. The project brought together the present organ: a three manual organ of 31 ranks, seven octave extensions, 27 registers, and 1823 pipes.

As the building was edified aurally, so also it was edified visually. Apparently, the original architect's plans had called for stained-glass windows, but these were removed from the plan due to cost restraints. By 1972 however, so many memorials and donations had been received that it was possible to have beautiful stained-glass windows installed. The cost of the project totaled \$16,540. It included two large windows in the north and south transepts (the Crucifixion²² and Ascension²³ windows, respectively), three windows flanking the two transept windows (the Baptismal and Eucharist windows, and the Window of Praise), eight windows down the nave (in which the doctrines of the apostles creed are set forth visually), and various others ranging from the porte-cochere to the pastor's office. Conrad Pickel Studios of Waukesha, WI designed, fashioned, and installed the hand-blown art glass that comprises the

²² "The window in the south transept depicts, in figure work and appropriate symbols, the central event in our redemption, the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus Christ, who fulfills the Old Testament Law and the New Testament Gospel." *The Stained Glass Windows of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church*, p. 1.

²³ "The window in the north transept is intended to remind us that our victorious Savior is still with us as He promised: "Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20), and that He now with the right hand (the power) of God guides and directs all things in heaven and on earth in the interest of His Church, us." *The Stained Glass Windows of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church*, p. 5.

windows. And on Jan 21, 1973, the windows were dedicated in a rededication service for then organ.

Building by Reaching Out

During the time Mount Lebanon has existed, many changes have taken place in the Milwaukee community. Mount Lebanon wasn't part of the Milwaukee community when it was started since it was outside the city limits. But as the city expanded, other changes took place too. Throughout the years of Mount Lebanon's great growth, a phenomenon called white-flight was ongoing. White flight is a label that reflects the trend for middle and upper class families (which were predominantly white) to move out of the inner cities and resettle in the suburbs. This phenomenon began almost immediately after World War II and continued through the 1960's and 1970's. The trend did not skip the city of Milwaukee. This trend caused change around Mount Lebanon's present location. The congregation grew as different pastors and teachers served throughout the 80's and 90's. But white flight, meant that though the congregation was predominantly white, the community around it was predominantly black.

In order to reach out into this community in recent years, Mount Lebanon has stepped in a new direction. Both facets of the new tactic have to do with the Christian day school, which is the church's primary outreach tool. The earliest of these facets was the addition of an Early Childhood Center to the day school's program. This program was planned during the 1999-2000 school year and was presented to a voters' assembly on January 18, 2001. Pastor Hein's summary of the program's purpose was that it would better serve the families of Mount Lebanon with Christian childcare and would better reach into the neighborhood of Mount Lebanon with God's Word. The program would provide weekly daycare for children ages 3 and up, "not only meeting physical needs but also educational and spiritual needs." The proposal suggested the

use of the church basement as the program's environment and also included that a director be called, who would plan, organize, and run the overall program. The voters passed the following recommendation, noting the concern some showed that this program would be a profit-making venture: "To begin an Early Childhood Center with before/after school care program with the congregation granting a right of a variance to Article IV B 2²⁴ of the constitution. The Early Childhood Center is also enabled to apply for grants to help initiate this program."²⁵ The program continues to this day and has served many families by caring for their children with the gospel.

The other facet that, when one peruses church records, might seem as though it was not a major facet, is the church's entrance into the Milwaukee Parental School Choice Program. "The Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, which began in the 1990-91 school year, provides an opportunity for students, under specific circumstances, to attend at no charge, private sectarian and nonsectarian schools located in the city of Milwaukee."²⁶ Basically, the state government funds the participating school, in ratio to the number of students enrolled in the program, so that parents who might not otherwise be capable can choose to send their children to a private school rather than a public school. For Mount Lebanon, whose enrollment had fallen during the 90's to well below the 100 student mark, this was a good opportunity to expand gospel ministry. Finally, after many meetings over the course of the previous year, much planning, and much deliberation, the congregation decided in 2001 to take advantage of Milwaukee's standing offer to parents of private school children. Listed under old business, in the March 12, 2001 Mount Lebanon Church Council minutes, is this entry about the school choice program:

²⁴ Article IV B 2 – "The financial support of the congregation shall not be solicited from nonmembers nor shall the church nor any of its organizations engage in commercial ventures."

²⁵ Voter's Assembly Minutes January 18, 2001

²⁶ Quoted on the Milwaukee Department of Public Instruction web site, <http://dpi.state.wi.us/sms/choice.html>

The Board of Education recommendation that Mt. Lebanon congregation participate in the Milwaukee Parental School Choice Program for the 2001-2002 school year. Continued participation in the program to be reviewed on an annual basis, was approved at the March 11, Voters Meeting.

Both the Early Childhood Center and participation in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program allowed the church to be in contact with members of the community through their children. This contact might never have taken place in a community in which a tuition based school opportunity might not have been feasible.

The Cedars of Lebanon

The cedars of Lebanon were famed forests that supplied superior wood for ships, palaces, and temples for hundreds of years. The cedars of Mount Lebanon, far to the north of Jerusalem, supplied that same superior wood for the building of God's holy temple. Mount Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church, named for the service of those famed cedars, has served in a similarly glorious capacity as it built up the temple of believers in Milwaukee, WI. Over the years, Mount Lebanon's focus had always been to reach out into its community. It was the ideal that moved the Wisconsin Synod to reach outside of Milwaukee and establish the mission congregation that would become Mount Lebanon in the first place. It is evidenced in their growth over the years from a congregation of less than 100 to one of almost 2,000 souls. It can be seen in their beautiful church, heard in their organ, seen in their windows, learned in their school, and seen in their concern for the future. Mount Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church, just like the original, has been a mountain of service to the Lord.

Bibliography

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Synodal-Berichte, Wisconsin und anderen Staaten, Milwaukee: Northwestern Publishing House, vols. 1, 2.

All other citations were taken from primary source church documents which can be obtained from either the Mount Lebanon file in the Wisconsin Synod Archives at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary or the files at Mount Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Some of the most important of these include:

The Stained Glass Windows of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church

Mt. Lebanon's Organ

Dedicatory Services of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran School

Dedication of Mt. Lebanon Ev. Lutheran Church

The Little White Church on the Outskirts of Town

Voter's Assembly Minutes

Church Council Minutes