



# **Chronological Dates of Immanuel, Sebowaing**

by Loide Bahr

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*Condensed from History of Evangelical Lutheran Churches of Huron, Sanilac, Tuscola & Lapeer, 1922; Evangelical Lutheran Church History Book, 1924; Directory of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Huron, Sanilac & Tuscola Counties, 1927; Immanuel Lutheran Church Anniversary Books - 1942, 1952, 1971*

- 1850** A county report says we consisted of a dwelling and a school house with 8-16 Indian children.
- 1845** Missionaries J.J.F. Auch, with assistants, Simon Dumser & George Sinke were sent by Rev Fred Schmid of the Michigan Synod in Ann Arbor to this area. Missionary Auch had one log house in Sibbiwaing where 100 Indians lived in wigwams. Dumser served Wishkauing (2 miles N of Unionville) where 60 Indians lived. The Indians helped build a "Mission House" in the village of Sebewaing.
- 1847** Missouri Synod was formed and they sent Rev J.F. Maier to serve about 80 Indians in Shebahyonk, now Weale, 9 miles N of Sebewaing. He also served Au Gres and Au Sable missions across the Bay. Auch joined Missouri Synod. Rev Dumser left the area because of religious differences.
- 1849** September 19 - First Baptism: Christine Barbara Ziegler.
- 1850** June 20 - First Marriage: Missionary Johann Maier, 26 & Dorothea Barbara Auch, 21.  
August 30 - Church dedicated in Shebahyonk.  
November 15 - First Funerals: Missionary Johann Friedrich Maier, 27 & Johann George Hanshahn (birth unknown). Both drowned in Saginaw Bay during a frightful storm.  
November 25 - Funerals for both bodies which were found on shore the day before.  
Rev Roeder came to be Rev Maier's successor.
- 1851** December 14 - Constitution drawn up and adopted in Sebewaing. Mission church named Immanuel.
- 1852** February 16 - Congregation organized. School & confirmation were to begin at once - 12 students. Called Rev Auch who was serving Sebewaing, but living and serving Shebokyonk as Pastor Roeder left. Auch did not reply.
- 1852** March 23 - First Confirmation Class in Sebewaing: 3 boys and 3 girls.
- 1853** C. Auch, Beck, Schilling donated 6 acres for church, school and parsonage. Also 1 acre for cemetery.
- 1855** March 4 - First log church dedicated. Immanuel joined Missouri Synod. Formal installation of Rev Auch who finally accepted the call as the Indians had all left the area. Log church also used as school.
- 1867** Spring - Auch resigned. There were now 387 souls, 80 voting men, 110 students. Reg George Speckhard accepted the call.  
Fall - First teacher, Mr. C.W. Tretlin, came to help Speckhard teach.
- 1869** Mr Tretlin left and Rev Speckhard taught alone for 2 years.

- 1871** Rev Speckhard left the classroom and 2<sup>nd</sup> teacher called - Mr Andrew Kuch. He was also required to play the organ. Rev Speckhard taught 2 deaf children and English 3 months per year.
- 1873** Rev Speckhard moved to an orphanage which later became Detroit Deaf School.  
October 19 - Rev J.L. Hahn installed.  
November 16 - Second frame church dedicated. (The old log church already had a frame addition.) Earlier a frame parsonage was built.
- 1874** December 24 - First Christmas Eve children's service and first Christmas tree.
- 1875** First choir organized by Teacher Kuch.
- 1876** Daughter church organized: Unionville - February 14, Kilmanagh - April 18.  
Both served by Pastor Hahn until 1883. Pastor Hahn also had a preaching station at Caseville which now joined Kilmanagh.
- 1878** Fall - New 2-story frame school erected across the street, west of cemetery.
- 1880** First lady teacher hired Elizabeth Gremel. Now a 2-classroom school.
- 1882** Teacher E. Dress installed. Also first pipe organ.
- 1884** Second lady teacher Marie Gremel installed to replace Elizabeth Gremel.
- 1891** November 29 - Rev Conrad Umbach and Principal Herman Hahn installed.
- 1893** Teacher Otto von Renner installed for lower grades. Also a new Branch School was built. This school was 3½ miles SE of Sebewaing on McAlpin Rd. Teacher W.C. Ahrens was installed to serve this school.
- 1895** May 2 - Ladies Aid organized & Teacher Fred Barthel installed for lower grades.
- 1898** Church renovated. Teacher Wiedwald installed at the Branch School.
- 1899** Teacher L. Appold installed in Sebewaing for lower grades. Served for 41 years, died 2-24-42.
- 1900** Land purchased for Picnic Grove across the street.
- 1901** Golden Anniversary (1 pastor, 3 teachers + 1 teacher at Branch School, 195 students) A. Appold became principal. Teacher Fred Schmitt installed for lower grades and Carl W. Riess for the Branch School.
- 1902** Young Men's Club - Youth Group organized by Teacher Riess.
- 1904** April 10 - Teacher C.L. Manske installed. Served 35 years, died 4-11-40. First full-time janitor hired. Teacherage built. By 1942 congregation owned three teacherages. Many more teachers came and left over the years.
- 1906** February 12 - purchased a one-room frame building from the public school and moved to the SW of the church for a third classroom for primary grades until 1920. This was later moved to Picnic Grove and used for Confirmation.

- 1912** Daughter congregation in Bach organized.
- 1913** Branch Country School united with village school.  
Branch School sold for \$100 and moved to Bach.
- 1914** Church renovated with galleries, stained glass windows and electric lights.
- 1917** August 12 - Dedication of present school. 243 enrollment.  
Rebuilt parsonage.
- 1918** February 13 - Death of Rev Umbach  
August 4 - Rev G.F.L. List installed. He conducted English services once a month. Developed the envelope system in 1942. Replaced Klingelbeutel with collection plates.
- 1922** Teacher A.E. Scheiwe installed - his duties included organist. Served 70 years plus. Died 10-16-94.
- 1923** Jr & Sr Walther League organized by Mr Scheiwe and Rev List.
- 1926** March 6 - Windstorm damages church extensively. Stage with roof built in Picnic Grove.
- 1927** July 10 - 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Male Chorus and Adult Choir sang. Church reconstructed.
- 1929** Teacher F.A. Marquardt installed and served 40 years, died 11-4-69.
- 1940** Teacher Scheiwe became principal until 1958, when Mr Appold retired. There were 3 teachers and 117 students. Teacher J.P. Baden installed - also directed Sr, Jr & Children's Choir.
- 1941** Teacher H. Richter installed. Conducted Adult Choir.
- 1944** October 8- Sunday School organized by Mr Marquardt.
- 1945** November 29 - Lutheran Women's Missionary League organized.
- 1946** February 3 - Adult Bible Class by Mr Scheiwe. March - LLL organized.
- 1949** January 23 - Rev List retired and Rev Donald H. Heitner installed
- 1950** January - Teacher H.L. Glaess - First physical education teacher installed;  
also formed Jr Bible Class.  
March - Couples Club & Ushers Club organized.  
March 25 - Old church razed.  
April 5 - Mary Martha Guild organized.
- 1951** September 16 - Dedication of new church and organ. Over 4,000 attended. 884 communicants.
- 1952** August 11 - Rev W.A. Pieper installed. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Staff included: 1 pastor, 4 teachers, custodian, part time secretary.
- 1957** August 25 - Dedication of new school.

- 1958** August 21 - Rev Gordon Light & Principal Werner Wichmann installed. Teacher Werner Wichmann directed the Adult Choir. German services discontinued. Many, many members added to Immanuel.
- 1959** Organ School began by Scheiwe. 5 teachers & 44 students.
- 1961** Teacher Gilbert Mueller installed.  
September 26 - Rev William Munding installed as First Assistant Pastor.
- 1962** June 17 - New parsonage built, parking lot black-topped.
- 1964** November 1 - Rev Elmer E. Scheck installed.
- 1965** October 10 - Rev E.W. Scheck installed to replace Rev Munding who died 7-24-65.
- 1966** September 13 - Daughter mission began in Caseville.
- 1967** Teacher Mueller became principal as Wichmann left.
- 1973** July 22 - Rev Dennis Borchers installed to replace Rev E.W. Scheck. Also, Stuart Bauer was installed.
- 1977** January - Radio broadcast begin on WKYO-FM, Caro.  
September 11 - Rev Darold W. Deterding installed. New school addition and gym. 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. 3 pastors, 8 teacher, 1 director of music, 2 custodians and 1 secretary. 1391 communicants. VBS began.
- 1978** June 25 - Rev Edward J. Arle installed as Assistant Pastor.
- 1983** Rev Arle became Senior Pastor after Rev Deterding left.
- 1985** April 28 - Rev Martin J Hagenow installed as pastor.
- 1986** Principal Richard Cohrs installed.  
First Vicar placed and this continued 12 years.
- 1987** Kunisch land west of school property donated to Immanuel by Hilbert Bergman.
- 1992** February - Rev Albert W. Bahr called as Assisting Pastor.
- 1996** Older Adult Ministry formed.
- 1997** January - Great Room added to church, old school renovated by Laborers for Christ.  
Principal Gary Marxhausen installed.
- 1998** September - Rev Charles Kuhl called as Assisting Pastor. Vicar program dropped.  
School consolidated with St Paul, Unionville - name changed to Christ the King.
- 1999** Pastor Hagenow took a call and as of 2002, we are without an administrative pastor.
- 2002-2003** 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Published for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Historical Sunday, June 16, 2002*