



This is a pencil drawing of the log church built in 1887. It housed the congregation of Bethania Free Lutheran Church until 1904. The log church was built for a cost of \$1,050.



Approximately 75 friends and neighbors gathered at Bethania Free Lutheran, rural Newfolden, Sept. 20, celebrating 125 years of "Giving Glory to God." For the first three years, services were held in the homes of congregational members.



"The Good Shepherd," a painting by William Windahl, was completed in 1929. Windahl painted and sold 12 pictures in the era to support his way through college. The paintings remain in churches throughout northwest Minnesota and the Fergus Falls area.



Sandra Steinhauer, Thief River Falls, served as emcee at Bethania's 125th Anniversary celebration. An anniversary service was held on the afternoon of Sept. 20.



One of Bethania's Sons of Ministry is Reverend Philip Rokke of Newfolden. He provided a devotional message at Bethania's 125th anniversary celebration Sept. 20. Pastor Rokke serves Westaker Free Lutheran Church of Newfolden and Hegland Lutheran Church, rural Strandquist.



Reverend Dennis Gray, Newfolden, shared an inspirational message at Bethania Free Lutheran Church's anniversary celebration. Pastor Gray is a retired minister but still serves Alma Free Lutheran Church, rural Argyle.



The "Ladies Aid" of Bethania Free Lutheran Church provided a dialogue reviewing the church's history at its recent 125th anniversary celebration. Members of the Ladies Aid are, from left, Reta Bring, Leola Engstrand, Marilyn Gray, Eunice Liedberg, all of Newfolden, and Sandra Steinhauer of Thief River Falls.



Former Luther League members from left, Patti Leichtenberg, Thief River Falls, Naomi Winkelmann, Foston, and Harriet Roberts, Coon Rapids, helped lead attendees in a hymn sing at Bethania Free Lutheran Church's 125th anniversary service.



Kelly Leach, Newfolden, played the piano, providing accompaniment for all the special music and hymns that were enjoyed at Bethania's 125th anniversary celebration.



Corissa Sands, Newfolden, provided special music at Bethania's 125th anniversary celebration service which was held Sept. 20.



Following Bethania's 125th anniversary service, a pie and ice cream social was held in the church basement. Two young girls attending the social were Casey, left, and Shelby Bjorgaard of Warren. They are the daughters of Dylan Bjorgaard and Allie Bjorgaard.

Left: Bethania's Church basement was full as anniversary attendees enjoyed a pie and ice cream social Sept. 20 following the anniversary service.



A 68-year-old quilt was on display at Bethania Free Lutheran's 125th anniversary celebration. Bethania's Ladies Aid made the quilt in 1941. The quilt was auctioned at the annual church auction for \$25 with the money being used for expenses involved with moving the church. It was purchased by Einar Rokke and given to his sister Nora. Marilyn Gray has possession of the quilt today. Einar and Nora were Marilyn's uncle and aunt.