

SUNRISE BAPTIST CHURCH



100 GOOD YEARS

"Our prayer to God is that His grace shall rest over the Conference, its work over the congregations and its different activities and missions. And that this resumé of the past twenty-year history shall lead to growth, a greater sense of mission, more sacrifice and progress to God's kingdom here in this great land between the mountains."

-- From the *Swedish Baptist History of Washington and North Idaho*

FORWARD

(inspired by a sermon by Pastor Jon Aldrich on Sunday, March 30, 2003)

The history of Sunrise is a history of meeting needs. That was the case when the first Swedish Baptist Mission was founded in Seattle around 1880. The founders of that outreach were all about serving the spiritual and physical needs of Swedish immigrants of the time, families who faced the uncertainties and challenges of adjusting to a new land and a new culture.

It's interesting then to see how God blessed and multiplied that initial outreach. From Seattle, the outreach to immigrants continued into Bellingham and Ferndale, and from Ferndale to the Delta area. But of course the work would not stop there, because the needs did not stop there. In 1893 the believers in Delta established an outreach to children and families in the

growing Custer area, a work which blossomed into a real church ten years later.

And so it went, from pioneer Sunday school to church. As God's people saw the needs, God provided the means. A full-time youth pastor. The AWANA program. Outreach to families. In many ways, our approach today is very much similar to that of our Swedish brothers and sisters of a century past.

Of course, the story doesn't end here. God is still very much in the business of meeting needs, and we here in Custer are privileged to see how the history of His church continues to unfold. Let's take a look at that unfolding together. Because even as we look fondly at memories and histories, we know that there is much more to come.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A compilation from several earlier sources, including History Task Force Report of 4/30/95, 70th Anniversary Historical Sketch of 12/31/73, Historical Slide Presentation of 9/9/88, 60th Anniversary Historical Sketch of 6/20/63, 75th Anniversary Historical Highlights of 6/16/78, Updated Church History Time Line of 6/8/95.

The following publications proved

invaluable: "Svenska Baptisternas Historia" by P. Benson and "Seventy-Five Years History Columbia Baptist Conference" by Gordon Carlson

Special thanks to Bertha Larson, Ruth Jensen, Jon Aldrich, Bob Elmer, Bud and Bun Anderson, Ruth Waters, Lori Douglas and Ric Hallock of the Lynden Tribune.

THE STORY



The John and Maria Johnson family. August Nyman is on the right.

August Nyman and Sunday School

Seventeen years before the formal organization of Sunrise in 1903, the Lord's work had already begun in this area. In 1886 six like-minded believers organized to form Dakota Creek Scandinavian Baptist

Church. That name was later changed to Dakota Creek "Swedish" Baptist Church, since nearly all the Scandinavians here were Swedes, anyway.

They shared not only a heritage and a language, but a common desire to know God and to spread the Word wherever God had placed them. In 1893 that desire led them to establish a Sunday school outreach in the Badger (Custer) area. August Nyman served as the first superintendent, and the school initially enrolled some 40 children.

At first Nyman and his staff met in the Sunrise School building, teaching classes in both English and Swedish. At that time the Dakota Creek Women's Sewing Society, or Mission Circle, provided much-needed financial support.

As the years passed, the number of



The Axlund family logging, circa 1900s.

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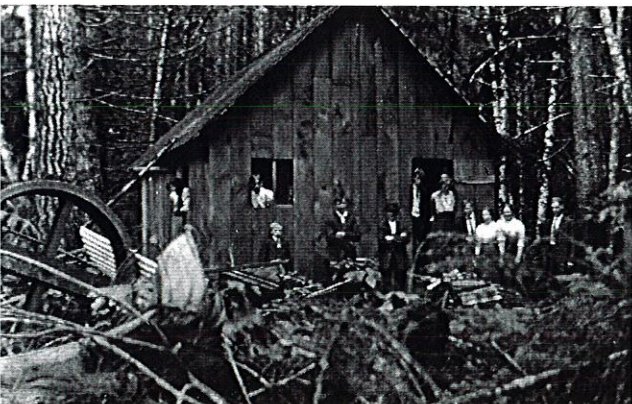


Church founders, 1903

Swedes decreased in that area and increased in the Delta area. A meeting house was built in that community, six miles Northeast of this location, and the name of that church was changed to Delta Swedish Baptist Church. Sunrise was considered an out-station of Delta, and its services were attended by families with names like

Anderson and Axling, Engman or Erickson.

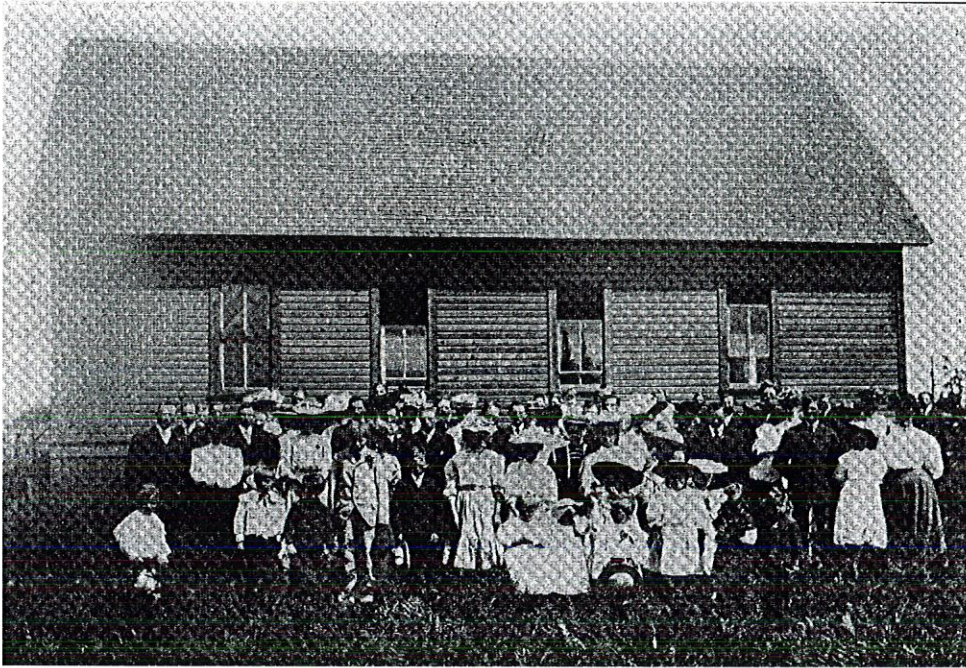
Between 1900 and 1903, several more Swedish Baptist families joined them. Yet the 14 people who organized what we now know as the Sunrise Baptist Church had a great deal of faith... and very little of anything else. The nearest store was six to twelve miles away, and since no one knew about interstate freeways they were forced to hack their own trails out of the thick forest. They had to fell countless trees to build their homes and clear space for their gardens. Bears and other forest friends competed for their food. Life was lonely and often harsh.



Clearing the forest for homes.

Yet as time went on, travel gradually became less difficult. Trails were widened to accommodate a yoke of oxen and sled. Log cabins slowly gave way to more mod-

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Badger First Swedish Baptist Church.

ern buildings and farms became more profitable.

So why start a church? Was it a longing for Christian fellowship? Was it a hunger for the Word? Was it a desire to educate their children in the Scriptures? Or perhaps a deep-felt need to grow in the knowledge of the Lord?

All of these could have been contributing factors, but none of them truly require a formally organized church in order to be fulfilled. For, as an offshoot of Delta, which had an active Sunday School program, these fulfillments were not totally out of reach.

And yet there was a spark. These people were totally dependent on God for their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs. The voice of their faith could not have been saying "Lord what are you going to do for us?" but rather "Lord show us what we can do for you."

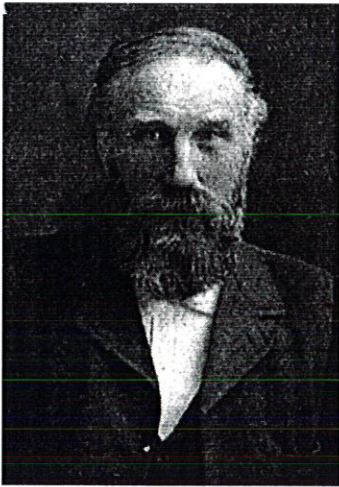
trusted the Lord.

Gathering at Johnson's Fir Grove

Johnson's Fir Grove was the setting on July 25, 1903 for 14 of God's people to join hands, form a circle and ask God's blessing and favor over this newly organized work. Together they sang "My Jesus I Love Thee, I Know Thou Art Mine." (In Swedish, of course.) The next day, four new members were added to what had just become Badger First Swedish Baptist Church. One was welcomed on confession of faith and three young people were baptized in Dakota Creek, with trees on either side forming a natural arch over the baptistery. The first communion service was held that evening. Sunday school materials were quickly ordered. Erick Johnson agreed to serve as the first interim pastor. As funds were not plentiful, the members decided to team up with Delta and share Pastor E.O. Olson of Minnesota, obtaining help from the Conference with half of his salary. He served the church for three years.

And God spoke to these people, creating in them the desire and the way to accomplish His mission. They undoubtedly wondered how this could be done. Possessions were few. Transportation was difficult. There was no particular reason to believe more people would move to this area. Yet somehow... they were willing. Somehow... they

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Rev. E.O. Olson,
Sunrise's first pastor.

the building was going to cost \$900! Because of the carpenter's fee of \$90, each family was asked to contribute \$10 so that he could be paid promptly. The 20,000 shingles required for the roof were paid for

By 1904, \$82.75 had been donated toward the first church building. An acre of land was purchased at the corner of the Sunrise and West Badger Roads for a total cost of \$65. The Ladies Sewing Circle worked to contribute \$50 to the fund. But

by the men of the church with shingle bolts.

To the dismay of the members, they found that buying church pews would be far too costly for the young church. So the Ladies Aid Society undertook the task of making benches more comfortable.

By 1905, there were four Sunday school classes and English classes were begun for English-speaking children. Weekly prayer meetings started. Pastor Olson left the area in 1906, and the annual income for that year was \$196.43. In 1908, members voted to build a stable on the northeast corner of the property, large enough for a horse and wagon. As neither this church nor Delta could afford to call a pastor of their own, they shared a total of five pastors in a nine year period, each with an appropriately



Charter members Carl and Jennie Nelson camping at Birch Bay. Daughter Esther is at lower right.

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Swedish surname: G.A. Osbrink, John Nystrom, David Anderson, M.J. Thornquist, and C.A. Sandvall.

By 1911, a first class organ was purchased for \$94.98. With ten additional members in their midst, the family feeling began to swell.



Rev. Andrew Johnson and wife, 1921.

Rev. Andrew Johnson, a pioneer among Swedish Baptists, was called to serve in 1916. Serving both churches for a period of six years, he and his wife traveled between the two by horse and buggy. He did not consider this a hardship; prior to his ministry he had served six churches between Bellingham and Delta, traveling on foot. During his ministry, the church sent out its first missionary, Esther Nelson, who went

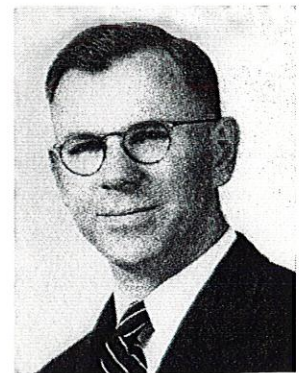
to Burma in 1921 under the Women's American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society.

A New Name

Meanwhile, the community continued to change, and its all-Scandinavian character began to change even more rapidly. After the post office was removed, the community was generally known as Sunrise. In January of 1922, the name of the church changed to Sunrise Swedish Baptist Church.

From 1922 until 1927, the church endured long periods without pastoral leadership, being helped only occasionally by missionaries and neighboring pastors. This may well have been the darkest period in the history of the church. All the work was almost at a complete standstill except for the Sunday school, whose faithful teachers kept the work marching forward among the children.

In November of 1927, Gust Anderson accepted the call to pastor for a one-year period before going on to further his studies at seminary. He had first come to Washington from the Bible Institute of Los Angeles (later Biola) to hold meetings. During his ministry, some English services were added to the Swedish, and an active calling program was established. Several found Christ as their Savior and improvements were made to the facilities, including electricity and classrooms.



Rev. Gust Anderson

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Esther Nelson.

Esther Nelson—Sunrise's first and only female pastor—took up the pulpit in 1929. And this proved to be a pivotal time not only for the country but for the church, as well. The Sunday school work grew and the cradle work began.

Apparently the decision to conduct all services in English was a key factor in the continued survival and growth of Sunrise Baptist. By responding to the changing circumstances of the community, rather than clinging to the past, Esther Nelson and the church were able to reach out and help meet the needs of the people. Pastor Nelson's decision to use English also arose out of her desire to communicate with the children. As young Americans, they were of course speaking in English. This in turn reached the community, people who were making a transition from their Swedish

heritage to an Americanized way of life. English services also helped them begin to reach out to families from a non-Swedish background. So the needs of the community were met by the response of the church to the situation of the time.

Within nine months Esther Nelson successfully convinced the church to call Rev. Eric Sjolund, who would become the church's second male full-time pastor. The membership of 26 was indeed stepping out in faith.



Rev. Eric Sjolund.

If turning points are legitimate considerations here, Pastor Sjolund's ministry would qualify, as well. During the seven years of his ministry, the church nearly tripled its membership, growing to 61.

The War Years and Beyond

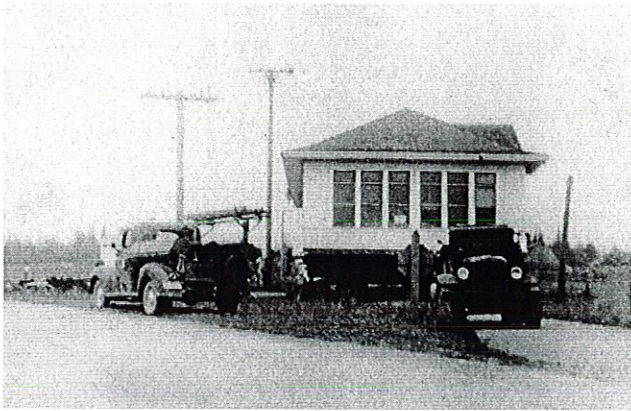
Gust Anderson returned to Sunrise in 1937 to begin his ten-year ministry. In July of 1942, the old Sunrise School was moved to the west side of the church. In the following five-year period, improvements were made, a choir was formed, Junior Church was begun and membership rose to 96. Members thrived under solid preaching and Bible study.

Rev. Thurlow Yaxley's ministry began here in 1948



Ladies sewing circle, 1928. Esther Nelson, second woman from left, front row.

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Church move in 1942.

and was outstanding in many ways. His eloquent yet spiritual messages drew many from the community. Attendance at all services increased, most notably the mid-week prayer meeting. This grew to become not only a varied Bible study but also a joyful fellowship. In 1950 the church sent

Gladys Erickson to Nigeria under the Sudan Interior Mission. Her sister Phyllis would follow her to the African mission field in 1967, where she still serves today (2003)



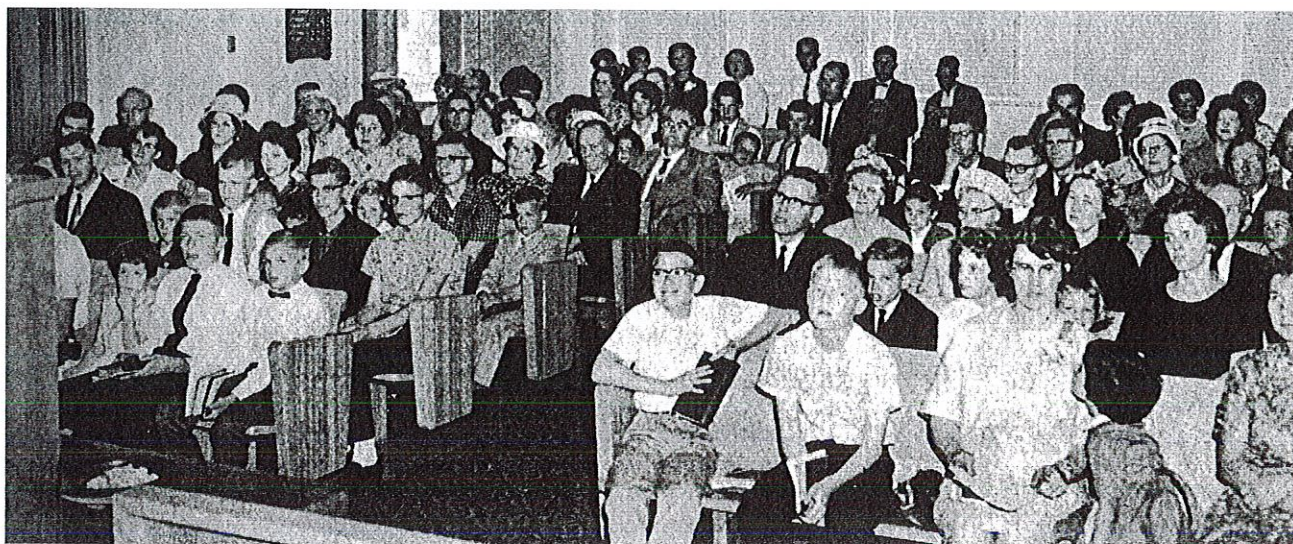
Rev. Thurlow Yaxley.

In the period between Pastor Yaxley's leaving and Rev. Everett Backlin's arrival, Harry Jensen would often lead services with some help from Gerrit Weeda. Blessings occurred as members were trained in personal evangelism by God's Invasion Army personnel, who came several times to instruct us.



Gust Anderson's farewell service in 1947.

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Sunrise service, circa 1950s.

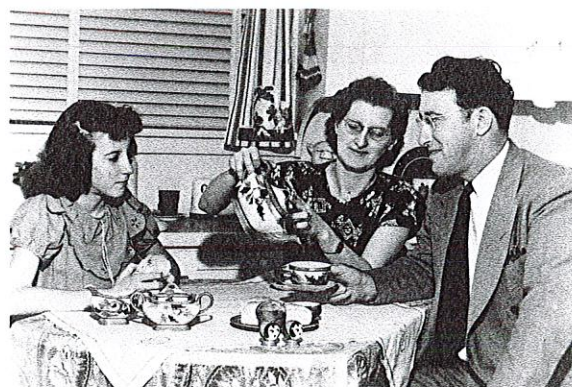


From left, pastors Yaxley, Anderson and Backlin.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" was the theme of the 50th Anniversary of the church, celebrated in 1953. The new \$4,300 addition to the north of the church was dedicated at that celebration.

Rev. Joseph Brill served three years until 1957, with a heavy emphasis on evangelism. He was an enthusiastic worker.



Roberta, Grace & Thurlow Yaxley



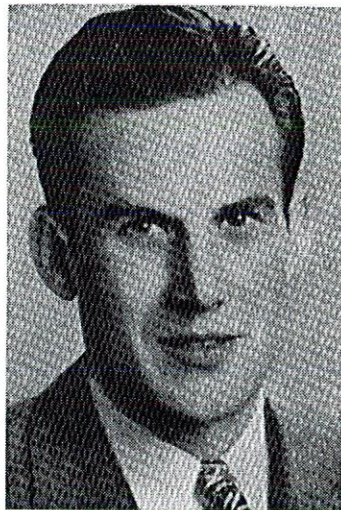
Pastor Calvin Churchill's ministry through 1961 was especially noted by his concern that each member diligently search the Scriptures and grow in the knowledge of the Lord. He also emphasized the importance of each member taking an active part in the work and the need for reverence in the house of God.

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God's Invasion Army visit, 1951.

In 1961, the annual budget of \$10,000 was adopted, of which 12 percent was given to missions. Three hundred opera seats were purchased for used in the sanctuary. A sound system was added.



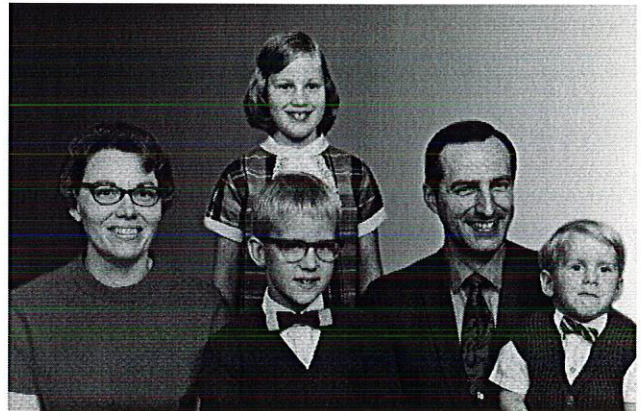
Rev. Calvin Churchill.



Rev. David Strand.

Pastor David Strand arrived to take up the work in 1962. Spiritual growth took place and membership grew to 102. Pastor Strand is particularly remembered for visitation. Many physical improvements were also made to the property during his three-year ministry.

The church celebrated its 60th anniversary in 1963. Under the theme of "Hitherto Hath the Lord Helped Us," church members welcomed several former pastors and the Rev. Lloyd Dahlquist.



Rev. John Palutke and family.

Leadership changed again in 1965 as Rev. John Palutke moved to Sunrise. Interest for more work among young people was sparked. Duane and Joan Anderson began their work with the American Indians, a work with they continue to today (2003). Four of our youth attended a world youth meeting in Switzerland: Bob and Bill Brim, and Steve and Dan King. The following year, Nancy Reimer, Mary Larson and Dan King spent a year working with God's Invasion Army. Dan remained for a second year.

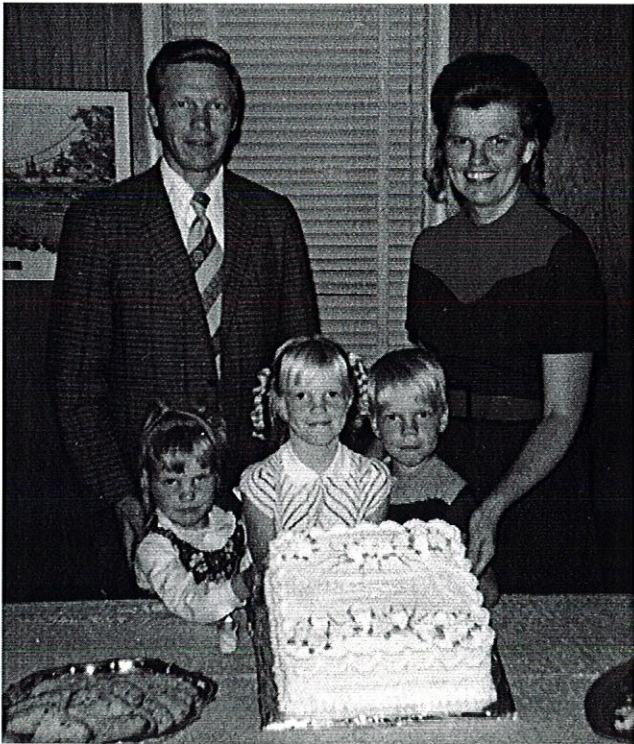
A New Place to Grow

By 1968 it had become apparent that more space would soon be needed to accommodate their growing congregation. Six acres of land were purchased at the corner of Delta Line and West Badger Roads and dedicated to God on August 4. At that time \$53,000 was raised and groundbreaking ceremonies were held in 1972, the same day the Palutkes were bid farewell. Construction of the new church began in 1973.

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Sunrise youth lead the 1974 march along Badger Road.



Rev. Hartley Christenson and family.

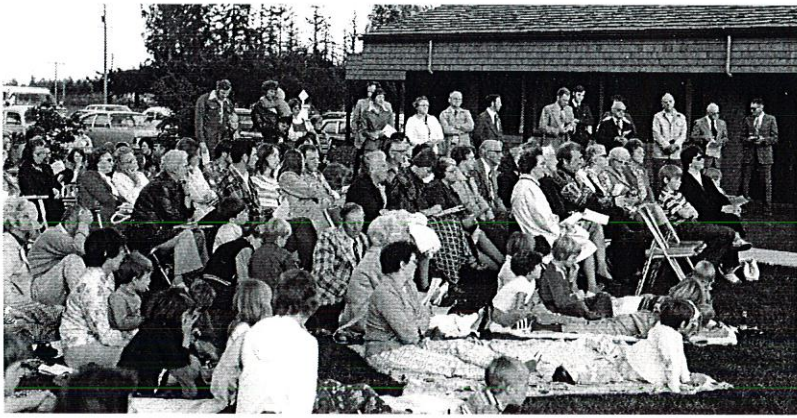
Five months later, Rev. Hartley Christenson accepted the call to Sunrise. On Palm Sunday, 1974, Sunrisers marched the half-mile from the old church site to the

new, placing a cornerstone in the new building as an act of dedication. Attendance at Sunday services grew noticeably as Pastor Christenson's sincere joy radiated from the pulpit. As more and more people made Sunrise their church home, two identical Sunday services were established. Notably, under his ministry, the church constitution was revised and the uni-board system was adopted. As the workload increased, staff were added. In the summer of 1975, a part-time assistant pastor (Leroy

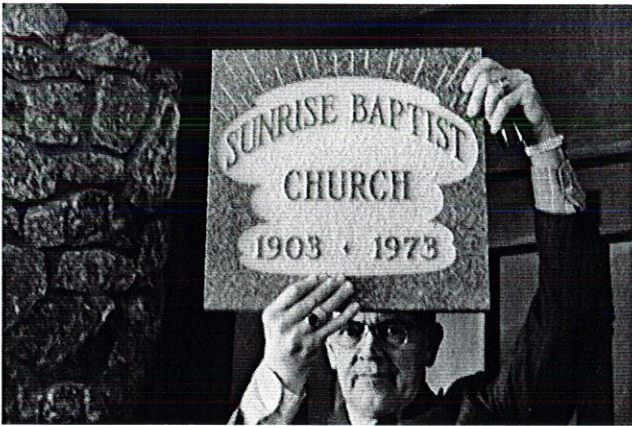


Groundbreaking dedication, 1974.

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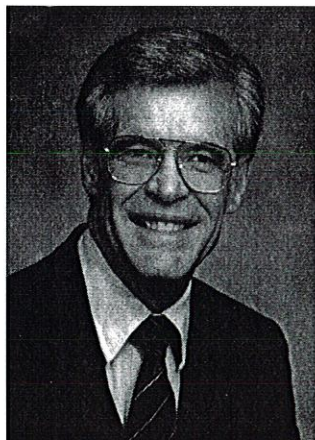
Outdoor dedication service in 1974.



Gordon Larson transfers the cornerstone.

King) and a part-time secretary (Rayella Wynne). A part-time minister of music (John Taylor) was added in 1976.

As the need for still more space became apparent, plans were begun to build a 6200 square foot multi-purpose annex to the church. Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in May of 1977, with construction beginning immediately after. Pastor Christenson left Sunrise in September of that year, after which



Rev. Lee Greene.

Don Ott served as interim pastor until Pastor Lee Greene was called in 1978. The Greenes served here until October 1987, but returned to the area several years later after pastoring a church in San Diego. By the way, Pastor Greene was first pastor to buy a home in Lynden. Previous pastors had lived in the parsonage.

Looking to the New Millennium

As the church continued to grow, so did its specialized staff. During the late 1970s Rayella Wynne was the first paid church secretary; all secretarial work had previously been done by volunteers. Alice Lee followed her, followed by Marcia Murphy and Corky Cantrelle.

Leroy King came on as part-time assistant pastor in 19XX, followed by Wayne Bell in (19XX) and Jerry Wilson in 1989. Don Ott was interim pastor for a year, and Bill McLeod served as a summer associate. In 1976 John Taylor was called to serve as part-time music director, followed by Don Pearce. Marj Hendricks, Tui (Lastname), and Lee Greene have also served as choir directors.

Youth programs, always strong at Sunrise, also gained new emphasis during more recent decades with the addition of a full-time youth workers. Marty Mauk was the first in 1978, followed by Tim Johnson in 1982, Marcus Brotherton in 1994, and Jason Matthews in (199X). Johnson would later serve as associate pastor.

Meanwhile, the facility continues to grow. A new multi-purpose building was added and dedicated at the church's 75th anniversary celebration in June of 1978.

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Pastors for the 1990s: From left, Marc Brotherton, Tim Johnson, Lee Greene and Jon Aldrich.

ings of the new CE multi-purpose rooms. And much like the Sunday School, this Scripture-based program serves as a continuing help to member families as well as a significant community outreach. A pre-school ministry serves numerous local children and their families, as well.

As the new millennium drew closer Sunrise also accelerated its contributions to the foreign mission field. In the 1980s Dave and Pris Reimer begin mission work at Windermere High School in the Bahamas. Mac and Roxanne Kuhns, saved at Sunrise, begin mission

During the late 1980s Sunrise purchased the Inez Berry property, 4.5 acres north of existing building. This property has served as a home for youth pastors and offers growth potential. And after a concentrated time of prayer, planning, and construction the new Christian Education Building was dedicated in May, 1991. This all-new addition not only provided expanded classroom and office space, but also dedicated space for junior high and high school youth groups.

Never an end in themselves, the new facilities have simply enabled us to expand our commitment to family and youth ministry. For example, AWANA began at Sunrise under the leadership of Steve King and Bernie Bovenkamp in the early 1980s. Hundreds of kids have come to know the Lord better in the comfortable surround-

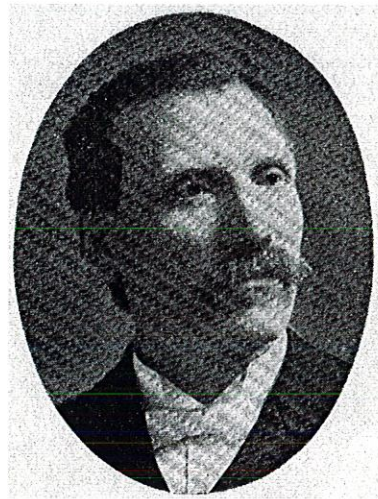
work in Senegal. John and Gladys Reimer begin itinerant missions work in various countries in Africa, Niger, Liberia, and the Bahamas. Scott and Ruth Millar, Ruth a Sunriser, were sent as missionaries to Argentina. More recently, Rick and Teresa Martens were recognized as Sunrise missionaries to Indonesia, while Rick's brother Willy and wife Cheryl have served in Central America.

Pastor Jon Aldrich was called to serve the church in 1988. He and his wife Linda have provided steady and encouraging leadership for the past 15 years. During this time, Jon has continued to emphasize the church's historical mission to local children and families, following the Godly example set 100 years ago by August Nyman and the forward-thinking Swedish pioneers. He was joined by Associate Pastor Bob Lott in 1998.

Sunrise Pastors



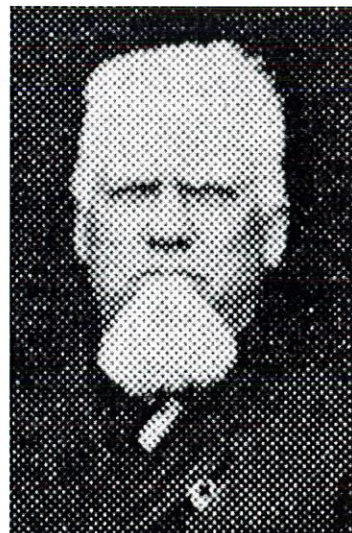
E.O. Olson
1903-1906



N.J. Thornquist
1910-1911



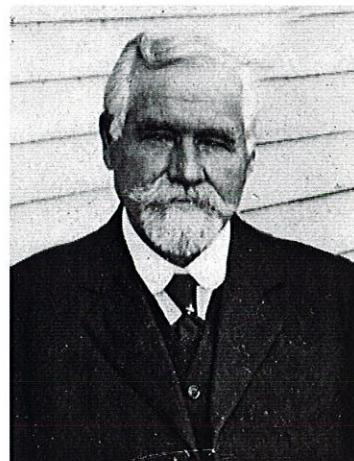
G.A. Osbrink
1906-1907



C.A. Sandvall
1911-1912



David Anderson
1908-1910

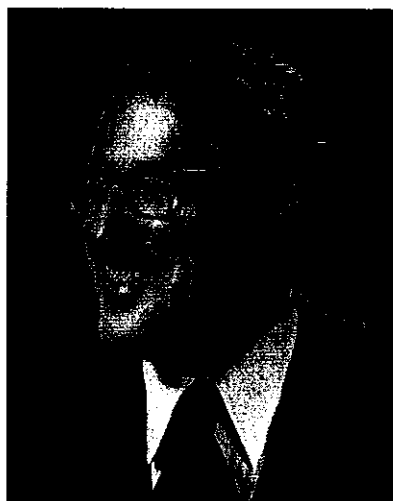


Andrew Johnson
1916-1922

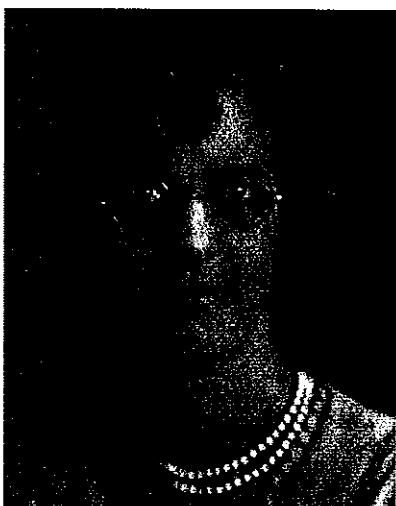
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Gust Anderson
1927-1928, 1937-1947



D.T. Yaxley
1947-1950



Esther Nelson
1929



Everett Backlin
1950-1954



Eric Sjolund
1930-1937

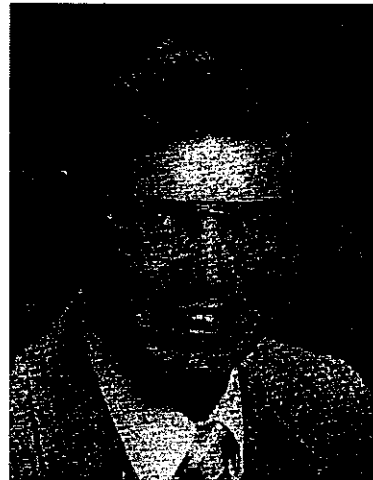


Joe Brill
1954-1957

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Calvin Churchill
1957-1961



Hartley Christenson
1972-1977



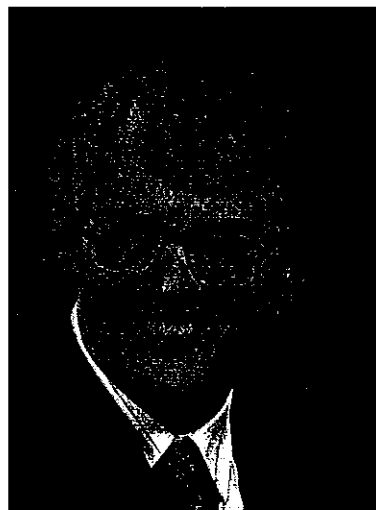
David Strand
1962-1965



Lee Greene
1978-1987



John Palutke
1965-1972



Jon Aldrich
1987-present

T I M E L I N E

Early sister churches at the turn of the century

First Swedish Baptist Church organizes, then in 1937 changes to Champion Street Baptist, and in the 1950s to Northwest Baptist.

Delta Baptist Church. Alvin Stauffer's grandparents are involved here. It closes sometime around 1928, some members going to First Baptist of Lynden.

Other early churches: Bakerview Baptist, First Baptist (Ferndale), First Christian Reformed (Lynden) and First Baptist Church (Lynden).



Baptist missionary Rev. F.R. Goranson

1886

Baptist work begins in this area as Dakota Creek Scandinavian Baptist Church, but with members moving to Delta, Dakota Creek became Delta Swedish Baptist Church.

1889

Washington Territory becomes a state.

STATISTIK
FÖR
SVENSKA BAPTISTFÖRBÄNDEN I ...*Badger, Wis.*... ÅR 1903

Förbundet organiserades år ...*1903*...

Pastors namn ...*E. C. Olson*... Biskops verksamhet med församlingen år ...*1903*...

Pastors adress ...*R. P. 2, 4, Lynden, Wis.*...

Bildningsnämndens namn ...*Carl Johnson*... Ordförande ...*Custer, Wis.*... R. P. 2, 4.

Medlemskap.		Finanser (pengar)	
TILGÅENING.		Löpande utgifter (årsavslut inbegripet)	
Döpta	...	For Söndagsskolan	...
Inflyttade	...	For kyrkobyggnad	...
Uppgått på besökslistan	...	For hyra av pastoratshus	...
FÖRMINSKNING.		For reparationer	...
Utdöda	...	Betal för kyrkostad	...
Utskott	...	Betal för skuld & bostäder	...
Döda	...	Diverse utgifter	...
Hela medlemsskiftet	...	Summa	...
Söndagsskolan.		Välgörande ändamål.	
Antal skolor	...	Till fattiga	...
Lärare och hjälpare. No. 1. & No. 2.	...	Till bostäder & andra orier.	...
Antal undervisade barn. No. 1. & No. 2.	...	Till andra ändamål	...
Hela medlemsskiftet	...	Summa	...
Antal döpta från s. s.	...	Missionen.	
Insamlad genom kollekter	...	Förutgående	...
Förordningsnamn. August Nyman	...	Gåva förutgående	...
Adress. ... <i>Badger, Wis.</i>	Söndagsskolan	...
Kyrkoekonomi.		Summa	...
Kyrkans värde	...	Svensk statskyrkoförvaltning	...
Antal stiftelser	...	State Convention	...
Boställe värde	...	Allmänna konferensen	...
Hela egendomsvärdet	...	Söndagsskoleföreningen	...
Skuld & kyrkoekonomi	...	Am. Bapt. H. M. S.	...
Skuld & bostäder	...	Wom. Bapt. H. M. S.	...
	...	Am. Bapt. M. U.	...
	...	Wom. Bapt. F. M. S.	...
	...	Am. Bapt. M. U. S.	...
	...	Summa	...
	...	Totalt samman	...

First Swedish Baptist Badger Confernece report of 1903.

1890

Custer School opens doors.

1880s

First Normal School in Lynden corner of 5th and Grover; closes in 1894 when college begun in Sehome.

October 11, 1890

First train steams into Ferndale. Ruth Jensen's parents arrive on railroad in 1906.

1891

Lynden, Ferndale, Blaine organize.

1893

August Nyman begins Badger Sunday School and serves as superintendent until 1928. The Sunday School (with one English and one Swedish class) meets at Polsons,

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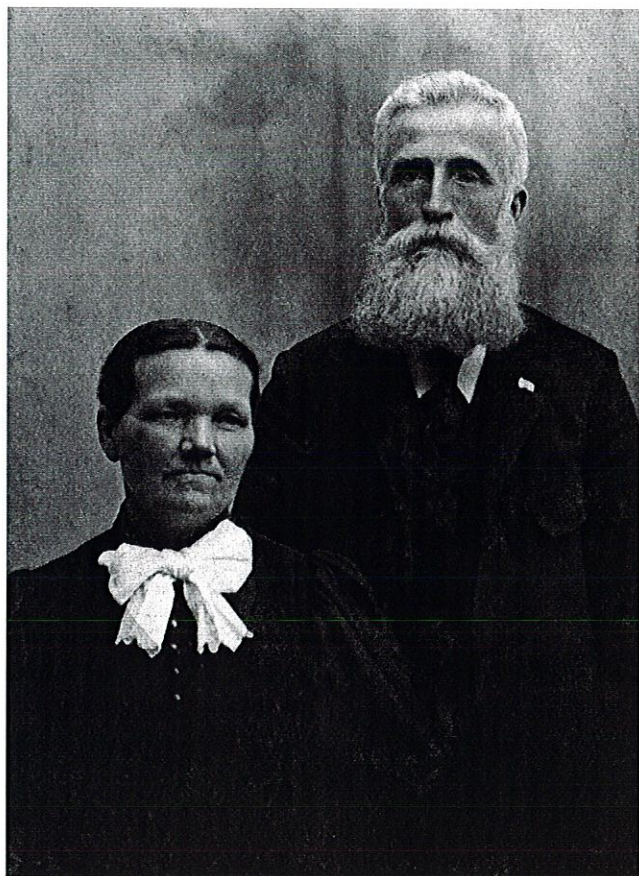
and one Swedish class) meets at Polsons, east of Delta Line/Badger Road intersection and later at the Sunrise School.

Spring/Summer, 1903

A few months before the organization of the church, conference missionary Paul Johnson, holds a series of tent meetings across the road from where the church now stands. Encouraging results help local people realize the need for an organized church.

Saturday, July 25, 1903

Badger First Swedish Baptist Church organized with 14 members; first service held in cedar grove on the J.G. Johnson farm. (The name of Badger comes from the Badger Post Office at the corner of Sunrise and West Badger Road.)



Charter members J.G. and Maria Johnson.

Charter members: Carl Nelson, G.A. Osbrink, J.G. Johnson, Mrs. Mary Johnson, August Nyman, Mrs. Amelia Nyman, Lewis Polson, Mrs. Betty Polson, Mrs. Jennie Nelson, Peter Isaacson, Mrs. Ethel Isaacson, Oscar Glenman, Mrs. Amanda Glenman (Mrs. Anton Stine), Erick Johnson, Mrs. Martha Johnson. Rev. Charles Asplund serves as temporary chairman and G.A. Osbrink as secretary.

First elected officers: Chairman, Erick Johnson; Secretary, Carl Nelson; Treasurer, August Nyman; Deacon, J.G. Johnson.

Sunday, July 26, 1903

Services again held in the Johnson grove and in the afternoon three youths are baptized in Dakota Creek on Polson's farm by Brother Asplund following by the first communion service in the Polson home.

1903

Population of the Sunrise district is mostly Swedish and German between 1900 and 1903 several Swedish Baptist families move in. August Nyman's Sunday School by this time had about 40 children enrolled.

Summer and later, 1903

At the next business meeting they decide to hold regular Sunday services with Erick Johnson as interim pastor.

Rev. E.O. Olson of Milaca, Minnesota, (great-uncle of Bud Anderson) pastors Delta and Sunrise. Since he preaches on alternate Sundays, some of the congregation attend both churches.

1904

Original congregation buys one acre at corner of Sunrise and West Badger Roads for \$65; Women's Missionary Society of

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years



First Swedish Baptist Badger charter members and families, 1903.

Sunrise contributes \$50. (The Society existed along with the Sunday School before the official founding of the church.)

First church building erected for \$900.

1905
First English-speaking Sunday School class.

December 5, 1905

August Nyman on Board of Directors of Farmer's Mutual Telephone Company when it starts.

October, 1906

G.A. Osbrink pastors Sunrise and Delta until 1907



Baptist general conference, Seattle, September 1905.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

1906

Bud Anderson's grandmother dies while traveling to Sunrise.

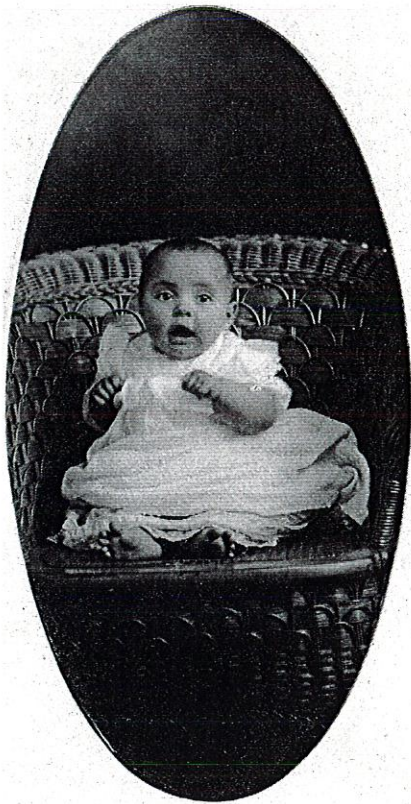
1907

David Anderson (wife Esther) pastors Sunrise and Delta until 1910.

During this time 10 are received into the church. A parsonage is built (cost: \$600) and sanctuary seats are added.

1910

N.J. Thornquist pastors Sunrise and Delta until 1911



Bertha Marie Larson, 1911.

1911

C.A. Sandvall pastors Sunrise and Delta until 1912

Buffalo Sunday School begun as a com-

munity church by Mrs. Melvin Bamford on corner of Burke and Markworth Roads. It was closed in 1950 when the property was sold. Truman King (at 27 years of age) was saved at the Buffalo Church and was married there. Mr. and Mrs. John attended Buffalo as well as Bert and Peggy Sheets.

Ruth Jensen first attends Sunrise as an infant; joins church as an adult in 1944



Kinsey family with baby Harold, 1916.

Florence Kinsey begins attending Sunrise as an infant

1916

Andrew Johnson pastors Delta and Sunrise until 1922. His wife served as a midwife and delivered Bud Anderson. During his time at Delta and Sunrise he and his wife traveled by horse and buggy between the churches. Prior to 1916 he had served the three small churches at Whatcom, Ferndale and Delta, stopping over and holding meetings at Badger when on his way to Delta.

Delta parsonage built. Andrew Johnson lived there until 1922.

September 6, 1921

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

Peace Arch at Blaine dedicated



Bud Anderson, right, mid-1920s.

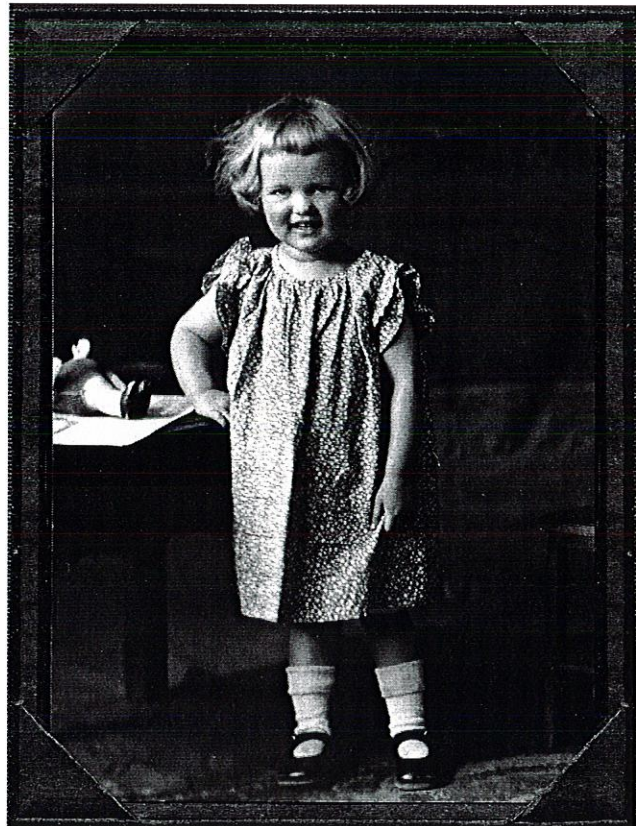
1921-27

Miss Esther Nelson serves as missionary under the auspices of Women's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society, American Baptist Convention, in Burma. She was the daughter of Carl and Jennie Nelson, charter members; aunt to Gladys Reimer and Phyllis Erickson. She returned home due to tuberculosis. She taught at the Sunrise School and the Haynie School between about 1917 and 1919. She also worked in Child Evangelism Fellowship in later years.

1920s

W. Badger Road paved with concrete by Kaiser; part of main road between Lynden and Blaine. Local farmers and their teams hired out for labor; out of town laborers boarded in local houses; hauled gravel for mixers by team from the "Bunkers" on Sunrise Road. Local women provide meals as the work progresses.

Name changes to Sunrise Swedish Baptist Church. After the removal of the post office, the community was generally known as Sunrise, thus the name change.



Gladys Erickson, mid-1920s.

1922-1927

No resident pastor at Sunrise or Delta. John E. Lindquist, a seminary student, ministers during the summer of 1924, a Mr. Strawbridge for a short period, and Rev. Thornquist again serves one year. Sunday

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

school, under the leadership of August Nyman, continues during this difficult time..

1927

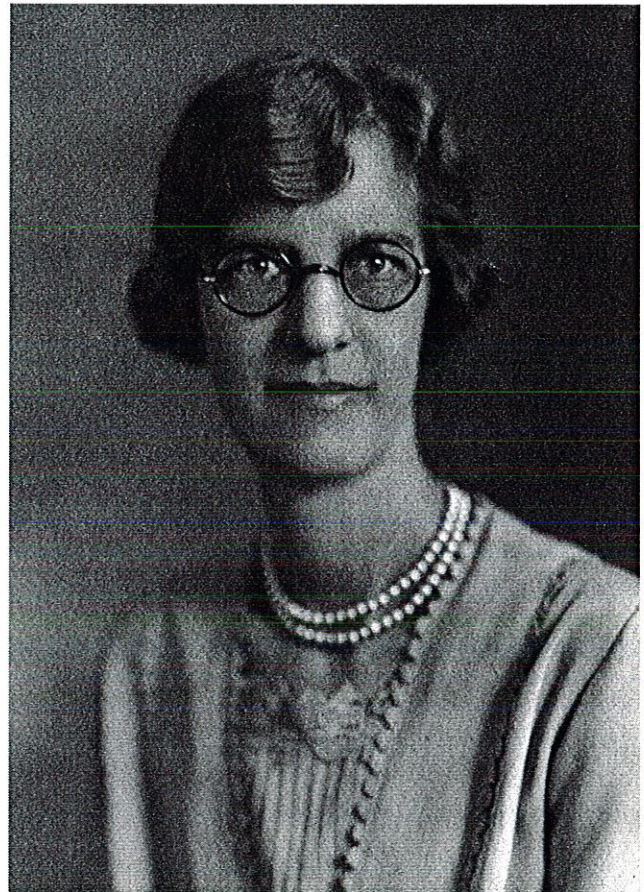
Gust Anderson (single at the time, marries Hulda in 1935) pastors Sunrise until 1928. Gust is the first full-time Sunrise pastor, and preaches in both Swedish and English. Church services had been in Swedish, but Sunday School classes in Swedish and English. So English-speaking people would come to Sunday School, but not stay for church. The switch to English services and an active calling program were a part of the steps toward resurrection of the work. Several find Christ as personal Savior. Electric lights, added classrooms and a new platform improve the church building. Pastor Anderson stays only 10 months leaving to further prepare himself for the ministry at the Bethel Seminary, in St. Paul, Minnesota. He returns ten years later.

The church is without a pastor for about nine months, during which time the regular services are kept up and the Conference missionary and neighboring pastors serve as interim workers. Gust Anderson returns during the summer months to serve, returning to seminary in the fall of 1929.

Delta Baptist Church closes. Remaining money (\$30.00) is sent to the Swedish Baptist headquarters. The church building is sold and the money sent to the Klingberg Children's Home.

1929

The turning point from Swedish: Miss Esther Nelson, age 32, pastors Sunrise for nine months, and begins preaching in exclusively in English. At a low point, Sunrise only has 26 members. Yet under

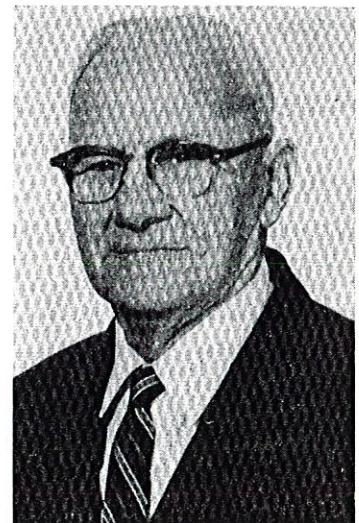


Esther Nelson.

Esther's leadership and urging, they step out in faith and call Eric Sjolund as a full-time pastor, whom she had known personally at Bethel Seminary.

1930

Eric Sjolund (wife Gladys and 5 children) pastors Sunrise until 1937, the second full-time male Sunrise pastor. During the seven years of his ministry the church nearly triples its membership, to 61 members.



Pat Malone.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years



Phyllis Erickson, early 1940s.

church from the American Baptist Church at Custer is sold and the proceeds turned into a building fund. Parsonage improvements are done with the addition of a bathroom and water system. More classrooms and a baptistry are added to the church.

1937

Gust Anderson, (two children) student of Biola and graduate of Bethel Baptist Seminary, pastors Sunrise until 1947. During this time members thrive under the solid preaching and Bible study and souls are saved. The Cradle Roll grows and a Homemaker's Club added. Children who used to come to Sunday School only, now remain for Junior Church. A choir is formed under the leadership of Rudolph Friberg and Harry Jensen. Membership grows to 96.

1940s

Harry Jensen and A.H. Johnson from Bakerview spearhead a multi-church songfest at the Holiness campground in Ferndale near the I-5 bridge. All-day Sun-

Many of these are added at the close of a series of meetings conducted by evangelist Pat Malone. During this time 18 are baptized and join the church including Lillian King and her sister, Florence and Harold Kinsey, Bun Anderson, John and Hulda Swanson (Florence Kinsey's parents) and Anton Stine. Property deeded to the



Lake Retreat, late 1940s.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

day program includes speakers, picnics, singing, and choirs from each church. Churches involved were Whitehorn Mennonite, Triumph Lutheran, Bakerview Baptist, First Baptist Ferndale, Sunrise Baptist, and Glendale Mennonite.

Old Sunrise School building moved to join with church building at a cost of \$360 for building, \$800 to move and \$2500 for improvements. Church members struggle with horses to move the building until they're helped by Ray Pitman and his Darigold milk truck. Bertha Larson teaches in old Sunrise School the year before it's moved to the church building.

During this time Mr. and Mrs. Harry and Roberta Jensen join Sunrise. Phyllis Erickson, niece of former Sunrise Pastor Esther Nelson, begins attending Sunrise as an infant. Margaret Hendricks and Gladys Erickson join Sunrise.

Further improvements to the church include an oil furnace, oil heater, piano, and nursery.

1947

Rev. Thurlow Yaxley (wife Grace and one daughter) pastors Sunrise until 1950. Under his leadership the first constitution and by-laws are written, and attendance at all services increases, especially at the mid-week prayer meeting.

Truman and Emogene King, Gerritt and Gladys Weeda join church same day, while Bob and Janet Lange also begin attending Sunrise.

By the end of 1950, membership climbs to 126. For five months before the calling of Everett Backlin, vice-chairman Harry

Jensen leads meetings.

1950s

Church members help minister to Lummi, Nooksack and other B.C. tribes through the Indian Village Mission and summer camping programs at the Holiness Camp in Ferndale. Out of this Duane Anderson's interest in ministering to American Indians grew.

Everett Backlin (wife Mildred and two children) pastors Sunrise until 1954. He leads the church in a building improvement program.



Bethel Seminary graduate and evangelist Ethel Ruff.

Evangelist and author Ethel Ruff holds several special meetings at Sunrise; during which Edna Brann is saved. Evangelist and chalk-artist Ken Cummings gives a series of meetings with 12-year-old Roberta Yaxley

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

providing music on piano.

Miss Gladys Erickson serves as missionary in Nigeria under the Sudan Interior Mission until 1975. At her commissioning the church presents Gladys with about \$500 worth of equipment and promises to pay about half of her support on the field, or about \$600 per year. She would later marry John Reimer.

Major snowstorm; roads close; drifts to telephone wires in places. Steve King as a newborn baby is stuck for one week at Levia Anderson's house. Gladys Erickson leaves snowstorm for Africa.

God's Invasion Army (about 12 people) visits for two weeks to lead the church in personal evangelism work from H Street Road to Harksell Road, Guide to west of

Delta Line. Florence and Don Sturtz, Myrtle White, John Bolle are saved as a result. Meetings are held at the church in the morning, door-to-door visits in the afternoon and evening with Sunrisers. (We knocked, they talked). Sunrisers are trained and eventually take over conversation end of call.

New church addition to the north added at a cost of \$4300. Indoor plumbing added after some discussion about the need for this convenience. During construction Pastor Everett Backlin slides off church roof and breaks a leg.

Ordination service for Dean Bott (wife Virginia). He was saved at Sunrise in 1946; met Virginia at CYF Rally in Seattle; served as founding pastor for Nooksack Valley Baptist Church

1954

Joe Brill (wife Maxine and seven children) pastors Sunrise until 1957. One of their children is born on a Sunday morning while Joe stays at church and preaches. Being an evangelist, he promotes evangelistic meetings in the Sunrise area, resulting in enthusiastic growth.

Major snowstorm closes roads. On their way to Lynden, Pastor Brill and six boys get stuck in the snow. They stay overnight at a nearby house.

Vancouver Bible Institute given to B.G.C. As many as 40 students and faculty attend Sunrise until the school closes in 1957. John Taylor serves as professor, later music director of Sunrise; Don Ott serves as professor, later pastor of Sunrise.

1957



**Missionary turned pastor turned teacher
Esther Nelson, mid-1950s**

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

Calvin Churchill (wife Norma and three children) pastors Sunrise until 1961. His ministry was characterized by his concern that each member diligently search the Scriptures, grow in the knowledge of the Lord and take an active part in the work. During this time the church budget is increased to \$10,000, with 12 percent to missions.

1959

Aldergrove Church starts as an outreach of Sunrise. Sunrisers assist in this work by helping teach classes.

1960s

Sunrise takes large pickup load of food, clothing, money to Hoquiam Church to help those suffering from closing of pulp mills in Aberdeen.

1962

David Strand (wife Connie and two daughters) pastors Sunrise, coming straight from seminary, until 1965. He is ordained April 14, 1964 at Sunrise. He begins to care for the people in his flock, not only providing spiritual food by his messages, but visiting often with the families of the church.

Columbus Day wind storm, October 12. Four barns on corner of Enterprise and Birch Bay Lynden are blown down, cornfields are blown flat, trees uprooted and power lines downed all over county. No damage to the church.

1965

John Palutke (wife Jan and three children) pastors Sunrise until 1972. A renewed interest in children's work comes under his leadership.

Evangelistic meetings with Dr. Alphin Conrad.

Miss Phyllis Erickson serves as missionary in Africa (to present), beginning in Nigeria and later moving to teach in Niger. Phyllis was the granddaughter of Carl and Jenny Nelson, charter members, daughter of John and Irene Erickson. Her commissioning service is December 17, 1967.

Duane and Joanne Anderson begin work as missionary to the American Indian Bible Institute to present.

God's Invasion Army works in the area for two weeks. Mary Larson, Dan King, Nancy Reimer spend most of 1970 working in Minnesota and North Dakota.

After a period of growth, members discuss plans for a new building. Six acres of land purchased from George and Margaret Hendricks for future site of Sunrise for \$6000. It had been farmed for strawberries for at least 40 years. George Salstrand from the Conference directs a fund raising campaign and the goal of \$50,000 is exceeded by \$3,000. Bonds are sold and more pledges given to raise the remainder of the money needed.

Original church: set on one acre of land, adjacent to the parsonage, two joined buildings. Persistent problems with water leakage at tower and joining. Addition put on former school building for kitchen. Windows in school building were large and a problem. Small room built on north side for nursery, far too small (12 by 12). No basement. Woodstoves were both in original building and schoolhouse. Upstairs room used for a class, parsonage living room and kitchen used for Sunday School.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

REDD HARPER

CONVERTED
COWBOY
MOVIE
STAR



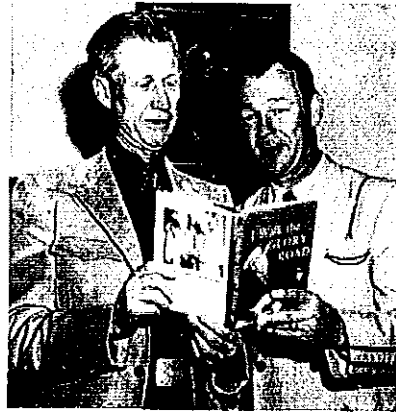
IN PERSON

Sunday Evening
JAN. 30 1972
Sunday Evening
7 P.M.

Wednesday
FEB. 2 1972
Week Nights
7:30 P.M.

SUNRISE BAPTIST CHURCH
2226 W. BADGER RD.
CUSTER, WASH.

John G. Palutke Pastor Special music nightly
DYNAMIC! DARING! DIFFERENT!



WHAT ROY ROGERS SAYS ABOUT REDD HARPER

"Christian conversion is a miraculous thing. It is hard to explain but wonderful to experience and to behold in the life of another.

"I have seen first hand the emergence of the soul of Redd Harper from darkness into stimulating Christian service. It has been a joy to observe Redd's Christian growth and to see the way he is blessing countless thousands of lives across the world by his fearlessly honest witness to the saving Power and Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ." — Roy Rogers

Dale Evans Says . . .

"The Christian testimony and pure straight old fashioned gospel preaching of Redd Harper is a definite spiritual boost to his hearers. Redd carries a beautiful song on his heart and lips to match the Bible in his pocket, and to have the pleasure of hearing him is to 'watch the saints go marching by.'

"I personally knew Redd 'B.C. and A.C.' (Before and After Conversion), and his message is amazing." — Dale Evans Rogers

companionment.
Stayed with the
Larsons.

Groundbreaking
for new church.
Contractor: Eldon
Hicks. Architect: Pat
Mitchell. Volunteer
Coordinator: Van Job.
Building Committee
Chairman: Gordon
Larson. Finance
Committee Chair-
man: Bill Brim.

1972

Hartley

Christenson (wife
Marlene and three
children) pastors
Sunrise until 1977.
He had been in Phil-
ippines for two mis-
sion terms. Under his
leadership the Trustee
Board is eliminated
along with quarterly
business meetings
and changed to a
Deacon Board with

Brochure promoting Redd Harper's concert at Sunrise Baptist Church.

When the school building was added it became the sanctuary and the old building a kitchen/fellowship room.

Evangelist John Carrara preaches at Sunrise.

Redd Harper, converted Hollywood star and western singer, comes to hold special meetings from January 30 to February 2. His theme song was "I'm Following Jesus, Each Step of the Way." Harper wrote and performed his own music with guitar ac-

monthly meetings and congregational meetings twice a year. A new church constitution is written. The Christensons buy the parsonage for \$20,000 from the church. He is the first pastor to have his own home.

1974?

New church building completed at Delta Line and West Badger. The congregation holds Sunday School in the old building and then forms a caravan, marching to the new church for the morning worship service.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years



Sunrise congregation, 1971.

The cornerstone is laid (by front entrance, engraved granite stone) containing a sealed capsule holding historical memorabilia to be opened in 50 to 100 years.

Dedication of new church. "Family Fellowship" held April 7-11, 1974 with Bible study, music and activities for the whole family. Rev. Leonard Hillstrom, professor of Vancouver Bible College, teaches "Secrets of Victory" to the adults.

Old church building torn down in summer, too costly to maintain. The women do most of work, tearing it down during the day, while men complete heavy work at night. The work is completed in about a month, and workers discover bees in the wall. (Pastor Palutke used to feel honey drip down on him while he was in his office). Some of the lumber from old church is stored and used in the construction of the gym and kitchen.

Staff added—Rayella Wynne as secretary, Leroy King (wife Mary) as part-time assistant pastor. Rayella is the first paid church secretary. All secretarial work before this is done by several volunteers. She passed the job to Alice Lee in 1982.

1976

John Taylor called to serve as part-time music director.

Wayne and Esther Bell join Sunrise.

Groundbreaking for new multi-purpose building (gym). Speakers are Cliff Gustafson and Gust Anderson. Building designer: Wayne Sorenson. Contractor: Wayne Bell. Kitchen design: Bertha Larson, Elizabeth Heibert and Lois Heppner. The building is framed in, progressing without pause as funds came in. Finally \$150,000 is borrowed to complete the project.

Don Ott, wife Sally, (three sons) serves as interim pastor for 1 year.

Ordination service for Don Ott.

Bill McLeod serves as summer associate.

Gerritt Weeda begins a 15-year itinerant mission program, working in construction on mission projects throughout the U.S.

Dedication of multi-purpose building at 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

1978

Lee Greene (wife Maryann and four daughters) pastors Sunrise until October 1987. Pastor Green was first pastor to buy a home in Lynden. All previous pastors lived in the parsonage.

Vancouver Bible Institute closes and Sunrise loses about 10 students, four to five families. These people had played a significant part in the church and their loss was felt greatly.

Marty Mauk (Marilyn) called to be Youth Director.

1980s

Large group of Sunrisers (at least 15) go to Arrowhead Springs Campus Crusade for Christ Headquarters for one week training.

Dave and Pris Reimer begin mission work at Windermere High School in the Bahamas.

Mac and Roxanne Kuhns, saved at Sunrise, begin mission work in Senegal.

AWANA begins at Sunrise under the leadership of Steve King, Bernie Bovenkamp, and others.

Twenty-two Sunrisers attend Life Man-



1982 Sunrise Deacon board.

agement Seminar by Campus Crusade at Lake Arrowhead; a group attend each year.

Tim Johnson (wife Lael) called to serve as Youth Pastor.

Alice Lee begins as church secretary; serves until Corky Cantrelle.

Marj Hendricks serves as choir director.

Wayne Bell (wife Esther) called as Associate Pastor. Wayne was former pastor at Cedarhome Baptist and had worked with Child Evangelism Fellowship. Esther Nelson influenced their decision to work with CEF.

Evangelism Corps at Sunrise.

Sunrise hosts the regional CYF Youth Rally.

Billy Graham Crusade in Vancouver, B.C. Sunrise rents a bus and to bring a sizeable contingent.

Don Pearce (wife Lynn) called as paid Music Director. He also teaches music at Blaine School District.

July 1, 1985

British Columbia Baptist Conference recognized as independent district fellowship of the Baptist General Conference (separate from the Columbia Baptist Conference).

John and Gladys Reimer begins itinerant missions work in various countries in Africa, Niger, Liberia, and the Bahamas.

Scott and Ruth Millar, Ruth a Sunriser, sent as missionaries to Argentina.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

Ordination service for Tim Johnson.
Luis Palau is guest speaker.

1988

Jon Aldrich (wife Linda and two children) pastors Sunrise until present.

Associate Pastor Wayne Bell passes away.

Sunrise purchases the Inez Berry property (4.5 acres north of existing building).

Fall 1989

Pledge program begins for church addition.

Jerry Wilson (wife Milly) is called as Associate Pastor.

Building of Christian Education Build-

ing; dedicated on May 11-12, 1991.

1994

Marcus Brotherton called as Youth Pastor.

Rick and Teresa Martens recognized as Sunrise missionaries to Indonesia.

1995 – 2002 (Committee to add current highlights as needed.)

2003

Pastor Jon and Linda Aldrich celebrate 15 years of ministry with a special reception and dinner program at the church.

Sunrise celebrates its centennial year with a look to the past... as well as to the future. Plans discussed for upgrading the facilities and mounting major new outreach.

— T H E S W E D E S —

Who were these folks?

(and what was so different about them?)

When we remember the turn-of-the-century pioneers who started our church, it's good to understand where they came from. These believers were part of a lively evangelical movement that endured persecution from the Swedish state church in part due to their simple emphasis on Biblical truth and an unquenchable thirst to see the lost saved.

These were the Swedish Baptists.



Frederick Nilsson, founder of the Baptist General Conference.

Aside from the more distant past of church history, Swedish Baptists trace their family tree to Frederick Nilsson, a sailor who was saved in 1847 and grew through the witness of another Swedish sailor, Captain Gustavus Schroeder. It's no surprise that both men came out of the Scandinavian Lutheran tradition, but Schroeder was saved in a Methodist church in the United States.

Nilsson successfully weathered persecution for his beliefs in Sweden, including exile from his homeland for the cause of Christ. In America he ministered faithfully in spite of numerous hardships he experienced as he led immigrant Swedes to Christ. One of the Swedes who was swept up in the movement was Gustaf Palmquist, who organized the first Swedish Baptist church at Rock Island, Illinois. Church historians mark August 8, 1852 as the start of the Baptist General Conference—the day Gustaf baptized three converts in the Mississippi River at Rock Island.

In the United States as well as Sweden, the early decades were marked by revival in Swedish Baptist churches. Both pastors and lay people valued personal evangelism. In fact, lay preachers often traveled long distances on foot or on horse-back to share the message of salvation with other Swedish immigrants. Preachers and laity alike were on a mission as they enthusiastically shared the truth that had so profoundly changed their own lives. Swedish immigrants often heard the question: "My friend, are you saved?"

And though the Swedish Baptists began

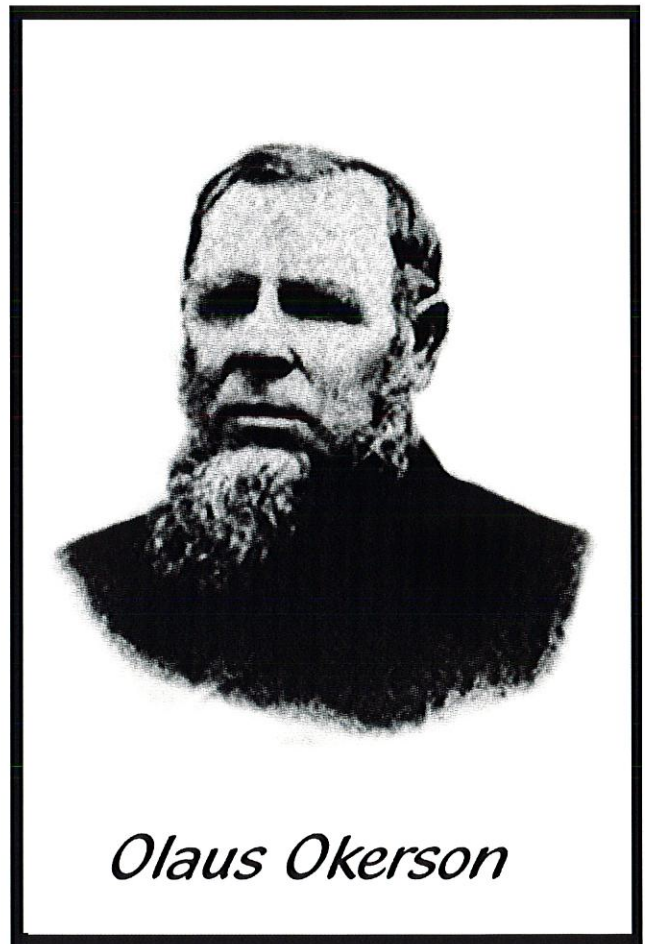
Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

by reaching out to their own people, it didn't stop there. Over the years the clear Bible teaching, fervent preaching and outreach began to touch the lives of everyone in their path. Then and now, Swedes and non-Swedes were brought into the Kingdom, because this is a movement that was born in revival and built on Bible-centered renewal. Its members have always focused on discipleship, active witnessing and Godly living. So although he may never have visited the Northwest, Mr. Nilsson's legacy would continue as the church of Jesus Christ spread to a settlement in the woods and took root in a place called Custer, Washington.

Olaus Okerson was the founder of the Columbia Baptist Conference. A self-supported and zealous missionary, he planted the following: Portland Temple, Seattle Central, Tacoma Central, Spokane Broadway, Emmanuel and Mount Vernon churches, in addition to nine churches in Minnesota.

* * *

Based in part on a history compiled by Communications, Baptist General Conference and from the article "Our Heritage" from the Publication "Committed for Tomorrow" from the 106th Annual Meeting of the Baptist General Conference held in Portland, Oregon. June, 1984. Visit www.bgcworld.org/intro/howwegrew/swedish.htm or www.gospelcom.net/chi/DAILYF/2002/08/daily-08-08-2002.shtml for more information on the early days of the Swedish Baptists.



FIVE POINTS TO PONDER

Sunrise Women: Always a Key to Growth

Women have always played a key role in the growth of Sunrise Baptist Church. The first evidence is seen in 1903, when the Women's Missionary Society raised \$50 towards the \$65 cost of purchasing an acre of land on which to erect the first church building. A report from 1909 states that the Women's Society had 12 members and during that year paid out \$61.85 towards church projects, a considerable sum in those days.

Of course Miss Esther Nelson was also a key factor in the early growth of Sunrise. The daughter of Carl and Jennie Nelson, charter members of the church, she served as a missionary in Burma from 1921 to 1926. Forced to return home due to illness, she dedicated her life to working with children, teaching in the Sunrise and Haynie schools, and later working with Child Evangelism Fellowship. By serving as the church's pastor during a crucial time in its history—a time of extreme need—she helped keep the work alive until another full-time pastor could be found. She insisted that Sunrise search for a male pastor and in 1930 the congregation called Eric Sjolund.

The Delta Connection

One lesson Sunrise learned in its early years was the importance of relating to the community and meeting its specific needs. In 1886, Delta Baptist Church was formed as a ministry to the Scandinavian population of the area. The First Swedish Baptist Church of Badger (later to be renamed Sunrise Baptist Church) was formed as an

offshoot of this congregation. The two churches worked together between 1903 and 1928 when Delta Baptist was disbanded. One pastor was called by both congregations with his salary shared between them. The pastor would alternate preaching at each church on Sundays. Many members from both congregations would attend whichever church the pastor was speaking in on that particular Sunday.

Do you speak Svensk?

Originally, all services were conducted in Swedish. In 1909, nearby Delta Baptist decided to hold its evening services in English, but in 1911 they reverted to speaking English only on the last Sunday night of the month. Presumably, Badger was conducting services in Swedish as well. However, in 1905 they introduced an English-speaking Sunday school class. Between 1922 and 1928 when Delta was closed, the Delta church lacked a full time pastor. Speakers were called in for special occasions, but by 1927 both churches were perilously close to failure. Delta did decide to close its doors in 1928. Sunrise Swedish Baptist Church (the name was changed in 1922) continued to meet and called Gust Anderson as its first full-time pastor in 1927. Services were held in both Swedish and English and the work began to be restored. When he resigned in 1928 to attend seminary, Miss Esther Nelson stepped in as pastor. She began to preach all services in English and the church continued an upward rebound.

Sunrise Baptist Church • 100 Good Years

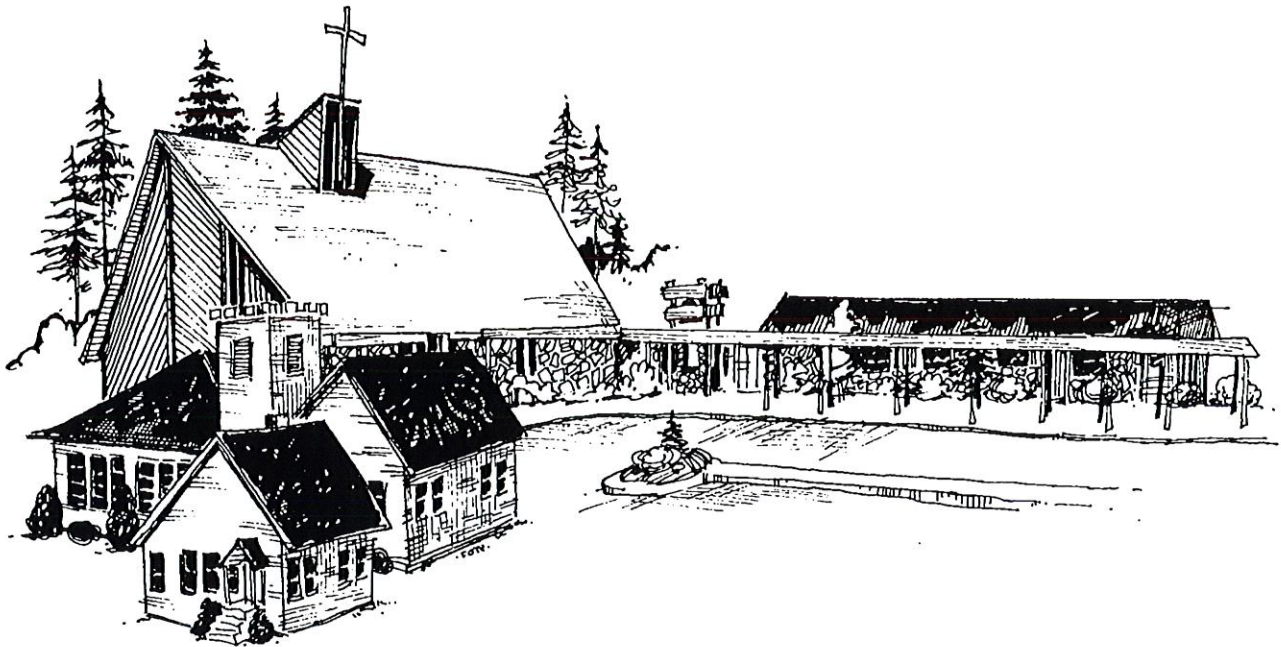
Once a Sunday School, Always...

Sunrise began in 1893 when August Nyman began the Badger Sunday School, an offshoot of Delta Baptist Church. His vision to teach the Word to children let him to remain at Sunrise for the next 35 years as Sunday School Superintendent. Even today, the emphasis on Christian Education and a focus on ministries to children and their families are continuing proof that Mr. Nyman's vision is still alive and well.

The Vision, the Building

The people of Sunrise have always seen buildings as a tool for outreach, a visible sign of their commitment to the community and to serving the needs of local fami-

lies. That was true in 1904 when the first building was erected. It was true in 1942, when the old Sunrise School was moved to join with the original church building. An addition to the north was added in 1953, along with indoor plumbing. Then in 1968 the six acres where the church building now stands was purchased, and by 1974 the new church building was completed at Delta Line and West Badger Roads. Two major additions for education and fellowship were made in 1978 and 1991. The vision and ability of Sunrisers to look ahead to provide physical facilities to allow for church growth, and their faithfulness in carrying through with these projects, has helped enable Sunrise to be effective in ministry and outreach to the community.



Looking forward to the next 100