

Information Sheet

R **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Cole Camp, Mo.).**
122 **Records, 1882-1939.**
 Seven volumes and one folder.

MICROFILM

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are minutes of congregational meetings, church registers, and records of the Ladies Aid Society of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Cole Camp, Benton County, Missouri. Nearly all of the texts are in German.

The earliest records in the collection are the minutes of congregational meetings, beginning on 2 July 1882. Appropriately, the first minutes concern planning for the construction of a church building. There are no minutes for 1883, and a note inserted into the first minutes for 1884 explains that the secretary was too involved with construction to keep records. Except for this gap, the minutes of meetings are complete from 1882 through 1933. They detail regular church business, finances, and the establishment of a school.

The minutes also record the controversy over language that split the congregation in 1925. The minutes in Volume One end with a bilingual record of a meeting in which the members voted to divide: English-speaking and German-speaking. The same pastor would serve both groups, but otherwise they would remain separate. The sixty-member congregation voted three to one in favor of the proposition. The pastor requested his dismissal at the same meeting, saying that the squabbling over language had constantly irritated him. The pastor was issued his dismissal, and the congregation agreed to "bury the hatchet," but there is no indication whether the parishioners remained divided after 1925.

The remainder of the collection includes registers of church members, and the records of the Ladies Aid Society. The society was a charitable organization that looked after needy members of the parish, and also raised funds for mission work in New Guinea and for the American Red Cross during World War One.

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Shelf List

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Volumes 1-3: Church minute book and registers, 1882-1939.

Volume 1: Minute book, 1882-1925.

Volume 2: Church register, 1890-1910.

Volume 3: Church register, 1890-1939.

Volumes 4-7: Records of the Ladies Aid Society, 1896-1939.

Volume 4: Minute book, 1896-1907.

Volume 5: Minute book, 1907-1916.

Volume 6: Minute book, 1917-1922.

Volume 7: Minute book, 1923-1939.

Folder 1: Minutes of quarterly meetings, 1926-1933 (loose pages, photocopies).

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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Churches, Lutheran—Missouri

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Registers of births, etc.—Missouri—Benton County

Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Cole Camp, Mo.) [SEE St. Paul's Evangelical
Lutheran Church (Cole Camp, Mo.).]

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Cole Camp, Mo.)

Women—Societies and clubs