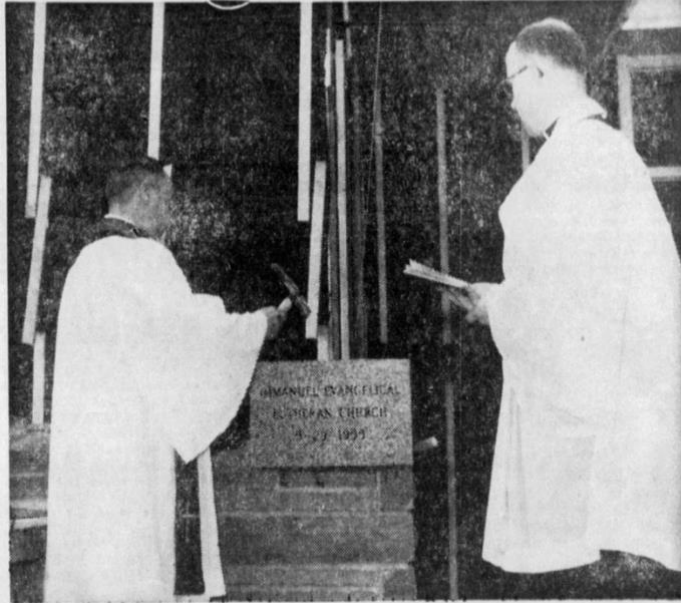


Cornerstone Laid

Missoula, Montana, Monday Morning, May 30, 1955

Cornerstone Laid for Immanuel Lutheran Church



Missoulian-Sentinel Photo

Daily Missoulian, May 30, 1955

Asking a blessing for all Christians who bear witness to Christ's truth, Dr. S. L. Swenson laid the cornerstone Sunday for a new building for Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Dr. Swenson, president of Columbia Conference of the Augustana Lutheran Conference, tapped the granite cornerstone with a mason's hammer to signify the act as the Rev. Roderick W. Johnson, pastor of Immanuel, stood by.

In a prayer during the ceremony, Dr. Swenson asked blessings for "all the members of this congregation as with other Christians they bear witness to the truth which God revealed through Jesus Christ."

He prayed that the Lord will "prosper the congregation in completion of the work" on the church, which is under construction at the corner of South avenue and Holborn street.

In building the new structure, the congregation is "following in the steps of God's people for centuries and millenia," Dr. Swenson said.

Also taking part in the ceremony were the Rev. Mr. Johnson; the Rev. Glenn Husby, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and John Karlberg, chairman of the board of trustees of Immanuel.

Dr. Swenson, of Seattle, gave the sermons at morning worship services at the present church, 430 Alder St., after which mem-

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bers of the congregation gathered at the new site for the ceremony.

The choir sang, "The Lord Bless You and Keep You," by Rutkin.

Karlberg and Fred Fortune, a member of the congregation who is a stonemason, lifted the cornerstone into place. Dr. Swenson then tapped it.

Enclosed in a copper box within the stone are the constitution of the congregation, a history of the congregation, a list of the present membership, the Building Fund booklet, the names of the present Board of Administration and Building Committee, the names of President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Gov. J. Hugo Aronson and Mayor James A. Hart and copies of the ground-breaking program, the cornerstone laying program, the Lutheran Companion and The Daily Missoulian.

The building, of Swedish modern architecture, was started last fall. Work was suspended during the winter. The structure will have 13,000 square feet of floor space and will seat a total of nearly 400. Plans are to add a wing on the east to provide a parish hall. Off-street parking will handle 100 cars. Architects are Fox and Ballas of Missoula.