Information Sheet

R  Christ Lutheran Church (Stover, Mo.).
     Two folders and twenty-eight volumes.

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 records of Christ Lutheran Church at Stover in Morgan County, Missouri. Included are minutes of meetings of the church council, membership registers, records of the Ladies Aid Society, financial records, and historical material. Some of the records are in German; translations provided by the church are included.

Christ Lutheran Church was organized under the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa in 1870 near “Old” Stover, about two miles south of the present city of that name. On 1 November 1871 members purchased three acres where they had previously built their church, which was dedicated on 12 November 1871. On 26 November 1871 Diedrich Jacob Ahrens was the first burial in Christ Lutheran’s cemetery. In response to the arrival of the Rock Island railroad in 1903, the town relocated along the right-of-way, becoming “New” Stover. On 4 February 1905 members held a meeting in the new town to pick out a location to build a new church, as the one in “Old” Stover was in poor repair. In March and April of 1905 members were able to purchase four lots in “New” Stover where they built their new church, which was dedicated on 8 October 1905 with a farewell worship service beginning at the original church at “Old” Stover and continuing at the church in “New” Stover. The property at “Old” Stover, except for the cemetery, was sold in 1907. After severe damage to the new church building by a tornado in 1916, another church was constructed on the same site. The new brick building, dedicated in 1917, is still in use today (2004).

The records of Christ Lutheran Church were collected and arranged for microfilming by a special committee of the church. The collection includes minutes of church council meetings from 1871 to the present, rosters of members to 1995, records of the Ladies Aid Society, 1913-1945, records of the church building’s reconstruction in 1916-1917, and miscellaneous historical background materials. Reflecting the heritage of most of its first members, the early records of Christ Lutheran Church are in German. The transition to the English language began around World War One, but was not fully completed until 1956. Most of the minutes of meetings in German have been translated into English. The translations precede the original minute books.

Also included with the Christ Lutheran Church collection, but cataloged and microfilmed separately, are collection R546, records of the Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Congregation (commonly known as St. John’s Church) at Boeschenville, in Benton County, Missouri, and collection R547 records of the Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in Morgan County (also known as Nolting Church). When these rural churches disbanded, in 1945 and 1961, respectively, many of their members joined Christ Lutheran Church in Stover.

Volumes 22-28 are additional records of Christ Lutheran Church loaned for microfilming in 2004. This addition brings the church’s records on microfilm through December 2003. Included
are a history of the church and materials concerning the 125th anniversary in 1995. Parish records include
memorials, membership records, annual reports, and minutes of annual and Church Council meetings.

r632  23 June 1995  Christ Lutheran Church  Loaned for microfilming  
r1023  16 February 2004  Christ Lutheran Church  Loaned for microfilming

Shelf List

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meetings of the church council, membership registers, records of the Ladies Aid Society, financial records,
and historical material. Some of the records are in German; translations provided by the church are
included.

ROLL 1

Folder 1: Historical background material
Folder 2: German/English translations of minutes of meetings in Books 1, 4, and 5

[NOTE: the volumes below are referred to as “books” by the church. The volume numbers on the
microfilm are the same as the church’s book numbers.]

Volume 01: Minute book, 1871-1900
Volume 02: Church register, 1871-1957
Volume 03: Financial records, 1871-1881; 1907-1913
Volume 04: Minute book, 1901-1924
Volume 05: Minute book, 1925-1948
Volume 06: Minute book, 1949-1959
Volume 07: Church Constitution, 1959
Volume 08: Ladies Aid Society, 1913-1924
Volume 09: Ladies Aid Society, 1925-1931
Volume 10: Ladies Aid Society, Treasurer’s book, 1922-1945

ROLL 2

Volume 11: Church register, 1958-1989
Volume 12: Church register, 1990-1995

ROLL 3

Volume 17A: Minute books, 1972-1995
(This is a series of loose leaf binders, filmed in chronological order as a single volume.)
Volume 21: Record book for reconstruction of church building, ca. 1916-1917

ROLL 4

The following volumes are additions to the records of Christ Lutheran Church in Stover, bringing the church’s records through December 2003. Included are a history of the church and materials concerning the 125th anniversary in 1995. Parish records include memorials, membership records, annual reports, and minutes of annual and Church Council meetings.

An index, statement of release of records for microfilming, instructions, and corrections precede the volumes.

Volume 22: *125 Years of History: Christ Lutheran Church, Stover, Missouri, 1870-1995*  
(Note corrections enclosed at end of volume.)
Volume 23: 125th Anniversary Celebration, brochure and bulletins, 16 April-15 October 1995
Volume 24: Christ Lutheran Church, memorials, ca. December 1952-31 December 2003  
(Listing may duplicate in part the memorials listed in *125 Years of History*)
Volume 25: Christ Lutheran Church, Annual Reports, with membership rosters, 1961-1985  
(continued on Roll 5)

ROLL 5

Volume 25: Christ Lutheran Church, Annual Reports, with membership rosters, 1986-2003
Volume 26: Christ Lutheran Church, Constitution, ratified 20 January 2002

ROLL 6

Volume 27: Christ Lutheran Church, Parish Record, through 31 December 2003  
(This is a continuation of R545, Volume 12.)
Volume 28: Christ Lutheran Church, Council and Annual minutes, 1995-2003  
(This is a continuation of R545, Volume 17A)

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Index Cards

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