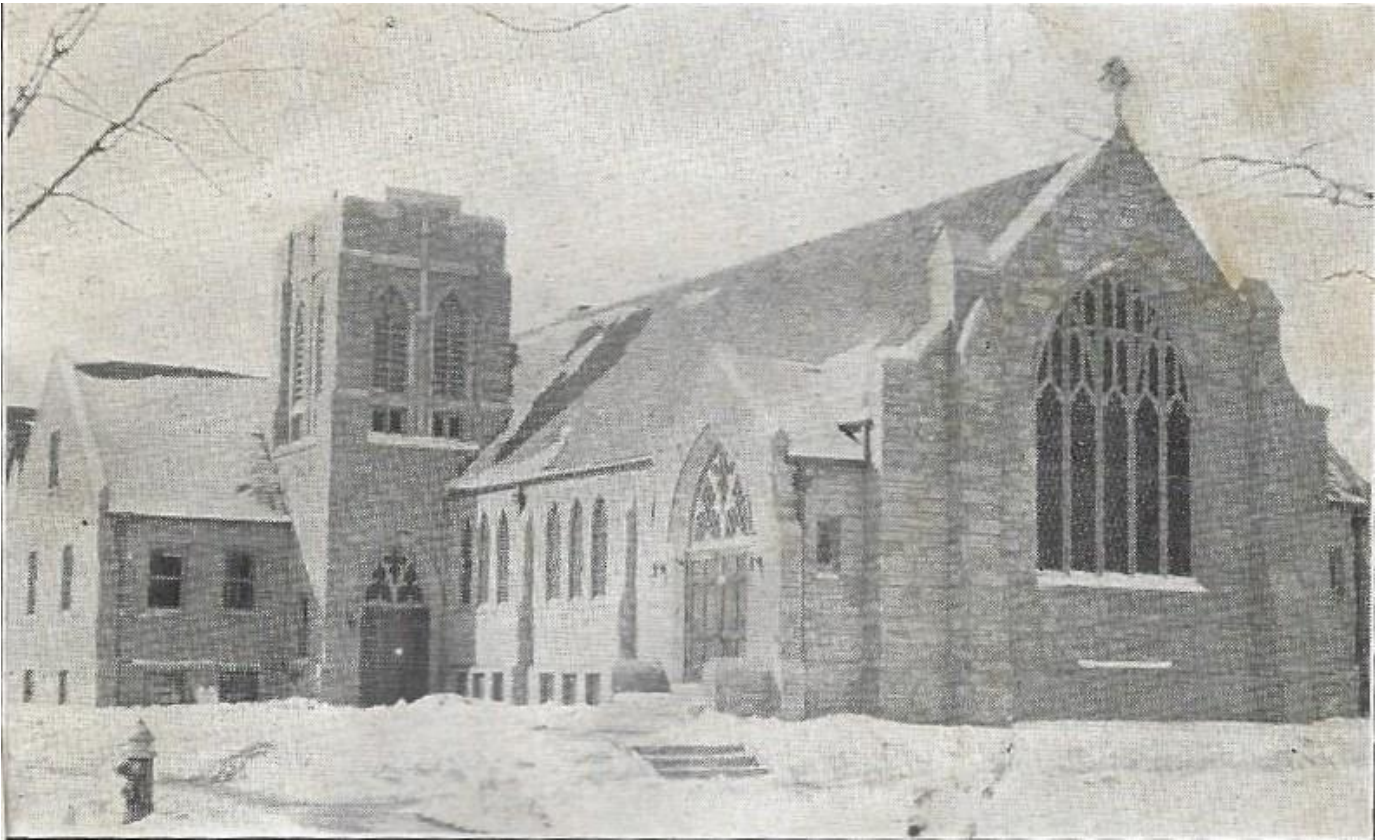


English Lutheran Church of Our Savior



**Commemoration of the Dedication of the
English Lutheran Church of Our Savior**

**Corner Sixth and Wall Streets
Port Huron, Michigan
Sunday, February the Nineteenth
Nineteen hundred thirty-three**

ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

KING DAVID who could secure a thousand forms of amusements, summed up his greatest joy by saying: Ps. 122, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." There is no greater joy and privilege than to dedicate a new Church where we meet with God's people, pray for each other, hear a heart-searching sermon and partake of the holy supper.

For this beautiful edifice Thou has permitted us to erect to Thy name, be praise and thanksgiving to Thee, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. O, preserve our going out and our coming in from this time forth and even for evermore.

THE CORNER STONE

The corner stone was laid Sunday, September 25, 1932. The numerals on the stone are done in gothic. The following articles were placed in a copper box into the corner stone: The name of the church members, charter members, church periodicals, etc. To this was added a catechism, hymn book, the history of the congregation, the names of the officers and organizations of the Church and a list of the names of the Sunday School children.

The corner stone should remind us of the fact that the Holy Christian Church is built on Jesus Christ, the Son of God and only Savior. The years may come and go, the times may change, but Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.

THE EXTERIOR

The Exterior of the Church is designed in fourteenth century gothic, and all details are carried out in a true spirit of that period. The materials used are rainbow valley stone, a Michigan product, trimmed with Bedford stone. The general impression of the Church both inside and outside are simplicity, dignity, virility. The sturdy tower placed at the side helps to give this feeling. The whole exterior being of rainbow stone gives a rich and warm color effect.

The roof is covered with black slate of random thickness. All metal work and gutters are executed in copper.

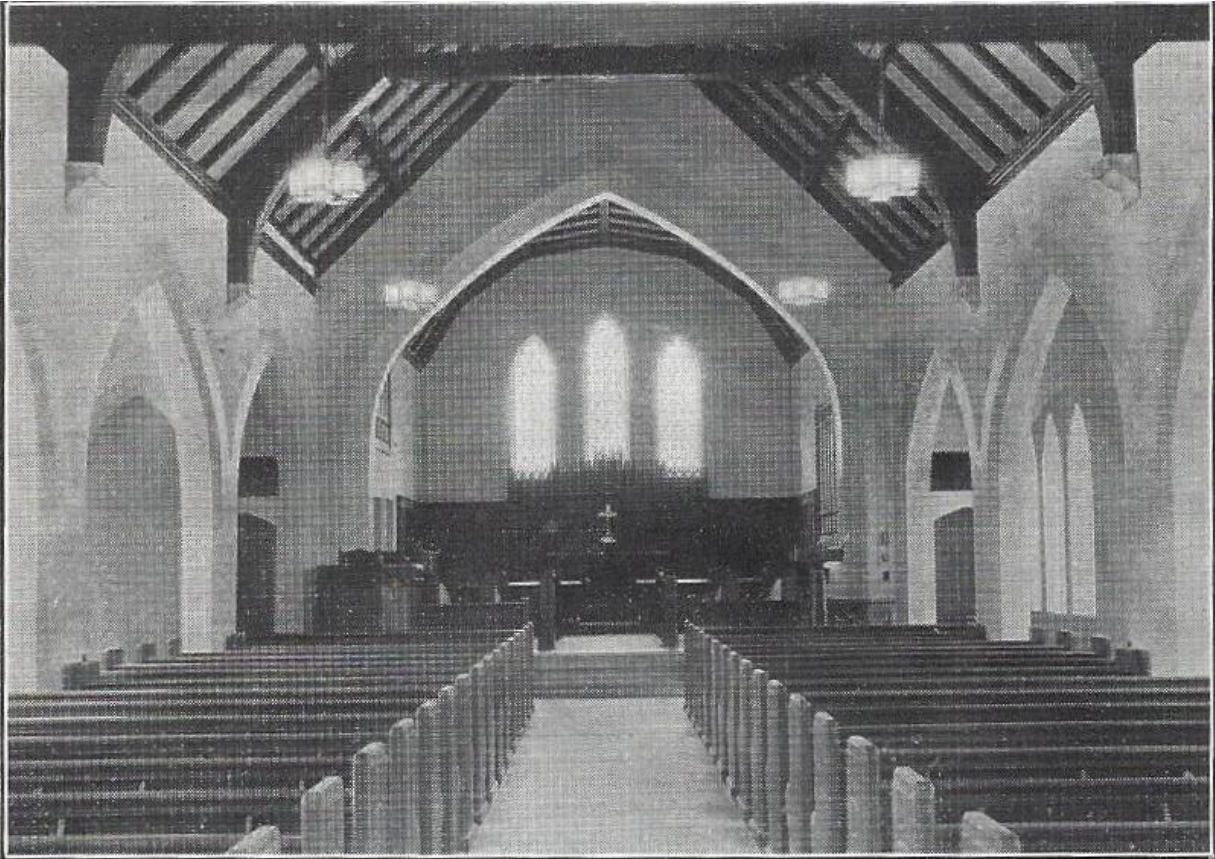
Since the Holy Christian Church is not a weak, flimsy and frail structure, but firm and solid, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, Eph. 2, 20, the Church building should be built firm and solid. Its appearance should ever proclaim, "The gates of Hell shall not prevail against the Church." What is better adapted to give this feeling of permanence than such materials which withstand best the wear of time, as stone, copper and slate.

By raising the grade of the lot to a height above the walk so that three steps are required to gain the elevation, the entrance to the Church lends dignity, strength and character to the exterior perspective.

The peak of the gable is adorned with a gothic cross, a constant reminder of Christ the crucified. For the message to be proclaimed in this Church is to be the message of Him Who died upon the cursed tree.

In the cross of Christ I glory
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time
All the light of sacred story
Gathers 'round its head sublime.

THE INTERIOR



INTERIOR VIEW TAKEN FROM REAR



INTERIOR VIEW TAKEN FROM FRONT

THE NARTHEX—The spaciousness of the narthex emphasizes a generous welcome to the worshiper. Here the worshippers compose themselves preparatory to entering the place of worship. All unnecessary conversation should be avoided before the service. The silence and worshipful attitude of the house of God should also prevail in the narthex.

From the narthex the stairway leads to the balcony. The dividing wall between the narthex and the nave is a series of windows set in slabs of amber glass which may be opened when additional seating space is needed in the nave.

THE NAVE—As you enter the nave of the Church you at once receive the impression of a small cathedral and the consciousness deepens that you have entered another world. All chatter instinctively ceases. Somewhere one seems to hear a voice say, "The Lord is in His Holy Temple: Let all the earth keep silence before Him." Hab, 2,20. The many arches which divide the main seating space from the side aisles lighted with groups of windows glazed with amber cathedral glass produce a soft mellow light to the entire interior.

While the dimensions of the nave may be small compared with the large Cathedrals, yet the effect of the height and length in the clerestory type of construction is such as to give the impression of “the wide open space of the sky, and the majestic grandeur of mountain heights.”

The roof is of timber construction and wooden trusses, set into the stone corbels of the piers, canopy pulloins on which rest the roof boards and the slate. Celotex has been used between the pulloins for acoustical reasons.

The height from the floor to the apex of the ceiling is thirty feet. The nave is fifty-one feet long and thirty-three feet wide between the columns. The side aisles are three feet wide. The nave has thirty-four pews with a seating capacity of 230.

THE SANCTUARY—The altar occupies the most prominent place in a Lutheran Church. It is the meeting place of the worshipper and his God. At the altar we bring our petitions to the Lord and offer up thanks. Here the blessing is spoken, here we gather to dedicate our lives to Him at Confirmation. We kneel before it to receive the blessing in marriage, but above all, here we celebrate Holy Communion. We hear Jesus speak to us, “This is My Body, this is My Blood given and shed for you for the remission of sins,” and under the consecrated bread and wine we partake of Christ’s Body and Blood. To us the altar is a mute symbol of the sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary.

All the symbolisms on the altar emphasize Christ’s sacrifice. The golden cross on its throne signifies that redemption is finished. On either side of the cross are the candlesticks. They remind us that Christ is the Light of the world. The IHS carved in the altar is a symbol of the Son and the Alpha and Omega refers to Him Who is the beginning and ending.

The communion rail before the altar is a convenience for the communicant as they kneel for the reception of the sacred elements. The floor of the sanctuary is covered with a deep red carpet adding color to the whole scheme.

At the outer edge of the chancel stands the pulpit. The Bible and crosses carved in the pulpit are to bring to our remembrance the words of the great apostle Paul: “We preach Christ and Him crucified.” The pulpit stands in the Church proper rather than in the sanctuary, since the preaching of the word is intended for all, irrespective of membership. On the opposite side of the chancel stands the lectern (reading desk) where the Gospels and Epistles of the day are read. The baptismal font is placed at the foot of the chancel steps in order to signify that by baptism we enter the kingdom of God.

THE CHANCEL—Since the choir is a part of the worshipping congregation it is proper that it be placed in such position that it may form a part of the congregation. This difficulty has been solved by putting both the choir and the organ console in the chancel. By facing the sanctuary the choir is actually a part of the congregation, and its renditions are not given in the nature of a concert, but rather as a part of the divine service. The organ console is so placed that the organist may have a view of the sanctuary but remain hidden from the congregation. The choir has a seating space in the chancel for about thirty.

To the left of the chancel is the pastor’s study and the ladies’ parlor. The parlor may be used as a meeting place during the week and a nursery on Sunday.

THE BALCONY—At the east end of the Church, above the narthex, a balcony is located. On this balcony there are six pews providing seating space for fifty people. A railing of oak paneling lends charm and dignity to this space.

THE LIGHTING FIXTURES

The unique cross shaped fixtures of the nave as well as the triangular candles in the side aisles have a scriptural significance. They were planned by the architect after a thorough study of conditions, to fulfill all lighting requirements and to fit the architectural style of the building. You will note that they strictly conform to the Gothic style of architecture, in fact, fitting in perfectly with the general plan and decoration, thereby adding additional charm and beauty to the architecture of the nave. The light produced is a distinctive warm shade of amber, resembling much the amber glow of a natural flame, thereby producing a light similar to that used in the earlier cathedrals and churches in Europe. The Gothic lanterns hanging at the entrance of the Church were especially designed for our Church.

THE BASEMENT

In the basement there are class rooms, a spacious auditorium and modern kitchen, all conveniently arranged for the general use of the Church. The stage in the auditorium is completely equipped with rich velour curtain.

PLUMBING AND HEATING

The heating is of the Garwood system of conditioned air. The heat is supplied from a steam boiler controlled by a Garwood Oil Burner. The air is recirculated, washed and controlled by thermostats, giving the auditoriums of the Church and even temperature at all times. The organ chambers are heated by hot water. The Pastor's study and ladies' parlor are heated by steam, all arranged so that the three systems can be operated at one time or independently. The plumbing is of the best materials obtainable with all white enamel fixtures.

OUR ORGAN

Dedicated with a special recital
Sunday, February 26, 7:30 P. M.

As a fine gift and fitting memorial to Rev. Frederick Ruff, pioneer Lutheran missionary of St, Clair County, an organ was presented to the congregation by his son John F. Ruff and family. The new organ was built by the Estey Organ Company of Brattleboro, Vermont, at an approximate cost of \$8,500.00. The organ has electric pneumatic action, detached console, with a new master keydesk. The pipes are in two chambers under expression on both sides of the chancel. There are 15 ranks of pipes, 5 borrowed stops, 1180 pipes, 24 couplers, 22 combination pistons, 3 expression pedals, a special harp of metal and wood construction, the Deagen Chimes, 5 tow pistons and 6 accessories.

"Next to theology" says Luther, "music is the greatest gift of God. And the organ is the queen of instruments." Let us use it to praise His Holy Name.

A BIT OF HISTORY

The vision of a new Church was conceived about eighteen months ago and carried out with remarkable determination and faith. The inadequate facilities of our former house of worship and especially the pressing needs of an increasing membership and Sunday School made it imperative that we build. In December, 1931, the congregation voted to build a \$30,000.00 edifice. The contract was let in June, 1931, and the ground was broken in August. The chief burden of this undertaking rested upon a group of devoted workers who constituted the various committees.



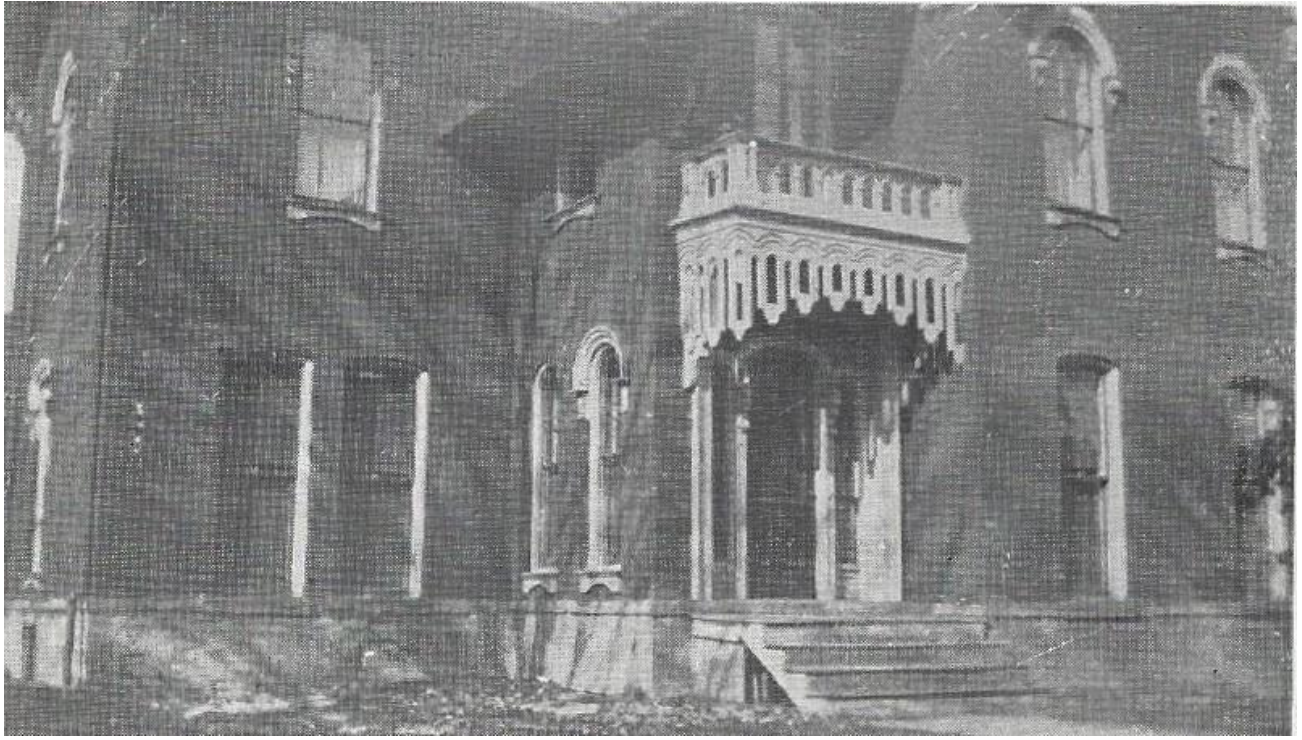
BUILDING COMMITTEE

**Front Row—Ernest Jeske, Chris Vogelei, Edward Radatz, John Ruff.
Back Row—Henry Goschnick, Herman Neumann, Albert Ruff, Pastor,
Edward Ebert**

The building committee consisting of Chris Vogelei, Ernest Jeske and Herman Neumann and the finance committee composed of Edward Ebert, Edward Radatz, Henry Goschnick and John Ruff carried the chief burden of the undertaking. They attended many meetings and made many trips in the interest of the enterprise.

But not all the work has been done by the committees as a group. Had it not been for the consecrated members who willingly brought their gifts, this building would not have been erected. We are mindful especially of the many hours of donated labor by the faithful women who make up on of the most progressive organizations of the church, the Ladies' Auxiliary.

OUR FIRST CHAPEL AND PARSONAGE



In God's name Our Savior today dedicates its second church. The first church, an old homestead, located on the present site, was dedicated March 8, 1922. It was purchased at a cost of \$10,200 and remodeled with the intention of using the lower story as a chapel, and the second floor as a parsonage. For over ten years Our Savior held all of its services in this dwelling while the second floor served as a parsonage. Since February twenty-second, 1920, which may rightly be called the birthday of the Church, the following pastors have served this congregation:

- Rev. Chas. Schmidling, supply pastor (April, May, 1920.
- Rev. Carl Dankworth, June 1920 until September, 1922.
- Rev. Herbert V. Mueller, October 1922 until October, 1929.
- Rev. Albert A. Ruff since January, 1930.

OFFICES
.... Of
ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
Albert Ruff, Pastor

VESTRY

Ernest Jeske.....President
Edward Ebert.....Financial Secretary
Armond Philipp.....Recording Secretary
John F. Ruff.....Treasurer
Herman Neumann, Edwin Schwechel, John Crackel.....Deacons
Chris Vogelei, Albert Ebert, Henry Tuschling.....Trustees

TEACHERS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL AND OFFICERS

| | |
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| <p>Esther Johnsen, Treasurer Mrs. Henry Tuschling, Birthday Secretary Mrs. R. Riddell Mrs. Henry Beach Edna Buntrock Mrs. C. Riddell Lydia Ruff Elsie Buntrock</p> | <p>Ruth Neumann, Fin. Secretary Anna Keyser, Rec. Secretary Mrs. Herman Sass Mrs. R. Harris Agnes Johnsen Eleanor Jeske, Cradle Roll Sec. Bernice Walker Edward Ebert Fred Chidester Mrs. Vanderpool</p> |
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LADIES' AID

Mrs. Herman Neumann.....President
Mrs. Chris Vogelei.....Vice-President
Miss Lydia Ruff.....Recording Secretary
Mrs. E. Buntrock.....Treasurer

MISSION GUILD

Miss Lydia Ruff.....President
 Miss Anna Keyser.....Vice-President
 Miss Esther Johnsen.....Secretary
 Miss Eleanor Jeske.....Treasurer

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEAGUE

Miss Agnes Johnsen.....President
 Miss Vera Vogelei.....Vice-President
 Miss Edna Buntrock.....Secretary
 Miss Ruth Neumann.....Treasurer



PERSONNEL OF CHOIR

Lydia C. Ruff
 Organist and Choir Director

Miss Evelyn Arnold
 Miss Grace Buntrock
 Miss Elsie Buntrock
 Miss Edna Buntrock
 Elwood Corey
 Henry Goschnick
 Miss Anna Keyser
 Mrs. Henry Tuschling

Miss Ruth Neumann
 Armond Philipp
 Mrs. George Plietz
 Leo Radatz
 Mrs. Richard Riddell
 Mr. Charles Riddell
 Mrs. Albert Ruff
 John f. Ruff

THE FOLLOWING FIRMS HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED IN THE ERECTION OF THE CHURCH:

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| <p>Architects---George L. Harvey, Port Huron, Mich.</p> <p>General Contractor Arthur Ghich & Company Detroit, Michigan</p> <p>Plumbing Independent Plumbing Co.</p> <p>Heating Garwood Oil Burners Detroit, Michigan</p> | <p>The Novelty Lighting Corp. Cleveland, Ohio Church Lighting Experts since 1905</p> <p>Pews and Chancel Furniture Ossit Furniture Company Milwaukee, Wis.</p> |
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Subcontractors and others who have furnished material:

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Louis Foster..... | Building Supplies |
| A. Crawford Co..... | Plaster Materials |
| Kerr Lumber Co..... | Rough Lumber and Celotex |
| Beard Campbell Co..... | Finish Hardware |
| Port Huron Paint Co..... | Paints, Etc. |
| Yeager Bridge Works..... | Re-enforcing Steel |
| Rainbow Valley Stone Co..... | Stone |
| Baittinger Stone Co., Detroit..... | Cut Stone |
| Hurd Lumber Co., Detroit..... | Mill Work |
| J. Steyer Co., Detroit..... | Roofing |
| Henry Bruggeman..... | Plastering |
| A. Caulkett..... | Painting |
| Detroit Art Glass Co..... | Glass |
| Novelty Lighting Co., Cleveland..... | Lighting Fixtures |
| Estey Organ Company, Brattleboro, Vermont..... | Organ |
| Roy Brazell..... | Electric Wiring |
| Photographs by Welch. | |

The Cost

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| The General Contract..... | \$21,810.00 |
| Plumbing..... | 700.00 |
| Heating..... | 3,200.00 |
| Wiring and Fixtures..... | 900.00 |
| Art Glass..... | 400.00 |
| Pews and Chancel Furniture..... | 2,600.00 |
| Total expenditures, including architects fees..... | 30,852.05 |