

# St. Mark's to dedicate church

The culmination of almost two years of effort, some inconvenience, and untold hours of planning and decision making will take place Sunday with the dedication of a new worship facility for St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

The additional space is needed by the congregation which has doubled in size over the last ten years and now numbers some 900 baptized members.

The new building will seat 340, whereas the old could accommodate 200.

The dedication of the new church takes place almost one year after the demolition of the 70-year-old building which had been used by the Lutherans since 1956.

The congregation traces its official beginnings in St. Charles to January 27, 1907.

The past year services have been conducted in the fellowship hall with a portable altar and chancel furniture and folding chairs substituting for pews.

Three dedication services will be held Sunday, known on the church calendar as St. Mark's Day, remembering St. Mark the Evangelist.

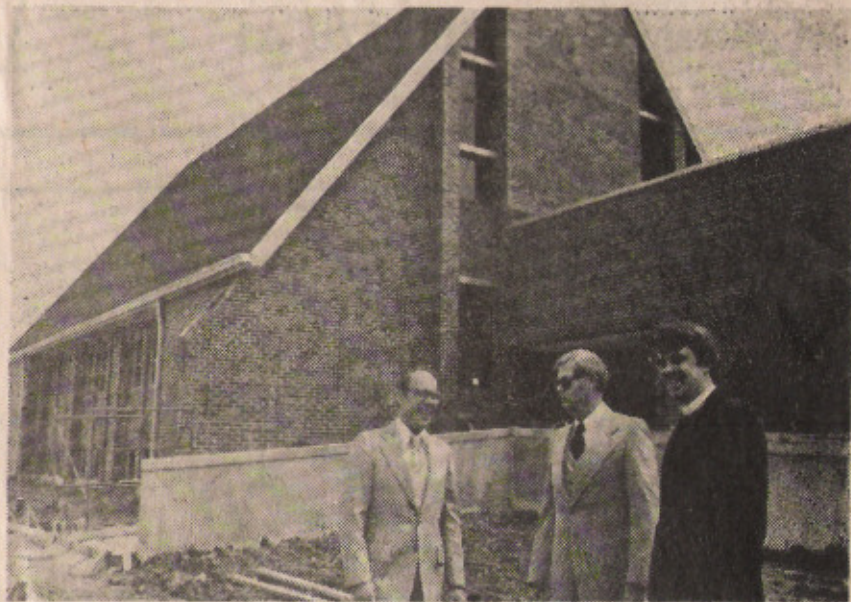
At the 8:15 a.m. service, the congregation members will meet outside in the north parking lot and proceed together into the new building. At this service the edifice itself will be dedicated.

At 10:45 a.m. the appointments, thank offerings and memorials will be consecrated.

At 3 p.m. a special service will be open to show the facility to the public. The speaker will be Dr. E. H. Happel, president of the Northern Illinois District, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Special music will be provided by the senior choir of the church and by a brass quintet.

Special participants at this Service of Celebration will be three of the four living former pastors of the congregation: Rev. Alex Pfothenhauer of Lindenwood; Rev. Herbert Reischauer of Valparaiso, Ind.; and Rev. Wilbur Zielke of Aurora. Following this service there will be a buffet in the Fellowship Hall at 4 p.m., and tours of the new facility will be given.

The dedication committee is headed by Norman Terp.



*Standing at the main entrance to the new St. Mark's Lutheran Church are, from left, Allen Landmeier, congregation chairman; Norman Terp, dedication chairman, and Rev. David Zersen, pastor.*