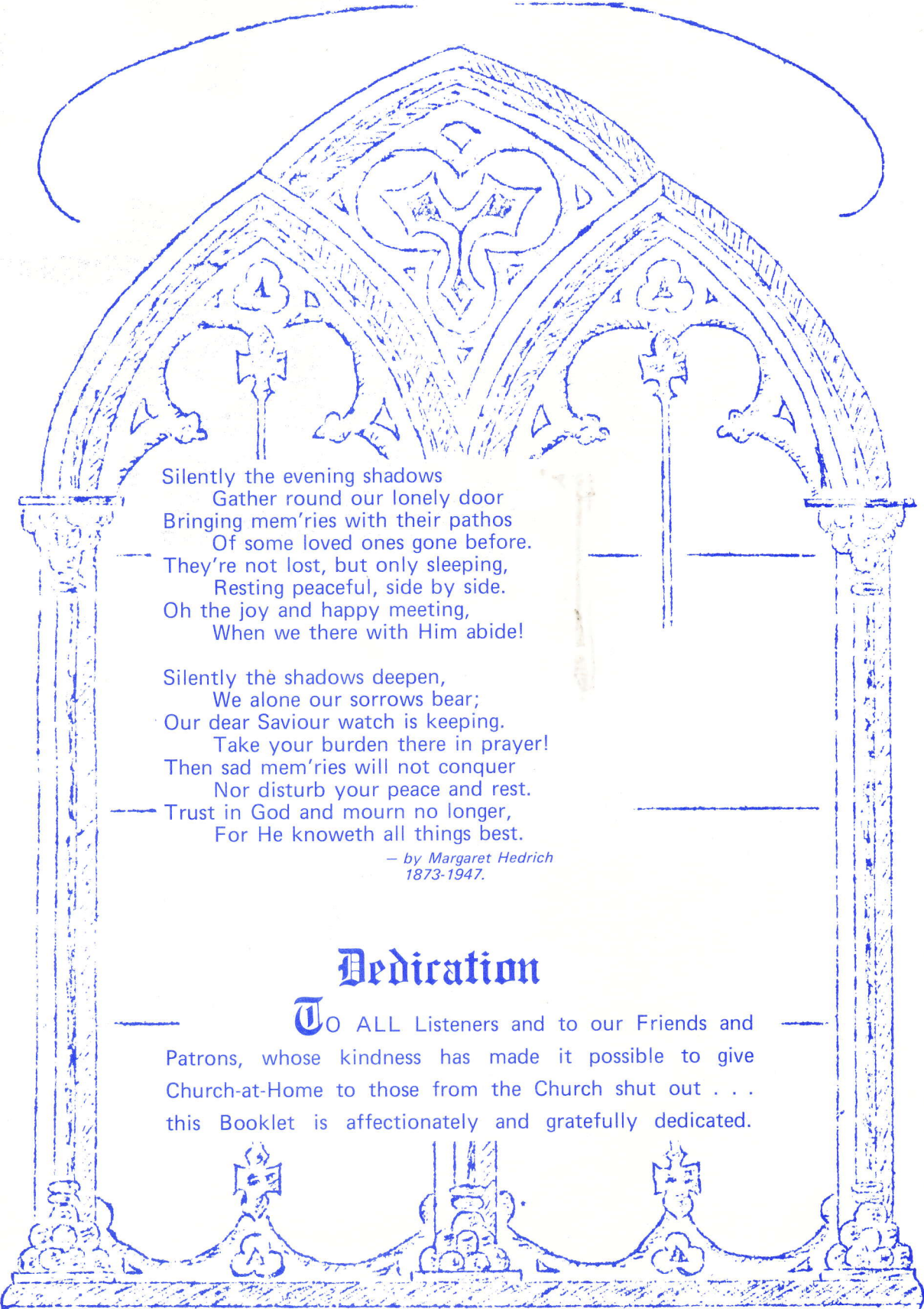


Golden Hour



1930-1980

McL. Wille



Silently the evening shadows
Gather round our lonely door
Bringing mem'ries with their pathos
Of some loved ones gone before.
They're not lost, but only sleeping,
Resting peaceful, side by side.
Oh the joy and happy meeting,
When we there with Him abide!

Silently the shadows deepen,
We alone our sorrows bear;
Our dear Saviour watch is keeping.
Take your burden there in prayer!
Then sad mem'ries will not conquer
Nor disturb your peace and rest.
Trust in God and mourn no longer,
For He knoweth all things best.

— by Margaret Hedrich
1873-1947.

Dedication

TO ALL Listeners and to our Friends and Patrons, whose kindness has made it possible to give Church-at-Home to those from the Church shut out . . . this Booklet is affectionately and gratefully dedicated.

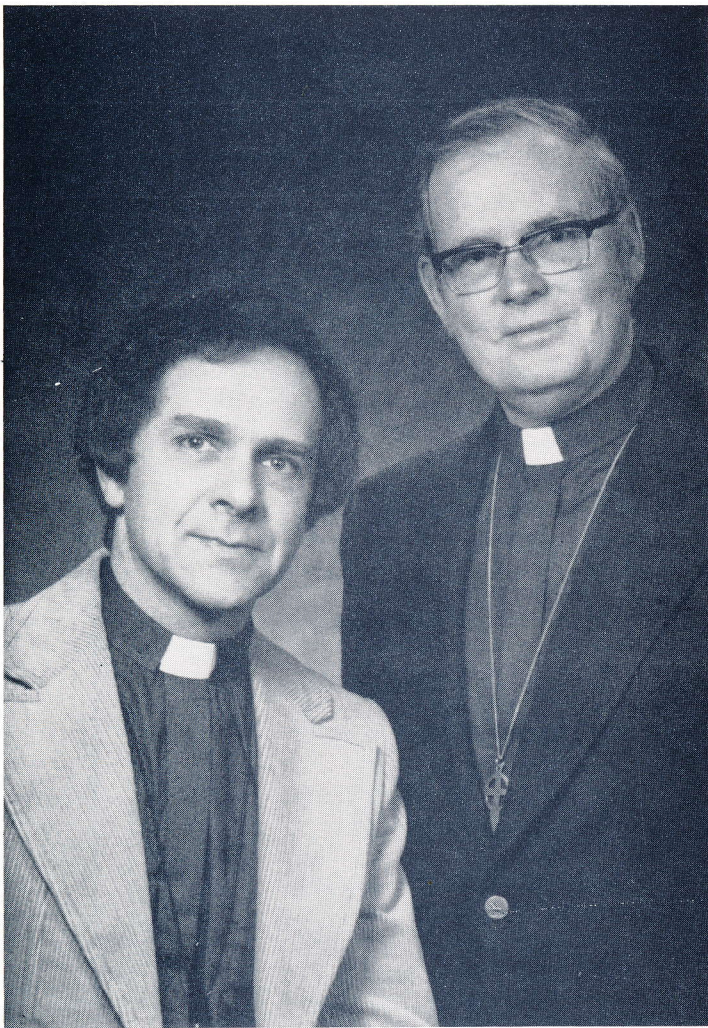


Golden Hour

A souvenir booklet commemorating the two thousand, six hundred glad and golden hour with God, which during the past fifty years have winged their way to countless aged, sick, and shut-in listeners everywhere.



Published for
THE RADIO COMMITTEE OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH
KITCHENER, ONTARIO
1980



Photo—Forde Studio

Personal Messages

from
Pastors Zinck and Brill

PASTOR ZINCK —

If there is a word that I feel is connected with Radio it is the word "Imagination". When we listened to the various types of programs in the past: mysteries and adventures as well as music and comedy, we had to draw pictures in our minds of what was going on and we used and developed our imaginations. This is something generally lost today, when so much is placed before us in prepared picture form.

Fifty years ago, it was not only those who listened to the radio that had to use their imaginations, but those connected with providing the programs. One such group was the Radio Committee at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, under the pastoral guidance of Dr. John Schmieder. They saw in their mind's eye, the great benefit a radio ministry could be to the sick and shut-ins in homes and institutions who were shut off from regular Sunday worship. Using their imaginations and energies they began this radio ministry that has lasted these 50 years. Today we thank God

for all who have worked to keep this ministry alive and to the Holy Spirit for His help and support.

As we look ahead, and see the great use of small transistor radios as well as car radio, we can see that radio is not a dying media or ministry, but probably will be used in the future in ways we cannot dream of now with the full use of our imaginations.

PASTOR BRILL —

For 50 years, the Golden Hour Radio Broadcast has been a part of the pastoral ministry of St. Matthew's congregation. Through the years, the Holy Spirit has touched many lives with the Father's love in Jesus, the Christ. All praise and thanks to God now be given.

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH
The Home of Golden Hour
ST. MATTHEW'S FACTS AND FEATURES

by Samuel Weicker



Photo—Thomas Hancock

ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, at the corner of Benton and Church Streets, prominently overlooks the core of the City of Kitchener, Ontario.

GOLDEN HOUR, the Sunday morning broadcast of our 11 a.m. service, has emitted from St. Matthew's every Sunday since February 23, 1930.

THE STORY of St. Matthew's is one of phenomenal growth. Organized by the President of the Canada Synod, Rev. Emil Hoffmann, on Feb. 23, 1904, it reported an initial enrollment of 579 members.

THE CORNER-STONE for the stately Gothic Edifice was laid on May 24, 1914.

THE DEDICATION SERVICE for the new house of worship was held on March 7, 1915. Seating in the Church Nave originally accommodated 900 adults. In recent years two full rows of pews were removed to allow for more comfortable kneeling during the Confessional part of the service. The rows of folding seats were removed from both galleries with the installation of gallery pews. These removals reduced the comfortable seating to 810 adults. Since 1932 a total of 66 services were recorded with an attendance of over 810, 30 of these were over 900, 14 over 1,000, 3 over 1,100 and the Christmas service with Sunday School in 1932 numbered 1,300 in attendance.

OUR BELL, the largest swinging bell in Ontario, and possibly in Canada, was dedicated April 24, 1924. Despite its 6,000 pound weight, the 63" diameter, 53" high bell can easily be rung by a rope around a 96" diameter pulley. The metal composition is 78% copper and 22% tin. It was cast by Ulrich Brothers, Apolda, Thuringia, Germany. Its voice is heard over the entire city, inviting the populace to worship. Since the advent of the broadcasting of our services the ringing of the bell has been the symbol of our **GOLDEN HOUR**.

DECORATION of the interior of our ten year old Church was accomplished during the summer of 1925 by P.G. Browne of Toronto. The Ascending Christ is illustrated in the center of the Chancel front wall, flanked by an Angel on either side. The side walls of the Chancel contained life size illustrations of the Twelve Apostles with their names at the base. The left front wall of the Nave illustrated children coming to Jesus for blessing while the opposite wall showed people coming to Jesus for healing. Eight scenes depicting events in the life of Christ are painted on the various sections of the Church ceiling. Artistic designs feature the rest of the decors.

THORWALDSEN'S CHRISTUS reproduction was set in the new Gothic Reredos of the Chancel walls. A brass crucifix and candlesticks, sterling silver communion vessels, Font Ewer, Alms Basins, Altar Vestments and other furnishings were donated as well as tubular chimes for the organ.

STAINED GLASS windows in the Chancel replaced the original windows consisting of two panes of glass with colored beads to form the various artistic pictures, in 1949. The central rose window shows Christ seated in glory, adorned by Angels. The side lancet windows depict the Mission of Christ, His Preparation, His Ministry and His crucifixion and His Resurrection. Surmounted with the message "Peace on Earth - Goodwill to Men", the twelve medallions depict the Birth of Christ, the twelve year old Christ in the temple, the Baptism of Christ, the Transfiguration, His Ministry of Healing, His Blessing of Children, Christ before Pilate, His Crucifixion, Christ at Jacob's Well, the Holy Spirit of Pentecost, the Last Supper and Jesus washing the feet of Peter. Illumination of the Chancel windows was provided in 1979.

ORGAN was rebuilt by Casavent and rededicated June 4, 1944. The 2,658 pipes are controlled by 52 stops and 22 couplers. An Echo organ was installed in the front of the Church and the chimes re-located to that area. Carved wooden Angels with trumpets are mounted in front of both sets of pipes. Speakers for amplification were re-located to the same area. Improvements to the organ have been done on several occasions.

BROADCASTING of our 11 o'clock Sunday Service was started Feb. 23, 1930. The Radio Calendar in the Church vestibule lists the sponsors for the Golden Hour, which has had every broadcast sponsored for many years. The uniqueness of the **GOLDEN HOUR** is not only its unusual length of continual broadcasting, but also that only four pastors have shared the pastorates during this time. Pastor John Schmieder, from 1930 to 1970, Pastor Fred Zinck since 1959 assisted by Pastor Ted Schaffer, from 1964 to 1973, Pastor H. Brill since 1973. Replacement of the radio equipment has been made in 1942, 1954 and in 1975.

ATTENDANCE at our services has been recorded since May 1932, following a suggestion at the Annual Congregation Meeting of that year that we discontinue our radio broadcasting, fearing that our members would remain home to listen to the broadcast rather than attend the service. William Weicker was asked to devise a method of tabulating the attendance. His plan of recording the men, women and children in each pew has been continued with monthly reports and comparisons given the Church Council as well as to the Annual Meetings of the congregation. Despite many various influences throughout the years, our average Sunday attendance has remained to about 20% of our baptized membership. Of special interest is that the general average of genders has remained at about 36% for men, 58% for women and 6% for children. German services were discontinued in September 1939 due to the start of the Second World War.

CHURCH HOUSE need was emphasized in 1927 for our 2,604 membership, 704 of who were in the Sunday School. With a continued growth to 926 teachers and officers in our Sunday Schools, meeting in the Church proper as well as the Church basement, need for a Church House was again emphasized, but adjoining properties were not available until after the death of the owners. Plans for a 2 storey building on a newly acquired property behind the Church were turned down by the congregation in 1932. Acquisition of the adjoining property in 1948 permitted earnest planning for a Church House. Ground-breaking occurred May 6, 1951. Corner-Stone laying on Nov. 12, 1951 and the Dedication Oct. 19, 1952. When the Sunday School moved into the new building planned accommodation was not sufficient for the many classes. An additional room had to be completed.

CHAPEL furniture, the organ, the hand-loomed Dossal as well as the furnishings throughout the entire Church House were supplied as Memorials or Special Gifts.

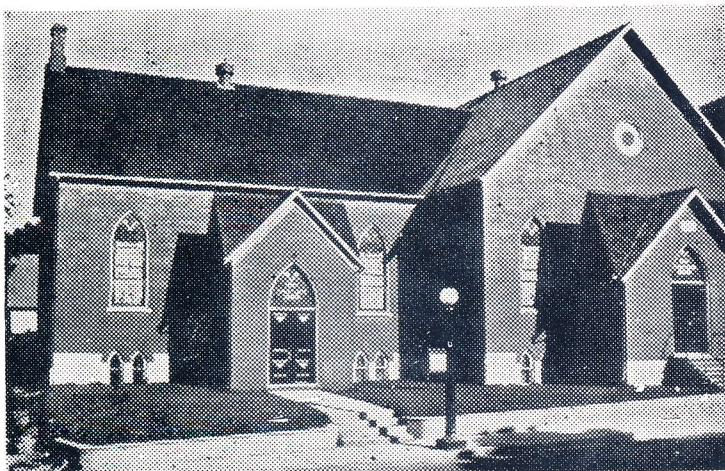
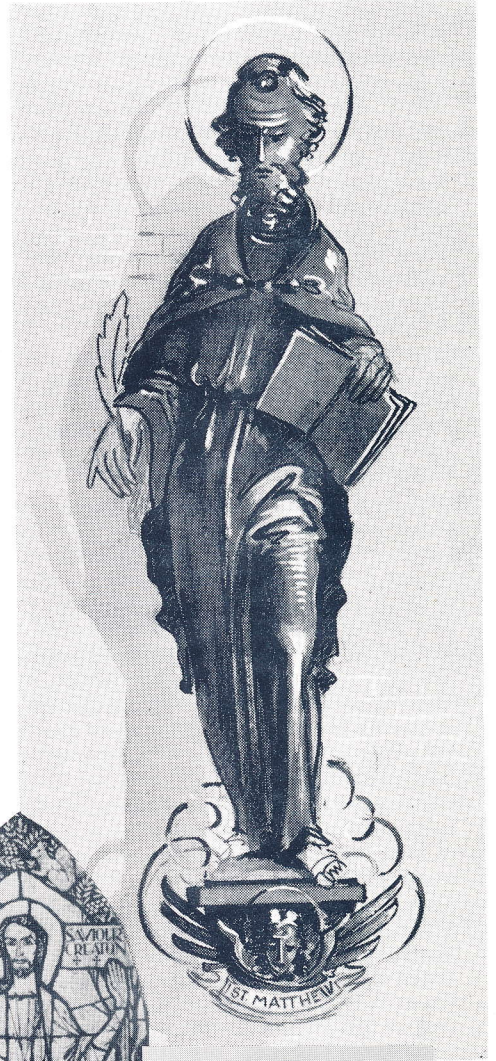
STAINED GLASS WINDOWS in the Chapel are based on hymns of the Church: Silent Night, Holy Night, Beautiful Saviour King of Creation, O Sacred Head now Wounded and A Mighty Fortress is Our God. The 23 other stained glass windows throughout the Church House illustrate Biblical Scenes as well as the various Apostles.

LOAVES AND FISHES, the thrice weekly noon hour meals for seniors, was introduced March 1, 1972, offering good meals, fellowship and entertainment Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

PARKING in 1958 the 14,500 sq. ft. property beside the Church was purchased and developed into a parking lot with most of the spaces rented during the week. In 1963 the 7,590 sq. ft. property on the south corner of Benton and Church Streets was purchased and in 1964 the adjacent double property on Church Street and at its rear was purchased, a total of 18,965 sq. ft. for proposed parking areas.



Gold
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AMICITY
FORTRESS
IS OUR GOD
ASK YE WHO IS THIS
JESUS CHRIST IT IS

AND THERE'S
NONE OTHER GOD
HE HOLDS THE
FIELD FOREVER



Golden Hour

*Present Radio
Committee*



Photo—Thomas Hancock

From Left to Right:- Robert Johnson, Treasurer; Gerald Dubrick, Alex. McLellan, Dr. Dalton Messersmith, Chairman; Samuel Weicker; Pastors F. W. Zinck and Harold Brill.
Seated:- Arthur Sandrock, Founder.

*First
Radio
Committee*



RADIO COMMITTEE: Left to Right - Alf Heller, Art Sandrock, C.N. Weber, Herb. Hollinger, C.W. Kruse.



*Remaining
Founding Members*

Messrs. Arthur Sandrock and Herbert Hollinger.

Photo—Thomas Hancock

HARRY URSTADT joined the staff of St. Matthew's as Musical Director in September 1965. Harry attended North Central College, Naperville, Illinois and travelled twelve thousand miles with the Men's Glee Club, as their accompanist, presenting concerts in eight states of the United States of America.

Harry received additional musical training at the Hamilton Conservatory, the Royal Conservatory of Toronto and Syracuse University, where he held the post as organist and choir director. Harry was previously employed as organist and Choir Director at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Fergus, Ontario, the United Church, St. Mary's, Ontario, First United Church, Galt, Ontario.



Harry Urstadt

Harry Urstadt married Helene Bohnsen in 1935.



- 1st ROW - Left to Right - Mrs. Ron (Martha) Schaus, Mrs. Harry (Linda) Herchenrader, Mrs. Bob (Renate) Parsons, Mrs. Dave (Mary) Mitchell, Mrs. Klaudy (Jean) Humar, Miss Chris Mussar, Mrs. Fred (Ruth) Zinck, Mrs. Adam (Reta) Schlei.
- 2nd ROW - Mrs. Glen (Katherine) MacLeod, Mrs. Howard (Marg) Hollinger, Mrs. John (Baetrice) Kadlecik, Mrs. Donald (Sandy) Hachborn, Mrs. Bob (Eileen) Bowman, Mr. Harry Urstadt, Director, Mrs. Bob (Marg) Pequegnat, Miss Chris Bowman.
- 3rd ROW - Mrs. Bob (Joy) Braun, Mrs. John (Nancy) DeCaen, Miss Jean Kreutzweiser, Mrs. Art (Brenda) Martin, Miss Sylvia Humar, Mrs. Bob (Shirley) Rosekat, Mrs. David (Joan) Parker, Mrs. Bob (Donna) Yendt, Mrs. Frank (Frances) Schatz, Mrs. Adolph (Danuta) Grigaitis, Mrs. Park (Betty) Winkler, Mrs. Jim (Erica) Sattler.
- 4th ROW - Mr. Vern Widmeyer, Mr. Walter Scholtis, Mr. Ron Schaus, Mr. Bob Bowman, Mr. Mike Toliloff, Miss Dolores Simpson, Mrs. Bruce (Joye Ann) Reuel, Miss Charlotte Schmidt, Mrs. Jack (Marilyn) Boehmer, Mr. Ken Schenk, Mr. Jack Boehmer, Mr. John Bucholtz, Mr. Jeff Snyder.
- 5th ROW - Mr. Bob Braun, Mr. John McLellan, Mr. Ken Cook, Mr. Donald Hachborn, Mr. Alvin Meyer, Mr. Doug Dunnington, Mr. Harry Herchenrader, Mr. John Bates, Mr. Frank Schatz, Mr. Jim Miller, Mr. Milton Volz.
- Absent: Mr. & Mrs. Bill (Irene) McGeagh.

— Choir Photo by Forde, December 10, 1978.

Dear members of St. Matthews and friends of Golden Hours:

For half a century the services of St. Matthews Lutheran Church have been made available to the people of this community through the air waves. When radio was quite a new and novel invention the foresight of St. Matthews saw it as a means of communicating the Gospel.

Who could measure its influence?
Who could number the souls this ministry has touched?
Who could begin to place a dollar value on such a work?

It is with real pleasure and definite admiration that I congratulate the people of St. Matthews, the Radio Committee, and all who have had a share in making this wonderful day possible. All the people of the Eastern Canada Synod join me in these good wishes. May God be with you as you move into the next half century of Golden Hours!

"How could they hear unless someone would spread the news?"

Cordially,



The Rev. William D. Huras
President
Eastern Canada Synod



CENTRAL ONTARIO TELEVISION LIMITED
864 KING STREET WEST - KITCHENER, CANADA
N2G 1E8

February 1, 1980.

Rev. F. W. Zinck,
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,
54 Benton Street,
Kitchener, Ontario,
N2G 3H2.


Dear Pastor Zinck:

A half-century ago, broadcasting was a very new influence on citizens of the Twin Cities. There were many doubts as to its future role and, indeed, whether it had a future. In such a situation, it is remarkable that the senior church in the community would have the foresight to recognize that there was an opportunity for the creation of a new parish among the young medium's listeners.

Through the Golden Hour committees in each of the succeeding fifty years, St. Matthew's services have been spread to a wide area of the valley of the Grand River with a continuity unmatched in broadcasting. As the representative of CFCA-FM, which has continued this half-century tradition begun by CKCR, I am pleased to offer sincere congratulations to you, Pastor Zinck, to St. Matthew's Church and to its long line of Golden Hour Committee people for the provision of a ministry to those who, for whatever reason, cannot attend the services in person.

Many have given thanks directly but, for those who haven't, for myself and for CFCA-FM, please accept our warmest appreciation for these fifty continuous years. May we hope for the will to make it a century!

Yours very truly,



W. D. McGregor,
President.

CKCO-TV - CKKW - CFCA-STEREO FM

Mayor Morley A. Rosenberg, Q.C.
City Hall, Box 1118
Kitchener, Ontario N2G 4G7
Phone: (519) 885-7210

City of Kitchener
EX INDUSTRIA PROSPERITAS



August 23, 1979

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church,
54 Benton Street,
KITCHENER, Ontario.


Dear Members and Friends of St. Matthew's:

Thank you for your kind invitation to join you on the 50th Anniversary of your "Golden Hours" radio broadcast.

My sincere best wishes are extended to Pastor Zinck, Pastor Brill, and all members and friends of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church on this occasion. For fifty continuous years the Message has been sent forth to those at home, and has brought meaning and joy to many lives. I sincerely hope that these broadcasts will continue for many, many years to come.

I am delighted that I have been asked to celebrate this occasion with you and I look forward to seeing you all on February 24th, 1980.

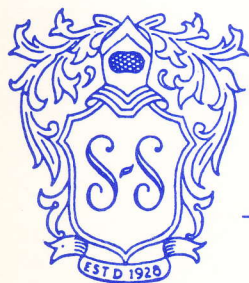
Sincerely yours,



MORLEY A. ROSENBERG,
MAYOR

*jr

Congratulations to
"Golden Hour"
on the occasion of its
Fiftieth Anniversary
of continuous radio broadcasting from
St. Matthews Lutheran Church
Kitchener, Ontario
1930 - 1980



Schreiter-Sandrock Ltd.

51 BENTON STREET, KITCHENER, ONTARIO N2G 3H1

funeral directors: JEROME FUTHER · EDWARD PIWOWAREK

TEL. 742-4481

Golden Hour



Photo—Thomas Hancock