



Lutheran Church Confirmation Class C 1944-45
F. Ted Okerstrom, Reverend John Houkom, John Reque
B- James Frostman, Joyce Hendrickson, Harvey Hadland

15, June 1939, Thursday: LUTHERAN PASTOR TO BE INSTALLED SUNDAY read the newspaper headline this edition. "Impressive services will be held next Sunday when the new pastor of the Bethesda Lutheran Church will be installed. Reverend John A. Houkom and family will arrive in Ashland on Saturday afternoon from Minneapolis, where they have attended the annual conference of the Lutheran Free Church this week. The services, which will commence at 7:30 o'clock PM, will be presided over by the Reverend Olaf Rogne, Duluth, who is secretary of the Lutheran Free Church.

Former Wisconsin Residents: The new pastor of the Bethesda Lutheran Church comes from Seattle, Washington, where he has served as pastor of the Bethany Lutheran Church the past five years. Prior to their move to Seattle they resided in Blanchardville, Lafayette County, of this state, where Reverend Houkom served three churches for 14 years. His first pastorate was in Medallia, Minnesota, where also had three churches. One reason for accepting the call to come to Ashland [and Bayfield] is the fact that he is president of the Board of Trustees of Augsburg College and Seminary in Minneapolis, the interests of which he feels he cannot serve adequately from the distant West Coast.

Native of North Dakota: Reverend Houkom Was born 49 years ago in Grand Forks County, North Dakota, where his father was a pioneer pastor in the Lutheran Church. His college and seminary training he obtained in the institution of which he for the past six years has been an officer. His wife he met in Minneapolis during his student days. They have been married 21 years and have one son, Leif Arnold.

Succeeds Reverend Kleven: The new pastor of Bethesda Lutheran Church succeeds the Reverend Torgney Kleven, who served as pastor here for seven years. He moved in February to Battle Lake, Minnesota, where he serves several churches. During the vacancy, the Church has been ministered to by Mr. Hans Tollefson, L'Anse, Michigan a recent graduate of Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis. He will be ordained in the annual conference of the Lutheran Free Church in Minneapolis this Sunday.

Renovates the Parsonage: During the vacancy of pastors, the Nidaros parsonage, Ashland, has been undergoing extensive renovating by the board of trustees. The kitchen has been entirely rebuilt, extensive re-decorating has been done, and a new grade entrance to the kitchen and basement has been installed. Exterior painting will be done this summer also. *Bayfield County Press* Editor W.G. Reque