

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Parsonage, and Cemetery
Name of Property

Washtenaw, Michigan

County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic and Architectural Resources of Northfield Township, Washtenaw County,
Michigan, 1824 – 1980

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 2945 East Northfield Church Road

City or town: Ann Arbor State: MI County: Washtenaw

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title:

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ___ entered in the National Register
___ determined eligible for the National Register
___ determined not eligible for the National Register
___ removed from the National Register
___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

☒

Public – Local

☐

Public – State

☐

Public – Federal

☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

☒

District

☐

Site

☐

Structure

☐

Object

☐

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION – religious facility
RELIGION – church-related residence
DOMESTIC – secondary structure
FUNERARY – cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION – religious facility
RELIGION – church-related residence
DOMESTIC – secondary structure
FUNERARY – cemetery

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MID-19TH CENTURY – Gothic Revival

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS - Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: brick, stone, asphalt, wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery is located in Washtenaw County in southeastern Michigan. The nominated property, on the north side of East Northfield Church Road, includes multiple contributing resources that form a clearly defined, early-twentieth-century religious complex. These include a Gothic Revival-style church, Craftsman-style parsonage, two garages, and a nineteenth-century cemetery. The property encompasses approximately 4.46 acres located within a rural, agricultural setting. The property retains high material integrity with the extant resources and landscape conveying its nineteenth and twentieth century social and architectural significance.

Narrative Description

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery is located in southeastern Michigan, in northern Washtenaw County, about five miles north of Ann Arbor, the largest city in the county and the county seat. The county is primarily agricultural and typical of the rural Midwest, with rolling hills, small streams, wooded areas, and meadows. The setting of the St. John's Church property retains this rural character.

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Northfield Township in the northeastern section of the county developed in the early and mid-1800s with newcomers constructing compact farm complexes surrounded by extensive agricultural acreage.¹ As Ann Arbor has grown throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, the surrounding rural areas have been heavily developed, especially east and south of the city. Northfield Township, immediately north of Ann Arbor, on the other hand, remains notably rural. Development in this part of the county has been limited to the occasional subdivision of former farm fields into large single-family residential lots, while community buildings like churches remain relatively unchanged. As a result, the church property at the intersection of East Northfield Church and Sutton Roads retains much of its nineteenth-century rural character.

The church property encompasses the southeastern 4.46 acres of the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 27 in Township One South in Range Six East of Washtenaw County.² Located at the northwest corner of East Northfield Church and Sutton Roads, the parcel is irregularly shaped due to the northern boundary following the curvilinear path of the Groves and Horseshoe Lake Drain (a manmade creek). The property was subdivided from the Groves Farm (NR2024) to the north in 1874 for the establishment of the church, parsonage, and cemetery. The nominated property includes the current tax parcel of about 4.46 acres, which includes the extant historic resources and land historically associated with the church.

The nominated property includes multiple contributing resources that form a clearly defined complex of late-nineteenth and early-to-mid-twentieth century religious-related resources. The first church and parsonage were constructed in 1874, however, both were completely destroyed by a 1932 fire and the present church and parsonage were completed later that year. A carriage house east of the parsonage was replaced by the extant garage around 1963, with a second garage constructed around northwest of the parsonage in 1982. The cemetery was established in the mid-1870s and retains its original layout and pathways, though fences and plantings have been updated over time. Contributing resources include the 1932 church, 1932 parsonage, c.1963 garage, and c.1875 cemetery. One resource, a second garage, was constructed outside the period of significance, c.1875 to c.1974, and is the only non-contributing resource.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at the center of the complex flanked by the parsonage and related garages to the east and the cemetery to the west. The church is built on a small hill and the front entrance is accessed by concrete stairs with metal railings. The building fronts East Northfield Church Road, a dirt road with the only paved sections extending east and west of its intersection with Sutton Road and including the church frontage. The road is without

¹ "Map of Washtenaw County, Michigan," (Philadelphia, PA: Bechler, Wenig & Co., 1856), Clark Library Maps Collection, Stephen S. Clark Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, http://quod.lib.umich.edu/c/clark1ic/x-002745875/39015091184773_02.

² "Map of Washtenaw County, Michigan," 1856; Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski, "Groves Farm," Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, 2024, Michigan State Historic Preservation Office [hereafter MI SHPO], Lansing; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1869-2019, 150th Anniversary," St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Collection.

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sidewalks, curbs, gutters, or drainage ditches, and there is no driveway or parking lot adjacent to the church. Resources within the complex are connected by concrete sidewalks, and a concrete driveway extends from the road to the 1982 garage east of the church. The site features grassy lawns, tended flower gardens, and mature trees. While the church currently owns two large parcels of cultivated farmland south and southeast of the church property, they are not historically associated with the church property and are therefore not included within the nominated boundary.

Inventory Methodology

The following inventory includes all resources located within the nominated boundary. Construction dates and historical information were obtained from a church history provided by the church historian, as well as available historic aerial imagery. Each resource is given a letter designation that corresponds to the site map.

1. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – 1932

1 Contributing Building

Exterior

The church is a brick, front-gabled, Gothic Revival-style building with a square bell tower featuring a crenellated parapet at the southeast corner. The building is approximately 40 feet wide and 70 feet long. The church retains pointed-arch door openings with leaded stained-glass transoms and cast-stone or field stone surrounds. The sanctuary features large, pointed-arch, leaded stained-glass windows with wood-framed awning panes and tracery, brick lintels, and cast-stone sills. The narthex and tower feature multi-light, leaded stained-glass, double-hung, wood-framed windows with cast-stone lintels and sills. The building is ornamented with brick and stone buttresses and cast-stone cross-motif finials. The church sits on a raised basement with a stone block foundation topped with a cast-stone foundation course.

The façade is three bays wide and features a small entry bay flanked by double-hung windows. The entrance bay features paired wood doors under a pointed-arch, stained-glass transom, all within a pointed-arch cast-stone surround. The entrance bay has a parapet roof with a cast-stone cross finial and a cornerstone inscribed "St. John's / Ev. Luth. Church / 1932 / 1 Cor. 3-11." The parapeted front gable is dominated by an elaborate and distinctive wood rose window set in a brick surround, and the parapet has cast-stone coping and a cast-stone cross motif finial. The three-story, crenellated square tower at the southeast corner of the building projects slightly from the façade and features double hung windows at the first and second stories. Pointed arch openings at the third story belfry are set in pairs within slightly recessed bays emphasized by cast-stone detailing.

The east elevation features a lower grade than the façade, exposing a basement at ground level on this side. A stone addition was constructed in 1995 to house an elevator and small storage room. Doors set in segmental arch openings with peaked surrounds provide access to

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the corner tower and the elevator addition, while a one-light metal door provides access to the northeast stair. Six-over-six wood windows with cast-stone sills light the basement fellowship hall and restrooms. The main level features three pointed-arch stained-glass windows lighting the sanctuary and a tripartite window lighting the stair in a projecting shed-roof bay at the northeast corner. The cornerstone of the original church has been installed on this elevation near the corner tower entrance. The stone has become weathered, but the inscription is partially legible: "_____ St. Johannes / _____ / _____ / 1874."

The west elevation is similar in detailing and fenestration to the east elevation, however the grade is higher on this side of the building. This elevation is four bays wide with a multi-light, stained-glass, double-hung window; two pointed-arch stained-glass windows lighting the sanctuary, and a hip-roof, polygonal transept with a pointed-arch stained-glass window. Multi-light windows are also visible at the partially exposed basement level.

The topography rises east to west at the rear (north) of the church, and as a result, the basement at the east end of this elevation is at ground level. A replacement door with a rectangular transom leads to the kitchen and is flanked by one-over-one wood windows. An exterior chimney with no shoulders is flanked by double-hung, stained-glass windows with pointed-arch transoms at the main level. A small flat-roof wing housing a furnace system extends from this elevation and contains a slab door and one-over-one wood window on its east elevation while remaining elevations are blind.

Interior

The sanctuary comprises the first floor of the church. The main entrance opens onto steps leading to a narrow narthex spanning the south end of the church. An eight-panel wood door leads west to a cry-room for children, which can also be accessed from the rear of the nave and is now used for storage. A staircase at the east end of the narthex, within the corner tower, features a simple wood balustrade and accesses the balcony and bell tower at the upper levels, as well as the basement. Eight-panel wood double doors lead to the nave, which may also be accessed by an elevator at its southeast corner. The nave features a high ceiling with flat panels forming a polygonal dome and exposed wood truss beams. The original wood floors have been covered with carpet. A central aisle flanked by wooden pews leads to the chancel and altar, separated from the nave by two steps and set in a pointed-arch apse at the north end of the building. The apse is flanked by pointed-arch niches, the west side containing the organ pipes, and features hand-painted ceiling and wall panels with religious symbolism. A shallow, pointed-arch transept on the west elevation contains seating for the choir, separated from the nave by a paneled wood choir rail. A door leads from the east side of the apse to the vestry/pastor's office and a set of stairs with a simple wood balustrade leading to the basement level.

The balcony of the church is accessed by a staircase at the east end of the narthex that continues upward to the belfry. Along the north side of the balcony is a paneled wood half-

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wall topped with a metal railing. The balcony features a tiered floor with three levels of pews and has a small storage room on the west side.

The basement contains the fellowship hall/Sunday School classroom, kitchen, and restrooms. It features a low dropped ceiling, concrete floors (some with carpet), and tile walls covering the stone foundation. The northeast stair (leading from the vestry) opens to a narrow hallway, which in turn leads to three restrooms and the kitchen. The restrooms and kitchen have been updated with concrete flooring, tile walls, and modern sinks, counters, and equipment. The kitchen leads to a large fellowship hall and Sunday School classroom that may be subdivided by curtains installed in ceiling tracks. At the south end of the basement, two-panel wood doors lead to storage rooms, the elevator, and the staircase to the narthex and upper floors.

2. St. John's Church Parsonage – 1932

1 Contributing Building

The Craftsman style parsonage is a one-and-one-half-story, brick house with a side-gabled form and raised basement. The full-width engaged porch is supported by brick columns with knee walls between columns and cheek walls flanking the concrete steps. A ten-light-over-two-panel wood door is centered on the façade with a set of three windows to the east and another door and a window to the west. First- and second-story windows are one-over-one vinyl replacement windows with cast-stone sills, and basement windows are vinyl sliding windows. A 1981 Washtenaw County architectural survey indicates the windows have been replaced since that time.³ The west elevation has two sets of paired windows at the main level, one window at the upper half-story, and one window that appears to light an interior staircase. A nine-light replacement door at ground level on this elevation leads to a sidewalk to the 1982 garage. Sliding windows are visible at the basement level. The east elevation contains three individual windows and a set of three windows at the main level, an individual window and a pair of windows at the upper half-story, and sliding windows at the basement level. The rear entrance, on the north elevation, leads to a large wooden deck constructed in 2000. Large gabled dormers on the front (south) and rear elevations are clad in vinyl siding, also installed sometime after the 1981 survey. The front dormer contains a group of three windows and the rear dormer contains two windows and a door that leads to a small balcony with no railing that serves to shelter the rear entrance. Though the interior of this building was not accessible, the church history indicates the parsonage was remodeled in the early 2000s with updated plumbing, kitchen fixtures, carpeting, paint, and refinished wood floors.

3. Parsonage Garage #1 – c.1963

1 Contributing Building

A side-gable, frame garage with asphalt shingle cladding and exposed rafter tails is located east of the parsonage. The garage faces south toward East Northfield Church Road with a two-light metal overhead door and one-light wood door on the façade; a batten door and four-light wood window on the west elevation; a four-light wood window on the east

³ Washtenaw County. "HistWeb: Washtenaw County Historic Resources Database."
<https://gisappsecure.ewashtenaw.org/public/histweb/>.

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elevation; and two four-light wood windows on the north elevation. The interior of this building was not accessible. Aerial imagery suggests the garage was built between 1960 and 1966.

4. Parsonage Garage #2 – 1982

1 Non-Contributing Building

A side-gable, brick veneer garage with a concrete block foundation is located north of the parsonage. The garage faces east toward a concrete driveway leading south to East Northfield Church Road. There is a four-light metal overhead door on the façade, a one-light metal door accessed by a small wood stoop on the south elevation; a sliding window on the north elevation; and the east elevation is blind. The interior of this building was not accessible. According to the church history, the garage was built in 1982 for the fiftieth anniversary of the construction of the church and parsonage.

5. St. John's Church Cemetery – c.1875

1 Contributing Site

St. John's Lutheran Church Cemetery was laid out just west of the church and contains nearly 400 graves with known burials dating from the 1870s to the present day. The cemetery is enclosed with a wrought iron fence with field stone piers with cast-stone caps at the gates. Wide pathways extend north-south through the cemetery, with one path across the middle of the cemetery and a second across the east end of the cemetery. The topography is relatively flat, and landscaping includes sparse mature trees, including cedar, and ornamental shrubs planted at some graves. Grave markers include headstone and footstone, pedestal-tomb, and obelisk types, which display common funerary art including lamb, crowns, angels, and urns. Markers are primarily made of limestone, granite, or marble. Some graves are individual burials with their own markers, others are family plots with a central family stone surrounded by individual graves, and a few are obelisks or pedestal-tombs with several family members memorialized.

Integrity Statement

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The church retains the form, massing, plan, materials, and fenestration present at its construction in 1932, with only minor exterior changes and interior improvements, such as the installation of an elevator wing in 1995 and material updates to the kitchen and restrooms in the late twentieth century. The interior retains the original floor plan; wood flooring, paneled doors and railings, door and window surrounds, and other woodwork; and original staircases and balustrades. The secondary resources remain in their original locations and configurations within the complex. Resources are encircled by grassy lawns and mature trees, and the broader landscape remains rural farmland, similar to the nineteenth-century setting of the church.

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Statement of Archaeological Potential

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery is closely related to the surrounding environment and landscape. No archaeological assessment has been conducted at the property, however, potential archaeological deposits include remnant buildings or landscape features, such as structural remains of the original church and parsonage, carriage house, chicken house, privies, or other buildings no longer extant; historic paths, driveways, or fence lines, including the driveway to the c.1963 garage, which is no longer extant; previously unknown infrastructural remains, such as filled-in privies or wells; previously unknown or unmarked burials; and evidence of occupation or use of the property by Indigenous peoples. These deposits can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the property. Information concerning the spatial organization of buildings and infrastructure in relationship to natural and cultural elements of the landscape can be obtained from the investigation of these features.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☒ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1874 – 1974

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Couse & McLellan (builder, church)

Scheel Building Company (builder, parsonage)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery is eligible under Criterion A at the local level for Social History. The church was organized in 1869 by Reverend Friedrich Schmid, a German immigrant who established over twenty Lutheran churches in southeastern Michigan. Congregants included German immigrants who began settling in southeastern Northfield Township in the 1830s. Services were conducted in German until the early twentieth

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century, and the church offered not only religious education for youth, but also taught German language and culture. Numerous social and service groups for men, women, and youth were formed, and the church served as the social center of the German immigrant community in Northfield Township.

The church is also eligible under Criterion C at the local level for Architecture as an intact example of twentieth century Gothic Revival-style religious architecture in rural Washtenaw County that also exemplifies a shift from the narrow, vertical aesthetic of the nineteenth century to wider, lower-pitched forms in the early twentieth century. The church retains characteristic detailing including a crenelated square corner tower, pointed-arch windows with tracery, and a rose window. The interior remains highly intact with most of the original materials and floor plan, and also exemplifies the Gothic Revival style with a tall, open nave lit by large, leaded stained-glass windows; hand-painted panels featuring religious symbolism on the apse ceiling and walls; and pointed-arch motifs that emphasize verticality.

The period of significance begins in 1874 with the establishment of the church at this location and corresponding to the date of the oldest extant resource, the cemetery. It extends to 1974 to include the primary periods of growth in the church, especially in social activities offered for members throughout its history, as well as to encompass interior updates to the church resulting in its current appearance.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Parsonage, and Cemetery meets Criteria Consideration A for Religious Properties because it derives its primary significance in the areas of Social History, German History, and Architecture.

Historic context for St. John's Evangelical Church is provided in the related Multiple Property Documentation Form "Historic and Architectural Resources of Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, 1824 – 1980," including "Early Northfield Township: An Agricultural Landscape (1824-1880)" on context pages E5-17, "Changes to Rural Life (1880-1945)" on pages E24-28, and "The Post-War Era (1945-1980)" on pages E28-33. The property falls under the property types "Churches and Church Complexes" on pages F37-38, including registration requirements, period of significance, and integrity assessment. Specifically, the church was established by the local German immigrant community that lived in the immediate vicinity, serving as the community's social center, and it is an intact example of Gothic Revival-style architecture, centered within a religious complex with a Craftsman-style parsonage and a cemetery.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Introduction

The Lutheran faith traces its roots to the teachings of Martin Luther, a German monk who was a central figure in the Protestant Reformation of sixteenth century Europe. Luther's followers were first known simply as "Evangelicals" and later "Protestants," but these terms could also be applied to a number of other organized religions, therefore the term "Evangelical Lutheran" became standard. The Lutheran church worldwide is comprised of hundreds of regional and national church bodies, known as Synods. Germans were among the first European ethnic groups to embrace Lutheranism, which was adopted as the official religion of a number of German cities and principalities as early as the 1520s. Lutheranism later spread to the United States during colonial European settlement on the Atlantic Coast in the 1600s. German immigrants came to Michigan in large numbers by the early 1800s, settling in southeastern Northfield Township starting in the 1830s. German newcomers soon began to form their own distinct organizations, including St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, in order to provide a sense of identity, mutual support, and safety. St. John's Church is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

Additional historic context related to the early European settlement of Washtenaw County and the establishment of Northfield Township may be found in the related Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, 1824 – 1980," on context pages E6-12.

Social History Context

Establishment of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church: A German Refuge – 1869 to 1932

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized in 1869 by Reverend Friedrich Schmid. Reverend Schmid was born in Germany in 1807 and ordained at the Basel Mission House in Switzerland in 1833. Later that year he was sent to Michigan in response to requests from German Lutherans in Washtenaw County for a pastor to be assigned to the area. He immigrated through Detroit, arriving in Ann Arbor in August and establishing the first Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Michigan Territory, Salem Lutheran Church in Scio Township (extant). Reverend Schmid traveled throughout Washtenaw County and southern Michigan, establishing twenty churches between 1833 and 1869, the last being St. John's Church.⁴

⁴ "Friedrich Schmid church records, 1833-1875," Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, <https://findingaids.lib.umich.edu/catalog/umich-bhl-2013093>; Friedrich Schmid, *A Short Sketch of the Missionary Activity of the First Lutheran Pastor in Michigan: The Reverend Frederick Schmid from 1833 to 1871* (Michigan: unknown publisher, 1932), Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dorothy

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Census data shows that about one-quarter of the population of Northfield Township in 1870 was foreign-born, and the membership of St. John's represented approximately eleven percent of that group.⁵ The congregation included about forty charter members, most of whom had been born in Württemberg, Germany. They included the Bauer, Bender, Bessinger, Braun, Fahrner, Frey, Geiger, Gerlach, Kapp, Kempf, Kern, Koch, Ludwig, Maulbetsch, Maier, Prochnow, Rauschenberger, Rentschler, Schmid, Schweigert, Steffe, Wagner, and Wessel families.⁶ These families established farms in the southeastern area of Northfield Township, and many of their descendants remain on those family farms today. The congregation first met at the Sutton School (1875 building extant), established by and named for Benjamin Sutton, the first permanent resident of the township, and located at the intersection of Pontiac Trail and Joy Road, about a mile south of the present church property.⁷ Most of the congregation spoke Swäbisch, a German dialect, therefore the church was known by the German name St. Johannes Gemeinde, meaning St. John's Parish, and services, led by Reverend Schmid, were offered in German. Sunday School classes also reinforced German heritage, providing not only Christian education but also lessons on German culture and language.⁸

In 1874, William P. and Harriet Groves, who owned a large farm on both sides of Sutton Road, sold 3.44 acres at the northwest corner of Northfield Church and Sutton Roads to the church trustees "for church purposes and a burying [sic] ground and for no other purpose."⁹ The congregation built a frame, front-gable, Greek Revival-style church with clear-glass windows, a raised basement, stone foundation, and tall steeple.¹⁰ The cemetery was also laid out at this time, and the first recorded burial was Mary Bauer, born February 20, 1865, and died November 27, 1876. Prior to this time, church members had been buried at the Leland Cemetery, less than one mile north of the present church property, or at Lutheran churchyard cemeteries in Ann Arbor.¹¹

Kapp Shear, *Farm Girl in a Feed Sack Dress: Memories of a 1940s Michigan Family Farm* (self-published, 2011), 175.

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, "Population of Civil Divisions Less Than Counties, State of Michigan," *1870 Census: Volume 1. The Statistics of the Population of the United States* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1872), <https://www.census.gov/library/publications/1872/dec/1870a.html>, 176.

⁶ Dorothy A. [Kapp] Shear, "A Brief Historical Sketch of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, Northfield Township," St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Collection; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178; Wystan Stevens, *Northfield Harvest: A Pictorial History of Northfield Township and the Whitmore Lake Area* (Washtenaw County, MI: Northfield Township Historical Society, 1999), 11-13; Terry Stollsteimer, *Washtenaw County, Michigan, Relatives. Volume 1: A-K* (Ann Arbor, MI: Ann Arbor, MI: Braun-Brumfield, Inc., 1993). Terry Stollsteimer, *Washtenaw County, Michigan, Relatives. Volume 2: L-Z, Appendix* (Ann Arbor, MI: Braun-Brumfield, Inc., 1993).

⁷ Schmid, *A Short Sketch*; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178; Stevens, *Northfield Harvest*, 51-54.

⁸ Stevens, *Northfield Harvest*, 11-13.

⁹ William P. Groves and Harriet Groves to The Trustees of St. John's Church," Deed Book 81, Page 268, Washtenaw County Register of Deeds, Ann Arbor, Michigan; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's."

¹⁰ Schmid, *A Short Sketch*; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178; Stevens, *Northfield Harvest*, 51-54.

¹¹ Ronald O. Kapp, "St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, Northfield Twp. (T1S, R6E), Washtenaw County, Michigan," Washtenaw County Genealogical Society, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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During the decades of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the church grew steadily. Reverend Schmid initially continued to serve the congregation as an itinerant pastor, with church member Christian Rauschenberger leading the congregation in reading services between Schmid's visits.¹² In 1878, Reverend Stein became the first resident pastor of the church, and the first parsonage was likely constructed at this time. East of the church they built a two-story, frame, folk Victorian parsonage with a gable-front-and-wing form, turned porch posts and balustrade, interior chimneys, and wood shingles in the gables.¹³ A carriage house located east of the parsonage to house a horse and buggy and a chicken house between the parsonage and carriage house were both likely built at this time, though neither remains extant.

The congregation adopted bylaws in 1904, naming the church the Evangelical Lutheran St. Johannes Congregation of Northfield Township. In 1914, new windows and pews were installed. The church was enlarged and renovated in 1925 with Gothic Revival-style detailing including a square corner tower and a rose window above a central entrance. Dedication services in May of 1926 were offered in both German and English.¹⁴ In 1930, the cemetery was expanded to the west with the purchase of an additional acre from the Groves family.¹⁵



Left: 1874 Church and Parsonage in 1914 (courtesy of Wystan Stevens)
Right: Church after 1925 Renovations, date unknown (courtesy of Dorothy Kapp Shear)

In addition to instruction in religion and German culture, the church also offered social and service opportunities. A Ladies' Aid Society was established in 1888 "with the purpose of

¹² 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's."

¹³ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's."

¹⁴ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178.

¹⁵ "William T. Groves and Eleanor H. Groves to Cemetery Trustees of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church," December 22, 1930, Deed Book 292, Page 203, Washtenaw County Register of Deeds.

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growth in Christian knowledge, Christian service, and Christian fellowship.”¹⁶ The society provided and served a supper for the congregation during dedication services in 1926, funded the purchase and installation of a new pipe organ from the famous Schantz Organ Company of Ohio in 1927, and hosted banquets for the men in the congregation.¹⁷

Additional historic context related to German immigration in Washtenaw County, the establishment of a German community in Northfield Township, and German community institutions in the township may be found in the related Multiple Property Documentation Form, “Historic and Architectural Resources of Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, 1824 – 1980,” on context pages E10-12 and E27-28.

Perseverance of St. John's: The Church as the Foundation of Community – 1932 to 1974

On March 13, 1932, the church suffered a devastating fire. Reverend Alfred Maas discovered the fire around 9:00 pm and sounded the alarm. There was no organized fire department in Northfield Township at that time, so it was members of the surrounding community who responded and attempted to put out the flames. The fire soon spread to the parsonage, and both buildings and most church records were completely destroyed, with only some furnishings from the parsonage saved. The origin of the fire was never discovered, though it was believed to have started in the basement and possibly caused by an electrical storm.¹⁸

The congregation continued to hold services while a new church and parsonage were planned, utilizing the Methodist church in the crossroads community of Worden, about 3.5 miles northeast of St. John's Church. Reverend Maas and his family stayed with church members, first with the Steffe family above their country store at the intersection of Pontiac Trail and Joy Road (extant, west of the church), then with the Kern family, who lived immediately southeast of the church, until the current parsonage was completed the following June. The parsonage was constructed by Scheel Building Company, owned by mason Max Scheel, a German Lutheran living in Washtenaw County whose parents and grandparents immigrated to Michigan from Germany in the 1860s and 1870s.¹⁹ Meanwhile, the Building Committee visited nearby churches to assist in making plans for the new building. Couse & McLellan were selected as the contractors, possibly noted engineer and contractor Walter Couse of Detroit and later Livonia, and carpenter James McLellan of Detroit. The cornerstone of the current church was laid in August, and it was completed and dedicated that November.²⁰

¹⁶ St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, “Fellowship Groups,” <https://www.stjohnsann Arbor.org/page/fellowship-groups>.

¹⁷ 150th Anniversary Committee, “St. John's”; Shear, “A Brief Historical Sketch.”

¹⁸ 150th Anniversary Committee, “St. John's”; Shear, “A Brief Historical Sketch”; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178.

¹⁹ 150th Anniversary Committee, “St. John's”; Shear, “A Brief Historical Sketch”; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178-179; U.S. Census Bureau, *United States Federal Census*, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, “U.S. Federal Census Collection,” Ancestry.com.

²⁰ 150th Anniversary Committee, “St. John's”; Shear, “A Brief Historical Sketch”; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 178-179.

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Reverend Alfred Walther came to lead the church in 1952. He continued the tradition of making house calls by horseback until the early 1960s, when the carriage house was replaced with the current garage east of the parsonage. The chicken house was likely also removed at this time, though a round, metal brooder house appears to have remained extant into the late twentieth century (concrete pad remains extant). The church was updated with carpeting in the mid-1960s. Further updates in 1973 included the hand-painted ceiling and wall panels in the sanctuary, removal of beams from the apse to create the domed ceiling, and new light fixtures. In 1974, the basement was updated with a new dropped ceiling and light fixtures.²¹

Social groups offering opportunities for service and fellowship expanded through the mid-twentieth century. Lifelong church member Dorothy Kapp Shear recalled in her memoir, "Before the 1950s, the church was often the only place a person went for a social event, especially if they did not have children in school."²² The Men's Club was formed in 1929 and began meeting in 1930 to "foster good fellowship and a spirit of mutual helpfulness among our men...[and] to foster an active, loyal, and intelligent interest in our church and its doctrines."²³ Since its establishment, the Men's Club has provided funding and labor for a number of improvements in the church, including purchasing the first typewriter and copier for the church office, purchasing the first set of tables and chairs for the basement fellowship hall, installing the restrooms and septic system in the church, installing the floor, ceiling, and lighting in the basement, and installing the outdoor lighting. The group hosted events for the benefit of the congregation, including an annual Harvest Festival with exhibit competitions and an auction fundraiser, as well as Mother-Daughter banquets. The Men's Club also gathered in fellowship for dart ball, shuffleboard, horseshoes, and euchre tournaments, sometimes joining with other congregations in the area.²⁴

Women in the congregation also continued to serve the church during this time. The Ladies' Aid Society assisted with the Men's Club Harvest Festival by providing lunch to attendees for a small fee, offering a fishpond game with prizes for children, and selling handmade crafts, canned goods, and baked goods to raise funds for the church. The society also helped fund the construction and furnishing of the rebuilt church, hosting chicken dinner fundraisers, holding an annual Father-Son banquet, and purchasing dishes and other kitchen items.²⁵ In 1964, the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS), which includes not only St. John's Church but all churches within the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, was organized to support Lutheran missionary efforts. The St. John's Church LWMS group formed in 1965 as part of the Alpha Circuit, holding rallies twice each year to recruit new members to the Lutheran Church.²⁶

²¹ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's."

²² Shear, *Farm Girl*, 180.

²³ St. John's Church, "Fellowship Groups"; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's."

²⁴ St. John's Church, "Fellowship Groups"; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, "A Brief Historical Sketch"; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 181-182.

²⁵ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 182-183.

²⁶ St. John's Church, "Fellowship Groups"; Shear, "A Brief Historical Sketch."

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Children and youth also participated in the social life of the church. The Young People's Society, established in 1926 to provide religious education, foster fellowship, provide wholesome entertainment, support the church, and retain youth members into adulthood, flourished in the mid-1900s. Dorothy Kapp Shear recalled that "Neither [my brother] nor I would ever miss our Young People's Society (YPS) monthly meeting."²⁷ The group participated in weekly Sunday School, performed a children's program at Christmas, published a newspaper for members and overseas troops, and participated in ice cream socials, swimming parties at Whitmore Lake, euchre nights, picnics at the nearby German Park Recreation Club, and other events.²⁸ In 1968, local chapters of the Lutheran Pioneers (for boys) and the Lutheran Girl Pioneers were formed to reinforce religious education, teach practical skills, and foster fellowship among young people in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.²⁹

Additional historic context related to the growth of the German community and social organizations in Northfield Township, as well as their relationship to German social groups in nearby Ann Arbor, may be found in the related Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic and Architectural Resources of Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, 1824 – 1980," on context pages E27-28 and E33.



Left: Church in 1969 (courtesy of Dorothy Kapp Shear)
Right: Church Interior, mid-1900s (courtesy of Dorothy Kapp Shear)

²⁷ Shear, *Farm Girl*, 186.

²⁸ St. John's Church, "Fellowship Groups"; 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, "A Brief Historical Sketch."

²⁹ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, *Farm Girl*, 183-184; Lutheran Pioneers, "About Us," <https://www.lutheranpioneers.org/about>; Lutheran Girl Pioneers, "About Us," https://www.lgp.org/site/cpage.asp?cpage_id=180116752&sec_id=180019404.

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Present-Day St. John's Church – 1974 to 2024

Minor improvements to preserve the buildings and increase the comfort of churchgoers were made through the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. In 1980, storm windows were added to protect the stained-glass and rose windows, with ceiling fans installed in the sanctuary the following year. The floors were refinished and new carpeting was installed in 1989. An elevator was installed on the east side of the church in 1995 to improve accessibility to both the sanctuary on the main floor and the fellowship hall in the basement. A playground was constructed at the rear of the church in 1997, followed by the deck on the rear of the parsonage in 2000. Interior improvements in the early 2000s included refinishing the basement floor, installing natural gas lines between the church and parsonage, and remodeling the parsonage with updated plumbing, kitchen fixtures, carpeting, paint, and refinished wood floors. Exterior restorations include tuck pointing each elevation of the church in the mid-2000s, followed by restoration of the stained-glass windows with re-leading, painting, and new storm windows in 2016.³⁰

As throughout its history, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church has continued to serve as a social center of the community in southeast Northfield Township during this time. Church fellowship groups have continued their role in providing religious education and fellowship opportunities to church members of all ages, while also serving the church and its members. Vacation Bible School was organized for the church youth in 1971, Sunday School was often held out-of-doors in fine weather, and the Sunday School picnic included games, food, and fellowship. The Young People's Society continues to participate in Christmas programs, local parades, and social events. The Men's Club, now known as the St John's Euchre and Bible Study, has served Easter breakfast following the sunrise services, hosted Fish Fry events, and sponsored winter parties at the nearby Zeeb Farm for children to enjoy sledding, snowmobiling, and ice skating. The Ladies Aid Society and Men's Club jointly sponsored rummage sales to fund improvements to the church and parsonage, and the groups work together to provide Meditation Booklets to church members. The St. John's Choir has performed concerts for the Martin Luther Memorial Home in South Lyon, a senior care facility managed by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and the Sewing Club was formed in 2004 fostering fellowship through handcrafts. The Sewing Club offers a church craft table and makes items for the Northfield Place Rest Home, a senior care facility in Whitmore Lake.³¹

Architecture Context

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is an example of the Gothic Revival style applied to a rural, early-twentieth century church. While less ornate than high-style Gothic Revival churches in urban locations, the church displays a permanence in its siting, materials, and design that marks it as an anchor of the German community in southeastern Northfield Township and

³⁰ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, "A Brief Historical Sketch."

³¹ 150th Anniversary Committee, "St. John's"; Shear, "A Brief Historical Sketch."

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northern Ann Arbor. The Gothic Revival style was popular for churches and residences in Michigan as early as the 1840s, but was most common throughout the country in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, especially for religious buildings.³² Characterized by steeply pitched roofs, pointed arches, trefoils or quatrefoils, and crenelated parapets, the Gothic Revival style was often chosen for churches because of the emphasis on verticality, its elements leading the eye upward to the heavens.³³ In some cases, square towers were incorporated into the façade and the rectangular nave was flanked by transepts located near the altar that resulted in a cruciform plan. While frame construction was common in the nineteenth century, early twentieth century churches in the style throughout the Midwest were commonly constructed of brick or stone, even in rural areas.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church exemplifies the Gothic Revival style with a front-gabled form featuring a crenelated, square corner bell tower with pointed-arch openings at the belfry. The church is brick construction on a stone foundation with a raised basement and stone detailing throughout. Gothic Revival-style detailing includes an elaborate rose window on the façade; a pointed-arch transom above the main entrance bay, which is centered on the façade; and pointed-arch, stained-glass windows with elaborate tracery on the side elevations. Some vertical elements common to the style, such as steeply-pitched rooflines and a steeple, are absent, resulting in a square and squat aesthetic, though the pointed-arch windows, cross-motif finials, and three-story tower convey the verticality of the style. The interior further exemplifies the style with a pointed-arch apse flanked by pointed-arch recessed niches at the north end of the sanctuary, and a shallow, pointed-arch transept on the west elevation. The interior also exemplifies the Gothic Revival style with a tall, open nave lit by large, leaded stained-glass windows; hand-painted panels featuring religious symbolism on the apse ceiling and walls; and pointed-arch motifs that emphasize verticality. St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is the most intact example of a twentieth-century, Gothic Revival-style brick church in Washtenaw County.

Though the Gothic Revival style was popular for mid-to-late nineteenth century religious buildings throughout Michigan and Washtenaw County, twentieth century examples in the county are rare. While Gothic Revival-style churches in the nineteenth century typically feature a narrow, vertical aesthetic, while those of the twentieth century are often more squat in form, reflecting the twentieth-century shift from the preceding Romantic revival styles to the Colonial and Classical revival styles of the 1920s through the 1950s. This wider form allows for larger interior sanctuary and fellowship spaces. Later churches were also typically of brick or stone construction, rather than the frame churches of the nineteenth century. In addition to St. John's, only two other twentieth-century churches demonstrate this shift in form and materials. The 1909 Bethel Church at 10425 Bethel Church Road, northeast of Manchester, is a front-gabled church of stone construction with a square corner tower, entrances on each end of the façade, pointed-

³² Susan Wineberg and Patrick McCauley, *Historic Ann Arbor: An Architectural Guide* (Ann Arbor, MI: Ann Arbor Historical Foundation, 2014), 5.

³³ Cyril M. Harris, *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, 1998), 157.

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arch door and window openings, and a large fellowship and education wing extending west of the sanctuary.³⁴ The 1911 St. Mary's Catholic Church at 210 West Main Street in Manchester is an elaborate stone example of the style with a heavy, monumental character. It features a front-gabled form, projecting central tower with crenellations, pointed-arch door and window openings, and heavy stone buttresses.³⁵ Though all three churches demonstrate the twentieth-century shift to Gothic Revival-style detailing applied to a wider, lower-pitched form, St. John's is only the intact brick example known to remain extant in Washtenaw County.

For additional historic context about the Gothic Revival style in Northfield Township, see the related Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Historic Resources of Northfield Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, 1824-1980," context pages E23-24.

³⁴ Washtenaw County, "HistWeb: Washtenaw County Historic Resources Database," <https://gisappsecure.ewashtenaw.org/public/histweb/>.

³⁵ Washtenaw County, "HistWeb"; Wineberg and McCauley, *Historic Ann Arbor*, 148, 208.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 4 acres

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 42.359910

Longitude: -83.703447

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary corresponds to Washtenaw County parcel B-02-27-400-004:

Starting at the northwest corner of Northfield Church Road and Sutton Road, then west along Northfield Church Road approximately 655 feet, then north approximately 410 feet to the Groves and Horseshoe Lake Drain, then east following the course of the Groves and Horseshoe Lake Drain to Sutton Road, then south approximately 390 feet to the starting point.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the current and historic parcel as of 1930, including the church, parsonage, cemetery, accessory buildings, and significant landscape features.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski
organization: Firefly Preservation Consulting, LLC
street & number: 58 Fox Hill Court
city or town: Chelsea state: MI zip code: 48118
e-mail: cheri@fireflypreservation.com
telephone: 615-604-5618
date: July 2024

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
City or Vicinity: Ann Arbor
County: Washtenaw State: Michigan
Photographer: Cheri LaFlamme Szcodronski
Date Photographed: November 2020, April 2024

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #0001: Church Exterior – Southwest Elevation
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Photo #0002: Church Exterior – South Elevation
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Photo #0003: Church Exterior – South Elevation – Entrance Detail
3 of 33

Photo #0004: Church Exterior – Southeast Elevation
4 of 33

Photo #0005: Church Exterior – Southeast Elevation – Elevator Addition Detail
5 of 33

Photo #0006: Church Exterior – East Elevation – Window Detail
6 of 33

Photo #0007: Church Exterior – Northwest Elevation
7 of 33

Photo #0008: Church Exterior – Southwest Elevation
8 of 33

Photo #0009: Church Interior – Narthex – Facing South
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Photo #0010: Church Interior – Narthex – Facing Northwest
10 of 33

Photo #0011: Church Interior – Sanctuary – Facing North
11 of 33

Photo #0012: Church Interior – Sanctuary Transept – Facing West
12 of 33

Photo #0013: Church Interior – Sanctuary Chancel Painting Detail
13 of 33

Photo #0014: Church Interior – Sanctuary – Facing South
14 of 33

Photo #0015: Church Interior – Southeast Stair to Balcony and Belfry
15 of 33

Photo #0016: Church Interior – Sanctuary Balcony – Facing Northeast

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Photo #0017: Church Interior – Sanctuary – Rose Window Detail (from balcony)

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Photo #0018: Church Interior – Sanctuary – Window Tracery Detail (from balcony)

18 of 33

Photo #0019: Church Interior – Northeast Stair to Basement – Facing Northeast

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Photo #0020: Church Interior – Basement Kitchen – Facing Southwest

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Photo #0021: Church Interior – Basement Kitchen – Facing East

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Photo #0022: Church Interior – Basement Fellowship Hall/Sunday School – Facing Southeast

22 of 33

Photo #0023: Church Interior – Basement Fellowship Hall/Sunday School – Facing North

23 of 33

Photo #0024: Parsonage – Southwest Elevation

24 of 33

Photo #0025: Parsonage – Southeast Elevation

25 of 33

Photo #0026: Parsonage – Northeast Elevation

26 of 33

Photo #0027: Parsonage Garage #1 – Southwest Elevation

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Photo #0028: Parsonage Garage #2 – Northwest Elevation

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Photo #0029: Landscape – Facing Northwest

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Photo #0030: Landscape – Facing Southwest

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Photo #0031: Cemetery Gates – Facing North
31 of 33

Photo #0032: Cemetery – Facing West
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Photo #0033: Cemetery – Facing Southwest
33 of 33

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
Tier 2 – 120 hours
Tier 3 – 230 hours
Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.