dar, were removed. The insurance company policy was paid in full in the amount of $2200. The new and present building was constructed at a cost of approximately $3900. The cost was reduced considerably by volunteer labor by members of the congregation and kind neighbors and friends. The weather made it possible for all to help, because it commenced raining as soon as the building was started and it kept on raining just enough practically every day so that the farmers could not get into their fields, but they could build a church!

The name was changed from Helland to Scandia in 1921 and after several changes and mergers throughout the years, Scandia Lutheran Church is now a member of the Beltrami parish and of the American Lutheran Church. The pastor is the Reverend Raymond A. Holter.

Other pastors who have served the congregation include the Reverend B. L. Sundal, the Reverend O. H. Brodlund, who served approximately 25 years; the Reverend Jacob N. Dordal, the Reverend N. J. Otterstad, the Reverend Ole Belsaas, the Reverend Karl Stromme, the Reverend Hans N. Finstad, the Reverend Orlando Lee, the Reverend L. S. Gjerde, the Reverend B. L. Duckstad, the Reverend Lloyd Berger, Jr., and the Reverend Glenn C. Hetland.

One member of the congregation was ordained at the church on June 3, 1962. He is the Reverend Arlen Dewar Hermodson.

**ROLLAND BENJAMIN HAMRE**

Rolland Benjamin Hamre and Arlene Smith were united in marriage July 22, 1950 at the St. Petri Lutheran Church, Nisssville, Minnesota by the Rev. Orlando A. Lee. Thus began the history of their family, who reside in Scandia township rural Beltrami, Minnesota. This was the home farm of Rolland's parents, BJ and Josephine Hamre. Mr. Hamre passed away on January 28, 1954. Mrs. Hamre has resided in Fertile since 1950. The B. J. Hamres have nine children.

Arlene's parents were Soren and Anna Smith, who farmed for many years in Hubbard Township in Polk county. They passed away in 1956 and 1959. They had seven children, all of whom reside in Minnesota.

Rolland has lived in Scandia all his life and is owner-operator of the home farm of his parents. His wife, Arlene, taught in the rural schools for three years before their marriage.

The family consists of Steven, who was married November 28, 1969, to the former Jane Hoff of Fertile. Minnesota. They have two sons, Troy, age five, and Trevor, eight months old. Steven is a graduate of North Dakota State University at Fargo, North Dakota, with a major in mechanized agriculture. They own and operate the former N. J. Mjelde farm in Scandia township.

The oldest daughter, Valerie, is a licensed practical nurse, married to Lynn Sulerud of Fertile, Minnesota. They now live in Forest Grove, Oregon where Lynn is a student of optometry and Valerie works as a nurse in the medical clinic. They are graduates of Fertile-Beltrami High School. They were married May 25, 1974.

After Nancy graduated from Fertile-Beltrami High School, she attended college in Moorhead. She is a secretary and at the present time works as secretary in the chemistry department at Concordia College in Moorhead.

Rory Dean is a student at Minnesota Technical College in Crookston, taking courses of study in crop production. When not in school, he helps with the farming operations with his father and brother Steve.

In September, 1959, daughter Marcia was added to the family, and in January 1962 Marla, the youngest, was born. Marcia is a sophomore and Marla in the eighth grade at Fertile-Beltrami High School. They ride the school bus all those miles to Fertile. The family are members of the Scandia Lutheran Church, served by Rev. Ray Holter who was installed in September of 1975.

In January, 1969 the family moved into their new home, which was built in the summer of 1968. The old house was sold to the George Christiansons of Fertile who moved it to their farm north of Fertile.

"Praise the Lord! What an honor has been ours to be so privileged to live in this great land. We thank God that He has blessed us with a heritage even here in Polk county."

**AUGUST HERMODSON**

August Hermodson migrated to the United States in 1905, coming to Balaton, Minnesota. Here he found work on a farm enabling him to send tickets the following year to his wife and children, Gunnard, Anna and Esther, whom he had left behind in southern Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Nels Anderson, parents of Emma, accompanied the family to the United States.

The first disappointment the family had was the fact that their trunks and boxes, which contained their clothing and bedding, were lost and never did arrive.

They lived in a small house within a mile of where Mr. Hermodson worked for a year. Then, he had saved enough money to enable him to buy a team of horses and some old machinery. He rented a farm and started farming for himself. He farmed in Murray County, Minnesota, until the end of 1914. At that time, there was a "land boom" in Polk County and he with several other farmers bought land in the Red River Valley, south of Crookston.

They shipped their livestock, machinery and furniture via the Great Northern railroad, accompanied by Alfred and Magnus Larson. The Hermodson family took the train from Murray County on December 26, arriving in Beltrami on December 28, on a very cold blustery day. Arriving at the house in Scandia township which was to be their home, they found many of the window panes out and much cleaning was

Family of Rolland and Arlene Hamre: Back row: Lynn Sulerud, Marcia, Rory, Nancy and Marla Hamre. Front row: Mrs. Lynn (Valerie) Sulerud; Steven and Troy, Jane and Trevor Hamre.

25th Anniversary of Rolland and Arlene Hamre: Steve and Jane Hamre, Troy and Trevor; Lynn and Valerie Sulerud, Nancy, Rory, Marcia and Marla Hamre.