the new church. In 1951 the pastor and some of the parishioners made a survey of the financial resources of the parish. (The men named in Father Zellekens' report are: Robert Henrickson, Albert J. Kovar, William Kresl, Harold Kasprick, Emil Pribula, William Stengl, Mike Ovsak, Paul Pribula, Stephen Vanyo, Sr., John A. Kuzel and Frank Novak, Jr.) Pledges from all parishioners followed the survey and proved very promising. On January 15, 1953, the general contract was awarded to Albert Johnson of Pequot Lakes, following the approval of architectural plans which had been drawn up by William Dreher of St. Paul. All of this came under the supervision of Bishop Francis J. Schenk, Father Zellekens and the trustees, George W. Gust and Joe Generoux.

On Sunday, January 25, the parishioners assembled the last time in the old church. The following day, under the direction of Stanley Stengl, the dismantling of the church began and was completed by February 7, 1953. By doing the work themselves, the parish had saved $1,000 in removal costs and realized $1,600 in materials sold. Construction began on April 15, 1953, with the Parish Hall as the temporary place of worship. On Septuagesima Sunday, 1954, a happy parish community and pastor found themselves in the new church for worship for the first time. Bishop Schenk blessed and dedicated the Church on April 1, 1954. Auxiliary Bishop Leo Dwarschak delivered the sermon.

The cost of the Gothic structure came to $30,000; of this amount $104,000 covered the church proper, the balance went for heating, electrical and plumbing installations. Donations from the parishioners paid for the old church's parsonage, some amount was spent on the construction of the new church. A number of items, such as the baptismal font and the Stations of the Cross, were brought over from the old church, and other items were slowly replaced over time. The porch was completed in 1955, and the church was officially dedicated on October 30, 1955.

Father Zellekens died in 1957 while on vacation to his native land, Czechoslovakia. Father John Merth succeeded him as pastor and remained till January 9, 1969, when Father Roger Grundhaus took on the pastoral duties along with his work as chancellor of the diocese. Father Arno Gustin, OSB, became the pastor on August 4, 1975.

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TABOR

The village of Tabor got its name from a city in Czechoslovakia, so the Tabor church got started by Slovak people in the Slovak language. A colorful history, in Slovak, was compiled by George Ferencik Sr., in 1939 when the church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. This history was translated into English twenty-five years later by Rev. Daniel J. Adamiec for publication. The seventy-fifth anniversary of the church was held in 1964, at which time a booklet was published recording all the history and important events up to that date. On the 16th of August 1964 was held a diamond jubilee with services in both Slovak and English, with several of the former pastors attending. Mrs. Anton Pulkrabek (Mary), daughter of Thomas Stinar, Sr., who was one of the pioneer founders, narrates it in a more condensed form. Thomas Stinar, lived to celebrate his hundredth birthday and departed from this earth shortly before he reached his hundred and first. George Ferencik Sr. passed his ninety-eighth birthday before he was laid to rest with God. The following is part of the history as compiled by Mary Pulkrabek, with a few omissions to conserve space.

In the spring of the year 1883 four families moved from Minneapolis and settled near Tabor. There were no roads, no transportation and no telephone. Walking was their only means to get anywhere. All the work was done by one or two oxen and by human hands. Being of hardy pioneer stock and with the help of God their first thoughts were about finding a place to worship God together. That same year they organized meetings in their respective homes. From 1884 to 1887 many new families followed and joined in their worship services. In 1888 the first communion services were held at the Tom Kerestes home, with Rev. Karl Hozek. In November 1889, their first meeting of the church was held with Rev. Karl Hauser of Minneapolis conducting the services and business meeting. At this meeting it was decided to start the congregation under the name of Holy Trinity Slovak Lutheran Church of Tabor. The first officers were elected as follows: Thomas Kerestes, president; Andrew Ferencik, secretary; Andrew Palya, treasurer.

Charter and pioneer family members were: George Benda, George Botko, Andrew Chervenak, Andrew Ferencik, George Ferencik, John Grega, John Jancik, Thomas Jancik, Thomas Kerestes, Andrew Kmeick, Mike Kocisko, John Miziszin, George Ondurko, Andrew Palya, Andro Palya, Thomas Palya, George Ritoch, John Slusar, Adam Soltis, Andrew Soltis, Andrew Stinar, John Stinar, Thomas Stinar, Andrew Zipoy, John Zipoy, Michael Zipoy.

The construction of the church was started in the spring of 1898 and was finished the same year. There was no minister in the congregation at that time. Thomas Kerestes served as lay reader. Twice a year a minister was called from Minneapolis to serve communion. In 1917, the Warren, Radium and Tabor congregation got together and called Rev. Martin Hauser, who served as pastor for five years.

On July 30, 1929 the congregation suffered a great shock and loss. The church was blown down by a tornado, destroying everything but the bell and altar vessels. It was decided to erect a new church building on the old site and construction began late in the fall and the new building was completed in the spring. Dedication services were held on June 1, 1930 which marked a day of celebration, great joy and a congregational dinner.

From 1930 to 1945 Rev. Daniel J. Adamiec served communion in Slovak twice a year, coming from Minneapolis. After 1939, with the help of St. Mark's Church in Grand Forks, we called on their pastors. They were: Rev. Jensen, Rev. Stump, and Rev. Brocious. At that time our services were held in English. Over the period of years when we did not have a full time pastor, we were grateful for the help given our church by seminary students and various pastors and laymen in the area so that the Word and Sacraments were made available to all. In 1947, we decided to call a resident pastor and got the Rev. Dr. William Gable from Rocky Boy Indian Mission in Montana. Dr. Gable served us until his retirement in June of 1957. Under Pastor Gable we affiliated with the Northwest Synod, which later merged with other church bodies to establish the Lutheran Church in America (LCA) of which we are now a member.

Pastors serving us since 1957 were the Revs. Frank Mayer, Robert Sorensen, James Behnke, Jon Ellefon and Rodger Ericson. Our present Pastor is Rev. Charles Stephens. Together with the Zion and Elim churches of Alvarado we comprise the Alvarado-Tabor parish and employ the services of the same pastor.