

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received JAN 26 1982

date entered MAR 1 1982

## 1. Name

historic Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

and/or common Saint Paul's Lutheran Church

## 2. Location

street & number 1126 ~~South~~ Barr Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Fort Wayne \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 4th

state Indiana code 018 county Allen code 003

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

street & number 1126 S. Barr Street

city, town Fort Wayne \_\_\_ vicinity of state Indiana 46802

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder's Office, City-County Building

street & number 1 Main Street

city, town Fort Wayne, state Indiana

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory has this property been determined eligible? \_\_\_ yes  no

date 1979 \_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Indiana Department of Natural Resources

city, town Indianapolis state Indiana

## 7: Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at the termination of Madison at Barr Street, is the epitome of the High Gothic style of architecture in Fort Wayne, as is evident by its use of heavy, complex ornamentation, its massing, and its form.

The two-story, red brick and limestone structure with gabled roof is in a cruciform plan. The nave of the church is 140 feet long, and the transepts are 90 feet from end to end. Its many bays are separated by brick buttresses accented by limestone weathering. Replete with arched and gabled openings, these openings repeat and compliment each other throughout the building.

The church was first built in 1889, designed by the architects Wing and Mahurin. It was damaged by fire in 1903 and rebuilt in 1905. A parish hall was added in 1956.

The church foundation is constructed of rock-faced limestone. The east-facing, main facade is divided into three bays. The central bay may be divided into six horizontal sections from foundation to spire. Steps lead to the gabled, limestone portal which is supported by piers with carved capitals. Elaborate scrolls at the ends of the gable rest on the capitals. The double doors with rose window tympanum are surrounded by a compound Gothic arch. A recessed medallion is under the apex of the gable; the gable is adorned with crockets and a finial.

The second section, immediately above the portal, consists of a large Gothic window covered by a gabled hood. A rose window composes the top half of the window. The bottom section consists of four arches. Brick pilasters with limestone bases and capitals support a Gothic arch with limestone voussoirs. The gable surmounting the arch is topped by crockets and a cross.

The tower has a plain brick panel which serves as a backdrop for the aforementioned cross and finial. This panel is surmounted by a small limestone course and a small Gothic brick arcade.

Surmounting the arcade at the third level, which stands above the roofline, is another limestone course, combined with the sills of two small, scalloped, louvered arches topped by narrow limestone connecting arches, accented by limestone keystones. At the top of this section, two limestone courses contain a corbel table.

The first three sections are contained by brick pilasters or buttresses at each corner, accented by limestone weathering and topped by gablets.

The more elaborate belfry at the fourth level consists of small, polygonal, brick turrets at each corner, with blind arches and gablets. The layered, conical roofs of the turrets are topped with finials.

The actual belfry is octagonal in shape with four scalloped, louvered arches topped by limestone gables and finials. These arches face north, south, west, and east. Smaller louvered arches point in the remaining four directions, south-east, southwest, etc. Separating each of the louvered arches is a small brick pilaster with limestone course and limestone gablet with a blind arch, raking trim and crockets.

At the fifth level, the octagonal spire is accented in the four main directions by louvered arches and gables. The top of the spire is adorned by a decorative band and crockets, surmounted by a cross. The height of the combined tower and spire is 214 feet.

(Continued)

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1889-1905

**Builder/Architect** Wing and Mahurin

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is significant because it embodies elements of Gothic ecclesiastical architecture, as well as elements of the High Victorian Gothic style. The result is a beautiful Gothic structure of architectural and historic significance. The church was designed in 1889 by the Fort Wayne architects, J. F. Wing and M. S. Mahurin, whose architectural specialty was the Richardsonian Romanesque style. St. Paul's church serves as a successful departure from their traditional building mode. The church was destroyed by fire in 1903 and was rebuilt in 1905.

The massing of the structure, the choice of red brick and limestone building material, as well as the heavy ornamentation, represent the High Victorian Gothic principles of strength and beauty. The church is subtle in its use of High Victorian polychromy, which is evident by the window hoods which are of one color only, or are accented with bits of contrasting colors, as in the use of a keystone. Gothic ecclesiastical architectural elements are reflected in the church interior by its use of piers and vaults. The elaborate chancel and the effects of the stained glass windows throughout the church make this structure an outstanding example of high Gothic architecture in northern Indiana.

The site of this church has been in the possession of the St. Paul's Lutheran congregation since 1839. It is the second oldest Lutheran congregation in the state of Indiana.

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ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

"A Brief History of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church," M. H. Bertram, Fort Wayne, 1962.  
"The Origins of Lutheranism in the Fort Wayne Area (1829-1847)," Rev. Rudolph F. Rehmer, Old Fort News, 1967

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Approx. one acre  
Quadrangle name Fort Wayne, West, Indiana Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>16</u>	<u>656620</u>	<u>4548600</u>	B				
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
C				D				
E				F				
G				H				

Verbal boundary description and justification

Please see continuation sheet

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title T. Wayne Jones and Rosella Foelber, National Register of Historic Places Committee, and Robert Hans, Trustee

organization St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church date January 19, 1980

street & number 1126 South Barr Street telephone 219/423-2496; Home 219/485-0281

city or town Fort Wayne state Indiana 46802

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *[Signature]*

title Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer date 1-18-82

**For HCERS use only**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

*[Signature]* Entered in the National Register date 3/1/82

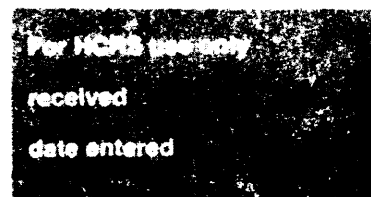
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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St. Paul's Ev.

Continuation sheet Lutheran Church

Item number 7, Description

Page 1

The central bay of the main facade is flanked by two identical side bays, contained by buttressing. Above the rock-faced limestone foundation is a limestone course and sill on which are placed two lancet windows topped by two connecting limestone arches, accented by limestone keystones.

A limestone molding adorned by a series of discs engraved with quatrefoils separates the ground floor lancet pair from a large Gothic window above. The window with tracery is divided into a pair of lancet windows surmounted by a trefoil.

The limestone arch with keystone surrounds the top third of the window; small carved moldings form what could be considered the impost of the arch. A steep gable with a circle design capped by a finial surmounts the entire arched window. A limestone parapet with a blind Gothic arcade adorns the top of the bay. A small section of the gable end of the nave roof flanks the central bay.

The multiple buttresses which contain the side bays are accented by limestone weathering. The buttresses culminate into polygonal turrets with blind brick arches, limestone gablets, an upper layer of blind arches and recessed squares covered by layered conical roofs, and peaked by finials.

The previously described elevation is duplicated on the adjoining south side of the side bay, with the exception of a Gothic arched portal with limestone weathering, surmounted by a finial-peaked gable, which replaces the first story lancet windows of the main facade. Limestone steps lead to the entrance of this small portal.

The north and south elevation of the nave section is divided into three bays, separated by brick buttressing with limestone weathering. Each bay contains a double-lancet window with heavy limestone sill. Tracery divides each window into two pairs of lancets; the uppermost pair is culminated by a trefoil pattern, surmounted by a limestone arch with corbel stops. A brick corbel table trims the eaves of the steeply pitched, gabled roof.

The elevation of the transept ends consists of a large central window flanked by lower lancets. A series of four adjoining lancet windows, with heavy limestone sills and Gothic arches, is placed at the bottom-center of the elevation. The very large Gothic window with tracery consists of four lancet windows at the bottom and a large rose window on top. The entire window is surmounted by a Gothic arch with limestone keystone. Double lancets with limestone tracery and Gothic arches flank the central window. A brick corbel table decorates the rake of the gabled roof.

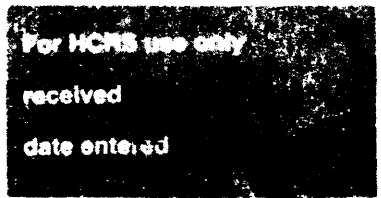
The adjoining eastern elevation of the transept contains a ground floor doorway flanked by brick pilasters with limestone weathering. A Gothic arched tympanum and a limestone gable surmount the doorway. The elevation includes a pair of blind, brick Gothic arches and a corbel table under the eaves of the roof.

A polygonal rood-spire projects from the roof where the nave and transepts intersect. The tower consists of a base, louvered arches and gablets. The conical, polygonal roof is peaked by a cross.

The interior of the church has a seating capacity of approximately 1200. The nave contains rows of oak pews on each side of the central aisle, which face the chancel. Pews which face the center aisle are located in the area which would be considered the side aisles; immediately above the side aisle pews is a balcony of pews which also face the center aisle.

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Continuation sheet St. Paul's  
Ev. Lutheran Church Item number 7, Description Page 2

Oak piers rise from the floor which are crowned by floriated capitals. From the tops of the capitals spring the vaulting shafts, from which spring the rib vaults of the ceiling. The wall and ceiling of the church interior are decorated with painted stencil designs. The stained glass of the nave and transept windows filters a green and amber light in the sanctuary. This creates a pleasant contrast with the dark oak timber used throughout the interior.

A richly carved oak pulpit to the north of the chancel is supported by a pedestal. The hexagonal pulpit body is decorated with statues within niches. An elaborately carved canopy hangs over the pulpit.

The chancel area of the church contains a semi-circular altar rail surrounding the altar. A richly carved altar screen, or reredos, forms an elaborate backdrop for the altar. A large niche is provided for a nearly life-size statue of Christ, flanked by Saints Peter and Paul, also in niches. The rear walls of the chancel contain red, blue, and purple stained lancets, surmounted by a trefoil design.

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date entered

St. Paul's

Continuation sheet Ev. Lutheran Church

Item number 10, Verbal Boundary Page 3

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Fort Wayne is located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Barr Street and Lewis Street and extends north on Barr Street approximately 220 feet, and is legally described as lots 199, 198, 197 and south 12 feet of lot 196 of Samuel Hanna's 1st Addition according to the plat, thereof, in the Office of the Recorder of Allen County, Indiana.