United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Page

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

Section number

# SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 100004723

Date Listed: 12/03/2019

Property Name: St. John's Lutheran Church and School

County: Lake

State: IN

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper

Section 8: Areas of Significance

The subcategory "European - German" is hereby added under ETHNIC HERITAGE

The church and school are closely related to the German settlement of Tolleston (now a part of Gary); the school helped retain the "German-ness" of the community in language, custom and the Lutheran religion.

The Indiana State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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Natl. Rog. of Historic Places

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 setting only to the instructions.

# 1. Name of Property

Historic name: St. John's Lutheran Church and School

Other names/site number: <u>Tolleston German Lutheran Church and School</u> Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

### 2. Location

Title :

Street & number: 2271 W	7. 10 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	
City or town: Gary	State: IN	County: Lake
Not For Publication:	Vicinity:	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  $\underline{X}$  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  $\underline{X}$  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 \_\_\_\_\_local Applicable National Register Criteria:

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Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date	
Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Pre	servation and Archaeology	
Indiana DNR-Division of Historic Pre State or Federal agency/bureau or Tri	A Contract of the second	

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

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Name of Property

Lake County, Indiana County and State

3/2019 Date of Action

# 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

5. Classification

### **Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private: х

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Public - State

Public - Federal

# **Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property

Lake County, Indiana County and State

(Do not include previously list	sted resources in the count)	
Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_0\_\_\_\_

6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.) <u>RELIGION/religious facility</u> <u>RELIGION/church school</u>

# Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.) <u>RELIGION/religious facility</u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.) <u>LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic</u> LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival

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### Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation:	<u>CONCRETE</u>
walls:	BRICK
	STONE/Limestone
roof:	ASPHALT
other:	METAL/Steel

### 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**

### School Structure

St. John's Lutheran School, constructed in 1914,<sup>1</sup> is a two-story brick structure sitting above a raised basement (photo 1). The Neoclassical Revival structure faces south and sits on the northeast corner of 10<sup>th</sup> Place and Taft Street, directly behind, to the south, of St. John's Lutheran Church, in the historic Tolleston area of Gary. The façade of the structure is further enhanced with some minor Gothic attributes used around the main entry. The surrounding neighborhood is residential.

### Church Structure

St. John's Lutheran Church (photos 10, 11, 12), constructed in 1923,<sup>2</sup> is a two-story, red brick structure sitting above a full basement; the outer walls of the basement are covered in brick to ground level and are accented with Bedford Limestone shaped by the firm of Moore and Dittrich.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Also in, <u>A Century of God's</u> <u>Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated. Also in, "Lay Cornerstone of new Lutheran School Sunday," <u>Gary Daily Tribune</u>, 4 May 1914, p.8, col. 5. <sup>2</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Also in, <u>A Century of God's</u> <u>Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Also in, "Lutherans to Dedicate New Church Sunday," <u>Gary</u> Post-Tribune, 13 October 1923, p. 5, col. 1.

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Name of Property County and State The Gothic Revival structure, designed by architect Julius Kaaz and built by Marcello Gerometta Construction,<sup>3</sup> faces north and sits on the southeast corner of West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Taft Street, directly north of St. John's Lutheran School.

# **Narrative Description**

# School

# Exterior description

The school structure consists of a central hall with attached classroom wings. The footprint of the building can be divided into three sections. The outer two sections (classrooms) are almost square and of equal size. The rectangular center section (hall) is narrower and longer, extending forward beyond the front elevation of the classrooms approximately eight feet; it is in this central section that the main entry doors into the structure are located. The structure's façade is symmetrical, in the Neoclassical style. Six concrete steps lead up to a small landing located in front of the pair of doors; the sides of the steps and the landing are lined by a low brick wall topped with a limestone coping. The door openings are recessed within a large, round, Roman arch with multiple courses. The arch is supported by a square, brick, Doric pilaster set on each side of the door opening. A limestone architrave rests on top of the pilasters and spans the width of the door opening. Two modern, metal fire doors, each containing a vertically set rectangular window, occupy the historic, wood-framed, door openings. The two doors are separated by a square brick pilaster. Each door opening has a single light, wood-framed, transom window mounted above it. The doors open into the building at a level half way between the basement and first floor. A square limestone panel, about half way up each pilaster, decorates the entry; these are a continuation of a narrow stringcourse that surrounds the structure at this level. The limestone set in the west pilaster is the school's cornerstone which contains the inscription, "Weide meine Lämmer"<sup>4</sup> (photo 2) and the year of school's construction, 1914. Inset within the center of the Roman arch are two pointed Gothic arches created from brick, these are the only Gothic attributes on the structure. Above the arch, centered between it and the edge of the roof, is a large brick lined window frame with a limestone sill. The opening has been partially filled in with brick with a large glass block window placed in the upper portion of the opening. This once had a large, wood-framed window but it was replaced, probably at the time the other windows in the structure were replaced c. 1990. Immediately above the window opening brick corbeling creates an architrave. Above this is a limestone stringcourse that surrounds the building at the roofline. A low brick parapet, which mimics a frieze, surrounds the structure; it is topped with a limestone coping. Centered in this frieze area, directly above the entry and window openings, is a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Looking Backward but... Going Forward," St. John's Church commemorative seventy-fifth anniversary history booklet. Printed 1945. Copy in archives of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Translates to "feed my lambs", a passage taken from John 21, verse 15. A key belief of Martin Luther and the protestant Reformation was that the common man did not require a priest to read and interpret the Bible. To do this you need a literate society. To achieve this the young [the lambs] need to be fed [taught] to be able to interpret and understand the word of God.

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Name of Property County and State limestone plaque with two rows of raised letters, "*St. John's Luth. School.*" To enhance the frieze around the structure, are raised rectangular frames created using soldier and header bricks. The fenestration of the sidewalls of this extended section of the structure contains one window on each floor and basement. All exterior doors have been replaced with modern steel doors and all windows are modern, metal-framed, one-over-one double-hung or single-pane replacements that were constructed to fit the structure's historic openings.

The fenestration on the classroom wings is symmetrical with five window openings on the first and second floors and three openings at the basement level. The basement windows are about half the size of the windows on the first and second floors. Each basement window has a splayed lintel constructed of soldier brick and a limestone sill. First and second floor windows have limestone sills and lintels created using bricks in soldier and rowlock positions. The façade of both the east and west classroom wings shows that at some time in the recent past, possibly when the windows were replaced, there was a reconstruction of part of the wall above the first floor windows.

The east and west elevations of the structure are basically identical. Each has two openings on each the first and second floors. These openings, approximately the same size as the openings on the main façade, each contain a small glass block window in a sixteen block, 4X4 pattern, in the upper half, and the lower half is filled with brick. A limestone sill is located under the glass blocks and at the bottom of the opening. The same lintel pattern seen on the main façade windows is seen on the east and west façade window openings. The lower portion of the opening was originally filled with brick in order to accommodate chalkboards along the walls of the classrooms. At the basement level there is a variation of the symmetry and balance on the east and west elevations. The south opening on the east elevation has a metal entry/fire door that leads into a basement recreation room; the north window opening has been filled in. The basement level of the west elevation has only one window and that is on the south end.

The north elevation (photo 3), or rear of the school, sits about ten feet away from the rear elevation of the church. There are four bays of windows evenly spaced across this elevation. Two, square, brick chimneys divide the elevation into three equal sections. The outer two sections, the classroom wings, contain a centered window opening at each floor level and basement; the basement opening has been enclosed with brick. The center section of the elevation, the hall area, contains four openings, two on each the first and second floor level. The west opening on the first floor contains a door that opens onto the fire escape attached to the rear elevation. The west opening on the second floor is a large double-hung window identical to those located on the main façade. The two eastern windows are identical to the small glass block windows described on the east elevation. The window openings at the basement level have been filled in with brick. There is one small opening that has been boarded up, it is near the west end of the elevation; this was once the coal chute into the utility room area. A semi-subterranean tunnel connects the center section of the school to the rear of the church providing all-weather access to both structures from their interiors; it is constructed of poured concrete.

# Interior description

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As stated in the exterior description the structure is can be divided into three sections. The large outer sections, better described as wings, contain classrooms while the central section acts as a hall.

# Entrance foyer and stairwell

The south end of the center hall section extends forward about eight feet beyond the front elevation of the outer classroom wings of the structure. The southern one-third of the hall contains the primary stairwell and stair landings. Half-turn stairs access each floor. The main entry into the school is located on the landing situated between the basement and the first floor; a large window opening, now filled in with glass block, is located on the landing between the first and second floors. Although when constructed the stairwell was open to the rest of the hall area, it is now isolated from the balance of the hall by modern fire doors and curtain walls (photo 4). The area beneath the wood hand rails on the second floor landing is filled with beaded, tongueand-groove wood slats to enclose the sides of the stairs. These handrails and short walls are attached to square, wood newel posts; one at the landing between the first and second floors and one at the landing of the second floor. The stairwell walls leading to the other levels of the structure are plaster and the space they traverse is not as open as it is between the first and second floors. Above the fire doors, on all floors, are large, fixed, single-light, transom windows that allow natural light to access the interior of the otherwise dark hall; these also complete the portioning of the stairwell from the rest of the remaining hall area on each floor. The fire doors and the transoms are not original to construction.

# Basement

The basement is bisected by a wall, with several areas in the west end and two large areas in the east end. The basement is accessed by double doors at the bottom of the stairs from the main entry landing, in the southeast corner of the western half of the basement. The walls are covered with original plaster, bathroom walls are covered with modern plaster board, and the concrete floor is covered with modern ceramic tile and asbestos tile. Directly to the west of the main stairwell, along the south wall, is the boy's restroom. The girl's restroom is located in the southwest corner of the basement. Both restrooms have been modernized, but otherwise occupy their historic locations. The northwest corner of the basement is occupied by a furnace/utility room. Access to the tunnel which leads north to the church is located to the east of the utility room, along the north wall of the basement. Located to the east of the tunnel access are the back stairwell and a small storage room, which features its historic, five-panel wood door. The east half of the basement is accessed by a doorway in the dividing wall, just north of the main stairwell. The opening features its historic, five-panel, wood door. The eastern half is divided into two equally-sized spaces by a temporary plasterboard partition. The larger room appears to have been used as an indoor activity and exercise room. Markings which set off areas for physical activities are still visible on the asbestos tile floor. An exterior door, accessed by six wood steps, is located in the east wall of the basement. The door leads to the school's exercise yard, located east of the building. The basement is currently used for storage.

### St. John's Lutheran Church and School Name of Property First and second floors

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The first floor hall is accessed from the stairwell located at its south end; the hall contains two offices, one set into its northeast corner and one in the northwest corner (photo 6). These offices are separated by a rear stairwell that leads down to an emergency exit that is located at ground level on the north side of the building. The door openings for each office are located immediately to the east and west of this stairwell. The room to the west of the stairs is small, only occupying space within the hall; its historic use is not known. The entry, unlike the other on this level, has no transom window. The door east of the stairwell leads into the school's administrative offices; it has a large transom window above the door opening with "OFFICE" stenciled onto the glass. This large office shares some of the space of the classroom to its east. A window is located within the room near the south end of the east of the office. The dark-stained, wood door trim and surrounds and floor trim are original to construction and continue around the entire hall and into the classrooms. The floors are of poured concrete and are covered with a dark stain wood flooring. The ceiling height in the hall and classrooms is twelve feet.

The second floor of the hall is a large open cloakroom (photo 7). A stairwell opens in the center of the room, the stairs lead down to a personnel door at the first floor level that opens onto a fire escape that is attached to the rear elevation of the school. None of the second floor is tiled and the poured concrete floor is left exposed.

Each wing of the school contains a single, large classroom on the first and second floors for a total of four classrooms. With the exception of the space taken from the east wing classroom on the first floor to create additional space for the administrative offices; all rooms are identical in size and layout. For this purpose only one description of a classroom interior will be made, this will be the east classroom on the first floor. Within the other three classrooms, in the interior corner where the office extension is located, the room is not interrupted creating a square, instead of stepped, room layout.

The main entry into each of the classrooms from the central hall is located near the south end of the wall separating the room from the central hall. The openings into each room feature a wood, five-panel door; above each is a large single-light, transom window. Five, large double-hung windows are evenly spaced along the south wall of each classroom. These windows rise almost to the ceiling providing lots of natural light and ventilation (photo 8). This concept was being promoted by modern school designers such as William B. Ittner who designed several schools for the Gary Public School system. Each classroom also has two windows on their east or west exterior walls. These window openings are much smaller and are mounted high on the wall to allow space below for chalk boards (photo 9). There are windows, identical to the ones just described, located on the north wall of each classroom; classrooms in the east wing have two of these windows and classrooms in the west wing have one of these windows, located close to the inner walls. In the classroom being described there is an observation window located in the east wall of the administrative office. This wall was created as part of the need for more functional space in the office. The floors of the classrooms on the first floor are covered with the same dark stained hard wood that is in the hall; the second floor classroom floors are exposed concrete. The

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rooms are illuminated by hanging light fixtures; though historic, these do not appear to be original to construction but come from around the late 1930s (photo 9).

Each classroom has a cloak room accessible through a wood, five-panel door located on the south wall of each room just south of the room's door opening into the hall (photo 8). To provide additional floor space within the cloak room the designer borrowed space from the center hall in the stairwell and entry.

The condition of the interior and exterior of St. John's Lutheran School today is very good. Within Gary there is only one additional example of a central hall school, this is the Glen Park Public School located at 3910 Broadway just south of Ridge Road; about three miles from St. John's. There are many excellent examples of large modern schools in Gary with several designed by architect William B. Ittner who is considered the father of modern school architecture; several of his Gary schools are on the National Register. What St. John's School represents is an evolutionary step towards what was considered a modern school at the turn of the twentieth century. St. John's School is representative of education's move away from the one room school, where educational grade levels had not been segregated, towards the modern school structures we know today.

# Church

# Exterior description

The footprint of the church is cruciform in plan, following historic Gothic precedents, with square towers attached at each corner of the main, or north, facade. The transept of the church, set about two-thirds back from the main façade, extends outwards only a few feet beyond the primary elevation of the church's side walls; they primarily provide enframements for the structures two largest art glass windows.

The main façade of the church (photo 10) has a steeply-pitched front gable, a key element of the Gothic style. The steeply-pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. At the northeast and northwest corners of the façade, set slightly into the main body of the structure, rise large, square, brick towers, another significant Gothic element. The west tower is topped with a steeple and spire, and contains the church bell. At grade, in the basement level of the façade, are six window openings. A pair is centered on the base of each tower. The other two are on the main elevation, one between each tower and the vestibule. The two openings in the east tower and the opening between the west tower and the vestibule are covered. The other openings contain their historic, wood-framed, double-hung, 2/2 windows. Directly above these windows is a limestone water table, this element continues around the entire circumference of the church. Just above this water table on the northeast corner of the west tower is the church cornerstone; it is inscribed,

"Praise Ye the Lord" 1868, 1888, 1922 (these dates represent the years in which the congregation dedicated itself to construct a new church).

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The fenestration and decorative elements of each of the two tower shafts are identical on the first two floors; this ends just above where the tower is intersected by the lower eave of the roof over the main body of the church. Each tower contains a pair of art glass, lancet windows centered on the first floor level. These windows share a common limestone sill and label molding which follows the peaked outline of each lancet arch. The second floor has a single, slightly larger art glass lancet window with label molding. Each exposed corner of each tower is supported by a brick buttress. These terminate at the point where the tower rises above the roof line, stepping in three times on their rise up the elevation; each step is capped by a dripstone. A decorative limestone stringcourse surrounds each tower separating the shaft of the tower from its crest, directly above this is a limestone base from which the crest of each tower rises.

The top of the east tower features a parapet with gable that is topped with a carved limestone coping on each side. At each corner of the tower, sitting on the limestone base directly above the buttress is a multi-faceted brick base topped by a conical, limestone cap which is carved to emulate roof shingles. Each of these is topped with a limestone finial. Centered in the parapet on each elevation is a limestone cross recessed into the brick.

The top of the west tower features the steeple and spire. The brick steeple is similar in design to the top of the east tower with gabled parapet walls connecting between the multi-faceted brick base at each corner of the tower. However, this portion of the west tower is twice the height of the same portion of the east tower. The walls are topped with a carved limestone coping with the apex of each gabled peak decorated with a limestone finial. Centered on the elevation beneath each gable is a large, Gothic arch opening which opens into the interior of the belfry and is covered by original wood-framed louvers constructed to mimic a pair of lancet windows. Above the steeple is the octagon-shaped church spire. The spire of the church is sheathed in metal which has been stamped to mimic shingles, the type of metal<sup>5</sup> used is not known. The peak of the spire is terminated with a cross.

The main entry into the church is centered between the two towers and is accessed by a double stair. Seven concrete steps lead down from the landing in front of the main, double doors of the church to a large concrete landing. Coming off the east and west sides of the landing are six concrete steps, set perpendicular to the steps in front of the door; they terminate at ground level and are immediately accessible to the public sidewalk. These are not the original steps. In 1951, the original concrete steps were replaced.<sup>6</sup> In the original Kaaz design, the steps led straight from the entry to the public sidewalk. This change was made at the same time the basement tunnel connecting the church to the school was constructed.

The double doorway sits within a Gothic arch that is recessed within a gable-front entry. A square brick column is set into each of the vestibule's outer corners. These columns rise to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Lutherans to Dedicate New Church Sunday," <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u>, 13 October 1923, p. 5, col. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

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level of the lower edge of the entry gable where they step inward before proceeding up the main façade where they terminate; the top of each buttress is capped with a limestone dripstone. On the top of the first step is a square, limestone capital that is capped with a steeply-pitched, limestone pyramid with shingles carved into each side. The peak of each pyramidal roof is capped with a limestone finial. The double doors are set in their historic milled, wood-frame Gothic arch opening.<sup>7</sup> The modern, metal fire doors occupy the lower two-thirds of the opening, the upper third, the tapered area of the arch, contains a Gothic-style transom window. It contains four vertical lights set between wide, milled and shaped, wood mullions. The brick work surrounding the Gothic arch within the vestibule steps inwards creating a recessed area. The brick edge of the front gable above the door is covered with a shaped limestone coping. The apex of the gable is topped by another carved limestone finial.

Directly above the vestibule, at the second floor level, is a large art glass window set into a large Gothic arch; the milled wood window frame and its tracery are original. The window opening has a limestone sill with a limestone label molding above it; the label molding follows the radius of the arch and is capped at its apex with a flush mounted limestone finial. The window is divided by a wide, milled wood mullion into three, equally-wide, vertical sections. The upper third of the window is divided into six sections with the introduction of curving lines. The art glass window will be described in the interior description of the structure.

Above this large window, near the peak of the gable, is a small lancet window whose opening is filled with wood louvers; this provides ventilation to the attic area above the church's vaulted ceiling. The top edge of the gable wall is covered with a shaped limestone coping. A limestone cross, sitting on a square limestone pedestal, sits at the apex of the roof gable.

The east and west elevations of the church can be divided into four sections, the tower, the main body, the transept and the rear of the church. The east and west elevations are almost identical except within the towers which have a variation in the first floor fenestration. The fenestration of the east elevation (photo 11) of the east tower is identical to its north, or main, elevation previously described, with a pair of lancet windows on the first floor and a single lancet window at the second floor level with two enclosed basement openings. The tower located on the west elevation (photo 12) contains a secondary entry into the fover of the church. The door opening sits inside a large Gothic arch and is covered by a pair of modern, metal, double doors. The doors open onto a concrete landing which is accessed by four concrete steps; the sides of the landing and the steps are protected by a wrought iron handrail. The historic wood framework is identical to the framework around the front entry. The recessed opening is constructed using several courses of stepped brick, identical to the main door opening on the front of the church. This causes the recessed area to extend forward from the elevation a short distance. Above this area the brick rises to a peaked gable; the exposed brick at the top of the wall is topped by a carved limestone coping. The second floor contains a single lancet window identical to the one on the tower's north elevation. The east and west elevations of the main body of the structure are mirror images of each other. The limestone water table, starting on the front elevation, continues around

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Note: All the wood millwork used in the church was done by Kaaz Manufacturing of Atchison, Kansas. This company was operated by the brother of Julius Kaaz, the architect of the church.

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each of the elevations separating the basement and first floor levels. Two buttresses divide the plane of the wall into three equal sections; these buttresses only step in once on their rise upwards on the elevation. A large Gothic arch window is centered in each of the three sections; each window has a limestone sill and label mold. Each of the openings contains an art glass window that sits within their historic molded, wood frames; the exterior of these windows have been covered in Plexiglas to protect them. The wide transept has a front-facing gable and is situated about two-thirds of the way back from the front elevation, extending outward about ten feet from the main body of the church. Centered in the gabled end of the transept is a large Gothic, art glass window. The three part window enframements and tracery of this window are identical to the large window described above the entry vestibule on the front of the building. The window has a large limestone sill and label mold. Centered in the gable area above the window is a very small lancet window that opens into the attic area above the vaulted ceiling to provide ventilation. Two large buttresses support the corners of the transept's main elevation; the tops of the buttresses are terminated with pyramidal caps, larger but otherwise identical to those described on the towers. The rear section of the side elevations is on the same plane as the main body of the building extending southward about ten feet from the rear of the transept (photo 12). A lancet window, the same size as the three described on the main body, is located in the rear portion of the east and west elevations. The window have tinted glass with a limestone sill and label mold. A buttress, near the outer edge of the elevation, supports the wall. The buttress rises above the level of the roof lead edge and is capped with a plain limestone pyramidal block. The rear section of the east elevation, at the basement and first floor levels, is different from the west elevation. A personnel door and vestibule has been inset in the elevation allowing access to the basement; the west elevation has a covered opening at basement level and a lancet window with label molding in the first floor level. The gabled rear elevation of the church sits very close to the rear of the school building and is the least adorned elevation of the church. At the basement level, slightly east of center, a semi-subterranean tunnel leaves the church leading into the basement of the school. Although not visible from the interior there are two close set lancet windows centered in the elevation at the first floor level, these windows provide natural light to come through behind the alter in the interior. Centered in the peak of the gable of the elevation is a small lancet window which ventilates the attic area. The exposed tops of the gable are covered with a molded limestone coping; the peak of the gable is unadorned.

# Interior description

During the Protestant Reformation many new churches sprang from the roots of the ancient Catholic Church. Some of these new churches, especially Lutheran and Episcopalian, understood that the traditional, ritualized, and formally structured worship would for many always resonate in a powerful, deeply inspiring way. Many Catholic religious traditions, such as the processional of vested clergy up the center aisle at the beginning of the service, the use of incense, the incorporation of religious symbols, the communal recitation of prayers and the performance of the sacraments, all mark the worship practices typical of a liturgical church. The functional layout of St. John's Lutheran Church was designed to accommodate the historic precedents of liturgical church practices.

Lake County, Indiana

The interior of the church is cruciform in plan containing three levels; the basement, the main floor and the balcony. The basement (photo 13) contains one large room which can be divided into smaller meeting rooms by the use of folding, wood dividers, none of which are original to construction. The floor of the room is poured concrete that has been sealed, and the poured concrete walls have been paneled with varnished white pine. There is a stairwell in the northwest corner that comes down from the entry alcove in the west tower. To the east of the stairwell is a five-panel, wood door. This accesses a room that runs the width of the north end of the basement; it is currently used for storage. Another stair is located in the southeast corner of the room; it leads up to the exterior door near the rear of the east elevation of the exterior wall. Halfway up the stairwell, on its south wall, is a door. Inside of the doorway is another stairwell which by making a ninety degree turn, leads up to the pastor's office on the main floor of the church. In the south wall of the basement, adjacent to the stairwell is the subterranean tunnel leading into the school; the opening is covered by two sliding doors. There is an alcove created in the east wall of the basement by the outward extension of the transept; within this area is a modern, fully-equipped service kitchen. The north end of this alcove is closed off from the main portion of the basement by a wall with an access door and two large, closable serving windows. The kitchen floor is covered with ceramic tile set in a tan and white checkerboard pattern.

The first floor consists of the entrance vestibule, nave and chancel of the church. The vestibule runs across the entire width of the church. The main entry is centered in the foyer. Above the modern steel fire doors, in the tapered area of the Gothic arch, is a leaded, art glass window with four vertical lights that are separated by wide, milled, wood mullions. The leaded glass follows the tracery of the millwork with a yellow cut glass border. The remaining area of each light is divided into several geometric shapes which are filled with an opaque uncolored glass. The west end (photo 14) of the foyer steps down six steps to a small landing located in front of the west entry into the church; this area is located within the tower with the church steeple. A door on the south wall of this landing opens into a stairway leading down to the northwest corner of the basement. The west entry is a duplicate of the main entry described above. The east end of the foyer contains a stairwell that leads up to the balcony (photo 15). Ten steps lead up to a landing, which bisects the paired lancet windows that are located in the east elevation of the east tower. On the landing the stairs make a ninety degree turn and continue up to the balcony; the sidewalls of the stairwell are covered with a beaded pine paneling. The entire floor of the foyer and the steps leading up to the balcony are carpeted.

The nave of the church (photos 16, 17 and 18) sits beneath a high vaulted and ribbed ceiling. The room's decorative elements were created using plaster and milled woodwork made by the Julius Kaaz Manufacturing Co. of Atchison, Kansas.<sup>8</sup> The altar, communion rail, and pulpit, also produced by Julius Kaaz Manufacturing Co., sit within the chancel area located in the south end of the room (photo 16). The spaces between the ribs of the vault above the altar each contain a painted medallion; the center vault medallion is larger than the two flanking it. The remaining wall space between the ribs has been stenciled with a slightly contrasting color creating the impression of lacework. There are two small rooms located in the southeast and southwest corners of the church, opening into the chancel. The room to the west, according to the original

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Cash Ledger for St. John church construction, located in church archives.

#### Name of Property

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blueprint, is a storage room and the small east room is the pastor's office. Within the pastor's office are the stairs leading up from the basement. Hardwood pews fill the bulk of the nave (photo 17). Across the north end of the nave is a balcony, the only second floor level in the structure. It forms the ceiling over the entry foyer but also extends outward into the nave creating a gallery area behind the pews. Situated in the northeast corner of the church, underneath the balcony, is a small room identified in the original blueprints as the "Ladies Room." The room is accessed through a door in the east end of the wall separating the sanctuary from the vestibule. The balcony, accessible only from the foyer, contains additional pews and the church's Wangerin-Weickert pipe organ.<sup>9</sup> The wood-paneled organ casing abuts the north wall of the church and is topped with one row of forty-one flue pipes of various sizes. The majority of the organ elements are not visible, while the organ console sits at the north end of the balcony, centered between the pews, (more about the organ will be discussed in section eight of the nomination). There are four large art glass windows evenly spaced along each of the nave's outer walls with images depicting New Testament symbols and stories of Jesus (photo 18). The largest window on each side sits in the end wall of the transept; the west window depicting the announcement of Jesus' birth and the east window depicting the Resurrection (photo 19). The windows are each divided into three vertical sections with geometric tracery dividing them into smaller sections in the arch area. The remaining windows are lancet shaped. The windows were produced in the studio of the Chicago firm of Giannini and Hilgart.<sup>10</sup> These memorial windows are dedicated to deceased members of the church and were paid for by pledges from their families. The subjects of the art glass will be discussed further in section 8 of the nomination. Illuminating the room are six bronze-framed hanging lamps; they are evenly spaced and suspended from the ribs of the vaulted ceiling and are original to construction.

Within the ceiling of the pastor's office is an opening leading into the attic area of the church. The area does not have much floor space but allows access to the upper framework of the vaulted ceiling. Visible in the attic are the metal roof trusses that span the structure's width; these were supplied by the American Bridge Company of Gary (photo 20).<sup>11</sup>

The interior and exterior of the church are in excellent condition. The interior underwent a complete restoration in the early 2000s and its historic elements preserved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Lutherans to Dedicate New Church Sunday," <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u>, 13 October 1923, p. 5, col. 1. Also, in *Cash Ledger*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Lutherans to Dedicate New Church Sunday," <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u>, 13 October 1923, p. 5, col. 1. Also, in *Cash Ledger*.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mbox{\tiny 11}}$  Cash Ledger for St. John church construction, located in church archives

Lake County, Indiana County and State

### 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

Х

Х

Х

F. A commemorative property

E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

Name of Property

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) ARCHITECTURE EDUCATION ETHNIC HERITAGE RELIGION

### **Period of Significance**

1914 - 1959\_\_\_\_\_

# Significant Dates

<u>1914,1920,1922,1923,</u> 1951,1954, 1959

# Significant Person (last name, first name)

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) \_\_N/A\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation <u>N/A</u>

Architect/Builder (last name, first name) <u>Rutz, Hermann C.</u> <u>Williams, William J.</u> <u>Kaaz, Julius</u> <u>Gerometta, Marcello</u>

# Period of Significance (justification)

The start date 1914 was chosen because this was the year that the present school, the oldest structure of the two buildings included in the nomination, was constructed; the present church was built in 1923. The ending date of 1959, was chosen because this is the last year that St. John's Lutheran School operated at this location, from that year on the school became part of a Lutheran consolidated school district and classes were no longer conducted from this site.

# **Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The criteria for this nomination of St. John's Lutheran Church and School are based upon the significant examples of architectural styles and the significance that the church and school played in the establishment and development of the pioneer German community of Tolleston, Indiana, now part of modern city of Gary.

Lake County, Indiana County and State

Lake County, Indiana County and State

Name of Property County and State **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 Lutheran Church and School represent a significant aspect of the history of Gary. The church is believed to be the oldest organized congregation north of the Calumet River in Lake County, Indiana. The church and its outreach missions provided stability for the pioneer settlement of Tolleston and much of northern Lake County for the second half of the nineteenth century. Its parochial school followed the tradition of the Lutheran Church, a leader in the Protestant Reformation, by teaching the parishioners how to read so that they could study and follow the word of God without the interactions of a priest. After nearly a half century of service the parish had outgrown both its original school and church structures. The current buildings are excellent examples of their form and style; the school being less decorative than the church. It is because of both their influence upon the local history and the fine examples of architecture that the St. John's Church and School qualify under Criteria A and C for placement on the National Register.

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

# **Criterion** A

# Church

The new town of Tolleston attracted several families of German Lutheran immigrants who found work on the railroads and by 1870, the population of Tolleston was about 400.<sup>12</sup> George Tolle, one of the two men who platted the city, set aside lot 10 on block 25, for a Lutheran Church.<sup>13</sup> A congregation soon formed. Reverend Henry Wünder served as the first pastor from 1863 until his death in 1871.<sup>14</sup> During this time Reverend Wünder also served the Lutheran population of the towns of Hammond and Hessville a few miles west on the Michigan Central Railroad.<sup>15</sup> In 1868-69 the congregation built its first church, a wood frame structure. Before the church structure was erected Wünder held services in the homes of the various church members.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Early History of Tolleston," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers" Centennial, 1851-</u> <u>1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Looking Backward but Going Forward, Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 11. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> "Wünder Begins to Organize," <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

Lake County, Indiana County and State

Herman Wunderlich became the church pastor in 1871. Wunderlich worked tirelessly to establish a parochial school succeeding in 1885. Pastor Wunderlich also served as pastor to Lutherans in Hessville, Hammond and Lake Station and helped organize Hammond's St. Paul's congregation in 1882. Pastor Wunderlich continued his missionary services until just before his death in 1886.<sup>17</sup>

In 1887, the church selected August Rump as its new pastor. He would be the church's longest serving pastor serving for fifty-three years until his death in 1940. Under his guidance the church and the school grew. During his tenure the congregation built two churches, 1888 and 1923, and a modern school, 1914. In 1907, Pastor Rump and the church established a mission in the new city; it resulted in the establishment and building of the Trinity Lutheran Church; the structure, although not used by Lutherans, still stands at Massachusetts and Eighth Avenue. The establishment of this mission is another example of St. John's evangelical outreach that began with Pastor Wünder and continues into the present.

In January 1922, the German congregation of the church decided that one monthly service would be delivered in English.<sup>18</sup> By 1938, English services were offered each Sunday and the last German language service was conducted on June 27, 1954.<sup>19</sup>

In 1940, Pastor Rump died after 53 years of service to the church.<sup>20</sup> He was replaced by Pastor C. A. Baumgartel, who guided the congregation through World War II. Baumgartel established the Brunswick Mission in the Black Oak area of Gary, continuing St. John's mission of evangelical outreach. In 1946, Pastor Baumgartel accepted another position and was replaced by Pastor Gottfried H. Naumann. It was during his tenure that the original front steps were replaced and the tunnel connecting the school building with the church was constructed. Pastor Naumann was the last pastor to deliver sermons in German. He left the congregation in 1955. This brought

Pastor Robert Clausen to the church; he would serve as pastor until 1961. It was under Pastor Clausen that the last classes were held in the school building. During his parsonage, the church began outreach programs to connect with the influx of Afro-American families that were then moving into the Tolleston area; this mission has a direct link with many members of the present

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Looking Backward but Going Forward, Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 13-17. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated. Also, Mary F. Carter, "St. John's Lutheran Church," Thesis for Multi-cultural Education course at Purdue University, Calumet Campus, Hammond. IN.
<sup>19</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.
<sup>20</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author Unpaginated.

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Name of Property County and State congregation. Clausen was the last pastor within the nomination's period of significance to have both church and school under his guidance.

The church, without the school, continues its historic outreach within the community, a mission that has continued for nearly a century-and-a-half at this site in Tolleston. St. John's Church has made a significant contribution in the development of the pioneer German settlement of Tolleston and the modern City of Gary through its evangelical outreach mission.

# School

Emphasis upon education was an inevitable and natural result of the fundamental principles of the Protestant Reformation started by Martin Luther in 1517, with his *95 Theses* that questioned many of the practices of the Catholic Church. A main tenet of Luther's belief was that man is saved only through his faith in Christ, and to achieve this man did not require the mediation of a priest to intercede for him in his quest for salvation. The individual, Luther believed, was solely responsible for their own salvation. This was achieved by the individual's commitment to Christ and that the only law governing him in this quest was the Bible. It therefore became evident and necessary that the faithful must be literate. Luther did not seek to eliminate the Catholic Church but only to reform it. By 1530, the Lutheran Church had been established in several of the German and Scandinavian states across northern Europe as their state religion. The establishment of parochial schools went hand in hand with the establishment of the churches; each parish had its school and the pastor was generally the instructor.<sup>21</sup> The Lutheran Church and its system of schools have had a long association with the Americas, dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century with Dutch Lutherans first arriving in New Amsterdam in 1623.<sup>22</sup>

After Reverend Wünder died in 1871, Reverend Herman Wunderlich became pastor,<sup>23</sup> serving until 1886.<sup>24</sup> It was under Reverend Wunderlich, on November 8, 1878, that the church was incorporated as "The Evangelical Luther[a]n St. John's Congregation of Tolleston, Lake County,

Ind."<sup>25</sup> It was Pastor Wunderlich, who in 1885, organized the church's first parochial school, which, for lack of its own space, met in an extra classroom of the Tolleston public school

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Walter A. Beck, <u>Lutheran Elementary Schools in the United States; A History</u> of the Development of Parochial Schools and Synodical Educational Policies and Programs, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1939), p. 4-10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Walter A. Beck, <u>Lutheran Elementary Schools in the United States; A History of the Development of Parochial Schools and Synodical Educational Policies and Programs, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1939), p. 1.
<sup>23</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851–1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.

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house.<sup>26</sup> In July 1887, August Rump became pastor of the church after the passing of Reverend Wunderlich; Rump served the congregation until his death in 1940.<sup>27</sup> It was during Pastor Rump's tenure that both of the nominated structures were built. In 1891, St John's affiliated with the *Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio and Other States.*<sup>28</sup> One major benefit in joining this affiliation was the Synod's support of a parochial school system. A 1939 report on the *Lutheran Elementary Schools in the United States*, stated that the Missouri Synod was "the most active and most consistent in the establishment and maintenance of the Lutheran elementary school."

Pastor Rump continued his predecessor's support and development of a parochial school for St. John's Church and for many years he also served as the school's teacher.<sup>30</sup> In April 1888, when the congregation decided to build a new brick church, they also planned to move and use the old wood-frame church as their schoolhouse. The old church was then placed on the south end of lot 10, where the school stands now.<sup>31</sup> This structure is shown on the 1911 *Sanborn Fire Insurance* map on the northwest corner of 1st. Avenue, modern Taft Street, <sup>32</sup> and Hart Street, modern 10<sup>th</sup> Place (Appendix A). The new, 1888 church would be constructed of brick and set on the north end of lot 10, where the present church stands. In 1901, the Congregation would again require additional education space. They purchased a smaller, frame, one-room, school building from nearby Clark Station moving it onto the church property. This structure is also visible on the *Sanborn* (it's the smaller structure to the east of the old church turned school).<sup>33</sup> The school structures were identified as "die grosse und die kleine schule," (the big and little school); the big school was the old church and the small school was the Clark Station School.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.
<sup>29</sup> Walter A. Beck, Lutheran Elementary Schools in the United States; A History

of the Development of Parochial Schools and Synodical Educational Policies and Programs, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1939), preface p. III.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Note: The street names on the 1911 *Sanborn* reflect the names given to the streets in the original plat of Tolleston. Modern Taft Avenue was 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Place was Hart Street, named for Aaron Hart, one of the two men who platted Tolleston, and 10<sup>th</sup> Street, the street the Church faces, was originally Martha Street.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Lake County, Indiana County and State

Tolleston did not grow much for most of the nineteenth century, remaining around a population of four hundred. This changed dramatically when the United States Steel Company chose the area immediately north of the Michigan Central right-of-way to build their modern steel plant and develop the company town of Gary. Between 1906, when Gary was founded, and 1910, when Gary annexed Tolleston, the population around the Tolleston area grew tremendously and so did the membership of the church and the enrollment in the school. In 1913, the church voted to erect a new school to accommodate this growth.<sup>35</sup> They removed the old church building from the corner and relocated it to the west of the 1888 church and built the new school on the corner of what was after 1910, Taft Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Place (see Appendix B). This new structure would be used by the church to house its school for almost fifty years.

St. John's School joined the Gary Lutheran Consolidated School Corporation when it organized in 1951.<sup>36</sup> When in 1957, a new consolidated Gary Lutheran School was constructed at 49<sup>th</sup> and Pierce, it signaled the end of operations in the old building.<sup>37</sup> In 1959, the last student classes at St. John's school transferred to the new Lutheran School. The City of Gary then used the old building, renting it from the church; they stayed only a few years.<sup>38</sup>

The century old structure still reflects its historic image in helping the church reach out to the community. It has been used by the church since its closing to house many of their outreach programs. From its start as a one-room schoolhouse in a small rural community, evolving into a multiple classroom building in a large industrial city, St. John's School has had a significant impact on the education and development of the community in and around Tolleston.

# Criterion C

# School

St. John's School is representative of the phase of school construction that came after the oneroom school building popular throughout the United States in the late nineteenth and early

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> "Looking Backward but...Going Forward" Seventy-fifth anniversary history booklet, (Gary, IN: Christopher Printing Company, 1945) p. 41. Copy in archives of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated. Also in, "St. John Lutheran Church in Tolleston Since 1868, <u>The Gary Post-Tribune-</u> *Jubilee Edition*, 20 May 1956, unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.
<sup>38</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

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Name of Property County and State twentieth centuries. This school form is described in the National Register Multiple Property Document Form for *Indiana's Public Common and High Schools*,

"Beginning in the 1880s and 90s, school officials, architects, and builders developed a new generation of educational structures designed to handle the concept of consolidating and grading schools. This property type includes grade and high schools; there was little distinction architecturally between age uses in the school buildings themselves." "These buildings were nearly always solid brick, could be one or two stories in height, and often had architectural elaborations like bell towers with steeples. Architects incorporated educators' new ideas about lighting and ventilation into these often cubical massed buildings. Central furnaces with ducting for fresh air, large banks of double-hung windows, even electrical wiring for artificial light or piping for natural gas lights were part of these new schools."<sup>39</sup>

Although St. John's is a parochial school and therefore does not qualify under the registration requirements of the Multiple Property Document Form, this description adequately describes the school structure. This building is the third structure on the site that was used as a school by the church; the other two were both one-room school houses and are described earlier in the text under Criterion A.

The **Neoclassical** style was driven by a renewed interest in the classic forms of ancient Greek and Roman architecture created by the success of the Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago. The style was popular from the mid-1890s and remained popular into the 1950s. The style used classic Greek and Roman influences, often incorporating pediments, columns or pilasters, frieze and architraves onto a balanced and symmetrical façade.<sup>40</sup> The style became closely associated with civic government and many government buildings in Washington D.C. are examples of the style. Within the city of Gary, high style examples can be seen in the City Hall and the Lake County Superior Court buildings. St. John's represents a simplistic application of the style; it's simple, flat-roofed, rectangular form lent itself well to the application of the style. The primary elements applied to the school were created with simple brick and stone masonry lines; the frieze along the flat roof line and the symmetry of the fenestration are the structure's primary examples of the style's application.

The history of this building began on October 12, 1913, when the church board formed a committee to create specifications and prepare plans for the erection of a new larger school building for the parish.<sup>41</sup> On January 1, 1914, the committee suggestions were approved by the church board and a resolution to construct a new school was adopted.<sup>42</sup> They chose contractors

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Paul Diebold, Indiana's Public Common and High Schools Sec. F, page. 21.
<sup>40</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, <u>A Field Guide to American Homes</u>, (NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003), p. 343-346.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet, p. 26. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 26. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

Herman C. Rutz, a member of the church, and William J. Williams to construct the building. The architect for the structure is not currently known. There were, however, two architects working in Gary at the time who were designing small, brick, school structures; either may be the possible designer.<sup>43</sup>

On February 15, 1914, the contract for the masonry work and materials was issued by the church committee.<sup>44</sup> When the weather broke, construction on the building began. On May 3, 1914, the cornerstone for the school was set.<sup>45</sup> An announcement of the ceremony in the <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u> states, "the school will cost around \$10, 000, will be constructed of brick and will contain two stories and a basement. Once the school is completed the classrooms will be on the first floor and the second floor will be one large auditorium. The building will be completed by mid-August."<sup>46</sup> Over one thousand people were said to have attended the laying of cornerstone and the celebration that followed. The cornerstone contains several documents including copies of the school's text books printed in the four languages that were used in the school-German,

English, Swedish and Slavish.<sup>47</sup> The cornerstone was laid by masons Marcello Gerometta and John Largura (see photo of cornerstone laying ceremony in historic photo in Appendix C). Marcello Gerometta, in 1923, would serve as the contractor for the new church building. On January 9, 1916, the building committee reported to the board that the total cost for the new school building (see historic photo in Appendix D) was \$10,242.44. Of this amount the church

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> This conclusion is drawn from ads placed by Charles E. Kendrick, the architect for the Glen Park Public School (built before Glen Park was annexed into Gary), and Herbert Erikson, the architect for the Swedish Lutheran Church at Fillmore and 6th in Gary. Kendrick was from Fort Wayne and Erickson trained there in his office, both were practicing in their own offices in Gary before 1910. Advertisements placed by each of them are found in the November 1913 issue of The American Contractor, a national building trades journal of the era. This is one month after the decision was made by the church to investigate the construction of a new school. Each of the architect's advertisements are soliciting bids for the construction of a brick, four room, two story, with basement, school building; a description that fits St. John's school. The clients name is withheld in each of these ads (an announcement for the awarding of the contracts for their construction could not be found). These projects, if they were within Gary, would have been for a private school structure since the design of public schools within the City of Gary at this time was in the hands of W.B. Ittner, put there by Gary school superintendent Wirt as part of his new Work-Study-Play educational concepts then evolving in the city. With this evidence, although no document could be found to substantiate it, it seems highly probably to the author that one of these two architects designed St. John's school. <sup>44</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet, p. 26. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church. <sup>45</sup> Mary F. Carter, "St. John's Lutheran Church," Thesis for Multi-cultural Education couse at Purdue University, Calumet Campus, Hammond. IN.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> "Lay Cornerstone of new Lutheran School Sunday," Gary Daily Tribune, 4 May 1914, p.8, col. 5.

 $<sup>^{47}</sup>$  "Cornerstone of St. John School is Laid Sunday," Gary Evening Post, 4 May 1914, p. 1, col. 5.

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Name of Property County and State would carry a mortgage of \$1,941.58.<sup>48</sup> The school's construction is well documented in the church's cash ledger from the time; the ledger is written in German script, probably Pastor Rump's, and is in the church archives.

# Church

The Gothic Revival style is part of the mid-19th century picturesque and romantic movement in architecture, reflecting the public's taste for buildings inspired by medieval design. This was a real departure from the previously popular styles that drew inspiration from the classical forms of ancient Greece and Rome. While distinctly different, both the Gothic Revival style and the Greek Revival style looked to the past, and both remained popular throughout the mid-19th century. The Gothic Revival style in America was advanced by architects Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing, both authors of influential house plan books. The Gothic Revival style was very popular for churches, where high style elements such as castle-like towers, parapets, and tracery windows were common, as well as pointed Gothic-arched windows and entries.<sup>49</sup>

The most commonly identifiable feature of the Gothic Revival style is the pointed arch, used for windows, doors, and decorative elements like porches, dormers, or roof gables. Other characteristic details include steeply pitched roofs and front facing gables, all of which are revealed by St. John's Church. Later in the 19th century, Gothic Revival details were mixed with elements of other Victorian-era styles to become a style known as the Victorian Gothic. In the early 20th century, a distinct variation of the Gothic Revival style, known as the Collegiate Gothic style, developed primarily for educational buildings.

The historic Gothic style originated in France around the middle of the twelfth century and spread quickly across Europe. Three hundred years later, during the Renaissance, the style began to fade. The newer solid, pure, and symmetrical Renaissance architecture looked back towards Greek and Roman classicism for its inspiration. To the Renaissance architect the Gothic style was old-fashioned and uncouth and to express their scorn they coined the term *gothic architecture*. Gothic was a pejorative term, the Goths were the barbarians who had wreaked havoc at the time that Rome fell. Their choice of term expressed their disgust for an architectural style that they felt had blighted the face of Europe.<sup>50</sup>

There were several periods of Gothic architecture; each left its mark on the style. The style that appears to have influenced Julius Kaaz, the church architect, was the English Perpendicular style. The Perpendicular style is a phase of late Gothic architecture in England characterized by a

<sup>50</sup> Website, "Looking at Buildings," Available at: <u>http://www.lookingatbuildings.org.uk/styles/medieval/walls-and-</u> windows/gothic-windows-and-tracery.html. Last accessed 11 February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 27. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Leland M. Roth, <u>A Concise History of American Architecture</u>, (New York: Harper and Rowe, publishers, 1979), p. 100-112.

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Name of Property County and State predominance of the vertical line. This style allowed for the enlargement of windows to great proportions, and conversion of the interior stories into a single unified vertical expanse. Windows of the style are characterized by large openings with a grid pattern of mullions and transoms, with the mullions continuing to the head to the arch. Attributes of the interior include fan vaults, springing from slender columns or pendants.<sup>51</sup> All of these attributes can be found in St. John's Church.

The first St. John's church was built on the site around 1868. By the time of the arrival of Pastor Rump in 1887, the church had outgrown its use and the congregation built a new brick structure. By 1922, the church was again growing too small to serve its congregation. In January 1922, a committee was formed to investigate the possibility of building a new, larger church.<sup>52</sup> In January 29, 1922, Pastor Rump presented a set of plans drawn by architect Julius Kaaz of Atchison, Kansas<sup>53</sup> (see historic blueprint in Appendix E). These plans had been used at least once previously to construct Christ Lutheran Church in Columbia, Nebraska in 1921<sup>54</sup> (see historic postcard in Appendix F); this church is a mirror image of St. John's. On February 19, 1922, the congregation agreed to the construction of a new church using the plans drawn by architect J. Kaaz.<sup>55</sup> In April, 1922, the old brick church was torn down to make room for the construction of the new one,<sup>56</sup> and on July 2 of that year, the cornerstone was set for a new church.<sup>57</sup> On August 7, the congregation passed a resolution to spend \$6,000.00 for a new organ; this was almost ten percent of the cost of the new church.<sup>58</sup>

On October 13, 1923, an article in the <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u> about the church dedication on October 14, mentions that the masonry and brick, were the work of Marcello Gerometta. The

<sup>54</sup> Website, Julius Kaaz Construction, "Tradition," available at

http://www.jkaaz.com/kw\_generation.php. last accessed 5 February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Website, <u>Encyclopedia Britannica</u>, "Perpendicular Style," Available at: <u>http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/452489/Perpendicular-style</u>. Last accessed 11 February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> <u>Looking Backward but Going Forward</u>, Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 30. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 30. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 30. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 31. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 31. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

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congregation paid him \$8425.00.<sup>59</sup> It also mentions that the Bedford (Indiana) limestone used on the church was cut in the yards of Mohr & Dietrich, who were paid \$7107.50 for their work. The girders supporting the vaulted roof were made by the American Bridge Works of Gary and cost \$1504.07. The article mentions that the roof was originally covered with green asbestos shingles, and that the spire was covered in metal. The large pipe organ placed in the loft was made by Wangerin-Weickert of Milwaukee. The memorial art glass windows were produced in the studios of Gianinni and Hilgart of Chicago at a cost of \$572.27.<sup>60</sup> On October 14, 1923, the church building was dedicated.<sup>61</sup> The final cost for structure and furnishings was approximately \$61,500.<sup>62</sup> In 1951, the original front steps to church were removed and the present steps were constructed, and the tunnel connecting the church and school was built.<sup>63</sup> Between 1990 and 1993, the interior and exterior of the church were restored under the guidance of architect James Douglas Smith.

# Conclusion

St. John's Lutheran Church, approaching its centennial year, still operates under its original charter. Both the church and school provide excellent examples of their specific architectural form and style. These two structures continued a tradition of religious and educational instruction that made significant contributions to the settling and growth of historic Tolleston and then Gary, Indiana. For these reasons St. John's Lutheran Church should be listed in the National Register of Historic Places qualifying under both Criterion A and C.

# Developmental History/Additional historic context information

Lake County is located in the northwest corner of the State of Indiana and was formed from the western portions of Porter County, which forms the county's eastern border today, in 1837.<sup>64</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> The cost listed for the various components of construction were taken from the *Cash Ledger* for the construction of the church. It was kept from May 1923 and closes in December 1928. This ledger pertains only to the construction of the church and it is in the archives of St. John's Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> "Lutherans to Dedicate New Church Sunday," <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u>, 13 October 1923, p. 5, col. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> "St. John's Lutheran Church of Tolleston, Ind.," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers"</u> <u>Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Also in, <u>A Century of God's</u> <u>Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Mary F. Carter, "St. John's Lutheran Church," Thesis for Multi-cultural Education couse at Purdue University, Calumet Campus, Hammond. IN. Also in, "Looking Backward but Going Forward," Seventy-fifth anniversary St. John's Lutheran Church history booklet,p. 31. Copy located in records of St. John's Lutheran Church.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> "Important Events in History,", <u>A Century of God's Love</u>, Booklet on church history between 1870 and 1970, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.
 <sup>64</sup> Kenneth J. Schoon, <u>Calumet Beginnings</u>, (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2003), p.58.

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Lake County's western border is the Illinois state line, its northern border is Lake Michigan, and its southern border is the Kankakee River. The northern half of the county is a geographical area known as the Calumet Region. The Region's unique topography was formed during the earth's last ice age as modern Lake Michigan was being formed. As the glaciers covering the area advanced and regressed they changed the water level of the lake. Each of these changes formed a new shoreline; these successions of ancient shorelines traversed the region in a crescent path from Illinois angling around the southern end of the lake towards the Michigan state line. The ridges created by these ancient shorelines were dry and traversable while the areas between them were filled with uninhabitable wetlands.

Before the coming of European settlers, the Potawatomi tribe inhabited these ridges and used the wetlands for their food supply. "After the [War of 1812] Indiana became a state in 1816, and land cession treaties within its boundaries resumed in 1818. These treaties began the process of not only ceding land but also removing the Native American population from Indiana to areas west of the Mississippi [River]. Thus group by group the Delaware, Piankashaw, Kickapoo/Mascouten, Wea, Shawnee, and Potawatomi were removed in the 1820s and 1830s."65 In 1833, the Potawatomi ceded all of their lands in the Calumet Region and were removed to Kansas and later to land in what is now Oklahoma. This opened the area for settlement. Pioneer settlement in the early years was primarily on the Tinley and Valparaiso moraines that traverse across the center of the county, south of the ancient shorelines and their wetlands and north of the swampy Kankakee River outwash plain. Settlement in the north end of the county was difficult. Two of the early permanent settlers in the Region were Thomas and Anna Gibson, who in 1838, established the Gibson Inn on the Chicago – Detroit road which followed one of the ancient shoreline ridges. Their inn was located approximately at the intersection of modern 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Madison Street in Gary.<sup>66</sup> The inn was located to the southeast of what would later be platted as the city of Tolleston where St. John's Lutheran Church and School would be established. Besides the Gibson's, there were very few inhabitants in the region, but this would change in 1851, when the Michigan Central Railroad came through the area on its route from Detroit to Chicago.<sup>67</sup>

When Indiana became a state, certain wetland areas were reserved by the state for the possible development of canals. In 1852, the Indiana State Legislature voted to dispose of these lands at a price that was far less than the arable and usable lands in central Lake County. Two men purchased large tracts in the area around the Gibson Inn; one was Aaron N. Hart, who drained much of his vast wetland purchases by the use of ditches, the other was George Tolle of Chicago.<sup>68</sup> In 1858, the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad also passed through the

Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Elizabeth Glenn and Stewart Rafert, <u>The Native Americans, Peopling Indiana</u>
 <u>Volume II</u>, (Indianapolis, IN: Indiana Historical Society, 2009), p.5.
 <sup>66</sup> "Gibson Inn," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers" Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> "A Village was Born in a Wildlife Area,' Gary Post-Tribune 6 July 1951. p. 1 Centennial Section.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> "Early History of Tolleston," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers" Centennial, 1851-</u> <u>1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

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Name of Property County and State area.<sup>69</sup> On July 14, 1863, George Tolle and A. N. Hart combined portions of their adjacent properties along the railroads and filed a plat creating the city of Tolleston, named in honor of George Tolle.<sup>70</sup>

In 1906, the area around Tolleston would change forever when on March 12, the future site of the city of Gary was surveyed. In 1910, the small, rural, German village of Tolleston was annexed into the modern industrial city of Gary, becoming its 6<sup>th</sup> Ward.<sup>71</sup> The church grew with the city of Gary and it was soon necessary to enlarge both the school and the church to accommodate this growth.

**Pastor August Rump** was born in 1863. He studied the ministry at the Concordia Seminary in Springfield, Illinois. Pastor Rump came to St. John's Church in the spring of 1887, preaching his first sermon on Palm Sunday. When he came to Tolleston, St. John's Church was the only church building in Lake County north of the Calumet River. During his tenure he and the congregation built two new churches, 1888 and 1923, and St. John's Lutheran School.<sup>72</sup> Rump was the longest serving pastor of St. John's Church, serving fifty-three years from 1887 until his death in 1940.

**Herman Carl Rutz** was the son of Wilhelm Rutz who immigrated to the Tolleston area from Germany with his wife Hannah (Matthies) Rutz in 1869. Hermann was born in Tolleston in 1872, and lived in the area his entire life. Between 1891 and 1893 Herman attended the Valparaiso University, completing the "commercial course" after which he returned to Tolleston and engaged in farming before becoming a bookkeeper for the Gary Baking Company. Rutz, upon his return, learned carpentry and engaged in the building trade in Tolleston. Rutz also served on the Tolleston school board and was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church.<sup>73</sup> On July 29, 1953, he died at the age of 81 years at home at 1037 Cleveland, just a short distance east of the church and school.<sup>74</sup> Not much is known of his association with William J. Williams as a contracting firm and research has not uncovered another project association between the two men.

**William J. Williams** was born in Pennsylvania around 1873. By 1910, Williams was living with his wife and sons, Floyd E. and Lorain P, in the Tolleston area and was working as a masonry

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers" Centennial, 1851-1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church. Unpaginated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> <u>Miscellaneous Book A</u>, p. 486 Lake County Recorders Office.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> "Early History of Tolleston," <u>Tolleston "Old Settlers" Centennial, 1851-</u> <u>1951</u>, publication information and author unknown, copy of booklet in files of St. John's Lutheran Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Thomas H. Cannon, ed., <u>History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana</u>, vol. II, (Indianapolis" Historians' Association Publishers, 1927), p.512-513.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Thomas H. Cannon, ed., <u>History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana,</u> <u>vol. II</u>, (Indianapolis" Historians' Association Publishers, 1927), p.353. <sup>74</sup> Obituary, "Rutz," Gary Post Tribune, 29 July 1953, p. 20, col. 4.

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Name of Property County and State contractor.<sup>75</sup> Williams' son, Floyd, was founder of Williams Funeral Homes in Gary and was later elected mayor of the city in 1925.<sup>76</sup> In 1910, W. J. Williams went into a partnership with William S. Gallagher forming the Builders Hardware Company on Broadway in Gary.<sup>77</sup> By 1920, Williams was no longer listing himself as a contractor. According to the 1920 Census, he was a Calumet Township trustee. In his elder years he worked at Williams Funeral Home.

**Marcello Gerometta** was born February 7, 1883, in Udine, Italy.<sup>78</sup> Before coming to America, he learned the mason's trade in Italy and Germany.<sup>79</sup> He first lived in Pittsburg before coming to Gary in 1906.<sup>80</sup> He went to work building the new steel mills and before long became masonry foreman at US Steel.<sup>81</sup> In 1907, he took a job as brick-layer foreman for Alfred Hess, who would later become the Gary Works Commissioner under Mayer Roswell O. Johnson.<sup>82</sup> By 1909, Marcello had started taking on masonry contracts for himself,<sup>83</sup> and by 1910, he had established the Gerometta Construction Co.<sup>84</sup>

According to the 1910 Census, he was living in his brother John's house in Gary; all residents listed as living at the address are identified as bricklayers.<sup>85</sup> On April 16, 1911, Gerometta was naturalized as a United States citizen at the U.S. District Court in Hammond.<sup>86</sup> It was soon after this that Gerometta helped construct the school building. During his career, Gerometta is credited with the masonry work on the Palace Theater on Broadway in Gary, building houses for US Steel (reports of the amount built varies from 100 to 285), constructing the Minas Furniture Store in Gary, several apartment buildings and the new Gary Hotel on Broadway and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue,<sup>87</sup> the

<sup>80</sup> "Gerometta, 65, Leading Gary Builder, Dies," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>,7 February 1948, p. 1, col. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> United States Census 1910, Gary Ward 3, Lake, Indiana.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> James B. Lane, <u>City of the Century</u>, (Bloomington, In: Indiana University Press, 1978), p. 95. Note: Floyd , although not a member, was elected mayor with the public backing of the Ku Klux Klan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> William F. Howat, ed., <u>Lake County and the Calumet Region</u>, (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing co., 1915), p. 640.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Thomas H. Cannon, ed., <u>History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana,</u> <u>vol. II</u>, (Indianapolis" Historians' Association Publishers, 1927), p.77-78.
<sup>79</sup> "Gerometta, 65, Leading Gary Builder, Dies," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>,7 February 1948, p. 1, col. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> "Gerometta Noted for Masonry Work," The Gary Post Tribune-Jubilee Edition, 27 May 1956, Section B, page 5, col. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> "Gerometta, 65, Leading Gary Builder, Dies," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>,7 February 1948, p. 1, col. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> "Gerometta, 65, Leading Gary Builder, Dies," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>,7 February 1948, p. 1, col. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> "Gerometta Noted for Masonry Work," The Gary Post Tribune-Jubilee Edition, 27 May 1956, Section B, page 5, col. 5-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> United States Census 1910, Gary Ward 2, Lake, Indiana; Roll T624\_362, page 26A, line 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> U.S. Department of labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service file card G653,Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa Soundex Index to Naturalization Petitions for the United States District and Circuit Courts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Thomas H. Cannon, ed., <u>History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana</u>, vol. II, (Indianapolis" Historians' Association Publishers, 1927), p.77.

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Lake Hotel, the <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u> building for architect Harry Warriner,<sup>88</sup> the Tribe of K building (later the NIPSCO building), the Cloverleaf Dairy plant, Sears Store on Broadway, and the Miramar Ball Room. He also built the original sections of Horace Mann and Roosevelt high schools and parts of the Lew Wallace and Froebel schools, and two apartment buildings at 6<sup>th</sup> and Delaware (he owned them), the Veteran's Administration building at Pennsylvania and E. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the nurses' home and the east wing of Methodist Hospital, Holy Angels Church in Gary, and an addition to the offices of National Tube.<sup>89</sup> Gerometta passed on February 7, 1948.<sup>90</sup>

**John Largura** was an Italian immigrant arriving in Gary in 1906, looking for opportunity in the new city. Largura was married to the niece of Marcello Gerometta. Opportunity immediately arose in the steel mills being constructed in the city. He installed the masonry for the first blast furnace being constructed in Gary, a town that would become known as the Steel City.<sup>91</sup> Largura was a skilled mason who eventually formed his own construction company. His company built many private and public buildings within Gary and throughout the United States. Among those in Gary were the Gary Schools Memorial Public Auditorium, the Aldering Settlement House, the Emerson School Shops, as well as many apartment buildings and houses. He also constructed the post offices in Logansport, Indiana, Rockford and Oak Park, Illinois, Benton Harbor, Michigan, Clarksburg, West Virginia, and Manchester, New Hampshire.<sup>92</sup> One of his Gary structures, the Gary Schools Memorial Public Auditorium, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1994.

Julius H Kaaz, the church architect, was born March 26, 1854, in Prussia, German Empire, a son of Daniel and Christina (Schroeder) Kaaz. Kaaz was a carpenter by trade and came to Atchison, Kansas, from Germany with his family in 1881. He had attended school in his native Germany and studied architecture. He additionally learned the trade of carpentry from his father. He migrated to America in 1881, finally arriving in Atchison, Kansas. He soon had a job working as a carpenter. In 1885, he formed a partnership with Henry Braun, in the contracting business, a partnership that lasted until 1909, when they dissolved the partnership. In 1907, Julius erected his first planning mill; this grew into Kaaz Manufacturing Company. Julius H. Kaaz used his architect skills to design Christ Lutheran Church in Columbus, Nebraska, in 1921. Reverend August Rump, of St. John's Lutheran Church, bought a copy of the plans to use in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> "Early Architects Helped Plan City, The Gary Post Tribune-Jubilee Edition, 27 May 1956, Section D, page 7, col. 5-8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Gerometta, 65, Leading Gary Builder, Dies," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>,7 February 1948, p. 1, col. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Gerometta, 65, Leading Gary Builder, Dies," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>,7 February 1948, p. 1, col. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Thomas Cannon, ed., <u>History of the Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana</u>, <u>vol. II</u>, (Indianapolis, Historian Association Publishers, 1927), p. 520. (hereafter referred to as Cannon)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> "John Largura Rites-obituary," Hammond Times 10 December 1940, p. 2 col. 3.

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Name of Property County and State construction of their new church in 1923.<sup>93</sup> Unlike the project in Columbus, Nebraska, Julius did not act as contractor for St. John's Church.

**Wangerin-Weickert Organ Company** of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was a manufacturer of pipe organs founded by Adolph Wangerin; over its time of existence it was also known as Wangerin-Weickhardt and Hann-Wangerin-Weickhardt Company. In the early years, pre-World War I, the company's primary customers were churches; many of these organs are still being played today. In the 1920s, during the silent film era, the company also manufactured pipe organs for use in movie houses. During World War I the company manufactured wood components for military aircraft.<sup>94</sup>

The **Gianinni and Hilgart** Studio was formed in Chicago in 1899, by Orlando Gianinni and Fritz Hilgart. Gianinni was born in Cincinnati and was trained as a sculptor before turning to mural painting, mosaic work and stained glass. Hilgart was trained as a glass cutter in his native Germany. The company created glass art for several architects. One of them was Frank Lloyd Wright who used their glass in many of his house designs. They also made the green glass lampshades for the Teco Lamp Company. They were masters of the trade. In their stained glass windows they often used the translucent Munich style to color their glass.<sup>95</sup>

The term "stained glass" refers to glass that is colored by a variety of techniques, St. John's Church windows are made using the Munich style.<sup>96</sup> The Munich Style, not to be confused with the Munich Studio in Chicago which produced art glass, was developed from elements found in the German Baroque artistic movement during the mid-19th century in Munich, Germany. Franz Mayer and F.X. Zettler of Munich and the Tyrol Art Glass Company of Innsbruck, Austria were leaders in the use of style of composition and painting techniques that became known as the "Munich Style." The technique used by the Munich style was to paint enamels on the surface of the glass and then fire the piece. There are several characteristics which clearly identify this style: 1) strong contrasts of light and shade which give depth to the scene; 2) elaborate detail used throughout the scenes-note the detail in the folds of the clothing, on the miscellaneous objects within the scene, and on architectural features; 3) the figures are depicted with realistic facial expressions responding appropriately to the circumstances of the event; 4) an accurate perspective is maintained throughout the scene including where a small section of landscape appears from a window or other opening in the scene; 5) rich ornamentation is used both within the scenes and as borders; and 6) Scenes are often framed by elaborate white and gold columns and canopies. All of these attributes are visible in the art glass windows of St. John's Church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Historic "Tradition generational," Julius Kaaz Construction website. Available at <u>http://www.jkaaz.com/kw\_generation.php</u>. Last accessed 2 February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> "The Aircraft Trade Review," <u>Aerial Age Weekly</u>, 6 May 1918, Vol. 7, No. 1, p. 400, col. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Website, "The Michigan Stained Glass Census-Artist/Studio, " Available at http://www.michiganstainedglass.org/collections/studiosartist.php?id=17-82-6D, last accessed 5February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> "Lutherans to Dedicate New Church Sunday," <u>Gary Post-Tribune</u>, 13 October 1923, p. 5, col. 1.

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A large part of the beauty of the Gothic Style was that it allowed for large window openings and to enhance its beauty the style employed stained art glass; this concept is vivid in St. John's. There are many Gothic windows within the church and each is filled with art glass. There are eight, large stained glass windows lining the walls of the sanctuary, or nave, depicting New Testament symbolism and stories of the life of Jesus. Seven of these are memorial windows. The two largest windows, in the ends of the transept depict the birth and resurrection of Jesus and are framed by tracery. This style of tracery, dividing the window into vertical planes and limiting the amount of geometric designs, was developed in England and is known as the Perpendicular style. As its name suggests, the chief characteristic of Perpendicular architecture is the emphasis on strong vertical lines, seen most markedly in window tracery and wall paneling.<sup>97</sup>

The subjects of the eight stained glass windows lining the walls of the sanctuary depict New Testament symbolism and stories pertaining to the life and teachings of Jesus. The two largest windows illustrate the beginning and end of Jesus' time on Earth. The window in the west transept shows shepherds receiving the news of Jesus' birth from an angel and the window in the east transept depicts the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb. The remaining stained glass windows along the west wall of the sanctuary moving northward from the transept are Jesus as shepherd, Jesus blessing children, and the Eucharist. The stained glass windows along the east wall moving northward from the transept are the cross and crown (a symbol of victory over death), Jesus visiting Mary and Martha, and Jesus knocking at the door as referenced in the book of Revelations.

The window biographies described below start at the north end of the west wall continuing southward along the wall to the large transept window and then across to the transept window in the east wall and proceeding northward along that wall, the northern most window on the east wall has no dedication. Each window is dedicated to the names set along the bottom of the window, some are to individuals while others include several names.

**Mohr and Dittrich** was a stone cutting firm with a yard located in the 700 block of Virginia Street in Gary.<sup>98</sup> Rudolph Mohr immigrated to the United States from Silesia and Adolf Dittrich emigrated from Austria, both had learned their stone cutting trade in Europe.

# Window Biographies

**Nelda Buse** was the eleven year old daughter of Frank and Mary Buse. She passed of cerebral meningitis on March 25, 1923, after a brief illness. Private services were held for Nelda at her home at 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Clark Road and she was interred in the old Tolleston Cemetery.<sup>99</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> Website, David Ross, ed., "Perpendicular Gothic Architecture," Available at: <u>http://www.britainexpress.com/architecture/perpendicular.htm</u>, last accessed 11 February 2014.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Polk's City Directory of Gary, Indiana, 1918. Page 400, col. 2.
<sup>99</sup> "Private Funeral for 11 Year Old Nelda C. Buse," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>, 26 March 1923, p. 6, col. 4..

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**Anna Papka** was the wife of Jacob Papka, they lived at 2222 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, not far from the church. Anna was born in Tolleston in 1868, and married Jacob Papka in 1885. She passed on October 14, 1921, at the age of fifty-three. Funeral services were held in the old church and she was buried in the Waldheim Cemetery, located about a mile southeast of the church adjacent to the Tolleston Cemetery.<sup>100</sup>

**Bertha Dettmann** was the wife of Charles Dettmann of the nearby settlement of Clark Station; both were lifelong members of the church. Bertha passed at the age of fifty-five on July 14, 1921.<sup>101</sup> Both Bertha and Charles were born in Germany; Charles migrated to the United States in 1882, and Bertha in 1892. Charles worked for the railroad.<sup>102</sup> He passed at the age of 74 in 1934. Funeral services for both Bertha and Charles were held in St. John's Church and are buried at Concordia Cemetery in Hammond, Indiana.<sup>103</sup>

The large window in the west transept is dedicated to the **Piske – Ebert** family. The three names on the window, Gustav, Arnold, and Alice were three members of the Piske family; Gustav (b.1890) was husband and patriarch, Alice (b. 1889) was his wife; they were the parents of Arnold (b. 1913). They were all killed in an automobile and train collision on Broadway just north of Merrillville when they were returning home after an afternoon outing. With the Piske's in the car were the Ebert's, their friends from Hammond. Mr. Ebert and his ten year old daughter were killed in the wreck; Mrs. Ebert survived but later passed. Only one occupant of the car survived unscathed; this was the Ebert's fifteen year old daughter Esther. A funeral service for the Piske's was held in the church and all three were interred at the Waldheim Cemetery.<sup>104</sup>

**Carl** (1829-1887) **and Augusta Aurich** (1849-1905) **Kunert** were husband and wife. They were very early settlers of Tolleston. Charles emigrated from Prussia and settled in Tolleston in 1857,<sup>105</sup> just two years after the town was platted. He soon opened the first general store in the town in 1860, and soon afterward served as Tolleston's first postmaster; he operated the store for many years.<sup>106</sup> Both are buried in the Waldheim Cemetery.

**Alma** (b. 1894) and **Dora (Dorothy)** (b. 1897) **Wodlt** were sisters and the daughters of Emil and Minnie Woldt. Both lived their entire lives in Tolleston, the family lived near the church on 10<sup>th</sup>

<sup>102</sup> 1910 United States Census.

 $<sup>^{100}\,</sup>$  "Mrs. Anna Papka Dies Suddenly at Her Home," Gary Evening Post, 14 October 1921, p. 9, col. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> "Mrs. Charles Dettman is Survived by 5 Children," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>, 15 July 1921, p. 1, col. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> "Deaths-Carl Dettman," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>, 29 June 1934, p. 14, col. 4. and "Mrs. Charles Dettman is Survived by 5 Children," <u>Gary Post Tribune</u>, 15 July 1921, p. 1, col. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> "Death Trap Exacts Toll Human Life," Gary Dailty Tribune, 28 July 1919, p. 1, col. 3.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> William F. Howat, ed., <u>A Standard History of Lake County, Indiana and the Calumet Region</u>, vol. 1, (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1915), p. 841.
 <sup>106</sup> William F. Howat, ed., <u>A Standard History of Lake County, Indiana and the Calumet Region</u>, vol. 1, (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1915), p. 129.

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Avenue. Both of their parents had been born in Tolleston.<sup>107</sup> The German "zum andenken" on the window translates to "in memory of". Alma was their oldest daughter and she passed on July 8, 1918, at the age of twenty-four after a lingering illness.<sup>108</sup> Dora was the Woldt's youngest daughter and was married to Edward Piske, a fireman in Gary's Tolleston station. She passed on December 8, 1920, after a long illness.<sup>109</sup> The family burial plot is located in Waldheim Cemetery.

**Eduard Behnke** (1860-1915) came to the Tolleston area from Germany in 1887. During his time in Tolleston he operated a successful coal business in the city and served on the last Tolleston town board before it was annexed into Gary. Mr. Behnke resided at 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Cleveland, just down the street from the church. He had been a lifelong member of the church and was buried in the old Tolleston Cemetery.<sup>110</sup>

<sup>107</sup> Deaths, "Emil Woldt," Gary Post Tribune, 7 October 1930, p. 18, col. 3 and Deaths, "Minnie Woldt," Gary Post Tribune, 1 February 1926, p. 2, col. 4.
<sup>108</sup> "Deaths and Gary Funerals," <u>Hammond Lake County Times</u>,11 July 1918, p. 5, col. 6 and 7.
<sup>109</sup> Obituary, "Mrs. Edward Piske," <u>Gary Daily Tribune</u>,8 December 1920, p. 6, col. 2.
<sup>110</sup> "Ed Behnke's Funeral To Be Held Tomorrow," <u>Gary Daily Tribune</u>,10 June, 1915, p. 1., col. 6.

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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 # \_\_\_\_\_

# **Primary location of additional data:**

- <u>X</u> State Historic Preservation Office
- \_\_\_\_ Other State agency
- \_\_\_\_ Federal agency
- Local government
- \_\_\_\_\_ University
- \_\_\_\_ Other
  - Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_089-232-20084\_\_

### **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

Use the UTM system

# **UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927

27 or [

x NAD 1983

Easting:

1. Zone: 16

469519

Northing: 4604615

2. Zone: Easting:

3. Zone: Easting:

Northing:

Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Lake County, Indiana County and State

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

Start at a point located on the southeast corner of the intersection of the public sidewalks located near the intersection of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Taft Streets. Proceed south along the inside of the public sidewalk approximately 155 feet to the intersection of the sidewalk that runs along the north side of 10<sup>th</sup> Place. Turn east and proceed approximately 150 feet along the inside of the public sidewalk. Turn north and proceed 155 feet to a point located just south of the public sidewalk that runs along 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Turn west proceeding along the inside of the public sidewalk to the starting point.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries were chosen because they include the school and church structures, the church parking lot, and school playground.

# **11. Form Prepared By**

name/title:Gregg Abell & Brad Miller						
organization: _Indiana Landmarks Partner's in Preservation Grant Program						
street & number: <u>8167 Patterson St.</u>						
city or town: Dyer	state: <u>Indi</u>	ana	zip code:	46311		
e-mail <u>gabell@bsugmail.net</u>						
telephone: <u>813-312-3483</u>						
date: December 3, 2013						

# **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.)

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

Name of Property

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 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 Lutheran Church and School

City or Vicinity: Gary, Indiana

County: Lake

State: Indiana

Photographer: Brad Miller

Date Photographed: February 28, 2019

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

- 1 of 20. Southeast perspective of main façade and east elevation school building. Camera facing northwest.
- 2 Cornerstone to west of main entry. Camera facing north.
- 3 Perspective of north, or rear, elevation of school, Camera facing southeast.
- 4 Main stairwell connecting first and second floors. Camera facing northeast.
- 5 Interior of east room in basement. Door leads to playground on east side of school. Camera facing east.
- 6 Emergency stairwell on first floor leading to exit at ground level at rear of building. Camera facing north.
- 7 Emergency stairwell on second floor leading to exit and fire escape on the rear of the building. Camera facing north.
- 8 Southwest perspective of east, first floor class room. Camera facing southwest.
- 9 Northeast perspective of east, first floor class room. Camera facing northeast.
- 10 Main façade of church. Camera facing south.
- 11 Northeast perspective main façade and east elevation of church. Camera facing southwest.
- 12 Southwest perspective of west elevation of church. Camera facing northeast.
- 13 Northeast perspective of basement. Camera facing northeast.
- 14 Entrance vestibule looking west towards entry located on the side of the spired bell tower. Camera facing west.

Lake County, Indiana County and State

St. John's Lutheran Church and School	
Name of Property	

Lake County, Indiana

- e of Property
   County and State

   15
   Entrance vestibule looking east towards stairs leading up to balcony and organ loft.
- 16 Interior of main sanctuary of the church looking towards the altar. Camera facing south.
- 17 Interior of main sanctuary of the church looking towards the balcony and pipe organ. Camera facing north.
- 18 Southwest perspective of main sanctuary of the church looking towards the altar. Camera facing southwest.
- 19 Large art glass window with tracery located in east wall of the transept. Camera facing east.
- 20 Upwards perspective of steel roof trusses in attic. Camera facing northwest.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications 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.).

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



**Appendix A** – Portion of the 1911 Gary *Sanborn Fire Insurance* map showing the 1888 church and the two structures used for the school. The structure located on the corner of Hart (modern  $10^{th}$  Place) and  $1^{st}$  Streets (modern Taft Street) is the 1868 church structure. The congregation moved it to this location when they built their new church in 1888. The building to the east of it on Hart Street is the old Clark Station schoolhouse purchased by the church and moved to this location in 1901. The students distinguished between the two by calling the old church "der grosse schule," (the big school) and the Clark Station schoolhouse as "der kleine schule," (the small school). Both structures were removed when the 1914 school was constructed.

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Name of Property Lake County, Indiana County and State



**Appendix B** – This photograph, facing north, was taken on May 3, 1914, during the ceremony for the laying of the new school's cornerstone. The basement and first floor have been completed and seats have been set up for the guests on the first floor. Note the rear of the brick 1888 church directly behind the school and the old Clark schoolhouse immediately to the west of it. The cornerstone is inscribed with the German verse "Weide Meine Lämme"- feed my lambs. An article in the <u>Gary Evening Post</u> from May, 4, 1914, states that placed within the cornerstone were documents pertaining to state, county and municipal governments and a letter of congratulations written and signed by then Indiana governor Samuel Ralston as well as copies of the Lutheran text books used by the school; they were printed in the four languages spoken at the school, German, English, Swedish and Slavish. Photograph in St. John Church archives.

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Name of Property Lake County, Indiana County and State





Photo of John Largura, (1) is from Cannon, <u>History of the</u> <u>Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana, vol. II</u> and photo of Marcello Gerometta (2) is from his <u>Gary Post Tribune</u> obituary. The numbers also identify them in ceremony photo. Appendix C - Close up of Cornerstone ceremony. Reverend Rump, center of picture (3), is blessing the cornerstone. To the left of the cornerstone is Marcello Gerometta (2), a mason who in 1923 would be the construction contractor for the new church and John Largura (1) another mason, and nephew-inlaw of Gerometta, who would eventually start his own contracting business. The gentleman under (4) is believed to be Herman Rutz, school contractor and church member. Photo of ceremony in St. John Church archive.

Sections 9-end page 44

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Name of Property Lake County, Indiana County and State



**Appendix D** - 1914 school building soon after its completion. The photo reveals a detail not evident on the structure today; the second floor window located directly above the main entry. This opening has been filled with glass block and brick. Photograph in St. John's Church archives.



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Appendix E – Copy of Julius Kaaz blueprint showing a portion of the east elevation and tower. The blueprint shows the configuration of the original steps. A copy of the original blueprint is in the St. John Church archives.

Sections 9-end page 46

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Name of Property Lake County, Indiana County and State



**Appendix F** - Post card (c. 1921) of St. John's sister church, Christ Lutheran Church in Columbia, Nebraska, also designed by Julius Kaaz. This church is a mirror image of St. John's with the spire situated on the opposite side of the façade. Copy of post card supplied to author by James Douglas Smith, architect of St. John's 1990 – 1993 restoration.







### St. John's Church Interior Basement Photo Location Map

Х

Photo number, location and camera direction.

Map not to scale.

Map created by Gregg Abell from portions of architectural drawings produced by James Douglas Smith, AIA for church 1990 -93 restoration project.

St. John's Church and School, Gary, Lake County, Indiana





St. John's Church and School, Gary, Lake County, Indiana







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### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Property Name:	St. John's Lutheran Church and School					
Multiple Name:						
State & County:	INDIANA, Lake					
Date Recei 10/22/20			Date of 45th Day: Date of Weekly List: 12/6/2019			
Reference number:	SG100004723					
Nominator:	SHPO	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Reason For Review:						
Appeal		PDIL	Text/Data Issue			
SHPO Request		Landscape	Photo			
Waiver	•	National	Map/Boundary			
Resubmission		Mobile Resource	Period			
Other		TCP	Less than 50 years			
		CLG				
X Accept	Return	Reject <b>12/3</b>	3/2019Date			
Abstract/Summary Comments:	Significant example of Gothic revival and an important touchstone for the German community that founded the town of Tolleston.					
Recommendation/ Criteria	Accept / A & C					
Reviewer Jim Gabbert		Discipline	Historian			
Telephone (202)354-2275		Date				
DOCUMENTATION	: see attached comm	ents : No see attached S	LR : <b>Yes</b>			

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Indiana Department of Natural Resources Eric Holcomb, Governor Cameron F. Clark, Director

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739 Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.IN.gov • www.IN.gov/dnr/historic

October 17, 2019

Ms. Joy Beasley Keeper of the National Register National Register of Historic Places Mail Stop 7228 1849 C St, NW Washington, D.C. 20240



Re: St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Lake County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Beasley,

Enclosed is a National Register of Historic Places nomination for St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Lake County, Indiana. The Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the application and voted to recommend its approval to the National Register of Historic Places.

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the St. John's Lutheran Church and School, Lake County, Indiana to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please address any questions you or your staff may have about this nomination to my National Register staff members, Paul Diebold or Holly Tate.

Sincerely,

anun F. Clar

Cameron F. Clark State Historic Preservation Officer

CFC:PCD:pcd

enclosure: nomination package