

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register.

other,
(explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action 10/7/01

~~Entered in the National Register~~

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Religious Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Religion Sub: Religious Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals:
Late Gothic Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
roof Asphalt Shingle
walls Stone
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

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 a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1950

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Name of Property

yankton County, South Dakota
County and State

Significant Dates 1935, 1950

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Thorwold Thorson, Forest City, Iowa

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See Continuation Sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 #

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Name of Property

yankton County, South Dakota
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>615544</u>	<u>4778463</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.) See Continuation Sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynda B. Schwan
organization SD SHPO date June 14, 2001
street & number 900 Governors Drive telephone 605-773-606
city or town Pierre state SD zip code 57501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Name of Property

yankton County, South Dakota
County and State

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Our Savior's Lutheran Church Congregation
street & number 29219 431st Ave telephone _____
city or town Menno state SD zip code 57045

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church is located in rural Yankton County, approximately 5.5 miles south of Menno. The surrounding area is sloping farmland with limited trees and prairie land. The church sits prominently beside the James River. The church was completed in 1950.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is a modified Late Gothic Revival gable and wing building. The wood frame, random coursed stone church rests on a stone foundation. The gable front building has an asphalt shingled roof.

The façade (east elevation) of the church has a gothic arched central, two-door entry. Above the doors is filled with wood to the peak of the gothic arch. The whole entry is in a projecting, one story front gabled vestibule. On both the north and south walls of the vestibule is a three-pane window with a stone sill. To the north and south of the vestibule is a three-pane window with a stone sill. Above the vestibule is a narrow, clipped gothic arched window.

The north elevation has seven evenly spaced windows at the basement level. These six pane casement windows have stone sills. The first floor has seven windows with stone sills and lintels. At the northeast corner is a small six pane casement window. The next four windows have a fixed upper pane with a hopper bottom pane. The last two windows are fixed panes. At the northwest corner, a stone chimney extends through the roof.

The west elevation has three six pane casement windows at the basement level. In the gable peak is a narrow octagonal, stained glass window. To the south of the gable is the wing portion of the building. Both the basement and main level has one casement window with a stone sill.

The south elevation of the wing has a fixed pane window on the main floor and an entry at the southwest corner of the wing. Above the door is a rectangular flat stone roof. The east elevation of the wing has a stone bell tower. The tower has a four pane window with a stone sill on the main floor. There is an open gothic arch with a stone sill in the top of the tower. Suspended in the arch is a bell. The tower is topped with a Christian cross. The south elevation of the main portion of the church has four six pane casement windows at the basement level. The main floor has four windows with a fixed upper pane and a hopper window bottom pane. At the southeast corner is an entry with a rectangular flat stone roof.

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Interior:

The interior of the church continues with the gothic architectural elements. The alter is recessed in a gothic arch. The ceiling has gothic arch beams. Suspended from the ceiling are original gothic lighting fixtures. The rear of the church has a balcony for additional seating. There is a wooden gothic arch panel above the main entry doors.

Located to the east of the church is a stone sign that was constructed in 1975 to match the stone church. The sign also includes a stone planting bed.

Statement of Significance

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is significant under Criterion C for the architectural style of Late Gothic Revival. Our Savior's Lutheran Church, constructed in 1950 is a well-preserved example of the Late Gothic Revival style. The distinctive church continues to provide a sense of architectural appeal that made it worthy of notice in 1950.

Norwegian immigration to the United States is a part of the great North-European migration of the nineteenth century, which reached its highest peaks in the 1880's and early 1890's. It was during this time that the immigration to South Dakota was heaviest. Norwegian immigration to the Dakotas was either directly from Norway or through other states, especially Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa.

On December 25, 1871 a group of Norwegian settlers met in a log house and organized a Lutheran church. Services continued to be held in community member homes until 1884 when a new first generation church was constructed. In 1889, some of the founding members withdrew from this church and constructed a different church one mile to the west which was completed in 1899. It was rebuilt in 1903 after a devastating tornado. These wooden churches continued to serve the congregation until 1920 when the two churches were united. The services were alternated at each building. In 1935, a decision was made to construct a new facility. The old churches were demolished in 1936 and 1949, respectively, to make way for the new stone building. The basement was constructed in 1935 and services were held there until 1950 when the main portion of the church was completed.

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Our Savior's Lutheran Church is significant under Criterion C as it typifies the "second generation" of church construction in eastern South Dakota. Scholars of church architecture in the Great Plains have divided the evolution of church buildings in the region into several distinct phases. These phases tend to occur in generational cycles and so they have been termed generations. Typically a parish or congregation would be established in a given area as soon as there was sufficient population. As its first order of business, a newly organized church body constructed a suitable church building. As a result, most of the initial or first generation churches were simple frame buildings constructed by local carpenters or builders. In eastern South Dakota, first generation churches tend to date from the late 19th century to early 20th century with most buildings constructed during the Great Dakota Boom, 1878-1887. Second generation churches were designed to be more substantial. They tended to be larger, more decorative and architect designed. Second generation churches range in time from the early 1900's to present day.

The church retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Few examples of this building type with a high degree of integrity remain in South Dakota. Many have suffered alterations such as modern siding, new windows and removal of the steeple. Typical elements found on a Late Gothic Revival building include gothic arch windows, wall surfaces that extend into the gable without a break, and steeply pitched roofs. Our Savior Lutheran Church survives as an excellent example of the Late Gothic Revival style.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent example of a second generation, vernacular Late Gothic Revival building.

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Bibliography

Architectural History in South Dakota. South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office, 2000.
125th Anniversary, 1871-1996. Our Savior's Lutheran Church: Menno, SD, 1996.

Verbal Boundary Description

Commencing as a place of beginning at a point in the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ in S9, T96N, R57W, of the 5th PM in Yankton County, South Dakota at a point where what is now known as County Highway 4 running North and South, intersects with a Highway running East and West, as a point of beginning; thence parallel along said Highway in a Northwesterly direction 13 rods; thence south 12 rods; thence southeast 13 rods to Highway4; thence running parallel with said Highway 4 running 12 rods to the point of the beginning, and containing about 1 acre of real estate, more or less.

Boundary Justification

All the land that has historically been associated with the church.