

# This Time in History

1940 – 1959

## IMMANUEL MILESTONES

- 1940 English services began to be held  
Servicemen entered WWII; all returned safely
- 1947 Cornerstone laid for third church
- 1949 March 6, church dedication; cost approx \$106,000
- 1958 Church building debt paid off
- 1959 Purchased District 3 school building, which was used for the lower grades  
Second teacher added

### Pastors

W. G. Voigt (1928-1949)    Otto Engel (1950-1956)    N. E. Sauer (1956-1965)

### Principals/Teachers

Ralph Swantz (1940-1941)	Gerald Bunkowske (1950-1953)
Julius Wantoch (1941-1945)	Robert Kock (1953-1957)
Alfred Kempf (1946-1948)	Vernon Roemhildt (1957-1965)
Student teachers (1948-1950)	Carol Steffen (1959-1962)

## WELS/LUTHERAN KEYPOINTS

- 1940 English church services began to be held
- 1941 The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH) published [blue]
- 1949 Synod sent exploratory team to Africa
- 1950 First synod services in California
- 1952 Missionary sent to Japan
- 1953 Missionary team arrived in Zambia
- 1954 Arizona-California District added to synod
- 1955 First synod services in Florida
- 1959 Synod officially became Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

## U.S. PRESIDENTS

Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-1945)    Harry S Truman (1945-1953)  
Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953-1961)

## NOTABLE EVENTS IN WORLD/U.S. HISTORY

- 1940 Selective Training and Service Act passed - established the draft  
Armistice Day Blizzard – dropped up to 27” of snow; 49 civilians and 59 sailors died – many being duck hunters caught unprepared by surprise blizzard
- 1941 Attack on Pearl Harbor  
U.S. entered World War II  
Dedication of Mount Rushmore - cost \$989,992.32, no one died; 14 yrs to build
- 1942 Automobile production in the U.S. for private consumers halted
- 1943 Race riots held in Detroit MI
- 1944 D-Day - Normandy landings; Battle of the Bulge  
G.I. Bill passed
- 1945 U.S. took Okinawa  
Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki  
Germany and Japan surrender, ending World War II  
United Nations founded, replaced the League of Nations; U.S. joined  
Automobile production in the U.S. for private consumers resumed
- 1946 Cold War began between the United States and the Soviet Union  
Atomic Energy Act

## NOTABLE EVENTS IN WORLD/U.S. HISTORY – CONTINUED

- 1947 Charles Yeager became first man to break the sound barrier
- 1949 NATO formed  
Germany divided into East and West  
The ‘Department of War’ became the ‘Department of Defense’
- 1950 Korean War began
- 1953 Armistice in Korea
- 1954 SEATO alliance  
Brown vs Board of Education - ended legal segregation in public schools
- 1955 Vietnam War 1955 – 1975  
Montgomery activist Rosa Parks arrested for refusing to give her seat on a city bus to a white person in Montgomery, AL
- 1956 U.S. installed Diem as leader of South Vietnam  
Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, provided construction of 41,000 miles of the Interstate Highway System over a 20-year period
- 1957 Sputnik I and Sputnik II launched by the Russians  
Civil Rights Act of 1957
- 1958 NASA formed
- 1959 Cuban Revolution

## MN POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1940 First Minneapolis Aquatennial celebration
- 1941 Minneapolis natives, the Andrew Sisters, sang some of the biggest hits on wartime juke boxes
- 1942 Sister Kenny Institute opened
- 1947 Minneapolis Laker basketball team founded
- 1948 KSTP became MN first TV station  
Governor’s first fishing opener
- 1949 Medtronic founded in Minneapolis (MN based)  
Jennie-O Turkeys began operations in Willmar
- 1950 *Peanuts* comic strip published by St Paul cartoonist Charles M Schulz
- 1952 First successful open heart surgery performed at the University of MN
- 1954 First Princess Kay of the Milky Way crowned  
*Lunch with Casey Jones*, a show for kids, began on WTCN – Ch. 11
- 1956 Metropolitan Stadium dedication  
Interstate highway system began  
Southdale Mall opened in Edina
- 1958 1.5 million cars registered in MN
- 1959 Duluth became a world port  
St Paul Chamber Orchestra formed

## HUTCHINSON HIGHLIGHTS

- 1941 Post Office constructed current building  
Water Carnival debut (replaced July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration)
- 1946 20 ft clock landmark erected in front of Hager Jewelry
- 1947 3M began production of "Scotch" Brand Cellophane Tape in the old hemp factory (the Navy used Indian hemp for rope, webbing & canvas during the war); in Feb, 3M employed 13 people and 104 by year end
- 1951 tornado hit city

## LIFESTYLE

	1940	1950
Yearly Income – avg today \$\$s	\$1,315 (21,933)	\$3,300 (31,974)
Cost of a new home	\$7,211	\$15,79
Cost of first-class stamp	.03	.03
Cost of a gallon of gas	.18	.27
Cost of a dozen eggs	.31	.58
Cost of milk – 1/2 gal	.26	.41
Cost of a loaf of bread	.08	.14
Cost of flour – 5 lbs	.22	.49
Cost of butter – 1 lb	.36	.51
Cost of coffee – 1 lb	.21	.30
Cost of sugar – 5 lbs	.26	.33
Cost of hamburger – 1lb	.20	.30
Cost of car – avg model	\$850	\$1,480
US Population	132 million	151
MN Population	2.7 million	2.9
Hutchinson Population	3,887	4,690

This period in history became known as the "Baby Boomers" era - beginning in 1946, ending in 1964. The economy was booming - unemployment and inflation rates were low, wages were high. The 1950s is known for its civil rights movement.

### Inventions/Technology

color TV system, jeep, automatic transmission, aerosol spray can, color television system, Jeep, neurotic reactor, turboprop engine, synthetic rubber, chemotherapy, kidney dialysis machine, aqualung, synthetic cortisone, defibrillator, acetaminophen, atomic bomb, microwave oven, theory of holography, mobile phones (although first cell phones sold in 1983), transistor, Wurlitzer jukebox, Nuclear power reactor, super glue, power steering, video tape recorder (VTR), bar code, hydrogen bomb, DNA, ultrasonography, radial tires, musical synthesizer, black box (flight recorder), transistor radio, solar cell, optic fiber, videocassette recorder, hovercraft, silicon chip, TV remote control, laser, pacemaker, video game, new computers technology was ongoing (computer controlled by software, electronic digital, hard disk, Fortran [computer language], modem), integrated circuit, microchip; First vaccine for influenza, polio, anthrax

**Notable Inventors/Companies:** Jacques Cousteau, Oldsmobile, RCA, Texas Instruments

### Farming Fun Facts

- 1947 The new John Deere Dubuque Works built the Model "M"
- 1949 Deere's first diesel-powered unit, the Model "R" Tractor, entered production
- 1953 John Deere's Model 70 launched
- 1954 Engineers develop a highly successful 2-row corn head; attached to a new Model 45 Combine, it enabled a farmer to pick, shell, and clean up to 20 acres of corn a day in a single operation
- 1957 John Deere's 6-row planters and cultivators sold
- 1959 John Deere's 8010, a diesel-powered, 215-horsepower, 10-ton Goliath
- 1958 John Steiger and sons Douglas and Maurice successfully built the first Steiger tractor in their barn at Red Lake Falls, MN

## First Appearances

- |      |                           |      |  |
|------|---------------------------|------|--|
| 1940 | Nylon stockings           | 1951 | Mistake Out (Liquid Paper)               |
| 1943 | Slinky, silly putty       | 1952 | Mr Potato Head                           |
| 1944 | Clue                      | 1954 | Milk carton, Rolodex                     |
| 1946 | Disposable diapers        | 1956 | Play-Doh, Yahtzee                        |
| 1948 | Scrabble, Velcro, Frisbee | 1958 | Hula Hoop                                |
| 1949 | Lego's, cake mix          | 1959 | Barbie doll, Etch-A-Sketch, Game of Life |

## Clothing Styles

- 1940s Bulky shoes; padded shoulders; tight, fancy dresses
- 1950s Poodle skirts; high heels & purse complete 'the look'
- 1951 Dacron men's suits introduced

## Entertainment

- 1940 Cartoon characters Bugs Bunny and Tom and Jerry debut  
*Billboard* magazine published first music popularity chart
- 1941 NBC began television broadcasts
- 1942 *Casablanca* film released
- 1946 *It's a Wonderful Life* debut
- 1947 Debut: *Howdy Dowdy, Meet the Press*
- 1948 Debut: *The Ed Sullivan Show, Candid Camera*
- 1950 Debut: *What's My Line*
- 1951 Debut: *I Love Lucy, Red Skelton*
- 1952 Debut: *The Today Show, The Danny Thomas Show, Ozzie & Harriet, Singing in the Rain*  
*Diary of Anne Frank* published in the U.S.
- 1954 Tournament of Roses Parade televised nationally in color  
Debut: *The Tonight Show* hosted by Steve Allen, *Lassie, FatherKnows Best*
- 1955 Disneyland opened at Anaheim, CA  
*Rock Around the Clock* topped the *Billboard* magazine pop charts  
Actor James Dean killed  
Debut: *Gunsmoke, Honeymooners*
- 1956 Elvis Presley appeared on *The Ed Sullivan Show, Old Yeller* published, *10 Commandments*
- 1957 Debut: *Leave It to Beaver, Perry Mason*
- 1959 Debut: *Bonanza, Dennis the Menace, Twilight Zone, Dobie Gillis*

## Sports

- 1947 Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in baseball
- 1948 NASCAR held its first modified stock car race in Daytona Beach, FL

## Potpourri

- 1940 McDonald's founded
- 1945 Benjamin Spock's *The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care* published
- 1947 Tupperware seal patented; Studebaker introduced a post-war automobile model  
Al Capone, 20<sup>th</sup> century gangster, died
- 1950 First credit card, *Diners*
- 1952 First diet soft drink sold; Scotchgard discovered accidentally by 3M chemists
- 1954 First nonstick teflon pan produced
- 1954 First human kidney transplant (on identical twins)
- 1955 First McDonald's fast food restaurant opened
- 1956 First computer hard disk used; Metered Dose Inhaler - 3M

## It Cost How Much....

- 1950 Monopoly game - \$4; bottle of aspirin - \$0.54; Chevy Corvette - \$3,000  
one-way flight from New York to California - \$88

**Popular Girl Names** Mary, Linda, Patricia, Barbara, Carol, Susan, Deborah

**Popular Boy Names** James, Robert, John, William, Richard, Michael, David