

Adams twp.  
sec. 22, Paulding road. Site of old German church.  
42 graves in small enclosure, but two of which are marked, in  
English, and two in German.

Henry Ritter  
d. Jan. 5, 1872  
aged 75 y. 6 m. 11 d.

Sarah wife of Henry Ritter  
June 30, 1866  
aged 66 y. 6 d.

Trier Family Cemetery.  
sec. 20. Adams Twp.

(Quite a number of other graves, unmarked ).

Hier ruhetin Gott  
Christena Trier  
geboren  
den 10 Nov. 1792  
gestorben den 27 Mai 1871.

Hier ruhet in Gott  
Johann Heinrich Trier  
geb. den 8 Mai 1795  
geft den 2 Jann. 1860.

Wilhelm Trier  
geboren den 31 Julu 1843  
gestorben den 22 Ap. 1844.

Catharina Trier  
geboren den 15 Mai 1842  
gestorben den 24 Ap. 1842.

Wayne twp. sec. 24.  
Intersection of Paulding and Decatur roads.

Many graves unmarked, some on the site of present road.

Hiram Philley  
Oct. 31, 1802  
Ap. 18, 1859.  
Amanda Philley  
July 8, 1808  
Aug. 12, 1858.

Mary wife of Sanford Philley  
aged 41 years.  
No dates.

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Last Name

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## Allen County Indiana Cemetery Project

### German Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery

Listed below is the 1932 transcription of the tombstones in the German Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery, Adams Township, Allen County, Indiana. This cemetery no longer exists.

Therefore there will be no photos of this cemetery.

The cemetery was located on the northwest corner of Hartzell and Paulding Roads.

Indiana DNR Location Listing:  
Section 23, Twp 30N, Range 13E

#### GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CEMETERY, ADAMS TWP, ALLEN COUNTY, INDIANA

Ritter Henry d. Jan. 5, 1872 aged 75y. 6m. 11d.

Ritter Sarah June 30, 1866 aged 66y. 6d. wife of Henry Ritter

Notes from 1932 reading—Site of old German church. Forty-two graves in small enclosure but two of which are marked in English, and two in German.

At about the time the above church was organized, German Lutherans who lived in the township requested the services of the Reverend Friedrich Wyneken, then pastor of the Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, to provide for their needs. Wyneken arrived in the township in 1841 and administered communion to thirty-seven people. He returned the following year and performed the marriage of Matthias Breitenstein and Margareta Doctor. In 1845, the township's scattered Lutheran residents joined together and formally organized St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. They called Wyneken's assistant, the Reverend F. W. Husmann, as their first pastor. Full time ministers were in short supply, and Husmann divided his time among two other churches – St. John's at Bingen and St. Peter's in Root Township, Adams County. The congregation erected a log building in 1846 and the following year voted against joining the Missouri Synod. A second vote in 1853 reversed that decision, however, and in 1860 the congregation built a wood frame church, the same year that a town called "Soest" (named for a local settler Friedrich Soest) was platted in Section 2. Except for the church, however, the town was never extensively settled.

St. John's Lutheran Church was organized in 1853, when Ernst and Christina Vordermark deeded to the congregation a tract of land on Wayne Trace a half mile west of Soest.<sup>28</sup> Unlike St. Paul's, which affiliated with the conservative Missouri Synod, St. John's membership became part of the more liberal Ohio Synod. In 1870, the congregation elected the Reverend J. Bundenthal as its pastor, and the following year he led a merger with St. Paul's

Church to form a new congregation, Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Soest, with Bundenthal becoming its pastor. Represented in the merger were William Soest, Ludwig Schlandraff, and John Felger as trustees of St. Paul's, and Magnus Rohrbach, Philip Kohlinger, and John Brick of St. John's. The new congregation affiliated with the Missouri Synod, and like the Catholics at Hessen Cassel, this congregation opened a large parochial school, which served many generations of its members.<sup>29</sup>

Some members of the former St. John's Church were unhappy with its new affiliation and withdrew the following year, reforming the old congregation. On August 10, 1872, the Emmanuel congregation sold back to St. John's a portion of its original land. The congregation struggled for a number of years and finally ceased worship in 1908. Some of its members moved to Fort Wayne and joined Grace Lutheran Church on Gay Street, depositing the parish records there. The land that had been the site of St. John's remained in the congregation's name until 1944, when one who claimed to be its last surviving trustee, John J. Oehler, declared his ownership of the property and deeded it to his son.<sup>30</sup> Still another English-language Lutheran church established in the township was the Antioch Lutheran Church, which erected a building on what is now the Hoagland Road between Brunson and Minnich roads, not far from the Madison Township line.

Magnus Rohrbach (seal)  
Philip Koellinger (seal)  
John Brück (seal)

Trustees St Johns Congregation of  
the German Evangelical Lutheran  
Church.

State of Indiana  
Allen County

Personally appeared before me  
a Notary Public in and for said County  
William Soest, Ludwig Schlandraff and  
John Felger Trustees of the St John Paul's  
Congregation of the German Evangelical  
Lutheran Church And Magnus Rohrbach  
Philip Koellinger And John Brück Trustees  
of the St Johns Congregation of the  
German Evangelical Lutheran Church  
And acknowledged the execution of the  
foregoing conveyance as their free act  
and deed for the uses and purposes  
therein expressed.

Witness my hand and Notarial  
seal this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September  
AD 1871

Homer C. Hartman  
Notary Public

This Indenture witnesseth, that  
whereas the German Evangelical Lutheran St.  
Paul And St. John Congregations in Marion  
Township, Allen County, State of Indiana have  
united themselves under one church organization  
by the name of "Emanuel's Congregation" of the  
German Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Now therefore in pursuance of the Statutes  
of said State made and in such case provided  
William Soest, Ludwick Schlandraff and  
John Felger Trustees of said St. Pauls  
Congregation Convey and Warrant to  
Frederick Zollinger, Ludwick Schlandraff  
and Frederick Bender Trustees of Emanuel's  
Congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran  
Church, in Marion Township, Allen County Indiana  
and to their successors in office  
the following Real Estate in Allen County in  
the State of Indiana viz Five (5) Acres of land  
more or less in the North half of the South West Quarter  
of Section No: Two (2) Township No: Twenty nine (29) North  
of Range Thirteen (13) East, and further described as  
follows. Beginning at a point on the West line  
thereof Sixteen and one third ( $16\frac{1}{3}$ ) rods from the North West  
Corner: thence East forty (40) rods; thence South sixteen  
(16) rods; thence West twenty ~~three~~ (29) rods; thence  
South Seventeen (17) rods to the centre of the old Piqua  
road; thence north westerly along the centre line of  
... .. with the West line of

Brick And Philip Koehlinger Trustees of  
the said St. Johns Congregation Congy and  
Warrant to the said Trustees of Emanuels  
Congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in said Township <sup>and to their successors in office</sup> the following Real  
Estate in Allen County State of Indiana  
Three acres of land in the South half of the north  
West quarter of Section three (3) Township Twenty  
nine (29) North of Range thirteen (13) East And  
further described as follows: Beginning at the  
North East corner thereof; thence south forty (40)  
rods; thence west twelve (12) rods; thence north  
forty (40) rods; thence East twelve (12) rods to  
the place of beginning.

To have And to hold the said several  
tracts to said Trustees of said Emanuels  
Congregation And their successors in office  
for the sole use and benefit of said  
Congregation in accordance with the usages,  
rules and regulations of the German Evangelical  
Lutheran Church.

In witness whereof said Trustees have  
hereto signed their hands and seals this  
2nd day of September 1891

Wm. B. Best (seal)

Ludwig Schlaudraff (seal)

John L. Lugen (seal)

Trustees of St. Pauls Congregation  
German Evangelical Lutheran Church



Congregation in accordance with the usages,  
rules and regulations of the German Evangelical  
Lutheran Church.

In witness whereof said Trustees have  
hereto signed their hands and seals this  
2nd day of September 1871



Wm Soest (seal)

Ludwig Schlandraff (seal)

John Felger (seal)

Trustees of St Pauls Congregation  
German Evangelical Lutheran Church

Magnus Rohrbach (seal)

Philip Koellinger (seal)

John Brück (seal)

Trustees St Johns Congregation of  
the German Evangelical Lutheran  
Church.

State of Indiana

Allen County

Personally appeared before me  
a Notary Public in and for said County  
William Soest, Ludwig Schlandraff and  
John Felger Trustees of the St John Pauls  
Congregation of the German Evangelical  
Lutheran Church And Magnus Rohrbach  
Philip Koellinger, and John Brück Trustees

of said State made and in such case provided  
William Soest, Ludwick Schlandraff and  
John Felger Trustees of said St. Pauls  
Congregation Convey and Warrant to  
Frederick Zollinger, Ludwick Schlandraff  
and Frederick Bender Trustees of Emanuel  
Congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in Marion Township, Allen County Indiana  
and to their successors in office  
the following Real Estate in Allen County in  
the State of Indiana viz Five (5) Acres of land  
more or less in the North half of the South West Quarter  
of Section No. Two (2) Township No. Twenty nine (29) North  
of Range Thirteen (13) East, and further described as  
follows: Beginning at a point on the west line  
thereof Sixteen and one third ( $16\frac{1}{3}$ ) rods from the North West  
Corner: thence East forty (40) rods; thence South sixteen  
(16) rods; thence West twenty ~~three~~ (29) rods; thence  
South Seventeen (17) rods to the centre of the old Piqua  
road; thence north westerly along the centre line of  
said road to its intersection with the west line of  
said Section Two; thence north on said west line to the



Deed

Trustees St Johns And  
St Pauls Lutheran Church

88

Trustees Emanuel  
Congregation of the German  
Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rec'd for Bond Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 1874  
4 Btts and Bonded in  
Deed Book 35 page 237 24

A. J. Jones,  
Rev. of Geo.

Paid

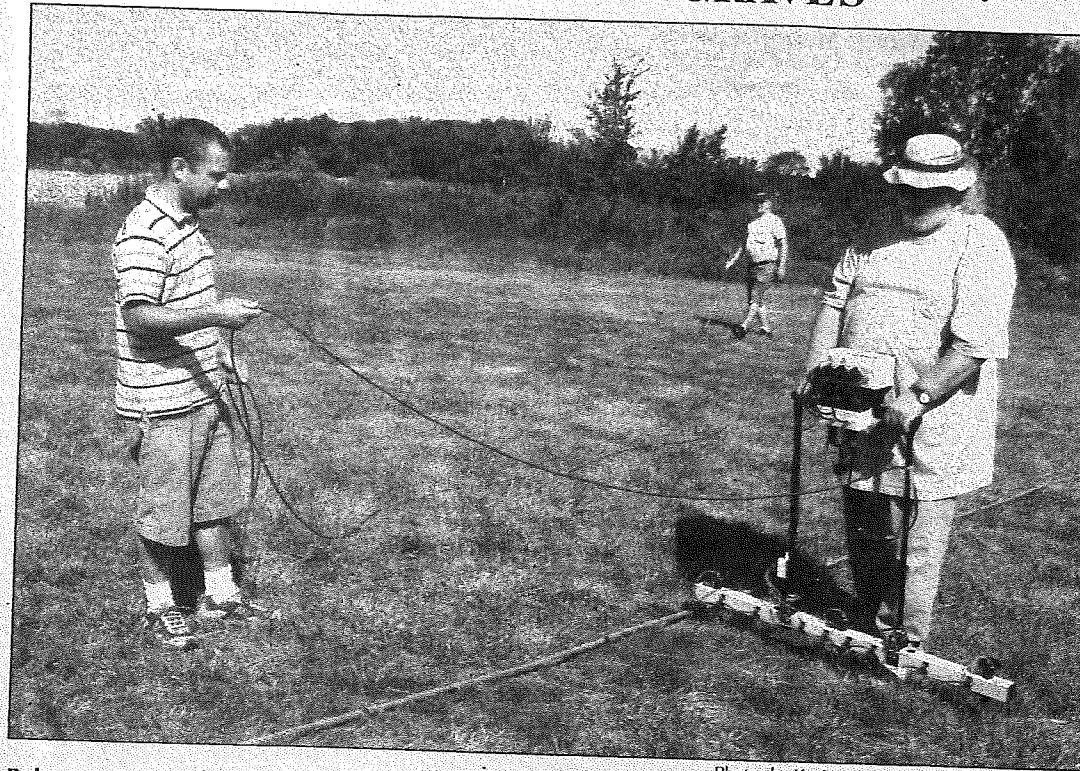
to the Lutheran  
Church

October 6 1874

(A. J. Jones)  
2. 1874

## SEARCHING FOR GRAVES

May 2, 1994



Robert McCullough, right, director of the IPFW Archaeological Survey, uses a device that injects electricity into the ground in an effort to determine whether any graves exist beneath land at Paulding and Hartzell roads in southeast Allen County. Local businessman Don Stinson paid \$10,000 for the 5-acre site last year, but members of his family say State Rep. Phyllis Pond and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources have slowed and could threaten plans to restore and improve the cemetery and surrounding property. At left is Colin Graham, an IPFW geophysical specialist.

Photos by Kevin Leininger of The News-Sentinel

# Dawn of the dread

*Old cemetery is a source of new conflict*



**THIS IS A** tale of grave concern.

It concerns State Rep. Phyllis Pond and the Indi

perhaps even thwarted a dying man's desire to restore and improve a long-abandoned cemetery in southeast Allen County.

The story began in March 2010.



State Rep. Phyllis Pond, R-New Haven, displays one of the few headstones salvaged from the old St. Peter's Lutheran Cemetery at Paulding and Hartzell roads. The

## LEININGER

Continued from Page 5A

law restricts construction or other changes within 100 feet of a cemetery. Because nobody's quite sure where the graves are – or if they even still exist – Tim Stinson Jr. said he can do nothing until the DNR establishes the cemetery's boundaries.

Members of IPFW's Archaeological Survey took the first step in that direction Thursday, using a variety of devices to scan the subsurface for any indication that human remains rest there. Pond, R-New Haven, who lives nearby and has taken a special interest in the site, said the Allen County Commissioners have agreed to pay IPFW's \$1,670 fee. If graves are found, she added, the cemetery would be fenced off and turned over to the Adams Township Trustee's office for ongoing maintenance.

"They just didn't like our timetable," said Tim Stinson Sr., who noted that his

now-gravely ill father had hoped to build a small retirement home and barn on the property in addition to cleaning up the cemetery, which neighbors say lost its tombstones when county crews leveled the site and dumped debris there years ago. Tim Jr. said he began removing some of the debris and brought in dirt and other material to fill in a water-collecting low spot, but the pile will just sit there until the DNR decides what can be done, and where.

Tim Jr., who now owns the property and said he has already spent about \$4,000 on the project so far, would like to build a home there one day, as his grandfather had hoped to do. But that too must wait on an official determination of the cemetery's boundary, since homes requiring septic tanks must have lots of at least two acres or so.

"Why didn't they just buy the property if they were so concerned?" Tim Sr. asked, referring to the auction at which his father acquired the property more than a

year ago — before severe illness complicated his plans and caused him to transfer ownership to his grandson.

Despite the bureaucratic standoff and the hard feelings it has generated, Tim Sr. said he still hopes to erect the monument — both as a tribute to the 42 people believed buried there but also to his father, whose desire to retire there and to restore the cemetery "because it's fun and self-satisfying" was dashed by forces beyond his control.

As sometimes happens, even good intentions can produce unfortunate outcomes. Pond no doubt believes her efforts to bring in the DNR, IPFW and the commissioners will help protect a historic cemetery that may contain the remains of many of her neighbors' ancestors.

But neither can you really blame the two Tims for being just a little upset. It's hard enough to care for a very ill relative without also having to deal with an issue like this and the prospect that, depending on

what IPFW finds and the DNR decides, the land Don Stinson paid \$10,000 for may be rendered all but unusable by his heirs.

The fact that better understanding of the laws involved or better communication along the way might have avoided the situation hardly matters now. Hopefully, a mutually agreeable resolution can still be found — one that protects taxpayers from ongoing expense to the greatest extent possible.

As I noted when reporting on the auction last year, anybody who's seen the movie "Poltergeist" knows what can happen when you mess with old cemeteries. That goes double for old cemeteries filled with old Lutherans.

Trust me, I know.

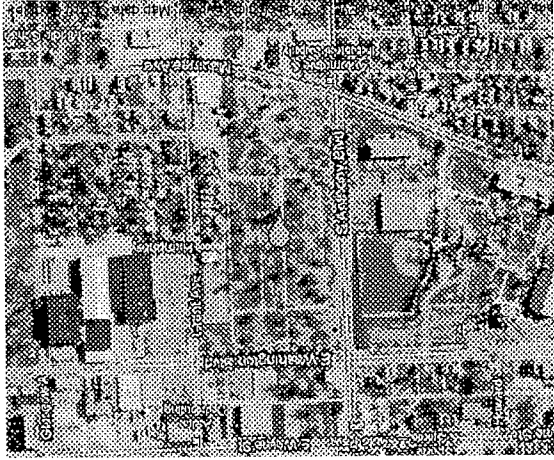
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*This column is the commentary of the writer and does not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of The News-Sentinel. Email Kevin Leininger at [kleininger@news-sentinel.com](mailto:kleininger@news-sentinel.com), or call him at 461-8355.*

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Aug 27, 2011

Concordia Lutheran Cemetery - Old



[View Allen County, Indiana Cemeteries in a larger map](#)

Located at 1146 Grant Avenue. Started by St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation. Earliest date 1834, possibly moved from another location, when this cemetery opened up for interments in 1850. In use. Records available at the new cemetery office at 5372 Lake Avenue, IN DNR Latitude 41.0771 Longitude 85.1131.

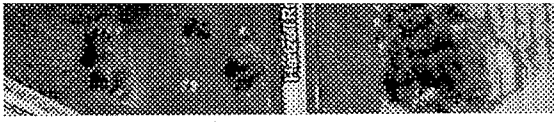
CONNORS Family Cemetery



[View Allen County, Indiana Cemeteries in a larger map](#)

Was located on the side of Lake Avenue near the intersection of North River Road. No longer exists, no records. Google map shows the general location. If you know where it was located, please let us know.

German Evangelical Lutheran, Ohio Synod Cemetery - also known as St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran




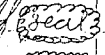
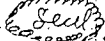
For  
Church  
only

Trustees of  
Emmanuel Cong  
To  
Trustees of  
Evangelical  
Lutheran Church

This Indenture Witnesseth That Frederick Zollinger Ludwicks Schlaubdrauff and Frederick Bender Trustees of Emmanuel Congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Marion Township Allen County Indiana in consideration of the Sum of One Dollar to them paid by Peter Trautman Ernst Hildebrand and Frederick Foster as Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran St. Johns Church of Marion Township Allen County Indiana the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged do Grant bargain sell and Quit Claim to Said Trustees and their Successors in Office forever the following described Real Estate situated in Allen County and State of Indiana to-wit Three acres of land in the South half of the North west quarter of Section Three (3) in Township Twenty nine (29) North of Range thirteen (13) East and more particularly described as follows Commencing at the North East corner of Said South half of Said quarter section & thence running South forty rods - thence west twelve rods - thence North forty 40 rods - and thence East twelve (12) rods to the place of beginning. Together with all the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging To Have and to hold the Same to the Said Trustees of the Evangelical Lutheran St. Johns Church of Marion Township Allen County Indiana and their successors in office for ever

In Witness Whereof said Trautman have hereunto set their hands & Seals this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1872.

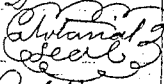
(Stamp 50. etc.)

Frederick Zollinger   
Ludwicks Schlaubdrauff   
Frederick Bender 

State of Indiana Allen County &c

Personally appeared before the Subscriber a Notary Public in and for said County Frederick Zollinger Ludwicks Schlaubdrauff and Frederick Bender Trustees of Emmanuel Congregation of Evangelical Lutheran Church in Marion Township Allen County Indiana and acknowledged the execution of the above conveyance to be their act and deed for the uses and purposes therein mentioned

Witness my hand and Notarial Seal this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1872

Phil. B. Colenick   
Notary Public

I certify that the deed of which this above and foregoing is a true copy was duly stamped as provided by act of Congress and Recorded August 13<sup>th</sup> 1872 at  
4 P.M.

Jos. M. Koch  
Rec. Adm.