

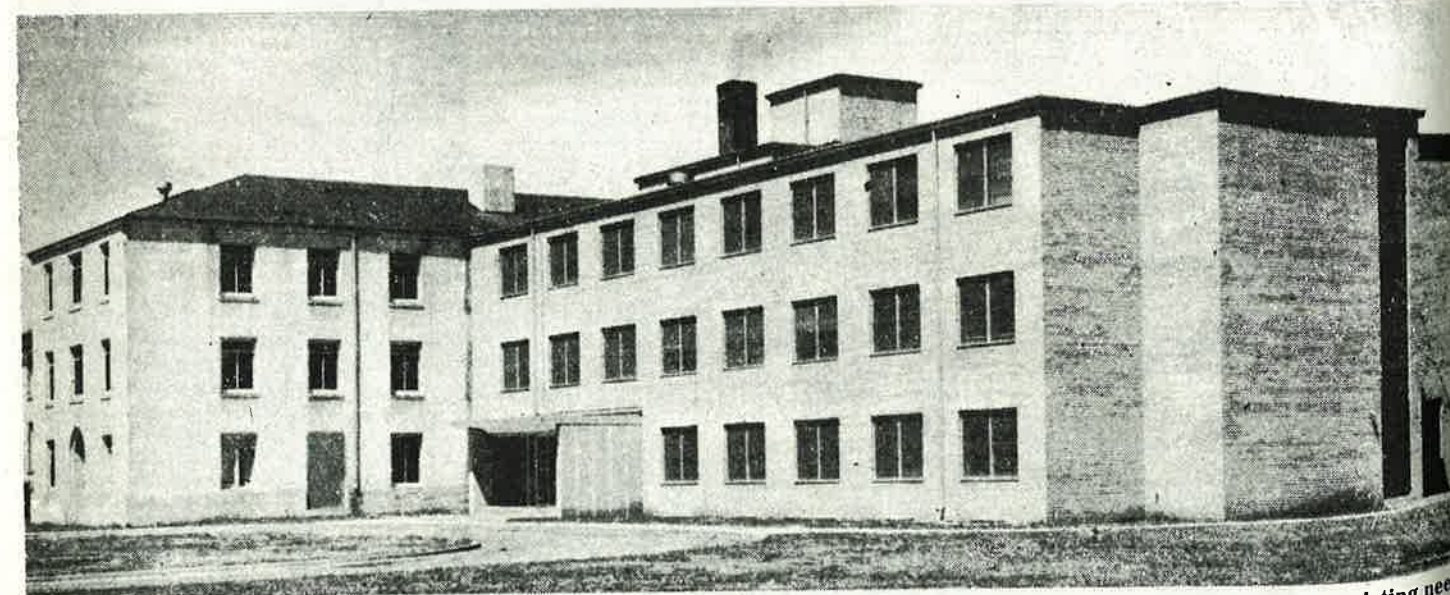
president; Montelle Boone, vice president; Alvin Jorandby, treasurer; John Morgan, secretary. Dedication services were held in Zion Lutheran Church and the speaker was Dr. Reuben Youngdahl of Minneapolis.

Administrators from 1940 through 1970 were M. D. Hay, Albert K. Smith, Mr. Brotherton, Margaret Vopni, Homer Nelson, Marjorie Mohagen, and Margaret Fledderman.

As early as 1943 and 1944, the St. John's Catholic Men's Club was interested in the construction of another hospital facility in the city of Grafton. At a dinner attended by Grafton Businessmen and businessmen for adjacent territory, it was decided to build another hospital in Grafton and to be operated by the Sisters of Presentation of Fargo, N. Dak.

After the meeting at St. John's Parish Hall in 1944, it was agreed that the local community raise \$70,000 with the Sisters of Presentation contributing \$170,000. The cost of the hospital was to be about \$250,000. The location was 13th St. West.

Bids were opened April 1950. Lenci, Lenci, and England were



One of the most beautiful hospital buildings in the Upper Midwest was the Deaconess Hospital at Grafton.

The oldest hospital in Grafton, the Deaconess stood as a pillar of strength to the sick and the ailing for many years. From

awarded the contract for the construction work, Grafton Electric for general electric work, Grundem Bros., St. Paul for plumbing, heating, ventilation, and other phases of construction. Charles Sieben represented the Sisters of Presentation.

T. A. Donnelly was chairman of the meeting and nomination committee consisting of A. C. Idsvoog, W. J. Johnston, Clyde Kieley, Christian Williamson, and Jerome Dusek.

St. Joseph's Community Hospital was dedicated in December 1951, with Solemn high mass in the presence of Leo F. Dvorschak, Auxiliary bishop of the Fargo Diocese. The first patient was admitted December 21, 1951.

Sister Lelia was the first administrator followed by Sisters Austin, Boniface, Mary Ellen, with Sister Boniface serving again and assisting with the merger of Grafton Deaconess and St. Joseph's Hospital in 1970. N. L. Altendorf was assistant administrator. Mrs. Clem (Helen) Schumacher was first Hospital Auxiliary President.

With rising costs, in 1968, a health care planning committee was named and were to study local hospital programs considering the utilization of local hospitals facilities.

On March 12, 1970, at a meeting of the Grafton Deaconess Hospital Board of Trustees and members of the Advisory Board of St. Joseph's Hospital, a resolution was adopted agreeing on the necessity and desirability of forming a corporation for the purpose of providing proper hospital facilities.

November 1, 1970, Deaconess Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital were acquired by Christian Unity Hospital Corporation and operating as Unity North (Deaconess), as the acute facility and Unity South (St. Joseph's) as the non-acute facility. N. L. Altendorf was administrator with Margaret Fledderman as assistant administrator.

time to time improvements have been made as the existing need for hospitalization increased. In 1952, an additional wing was added. It could accommodate 75 patients without a hint of congestion.

Board members of the merging hospital were: St. Joseph's: W. T. DePuy, Ernest Hutson, William Suda, Paul Campbell, Robert E. Dahl, Dr. W. P. Teevens, and Herman Daniels; Deaconess Hospital: Oscar Knutson, Oliver Ordahl, Harley Kingsbury, Dean Bjerneby, and Dr. G. L. Countryman.

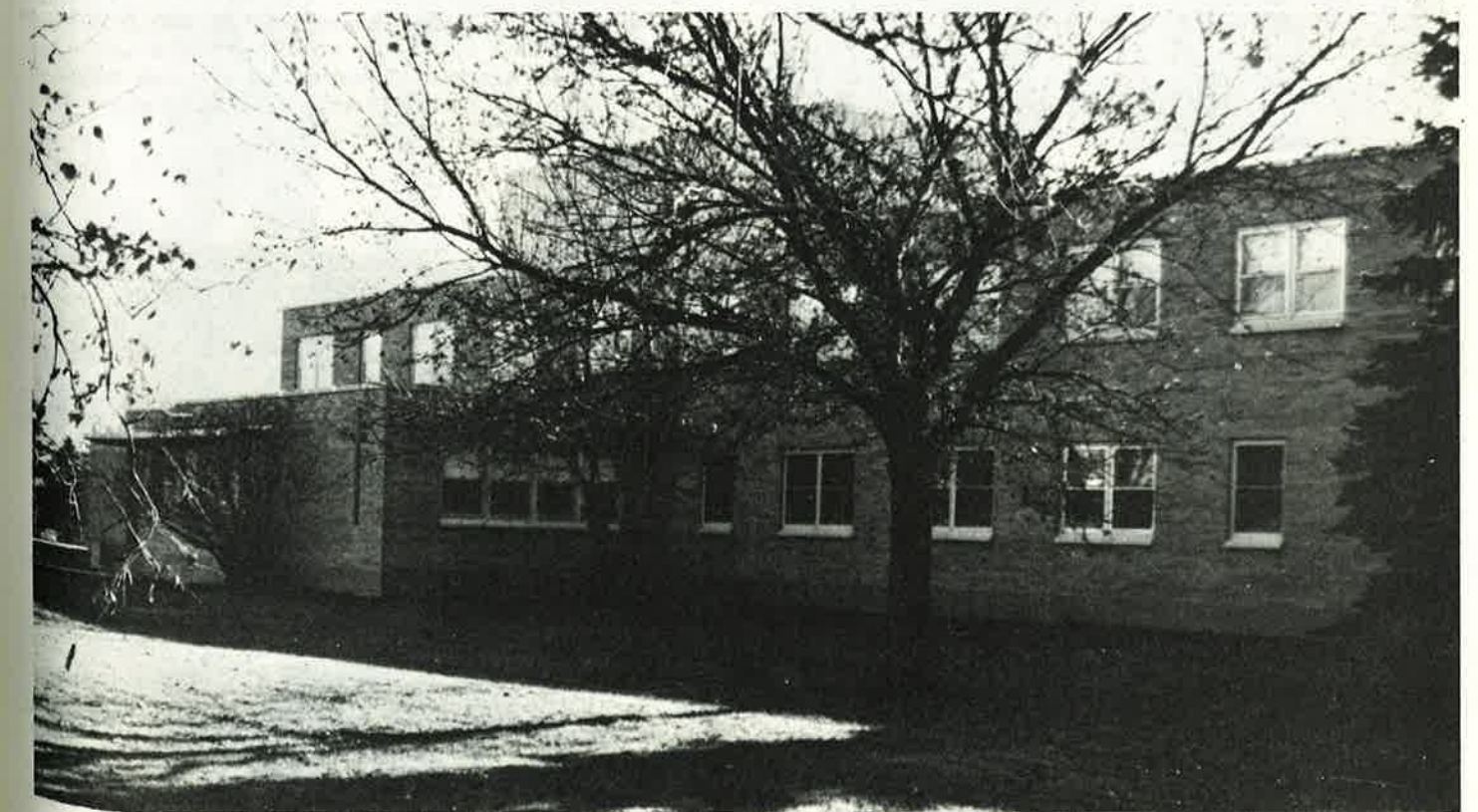
Dean Bjerneby served as cooperate president; Howard Hills, secretary; Oscar Knutson, treasurer; Paul Campbell, vice president; on the executive committee were Robert E. Dahl and R. S. Webb.

October 1, 1973, Unity Board of Trustees awarded contract to Adamsen Construction Company of Grafton for the general construction with total cost of \$929,225.00 to remodel and update Unity South (St. Joseph's) facilities into an acute hospital. Open house was held at Christian Unity Hospital on 13th St. West, May 4, 1975. Patients were moved from Unity North to the completed Christian Unity May 17, 1975.

In 1971 Grafton Ambulance Services were initiated at Unity North (Deaconess) by Harold Kamrowski and Wallace DeSautel. The first officers were Wallace DeSautel, president; Charles (Chuck) Johnson, vice president; Bill Normandie, secretary. After having headquarters in several places throughout the city, an ambulance headquarters building was constructed on 13th St. West next to the Christian Unity Hospital. This building was dedicated Sunday, Oct. 22, 1978. Officers of the present board are Ken Vertin, president; Robbie Mihelich, vice president; Connie DeSautel, secretary-treasurer. Board members include Clayton Mohagen, Guy DeSautel, and Aaron Jelinek.

Grafton Deaconess Hospital was razed and replaced by Metropolitan Federal Savings and Loan Association in August 1979. Grafton Deaconess Hospital served northeastern North Dakota for 66 years. St. Joseph's Hospital served the area for 20 years. With the merging of these two institutions, our present Christian Unity Hospital was created.

On February 23, 1923, the Grafton Deaconess Hospital Training School was approved and accredited by the State Board of Nurses of North Dakota for the training and graduating of nurses. The graduates of the Grafton Deaconess Hospital Training School were eligible for examination and registration.



Unity Hospital, former St. Joseph's Hospital, as it stands today.

The training school alumni are as follows:

1924: Bertha C. Selliken, Bertine Scheving, Grace M. Clifton, Runa Einarson.

1925: Jennie Herman, Minnie Johnson.

1926: Laura Gudmunson, Rose Marie Zinke; Margaret L. Zinke, Linnea S. Bergstrom, Mary E. Coulthart, Esther S. Almen.

1927: Mary Jane Marto, Ruth Elvine Bergseid, Anna Louise Strand.

1928: Rose Floy Baumgardner, Irene Elizabeth Curran, Svana Christianson, Catherine E. M. Lill, Claire Regine Nelson.

1929: Ruth Knudson, Mary Olason, Nanna Arnason.

1930: Luverne Maranda Erstad, Edna Mae Herbison.

1931: Madge Miller, Agnes Brusseau, Gene McEwen, Dorothy Tillet, Nena Olson, Dorothy Armstrong.

1932: Velma G. Axtell, Joy Knutson, Francis Elliott, Agnes Momerak, Hazel M. Stokke, Orlenda Emrud, Hilda Gaschke, Myrtle Strand, Bertha Jonason.

1933: Helen Anderson, Merle Parkins.

1934: Lola Doty, Ann Thorwardson, Pearl Monson, Rosella Uggerud.

1935: Gudrid Rydland, Gladys Morstad, Margaret Heuchert, Elsie Puppe, Anna C. Otto, Gladys Johnson.

1936: Minora Steen, Dorothy Thatcher, Martha Syverson, Marion Hanson.

1937: Helen Berg, Muriel Hennem, Edna Momerak.

1938: Thelma Torkelson, Jessie Collins, Josephine Laaveson, Sigrin Helgeson, Eleanor Larson, Carol Anderson.

1939: Amy Torkelson, Louise Bjerke, Agnes Bjerke, Lillian Hilde, Hazel Johnson, June Scott.

1940: Ethel Haddow, Florence Durler, Violet Heuchert.

1941: Ann Einarson, Fanny Dew, Florence Boettger, Helen Hurst, Berniece Bye, Delores Mattson.

1942: Dorcas Graham, Adorah Braden, Evie Thordarson, Joy Bell, Mary Shanks, Dorothy Jewel, Margaret Ingulsrud.

The Deaconess Hospital training School for nurses was discontinued during World War II as competent instructors were not available. The class after 1942 were transferred to cadet nursing. The student entered the hospital of their choice.