

THE MARTIN LUTHER CHURCH (LUTHERAN DENOMINATION, OLD
SCHOOL), OF PUNXSUTAWNEY.

This organization belongs to what is commonly termed the "Old Lutherans." The denomination, as a whole, embraces five churches situated as follows: Punxsutawney (old school), Brookville, Shadigee, Paradise (two churches, one new and one old), and Grubs.

In 1856 the Punxsutawney society was organized, and commenced to have preaching at intervals, the services being held in the Lutheran and Reformed Church, on the hill above the village. Rev. William Engelbach was the pastor, and preached for over a year. Rev. Henneman succeeded him and preached for some time in a school house which was in the centre of the public square.

In 1857 Rev. C. C. Brandt became the pastor, and in this year the edifice they occupy to-day was built. The succession of ministers is as follows: Revs. Jacob Rising, Peter Engers, Greenmiller F. W. Spindle. K. Waltz, Julius Bauch, John M. Meissner, and the present incumbent, C. Engelder.

The actual church members number over one hundred, and the congregation and the Sunday School are large and on the increase. Their church work, taken as a county, has been on a solid basis, and its growth shows a substantial gain and work for Christianity, of which its members may well be proud. The officers of the Punxsutawney Church are: Trustees, John Lang, Henry Ernst and William Zeitler; President, George Weiss; Secretary, John Lang; Treasurer, Henry Ernst, jr. The Lutheran denomination (old and new) number in the county about six hundred members.