

# FRIEDRICH JOHANN CARL LOCHNER

## *Synodical Founder, Parish Pastor and Liturgics Professor*

BORN: **SEPTEMBER 23, 1822** *Nuremberg, Kingdom of Bavaria*

DIED: **FEBRUARY 14, 1902** *Milwaukee, Wis.*

**F**.C.G. LOCHNER WANTED HIS SON, Friedrich, to become a pastor but could not afford the kind of schooling that the Lutheran church in Germany required of its clergy. He apprenticed his son to a copperplate engraver since Friedrich had a talent for drawing. But when Friedrich's eyesight began to fail, he had to change course. Motivated by reports of spiritual conditions in America and especially by hearing a lecture of F.C.D. Wyneken, a missionary on furlough from the States and a future founder of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Lochner resolved to go to America and preach the Gospel.

At this time, Wilhelm Löhe, a pastor in Bavaria, was active in both recruiting and training men for the American mission. Lochner spent several months studying with him, and in the spring of 1845, he embarked upon a voyage to the New World along with four other Löhe missionaries. The trip was eventful: ocean storms, collision with another vessel, icebergs and a smallpox epidemic — not to mention a train wreck once they landed and continued their journey west. But Lochner made it, and in August, he was ordained and began his ministry in Toledo, Ohio.

He arrived just in time to help with the founding of the Missouri Synod. Unhappy with the lax Lutheranism of the American synods, the Löhe men (now including Lochner) in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana determined to establish a church body fully committed to Lutheran doctrine and practice. That goal was the same as another group that included C.F.W. Walther from Saxony in Germany. They had founded congregations and a seminary in Missouri. Letters were exchanged, meetings were held and the new church body began in 1847.

After one of the preliminary meetings, Lochner courted and then married Walther's sister-in-law, Lydia Bünger. He also drew sketches and painted pictures of places where synodical history was being made.

Lochner was very active in the first several decades of the Synod's history. He was a pastor for many years at Trinity, Milwaukee, where he helped to start the Synod's teacher training program. But in 1875, he accepted a call to Trinity in Springfield, Ill., to pastor the church and teach hymnody and liturgics to students at the synodical seminary there (now in Fort Wayne, Ind.). Two decades later, he published the fruits of those labors in *The Chief Divine Service of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church*, just one of several publications that Lochner composed.

In 1887, old age and ill health necessitated his resignation from Springfield. But he returned to Milwaukee and was able to serve as an assistant pastor until his death in 1902.

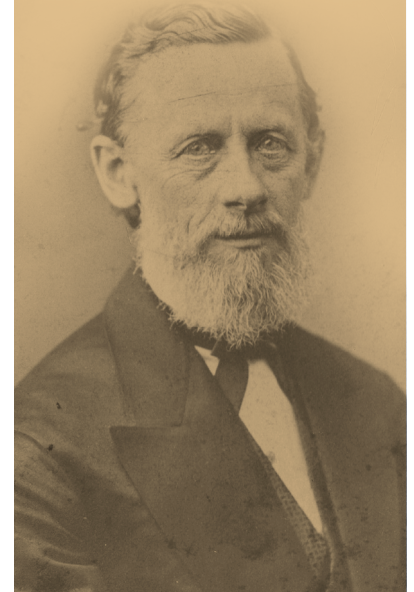
**For more information about the 175th anniversary of the LCMS, visit [lcms.org/175](http://lcms.org/175).**

### DISCOVER MORE

Otto Frederick Hattstädt, "The Life and Works of Pastor Frederick Lochner," *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly* 21, no. 4 (January 1949): 166–74.

Kevin Hildebrand, "Friedrich Lochner and *Der Hauptgottesdienst*," *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly* 84, no. 4 (Winter 2011): 10–39.

Cameron A. MacKenzie, "Appreciating Friedrich Lochner: A Founding Father of the Missouri Synod," *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly* 84, no. 3 (Fall 2011): 36–50.



1847 . 2022

**ONLY JESUS**  
NO OTHER NAME

– 175 YEARS –

# FRIEDRICH JOHANN CARL LOCHNER

## *Synodical Founder, Parish Pastor and Liturgics Professor*

BORN: **SEPTEMBER 23, 1822** *Nuremberg, Kingdom of Bavaria*

DIED: **FEBRUARY 14, 1902** *Milwaukee, Wis.*

**F**.C.G. LOCHNER WANTED HIS SON, Friedrich, to become a pastor but could not afford the kind of schooling that the Lutheran church in Germany required of its clergy. He apprenticed his son to a copperplate engraver since Friedrich had a talent for drawing. But when Friedrich's eyesight began to fail, he had to change course. Motivated by reports of spiritual conditions in America and especially by hearing a lecture of F.C.D. Wyneken, a missionary on furlough from the States and a future founder of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, Lochner resolved to go to America and preach the Gospel.

At this time, Wilhelm Löhe, a pastor in Bavaria, was active in both recruiting and training men for the American mission. Lochner spent several months studying with him, and in the spring of 1845, he embarked upon a voyage to the New World along with four other Löhe missionaries. The trip was eventful: ocean storms, collision with another vessel, icebergs and a smallpox epidemic — not to mention a train wreck once they landed and continued their journey west. But Lochner made it, and in August, he was ordained and began his ministry in Toledo, Ohio.

He arrived just in time to help with the founding of the Missouri Synod. Unhappy with the lax Lutheranism of the American synods, the Löhe men (now including Lochner) in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana determined to establish a church body fully committed to Lutheran doctrine and practice. That goal was the same as another group that included C.F.W. Walther from Saxony in Germany. They had founded congregations and a seminary in Missouri. Letters were exchanged, meetings were held and the new church body began in 1847.

After one of the preliminary meetings, Lochner courted and then married Walther's sister-in-law, Lydia Bünger. He also drew sketches and painted pictures of places where synodical history was being made.

Lochner was very active in the first several decades of the Synod's history. He was a pastor for many years at Trinity, Milwaukee, where he helped to start the Synod's teacher training program. But in 1875, he accepted a call to Trinity in Springfield, Ill., to pastor the church and teach hymnody and liturgics to students at the synodical seminary there (now in Fort Wayne, Ind.). Two decades later, he published the fruits of those labors in *The Chief Divine Service of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church*, just one of several publications that Lochner composed.

In 1887, old age and ill health necessitated his resignation from Springfield. But he returned to Milwaukee and was able to serve as an assistant pastor until his death in 1902.

**For more information about the 175th anniversary of the LCMS, visit [lcms.org/175](http://lcms.org/175).**

### DISCOVER MORE

Otto Frederick Hattstädt, "The Life and Works of Pastor Frederick Lochner," *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly* 21, no. 4 (January 1949): 166–74.

Kevin Hildebrand, "Friedrich Lochner and *Der Hauptgottesdienst*," *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly* 84, no. 4 (Winter 2011): 10–39.

Cameron A. MacKenzie, "Appreciating Friedrich Lochner: A Founding Father of the Missouri Synod," *Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly* 84, no. 3 (Fall 2011): 36–50.



1847 2022

**ONLY JESUS**  
NO OTHER NAME

– 175 YEARS –

