

✚ HOLY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HILL OVERLOOKING ROBESONIA ✚

WHO IS THE "DANIEL" FOR WHOM OUR CHURCH IS NAMED???

✘ It is NOT Daniel, the Old Testament prophet!

✔ It IS Reverend Daniel Ulrich, who served as the 3rd Pastor of this congregation, from 1811-1853!

Though the congregation was formed in 1751 and was generally known as the "Heidelberg" church in the Tulpehocken charge, upon laying of the cornerstone for the second church building on May 1, 1814, it received the name "St. Daniel's".

Reverend Daniel Ulrich was born August 10, 1789 in Annville Township, Lebanon County, PA, which at that time was a part of Lebanon Township, Dauphin County. He was one of the young men prepared for the ministry by Dr. J.C. Lochman of Lebanon. He was licensed as a full candidate at York, PA, in 1809. Soon after his licensure, he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Weidman, ESQ. Upon the advice of the Synod, he at once took charge of the Lykens Valley field of churches, then consisting of eight or more congregations. Additional churches were subsequently added. This combination of churches made a territory larger than present day Lebanon County.

After remaining in Lykens Valley for about two years, he accepted a call to the Tulpehocken charge, where he had been elected after an inter-congregational struggle lasting several years. Some of the congregations -- Womelsdorf, Myerstown, and Schaefferstown -- declined to unite in the call and formed a separate parish under Rev. William Beates, who had been serving as a supply Pastor to Heidelberg.

Rev. Ulrich served the Tulpehocken area that was then composed of Christ, near Stouchsburg; Reed's in Stouchsburg; Altalaha in Rehrersburg; Heidelberg (which would become St. Daniel's); and Newmanstown churches until the close of 1851, about 40 years. He retained Newmanstown and Heidelberg (St. Daniel's) about two years longer. Rev. Ulrich preached his farewell sermon at St. Daniel's on September 25, 1853.

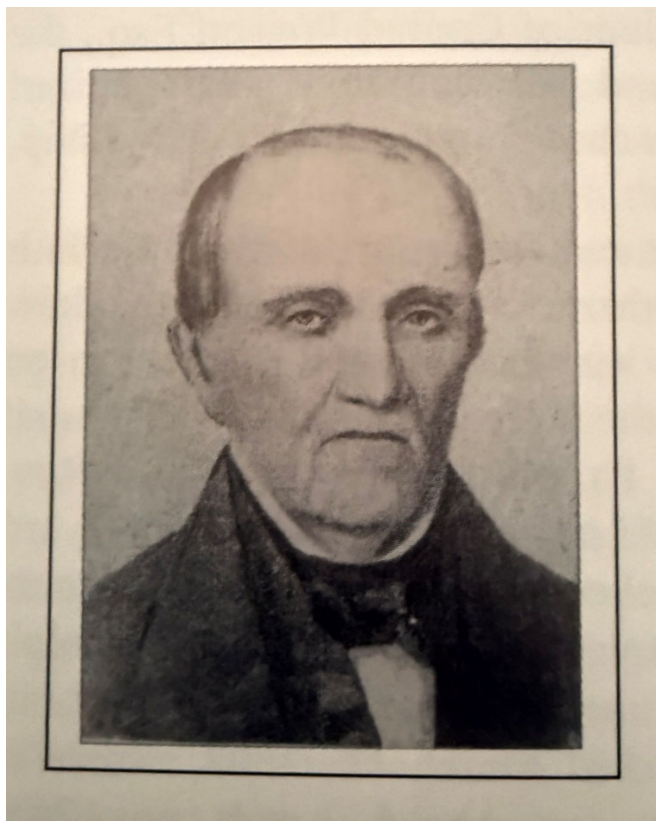
In his congregational work at St. Daniel's, Rev. Daniel Ulrich amassed an enviable record. In some families, two generations were confirmed and married by Rev. Ulrich. One of the early record books contained a summary of Rev. Ulrich's work as follows: baptized over 5,000 persons; confirmed over 3,400 persons; married over 2,300 persons; buried over 1,700 persons; preached 6,000 times; and administered communion to 35,000 persons during his 42 years of service. [Wow!]

In 1855, Rev. Ulrich started on a trip to the West and expired suddenly after an attack of paralysis in Pittsburgh on June 2, 1855. He was buried at Christ Tulpehocken Church in Stouchsburg on June 5, 1855. His tombstone remains there to this day. He was survived by his wife, two sons and one daughter.

Fun fact: Rev. Ulrich is featured in one of our beautiful stained glass panels on the North side rear of the nave. Take a closer look on Sunday!

Historical details taken from the 'Saint Daniel's Evangelical Lutheran Church "Eck Kirche" 1751-2001' church history book written by the St. Daniel's History Committee in celebration of the 250th anniversary. More detail regarding this topic is found in Chapter 3 – Pastors.

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Rev. Daniel Ulrich

3rd Pastor of the congregation that became known as "St. Daniel's" - in recognition of him.

Photo from the St. Daniel's 250th Anniversary history book.



Rev. Daniel Ulrich looked a lot like Bob Newhart (pictured above)! Thanks for pointing that out, Joy!



The second church building for the church that became known as "St. Daniel's". This building was constructed 1814-1817 and remodeled in 1846.

Photo of Harry W. Sheeler and his brother on a spring wagon taken in 1903.



North Window Panels in the current St. Daniel's church building (left to right):

- 1) Seal of Martin Luther, reflecting our Lutheran heritage;
- 2) "Eck Kirche" designation ("Corner Church" in Pennsylvania Dutch), recalling farms at whose meeting points St. Daniel's was founded;
- 3) Symbol of the Christian ministry and reference to the Rev. Daniel Ulrich, Pastor from 1811-1853, after whom our congregation is named.

Photo taken June 3, 2024.



Upper section of the stained glass panel referencing Reverend "Daniel" Ulrich



Lower section of the stained glass panel referencing Reverend Ulrich who served from 1811-1853