



**THE CHURCH COUNCIL OF ELDERS** of the Lutheran Church of the Ascension views the architect's drawing of the new church. Standing are the Rev. Palmer Ruschke, William Thoele, Richard Swenson, Ken Aune, Harold Grovender, and Harley Realson. Seated are Arthur Puch, Howard Ritter, and Ernest Quast. Council members not pictured are Allen Kuenzel and Martin Schember.

## Lutheran Church of Ascension Holds Organizational Service

The Lutheran Church of the Ascension formally came into being Sunday as members of more than thirty families repeated their confirmation vows and signed the Constitution and Bylaws during the morning worship service.

Members also dedicated their pledges for the congregation's program in this Charter and Loyalty Service.

The congregation began its services on Sept. 13 at the Sioux Trail school cafeteria in River Hills. Ground for the new church was broken on Oct. 25 at its site near the intersection of Hwy. 13 and Co. Rd. 11. The new church and educational facilities are scheduled for completion in early spring.

The Rev. Palmer Ruschke, pastor of the new congregation, resides at 1902 River Hills Drive.

The Charter and Loyalty Sunday service included installation of the first Church Council of Elders. Members of the council are William Thoele, president; Howard Ritter, vice-president; Martin Schember, secretary; Allen Kuenzel, treasurer; Harold Grovender, financial secretary; Arthur Puch, Ernest Quast, Harley Realson, Ken Aune, and Richard Swenson, departmental chairmen.

The Lutheran Church of the Ascension is associated with the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, it is a co-sponsor of such nationally broadcast programs as radio's "The Lutheran Hour", and televisions' "This Is The Life."

The new congregation was established to serve the north Burnsville area, particularly River Hills, Highland View, and Skyline additions. Services are presently conducted at the Sioux Trail school in River Hills at 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.