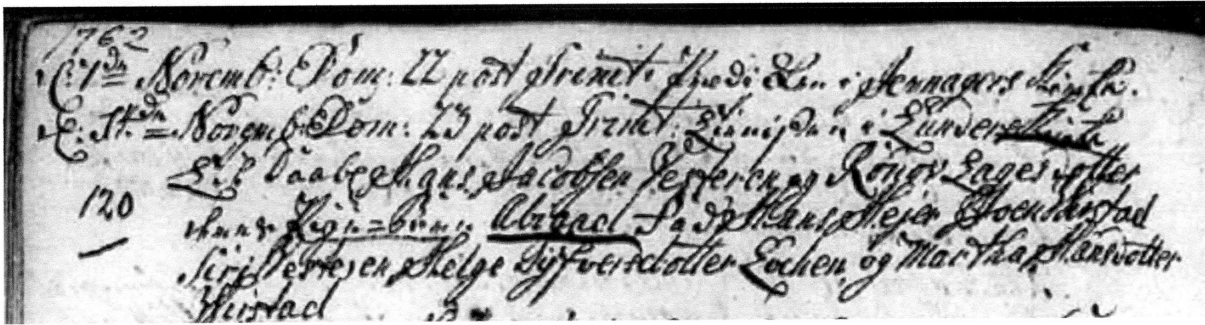


Church books and their headings



14 Nov Sunday, 23rd post Trinity appeared at Lunder church to baptize Hans Jacobsen Vesternen (farm) and Ronoug Lagesdatter female child Abægel. Witnesses follow.

The records kept in the latter part of the 17th and 18th centuries are usually very meager in the amount of information that is given. Sometimes the father's first name and farm name are only given without mention of mother's name. Baptism dates only without a birth date.

The older parish registers did not have any set form for recording the various entries. These books are more difficult to read than the latter records. In Norway a printed form was provided to record the entries for the parish registers. This form was introduced in 1812 and was generally used in Norway from 1814. The form was improved in 1820 and again in 1877 and again later. The information kept changing for the better. This didn't stop pastors from making up their own books but didn't use all of headings. When space ran out the pastor would use any unused pages in the book so you may find baptisms on the confirmation pages or burial pages. They would indicate on the bottom of the regular page to go to page ??? to continue.

In many locations there were kept 2 sets of records; one done by the pastor and the other done by a lay person (klokker) who was an assistant to the pastor. The books were to be stored in different locations so that in case of a fire the other book would survive. Generally the klokker book covered the major events, thus vaccinations and moving records were often left out. If there are 2 sets of records look at both of them because of difference in handwriting, one may be more readable than other.

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