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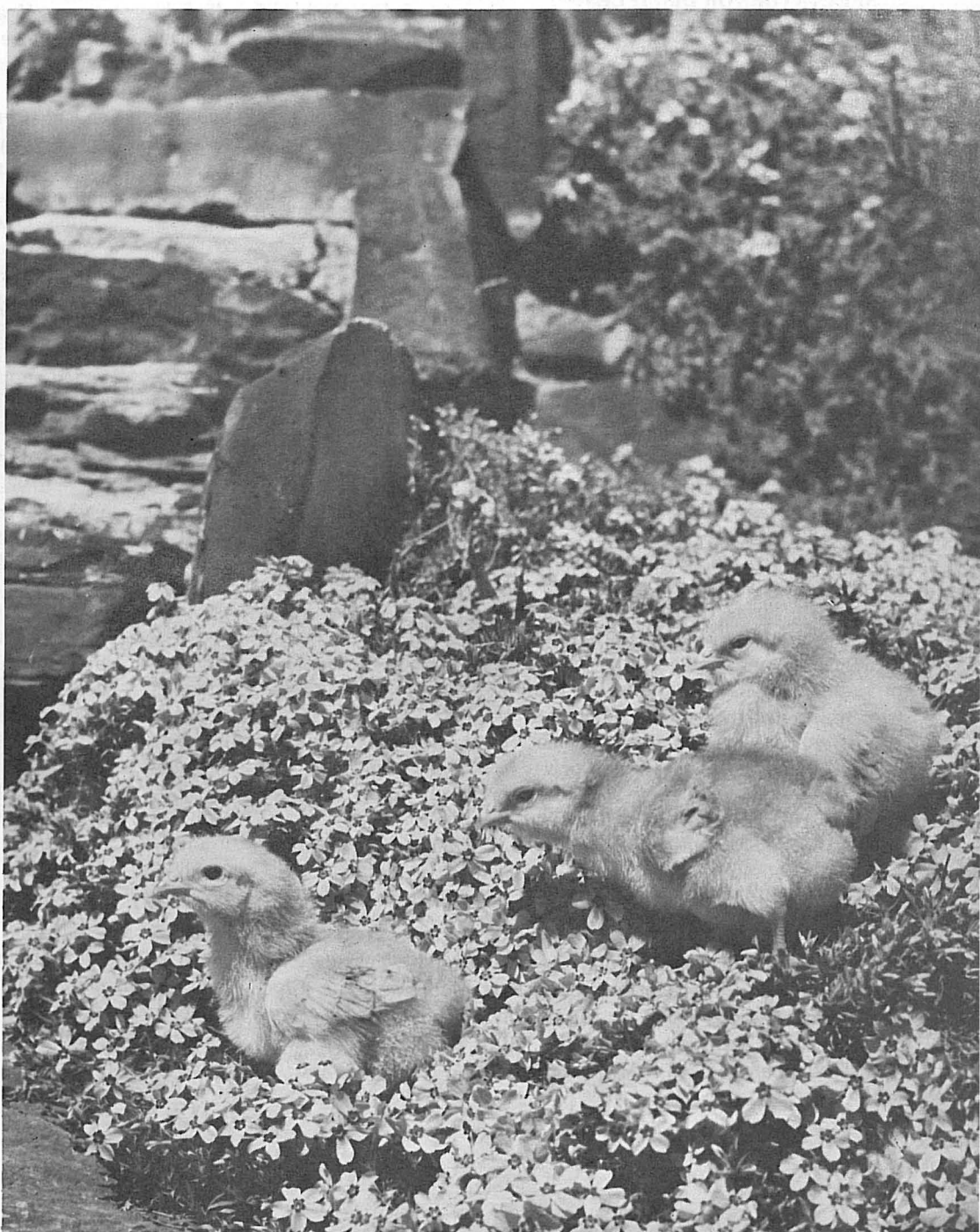
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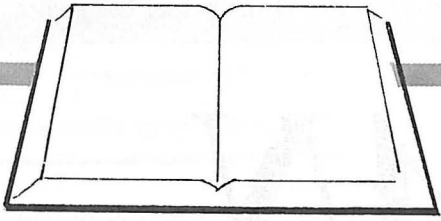
April 15, 1969

No. 8

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According to the Word

SPECTATORS OR DISCIPLES? Luke 14:27

Television has made us largely a nation of spectators. We receive our entertainment, our conflicts, our emotions, our religion, our physical violence, our adventure, and even our exercise, vicariously. All this can be exciting if it does not transform us into habitually passive spectators. Certain things in life require that we be participants, and not mere spectators. Christianity is foremost among these. We are not the audience in the great drama of redemption—we are actors in the play. God does not intend that we should merely watch the agonies of the cross and see the victory of the empty tomb, and then merely clap our hands and say, "Hooray, God has won again!"

Christianity is not something to believe in; it is something to be. It is not a thing; it is life, real life, the throbbing life of the risen Christ. To be a Christian means that by the power of faith each one of us acts out the role which God has assigned to him in His eternal passion play. In one way or another, each one of us is privileged to play the leading role, the role of Christ Himself. We can follow in His footsteps in suffering. We can relive His self-giving life of love. We can practice His total dependence

upon God in all things. This is the meaning of discipleship; for discipleship is meant to be lived, not merely to be watched.

Those who say they believe in Christ, but have no living or regular connection with His church are mere spectators in the drama of salvation. It is possible to go to church every Sunday and still remain a spectator if we refuse to commit ourselves and to become involved in what is taking place. Jesus Christ made it perfectly clear that following Him requires participation. There is a price to be paid. He made this very clear in Luke 9:23 where we read these words: "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me".

The mission of Christ in the world has been carried forward by people who are not content to be mere spectators. The cause of Christ, of proclaiming His death for the sins of the world and living by faith in Him, has not been carried forward by undisciplined, wonder-seeking crowds. It has depended upon Gideon's band, the few willing men and women ready not only to accept the name but also to pay the price of being a disciple.

"If anyone", said Christ, "if anyone comes to Me . . ." He was talking to individuals in that crowd, knowing

that crowds prefer the role of spectators. "If anyone comes to Me and wants to be a follower of Mine, he has to abandon the role of spectator and become a disciple." Christ wants not onlookers but participants; not admirers but martyrs; not church members but followers; not spectators but disciples.

Elton Trueblood tells the story of a man who applied for membership in a church. He told the pastor that, being a busy man, he wanted to belong to a fashionable church, listen to good sermons, and hear good music. He had no intention of doing any work or giving any time as an active participant in the work of the church. The pastor replied, "Sir, you have come to the wrong place. The one you want is six blocks ahead." The man hurried to this place, if for no other reason than to find out what it was, and walked right into a cemetery.

What the church needs today is not church members but disciples. We are not actors in a play, nor can we be spectators in the balcony answering the demands of Christ with, "I'll come in if I can slip in and out without having to do anything." What about you? Christ is asking you right now, "Are you a spectator or a disciple?"

—Marvin S. Undseth

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Report of the Property Ownership Study Committee

TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS:

This committee, consisting of Pastor Raynard Huglen, Pastor Julius Hermunslie, Mr. Morris Borstad, Mr. Even Ose, and Pastor Gene Sundby, was appointed by the 1968 Annual Conference to study the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation and the questions relating to this Corporation particularly in the area of property ownership. Pastor John Strand is an ex-officio member of this committee. Pastor Huglen was selected as chairman and Pastor Sundby secretary.

The committee had three meetings during the course of the year to discuss the many facets of the question and also to seek legal counsel from Attorneys LeFevere and Howard of Minneapolis, Minn. In the course of our study we undertook a cursory investigation of four conservative denominations in order to glean some new insights on how others had solved similar questions. Perhaps the most surprising find, or the most interesting find, of this study was that all but one was incorporated as a church body, more along the lines of what our people commonly refer to as a synod. Several attorneys have suggested this as an alternative for the AFLC. The committee could readily see how such a setup would eliminate some of the questions this committee was appointed to solve, but at the same time we could see how it would create other problems of perhaps greater magnitude. And believing that the Association would not and should not take such a step, the committee continued to search for a more satisfactory solution. We do not claim to have come up with any outstanding answer, but we hope our recommendations will meet the immediate needs of the AFLC and also quiet the fears of those who have expressed concern over matters as they now stand.

Before we proceed further, let us keep in mind the responsibilities and limitations of the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation as spelled out by Article III of the Articles of Incorporation and Paragraph 9 of **Rules for Work**.

ARTICLE III

The purposes of this Corporation are:

(a) To serve as an agency of free and independent congregations who subscribe to the **Fundamental Principles** of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations as part of their doctrine.

(b) To assist congregations in conducting their activities, both local and as parts of the Association.

(c) To endeavor to bring about interchange of fuller spiritual activities among the congregations.

(d) To be of assistance to congregations and pastors through counsel and guidance, where such may be requested.

(e) To gather and report to the congregations as much information as possible concerning the work of the Association and the congregations including home and foreign missions; Christian education; Women's, Men's and Youth organizations; Theological Seminaries and other consistent activities."

PARAGRAPH 9

Duties of the Co-ordinating Committee:

(a) The Co-ordinating Committee shall seek to make known the **Fundamental Principles** and **Rules for Work** of the AFLC and further the discussions of the same throughout the congregations, so that the task of the AFLC, in an ever increasing degree, may be more clearly understood and more generally put into practice.

(b) It shall seek to have the congregations as fully and as generally rep-

resented at the Annual Conference of the AFLC as possible.

(c) When desired, it shall assist congregations and pastors by giving counsel and guidance.

(d) It shall compile parochial statistics and report thereon to the Annual Conference. It shall maintain the clergy and congregational rosters of the AFLC.

(e) It shall have charge of the AFLC General Fund from which shall be paid the salaries of the president, secretary, transportation secretary, traveling expenses, and expenses incurred in connection with the Annual Conference.

(f) It shall elect the editor of the church organ.

(g) Any duty not assigned to any other committee shall be the responsibility of the Co-ordinating Committee."

Now, we will present our main proposals and follow them up with some explanation and thoughts in keeping with our responsibilities as indicated by the last Annual Conference.

1. Retain the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation at its present size. (Minimum of 5, maximum of 9)

2. Transfer the appropriate property holdings now held by the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation to the Seminary Corporation. The Seminary Corporation would have to assume the debts and encumbrances upon those properties at the time of transfer.

Concerning proposal one, discussion was considerable and perhaps centered on enlarging the present Co-ordinating Committee Corporation to a maximum of 30 members. The main argument in favor is, of course, obvious, as it provides a substantial increase in the number involved in property ownership. The representation of congregations in the AFLC would also be more favorable and a broader ownership base would be

achieved. It should be noted that such a change would require amendments to the Rules for Work and the Articles of Incorporation. Keeping that in mind, we would point out some other considerations which do not make the above argument as attractive as first impressions would suggest. They are:

1. The Annual Conference would have actually less control over who the members of what we call the Co-ordinating Committee would be than we do at the present time, and consequently we would have less control over their actions and decisions. As you know, the Conference chooses one of two names for every vacancy in the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation. All members chosen are intimately concerned with all the affairs involving what we now call the Co-ordinating Committee. However, if we were to have a corporation of 30 members, the Conference would choose 10 out of 20 nominees each year, but the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation (total of 30) would select from among their number, subject to Conference recommendation, those that would function as the Co-ordinating Committee. Those selected would conduct most of the business and make the majority of the decisions. These may or may not be men that the Annual Conference would ordinarily have chosen for such a position of trust and authority, although they may be material for a corporation as such.

2. We would remind the Conference that the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation functions as a board of trustees in matters concerning property, but as a board of deacons in matters relating to people and the entire work of the Association. Many of these matters are strictly confidential, such as colloquies. We do not have to tell you what often happens when too many people are involved in information that is of this nature. The Co-ordinating Committee Corporation also acts in confidence as an advisory board for the President of the AFLC. If he does not have some place to go with the numerous matters concerning his office, we are seriously handicapping the President and the work of the AFLC. For these reasons we believe enlarging the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation would be a

serious and perhaps tragic mistake.

Concerning proposal two, discussion was also lengthy. How could we best solve the dilemma of property ownership? It was decided that the property now in possession of the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation, but entirely involving the educational institutions of our Association, should be turned over to the Seminary Corporation. Due to organizational difficulties at the beginning it was necessary for the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation to assume this unwanted responsibility. Now the time would seem ripe to transfer this property, with its obligations, moral or real, to the Seminary Corporation at the earliest convenience. This would substantially lower the net holdings and liabilities of the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation and we feel it would adequately answer the fears of the Conference. However, we strongly feel that the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation should retain some property and maintain the freedom to receive or acquire property for these reasons:

1. Another corporation at the present time for any purpose would be cumbersome, too expensive, and would solve no problems.

2. As the Attorney pointed out, and also according to our sad experience, it is usually the schools that tend to become independent-minded first, therefore, it would seem unwise to deed property to that corporation that is not primarily used for their purposes.

3. Because of bequests and gifts that are made from time to time, it is necessary to have a clearing house for such. The Co-ordinating Committee Corporation would be the most suitable corporation for this purpose as they must have the well being of and concern for the entire AFLC in mind at all times, which may not be necessarily true of the other corporations due to the weight of their primary responsibilities.

4. Due to the brevity of time given in many instances for important decisions, particularly in the area of finance and real estate, it is well to have a smaller group such as the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation, responsive to the Annual Conference, invested with power to act, to buy or

sell, or whatever may be the case. I'm sure we do not have to explain the obvious impossibility of involving a big corporation in these instances. So, it boils down to this, the power to act quickly and decisively is a must in today's world. We believe that the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation, due to the limitations of the other corporations, would best meet this requirement and best serve the needs of the AFLC in this capacity according to our present organization and polity.

In conclusion, if the resolution ensuing from this report is adopted, perhaps the following property division would be the most feasible. This, of course, is subject to the decisions of the corporations involved.

1. The Co-ordinating Committee Corporation would retain the present church and administration building and garage, and the president's residence, with all the assets and liabilities pertaining to said properties.

2. The Seminary Corporation would take possession of the dormitory-classroom building, the dean's residence, and the Powers house with all the assets and liabilities pertaining to the aforementioned properties.

3. The grounds will be divided according to the decision of the corporations involved and each parcel will retain all the assets and liabilities pertaining thereto.

In summary, we would remind you that there are no foolproof answers. As had been mentioned many times, unless there is continuous revival and awakening within the AFLC there are no safeguards within the realm of man's dominion that can assure us the continued blessings and freedoms of the present. Each day we stand in jeopardy of losing the things most dear to us because of our disobedience to the heavenly vision and to the voice of the Holy Spirit. If these treasures, so precious to us, are not preserved by the Holy Spirit, are they worth keeping? Would it not amount to worship of material treasure and organization if we were without the life-giving Spirit? Let us labor and pray for treasure in heaven, and let us be less conformed or bound to the things of this world. Remember, We have

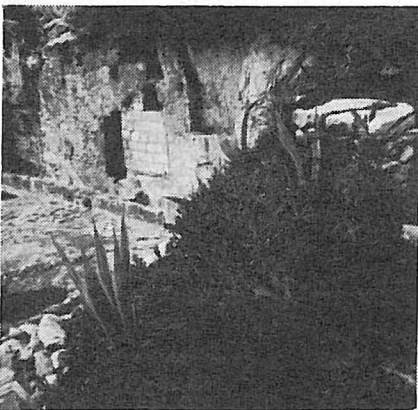
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The Holy Land Today

PART TWO

Albin Hilding Fogelquist, Jr.

While in Beirut, Lebanon, I was privileged to visit the Middle East Office of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The modest suite of offices is located on the fifth floor of Yared Building on Abdul Aziz Street. On the door of the office is a sign in English and Arabic: **Middle East Lutheran Ministry**. I was told about the Lutheran work in Lebanon by the Reverend John F. Stelling, a 1965 graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri. Pastor Stelling tenderly spoke of the great evangelistic need of preaching the Good News of Salvation to those who live in a Moslem culture. The Lord Jesus Christ shed his blood on Golgotha for all men including those who adhere to Islam. The Middle East Lutheran Ministry is four-fold: the radio work done through The Arabic Lutheran Hour, a program which is beamed into the Arab world; the Bible correspondence courses (**The Life of Christ** and **The Life of Paul** for adults, and **The Garden of Youth** for children); the translation work; and the personal counselling and evangelistic work. I talked with the dedicated Lebanese co-workers of Pastor Stelling. They told of the seemingly unsurmountable obstacles which Satan has placed before Christians who try to witness to the Moslems. Only a God of grace and glory permits His Gospel to be proclaimed even in



The Garden Tomb

the face of great obstacles. I felt humble in the presence of such a ministry; I felt grateful to God for permitting me to know the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior; and I felt the compelling need for laborers to take in the harvest of the souls in the Moslem world. As I departed, Pastor Stelling quietly requested: "Brother, pray for us!" His face radiated a measure of the compassion which Christ had for lost sinners.

Lebanon was a country which our group will long remember because of its friendly and cheerful workers for Christ. The Gospel call is being heralded, but many more workers are needed for the harvest. The National Evangelical Synod of Lebanon and Syria, served by thirty-seven national pastors, has a constituency of 15,000 persons in sixty-one Synod churches. Two colleges, eight secondary schools, twenty-two elementary schools, one seminary, three hospitals, and one printing shop are maintained by the Synod. Although largely the result of missionary labors of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. dating from 1826, the National Evangelical Synod incorporates the work of other mission endeavors including **Actionne Chretienne** and the Danish Lutheran Syria Mission.

Many of the mission and educational sites were visited by our group, e.g. Hamlin Hospital for Chest Diseases, Hammana, Lebanon; and the Sidon Evangelical Schools. At the Hamlin Hospital I had German devotions with an elderly German lady patient whose only means of communication was the German language. She had been a bed-ridden patient for nearly fifteen years and only rarely had visitors. How her face shone with the peace of Christ, when I concluded by pronouncing the blessing:

Der Herr segne dich und behuete dich.
Der Herr lasse leuchten sein Angesicht
ueber dir und sei dir gnaedig.
Der Herr erhebe sein Angesicht auf
dich und gebe dir Frieden.

With personal encounters such as these we will remember Lebanon today. We will also remember our visit

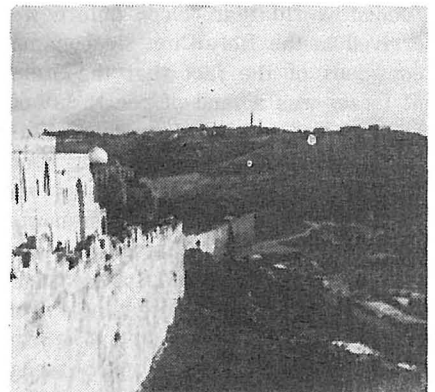
to Tyre and Sidon, for it was here that the Lord Jesus Christ met with the Syrophoenician woman. The Master's healing touch responded to the woman's plea: Jesus drove the demon out of her daughter and cured her. (Mark 7:24-30). How precious it was to see that the healing power of the Gospel is still operative today!

Cyprus

Because travel between Arab nations and Israel is not allowed, we flew 150 miles from Beirut to Nicosia, Cyprus, where we spent a day. In Cyprus we visited the old St. Sophia Cathedral, a Christian cathedral made into a Moslem mosque. We were again struck by the conflicts in today's world: We had seen Arab against Jew in the Holy Land, and now we saw Turk against Greek in Cyprus. From the beautiful island of Cyprus we flew 250 miles to the port city of Tel Aviv, Israel. Were the borders between Lebanon and Israel not closed, our journey would have been only 75 miles and would have taken less than one and a half hours by bus.

Jerusalem

Arriving at the modern airport of Tel Aviv, Israel's largest city, we passed through Israel's customs, boarded the Eged Tours bus and rode thirty miles to Jerusalem. The thirty-mile journey took us over hilly territory, so that when we arrived in



View of the walls of Jerusalem looking toward the Mount of Olives. The top of the Dome of the Rock can be seen close to the wall. The Lutheran Augusta Victoria Hospital dating from 1910 is the tower which can be seen atop the Mount of Olives.

Jerusalem, we had climbed 2,500 feet. We were reminded of Jesus' words in Luke 18:31-34 (NEB): "He took the twelve aside and said 'We are now going up to Jerusalem; and all that was written by the prophets will come true for the Son of Man. He will be handed over to the foreign power. He will be mocked, maltreated, and spat upon. They will flog him and kill him. And on the third day he will rise again. But they understood nothing of all this; they did not grasp what he was talking about; its meaning was concealed from them.'" Jesus spoke of "going up" to Jerusalem. He never spoke of merely "going" to Jerusalem, for Jerusalem, the Holy City, is situated high above sea level and the surrounding countryside.

Because of the Six Day War of June, 1967, we could travel freely without restrictions from Tel Aviv up to Jerusalem. Our Jewish guide had been a commanding officer in the Israeli army during the Six Day War, in which Israel gained from Egypt the Sinai Peninsula; from Jordan, Old Jerusalem and the territory east of Old Jerusalem to and including the west bank of the Jordan River; and from Syria, the Golan Heights area in the north. Israel had won a decisive victory. We could see war monuments and memorials as we journeyed up to Jerusalem.

We passed through reforestation areas including the Forest of the Martyrs where six million trees were planted in memory of the six million Jewish people who perished during the Second World War. Even before we arrived in the Holy City, we became conscious of the fact that the State of Israel was a land of contrasts: of ancient and medieval ruins and of modern technological progress. Our hearts began to beat faster as we neared Jerusalem late that afternoon.

As we went up to Jerusalem, our tour leader read Psalm 121:1-3: "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved; he that keepeth thee will not slumber." This psalm, one of fifteen psalms known as "Songs of Ascents" (i.e. Psalms 120-134) were sung by the Jewish pilgrims on the

ascending march from the Babylonian captivity to Jerusalem.

At last we could see the walls of the city. These walls, many of which date from medieval times, are in some places built thirty feet above the level of the walls in Jesus' day. Old Jerusalem is a walled city which is entered by eight gates which stand approximately where the older gates stood two thousand years ago: the Golden Gate, through which Jesus passed from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem; St. Stephen's Gate; Herod's Gate; the Damascus Gate, out of which Saul (Paul) left on his way to Damascus; the New Gate; the Jaffa Gate; the Zion Gate; and the Dung Gate. The former Mandelbaum Gate, which marked the pre-June, 1967, boundary between Israel and Jordan no longer stands. Built and rebuilt over the centuries, the walls and gates of Jerusalem attest to the transiency of man's creations. Only Jesus Christ is The Gate, The Door to eternal life. "I am the door; anyone who comes into the fold through me shall be safe" (John 10:9 NEB).

We entered into Jerusalem via the New Gate. Our hearts were thrilled as we read Psalm 122: "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together, whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord. For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper who love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek thy good." We found our hotel, the somewhat historic Hotel Knights Palace, located within the Arab Christian section of Old Jerusalem. Old Jerusalem is divided into five sections: the Christian Quarter, the Moslem Quarter, the Armenian Quarter, the Jewish Quarter, and the Temple Area. Old Jerusalem is a maze of quaint winding streets, exotic bazaars, and ancient shrines and buildings. Many of the

people exist according to a way of life which Jesus Himself knew.

A melting pot of people and cultures, Old Jerusalem is a holy place to Moslems, to Jews, and to Christians. For the Moslems the sacred Dome of the Rock stands over the sacred rock on the traditional site of Mount Moriah. Here on the sacred rock Abraham prepared to sacrifice Isaac; here David built an altar; here Solomon built a temple; here Herod and Hadrian each built temples; here the Moslems allege that Mohammed journeyed to heaven on his horse Lightning; and here Christians believe will be built the last temple mentioned in Revelation. Near to this holy site on which the Dome of the Rock now stands is found the Western Wall, known as the Wailing Wall prior to the Six Day War. Judaism's most holy place, the Western Wall, is all that remains of the Herodian Temple which was destroyed by Titus in A.D. 70. Excavations around the Western Wall are unearthing earlier archaeological remains.

Relatively near to our hotel, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre stands within the Christian Quarter. Frequently called the "Holiest Church in Christendom," the Church of the Holy Sepulchre marks the spot where the Empress Helena early in the fourth century is traditionally supposed to have found the true cross of Christ and hence to have located Calvary. Several churches have subsequently been built on this site. Containing forty-eight burning lamps and a multitude of relics and shrines, this rather gloomy edifice is being repaired.

Our hearts were somewhat heavy as we departed from the depressing Church of the Holy Sepulchre. Here man had erected a somber cathedral, and somehow we felt that the Christ Who had for us furnished perfect and complete redemption ought not to be commemorated by such a "temple made with hands."

Our hearts, however, melted when we were taken to see the Garden Tomb outside the walls of Jerusalem. Discovered in 1867, this place was designated by General Gordon, and is traditionally acknowledged by Protestants, to be the site of Golgotha and the location of the Garden of Joseph of Arima-

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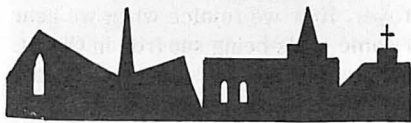
MEET

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Churches

OF OUR

FELLOWSHIP



TODAY: The Culbertson (Mont.) Parish

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Zion Lutheran Church, rural Brockton, meets for services and Sunday School in a vacant schoolhouse about 15 miles northwest of town. The bulk of the congregation is made up of

members of Zion Lutheran Free Church who did not enter the American Lutheran Church at the time of the merger.

At first congregational members conducted the worship and fellowship services. In July, 1964, Pastor Karl Stendal was asked to come and help them. He did extensive survey work throughout the area and conducted Bible studies as well as Sunday services. After he left for Kalispell, Mont., Pastor John Strand, then of Tioga, N. Dak., conducted a few services during the winter. Lay pastor Knute Jore arrived on April 1, 1965, and has served to the present time.

Former pastors of Zion Lutheran Church include Edw. Sand, to 1928; A. L. Stowell, 1928-34; L. Warren Hansen, 1934-39; Oliver Sidney, 1939-45; Morris Eggen, 1945-47; Bernhard Brethheim, 1948-52; P. O. Laurhammer, 1952-53; Raynard Huglen, 1953-58; Mr. Martin Heide, 1958-59; Richard Hagestuen, 1959-61; and O. J. Haukeness, 1961-63.

Zion congregation is small but is continuing to seek to follow the Biblical injunction: "Other foundation can

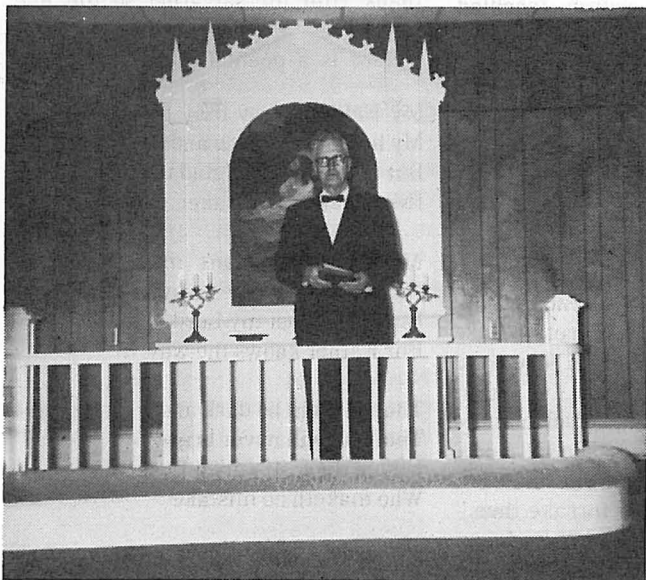
no man lay, than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

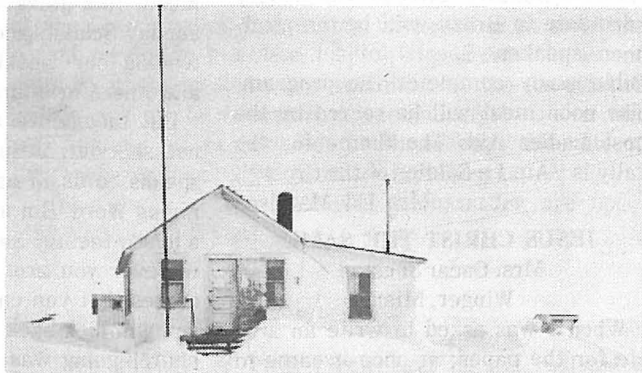
Bethel Lutheran Church in Culbertson was organized Jan. 25, 1968. After Pastor Jore was called to serve Zion, Brockton, and was living in a two-apartment house in Culbertson, services were conducted in various homes in town and Bible studies were held each week. As attendance at services increased, one apartment in the parsonage was converted into a chapel. During this time the work in Culbertson was carried on together with Zion Church, even though the two groups were 34 miles apart.

As time went on, the people in Culbertson realized the need for a church and congregation of their own. A building fund was started and a building committee elected. In October, 1967, ground-breaking for the new church was held. The first service in the new church, which is not yet fully completed, was in June of last year. The out-

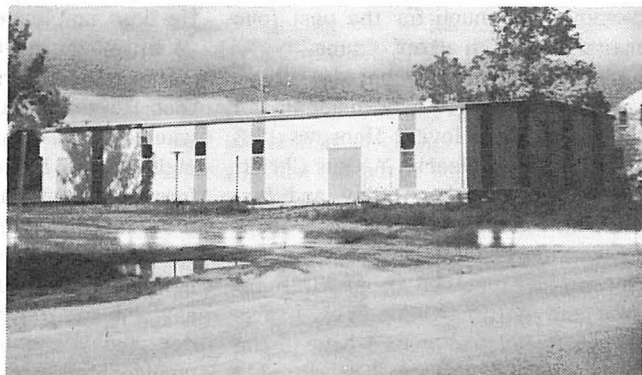
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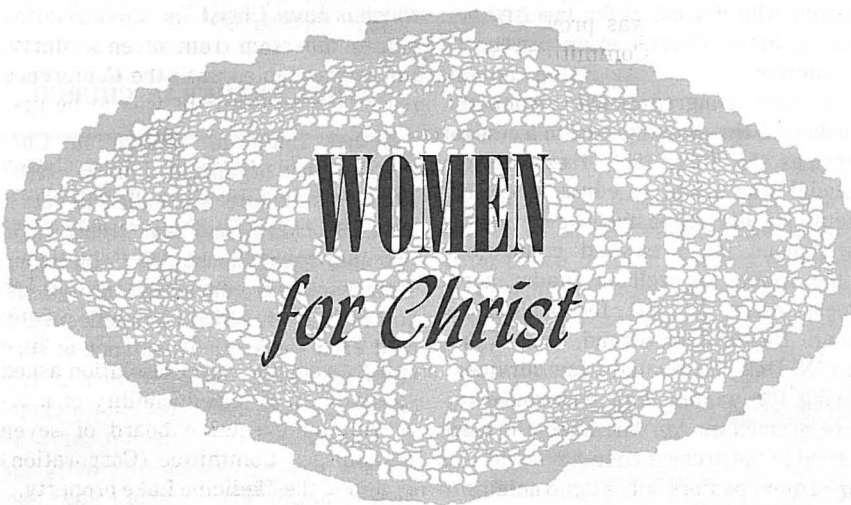
Knute Jore was born and raised at McIntosh, Minn. He was a farmer and very active in church and community affairs. He managed a Bible Camp for seven years. He is married to the former Esther Zahl Messelt of Winger, Minn. In 1952-1953 they were missionaries to the Navajo Indians in Arizona and New Mexico. In 1954 they came back to Minnesota and started mission work among the Chippewa Indians on the Red Lake Indian Reservation north of Bemidji, now known as the Redby Lutheran Mission. They labored there 10 years, after a short vacation he was then called to serve a congregation in the AFLC and has now spent 4 years as Lay Pastor at Culbertson, Montana.



Anderson School north of Brockton, Montana, where the services for Zion Lutheran Church are held



Bethel Lutheran Church



WOMEN for Christ

SELL LAKE CHURCH TO HOST RALLY

The spring rally of the North Central District WMF will be held on May 2 at Sell Lake Lutheran Church, 15 miles south of Shevlin, Minn., Rev. Marvin Undseth, pastor.

A program is planned for all day with registration beginning at 10 o'clock. Connely Dyrud, missionary candidate to Brazil, will be the afternoon speaker. Special music and a Bible study completes the program. The noon meal will be served by the host Ladies Aid. The theme for the rally is "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"

Mrs. Ed. Mathison

JESUS CHRIST THE SAME

Mrs. Oscar Snustad
Winger, Minn.

When I was asked to write an article for the paper, at once it came to me, "What can I write about; I have not been able to attend our Ladies Aid programs, nor the WMF, which I enjoyed so much for the past four or five years. I'm all out of tune."

Then a voice whispered, "What about Jesus? There's so much to tell about His great love." Hebrews 13:8 came to me so clearly, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever."

I do miss so much the fellowship that we had together at our WMF retreat and at Bible Camp. Yes, I miss all you friends, so when I hear of the meetings, even though I'm not able to be there in body, I am with you

in spirit and prayer.

As I picked up a tract, "Shut-in, But not Shut-out," joy came to me in a great measure. The last years I have been a shut-in; but thanks to God, His word says He still loves me and His grace is new every morning. He has not shut me out from His saving grace.

There are other things I miss so much, like going to church, teaching Sunday School, and the blessing of attending our weekly prayer meetings and other Christian fellowship.

But though we are shut-in, we are not shut-out. Jesus is the same; He speaks to us in and through His life-giving Word. But at times there comes a lonely feeling. So I want to say, folks, whoever you are, when or if the day comes that you cannot attend church, you will look back with regret because church-going was neglected when you were able.

That is why this tract struck home—"though God seems to take us aside, He does not leave us." He has said, "I will never leave nor forsake thee."

I have so much to thank God for; that He saved my soul while I was young. I was saved at the age of eighteen. So I can say He has never forsaken me; I only wish I had been more obedient to my Savior. Great is His Word, and His promises have not changed in any way. So we can say, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever." But, I am changeable, so I need Jesus to keep me every step of the way.

He is also our burden-bearer. Never a burden so heavy that Christ cannot lift it. Again and again God has given healing to my body. So if doctors have said "We can do nothing more for you," God in His time and His way has given healing, so that I may still be moving about some and doing a little work from day to day. For this I thank Him.

Oh, what a friend we have in Jesus, all our griefs and cares to bear. We also thank God for the blessing of Christian fellowship in the Word and prayer. How we rejoice when we hear of some souls being set free in Christ. God is still able to save and keep—even in our day.

Both my husband and I are shut-in. Thanks be to God, He has not shut us out. We do appreciate friends that come to see us, pastors and other praying people. The Forrest Swensons are serving this parish and we enjoy their visits so much.

Thanks to God for all His love; it is all through grace, we have not deserved it.

What a day it will be when we shall see Jesus face to face. Praise and thank Him for salvation so full and free.

Here is a poem I want to enclose.

My Father's way may twist and turn,
My heart may throb and ache;
But in my soul I'm glad to know,
He maketh no mistake.

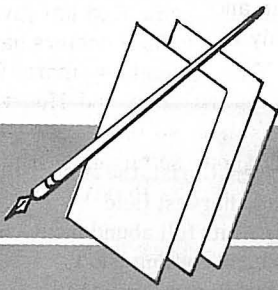
My cherished plans may go astray
My hopes may fade away;
But still I trust my Lord to lead,
For Father knows the way.

Though night be dark and it may seem
That day will never break;
I'll pin my faith, my all, on Him
Who maketh no mistake.

There's so much now I cannot see,
My eye is still so dim;
But come what may, I still can trust
And leave it all to Him.

For by and by the mist will lift
And darkness turn to day;
Then looking back, we'll praise His name,
Who led us all the way.

[Continued on page 15]



EDITORIALS

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Dwight D. Eisenhower, thirty-fourth president of the United States, was a world hero as few American figures have ever been. Few men have gained the affection of so many as he did.

Supreme Allied Commander in Europe in World War II, he stood shoulder to shoulder with the legendary Winston Churchill in the defense of Britain and the defeat of the Axis powers. But his fame was not confined alone to the European and North African theaters. His was a name known over the entire world, the symbol of the defense and advocacy of what is good and right.

As President of the United States, he was able to inspire trust and confidence to a remarkable degree. His administration was troubled with some minor recessions but they were also years of peace. We do not know how historians will rank his presidency, but no one doubted his sincerity and integrity.

Mr. Eisenhower is being eulogized as a man who embodied old-fashioned, patriotic American ideals. Of humble, honest parentage, he grew up to serve his country in both war and peace. In his final communication to his nation (*Reader's Digest*, April, 1969), he sounded a plea that America avoid the extremes of both the far right and the far left. In a center position, he said, lies the best hope, the best opportunity, for the welfare of all our people. Fitting words of farewell from a noble man.

With millions of others, we liked Ike.

PROPERTY OWNERSHIP STUDY COMMITTEE

Today, on page 3, you will find the report of the Property Ownership Study Committee to the 1969 Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. The Committee was set up by the 1968 Conference in Cloquet, Minn., to study the size of the Co-ordinating Committee (between-conferences administrative council) and whether or not the property in Minneapolis should continue to be held solely by that corporation.

The antecedents for the formation of the Study Committee go back at least to the Annual Conference of 1967 in Fargo, N. Dak. At that time, in connection with the

adoption of revisions in **Rules for Work**, an amendment was proposed which would have raised the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation membership from seven to thirty. Action on the amendment was tabled until the Conference of 1968, when the idea of the amendment was to be presented in a new form.

President John Strand, in his message to the church in 1968, mentioned not only the question of increasing the size of this Corporation, but also raised questions about whether the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation should continue to hold title to all non-mission properties in the Association. Resolutions Committee No. 1 presented a resolution (see Annual Report, 1968, pp. 42-43), setting up a study committee, and it was adopted. The resolution asked the Committee to especially study the feasibility of a 21-member Corporation with an executive board of seven members and that the enlarged Committee (Corporation) continue holding ownership of the Medicine Lake property.

The Study Committee, of which the writer was a member, held three meetings during the year and spent what it felt was a worthy length of time in considering the question assigned to it. The results of that study are now given to the members of the congregations well in advance of the Annual Conference in June.

It is the sincere hope of the Committee, and of **The Lutheran Ambassador**, that people in the church will express their opinions on the subject in the pages of our church paper in the next several issues. The Study Committee herewith reports its findings. Others may have other opinions, on the report itself or on some other aspect of property ownership in the Association or on the size of the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation. It would be a real service to the church fellowship if those ideas and opinions could be known by members of the Association in advance of the Conference, particularly by those who will actually sit as delegates in Minneapolis and vote on the resolution the Study Committee is presenting.

The pages of **The Lutheran Ambassador** are open. May we hear from you?

WISE WORDS

Dale Francis of **Twin Circle** said it: "If resistance to change simply because it is change is harmful, so is acceptance of change simply because it is change equally harmful. The proper attitude is one that is willing to accept change when it is convincing but which is not afraid to reject change when it is unconvincing."

Those are wise words and we wish more people would live by them. While it is true that conservatives sometimes get left at the post out of fear of change, there are every bit as many people who are cut adrift because they follow after every wind of change.

In our day too many theologians have followed the Pied Piper of change when the change has been far from convincing as to authenticity. A brutal dissection of the Scriptures has taken place, for instance, and "other gospels" are being noised about today which can never save.

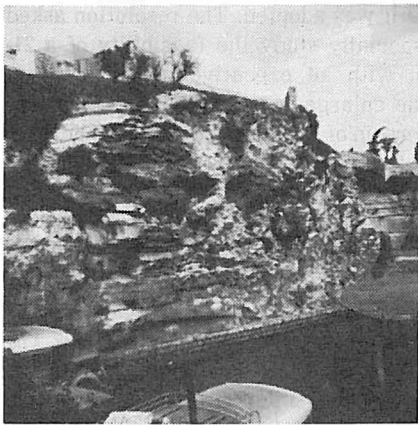
Even as some signs are evident now of a reaction

against the immorality of the age, we think it will become more obvious as time passes that there must be more pastors and laymen who will take the "here I stand" stance of Martin Luther concerning the Christian doctrines

which have served the generations since Jesus Christ walked this earth. It is doubtful that the truth was only discovered in the 1960s.

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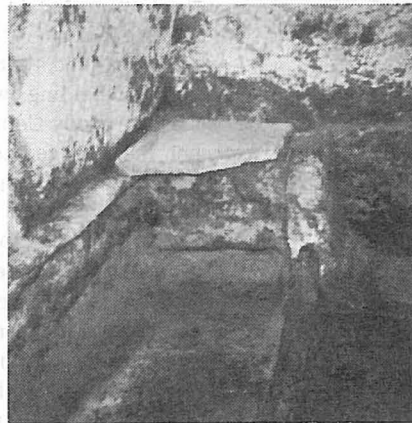
thea. Buried for centuries, this site is like the original Golgotha and the Garden, if indeed it is not the actual Golgotha and the Garden.



Golgotha, the Place of the Skull. Note the deeply recessed eye sockets found in the rocky skull

Here no church building stands. Here off the Nablus Road is the hill Golgotha, the Place of the Skull. As we gazed upon the desolate skull-like formation of that rocky hill, we could faintly see the three crosses and our blessed Savior dying there between two thieves. Close to the hill is the Garden Tomb, a tomb quarried into the rock. Three burial places are inside, but chemical tests show that only one had ever been occupied! (Cf. Matthew 27:59-60). The utter simplicity

and reverent beauty of this place caused us to feel close to the simple atmosphere of that glorious morning in Joseph's Garden when our Lord Jesus Christ rose triumphant from the grave.



The burial place of Jesus inside the Garden Tomb

In that Garden I thought of the Lord Jesus Christ, God's great gift of grace to me. Christopher Wordsworth's poem came to mind:

Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Hearts to heaven and voices raise;
 Sing to God a hymn of gladness,
 Sing to God a hymn of praise;
 He who on the Cross a Victim
 For the world's salvation bled,
 Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
 Now is risen from the dead.

Christ is risen, Christ, the first-fruits
 Of the holy harvest field
 Which will all its full abundance
 At his second coming yield;
 Then the golden ears of harvest
 Will their heads before him wave,
 Ripened by his glorious sunshine
 From the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen!
 Shed upon us heavenly grace,
 Rain and dew and gleams of glory
 From the brightness of thy face;
 That we, Lord, with hearts in
 heaven,
 Here on earth may fruitful be,
 And by angel hands be gathered
 And be ever safe with thee.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Glory be to God on high;
 Alleluia! to the Saviour
 Who has gained the victory;
 Alleluia! to the Spirit,
 Font of love and sanctity;
 Alleluia! Alleluia!
 To the Triune Majesty. Amen.

To the Triune God be all praise and
 glory for the blessed Gospel which led
 me and all believers to Jesus Christ!

[Continued from page 4]

the storehouse of God's abundance at our command through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, it would be well for the nominating committee and the Conference to remember the importance of the election of Co-ordinating Committee Corporation members. They should not only have the qualifications of a trustee, but also the most sacred qualifications of a deacon. It is of the utmost

importance that their selection be made wisely and prayerfully.

Respectfully submitted
 The Property Ownership Study
 Committee

Pastor Raynard Huglen, Chairman
 Pastor Gene Sundby, Secretary
 Mr. Even Ose
 Mr. H. Morris Borstad
 Pastor Julius Hermunslie

RESOLUTION

The committee moves the adoption of this resolution:

a) That the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation be retained at its present size (5-9 members).

b) That the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation transfer the appropriate property holdings (primarily used for educational purposes) to the Seminary Corporation with all the assets and liabilities thereof.

which to work. Nevertheless, God blessed what they had and no one went hungry.

This is often the same situation that the missionary faces today. His task is big. There are many souls to reach for Christ. The support and material means with which he works is very limited. Nevertheless, God has blessed the effort of the missionary and great things have been accomplished with limited resources.

Later on Jesus gave even a bigger task to His disciples. As He ascended into heaven, He commanded them to teach all nations (Matt. 28:19). But they did not go forth in their own strength. Jesus promised to be with them. They would be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus still looks for great things from the Christian. He would lay the lost world on the heart of the Christian. Too often we say that we can't do all that we are challenged to do for Christ. We look at our limited self. We forget that we have all of heaven at our disposal. Even as God blessed the five loaves and two fishes, so as to feed many, so God will bless our feeble efforts in evangelizing the world, if we go forward in the name of Jesus, and use what we have to the glory of Christ.

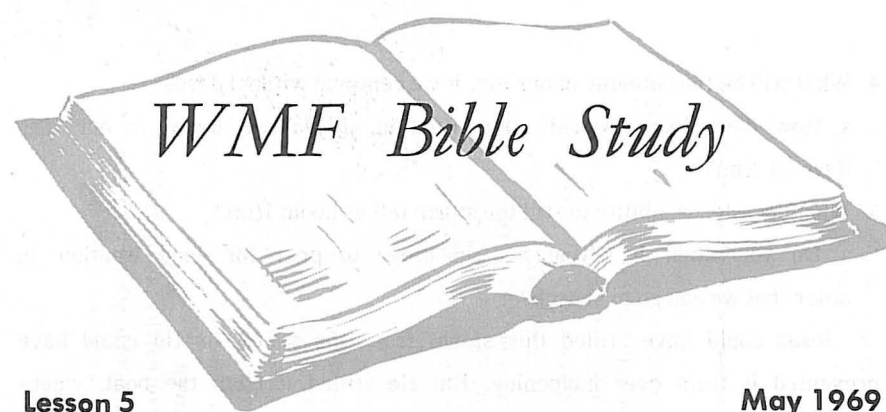
Conclusion

In this lesson we have three miracles, each one teaching us something specifically about Jesus which can be a comfort and an encouragement to us as we bring our every need to Him.

In stilling the storm at sea, we can see that Jesus had power over the elements, and in Him we can find protection from all danger.

In healing the woman who had an issue of blood, and in raising Jairus' daughter from the dead, we see that Jesus had power to heal and power over death. We can come to Him when sick. We can look to Him to save our souls and conquer death for us.

In feeding the five thousand we see that Jesus also has power to provide for our material needs such as food for our body. Not only does He save our souls, but in Him we can find satisfaction for our every need — both body and soul.



Lesson 5

May 1969

NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE HISTORY QUESTIONS

The Miracles of Jesus Introduction

This lesson is on the miracles of Jesus. Jesus did not perform miracles in order to take all suffering out of this world. If this had been His purpose, He certainly failed, because we have no end of suffering and sorrow in this world. God also uses suffering and sorrow to accomplish His purpose and for our good.

Jesus performed miracles in order to manifest His power and to demonstrate to His followers that He was the Son of God.

Jesus Stills the Tempest

(read Matt. 8:23-27)

1. What had been the occupation of some of these disciples?
 - a. What was unusual about their being afraid?
2. What had been the occupation of Jesus?
 - a. Who would be apt to be more afraid at sea, a fisherman or a carpenter?
 - b. Was Jesus afraid?
 - c. Was Jesus ever afraid?
 - d. Why?
3. As the disciples looked out of the boat what did they see?
 - a. If Jesus had not come what might have happened to the boat?
 - b. How did Jesus remedy the situation?

4. What will be the outcome of our life, if we continue without Jesus?
 - a. How does Jesus remedy the situation of sin and doom in our life, if we let Him?
5. What does Jesus' ability to still the storm tell us about Him?
 - a. Do you think it fitting and in order to pray for good weather in order that we can go to church?

Jesus could have stilled this storm from the shore, or He could have prevented it from ever happening. But He stilled it from the boat, where His disciples were. This helped the disciples to sense the love and personal interest Jesus had for them. It increased their faith and love for Jesus.

Jesus could (and often does) still the storms we have in life without our prayers, or without us inviting Him into our life. But He prefers to still the storms of our life from within our hearts, so that we can truly experience the calm and peace that only Jesus can give.

When we realize that Jesus has done something specifically for us, because of our prayer request to Him, this helps us to see His great love and personal interest in us. This increases our faith in Him and His promises.

Jesus Raises the Daughter of Jairus from the Dead

(read Mark 5:22-43 and Luke 8:41-56)

6. What was Jairus' problem?
7. What did Jairus have faith that Jesus could do?
8. What interruption did Jesus and Jairus meet on the way to Jairus' house?
 - a. Was the sickness of this woman as urgent as the sickness of Jairus' daughter?
 - b. Did Jesus make this woman wait so that He could take care of the more urgent first?
9. What greater blessing did Jesus give this woman besides healing her body?
10. What news came to Jesus and Jairus before they got to Jairus' house?
11. How did this affect the faith in Jesus of those who brought the news?

- a. Do you think Jairus' faith was tested at this point?
12. How did Jesus strengthen Jairus' faith at this point?
13. How do you think the raising of Jairus' daughter affected Jairus' faith?
 - a. If you experienced Jesus' presence and answered prayer, would that weaken or strengthen your faith?

Jesus' ways of doing things are not always the same as we might think wise. Jairus' need for help seemed very urgent to Jairus and all others who were concerned. Jairus' daughter might die at any time.

Nevertheless, Jesus took time to heal a woman who had been sick for 12 years. She had suffered a long time but was not immediately fearing for her life. Would it matter too much if she was sick for yet one more day? Couldn't she have waited until the morrow or after Jesus had taken care of Jairus' needs?

Jesus is never too busy to answer the call of our need, as in the case of this sick woman. He may not always act as quickly as we would like, as in the case of Jairus. Neither does anyone ever have a monopoly on Jesus. Often the first shall be last.

Jesus is available to all who come. He will work all things out for good to those who are called according to His purpose. (Rom. 8:28)

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

(read Mark 6:32-44)

14. What did the disciples advise Jesus to do with this crowd when it got late?
15. How much food did they have for this large crowd?
16. Instead of commanding the people to go home, what did Jesus tell them to do?
17. What did Jesus do with the five loaves and two fishes?
18. What did Jesus command the disciples to do?
19. How much was left?
20. What do we learn about Jesus from this parable?

It was a big job that Jesus asked His disciples to do when He asked them to feed the 5,000. The disciples had very little material means with

[Continued from page 7]

side front entrance with a cross which will rise above the church is unfinished.

The church is located on Highway 2 in the east end of Culbertson. It is a steel building, low in structure. The chancel furnishings and pews were donated by the former Bethel Lutheran Church of rural Homestead, which was closed after a parish realignment. Two members from that Bethel joined the new congregation.

The members of the congregation come from several church backgrounds, such as Lutheran Free Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church and United Evangelical Lutheran Church. Some of the families drive 35-40 miles to come to church.

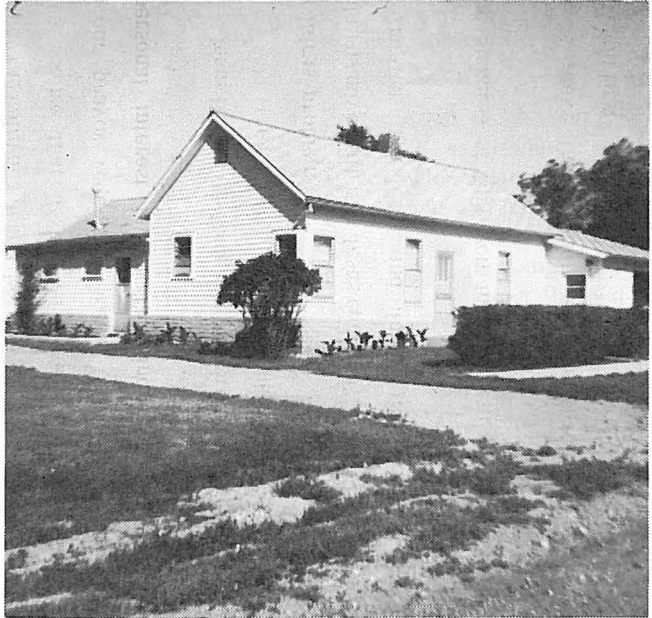
Dedication services for the new church were to be held this spring.

SCANDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Virtually surrounded by oil wells today and adjacent to older lignite strip mines, Scandia Lutheran Church, near Westby, is closed now. Some worship services were conducted

at Scandia by Pastor Jore but few people in attendance and long travel distances made the work impractical.

Most of the Scandia members had joined other congregations at the time of the LFC-ALC merger in 1963.



The parsonage for the Culbertson Parish was purchased in 1965. Before the new church was built in town, it also served as a chapel. Culbertson is situated just north of the Missouri River and is served by the Great Northern Railway.

THANKFUL FOR CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

Before I came to Bible School last fall, I had already registered in another school. God had made his plans for me, and with urging from my parents, I decided to apply for Bible School.

Last summer I was rather rebellious and undecided about my future life. I felt that the Bible studies I had in Sunday School were enough to pull me through for the rest of my life. My parents tried to tell me that I should go to one year of Bible school and then do what ever I wanted. Through encouragement I decided to go one year, and now I'm going to finish my second year. I hate to think what would have happened if I hadn't decided to attend Bible School. And I thank God for leading me here.

Each day I'm strengthened more and more through each class, for I understand more what is written in

the Bible. I'm thankful for the Christian fellowship for it strengthens me day by day. I'm thankful that God sent his only Son to die on the cross for our sins.

Wanda Lu Floan

Wanda Lu Floan comes to us from Maple Bay Lutheran church of Fertile, Minnesota. She is employed by the Prudential Insurance Co.

HE LEADETH ME

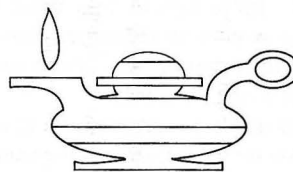
"And when He putteth forth His own sheep, He goeth before them and the sheep follow Him for they know His voice" (John 10:4).

Sometimes it's difficult to see, but

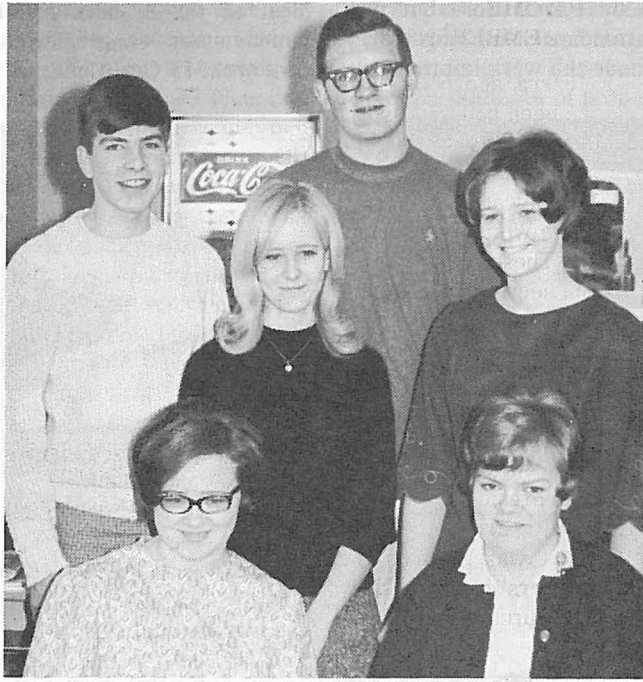
God does lead the Christian in every situation. For me, that's a blessed thought. God is with me in every situation.

Last spring when I accepted Christ as my personal Savior, all that was in my heart and mind was to "follow Jesus." I didn't know where God wanted me. I prayed about it. I know my friends and family were praying for me, too. Then God opened the doors for me, and directed me here to Bible School. It's a wonderful privilege to study God's true and living Word.

I come face to face with myself here. When talking with God, I can realize how sinful and unworthy I am. Yet God still answers prayer, and does



SCHOOL NEWS



Left to right, seated, Lorilee Torgerson and Astrid Sather; standing, Charles Kvanvig, Lois Presteng, John Mundfrom and Wanda Lu Floan

so much for me. We fall into sin so easily, but God still takes time for us.

I don't know where God wants me to go after Bible School. I will trust God and go where He leads me. Isn't it wonderful to have someone as God to watch over us and guide us? Where He leads me I will follow, for His honor and glory.

Astrid Sather

Astrid comes to us from Olivet Lutheran church at Spokane, Washington. She is employed by Colonial Acres Nursing home and plans to return to Bible School next year.

FULL ASSURANCE

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9).

It was during the Spiritual Emphasis week when Rev. Lars Stalsbrotten was with us here at school that I received a real blessing of God. It is through this verse in I John that I finally came to full assurance.

Many times I had doubted my salvation. I knew I had accepted Christ, but when I heard a good sound message on salvation, I felt my life lacked

something. It was a hard struggle.

However, God opened this verse to me that week and I saw that because I had confessed my sins, God had forgiven me and I knew for sure that I was saved. Oh, what peace and joy came into my soul and life here at Bible School has a new meaning for me.

John Mundfrom

John is from Grafton, North Dakota. His home church is Bethel Lutheran. John works at the Prudential Life Insurance Co., and plans to attend Bible School again next fall.

AN UNFAILING FRIEND

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

I am thankful that the Lord has led me to Bible School this year. It has really been rewarding so far and I know the continuation of the year will be as much of a blessing.

It is such a joy to have Christ as my Savior and Lord. And besides being Savior and Lord, He is also my personal friend; an unfailing friend

who is always near to comfort and guide me through sorrow and joy. It's sad that so many people spend a life time seeking a simple formula to make them happy, only to find that the things the world offers don't satisfy. They are left hungering and wanting. If they only knew my Jesus!

Lois Presteng

Lois is also from Bethel Lutheran at Grafton, North Dakota. She is employed by the Prudential Life Insurance Co., and plans to come back to ALBS next year.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

This year at Bible School has been one of the greatest years I have ever spent or I'm sure I will ever spend in my life. I'm so thankful that the Lord led me here. I have found many wonderful Christian friends here besides finding a really earnest desire among us to learn more about God's Word and the person Jesus Christ.

Something that has really been impressed upon me this year is the great love that God has for each of us. Romans 8:35 and 37 say, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us."

The love of Christ, which sent Him to Calvary, has made us **more** than conquerors. A conqueror is one who overcomes. We can have victory over sin if we will come to Christ and let Him come in and give us the cleansing from sin that each of us needs. And then to let this love of Christ flow out from our lives to others.

Lorilee Torgerson

Lorilee is a member of Vang Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, Minnesota. She is employed at Colonial Acres Nursing Home in Golden Valley. Her plans are to return to school in the fall.

PRAYER INTEREST REVIVED

"Rejoice in the Lord always and again I will say rejoice" (Philippians 4:4).

This verse not only thrills me but also comforts me. It thrills me to know that no matter what the condition of the world, there is always something

to rejoice in. It may not always be evident right away as I so often find, but if I continue to seek his will, He will never fail. He is always there. It also brings me comfort. I recently found the true meaning of prayer.

During Spiritual Emphasis week, I realized that my prayer life was terrible. You might say it had "gone to the dogs." Now that I have seen, through God, the power of prayer, my life has really changed. It's just an experience that can't be explained with words. Just as one must experience the joy of accepting Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, so must one experience the joy of his time alone with God. Since Spiritual Emphasis Week, the prayer meetings and my private devotions have meant so much more.

Charles Kvanvig

Charles is from Sebeka, Minnesota. His home church is Faith Lutheran (ALC). Charles is employed by the Aaron Carlson Millwork and also plans to return to Bible School next year.

[Continued from page 8]



Mrs. Eloisa ("Grandma") Ibarra in front of her home in Nogales



Mrs. Joe Gardner pinning the WMF pin on her mother, Mrs. Mollie Kennedy. (Mrs. Kennedy's son, Ted, is a graduate of California Lutheran Bible School)

NOGALES WOMEN GET HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

Mrs. Eloisa Ibarra and Mrs. Mollie Kennedy have been honored by the Martha and Mary Society of the Triumph Lutheran Church in Nogales, Ariz., as they were awarded honorary memberships in the Women's Missionary Federation. These two women may be called pioneers in the history of the Nogales Mission as they and their families have been in touch with the work of the Mission since its beginning. They both continue as faithful and active members of the Martha and Mary Society, Mrs. Kennedy at present serving as president. "Grandma" Ibarra recently carried the main part in a play that was given at the Mother and Daughters' banquet. They both serve on the church board of deacons.



Samuel Lawrence Gallardo, son of Mr. and Mrs. Luis Gallardo, was received into the Cradle Roll, with a program given by the Junior Mission Club in August, 1968

MOLLIE'S TESTIMONY TO THE JUNIOR MISSION CLUB

The Martha and Mary Society of

Triumph Lutheran Church in Nogales some months ago decided to sponsor a Junior Mission Band in the congregation. They elected Mollie Kennedy and Mary Louise Wissinger to lead the group and to teach them Bible stories. So every other Saturday we have our meetings with children from fourth to sixth grade.

The Junior Mission Club gave the program when little Samuel Gallardo was received into the Cradle Roll. They also had an important part in the Christmas program.

The other day Mary Wissinger and I were happy to see eighteen children come to our meeting, and I felt so blessed that I decided to tell them how I came to the Lord.

When I was about their age I went to a meeting in a home, but this meeting was for adults so I was not invited. So I sat outside the door and peeked in through a crack in the door. I got so wrapped up in hearing the man talk about Jesus that I didn't notice when someone got up from the group and opened the door. I guess I was leaning kind of hard on the door, so when it opened I fell into the room. I felt so embarrassed, but the people were very kind. They invited me to sit down and listen. And for the first time in my young life I felt happy. They all invited me to church meetings and in one of those meetings I asked Jesus to come into my heart, and He did.

Now I have the honor to help with this project, the Mission Club, and I know God is with us because I feel His presence in our meetings. Pray for us that more children may come and be blessed.

Mrs. Mollie Kennedy, Nogales

GOD HAS NEVER DESERTED ME

I say and affirm that there is an all-powerful God who cares for His believing children. When I became a widow with no means of support, I turned to the Lord for help. I asked for strength and health to support my two children, one of two years and the other of seventeen days. He heard me and gave me what I asked for. I was able to work and the daily bread was not lacking. Now I am old and I can say that God has never deserted me. I thank Him for my children who

are now grown, and for my grandchildren who are growing up with God's blessing. They go to church to hear the Word of God as preached by Pastor Dynneson. So the spiritual bread is not lacking either. Why? Because He is good and He is all-powerful. He is my Savior, and He will never abandon me, glory to His name! Amen.

Mrs. Eloisa Ibarra, Nogales

(Translated from Spanish.)

NEWFOLDEN WILL BE SCENE OF LUTHER LEAGUE RALLY

On April 26 and 27, 1969, The Northern Minnesota District of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will hold a Luther League rally at Westaker Lutheran Church in Newfolden, Minnesota.

Formal registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, with a fellowship time following. Beginning at 10:30 there will be a Bible study with Alvin Grothe from Badger as

speaker. Saturday afternoon there will be a business session and a Banquet in the evening beginning at 5:30. There will be a film shown at 7:30 p.m.

On Sunday, April 27, at 9:30 a.m., there will be a devotional hour followed by the morning worship service. At 2:00 o'clock there will be a Gospel singing team from the AFLC Bible school to bring us the word of God in song.

This is a young people's Luther League rally and we urge all young people to attend and fellowship in the word of God. The Luther League will be in charge of all sessions. The district officers feel that there is a real desire for the word of God among both young and old.

If there are any questions or more information is desired contact any pastor in the Northern Minnesota District of the AFLC or the undersigned. All are welcome.

Irvin M. Schmitke
District Pres.

Rt. 3, Thief River Falls
Minnesota 56701

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