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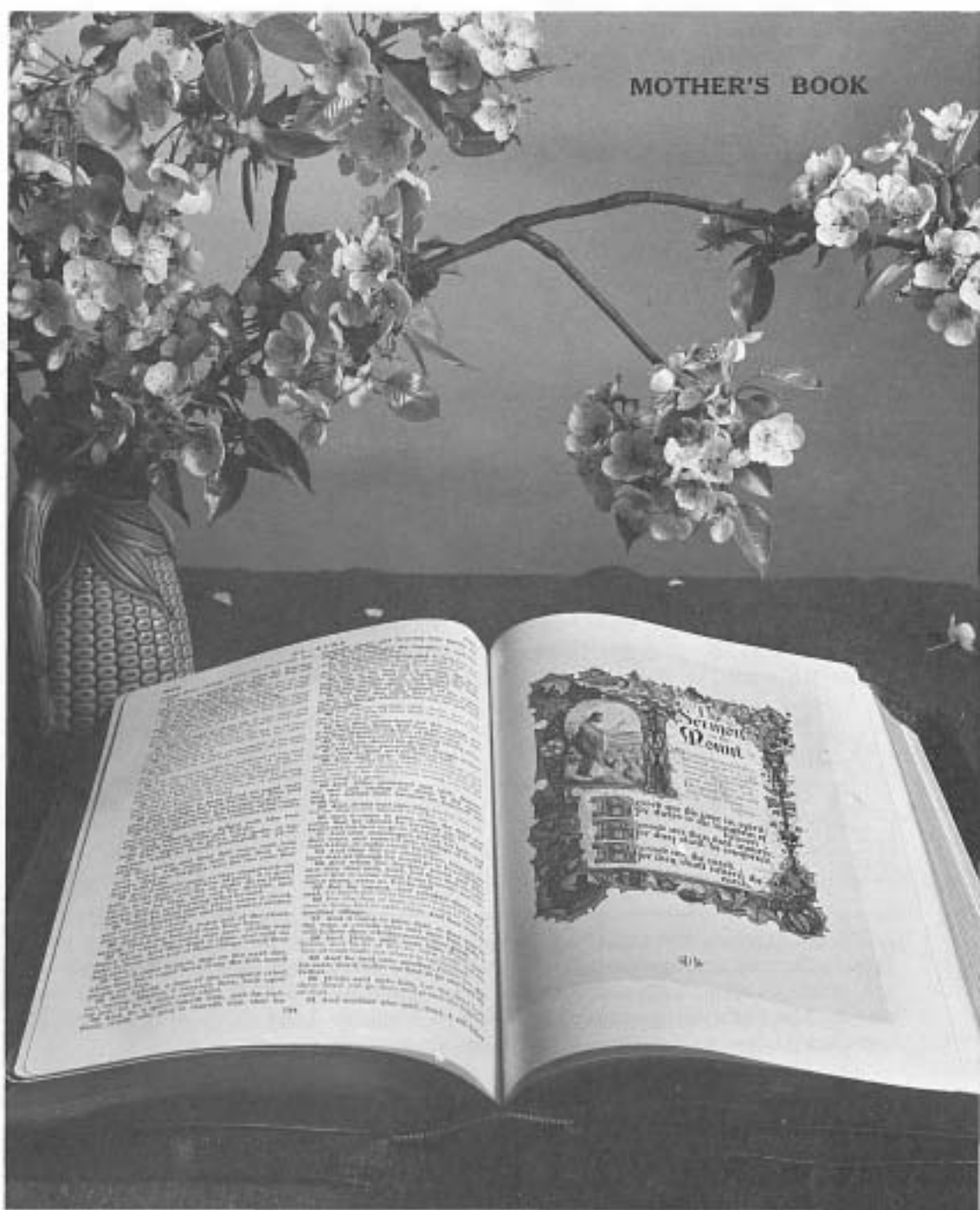
Vol. 6

April 30, 1968

No. 9

LUTHERAN

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MOTHER'S BOOK



According to the Word

THE GREATEST QUESTION Mark 10:35-38

What is the greatest question that can be asked from a man? Think for a moment. In your most considered judgment, what one important question about a man towers over the rest?

The "health" question certainly would be first for some. Is the man's body strong and well? Is this the first and greatest question—to be free from pain? No doubt some would insist that the "freedom" question should be first. Is a man restricted, coerced, imprisoned, or is he free to move about, to follow his own interests, and to carry out his own plans?

I suppose to others it is the inevitable question about wealth. How much money does he have? Although few actually admit that in our own scale of values these questions were of top priority, yet their lives belie what they say. This is the first question for many of us, let's not deny it. Yet, as money-mad as we may be, in the depths of our hearts we know that possessions do not truly measure the man.

What do you want? Whenever pondering the ultimate questions of life we ought to find out just what Jesus had to say. One day two of His disciples, James, and John, both of them ambitious, brash, and impatient for power, pushed their way toward Him through the crowd and asked, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You." There

was much more depth to Jesus' counterquestion than we generally realize. He asked them, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Here is a question to ponder, to search the soul. What do I really want? What do I desire more than anything else in the world? At some time or other every man, woman and child has to answer this question. Perhaps what a man wants is the greatest question that can be asked about him. Where is your treasure, my dear reader?

What is your price? Jesus asked a second question which lays its finger on ultimate things: "Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Can a man be bought? Does every man have his price? Such a question cannot be avoided, for it has to do with fundamental integrity and basic character. It applies to the statesman who may be faced with compromising his convictions. It applies to the teenage girl whose romance seems to rest on her response to the ultimatum, "If you love me, prove it."

My dear friend, what about you? Can you be bought for a price? Do you soft-pedal your Christian convictions to get ahead? Do you want to do what is pleasing to man to be popular? So, whether you are a statesman, businessman, paper boy, or whatever, Jesus has this searching question for us which is as relevant today as it was when He first asked it, "What would a man give in exchange for his soul?"

What have you paid? We come now to a third question which Jesus asked, and there might be some

who would rate it as the most important question that can be asked, particularly of a Christian. "Are you able to drink of the cup that I drink?" I trust that each one of us will give a more thoughtful answer than James and John who answered immediately, "We are able."

This is a question that had stern and frightening implications. "You say that you are My disciple, prove it! What evidence is there that you are My disciple? What evidence is there that you have suffered for what you believe? What price have you paid? Enough of all this talk; what have you done?"

The truth is that most of us are fair listeners to the Gospel, average discussers of the Gospel, but never really "drink the cup." Just how much of our lives and our resources have we been willing to put on the altar of God?

Paul, the great apostle, author, teacher and evangelist, would have had little impact on the early Church were he not able to stand before his brethren and say, "I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus." And Jesus Christ our Lord was unable to fulfill His ministry until finally one black afternoon He was nailed to the cross. Even today it is our vision of Him upon that cross against the sky that has so laid hold of our hearts that somehow we have not been able to put Him aside. As you and I stand today before that cross, we, too, must ask: "What have I paid for what I believe?" Jesus asks, "Can you drink of My cup?"

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"Mother, Are You Faithful?"

Rev. Robert Rieth
Kirkland, Washington

"And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, 'If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and abide there.' And she constrained us. . . . And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia: and when they had seen the brethren, they comforted them, and departed" (Acts 16:14, 15, 40).

As Jesus hung there on the cross in pain and agony, He looked down and saw His mother. With tender love He committed her care to His beloved disciple, John. He greatly esteemed His mother even during His ordeal on the cross.

To a little child the love and care of mother is the picture of heaven. The life and concern of the mother shapes the future of her children. Ezekiel 16:44 says, "as a mother, so is her daughter."

The station of motherhood is sacred and its responsibilities are awesome. In her hands lies the building of a "home." Her duties to her husband and to her children call for great wisdom and patience.

On Mother's Day we remember our own mothers. We remember how they sat up with us when we were sick, fed us, clothed us, taught us, punished us, loved us. There is no heritage for a child above that of a good and godly mother!

Let us consider Lydia, the woman mentioned in this text. Lydia was a successful business woman. The Bible speaks of her "household"

but no direct reference is made to a family. Tradition says that she was, perhaps, a widow. In her we find many of the characteristics of a godly mother.

We first meet Lydia at the river side near Philippi with a prayer group. She was seeking the truth. When Paul came and spoke to her about the new Gospel of Jesus Christ she "attended unto the things which were spoken." She opened her heart and accepted this truth. She was baptized and gave herself to Christ and the service of the Christian church. Because of her example her whole household was also baptized.

We can imagine that Lydia did not have an easy time as the first recorded Christian in Europe. She was alone in her new faith, her business associates would certainly spurn her; she would probably meet with persecution and disgrace, yet she gave her heart wholly to Christ.

Lydia had an outstanding character, an outstanding concern, an outstanding love, and an outstanding life of service. She lived according to her convictions in her own home and in her social and business life. Lydia must have been wise in her dealings with her household and in her use of time but she must have also been a very warm and concerned woman.

We find that she was diligent, never ceasing either in her quest for Christ nor in her life of service for Him. We find that she had skill for her various tasks. Lydia sought to do her very best, depending upon Christ for His help and guidance. We imagine that Lydia guarded her tongue both in her private life and in her business life. Every mother

knows the value of guarding her tongue and the difficulty of it as she works with her own children, her own husband and those in the community around her.

Perhaps the one outstanding quality which made Lydia what she was was the attitude of continual spiritual-seeking. She was open and receptive; she was described as a seeker after truth.

For a good mother this is the first prerequisite. She should be continually searching for the truth and be open and receptive to it when the opportunity comes. The Holy Spirit is able to enter your heart, make you a new person, guide you into all knowledge and all truth. The one difference between Christianity and all other religions is that, basically, all other religions are external. They deal with changing and improving ourselves. They are religions of good works and of futility. Christianity on the other hand is a religion that is based on the internal experience of the acceptance and the personal knowledge of Jesus Christ. No woman is so much a mother as is the Christian. She is made a new person by Christ. She is given a new personality, a new nature and new concerns. Every ability and interest is enlightened, enlivened and empowered by the power of God through the Spirit of God that lives within the heart.

Let us look at what happened to Lydia because of her new-found faith and purpose. In Philippians Paul wrote to "all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi." Lydia did not keep the Gospel to herself but helped to share it with others as well as she had with her own household. We can imagine

that as Lydia opened her home to Paul, she also opened it to others who were seeking the truth and to those who believed in Christ. Paul also says, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now."

Oh! to live such a life that someone can look upon you thankful to God for every memory of you! This Lydia was not a shallow or fluctuating Christian. She must have remained faithful from the very first day, studied much about the Gospel, witnessed to others for Christ and lived a joyful, fully-committed life, dedicated to Jesus Christ.

On this Mother's Day we look back and remember all that our mothers have done for us and we thank God for them; but shall we not also stop and consider our own

relationship to Christ and see if we have the characteristics of Lydia—whether we are true and faithful, whether we are open and searching, whether we have found the truth, whether we have been willing to go out of our way to find the knowledge of God or to live according to it. Could we be called virtuous, could we be considered a blessing to husband, wife or children?

O mothers, today, on this Mother's Day, how does your heart stand with Christ? Is your religion external or internal? There is a story told of a little girl who went to her mother and asked her, "Are you a Christian?" and the mother falteringly told her, "I believe in God. I believe He is up there and I hope that everything is all right between Him and me." The daughter turned and walked resolutely away saying, "I guess I don't want

to be one either."

The future of your children is determined by your attitude toward God and man. Where will you lead your child?

A poem written by William Ross Wallace explains the responsibility of mothers and our heartfelt concern for them.

"They say that man is mighty;
He governs land and sea,
He wields a mighty scepter
O'er lesser powers that be;
But a mightier power and stronger
Man from the throne has hurled,
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world."

Mother, may God bless you, May God speak to your heart and show you whether or not you truly know Him and love Him. And if not, will you take the opportunity this day to become the mother that Christ would have you to be?

Amen

A Series on Evangelism

V.

Pastor Lars Stalsbroten

Our young people and the new morality.

The new morality is immorality in a new dress. It is permissible now, yes, it is even encouraged in the higher institutions of learning to have sexual relations before and outside of marriage. We must declare on the authority of God's Word, that His law and will has not changed one iota. To commit adultery is just as much a sin against the sixth commandment as it ever was. God says: "Thou shalt not commit adultery." All sexual relations outside of marriage are adultery.

"Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with men, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God" (I Cor. 9:9, 10).

Even professing Christians get into trouble and have to get married. What a shame!

We are living in a society that is more like Babylon, Sodom and Gomorrah, than the America that our forefathers willed to us.

Our young people are meeting all these evil forces head on, in school, TV, magazines, dress, etc. I am thinking of the mini-skirt. The *U.S. News and World Report* reports that rape has increased 61 per cent the last six years. Every girl who wears that kind of dress is encouraging men to commit that sin.

Last Sunday I went to a Lutheran church. There was communion. Many with mini-skirts were kneeling at the altar. What a disgrace! Can we blame the young people? Maybe not. The pastor has never said anything about it.

When our Christian young people meet these evil forces, do they have to conform to this world? No. Far

from it. You can be transformed "by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Rom. 12:2).

You can come out of the battle victorious. We have an all-sufficient and all-powerful Savior who has conquered sin, the world and the devil. "And this is the victory that hath overcome the world, even our faith" (I John 5:4). Our faith in what? Our faith in Jesus Christ.

"And they overcame him [Satan] because of the blood of the Lamb, and because of the word of their testimony; and they loved not their life even unto death" (Rev. 12:11).

"Hallelujah, what a Saviour!"

Be of good courage! Dare to stand up for Him who can make you an overcomer through the power of His blood and Word. Then you can sing with Paul: "But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Cor. 15:57).

Flashes



WOMEN *for Christ*

HER CHILDREN RISE UP AND CALL HER BLESSED

Mrs. Bernard Myking
Cloquet, Minn.

It is sad to admit that one doesn't truly appreciate her own mother until she is a mother herself. I'm sure this goes for fathers also. Now when we are parents ourselves, we think back to the many anxious moments and heartaches our parents must have experienced while we were growing up. When some of these phases of parenthood come into our own lives, then we honestly recognize what our parents tried to teach us. We begin to realize how much they actually cared for us and how much concern they had for our future in preparing us to face the realities of life and the trials and testings we would encounter.

This is so very encouraging to us in rearing our own children for I believe many times one would feel, "Oh, what's the use!" if we didn't know that, should the Lord tarry, there will come a day when our own children will also recognize these same truths.

I say this especially to Christian parents who have a deep concern for the souls of their children. To those who want their children to find God's perfect will for their lives more than anything else in the world. To those who realize from the depths of their hearts that the safest and most secure place to be is in the center of God's will whether it be on the mission field in the jungles of Africa or right

in their home community doing what God has called them to do.

Motherhood is one of the highest callings in this life. Just think of the responsibilities a mother has in guiding the lives of her children. A whole future is molded into these precious early years in the home. Her influences on that young life will either prepare that child for a future secure in Jesus Christ or a life of confusion and frustration apart from Christ.

We all know the turmoil and confusion in our world today, and the only hope we can offer to our children is Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock and Sure Foundation. Only as we ourselves know this wonderful Christ in a very personal way can we, by the power of the Holy Spirit, transmit this hope to our children.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22: 6). This is a Bible verse that carries a rich promise and an encouraging one. Often this verse is taken too lightly, for some believe that all it means is seeing that the children get to Sunday school and perhaps church and then endeavor to teach them to be good and to do good.

My feeling on this verse goes to the core of the heart because we can only claim this promise when we have earnestly and faithfully searched for God's guidance and direction in rearing our children. We need to obey God's commands ourselves before we can expect our children to be obedient. It is one thing to "lend our children to

the Lord," but quite another to let the Lord know we really mean business about it. The natural man is drawn to the broad way and this is also true for our children. They are only natural when they reject discipline and rules for life.

Children aren't going to respond to Christ and Christian principles without hours of persevering prayer and the shedding of many tears on the part of mothers and fathers. God has a way of melting us and molding us in the rearing of children. He has a way of bringing us to the end of "self" as we realize how utterly helpless we are without Him, and in a state of desperation we literally throw ourselves at His grace and mercy. When we fully recognize our own helplessness, then He can move in and accomplish His purposes through us.

As we experience some of the actual "tearing of our hearts" over those who are so near and dear to us, then we begin to taste just a little of what Christ suffered in our behalf. Ultimately we begin to appreciate more and more of what Jesus really did for us and what we truly do have in Christ.

Isn't it wonderful that we have a Savior who is perfection and that God doesn't expect us to be perfect! Many a time I get so discouraged with my "old nature" and the "weakness of the flesh," but how encouraging it is to know that Jesus Christ is sitting at the right hand of my Father in heaven, interceding in my behalf and that I can rest in His perfection. It is wonderful to know that my Jesus understands the deepest longings of my heart in behalf of my children and He knows whether I am truly earnest in interceding for them.

As we grow in the spiritual realm, we come to know that Jesus does bring complete satisfaction into our lives and He can fulfill every longing in our hearts if we will let Him. Praise God that He does hear the prayers of His children and does answer in accordance to what is best for us and our children.

We are constantly learning in

this school of life; even though I loved my mother dearly, I really didn't appreciate her until I became a mother myself. Then after the children enter their teen years when the attractions of the world are so tremendous and Satan is constantly trying to get them into his grip, thank God we can plead the blood of Christ over our children and have victory in Christ.

We have one son and four daughters; also a baby boy who went home to be with Jesus six years ago. We look forward to the day when we can be reunited in glory. It is through God's wonderful grace and mercy that our son will be entering the AFLC seminary next fall. Our four daughters are in school, and our oldest daughter senses the Spirit of God calling her into the nursing profession and then the mission field. We have "given" all five children to the Lord and our constant prayer is that each one might find God's perfect will for their lives.

I thank God for the privilege of being a mother and realize that without His guidance and encouragement, I would be a miserable failure. I need to be in close touch with my Lord each day and many times a day in behalf of myself and my children.

The following poem was used as a memorial to my mother, and it strikes a tender chord. Wouldn't it be blessed if our children could feel this way about us after we leave this temporary home for our eternal home?

She always leaned to watch for us,
Anxious if we were late;
In winter by the window sill,
In summer by the gate.

And though we mocked her tenderly,
Who had such foolish care,
The long way home would seem
more safe
Because she waited there.

Her thoughts were all so full of us,
She never could forget
And so I think that where she is,
She must be waiting yet.

Waiting until we come home to
her,
Anxious if we are late;
Watching from heaven's window
sill,
Leaning from heaven's gate.

MRS. ANNA ERICKSON HONORED BY OILAND LADIES AID

Mrs. Anna Erickson was awarded honorary membership into the Women's Missionary Federation by the Oiland Ladies Aid of Greenbush, Minnesota. Mrs. Alma Wold is their local president. Mrs. Victor Wahl (niece of Mrs. Erickson) presented Mrs. Erickson with her membership pin on February 29, 1968, for her many years of faithful service.

—Mrs. Edward Melby, Secretary



Mrs. Victor Wahl is shown pinning an honorary membership pin from the WMF on Mrs. Anna Erickson.

SARPSBORG CHURCH TO HOST RALLY

The Women's Missionary Federation of the Central Minnesota District will hold its annual spring rally on Tuesday, May 14, at the Sarpsborg Lutheran Church, rural Dalton, Minnesota. Harry C. Molstre, pastor. The two sessions will begin at 10:30 and 1:30, with a pot-luck dinner served at noon.

Missionary Alvin Grothe of Badger, Minn., will be our guest for the day. There will also be mission news from the home fields. Special music will be provided. Coffee will be served after the afternoon session.

—Mrs. Ted Aasness, Sec'y

NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT WMF TO MEET AT WILTON

The spring rally of the North Central Minnesota District Women's Missionary Federation will be held on Wednesday, May 8, at Trinity Lutheran Church (Pony Lake), north of Wilton, Minn., highway 89.

Registration is at 10 a.m. with sessions in both the forenoon and afternoon. The theme for the rally will be "Planting for the Increase." Guest speaker will be Missionary Alvin Grothe, Badger, Minn. The host pastor is Rev. Marvin Undseth.

PERSEVERANCE

Have you perseverance
To work and prove true,
The wonderful things
In store for you?

As we look around us,
Our eyes are oft' cast
On the winners, tho' we think
They should have run last.

Prizes don't always go
To the ones who've been good;
And in our eyes have played
The game as they should.

But "eye hath not seen
And ear hath not heard"
The rewards of the followers
Of God's Holy Word.

—Miss Ellen Nielsen
Sisseton, S. Dak.

CHURCH FURNITURE FOR SALE

Altar, pulpit, baptismal font, two arm chairs, communion rail, six hanging ceiling light fixtures, pews (varying lengths)

North Lutheran Valley Lutheran
Church

Vardon M. Quanbeck, Treas.
McVillie, North Dakota 58254

REVIVAL

Jesus Savior, cleanse me now.
Help me keep this solemn vow
To pray each moving, waking
minute,

And know Thy power and plans
are in it.

Lift my arms so I can claim
Revival in Thy holy name.

Mrs. T. Berge
Anoka, Minn.



SCHOOL NEWS



Left to right: Joy Hodik, Paulette Pollestad, Dennis O'Neil, Eileen Eversvik, Kris Kjos.

TESTIMONIES

By attending Bible School I've learned to know Christ and I've fully surrendered my life to Christ, the Author and Finisher of all our lives. However, it took me until about two weeks ago to surrender completely to Christ. It was easy for me to say, "Christ, use me as You will," but still I hung onto a part of myself, thus hindering the work of Christ in me.

Finally, Christ brought me so low, that I could only look up. Then I knew that Christ had a purpose for my life and wanted me to give myself wholly to Him. I did, and now Christ is showing me His will and working in me.

However, this isn't a once-in-a-lifetime experience; it is a daily committal, in which I denounce myself and glorify Christ. I can say as David said, "For thou art my rock and my fortress, therefore for thy name's sake, lead me, and guide me" (Ps. 31:3). Also Proverbs 3:6 says, "In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy

paths." Therefore I have no reason to worry about the future because I know that Christ is in control.

—Joy Hodik

Joy is from the Rindal Lutheran Church, Newfolden, Minnesota. Her home town is Mahanomen, Minnesota. She plans to study nursing at the University of North Dakota next year.

"I can do all things in him who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). This is my favorite Bible verse. It shows me that I can do anything through Christ if it is for His honor and glory, if we put our lives in His hands.

I am so glad I came to Bible School this year. It has been such a blessing to study God's Word and to have fellowship with other Christian kids.

At first I didn't know why I decided to come. It just seemed there was no place else I wanted to go. Now I know it was God's plan for me to come to Bible School. I am very glad I did, for He has shown me the only way to really live is to give your all to Christ.

—Paulette Pollestad

From Alsen, North Dakota, Paulette is planning to return to ALBS next fall. Her home church is Zion Lutheran.

I thank the Lord for saving me. His love is so wonderful. God loved me so much that He sent Jesus to die for me. I am not even worthy of this great love. I sin so much, but since I am a Christian, God looks at me through Christ as though I have never sinned.

I am so glad that the Lord led me to Bible School. I had my mind made up that I was going to another school but at Bible Camp last summer I really began to consider

coming. Now, I'm glad I came. I've learned so many things in my classes that I never knew before and things which I never really thought too much about. The Old Testament, especially, has become easier to understand. I've enjoyed the fellowship with other Christian young people, sharing our joys and sorrows.

I just pray that God will use me as a witness for Him and in any field of service for Him. I also pray that many others will be able to attend Bible School next year. It will really help us when we get out in the world.

"For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

—Eileen Eversvik

Eileen's home town is McVille, North Dakota, where she is a member of New Luther Valley Lutheran Church.

"But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all thy works" (Ps. 73:28).

It is indeed "good for me to draw near to God." I am very thankful to God for the opportunity to attend Bible School. Here I have been strengthened in faith and reassured of salvation.

As I have been drawn near to God, His great love, Christ's death, and His resurrection have become a complete reality to me. They are not only my only hope of salvation, but also a source of peace and strength.

"My flesh and my heart faileth, but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever" (Ps. 73:26).

—Kris Kjos

Kris is from Stillwater Lutheran near her home town of Kalispell, Montana. She plans to attend Montana State University, studying medical technology.

NEWS of the Churches

ABERCROMBIE SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS MISSION SUNDAY

The first Sunday of each month our Sunday school (Bethany) has Mission Sunday on which a mission offering is taken. During opening exercises each class takes turns giving a program before the whole Sunday school. Recently, for a Mission Sunday project, the children were asked to make posters illustrating what we can do for missions. About three-fourths of the children from nursery through high school responded with very good posters. During our opening exercises we looked over these posters and found some excellent messages in them. Here are some pictures of the posters.

—Eldon Hermunsle



Board members at the groundbreaking were, left to right, Harold Ostlund, Loren Eikenberry, Calvin McLaughlin, Virgil Umberger, Pastor Robert Rieth, Jim Bottem, Robert Britton. Board members not shown—Ed Odegaard, Deltan Halvarson.



Gathering of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Kirkland, Wash., for the groundbreaking ceremony, April 7, 1968.

GROUNDBREAKING HELD FOR JUANITA CHURCH

On Sunday, April 7, groundbreaking ceremonies for the new church in Juanita (Kirkland),

Washington, were conducted. Services are presently being held in the parsonage. Pastor Robert Rieth serves the congregation.

On the same Sunday fourteen families were received into charter membership in the church, although that will remain open until June.

EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS HELD AT GREEN LAKE

Pastor Harold R. Schafer, DeKalb, Illinois, was the guest speaker at evangelistic services in Green Lake Lutheran Church, Spicer, Minn., March 31 to April 4. Rev. Julius Hermunsle is the pastor of the congregation.

The theme for the week was "The Call of God."

Mr. Schafer is the Mission Director for the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

MISSION SLIDES AVAILABLE

If your group has not seen the set of slides that tell the story of the construction and dedication of the new church and progress of the work at Nogales, Arizona, then you are encouraged to write Pastor Harold Schafer, 112 West Milner Avenue, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

The home mission picture is constantly changing, and so is the set of the home mission slides as it is being updated to try to keep pace with the changing situation. Some congregations no longer receive support and new ones are being assisted for a while. Slides that tell the home mission story are also available by writing to the following address. There is no charge for their use, other than it is desired that they be returned by first-class mail.

Rev. Harold R. Schafer
Mission Director
112 West Milner Avenue
DeKalb, Illinois 60115

"And suddenly looking around they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only" (Mark 9:8).

The title of this editorial could easily be widened to "mothers of the world" for this is being written also against the backdrop of student riots in West Germany and to the list of unsettling sights nowadays can be added that of seeing snarling young people being driven back by high pressure streams of water.

Back in the U.S.A. scores of young people have joined adults in looting, one of the most despicable and loathsome of activities. And if anyone thinks that such occurs only in racially connected incidents let him remember that after disasters of nature, such as hurricanes and tornadoes, police must rush in at once to protect property from scavengers, from those who would profit by the misfortune of others.

And back home in South Dakota, the merchants in our peaceful, respectable county seat town have had to publicly declare that they can no longer let shoplifting go unpunished because the losses are an economic burden to them. They say that they have no desire to prosecute, but will do so if necessary. A good number of teenagers appear to be involved in the thievery.

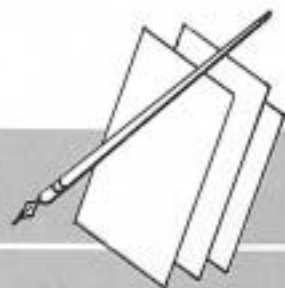
What does all this have to do with mothers and Mother's Day? We aren't quite sure and we don't wish to cast aspersions on mothers who in general are a harried, though hard-working and well-meaning lot.

But mothers rightly or wrongly have to bear much responsibility for the training of children. Together with their husbands and often alone, for one reason or another, they must lay the groundwork for a human personality and life as they minister to their children. During the pre-school years alone they implant guidelines that even a university may never erase or radically change.

How wonderful if a mother builds under God's direction. How good it is if she has the characteristics of godly Lydia, as Pastor Rieth suggests in his sermon today, and if mothers pray for their children as Mrs. Myking encourages in her article on the women's page.

So much of the tragedy and rebellion we hear about today seems irremediable. It isn't, of course, for we believe in the remedial power of the Lord, but much heartache for the future could be spared and never come to pass if mothers and fathers would give their hearts to Christ today and refuse to go a step further without His counsel. And if young people entering marriage would invite Jesus Christ to live with them in the home they establish.

We are reaping the whirlwind today. The situation would be even worse were it not for the godly mothers in America and over the world. But more are needed, be sure of that.



EDITORIALS

ORDER OF BUSINESS

In this *Ambassador* there is a copy of the Order of Business for the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. This document was distributed to the Annual Conference in Fargo, N. Dak., last year but due to the press of other business discussion on it was postponed to this year's conference (see Annual Report, 1967, pages 71 and 72).

The formal adoption of the Order of Business will complete the updating of the church's documents following the formation of the AFLC in 1962-63.

The Association has been governed by the Order of Business but now it has been revised by a committee to better suit our needs. It is expected that its adoption, as is or with amendments voted by the conferences, will inaugurate at least two changes from the format of our recent conferences. One is that the Holy Communion service will be held on Wednesday night at the opening service rather than on Sunday morning, and the other, seven members will make up the Nominating Committee rather than eight.

The fact that as the church grows there will be new districts added (already there is talk of a Michigan district) would seem to militate against the idea that each district should be represented on it. If a Nominating Committee is earnest in seeking out qualified candidates for board and committee work, as this year's Committee is, seven persons are sufficient for the task.

Anyone wishing to comment on the revised Order of Business for the Annual Conference is invited to write a letter to the editor at his address given on page 2.

HI PEOPLE

Who has not seen a rather permanent memorial to a graduating class on a water tower or overpass scrawled there hastily by some painters in the dead of night? Yes, there it stands, "Class of 1968," and for some classes of the past, such an endeavor might be the most noteworthy thing they have ever done.

Occasionally walls are defaced by obscenities, words that are an embarrassment to all decent people and stand out like a sore thumb until someone mercifully obliterates them.

In the town of Red Lake Falls, Minn., there is a scrawl on the wall of an abandoned mill that we like. In letters easily readable someone has written "Hi People." Now that's a cheery note and it brightens up our day whenever we go by it. Whoever put it

there is unknown to us and a lot of unknown people see it, but it's nice to get the greeting, like a pleasant "hello" in a strange land.

It is the spirit which is needed in a world like ours. So much is impersonal. There is so much hate and prejudice. Most of us limit ourselves to our family group and a few chosen friends. The rest of the world can go by.

But the words "Hi People" give a little lift to those who pass by. They're kind of impersonal, too, but they have the grace of imparting themselves to everyone in a personal way. Some blithe spirit wrote them, like a small child looking up at a stranger passing by and saying "hello" in his little voice.

In the midst of all the bad things being printed and stamped where all can see, here are words of hope, "Hi People."

Order of Business for the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

I. Sessions

1. The Opening Session

- a. The opening session shall be in the evening of the first day of the Conference and shall be in the form of a regular church service with Holy Communion. The sermon shall be an introduction of the Conference theme.
- b. At the close of the opening service, a short business session shall be held, at which the president shall make the necessary announcements and appointments.

2. Devotional Sessions

- a. The devotional sessions shall consist of: the opening service, the evening sessions and the Sunday services.
- b. One evening during the Conference may be devoted to Christian Education.
- c. One evening session shall be primarily a laymen's meeting, conducted by laymen.
- d. One or more prayer sessions shall be held each day at times designated by the Conference Committee.
- e. The Clergy shall, when possible, conduct a fellowship dinner not interfering with regular Conference sessions.

3. Business Sessions

- a. Regular sessions shall be held each forenoon and afternoon, except Sunday.
- b. All business sessions shall begin with Scripture reading and prayer.
- c. A calendar shall be prepared by the Conference Committee, designating specific periods of time for the consideration of the reports of the committee on recommendations, provided that

the Conference may extend or limit the time for consideration of any report or resolution.

- d. Unless otherwise provided for by the rules of the Conference, all proceedings shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.
- e. The following shall be the order of business:
 - 1) The committee on credentials shall report at the beginning of each business session.
 - 2) The report of the committee on nominations shall be in order at all times after the report of the committee on credentials.
 - 3) The order of the day.
 - 4) Announcements.

II. Reports and Resolutions

I. Reports

- a. All reports submitted to the Annual Conference shall be as concise as possible consistent with an adequate presentation of the activities of the respective boards or institutions during the past fiscal year.
- b. All boards and institutions reporting to the Annual Conference shall, for the convenience of study, summarize the major matters which they desire considered by the Annual Conference.
- c. At the beginning of the period allotted for consideration of each institution, each institution whose reports are considered by the committees Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 shall be given 15 minutes to present its cause in an oral or written form. The reports of the President and Co-ordinating Committee shall not come under this limitation.

2. Resolutions

- a. Each committee on recommendations shall prepare mimeographed copies of resolutions presented to the Conference, the same to be ready for distribution at the first regular business session.
- b. The five committees on recommendations shall meet jointly for a devotional period at 9 a.m. on the opening day of the Conference, and immediately afterwards proceed to organize themselves separately for the work allotted to each committee.
- c. Committee No. 1 shall be ready to report at the first regular business session of the Conference, and the other committees shall be ready to report at the time provided in the calendar of the Conference.

III. Committees and Elections

1. Election of Officers

The President, Vice President and Secretary of the AFLC shall be elected by ballot and must have a majority of the votes cast. Nominations for these offices shall be made from the floor and at least two nominations shall be made for each office.

2. The Committee on Nominations

The Committee on Nominations shall be elected at one Annual Conference to serve at the next. It shall consist of seven members, three pastors and four laymen. There shall be at least one person nominated from each of the Districts in the AFLC. The three pastors and four laymen receiving the largest number of votes shall be declared elected. No District, however, shall be represented by more than one member on the committee elected. Election shall be by ballot. Members on the committee on nominations shall not be elected to serve more than two consecutive years.

3. The Committees on Recommendations

- a. The following committees on recommendations shall be elected at one Annual Conference to serve at the next:

Committee No. 1—On the reports of the President of the AFLC and the Co-ordinating Committee. This committee shall also act as Committee on Resolutions. All resolutions of thanks shall be given principally in the form of a personal letter to parties concerned.

Committee No. 2—On the reports of Free Lutheran Theological Seminary, and any other reports which deal with the matter of Christian Education.

Committee No. 3—On the report of the Board of Missions and any other report dealing with the subject of Missions.

Committee No. 4—On the report of the committee on Publications and Parish Education

and the Youth Board.

Committee No. 5—On the report from the Boards of Stewardship and Pensions, and other special reports.

- b. If, for any reason, any member of any committee on recommendations knows that he will not be able to serve on such committee, such member shall send his resignation to the secretary of the Co-ordinating Committee at least thirty days before the Annual Conference, which committee shall then make appointment to fill such vacancy.
- c. The Secretary of the AFLC shall notify members of the various committees on recommendations, as to time and place of the Annual Conference at least two months before such Conference is held. Such notice shall supplement original notice of elections.

4. Journal Committee

All minutes of the Conference shall be reviewed daily by a Journal Committee appointed by the president at the opening session of the Conference.

5. Committee on Credentials

The committee on credentials shall be appointed by the president sufficiently early to enable the committee to be on hand at the beginning of the Conference. This committee shall consist of at least three members of which at least one member shall be a layman.

6. Conference Personnel

The following personnel for the Annual Conference shall be appointed by the president as early in the Conference as possible: tellers, postmaster, press representatives, chaplain and other such officers as the Conference shall require.

7. Conference Equipment

The Conference Committee shall make provisions for stenographic service and arrange to have on hand the necessary equipment and supplies.

IV. Registration

1. Each person who registers as a member of the Annual Conference shall pay a registration fee the amount of which is to be determined by the Conference Committee, and shall entitle the registrant to a prepaid copy of the Annual Conference Report.
2. When more than one member of a family registers at the Annual Conference the full fee shall be paid by only one, and additional members of the family shall pay one-half of the regular registration fee, but shall not be entitled to a prepaid copy of the Annual Conference Report.

V. Representation

Every congregation affiliated with the AFLC shall earnestly encourage one or more of its members to attend the Annual Conference.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

READER APPROVES LETTERS

Miss Jane Thompson caught a teenager day dreaming in church. I wonder who is to blame, the teen-ager or the preacher? Sometimes we pastors can be so dull and boring to listen to that almost anyone can go to sleep. Well, maybe the editor of our Luther League page hit two in one blow. If the shoe fits let us put it on. But not even the dullness of the preacher gives a day dreamer any excuse. You should watch and pray instead of going to sleep.

Mrs. O. K. Ose sure puts the searchlight of the Word on this situation. Read it again in issue No. 6. It is clear and precise. Nothing needs to be added.

Then comes Pastor Persson in issue No. 5 with a letter about Christian fellowship in answer to our editor's question, who is my brother? Pastor Persson says he could not find any real fellowship in the Lutheran Ministerial meeting of his town. He finally was led to do as the Word says, "from such turn away."

I used to meet with a group like that, too. The cigarette smoke was so thick that we could hardly see each other, I could not feel any Christian fellowship in a cloud of cigarette smoke so I finally turned away. The Apostle John insists that real Christian fellowship is found only among those that walk in the light of the Word, and live under the cleansing power of the blood of the Son of God, I John 1:7.

Then finally, in issue No. 6 the letter from Pastor Mundfrom about creation. Concerning the question whether God created heaven and earth in six solar days or six different periods, I have been taught

and have believed from childhood that it was actually six solar days. I base this on God's Word alone and not on what so-called Bible scholars say about it. The trouble is, so many teach and preach what man says about the Bible, instead of saying "thus saith the Lord."

Of course, I am aware of the fact that the Hebrew word "yom," which is translated "day," can mean both a solar day, a period, an age, etc. But in this particular case concerning creation, I definitely believe that it means solar days. In Exodus 20:11 we have a crystal clear word that substantiates this. Let me quote it in case you should neglect to look it up, "For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it."

I agree with Pastor Mundfrom when he says: "It seems to me we either believe the Bible or we do not believe the Bible on these points."

Our editor had been asking questions about several things, challenging the readers to come with their opinions, but there was not a sound. It appeared as if all were taking a nap; but all of a sudden the alarm went off and one letter after another came. This is healthy, this is good.

Our church paper is becoming alive, actual, interesting, profitable for the readers.

—Rev. Lars Stalsbroten
Eugene, Oregon

DANGERS IN SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS

"Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath

looked upon me; my mother's children were angry with me; they made me keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard I have not kept" (Canticles 1:6).

Unquestionably as a result of the Dr. King tragedy, the consciousness of the nation has been stirred and among the effects there will be increased emphasis within the church for social endeavors. Possibly such will transcend the ecumenical novelty even as one suggested, "The honeymoon is over. Ecumenism no longer catches the imagination of young and eager spirits as it did." In the situation where the Church has lost its first love and in its quest for appealing programs, the emphasis upon social endeavors may be expected to greatly increase.

Regarding the likelihood of such a trend it was interesting to observe your editorial concerning social consciousness. The article was so very timely in relationship to the passing of Dr. Martin Luther King. I especially appreciated your closing statement: "Let us preach the saving Gospel of Christ with greater fervency than ever before (this is first) and also challenge one another to remember that in serving the least of these we serve Christ."

We do hear a great deal of lament regarding the failure of the Christian Church in social consciousness. There is, as one suggests, "a large company who are whining and crying like children with unfair and unwarranted judgment upon the churches. Such critics seem to think that because the church has not done everything, it has done nothing; and because all problems have not been solved, none has been solved" (Paschall). To paraphrase another, "The trouble with the church is not primarily that it is composed of churches and its failures in social endeavors, but that it has turned from God, in beliefs, in techniques and in life. 'Return unto me and I will return unto you' is the word of the Lord to this generation. God will not be fobbed off with ecumenical mergers, and social endeavors mas-

querading under the guise of repentance, while all the time the weightier matters are consistently ignored" (Harrison).

As our social consciousness has been stirred in the passing of King there are lessons that can be gleaned from his experience and life. His highest calling was to preach the Gospel of Christ with great fervency to the saving of souls. It is one thing to do this and quite another to rally the masses in social demands and reforms. Unquestionably, his greatest challenge was that a life that did not have a cause for which it was willing to die, was not worth living. Such were words of real challenge to our Christian obligations and objectives. But is such a commitment to be for social reforms, or is it not rather to be for the proclama-

tion of the blessed Gospel that alone can change hearts and lives? Consequently, where the social objectives transcended the saving message of Christ, there was the tragic proclamation that civil disobedience is justifiable in endeavors to effect a just kingdom on earth. It was the very violation of civil and divine law that occasioned the tragic death of King. Such is the inevitable fruit of anarchy and disobedience to those powers that be ordained of God. In any social endeavor there must be the blessed response to the saving grace of Christ and also that Christian commitment whereby the laws of the land are in respect.

Social consciousness was very much in question when Jesus was so graciously anointed with the spikenard, very costly. According

to Pliny the value of that ointment thus expended would have sufficed to provide bread for 5000 men and their families. There were the grievous poor in that day and possibly more so than in our own sick society. However, Jesus accepted that act of devotion and commended the woman for her great love. So today there is a great need for social compassion but it would be a tragedy indeed if the church should forget its first love, and its prime commission by the blessed Gospel to change the hearts of a lost and dying world. There is ever the solemn necessity to keep our own vineyards amid the crying needs of our painful society.

—Pastor R. S. Persson
Astoria, Oregon



Luther League Activities

VALENTINE BANQUET

The Zion Luther Leagues of Tioga, N. Dak., met using the theme "Give Me Thy Heart" for their 1968 Valentine Banquet. The dinner was sponsored and served by the Zion Ladies Aid.

With Gary Jorgenson as master of ceremonies the program opened with group singing. We sang "Christ for Me" and "In My Heart There Rings a Melody." The girls' trio consisting of Eloise and Myrna Haakenson and Sandra Blikre sang,

"He Keeps Me Singing." The leaguers were greeted by Gary Jorgenson. Reading from Psalm 51, Diane Hartsoch gave devotions. An alto saxophone solo, "He," was played by Barbara Hanson. Announcements of the coming events in Luther League were made by Rodger Olson. The theme song "Give Me Thy Heart" and "Search Me, O God" were sung by the group. Pastor Rudolph Berntson of First Lutheran Church brought the message which was based on the theme. He made a comparison be-

tween an evil heart and a good heart. After the message we were favored by another number from the girls' trio, "Let Jesus Come into Your Heart." In closing, the Lord's Prayer was played by Barbara Hanson on her saxophone.

WIDOW OF PASTOR WM. HAGEN GOES TO ETERNAL REST

Mrs. Christine Hagen, 89, widow of the late Lutheran Free Church pastor, William Hagen, passed away on January 29, in Minneapolis, Minn. They were married in 1903.

Since that time and before his death, he served as a teacher and financial secretary at Bethania College, Everett, Wash., and as pastor at Vang and Hatton, N. Dak.; Elbow, Sask., Canada; Trinity, Minneapolis; and Bethesda, St. Paul, Minn. He was also a hospital missionary in Minneapolis and out of that experience wrote the booklet "I Took His Hand."

Among her survivors are Dr. Kristofer Hagen, a son and former missionary to India, and Mrs. Sylvester Rue, Willmar, Minn.

TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT

February 1, 1968 to February 29, 1968

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$ 35,650.00	\$ 2,970.83	\$ 2,091.79
Seminary & Bible School	36,200.00	3,016.66	668.35
Missions	49,000.00	4,083.33	1,920.09
Praise Program	40,000.00	3,333.33	5,127.05*
	<u>\$160,850.00</u>	<u>\$13,404.15</u>	<u>\$ 9,807.28</u>

Received for Library fund \$110.00

*Praise Program includes the One Grand Fellowship and all Building fund gifts.

TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT

February 1, 1968 to March 31, 1968

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Total Received	Current Budget
General Fund	\$ 35,650.00	\$ 5,941.66	\$ 3,463.67
Seminary & Bible School	36,200.00	6,033.33	1,352.45
Missions	49,000.00	8,166.66	3,559.77
Praise Program	40,000.00	6,666.66	8,631.39*
	<u>\$160,850.00</u>	<u>\$26,808.31</u>	<u>\$17,007.28</u>

Received for Library Fund \$244.00

*Praise Program includes the One Grand Fellowship and all Building fund gifts.

Sixth Annual Convention

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION

of the

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

June 12 and 13, 1968

- Theme:** "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again" (II Cor. 5: 15, also 20 and 21).
- Location:** St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Cloquet, Minnesota
Herbert L. Franz, Pastor
- Offerings:** Wednesday Convention offering for the furnishing of the new Bible school dormitory
Mission Festival offering to foreign missions
- Lunch:** Wednesday noon lunch for everyone at \$1.25
- Breakfast:** Thursday morning breakfast at 7 a.m., including district presidents, the Literature Committee, pastors' wives, and national WMF officers. Mrs. John Strand will lead the discussion.
- Note:** It would be good to have each local WMF represented and also a contribution of cookies from each group for the convention coffee breaks.
Please pray for this convention and make plans now to attend.

J. O. GISSELQUIST, A FOUNDER OF LEM, PASSES AWAY

The Rev. J. O. Gisselquist, 79, a founder of the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement and one time staff evangelist, passed away on March 13 in Minneapolis, Minn. Funeral services were conducted at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Minneapolis.

In addition to his evangelistic work for the LEM and the Hauge Lutheran Federation, he served pastorates at Elmore, Minn., and Centerville, S. Dak., following his ordination in 1916.

His survivors include a pastor son, the Rev. Clement Gisselquist, Story City, Iowa.

Pastor Gisselquist was a clergyman in the American Lutheran Church.

O FATHER ALL CREATING

O Father all creating,
Whose wisdom, love and power
First bound two lives together
In Eden's primal hour,
Today to these Thy children
Thine earliest gifts renew,
A home by Thee made happy,
A love by Thee kept true.

O Savior, guest most bounteous
Of old in Galilee,
Vouchsafe today Thy presence
With these who call on Thee;
Their store of earthly gladness
Transform to heavenly wine,
And teach them, in the tasting,
To know the gift is Thine.

O Spirit of the Father,
Breathe on them from above,
So mighty in Thy pureness,
So tender in Thy love;
That guarded by Thy presence,
From sin and strife kept free,
Their lives may own Thy guidance,
Their hearts be ruled by Thee.

Except Thou build it, Father,
The house is built in vain;
Except Thou, Savior, bless it,
The joy will turn to pain;
But naught can break the marriage
Of hearts in Thee made one,
And love Thy Spirit hallows
In endless love begun.

—J. Ellerton

(from *The Lutheran Hymnal*)

CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

CHURCH OF NORWAY VOTE FAVORS BISHOP BIRKELI

Oslo (LWF)—Bishop Fridtjov Birkeli of Stavanger won a large majority in a vote among pastors, provosts, bishops, and theological professors on their choice of a successor to Bishop Johannes Smemo of Oslo as head of the Church of Norway.

Results of the election were presented to the Ministry of Church Affairs and formal appointment of the new primate of the national Lutheran church was expected soon. Bishop Smemo will leave the post next July on his 70th birthday.

Among three candidates nominated by the Oslo Diocesan Council, Bishop Birkeli was by far the favorite. He received 294 votes to 54 for Bishop Kaare Stoylen of Kristiansand and 45 for Bishop Alex Johnson of Hamar. Dean Per Lonning of Bergen, whose name was privately suggested, also received 41 votes.

Bishop Birkeli, 61, a member of the Lutheran World Federation Executive Committee who was head of the LWF Department of World Mission from 1954-57, was born of missionary parents in Madagascar and served there for several years after his ordination in 1933.

He was literature secretary of the Norwegian Missionary Society for six years before joining the LWF and returned to the Society in 1957 as its general secretary. He has been head of the Stavanger diocese since 1960.

DR. KENT KNUTSON NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENCY OF WARTBURG

St. Paul, Minn. (LC)—Dr. Kent S. Knutson, 43, professor of systematic theology and director of graduate studies at Luther Seminary here, has been nominated for the presidency of Wartburg Seminary at Dubuque, Iowa.

As the sole nominee to be placed before the fourth biennial convention of the American Lutheran Church at Omaha, Neb., October 16-22, his election is all but assured although floor nominations are technically possible.

A native of Goldfield, Iowa, Dr. Knutson joined the Luther faculty in 1958. He is editor of *Dialog*, an independent theological journal, and the author of several books, including *His Only Son, Our Lord*.

FINNISH ARCHBISHOP SPEAKS ON MEMBERSHIP LAW PROPOSAL

Helsinki (LWF)—Lutheran faith is in full conformity with the principle of religious liberty, Archbishop Martti Simojoki of the Church of Finland declared here in comments before the Finnish Parliament in favor of a change in the law concerning church membership.

The proposed change would make it possible for those persons who desire to leave the church to simply inform the civil service of their intentions. In the past, individuals have had to personally inform the pastors of their congregations.

While strongly underlining the Lutheran belief in freedom of conscience, religious liberty, and equal rights for all religious communities, the archbishop took issue with government contentions that the old law has led some pastors to use pressure to hold church members.

Archbishop Simojoki noted that the claim was not supported by concrete examples and was critical of what he saw as a general application of possible individual cases.

Meanwhile, the Orthodox Church of Finland upheld the present law in cases involving persons who leave one church to join another.

In his address, Archbishop Simojoki stressed the solidarity of the national Lutheran church with other churches and Christian commu-

nities in the country, stating that anything which handicaps the work of the Orthodox church or other churches also harms the Lutheran church.

Of the approximately 4.5 million Finns, some 92 per cent belong to the Lutheran church. The Orthodox community totals about 70,000. Only about 5.5 per cent of Finns belong to no church.

It was noted that in recent years, the number of people leaving church membership has been approximately equaled by new members.

AUSTRIAN LUTHERANS NAME SUCCESSOR TO BISHOP MAY

Vienna, Austria (LWF)—The Rev. Oskar Sakrausky of Vienna has been elected here to succeed Dr. Gerhard May next November 1 as spiritual leader of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Austria.

The bishop-elect, an Oberkirchenrat of the church since 1962, was named after nearly six hours of balloting during the annual Synod. He gained the necessary two-thirds majority among the 62 delegates over Oberkirchenrat Erich Wilhelm of Vienna on a 19th ballot.

Bishop May, 70, announced earlier that he would leave the post of leader of the 411,000-member Lutheran body next October 31.

The new bishop, born in 1914, studied at the University of Erlangen, Germany, and became a vicar in Prague. He was imprisoned in Russia for four years during World War II and later was pastor in Karnten, Austria, where he was a founder of the Karnten Evangelical Diocesan Museum.

In his Vienna post, he has become known as a strong proponent of intensified contacts with Eastern European churches and, in Austrian church affairs, is regarded as a conservative.

MOTHER-LOVE

Over the forest and treeless plains
And over the heights above,
'Tis ever the same, the heart of the
home

Is the throb of the mother's love.
It kneels by the bed of the drowsy
head,
And whispers a lullaby
That softly streams thru the baby's
dreams:
"Fear not, for Mother's nigh."

It flows from her lips to her finger
tips,
Caressing the baby's curls;
It shines in her eyes that sym-
pathize
With the tears of her little girls;
The sorrows and joys of her little
boys,

It only can understand,
And it hallows the touch we love
so much—
The pressure of Mother's hand.

It mends the ball and the broken
doll;
It finds the missing knife,
And all the day long it weaves a
song
'Round the wearisome tasks of
life.
On every sea and on every land
Beneath the sky's blue dome,
The Mother's love is the life and
the light
And the throbbing heart of the
home.

—Author Unknown

(from *Quotes from the Quiet
Hour*)

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