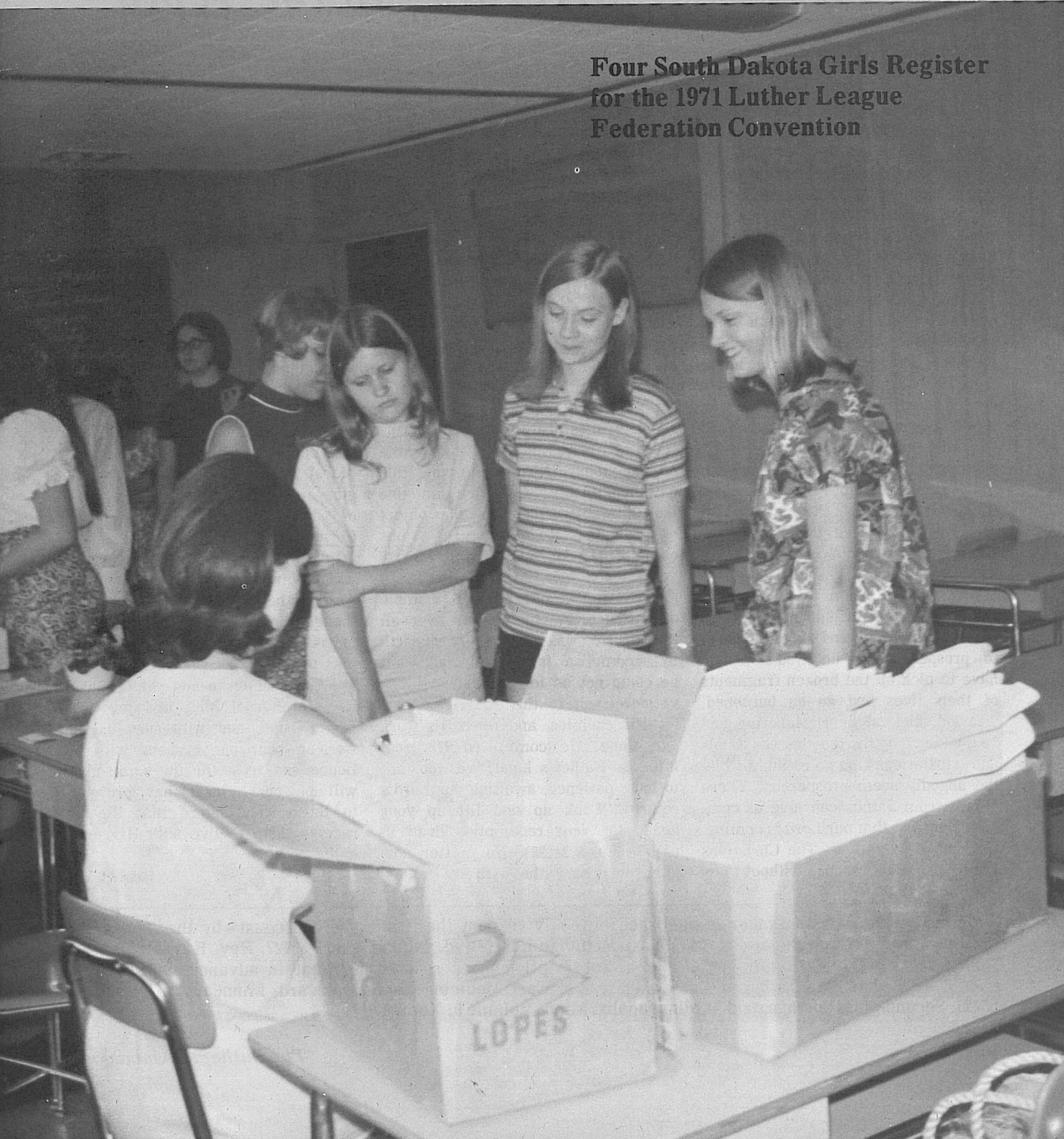
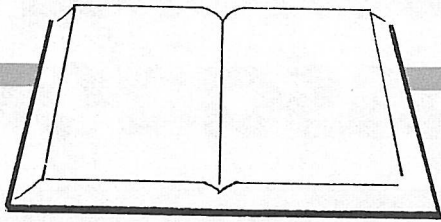


August 31, 1971

The Lutheran Ambassador

Four South Dakota Girls Register
for the 1971 Luther League
Federation Convention





According to the Word

ARE YOU CARRYING YOUR BURDENS WITH PATIENCE AND TRUST?

“Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord, Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy” (James 5:7-11).

Why does it seem to us that the righteous have to suffer so much while the wicked and ungodly seem to prosper? Why do God’s people have to pick up the broken fragments of their lives and go on burdened, wearied, sick at heart, laboring and heavy-laden with the losses, trials and tribulations God gives them while the ungodly seem prosperous? These verses from James can give us comfort. Knowing that our Lord is coming, we should be patient. The Christians are to bear their wrongs without mur-

muring and without resisting. Wait on the Lord with steady, unwavering patience so that when life comes to a close we will be able to view wealth, possessions, prestige, power and all earthly treasures in the right perspective. In that moment everything as concerns our earthly treasures vanishes and nothing matters but the presence of faith in Jesus Christ. “He that hath the Son hath life, but he that hath not the Son of God hath not life, but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:36).

Knowing that one day God will call us home, we can be patient even in times of difficulty. Christians find themselves in much the same position today. Noah knew what this patience meant. Can you imagine just how often he was the object of ridicule? Eventually the rains came, but Noah had to wait for 120 years.

Our Lord is our perfect example of patience. He had power over all things. He was sent to this earth to accomplish for sinful man what he could not do for himself—our salvation. Even to the end He prayed for His enemies, and when His work was done, He committed His soul into His Father’s hand. We, too, are to have patience, awaiting our Lord’s return. “Look up and lift up your heads for your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28). No matter how dark or dreary the path we follow,

if Christ dwells in us, we can carry our burdens with patience and trust. “Tribulation worketh patience” (Romans 5:3). The message of the cross is that God heals the broken heart.

Take courage also from the patience of Job. He left his troubles with God. He trusted in God. Job was rewarded for his patience and trust. Your own affliction may give you an opportunity to extend God’s grace to others. Your affliction can teach you contentment. Paul wrote, in Philippians 4:11, “I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” Your afflictions can cause you to give glory to God if they cause your faith to grow stronger. “Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (II Corinthians 12:9b).

In the light of ultimate justice, which will surely come in God’s hour, we can be patient and happy even though the wicked prosper and the ungodly seem to have so many blessings to enjoy. We who are Christians are God’s children and shall be with Him in eternal bliss and joy. This is our hope, and with such a hope we can bear our burdens with patience and trust for the same glory will be ours. Jesus has promised to those who endure that He will receive them to live with Him eternally.

Reuben Wee

The Lutheran Ambassador is published biweekly (except the first issue of August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Mpls., Minn. 55427. Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, South Dakota 57261, is the editor. Subscription price is \$2.50 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to **The Lutheran Ambassador**, 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn. Volume 9, Number 17

A Review of the LLF Convention

Psalm 126:3: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

Yes, as the theme states, CONSIDER JESUS, and see how much He has done for us! We found this truth so real at our sixth Luther League Federation Convention held July 20-25 at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church and the Bible School. Registration totalled approximately 250, but crowds at the evening service far exceeded that number. The Bible School dormitory was used to accommodate the girls, while the boys stayed in a large tent set up near the church. God answered our prayers and rewarded our efforts by giving us a blessed and uplifting time together.

Our convention officially opened on Tuesday, July 20, with an evening service at which Pastor David Molstre, the president of our Luther League Federation for the past two years, spoke. Our first sessions each morning began with Bible study by Pastor Laurel Udden. He challenged us by pointing out the two separate ways of life and death. He showed us that following the world and our flesh brings only sorrow and death, but in Christ we not only have life, but we have life **abundant!**

Our morning seminars brought us many blessings, with Pastor John Strand (one on the Bible view of sex education and one on the AFLC), Pastor Amos Dyrud (missions), Pastor Herbert Franz (witnessing), Miss Sheila Broderick (drug use and abuse), Pastor R. Snipstead (Bible School), and Pastor Francis Monseth (parent and teen relations). The one tremendous thing about all of our fellowship during the week was that we were always pointed to Christ, and that we were shown that we aren't really living unless Christ has our total lives in complete dedication and willing service.

One of the real thrilling parts of

the convention was the wonderful singing. The whole church was just filled with the sound of hearts and voices united in praise to God. One of our favorites was "Happiness is the Lord," and many, many youth found that to be true.

Our evening services were always a time of great spiritual blessing. We were so grateful to have Ray Lahikainen with us to share the glory of God through art, and his daughters, who sang. They were inspiring to all. Many others also shared with us in song, including the Bible School choir. Our special guest speaker for the evenings was Mel Johnson. We thank God for his clear testimony in showing us the realities of life, and most of all for showing us the reality of Christ. The dedicated Christian life is a life of inner peace, and total surrender to Jesus is the answer to every one of life's problems, no matter how big or how small. In the power of the Lord alone can we be conquerors and win the battles of life.

The greatest thing above all else was the number of decisions for the Lord and the lives surrendered to Him. Following our evening services we had wonderful fellowship at our campfires and our testimony meetings. Many shared for the first time their decision to follow Jesus. There are no words to express the spirit that prevailed and the radiance in the hearts and on the faces of those who shared. Time wasn't long enough for all to stand; many requested prayer that they might have the strength to stand up for the Lord among their family and friends. The presence of the Lord was real, and we found that "the blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich" (Prov. 10:22).

On Saturday afternoon we held our business meeting. First action of the meeting was election of officers, and the following make up the Executive Committee of the Luther League Federation for the next two years:

President—Ken Moland (Fertile, Minn.)

1st Vice President—Paul Persson (Astoria, Oregon)

2nd Vice President—Lyle Forde (Everett, Wash.)

Secretary—Linda Moan (McIntosh, Minn.)

Devotional Life Secretary—Jim Fugleberg (Roseau, Minn.)

Treasurer—Ralph Peterson (Thief River Falls, Minn.)

The Constitution of the Luther League Federation was also adopted and put into immediate effect at the meeting. Wayne Pederson also shared with us his work as Youth Director. We as a Luther League Federation are seeking a project to support. Suggestions included sending one or more youth to a mission for several weeks during the summer, paying medical expenses for the missionaries in Brazil, or making up youth material for helping local Luther Leagues.

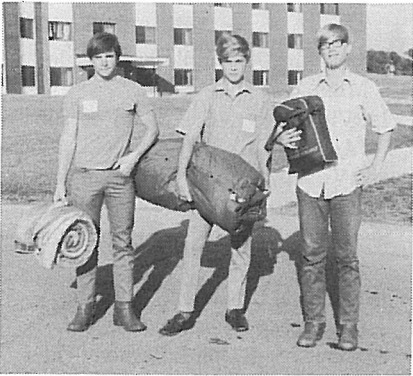
One special emphasis that was so distinctively brought out all week was the **need** for us to witness, and the blessing when we do. It has been said that a witnessing Christian is rarely a backslider, and we will find our union with Christ strengthened when we share Him with others. Pastor Franz shared from Isaiah 32:20 that we must sow beside **all** waters. He said that witnessing is not preaching; it is simply sharing Christ.

To sum up the meaning of this convention to us, I would like to share just one example. Multiplied many times, maybe we can realize the real effect of these days. On Sunday morning I talked with one fellow who had given his life to the Lord just the night before. With a beaming face and a radiant smile he told me, "It's great; it's really great!" Without doubt, "Happiness is the Lord!"

Psalm 16:11: "Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is **fulness** of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for **evermore.**"

—Linda Moan
Secretary, LLF

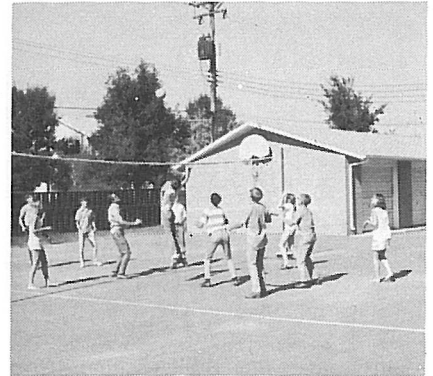
SNAPSHOTS FROM THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION CONVENTION



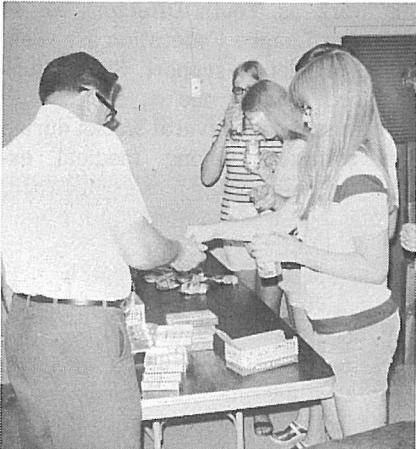
Three boys from Rice Lutheran Church, Bagley, Minn., looking for a place to sleep.



The tent which housed the boys at the Convention.



Volleyball was one of the recreation events.



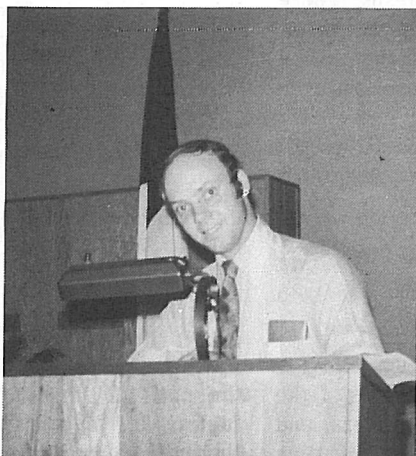
Mr. Lyle Twite, Cloquet, Minn., waits on some conventioners at the canteen.



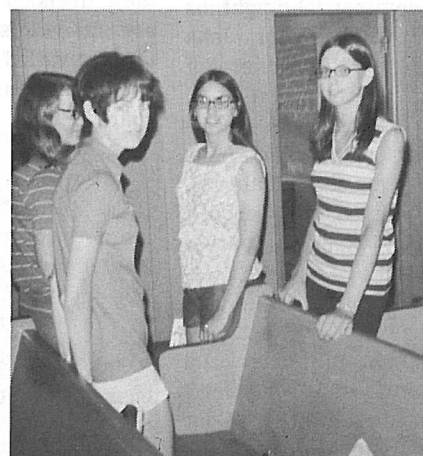
Mealttime at the Saturday night "Smorgasbord."



One of the tables in the dining hall, filled with hungry leaguers.



Rev. David C. Molstre, outgoing president of the LLF.



Four more girl delegates from the state of South Dakota.

I took his hand

AWAY FROM HOME

The boy lay there with a sprained foot, a badly battered head, and a bandaged eye, looking at the second-hand on his watch.

"Just to pass the time," he laughed. Almost at once we fell to talking about the importance of little things in life, about using the time right and having worthy ideals to live for. He told me about his older sister, who, as he remembered her before she died, wanted to be a ray of sunshine because then she could crawl in through little cracks and crevices to brighten up dark corners. Furthermore, she had said, a ray of sunshine never really gets lost, because it is always connected with the sun itself.

This incident led us to think of one story of Jacob's dream in which he saw the ladder reaching up to heaven with angels ascending and descending on its many steps and with God Himself at the top. This turn in the conversation made quite an impression on the boy, and he ventured to tell me that it was his older sister who had first told him about Jacob's ladder. He realized that now in his memory he felt her near, not only as a ray of sunshine, but as an angel sent from the Lord Himself.

In this way we had an unexpected Bethel experience which turned out to be a great blessing also for many other patients that I visited that day.

Among these was a young mother who had counted the days since New Year's and was still counting them in April.

"...because this month they will let me go home if the fever doesn't get any worse. So says the doctor. At home I have two little children and a husband who has had to go

through plenty himself. He was in the war overseas for three years, suffering lots of hardship, but he came home unharmed. Then I took sick, oh my! — First malaria, then appendicitis, a violent hemorrhage, and an operation, and on top of that pneumonia and rheumatic fever, and now again pleurisy. Dear me, I hope it isn't tuberculosis, because I do so want to go home this month."

She needed to see the ladder up to heaven and to experience the Lord's compassion and mercy toward anxious souls away from home. I reminded her of His promise: "Behold I am with thee, and will keep thee withersoever thou goest."

—Wm. Hagen

DR. WILLIAM LARSEN, ALC LEADER IN THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION, DIES

Minneapolis — (LC) — Dr. William Larsen, 62, executive director of the Board of Theological Education of the American Lutheran Church, died Wednesday night, August 4, at Fairview-Southdale Hospital after a month's illness.

Born on a farm near Racine, Wis., May 19, 1909, Dr. Larsen was graduated in 1933 from Dana College and in 1936 from Trinity Lutheran Seminary, a school which has since merged with another seminary, both in Blair, Neb.

Although he had initially planned to study law, he turned to the ministry during his college days.

Dr. Larsen was ordained shortly after the completion of his theological training and served as pastor of Beth-

any Lutheran church in Boston in 1936 to 1943 and, while there, pursued graduate work at Boston University.

In addition to his study at Boston University, which awarded him a master's degree in 1940, he also studied for three years at Harvard University.

Dr. Larsen left the congregation in Boston in 1943 to become a chaplain in the United States Navy and served with the Marines at Honolulu, Guadacanal, Guam and Okinawa for a period of about 30 months.

A few years ago, he retired from the Naval Reserve with the grade of captain.

Dr. Larsen later joined the staff of the Division of Student Service in the National Lutheran Council, a cooperative agency which was succeeded in 1967 by the present-day Lutheran Council in the USA.

During his first year, 1946-47, he was an assistant pastor at the University of Minnesota, and during the second, 1947-48, he was a campus pastor at Ohio State University at Columbus, Ohio.

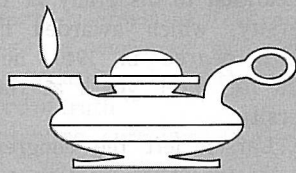
Dr. Larsen returned to the University of Minnesota in 1948 and served as campus pastor and as executive director of the Lutheran Student Foundation, an agency responsible for student work at several Minnesota colleges.

He remained in that post until 1956 when he was elected president of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, one of three churches which subsequently merged to form the present-day American Lutheran Church in 1960.

Dr. Larsen was secretary of the ALC from 1960 to 1966, and from 1966 to 1968, was vice president. He assumed his present post during the latter year, becoming the first administrative executive to be chosen by the theological board.

He is survived by his widow, Inga; a son, William Jr., in Houston, Texas; and two daughters, Nancy, at home, and Mrs. Gary Hanson in Seattle.

A memorial service at Bethel Lutheran church in Minneapolis was scheduled Sunday, August 8, and private services at Fort Snelling National Cemetery were scheduled Monday, August 9.



SCHOOL NEWS

AFLBS GRADUATES FINISH NURSING COURSE

Claudette Kjersten and Wanda Floan (AFLBS graduates '70) were graduated from the Fergus Falls Practical Nursing School on June 30, 1971.

The Ona Aasness Fogelman award was also presented to Claudette Kjersten based upon her high scholastic accomplishments, Christian character, and high quality of bedside care. Each year a girl is chosen by her classmates and instructors to be presented with this award.

Ona Aasness Fogelman was a graduate with the Fergus Falls Practical Nursing Class of 1967. In 1968 she was fatally injured in a car accident. Because of Ona's deep faith in God and her strong commitment to her calling as a nurse, the Fergus Falls Practical Nurses' Alumni Association has established this award to be presented to the girl who best represents these qualities.

Congratulations to both girls as they venture out into new fields of service in the nursing field.

A LETTER FROM THE CHOIR IN NORWAY

Today is the day we enter Tønsberg to participate in the activities of their 1100th anniversary celebration. It seems impossible that these opportunities belong to the AFLBS Choir. After all, we are five years old and they 1100. But equally incredible is that we should be so fortunate to tour in Norway at all. Can such a thrilling and honorable event be the will of God? It's too good to be true. But as our visit unfolds (it is now one week old) it would seem that surely we are His ambassadors chosen to bring our testimony to our pietistic counterparts of Norway. As well, we

bring the good-will and fellowship of the AFLC and AFLBS.

Our tour is going marvelously well. Oh yes, some small hitches, such as being four hours late getting away at Winnipeg and therefore four hours late into Oslo; second, unavailability of a declaration of value of our records, needed before they would clear customs. But these are problems that resolve themselves usually and having a cushion of time in which to work and some capable help from Mr. Aage Nevland of Norea Radio, our sponsoring group, we were away on time with our records.

The choir members show mixed reactions to the typical Norwegian breakfasts and suppers of bread, cheese, crackers, jam and salted fish, but as for me, I love it. I am more confident than ever in saying, "No one in the world sets a table of food like the Norwegians." It is delicious, it is delightful and it is elegant. Especially enjoyable are the cheeses (ost and primost). And the smørugaasbord

layouts served to us where we sing are incredible beyond the description of a mere man (a woman, of course, could do it). The varieties of open-faced sandwiches approach 25 in number and each one looks so delectable it is difficult not to take one of each. The coffee is richly flavorful, the best I have ever tasted. Some would call it strong, but it's just the way I like it. Norwegians are drinking more tea—not any less coffee, probably, but tea has been the main beverage at supper and evening smørugaasbords.

We have sung four concerts so far in Norway. The appreciative Norwegians have nearly overwhelmed us with their kindness and generosity in compliments. But they have demonstrated it in another way also: their offerings. The offerings are nearly unbelievable! As for records, last night we sold 33. The cost to them? 30 kroner (over \$4.00).

And, of course, Dr. and Mrs. (Iver) Olson are extremely happy. They are excellent travelling companions. Dr. Olson's wealth of Norwegian lore is very great and he eagerly shares it with us. Again, how fortunate we are to have such a mission. You may be sure that your young people present a tremendous testimony both for the Lord and the Association in all they do. They are the best ambassadors in the world. I am fiercely and quietly proud of them.

Donald L. Rodvold
Director, AFLBS Choir

THE ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

February 1, 1971 to July 31, 1971

BUDGET RECEIPTS

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$ 38,250.00	\$19,125.00	\$12,402.80
Schools	61,424.00	30,712.00	22,288.25
Foreign Missions	36,000.00	18,000.00	19,292.37
Home Missions	34,245.00	17,122.50	9,677.03
Praise Program	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>15,000.00</u>	<u>8,999.11</u>
	\$199,919.00	\$99,959.50	\$72,659.56

Received last year same time — \$65,545.71

One Grand Fellowship — \$225.00

Legacies — \$870.80

**THE AMBASSADOR SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES
ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF PARISH EDUCATION**

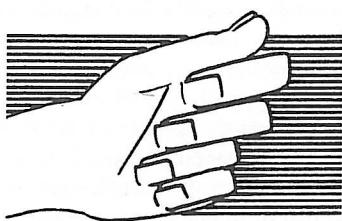
Miss Judith B. Wold
324 Arnold Avenue North
Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701

Ship to _____
Address _____
City _____
State and Zip Code _____

Bill to _____
Address _____
City _____
State and Zip Code _____

NAME OF ITEM	Circle	Quarter	Number	Each	TOTAL
Learning to Obey	Grade 2	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 2	1 2 3		75¢	
Learning to Pray	Grade 3	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 3	1 2 3		75¢	
The Apostles' Creed	Grade 4	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 4	1 2 3		75¢	
Old Testament History	Grade 5	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 5	1 2 3		75¢	
New Testament History	Grade 6	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 6	1 2 3		75¢	
Christ in the Bible	Grade 7	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 7	1 2 3		75¢	
The Book of Acts	Grade 8	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 8	1 2 3		75¢	
Overall Study of Bible	Grade 9	1 2 3		55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Grade 9	1 2 3		75¢	
The Epistles of Peter	Senior High and Adult Classes			55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	The Epistles of Peter			75¢	
Congregational Life and the Bible	Sr. High and Adults			55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Congregational Life and the Bible			75¢	
Book of Galatians	Senior High and Adult Classes			55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	Book of Galatians			75¢	
The Christian Teen Looks at Life	Sr. High and Adults			55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	The Christian Teen Looks at Life			75¢	
The Christian Citizen	Senior High and Adult Classes			55¢	
Teacher's Handbook	The Christian Citizen			75¢	

Postage and Handling		Total
Total of Order	Charges	Postage
Up to \$ 1.00	25¢	TOTAL
\$ 1.01 to \$ 3.00	30¢	
\$ 3.01 to \$ 5.00	35¢	
\$ 5.01 to \$ 7.00	50¢	
\$ 7.01 to \$10.00	65¢	
\$10.01 to \$15.00	80¢	
\$15.01 and up	5%	



STEWARDSHIP

ALL THAT I HAVE
IS THINE ALONE

THE FAR-SPENT DAY

By Albin Hilding Fogelquist, Jr.
Spokane, Washington

“But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them” (Luke 24:29).

Our text is taken from Luke’s account of Jesus with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. That day was the first Easter Sunday and two pilgrims were miraculously joined by the risen Lord Jesus Christ. To Jesus the Emmaus pilgrims had opened their hearts, for their concerns and their anxieties were uppermost in their minds. This Jesus was to the Emmaus pilgrims a kindly and gentle Stranger, but they realized that this Stranger had opened the Word of Life to them. Feeling their own need to be further satisfied by the Stranger’s life-giving sustenance and understanding, they bade Him to abide with them late that afternoon.

And their hearts were full of an excitement which dispelled their lack of faith, their weakness and their deep-seated grief. The excitement was theirs because this Stranger went in to tarry with them. But what had been momentary excitement at the sound of the Stranger’s words was changed to a lasting joy as the Stranger broke bread with them. Then these two Emmaus pilgrims realized that the kind Stranger was the Living Lord Who was celebrating His Sacrament with them. They knew Jesus, and He vanished out of their sight.

What the Emmaus disciples accomplished after Christ’s vanishing is indicative of the deeds which the lives of all believers must perform. Having been given grace to recognize Jesus, the two also received grace to share with each other mutual expressions

of joy and gladness. But their sharing was not limited to each other. By grace they rose up the same hour, returned to Jerusalem, and proclaimed the good news of salvation to the other disciples.

These two Emmaus pilgrims, their lives indelibly touched by Jesus, became active emissaries of the Gospel. Their lives were bursting with a full joy which no man could take from them. Their lives, once sullied by grief and gloom, were radiant with the luster of the Cross. And their lives were a stewardship offering for the King of Kings.

Their stewardship was not limited by circumstances of time. The two bade Jesus to abide with them in Emmaus because the night was soon at hand. And yet the glorious irony is that their witness for the Savior was not constrained by the coming night. Theirs was an active joy at eventide.

The Christian in every age lives close to the shadows of night and impending darkness. And our own age finds the Christian even closer to the prophesied night wherein no man can work. Ought we not therefore as a Christian community to be prayerfully at work in God’s Kingdom? Ought we not to live lives which express a sacrificial stewardship for the King of Kings? Our active joy at eventide is full when we ourselves are yielded completely to Him so that He uses us in His service. His service demands lives which are consecrated to Him. His service demands lives which are lights in a world of darkness and sin. His service demands a total stewardship.

The Christian works for God. Whatever occupation a Christian has, his main job is working for God. That is why God created him; that is why Christ redeemed him; that is why the Holy Ghost sanctifies his daily living.

There are no part-time jobs in the Kingdom. Lives of daily repentance and strengthening are required, for no Christian works for himself six days and then spends a fraction on Sunday worshipping God. Rather, Christian living demands full-time stewardship and consecration. This is the Christian’s reasonable service.

God is concerned that His people serve Him whether they be pastors, farmers, teachers, nurses, doctors, businessmen, engineers, machinists, cobblers, musicians, stenographers or grocers. Even the sick are to serve Him by cheerful testimony and countenance. And a total stewardship of life—even in the far-spent day—must precede any stewardship programs which the organized Church may produce.

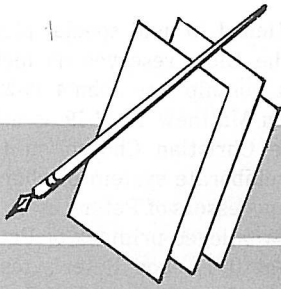
When lives are completely transformed by the thrill of having seen Jesus in the Holy Gospel, as were the lives of the Emmaus disciples, then and only then do stewardship programs of money work for the Kingdom. God requires the heart; only after He has the heart does He consider the time, the talents, and the money of the believer to be worthy for Christian service. This pre-requisite of the heart is essential.

The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations is, as its name suggests, a fellowship of free congregations. But the New Testament requires that these free congregations be living; and in order to be living, the believers within the congregation must be alive in Christ and be consecrated servants of His. Such consecrated servants will, therefore, gladly give of themselves as their stewardship. That stewardship includes witnessing for Jesus in every phase of the believer’s life. And that stewardship includes giving tithes of all that God has lavished upon each believer.

Such must be the “program of stewardship” of free and living congregations which work for Jesus in the far-spent day.

Luke 24:13-35, from which our text is taken, is the Gospel Lesson anciently appointed for Easter Monday. In the Early Church, converts were often received into the visible Church on Easter Day. These converts, hav-

[Continued on page 10]



EDITORIALS

VACATION DAYS

The calendar reveals the passage of time and the school bells have rung once more. But before the summer leaves us completely, it is good to reminisce about the things we did and the places we saw this summer.

For us, this writer and two young nephews, it meant another camping venture into western South Dakota and eastern Montana. If one does not mind leaving the crowds and the beaten paths and sometimes to drive on gravel roads, or less, there are some interesting places to see in that part of our country.

Take the Slim Buttes (S. Dak.), for instance, with their Reva Gap campground. To the north are the Cave Hills, which we had not seen for 22 years, and nearby Ludlow, where an uncle once took a brief fling at homesteading. En route to a camping spot near Ekalaka, Mont., we visited the now deserted ranch home of a brother-in-law. One tries to picture such a place when it was the home for a family and held the hopes and fears of people.

Scattered over a large area of the two states mentioned are a number of units of the Custer National Forest. Some of these areas rise above the surrounding countryside. All of them are heavily wooded, mostly with evergreens. There are some picnic areas and campgrounds and if anyone wants to get into regions less hurried, these CNF parks are there for you. We made another stop at Spearfish this year and enjoyed the Passion Play every bit as much as the year previous. The life of Christ is always new and stimulating.

Quite another thing was the rodeo at Mobridge. Cowboys live dangerously and their expertise in feats most of us will never try is thrilling. There was a strong wind that night at Indian Creek outside of town and it had an almost uninterrupted sweep against the tent. But there was no damage and we were fortunate compared to those campers more recently at Calgary who were routed by heavy winds and water.

Then, in the month of August several members of the family travelled to Sheridan County, Montana, by way of Devils Lake, N. Dak., where we attended a wedding anniversary for one of Mother's brothers. We spent an unforgettable evening in Plentywood (Mont.) with some of my late father's parishioners, as they gathered with us in the home where we were guests.

There was also a visit to Regina, Saskatchewan, on that trip, a truly bustling city. That "queen city" of the

prairies is experiencing a great boom in construction of office buildings, motels and restaurants, and stores. North of the city, at Rowan's Ravine on Long Lake (Last Mountain Lake) we saw one of the fine new camping facilities being developed by the Province.

The return trip began by way of Trans-Canada Highway, No. 1, through the area where the homesteaders first came to Saskatchewan (the regions around Indian Head, Whitewood, etc.). Now, on a summer day the Trans-Canada has a large number of hitch-hikers, the most this writer has ever seen in an afternoon of driving. Many of them bearded, often long-haired, sometimes girls among them, they seek destinations east and west.

These were not trips to compare with the one drawing to a close for our choir in Norway, but pleasant and enjoyable nonetheless. This great "prairie ocean" on which many of us live has its own fascinations and here, too, one is beset on every hand with the evidences of God's power and care.

We trust that you fared well this summer, too, and got to some new places and re-visited some of the old familiar ones also.

OUR YOUTH—A TREASURE

God has blessed our church with many fine young people. Not only are they fine, but there are **many** of them. For a small, largely rural church body we are fortunate to have such a large group of youth.

This means that workers will be provided in the church vocations—the ministry, missions, etc. It means, too, that our Bible School can expect a good enrollment continuously. At our last report 112 young people, the majority from the Association, were registered for the forthcoming term at the School. The Seminary enrollment will be around 20 men, which is also very good.

Next year's annual conference will have to make a crucial decision about the expansion of Bible School facilities. We may have thought that such a decision could be put off for several years, but now we see that it cannot. God is sending more young people to Bible School **now** than we really know what to do with. Patience will be needed by students, parents and faculty as we go through these "growing pains."

Good Bible camps (in Brazil as well as in the U.S.) and a Luther League convention have taken place this year. Many young people have been counselled with, some for the purpose of making decisions for Christ, some for reconsecration to Him, some for help in resolving a personal problem. May the Lord, through His Holy Spirit, be permitted to guide these young lives into all the truth.

At Bible camps and youth conventions it is relatively easy to live for Jesus Christ. Where scores are testifying to faith in the Savior, perhaps even lined up awaiting the opportunity, it may not be difficult to express one's trust and intention. But back at school or on the job where one may stand virtually alone it will be much different. In that loneliness it will be necessary to live much in the Word of God and prayer and to seek out the opportunities for Christian fellowship in the congregation. And it is so important to take one's stand on Christian principles from

the start so that others will know where the line is drawn. The Lord strengthen all who go forth to live for Him!

This **Ambassador** contains reports from the Family Bible Camp, the Luther League Federation Convention and the Bible Camp in Brazil. Some pictures are included. We will let these reports tell the stories of these events.

The Luther League Federation continues to be a very loosely-knit organization. For all practical purposes it has been little more than a vehicle to promote a biennial convention. Perhaps this is all the Association wishes it to be. But the adoption of Federation projects and the implementation of the Federation Council, for which the constitution provides, could do much to unite the young people of the Association into a stronger fellowship. And the work of Mr. Wayne Pederson, youth director, will work toward this end also.

We have a great treasure in our young people. Those of us who are adults need a great measure of wisdom to be right examples for them and to give loving counsel to them when they ask and sometimes when they don't. They are our co-workers now and they will have charge of the work as we one by one lay it down.

CHURCH STRUCTURE

"Scripture does not command or forbid any particular organization for fellowship of congregations. In the absence of this we believe it is most safe to operate in a democratic way."

Declaration of Faith, III:2

The Bible has surprisingly little to say about the structure of the organized church on earth. Mention is made of the local congregations, of pastors, deacons, elders and bishops, etc., but there is no clear outline of how each is to be chosen.

In the Book of Acts we find the mission churches sending representatives (Acts 15) to the mother church in Jerusalem for vindication in not practising circumcision. Under the leadership of James the congregation in Jerusalem upheld the abstinence from circumcision as a religious

rite. Certainly Jerusalem continued to hold special place in the Apostolic Church but the Bible reserves no niche for it as the center of Christian worship (see John 4:19-23).

Roman Catholics seized upon Matthew 16:16-19 as indicating that Jesus founded the Christian Church on the Apostle Peter and built up an elaborate system of church government, with the popes as successors of Peter.

Protestants have rejected the alleged primacy of Peter and have contended rather that it is upon Peter's testimony, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," that the Church is built. Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of the Church against which the gates of Hell will not prevail.

But as to the type of government in the fellowship of congregations, there has been much divergence among Protestants. Some denominations have been highly centralized, others loosely organized. In some the conference or assembly wields considerable power over the local church, in others it can do no more than suggest. At least one denomination has made much of apostolic succession in the ordination of pastors, while others have made no effort to trace this.

In the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations the local church is the basic and supreme unit of government. Whatever organization exists beyond the individual congregation must be subservient to it. We believe that the purposes of God's kingdom, as man makes the decisions he must, are best served by operating in a democratic way, with no one lording it over another. We believe that the will of God must be sought in prayer and in other ways in which it may be distinguished and that the pursuant decisions which are made, openly and honestly, may be taken to be His will until there is light in another direction.

We must not declare other types of church government as incapable of accomplishing God's purposes in the world, if they are not expressly contrary to Scripture, but for ourselves we feel that a de-centralized, democratic, congregation-oriented form of government is the most effective.

[Continued from page 8]

ing had the Sacrament of Holy Baptism administered to them, did not lay aside their white baptismal garments until the following Sunday. Like the Emmaus pilgrims, the early converts were united in heart and in mind to proclaim together their faith in the risen Lord Jesus Christ. These converts did not have their joy bound by time, although they often lived in the night of fierce persecution.

We, too, must be like the converts in the Early Church who emulated the Emmaus pilgrims. Clad in Christ's righteousness alone, our lives must be consecrated in sacrificial stewardship. If this be our reasonable service, we have the Lord's promise in Zecha-

riah 8:3: "Thus saith the Lord: I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem; and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth, and the mountain of the Lord of Hosts, the holy mountain."

Our prayer, as Christians, ought always to be that we be living for Jesus, as the hymn writer P. C. Paulsen wrote:

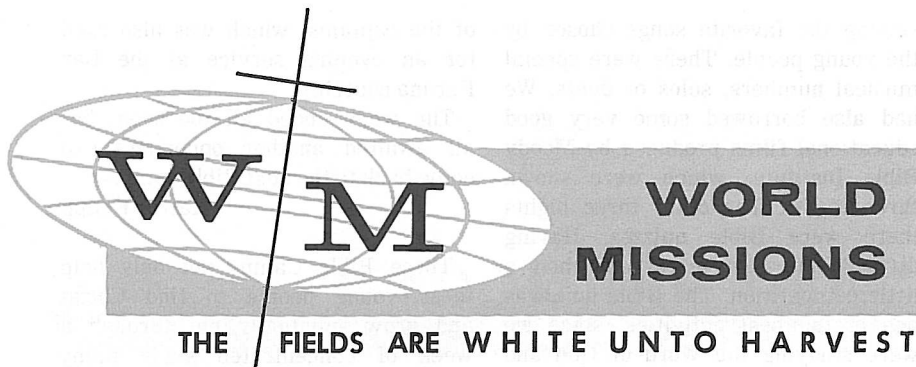
Take my heart, O Jesus, work its
stony soil,
Long I have been weary of this
fruitless toil;
Every cherished method of my own
device
And the hardest labor will no more
suffice.

Thou hast shown me mercy with a
love untold,
Grant that I may yield Thee fruit a
hundredfold;
What a day of glory, what a day of
gain,
When the reapers carry home the
golden grain!

To be found as consecrated stewards in Christ's Kingdom is our calling in the far-spent day.

A cunning man overreaches no one
half so much as himself.

—Henry Ward Beecher



THE ASSOCIATION LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP OF BRAZIL

Ecclesiastes 12:1

Youth Bible Camps are always a thrill to me because where can you find a better environment for young people to experience in this day and age than in a Bible Camp? Much of the time is spent studying God's Word, sharing verses and testimonies, singing together and fellowship.

No matter where you go in this world youth are the same and have the same desires, needs and temptations. They need to know Christ as their Savior first and then be helped and guided along.

This was our second youth Bible Camp held in Campo Mourao on the grounds of our Bible Institute and Seminary, during the week of Feb. 22-28.

The rising bell was at 6:30 a.m., followed by flag raising at 7:00. The usual nourishing Brazilian breakfasts of hot coffee and bread were served at 7:15.

The first hour in the morning was question and answer time. The pressing questions of the young people were put into the question box and we, the pastors, did our best to answer them.

The second hour of study was by Pastor C. Dyrud. The theme, "Take your share of suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus."

A coffee break, with more coffee and cookies, helped satisfy the hungry bunch till noon.

Pastor G. Knapp had a class on doctrine with studies on the angels and Satan, followed by a study on Romans.

At noon everyone was nourished

with macaroni, rice and beans, a salad and a little meat now and then topped off with water to drink.

After dinner the girls and boys were divided into two groups. Dona Nair taught the young girls on Christian living and Pastor Dyrud taught the young men about the importance of living a dedicated Christian life in their youth.

Handcraft was taught in the afternoons by Mrs. George Knapp, and of course, there was that time of recreation: soccer, volleyball and swimming.

After cleaning up a bit and a supper of soup with rice and beans, there was that precious time of fellowship: singing choruses and Bible quizzes. The evening session was enriched by three Moody science films that have been translated into Portuguese, after which Pastor Vitor Farvarani delivered powerful evangelistic messages to the campers. Hearts were touched and souls stirred toward deeper commitment and more consecrated lives for Christ.

On Saturday evening a campfire was built and after the evening service a real spiritual awakening was experienced as the campers shared their experiences during the week.

We have two testimonies telling of the experiences of the week at camp and how God blessed them as well as all who participated.

"We, the young people of the second Bible Camp of the Free Lutheran Churches of Brazil have really felt the true meaning in the verse, John 14:6: 'I am the way, the truth, and the life,' as we gathered there for the week of sharing our defeats and our victories in the Lord and to study His Word each morning.

As the week ended we young people already felt the sadness in our hearts of having to leave, but also thanked the Lord for the wonderful week we had had in the Lord's presence and with each other. But the joy overwhelmed us more than the sadness, because after departing from the camp we would all be out in this world of our Lord, testifying that He lives in us and that He could also live in each sinner who repents. With this in our minds and hearts we departed, each one to their respective homes and towns to let many know about this free salvation in Him that we have.

Now we would like to look back to that week, Feb. 22-28 of 1971, where we experienced those wonderful days of fellowship. We would like to read on a little longer and find out some of the things we did.

Each morning we studied God's Word with open minds and hearts. We had such good times studying and having our many questions answered from the Bible.

Then each afternoon we had one more hour of Bible study after which we would all get into sport clothes for some hours of sports. Three days out of the week we all piled into two cars for a five mile drive out of the city to where the future Bible camp will function. There we would all go into the small man-made lake for a swim. The other three days we stayed at the Institute and played games of volleyball and soccer.

Then after a delicious dinner each night we would be back in the class room again, to have a Bible quiz between the two teams, three nights out of the week. The other three nights we had a film.

Then each night we also had a closing message by Pastor Victor Faverani.

With that week of all those activities, we all were compelled to have more concern for the straying people of the world. Compelled to live better testimonies for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

In His Service
Young people of the II Bible camp
of the Free Lutheran Churches
of Brazil
by Calvin Knapp

[Continued on page 12]

II Young People's Bible Camp at Camp Mourao

II Timothy 2:15: "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the Word of truth."

"Presenting ourselves to God approved," was the theme for our Bible Camp and for each young person present.

By Monday afternoon all of the young people were at the Bible School for the beginning of our second Young People's Bible Camp. At 6:00, the young people sat down for their first meal. Supper!! Talking while we ate, we got to know each other better. Soon after there was more time for talking and getting acquainted. At 8:30, we had an introduction by Pastor George Knapp on the rules and what we would be doing during camp. The meeting over, all went to their rooms and to bed.

Tuesday dawned bright and sunny and at 6:30 all were up and ready for a full day of activities. After a full day's doings and having had supper, all met in the chapel for our evening service which began by

singing the favorite songs chosen by the young people. There were special musical numbers, solos or duets. We had also borrowed some very good educational films produced by Moody Bible Institute, which were shown three nights. The other three nights there were Bible quizzes. Having divided into two teams, we had a little competition. The Bible quiz was one of the best activities, since we were studying the Word of God and learning and receiving the blessings He had in store for us. After all of the excitement of the Bible quiz, Pastor Vitor, our national pastor, brought us all very good evangelistic sermons. Even though most were Christians, not all were. The messages were stirring and a blessing for the ones already saved.

Saturday night was a blessed one as we all gathered around a bonfire for a short time of testimonies. Many had very good verses which they based their salvation on. We sang songs between the testimonies, which brought us closer to the Lord.

Sunday being the last day at camp, each team took part in the afternoon meeting, presenting special music, testimonies and a message by one

of the captains, which was also used for an evening service at the Lar Parana church.

The week ended all too soon, but all awaited another opportunity to come back to the next Bible camp.

Halvor Knapp

These Bible Camps not only help these young people to find Christ and grow spiritually but through a week of concentrated study many feel the call into the full time ministry and enter our Bible School and Seminary.

Yes, God is the same in all parts of the world and so are the young people. Pray much for the young people here, as they are faced with many temptations and trials and need Jesus to satisfy their needs.

"How can a young man (person) keep his way pure? by guarding it according to thy word. With my whole heart I seek thee; let me not wander from thy commandments! I have laid up thy word in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee" (Ps. 119:9-11).

Joy in His Service,

The Connelly Dyruds



Missionary Dyrud trying to stretch the smallest camper a few more inches. He was nicknamed Junebug because he is so small.



Some of the campers studying God's Word in free time. Missionary Knapp is third from the right.



Volleyball is a much played game in Brazil, too.

EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA WMF SETS MEETING

The Women's Missionary Federation of the Eastern North Dakota

District will hold its fall rally in St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Fargo on Saturday, Oct. 9, 1971. Registration is at 9:30 a.m., with the morning session commencing at 10 o'clock and

the afternoon one at 1:30.

We invite all the ladies of the district to a day of mission emphasis and fellowship in God's Word.

Mrs. Donald Jacobson

WOMEN for Christ

GREETINGS FROM NOGALES by Mrs. L. C. Dynneson

"I had fainted unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living" (Ps. 27:13). This could well be the words of one of the members of Triumph Lutheran who was a Christian long before we began working in Nogales. I met Nachita Carrasco when we first came to Nogales at a gathering of Christians for Bible study and prayer. Her face was aglow, her heart full of love and her hands ready to help. When my four girls were born I had no relatives near, so often Nachita would come into our house and assist.

Down through the years her home has been a house of prayer. Many have stopped in to cry out their needs to her and she always had a word from the Scriptures and prayer. She also has the gift of reproving those who need it. Often they become convicted and ready to receive forgiveness from the Lord. Folks from the Mexican side are often found in her home on the U.S. side. Her heart is always ready to pour out the good news of the Gospel. Her hands are ready to feed or clothe and her feet are ready to go to their homes or loved ones.



Nachita Carrasco, right, and Mrs. Dynneson

Nachita married early in Mexico and was left deserted to raise her four small children. Sometime after this, Teo, whom she called "Uncle," presented Christ to her as he has to many. She received forgiveness, peace and joy even amidst trials and hard times. Teo was a staunch Mexican, disciplined, child of God. His family forsook him when he became a Christian. He made his home with Nachita when he wasn't on missionary trips into Mexico. Having his fellowship and prayers and training, Nachita became strong in faith. Teo died several years ago in Nachita's home and Pastor Dynneson had the funeral. He was over 90 years.

Down through the years she has prayed for her children, their mates, her grandchildren, her renters, who often were drunkards who forgot to pay their rent or caused trouble, unsaved relatives, who opposed her at times. All this has not shaken her faith. She has persevered and looked to Jesus for strength and wisdom. It has amazed me how, down through the years, she has invested money to build several houses, kept up her credit and stayed on top. I know it is because she claims Psalm 27: "The Lord is my life and my salvation, Whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life of whom shall I be afraid?"

Down through the years she has worshipped with different groups but when Triumph was organized she identified herself with us and is faithful. Her ministry of prayer is predominate in her home and before every service at Triumph, Nachita is on her knees in the prayer room interceding for the pastor and the service.

Her children love her and want her to come where they are, out of town, but she feels she has a ministry in Nogales yet. We thank God for this faithful one.

At present, eleven people on the compound take part in the triple ministry in Nogales. All attend and help with duties at our Triumph Church in Arizona, just up the hill from our compound. Many of these teach Sunday School and lead a nightly Bible study and prayer group in five different homes during the week. Our Maunday Thursday service was led by seven lay people each giving a message pertaining to the cross.

The work across the line in Mexico is progressing under the leadership of Mrs. Leonard Swanson. Three different places have opened up for services. One place has a little chapel. Evangelism-in-Depth has begun work in Mexico and our people over there are getting involved. Many visitors and those on the place take a turn and go along to observe and to help. Mr. and Mrs. Haag, who are gone for the summer, are a great help across the line with used clothes, providing cars and music.



Mrs. Leonard Swanson, left, and two World Mission Prayer League missionaries

The compound is buzzing with activity. Missionaries come and go. Gathered mail must get going to Mexico when someone goes south of the border. Since Christmas our cottage and pastor's study have been occupied most of the time. Living this close we can gather at times for good fellowship and prayer. Heggem's porch is so convenient for birthday and coffee parties.

Visitors have come from nine states and we are glad to meet them.

We, the Dynnesons, are slowly mov-

[Continued on page 14]



NEWS

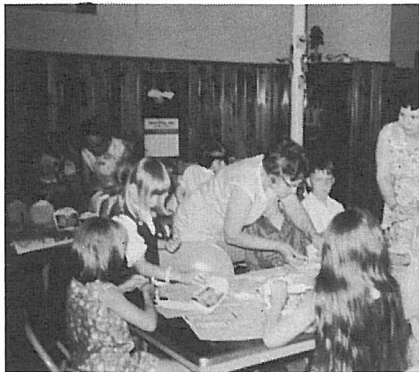
of the Churches

VBS HELD AT GREEN LAKE LUTHERAN

“Christ is the answer to all of our problems;
He holds the key to the whole world’s needs.
If we believe Him, If we receive Him,
Christ is the answer to all our needs.”



Craft time for the 3- and 4-year-olds.



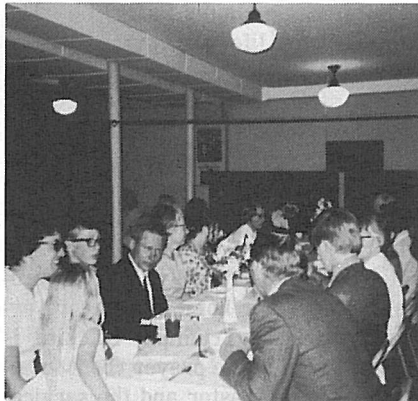
Older children making favors for a local nursing home during craft hour.

This was the theme and the theme song for the Daily Vacation Bible School held at the Green Lake Lu-

theran Church, Spicer, Minn. 55 children began each day by marching in to the theme song for opening worship time. Special music time was held during the day as well as regular lessons. The last hour every day was craft time. Sunday evening following VBS the children presented a program of their songs and lessons learned during the week. Refreshments were served following and all craft work was displayed.

GRADUATES, CONFIRMANDS HONORED

The Luther League of Green Lake Lutheran, Spicer, Minn. honored its five high school graduates and ten confirmands at their regular May meeting. The program theme was “Harmony with Christ.” Special Bible verse was Matt. 6:33: “Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Wayne Pederson youth director of the AFLC was the speaker for the evening. The honored



guests were seated with their parents, pastor, guest speaker and League counselors at a special table during refreshments.



[Continued from page 13]

ing out of our house to eventually move to our house made out of the carport and storeroom. There are still a few finishing touches but we have entertained there several times and our bedrooms have been used by others overnight. Lawrence is doing most of the work on it himself with the help of those who come around. We are very grateful to those who have helped, given and counselled to make this house possible.

We still have had two high school girls who kept us involved in school concerts and contests and practices. Pauline graduated in June and is waiting on the Lord for direction concerning the choice between college or Bible school.

Continue to pray for us and for Mexico and for our youth who have gone out from here. May they remain true and obedient.



Residents of the Compound at Nogales on the Heggem’s front porch

Family Bible Camp — 1971

by Pastor Howard M. Kjos
Hampden, N. Dak.

Bible Camp! To many of us these words bring pleasant memories of enlivening spiritual feasting and fellowship. We rejoice because of great blessings received through precious hours with our Lord, studying His Word. We reminisce over times of sweet fellowship with Bible-honoring teachers and fellow disciples (learners), when we met in Bible study and prayer sessions. Such fellowship must certainly be the sweetest this side of heaven.

A record number of members and friends of our AFLC experienced that sweet fellowship at our Ninth Annual Family Bible Camp, July 5-11. We came with the purpose expressed in the admonition of our camp theme, "Seek ye out the book of the Lord..." (Isa. 34:19).

We found it. It was boldly proclaimed throughout the week, in every lesson and sermon.

We are so thankful to God and to our Association leaders for the fact that these men are not ashamed of God's Word—any part of it or any of its teachings. They will all gladly say with the Apostle Paul, "I'm eager to bring the Good News also to you..."

I am not ashamed of the Good News (I am proud of it). It is God's power to save everyone who believes it.... It reveals God's righteousness as being by faith and for faith, as the Bible says (in Habakkuk 2:4), 'By faith you are righteous and (by faith) you will live.'" (Rom. 1:15-17). The Gospel is good news because it is the blessed power of God's love and grace toward sinners, unearned yet freely given in the gift of His only-begotten Son. It is no less than the power by which God saves every believer. That is why we are proud of the Gospel. That is why we "seek out the Book of the Lord" each year at Family Bible Camp.

We are not ashamed to call our camp week **Bible Camp**. Every session is planned and scheduled for the sole purpose of bringing the teaching and power of God's Word into the life of each camper. Will you join us next summer at our annual Word-feast?

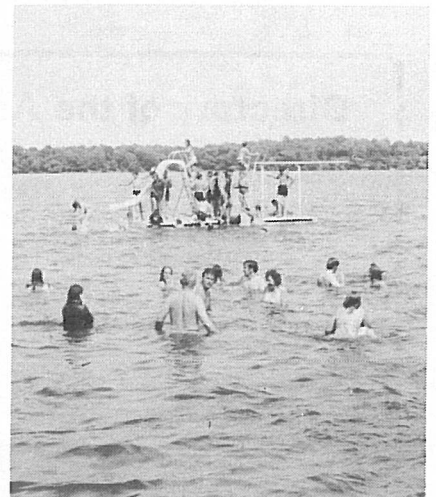
Book Divine

O book divine, O book divine,
With promises in ev'ry line
For you and me.
Inspired by God and penned by men,
That we may know God's saving
plan
Will set us free.

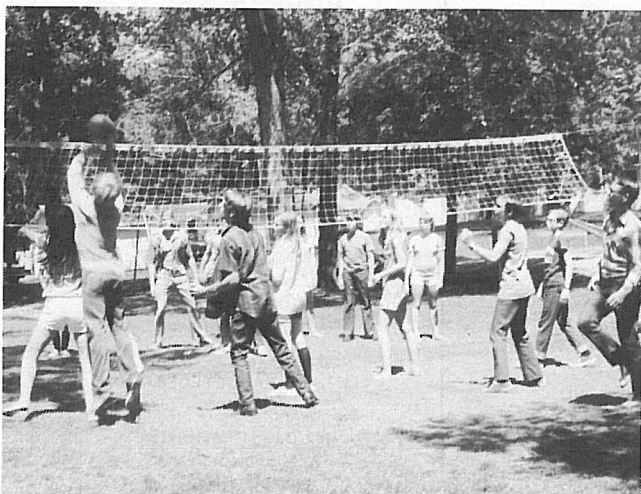
Let's search the scriptures day
and night,
In them we find it is a light
Unto our feet.
O blessed truth, with grace and
peace
Each time a heart draws near to
His
Great mercy seat.

Tom Johnson

Not only does the Word of God have great effect on us when it is proclaimed to us at Bible Camp, but camp life reveals its life-transforming effect on people who are in regular contact with it throughout the year. Each year at camp it seems that the behavior of the campers is better than previous years. When we compare this upward trend with the general moral decline in society, we realize



Cooling off on a warm summer's day.



Volleyball was a popular sport at Family Bible Camp.



A softball game on one of the fields at Lake Geneva.

how true it is that when a person has New Life in Jesus Christ he is more than a saved soul; his life becomes a converted, yes, a revolutionized life.

This year there seemed to be a warmer fellowship and a more cooperative spirit than ever. The young people, who are so full of life, channeled their energy into useful and constructive activities—recreation, K.P., stapling the camp paper, picking up litter around the camp, moving beds and mattresses where needed, serving as ushers at evening services, etc. Yes, many have hid the Word in their hearts; consequently, their lives are increasingly demonstrating its cleansing power. The fact that they were willing to sit through several consecutive hours of classes a day shows a sincere interest in God's Word. It also reveals the presence of that wonder-

ful fruit of the Spirit, self-control. Oh yes, there were some youthful violators of camp rules, but some adults "got by" with violations, too, so we will not castigate anyone here. I believe we can say that, by the grace of our merciful and loving God, our camps and conferences are getting better and better from year to year. Our Lord is always faithful. Praise His holy Name! May we remain faithful to Him. Let us always remember:

We Are Watched

We are watched from every angle
Let us prove we do not wrangle
As we daily bear our cross.
Let us show our good behavior
As we serve our Lord and Savior
Who in mercy died for us.

Tom Johnson

(To be continued)

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