

The Lutheran Ambassador



THE HOLY FAMILY
by A. S. Hardin

Religious News Service Photo

MEDITATION MOMENTS

LITTLE KLAUS

He had nothing to do with Santa Claus. He was merely a little boy about whom the romantic poet of Sweden, Esaias Tegner, wrote a poem. Little Klaus was perched on a bench before the kitchen window in his home, gazing into the starry heavens on a wintry night before the turn of the year. Such marvels only God could make, and such beauty could be found in heaven alone. His listless musings were only slightly and temporarily interrupted as he turned around.

"See, Mother, how many lights there are in heaven! Is it true, mother, that it is Christmas every evening in heaven?"

His mother assured him that it was so. Klaus continued to scan in rapt attention the breadth of heaven with its myriad stars.

"My sister is up there now, playing with the angels," he mused. "There I shall some day be, too, when we all have become angels."

So spoke Klaus, the little one. Scintillating sensations raced up and down his spine as he considered the prospect. With all of childhood's little hopes and aspirations he fully resolved to reach that starry realm some day and to play with his sister and the angels. But the poet paints a tragic picture of what happened to Klaus as the years rolled by and he became adjusted to the everyday realities of a sordid and mundane world. In dancing with the maidens of men, Klaus forgot his sister, the stars, the

angels, and Christmas every evening in heaven.

Evening is often quite different from the morning, and the realities of life in mature adulthood are frequently far removed from the dreams of childhood and the aspirations of youth. Many a son or daughter of pious parents will turn aside from the precepts that had been impressed on tender hearts in early life, and will walk in other paths than those upon which their feet had been placed in childhood. The prodigal son had strayed in heart long before he requested from his father the portion of the inheritance which would eventually fall his way. Job seemed to have done well as a father, for his ten children seemed to be doing all right, though geniality and festivity characterized their activity from one weekend to another. Their father rose early every morning and offered sacrifices for every one of them, fearing that they had sinned and said farewell to God in their hearts. Morning and evening are seldom the same, the beginning of the year was quite different from what it turned out to be before year's end.

We are just now observing another anniversary of Christ's coming to earth. Christmas is again a blessed season. It is a season of recapturing the delights of Christmases long ago, especially those of our own childhood. How different the present Christmas seems to be from those of earlier years; they were better than

now. That could possibly be because we have become older and cannot quite enter into the joys of childhood any longer. The evening is different from the morning. Could it also possibly be because we have become deeper rooted in the life and activity of the present world and have lost some of the dreams of childhood concerning a land of pure delight up there among the stars?

For some this Christmas is one of family gatherings again. The children come home, and their children with them. This is fully as delightful for aging parents and grandparents as it is for children and grandchildren. But it seems to be different now from former years. It undoubtedly is different. To the generation in the middle group—those who have both parents and children present—it seems that grandfather and grandmother are not as genial now as they were a generation ago; and the little ones far from as appreciative of little gifts as was the case of youngsters thirty years ago. The evening is not like the morning. The older generation might feel something like Job of old and have an inclination to have a secret meeting with God again in behalf of the younger set. A blessing it is to have and act upon the feeling to intercede with God.

A new year is coming. We are perhaps not going to be any more successful than either. But if it drives one to seek God, it will be a blessed year.

Iver Olson

The Lutheran Ambassador is published biweekly (except the second issue in August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Rev. Raynard Huglen is the editor. Subscription price is \$3.50 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to The Lutheran Ambassador, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn. Volume 11, Number 25

The Lutheran Ambassador

The Christian in Times of Crises

by Pastor Ronald D. Knutson
Drummond, Wis.

Text: Heb. 13:14: "For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come."

How necessary it is for us to be reminded that we are pilgrims on this earth. For if Jesus is our Lord and Savior, our citizenship is in Heaven, (Phil. 3:20). We are pilgrims, as the spiritual leaders of old once said of themselves, that they were pilgrims and strangers seeking a better land, (Heb. 11:13-16). As we live this life, we are passing through, headed for our home in heaven. Living for Christ, we're to be lights in this world, that others may come to know Jesus and have peace in their souls. But as we journey through there are many things that happen that will either cause us to grow or to backslide.

John Bunyan, author of *Pilgrim's Progress*, writes about a man called Christian traveling through life and encountering many difficulties, many of which Christians today will face in life, the trials and temptations which could and often do lead believers into anxiety, despair and doubt.

This past year may have brought a variety of blessings, disappointments and heartaches to different

people. As we touch on those things it might seem depressing, but remember, for the believer these can be expected in a world of sin.

The World Situation: The long war in Vietnam coming to a halt and a shaky truce with fighting still going on. The war in the Mid-East between Israel and the Arabs, now being settled, but uncertainly. The energy crisis which the free world is experiencing because of a shortage of the oil which is so vital to our way of life. Famine in Africa, India and other parts of the world.

On the National and Local Level: The shortage of oil is causing Americans to trim their use of it. Perhaps this may cause us to be more appreciative of our resources and to be more conservative in their use. The cost of living skyrocketing. The continuing moral decay in our land. When Billy Graham spoke in St. Paul, (Minn.) last summer, he compared the conditions of Rome shortly before it fell to the conditions existing in America now. Higher taxes, more armament to protect the land, divorce rampant, the moral situation terrible. Do we see the resemblance? The long, drawn out affair of Watergate has brought much frustration. Whatever

political party one may belong to, a person might ask, what is going on or what can you believe?

In our personal lives there may have been events which may have caused sorrow and testing.

These are just some of the forces of this past year, facts that have been presented in a negative way. For the unbeliever, one who is living for this life only, it must look hopeless. For the believer it may look just as hopeless but we know that in time the things of this world will all pass away and that all believers are headed for a new life in Heaven. There have been times in history when people believed that things could not get worse, that the signs of the end-times had come (Matt. 24:3-13). But never before have the signs been as prominent as now.

The large response to the Billy Graham Crusades, the work and response to different Christian organizations, and the moving of the Holy Spirit across our land, resulting in the conversions of individuals, indicate that things are happening on the positive side also.

But the question is this: Are the distressing things in the world and our nation always to be considered in the negative sense? We would like to see peace, harmony and prosperity

in the world, but is it possible in a world of sin? Do we forget that God is in control, that He allows things to happen and that He can stop anything at anytime? God wants us to mature as Christians, to be an influence in the world for Christ. If there were no turmoil, would we become complacent and satisfied, something like the Church after Christianity became the official religion of Rome? Distressing situations can cause a non-believer to come to his end and to seek Christ. They can cause a believer to be stirred up and drawn nearer to our Lord. Satan would like nothing better than to see Christians so depressed by situations around them that they lose their witness and effectiveness on those around them.

What Should Be Our Response?

It is difficult to see anything in a positive way that causes death, misery and confusion. But how have we responded this past year? Have we become defeated and critical or have we been stirred up to an offensive position (moving forward), rather than a defensive one? We are pilgrims on our way to the promised land (1 Pet. 1:3-5), to "an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven" for us. What a blessed hope! Our peace, joy, etc., are not to be determined by what the circumstances around us may be. They are to be found in the Lord Jesus Christ. This doesn't mean that we're to be indifferent, to those around us, or to the conditions in the world. As Christians, we are on the victorious side and we have a responsibility here. We are to be concerned but not to the point of anxiety. We have the opportunity to mature in realizing God's provision for His followers, even in fuel shortages (Matt. 6:25-34). To realize what Paul did, "in all situations to be content" (Phil. 4:11-12), and to know that God does indeed provide for His own. "My God shall supply all your needs, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:19). Not everything that we want, but everything that we need. That we can face all things because of Christ (Phil. 4:13).

We have the privilege of growing in our prayer life. There are many

things in this world that we can't change, but God can. Through prayer much can be done. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (Jas. 5:16-18). The thing that has been heavy on my mind as the result of the moral decay in our land, the Watergate situation, etc., is how careless we have been in our prayer support for our spiritual and government leaders, for local officials up to the Presidency, for Billy Graham and other evangelists, pastors, denominational leaders and lay personnel. So much hinges on our relationship to our Lord and our prayer life. Are we so caught up in ourselves and the things of this world that we have come to the point of learning the hard way (as the Israelites did) that we must get down on our knees, and seek the Lord's face at all times, and to be much in prayer? In II Chron. 7:14, we're told, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." In I Tim. 2:1-3, we're again told to pray much for others, those in authority and places of high responsibility.

In our current political situation there is room for constructive criticism, but we must be careful. God has ordained powers to be and allowed men to take office (Rom. 13:1-3). In Ex. 22:28, it speaks of not cursing the rulers of the land. When David had the opportunity to personally remove Saul from the throne, he wouldn't do it because he would not harm God's anointed. Those who occupy offices of authority are not perfect and are subject to the powerful forces of evil. Therefore, let us pray much.

As we leave this year behind and we as individuals or groups recall the problems in the world and the blessings or trials in our own lives, let us remember "that all things work together for good to them that love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

The Lord's return may be near. We do not know for certain what the future holds, but as we enter the new year, we can go forth confidently because we know who holds the future.

Second Quarter Student Officers At Association Free Lutheran Bible School

President—Joel Erickson, Fernalde, Wash.

Vice-President—Linda Erickson, Salol, Minn.

Secretary—Becky Haugen, Strandquist, Minn.

Treasurer—Leland Melby, Greenbush, Minn.

Chaplain—Kermit Berge, Binford, N. Dak.

Elected to the Rally Committee to replace Calvin A. Knapp, who is not in school this quarter, was Wesley Kvanvig, Aitkin, Minn., a Junior.

Student Proctors

Men—Harold Nelson, Brooten, Minn.; David Youngberg, Fergus Falls, Minn., and Carl Selvig, Rolette, N. Dak.

Women—1st Floor: Anne Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Wanita Nash, Abercrombie, N. Dak. 2nd Floor: Kathi Jones, Wyndmere, N. Dak.; Becky Haugen, Strandquist, Minn.; Verna Whitaker, Minneapolis, Minn.; and Margie Sorteberg, Roseau, Minn.

In the First Quarter, Joel Erickson filled out an unexpired term as Proctor.

1973 ANNUAL REPORTS NOW ON SALE

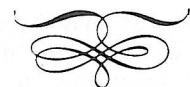
The Annual Report of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations for 1973 is now available. This book, filled with information about the work of our congregations together, including a list of the contributions for 1972-73, may be had for the charge of \$2.00 a copy. If you cannot secure one through your local church, please order now from:

Annual Report

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.

Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

Please make your checks payable to Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.



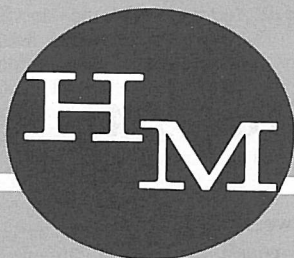
The Lutheran Ambassador Schedule For 1974

(Please save for reference)

1. The first date given is the date on which the **Ambassador** is printed every two weeks.
2. The second date is the deadline on which material for that issue must reach the **Editor** at 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Please send all correspondence concerning content of the paper to him at that address.
3. Material which arrives late will not be included in the next issue unless it is of an emergency nature.
4. Unsolicited material is welcome, but it will be used at the discretion of the Editor and as space permits.
5. All material should be in double-spaced typing. Handwritten material will often be delayed.
6. The second issue in August is omitted.
7. In sending notices of meetings, keep in mind that subscribers receive their papers up to a week or more following the date of publication.
8. Regular writers for the **Ambassador**, as well as other possible contributors, are asked to note the special issues so that they may write concerning those topics if they desire.

Publication Date	Editor's Deadline	Special	WMF Bible Study
January 1	December 15	New Year	
January 15	December 29		Yes
January 29	January 12		
February 12	January 26	Lent and Patriotic	Yes
February 26	February 9	Lent	
March 12	February 23	Lent	Yes
March 26	March 9	Easter	
April 9	March 23		Yes
April 23	April 6	Mother's Day	
May 7	April 20		
May 21	May 4	Pentecost, Memorial Day and Pre-Conference	Yes
June 4	May 18	Pre-Conference	
June 18	June 1	Patriotic	Yes
July 2	June 15		
July 16	June 29	Conference Reports	Yes
July 30	July 13	Conference Reports	
August 13	July 27		Yes
September 10	August 24		Yes
September 24	September 7		
October 8	September 21		
October 22	October 5	Reformation	Yes
November 5	October 19		
November 19	November 2	Thanksgiving	
December 3	November 16	Advent	
December 17	November 30	Christmas	Yes
December 31	December 14	Year's End	
January 14, 1975	December 28	New Year	

PLEASE SAVE FOR REFERENCE!



HOME MISSIONS

A CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM A HOME MISSION PASTOR by Rev. Robert Rieth Kirkland, Wash.

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus! It is my privilege to write to you in behalf of Home Missions in the AFLC. There is great joy in reaching out into new areas and communities proclaiming the joy of knowing Christ. There is no other joy compared to that of seeing individuals accept Christ as their own personal Savior and then to watch as Christ transforms their lives and homes. He creates new standards, goals and desires and builds new attitudes, interests and habits. More than once have we heard the words, "We have gone to church all our lives but before coming here we never had heard that we needed to accept Christ into our hearts. We thank God for leading us to this congregation." It is a thrill to see the teenagers come to life in Christ. They have new relationships to other teens and a real desire to work with their parents.

In an urban area such as ours here in Kirkland, where most men commute miles to their jobs, where our housewives are miles apart and where the children and teens attend a dozen different schools, it is difficult to really get to know one another. When people come to church they don't know one another nor do they have much in common other than their quest to worship the Lord. The church needs, therefore, to create the atmosphere that we take for granted in small communities. So we have many family services and many meetings for different age groups. We have fellowship nights and pot luck dinners often.

During this Christmas season,

many different activities are planned so that everyone involved may really know that we celebrate Christmas because Jesus came to live and to die to save us from our sin. The adult choir has been working diligently on the Christmas cantata, "Joy to the World," by John Peterson. It will be put on in both Calvary Lutheran in Everett and Elim Lutheran in Lake Stevens, as well as in our own congregation.

For the children we will have a "Birthday Party For Jesus." The Christmas story is read and Christmas carols are sung. Each child brings a present to the Christ Child

which is something for a needy child and the gifts are given to a home for mentally retarded children. There is a visit from the wisemen, who also take their gifts to the Christ Child and then give candy to the children.

The Sunday School prepares and presents the traditional Christmas program, too. At 4:00 on Christmas Eve, we have a Candle-Lighting Service in which we sing carols, have special music, read the Christmas story and light our candles, centering our thoughts on Jesus as the Light of the world and the Light of our lives.

On Christmas Day we rejoice together in our worship service. Won't you join us in our celebration of Christmas by inviting Jesus into your heart and into your home? To use an expression coined by an English friend of mine, "It rejoices my heart" to know the Savior and to have a part in His work in this needful day in which we live.

May the Joy of Jesus be yours this Christmas!

(Ed. Note: We regret that this greeting from Pastor Rieth arrived too late to be included in our Christmas issue.)

ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS

February 1 to November 30, 1973

	Proposed Total Budget	Current Budget	Received To Date	% of Current	% of Total
General Fund	\$ 48,316.00	\$ 40,263.30	\$ 31,917.32	79.3	66.0
Schools	81,886.00	68,238.30	41,825.13	61.2	51.0
Home Missions	44,000.00	36,666.70	31,751.59	86.6	72.0
Foreign Missions	44,000.00	36,666.70	35,182.02	96.0	80.0
Praise Fund	18,000.00	15,000.00	7,398.28	49.3	41
TOTAL	\$236,202.00	\$196,835.00	\$148,074.34	75.2	62.7

Budget 1972-73 \$251,563.00 \$161,899.88*

*includes debt retirement offering

Legacies: \$363.13

Dorm Fund:

Unpaid Pledges \$ 28,300.35

Cash Received 117,924.55

\$146,224.90

editorials

THANK YOU, DR. OLSON

All of us have, we believe, appreciated the devotional writings of Dr. Olson these past six months. He has a gift for stating things logically and simply. Furthermore, he has the knack of looking beyond the first appearances of a text or idea and seeing, in some cases, deeper meanings, or facets so simple that they may be overlooked, but which enrich our understanding when we really notice them.

Again, we say as we have said of other writers, if you wish to express your personal appreciation for blessings received, do that as you have opportunity.

In introducing Dr. Olson last June, we said that he has an extensive writing project in mind as he phases out of his teaching career. It is to write a textbook on Lutheran doctrine for use at the Bible School level. There is a great need for such a book. We also said that we have one to suggest to him, a book which would trace the streams of pietistic and evangelical Lutheranism which have melded into what is the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. Of all of us, he is the best equipped to do that.

Our first writer in 1974 will be Pastor Edwin Kjos

of Faith, South Dakota. He serves Bethel congregation there and Emmanuel in Eagle Butte, the Indian agency headquarters. His is a far-flung parish requiring much driving. It is in the South Dakota which Rev. A. L. Hokanson, a former pastor at Faith-Eagle Butte, called, in a poem, "The Land of God."

We are certain that Pastor Kjos' devotional meditations in **The Lutheran Ambassador**, beginning next time, will be well received, too. He writes out of a deep pastoral concern for the salvation of souls and the building up of Christian life. We welcome him as our new writer.

I, ME AND MINE

The present fuel crisis once again raises the specter of a very unlovely creature, but one which we have likely all played at one time or another, the hoarder. Those of us who lived through World War II find it interesting to see how history repeats itself and how some of the same situations and types of conduct reappear now.

The philosophy of the hoarder is this. There isn't enough of a certain product to go around. Some will have to do without or do with less. I want to make sure that this doesn't happen to me and those closest to me, at least, that it happens to a lesser degree. Therefore, I will lay by what I can even though others suffer inconvenience because of it.

It isn't a pretty philosophy. It isn't a Christian one. But it is one that is strongly appealing to the flesh. If gas rationing should come, and the rationing of other fuels, other temptations will surface—black marketing, cheating, chiseling, even overt stealing. All sorts of problems which will reveal in a clear way what is really in the heart.

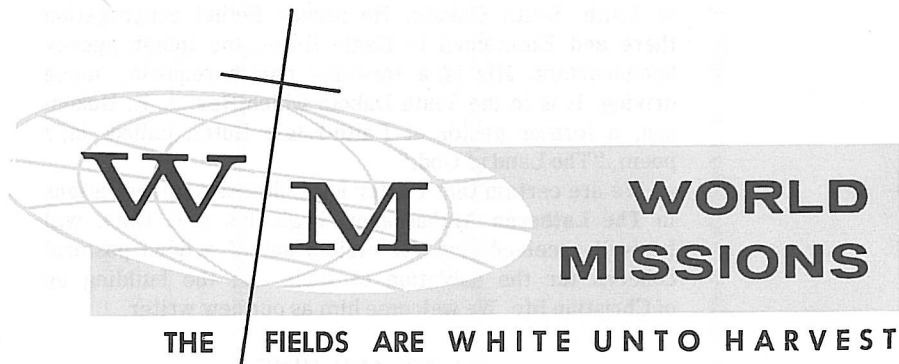
As Americans, we are in the crisis together. The spirit of selfishness will compound our problems, not help to solve a single one. "Dog-eat-dog" and "the survival of the fittest" approaches will destroy us. Christians can show a better way by acting with integrity at all times, by being willing to share, by thinking of others first and trusting in the provision of God for their needs.

SAYING GOOD-BYE TO A YEAR

There is a strong sense of nostalgia in bidding farewell to a year. There is also a certain degree of regret. Nostalgia about the pleasant experiences. Regret in reference to the failures and shortcomings. It is good that in respect to the latter we can, providing we have faced up to them, "leave them all with Him who blots the record and graciously forgives and then forgets."

In the fellowship of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, the year 1973 brought many blessings. There was a forward movement, a strengthening of the work. A good spirit of unity prevailed. Not all goals have been reached, but there is a strong united effort being made toward them.

Perhaps next time we can take a closer look at our hopes and needs. But for today we acknowledge God's goodness in this past year. Once again He has sustained and blessed and provided. "Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness; and Thy paths drop fatness" (Psalm 65:11).



AN EVERLASTING LOVE
Missionary John H. Abel

"I have loved thee with an everlasting love. . . ." (Jer. 31:3).

Christmas varies in many parts of the world. As to weather, in parts of our planet the weather is warm and dry, in other places hot and humid, and in the Europe and America of our heritage, it is usually snowy and cold. It varies also in dress and customs around the earth, even though the Christians are remembering the same Savior. Perhaps it varies greatly in depth of feeling also. How precious will Christmas be this year to those suffering and imprisoned Christians in Portuguese Angola, Africa, or those starving millions in Central Africa and Asia, as they look for some little unique way to remember Christ as a Child, and raise hearts of hope for His soon return.

Yes, Christmas varies with culture, social level, circumstance and simply with people, but, Friend, for a true Christian from any tongue or tribe or people there is one common bond, it is the Bible. This common bond between us has been translated into over 1,000 languages and dialects and the Holy Spirit has used it in every Christian's heart to make Christmas precious. The verse above tells us what everyone of us should remember at Christmas, regardless of our suffering or our circumstances. Remember, God has "loved thee with an everlasting love."

Here in Brazil, your eight budding churches will again have their Christmas programs. They will be simple and inexpensive, probably held in an overcrowded little wooden church with faces peering in from all the win-

dows as children recite and youth sing. A Christmas drama by the Sunday School and a few poems by older youth and a short message by the pastor or a deacon is the usual program. Christmas cards sent from the U.S., with a Scripture verse, are handed out and sometimes the Sunday School has provided sacks of candy, cookies and peanuts. It is the only Christmas celebration that many of our people will have, as the poor cannot afford a feast, which is common here on Christmas, and many will even come to church without shoes. On the other hand, in all of our churches this year a few cars will be seen in front of the church as prosperity and production gradually take over in these rich frontier lands.

Christmas for every "believing family" should be and usually is a season of joy and gratitude for the Gift of the Savior, Jesus. With this joy and gratitude toward God who has loved us with an everlasting love, comes also a bond of brotherliness between peoples and nations. Our churches here will be remembering you brethren in America. We will be speaking of you and praying for you in our churches. As president of our Brazilian Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, let me extend, in the name of our Brazilian brethren and pastors, a handclasp of "thanks" to all you brethren of our Association back home, who have helped during the past nine years to bring the saving message of Christmas to Brazil.

Also, on the part of Mrs. Abel and our entire family, the Knapp family and the Dyruds on furlough, may we wish all of you a very blessed Christmas. Our prayer is that He will watch between us while we are absent one

from another and impress on each of us the wonderful gift of Christmas. In these closing days of grace may we all be busy heralding its message.

(Ed. Note: We regret that this greeting from Pastor Abel arrived too late for inclusion in our Christmas issue.)

SOME COPY CROWDED OUT

We are sorry that some of the copy which ordinarily would have been included in this issue of the *Ambassador* has been crowded out because of the publication of the 1973 Index. We will use this copy as soon as we can in subsequent issues.

Thank you for your patience.

OUR TIMES ARE IN THY HAND

Our times are in Thy hand,
 O God, we wish them there;
 Our life, our friends, our souls we leave
 Entirely to Thy care.

Our times are in Thy hand,
 Whatever they may be,
 Pleasing or painful, dark or bright,
 As best may seem to Thee.

Our times are in Thy hand;
 Why should we doubt or fear?
 A Father's hand will never cause
 His child a needless tear.

Our times are in Thy hand,
 Jesus, the Crucified;
 The hand our many sins have pierced
 Is now our guard and guide.

Our times are in Thy hand:
 We'll always trust in Thee,
 Till we have left the weary land
 And all Thy glory see.

William Freeman Lloyd
 (from *The Hymnal*)

**PASTORS' DIRECTORIES
 AVAILABLE**

The 1974 Pastors' Directories for the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations are available now at the cost of \$1.00 each. Please order from the church offices in Minneapolis if you desire one.

JOY

The year 1973 has ended. As we look back upon the year can we say that we have found true joy in it? Where have our priorities been? To have this true joy our priorities must be in this order J-JESUS first, O-OTHERS second, Y-YOURSELF last. How easy it is to turn this around. The Psalmist reminds us, "In thy presence is fulness of joy." It is only when God is included in every situation that we will find this fullness of joy. Let us continue to look up to Jesus as we are reminded by the hymn-writer.

I look not back; God knows the fruitless efforts,
The wasted hours, the sinning, the regrets.
I leave them all with Him who blots the record,
And graciously forgives, and then forgets.

I look not forward; God sees all the future,
The road that, short or long, will lead me home,
And He will face with me its every trial,
And bear for me the burdens that may come.

I look not round me; then would fears assail me,
So wild the tumult of earth's restless seas,
So dark the world, so filled with woe and evil,
So vain the hope of comfort and of ease.

I look not inward; that would make me wretched;
For I have naught on which to stay my trust.
Nothing I see save failures and shortcomings,
And weak endeavors, crumbling into dust.

But I look up—into the face of Jesus,
For there my heart can rest, my fears are stilled;
And there is joy, and love, and light for darkness,
And perfect peace, and every hope fulfilled.

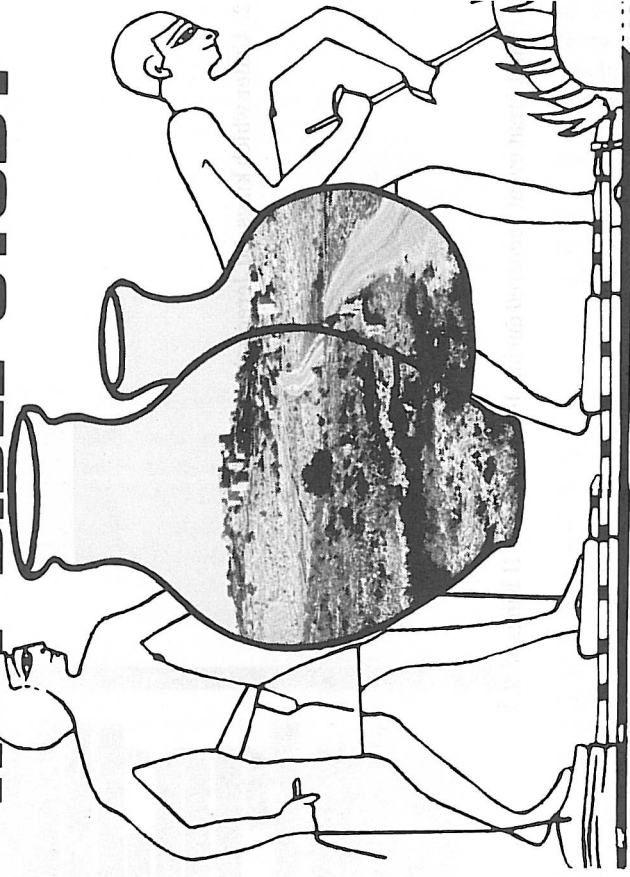
WMF REMINDERS

May I take this opportunity to remind our ladies that January is the closing month of our WMF year. Our project for January is Church Extension. Let us put our JOY into practice here. As we give to Church Extension it is our prayer that the kingdom of JESUS CHRIST will be extended and that OTHERS will be helped. May our vision grow as we see the needs of other.

February means Winter Bible Conference at Valley City, North Dakota. Please keep in mind our WMF Winter Workshop, February 22, at Valley City.

Mrs. Robert Dietsche

WMF BIBLE STUDY



Studies in Jeremiah—Lesson I

January, 1974

JEREMIAH'S CALL

"The sixth-century B. C. book of Jeremiah is important for the twentieth century world because the similarities between Jeremiah's day and today could hardly be stronger; today is a time of deep sin, as then; apostasy and hypocrisy abound today, as then; the balance of power among nations totters precariously and alliances change with apparent recklessness from decade to decade; God's heralds are in a lonely minority; and the rumblings of doomsday, like an approaching avalanche, get louder by the minute. Very evident in the message of Jeremiah is the fact that the destinies of peoples and nations are not fulfilled outside the hand of God."

JEREMIAH by Jensen

1. List several facts about Jeremiah from:

- 1:1 _____
- 1:6 _____
- 1:5 _____
- 16:2 _____

2. Under which kings did Jeremiah prophesy? 1:2, 3

3. What great event occurred during Josiah's reign? II Kings 23:2, 3

4. When had God chosen Jeremiah to be a prophet? 1:5 Notice the verbs in the call: I _____ you, I _____ you, I _____ you, I _____ you.

5. What excuses did Jeremiah offer and what did God do about each?

- 1:6 _____
- 1:9 _____
- 1:6 _____
- 1:8 _____

6. Jeremiah's job was two-fold: 1:10 _____
and _____

7. What two signs did God give him? 1:11 _____
1:13 _____

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