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Vol. 5

July 25, 1967

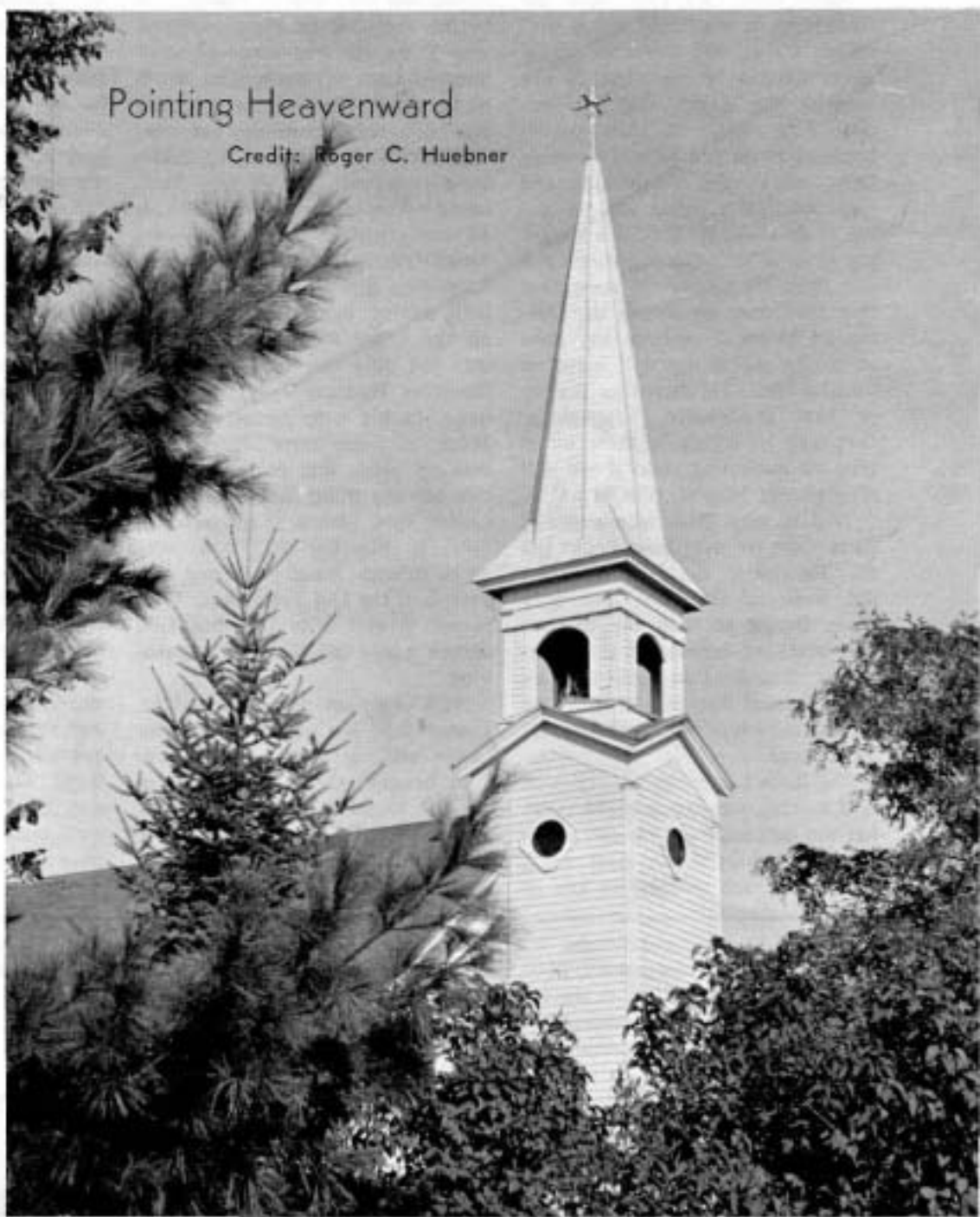
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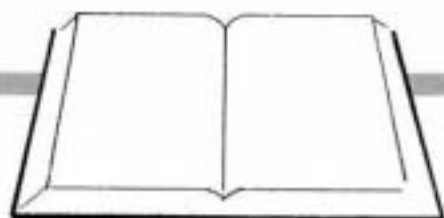
LUTHERAN

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Pointing Heavenward

Credit: Roger C. Huebner





According to the Word

WORKING TOGETHER FOR GOOD

Read John 3:16

Many times we may hear the statement, or we might say it ourselves, "This will never or could never happen to me," but to our surprise the unexpected did happen. And when the unexpected happens to us and affects us mentally, physically, financially and even spiritually, what are we going to do about it? How are we going to cope with the situation? For one thing let us always remember that God may be trying us, testing us, to see if there is any good in us; to see if we will leave or forsake Him. Through this testing or our unexpected happenings, God may be trying to show us or give us something good if we will only permit Him to rule in us.

This is why Paul who suffered more than we ever have could tell us, "Rejoice in the Lord always"; not some of the time, not only when things go well for us, but also when we experience the unexpected, troubles that come that we never looked for in our life, we are to "rejoice in the Lord always," all the time.

The Bible has many examples of God turning the bad into the good, but the best example we can see is the crucifixion of our dear Lord. Never had man stooped so low as

in his treatment of Christ; to spit in His face, to slap Him, to crown Him with thorns, to mock Him as a king, to drive nails through His hands and feet and to fasten Him to the cross. Even Pontius Pilate, who knew He was innocent, condemned Him to death. The death on the cross. The death on the cross was not only painful, but also shameful. Only slaves or foreigners were crucified. That is why Paul, being a Roman citizen, was beheaded, not crucified. And still worse, Jesus' friends treated Him shamefully. One disciple sold Him for a little money. Peter denied Him and all the other disciples fled. John was the only one to stand under the cross. He took Mary, that same hour, to his own house, so that Jesus, in those three dark hours, was all alone and forsaken. Now this terrible thing that man did to Christ, God turned it all into the greatest blessing that was ever given to man. Jesus could say, like Joseph of the Old Testament, "You meant it evil with me, but God turned it into the salvation of mankind."

As a Christian, as a child of God, I pray that we get down on our knees and, in spirit, look up to Him hanging there on the Cross. He was forsaken by God and man. He carried the sins of the whole world. What are our problems compared with His? Jesus once said, "I

am the vine, you are the branches," and Jesus also made it very plain, "without me you can do nothing." Doesn't it seem as though most of our troubles in this world arise because we want to do things without Christ? "I will do this, I will do that, I will show them, I did this for the church, I did this for the community, I did this for the organization, I cleaned up the mess my predecessor left." Yes, it is the "I" and Jesus is forgotten and left out of the picture from beginning to end.

Oh, if we only had that faith "that will not shrink tho' pressed by every foe, that will not tremble on the brink of any earthly woe."

If we would only believe and experience that all things, good or bad, God can make them work together for good to those who love God. When we are weak and helpless, and we think man is overpowering us, that is just the time that God shows His great power.

We certainly have a great God, and with faith in Him we can undertake great things for Him, even when we encounter the unexpected and life may seem empty and hopeless. God is still our Father and we can also expect great things from Him. "Lord, give us such a faith, and then, whatever may come, we'll taste, e'en here, the hallowed bliss of an eternal home."

G. H. Spletstoesser

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.

Kalispell in '67

On Monday afternoon, the fifteenth day of August, at two o'clock, the headquarters building at Medicine Lake will be the scene of the first passengers boarding the buses provided by the North Hennepin Transit Company to leave for the Luther League Federation Convention in Kalispell, Montana. These leaguers will journey the first day to sister congregations in Fosston, Winger, and Grand Forks, parishes where they will stay in the homes of the parishioners. Tuesday the experienced travellers will be joined by the area's leaguers across the state of North Dakota to the Upper Missouri Bible Camp at Epping, North Dakota, where they will stay overnight. Bright and early Wednesday morning the leaguers will leave for the convention site located some twenty miles on the west side of Glacier National Park. Upon arrival at Kalispell the leaguers will unload their suitcases and bedding to make themselves comfortable upon the army cots provided by the National Guard. This "roughing it" will save each leaguer about \$3.50 per night for lodging. When the sun makes its appearance through the mountain peaks the next morning, the Convention will officially begin. The schedule of events is as follows for the next four days.

* * * * *

Convention Theme:

"The Lord Is My Light" (Ps. 27)

Thursday—August 17

8:00 Breakfast
9:30 Registration
10:30 Bible Hour—Dr. Iver Olson
12:00 Dinner

2:00 Mixer
4:00 Bible Hour
5:30 Supper
7:30 Evening Service
Evangelist Arthur J. Johnson
10:30 Dorm Devotions
11:00 Lights Out

Friday—August 18

7:00 Rising Time
7:30 Quiet Time
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Sight-seeing tour and devotional service—Rev. Jay Erickson
5:30 Supper
7:30 Evening Service
Ev. Johnson
10:30 Dorm Devotions
11:00 Lights Out

Saturday—August 19

7:00 Rising Time
7:30 Quiet Time
8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Bible Hour
Rev. R. Snipstead
10:45 Practical Hour
All the pastors
12:00 Dinner
1:30 Business Meeting
5:00 Devotional Life Banquet
7:30 Evening Service
Ev. Johnson
10:30 Dorm Devotions
11:00 Lights Out

Sunday—August 20

7:00 Rising Time

7:30 Quiet Time
8:00 Breakfast
9:15 Communion Service
Pastor Karl Stendal, Leader
Pastor Ray Persson, Speaker
10:45 Worship Service
Pastor John Strand
12:00 Dinner
2:00 Bible Hour
Pastor Herbert Franz
3:30 Business Meeting
5:30 Supper
7:30 Closing Service and
Installation of New Officers
10:30 Dorm Devotions
11:00 Lights Out

The leaguers will leave on Monday morning for the Bible Camp at Epping, N. Dak. By Tuesday evening they will be back in Northern Minnesota and by Wednesday afternoon buses will arrive in Minneapolis for a much needed rest.

If you would like to be one of these attending this convention, send the pre-registration card and at least \$10 (you can pay for the entire cost) to the Convention registrar in Minneapolis. For those travelling by bus the cost is \$59 which includes the bus fare, registration fee, sight-seeing tour, board during the convention, lodging, and insurance. For those who provide their own transportation the cost is \$25. We request that all who are planning to attend send in their pre-registrations by August 4, but preferably sooner. We can still use some adult counsellors (at least 21 years of age) to accompany the leaguers on the buses. If you are available, write to the Luther League president at Winger, Minnesota.

FIFTH ANNUAL FAMILY BIBLE CAMP

AUGUST 7-13

ACTIVITIES FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY



LAKE GENEVA BIBLE CAMP

Alexandria, Minnesota

SPIRITUAL GROWTH
MUSIC
BIBLE STUDY
PRAYER
RECREATION
INSPIRATIONAL PREACHING
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
BOOK STORE

Speakers:
Herbert Franz
Iver Olson
Richard Snipstead
Jay Erickson
Arthur Olson



PRE-CAMP REGISTRATION

Mr. Mrs. Miss _____ Age _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____
 If family, give children's names
 _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____
 _____ Age _____

John Arlen Johnson, Registrar
 Sacred Heart, Minnesota 56285

Make checks payable to Association Family Camp
 Registration fee per family \$ 2.00
 Registration fee per person 1.00
 Cost per week:
 Adult 18.00
 Teen-ager 13.00
 Child (2-12 years) 7.00
 (Under 2 years no charge)
 Special family rate 70.00

Constitution and By-laws of the Luther League Federation

This document is presented here in order that the youth of the church may be prepared for intelligent discussion at the Luther League convention. They will be asked there to accept the proposed changes here indicated.

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Luther League Federation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.*

ARTICLE II MOTTO

The motto of this Federation shall be: "The Young People for Christ and His Church."

ARTICLE III OBJECTIVES

1. To promote and foster a true Christian spirit and fellowship among the young people so that those who are Christ's may grow in His grace and knowledge.
2. To win the straying and unchurched* for Christ and His Church.
3. To help the young people find their places of service in the kingdom of God.
4. In a general way: To work for the extension of God's kingdom and to support such activities as may from time to time be designated by the Federation.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

This Federation shall be comprised of* all Luther Leagues (or Young People's societies) of all congregations and institutions of the AFLC.*

ARTICLE V REPRESENTATION

The right to vote at the general conventions shall be held by all voting members of the Luther Leagues and by pastors serving AFLC* congregations (or institutions) which sponsor Luther League activity.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

The Federation shall have the following officers: president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, devotional life secretary, and treasurer.

These shall constitute the Executive Committee. No one in the salaried employ of the Federation shall be elected to membership on the Executive Committee. The officers and the Pastoral Advisors of the Luther League Federation districts together with the Executive Committee and the youth directors shall constitute the Federation Council.

ARTICLE VII MEETINGS

1. The Federation shall hold a biennial convention and shall conduct a business session in conjunction with it. The time, place and program of this convention shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
2. The Federation Council shall hold an annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII ANNUAL REPORT

The Federation shall report to the Annual Conference of the AFLC* through its president.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS

The constitution may be amended at any regular business session of the Federation provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous biennial business session, and provided also that the amendment receives a two-thirds affirmative vote.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I DUTIES AND OFFICERS

1. The President shall preside at all the business sessions of the Federation, Executive Committee and Federation Council. He shall represent the Federation as its official delegate whenever called upon to do so. He shall also report to the annual conference of the AFLC.*
2. (a) The First Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that officer, and the Second Vice-President shall then become acting First Vice-President.
(b) The Vice-Presidents shall render the President every possible assistance and assume such duties of the President as he may see fit to delegate to them.

3. The Secretary shall keep record of the transactions of the Federation, Executive Committee and the Federation Council.
4. The Treasurer shall keep an account of the treasury of the Federation, shall receive contributions and shall pay bills when they are endorsed by the President of the Federation. The Treasurer shall present an audited report to the annual meeting of the Federation Council and a current report to the biennial convention. An audit shall be required before a new treasurer takes office.*
5. The Devotional Life Secretary shall promote aspects of personal and group devotions. This shall include the Pocket Testament Movement.

ARTICLE II ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The committee on nominations shall nominate at least two candidates, which may or may not include the present incumbents, for each office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.
2. The officers of the Federation shall be elected by ballot, with simple majority, at the biennial convention of the Federation.
3. All officers shall be elected for a term of two years.* No officer shall be elected to the same office for two consecutive terms.
4. As far as possible, the offices shall be distributed among the various districts of the Federation.

ARTICLE III YOUTH DIRECTOR

1. Duties
 - (a) The Youth Director shall promote the growth and development of the Luther League Federation in accordance with its objectives.
 - (b) He shall seek to stimulate Luther League work in the various districts and congregations of the AFLC.*
 - (c) He shall exercise general oversight of the entire work of the Luther League Federation in all its departments and activities.
 - (d) He shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Federation Council where he serves in an advisory capacity.
2. Election

The Youth Board of the AFLC* shall carry out these responsibilities through a Youth Director elected by the Board and approved by the Annual Conference. This Youth Director, though responsible to the Board, shall also give leadership to the program and activities of the Luther League Federation. It shall be the privilege of the Executive Committee of the Luther League Federation to present nominations for the position.

ARTICLE IV REGIONAL YOUTH DIRECTORS

1. The Executive Committee upon the recommendation of the Youth Director shall select such regional youth directors as a redeemed necessary to implement the work of the Luther League Federation.
2. The regional youth directors shall represent the Youth Director in the region assigned and shall give such leadership as is necessary to carry out the program established by the Luther League Federation convention and as defined by the Executive Committee.
3. The regional youth directors shall be directly responsible to the Executive Committee. Those which are in the salaried employ of the Luther League Federation shall be considered advisory members to the Federation Council and the Executive Committee.
4. The regulations concerning election of the Youth Director shall apply similarly to regional youth directors who are in the salaried employ of the Luther League Federation.

ARTICLE V THE FEDERATION COUNCIL

1. The Federation Council shall meet annually in February. Additional meetings may be arranged by the Executive Committee.
2. The Council shall discuss the work of the Luther League Federation in general and suggest ways and means of coordinating this work with that of the district Luther Leagues.
3. This Council shall be empowered to transact necessary business between biennial conventions.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers. They shall be convened by the President. An agenda shall be prepared by the Youth Director who serves as an advisory member. This committee shall guide the youth program within the limits of the Luther League Federation Constitution, the convention recommendations and the Guiding Principles of the AFLC.
2. A committee on recommendations consisting of five members shall be elected at an annual meeting of the Federation Council. It shall present recommendations in regard to the work of the Federation for consideration and action by the biennial convention.
3. A committee on nominations consisting of five members shall be elected at an annual meeting of the Federation Council; not more than one member shall be from any district. This committee shall meet so that its report on nominations can be published prior to the convention. to delegate to them.

[Continued on page 10]



Luther League Activities

Edited by Ken Moland

YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

"Youth Night" at the annual conference was one of the highlights of the entire convention. All those who had a part in planning or presenting this program deserve to be commended for the smooth and effective way it was presented.

The night set aside for the youth of the AFLC came only about one day after the conference voted overwhelmingly to begin construction in a new dormitory for the Bible school students. I'm sure the testimonies in word and song that evening were an encouragement to those who had placed their support behind this project for the youth of the AFLC.

Joe Miller of Binford, N. Dak., was master of ceremonies for the evening meeting and Phil Mickelson of Valley City, N. Dak., led in Scripture reading and prayer.

Special music was provided by Jean and Lois Presteng of Grafton, N. Dak., a girls' chorus from Maple Bay, Minn., Janelle Ness and Sonia Mortrud of Thief River Falls, Minn., and the Portland, N. Dak., trio consisting of Phyllis Nelson, Rosemary and Nada Hanson.

A mass choir composed of all youth present who wanted to sing was organized and directed by Mrs. Esther Farrier, the director of the Bible school choir. The mass choir sang two numbers at the service. All special music was done very well and had a warming ef-

fect on those present. It is encouraging to see talents being used to the glory of God.

Personal testimonies of what Christ meant to them were given by Maureen Hartsoch from the Tioga, N. Dak., parish and Tim Skramstad of Valley City.

The highlight of the evening service was a message by Bjorn Pedersen of Aalesund, Norway. Bjorn is a student at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. He spoke about the value of looking at the positive side of Christianity. His meditation ended with a challenge to those present to step out and claim the promises of God and experience the peace which is available to us.



Luther Leaguers had a fellowship meal during the Annual Conference on Saturday night at the Sweden House in Fargo.

About seventy-five youth enjoyed a banquet and short program earlier in the evening at the Sweden House in Fargo. Richard Anderson of East Grand Forks, Minn., led this meeting. Special music here was by the Portland girls' trio.

Pastor Hubert DeBoer of Bagley, Minn., brought the challenge to the youth at this banquet meeting. He used a thought from the new road sign which has been put up by the highway department to encourage safe driving. There is a sign that reads: WANTED: YOU—ALIVE. Pastor DeBoer spoke about the different organizations and ideas that want the youth of today. We were reminded that God, too, wants us—ALIVE. It was a timely reminder which brought up the question: "Who or what am I living for?"

As was mentioned earlier, the exciting piece of legislation at the conference—at least in the eyes of the youth—was the decision to build housing facilities at the Bible school. When completed, the unit will house about eighty persons and also provide classroom space. This project needs the support of the entire body of the AFLC. That includes all of the youth. We encourage you to show an interest in the work in education. Visit the Bible school, or better yet, attend for one or two years.

You are invited to send items for Something to Think About department. If your quote is original and is used in the paper, the author will be recognized in writing. Even if it isn't original and you think it has merit and is applicable, do send it and it may be used on the youth page.

These items are meant for you to ponder upon. Think about the truths that lie within these lines especially as applied to the Christian life. Take time to think on the things that direct your thoughts heavenward.

Once again, I encourage you to send news of your local and district league activities. The readers of the Ambassador are interested in what youth are doing. The address is: 909½ Walnut, Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT DEPARTMENT

May you LIVE all the days of your life.—Swift

Better to wear out than to rust out.—Bishop Cumberland

Sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny.—Charles Reade

In fair weather prepare for foul.—Thomas Fuller

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few" (Matt. 9:38).

He that laughs, lasts.

NORTHERN MINNESOTA DISTRICT RALLY HELD IN THIEF RIVER FALLS

"His Name Is Wonderful" was the theme of the leaguers who met at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls on May 7, 1967, for the Spring Rally of the Northern Minnesota District Luther League.

A welcome to the leaguers was extended by Janelle Ness. After devotions by Annette Wold, a sing-spiration was led by Judy Walla.

Vice President Irvin Underbakke presided over the business meeting. The secretary's minutes and treasurer's reports were read and accepted. The motion was made and carried to send a memorial of \$5.00 to the Ass'n Bible School Library Fund in memory of District President Irvin Schmittke's father who recently passed away. The offerings for the day were also designated to go to the Library Fund.

New officers elected were: Vice President, Philip Dyrud; Treasurer, Janelle Ness.

James Olson of Newfolden sang a solo, accompanying himself on the guitar. A sermonette based on the topic "How to Overcome the World" was delivered by Sonia Mortrud of Thief River Falls. Following a solo by Cheryl Hagen of Greenbush, Jerry Holmaas of Newfolden gave a sermonette on the topic "Joy," based on Philippians. He talked about the joy Paul had in serving Christ and that we can have this joy by doing the same.

Musical numbers were given by the Thief River Falls Youth Choir

and a girls' trio of the Roseau Parish.

Guest speaker for the afternoon was Mr. Verle Dean of the Redby Indian Mission. His talk was based on Luke 15:11-24, the parable of the Prodigal Son. He said boys and girls today are running a race in life, striving to make the goal—to win the prize. There are many things that hinder the runner, the main hindrance being the lack of the Word of God. If we start out with Jesus we won't stumble along the way. He said that no one can lead a teen-ager to Christ like another teen-ager.

Following a song by a group of girls from the Gatzke Church, Pastor Walla closed the afternoon session with prayer and benediction.

The ladies of Our Savior's served a delicious banquet in the church parlors. A short program was held during the banquet with PTM Secretary Miss Judith Wold as mistress of ceremonies. Choruses, a solo by Judy Walla, a greeting from Pastor Walla, and a duet by Sonia Mortrud and Janelle Ness comprised the program.

The evening session began at 7:30. The theme song was sung, followed by devotions led by Ralph Rokke of Strandquist. Musical numbers were given by the Hegland youth group of the Newfolden Parish and Faye Melby of Greenbush.

We greatly enjoyed another message from Mr. Dean who spoke on Luke 8:4-15, the parable of the Sower. He said we are as God's fields. Some of us are like a field of hardness—we do not absorb the Word of God—the Word is sown but Satan picks it out. Or we are like a field of stones—we do not bear fruit. Some of us are fields of thorns—choked with all the cares of the world. We want to do so much for Jesus but give in easily to temptation. If we cannot say "no" to man we'll never be able to say "yes" to Jesus. Some of us are like the good ground and bear fruit for Jesus. Mr. Dean concluded his message by saying that the nar-

row way is not an easy walk but that it is the most joyful, most peaceful, most wonderful experience anyone can have.

The Thief River Falls Youth Choir brought another message in song. After we sang our theme song, Pastor Walla closed the rally with prayer and benediction.

—Barbara Holm, secretary

GRADUATES HONORED AT DALTON

Kvam Lutheran Church, Dalton, Minnesota, was host to the annual Parish League Banquet, May 1, honoring five senior high school graduates. The theme was "Prayer Changes Things."

Seventy youth with five counselors were present.

Rev. Harold Olson of Fergus Falls was guest speaker. Rev. H. C. Molstre led the devotions.

Each of the four leagues in the parish furnished vocal or instrumental numbers. The seniors were introduced and told of their plans and aims.

SCHOOLS CORPORATION MEMBER PASSES AWAY

Mr. Milton J. Hove, Minneapolis businessman and member of the Corporation of the Association Schools, passed away July 1 in Minneapolis. Funeral services were held on July 5 and burial was in Lakewood Cemetery, Minneapolis.

Survivors include his widow, Myrtle; a daughter, Carolyn, Mrs. Connely Dyrud; and a son, Samuel P. Hove, all of Minneapolis.

Mr. Hove was the son of Peter P. Hove, founder of the Hove stores, and succeeded his father as head of the company.

MRS. OBED WESTPHAL DIED RECENTLY

Mrs. Obed Westphal, wife of the pastor, passed away recently. Burial was at Madelia, Minn., where they once served.



EDITORIALS

THE CONGREGATIONS AND THE CONFERENCE

Last time, in the editorial "Responsible Freedom," we suggested that a free congregation is an entity in itself. That is, having believers, the Word and Sacraments, it is the church. It has no authority over it but the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

But we also intimated that the local congregation does not fulfill its function, that is, truly be the church, until it is united with other congregations in the task of bringing the Christian witness beyond its own community. If a congregation is very large it might be able to exist without sister congregations, but in our fellowship no one congregation can do this.

It is in the annual conference that the local churches meet together to discuss the work that is common to them. The annual conference in a unique way is the congregations in the act of becoming what they are to be.

Now if this is so, the fact that not all congregations are consistently represented at conference is a cause for concern. In a synod-type of church body, a church which is under "law," we would say, representation privileges are generally more seriously accepted than in a free church which is under "grace." (We are aware that in some synods not all congregations have the privilege of representation at the general convention or conference, but of the representation allowed, quite a high percentage is met.)

It was indicated previously that the lack of representation by free congregations is likely not the result of conscious choice, but of chance. What can be done to insure wider participation in the deliberative assembly of our fellowship? How can more congregations, not just more people, but congregations, be involved in policy-making?

What we are about to suggest will sound, in the ears of some, to be rank heresy, but we mention it nonetheless. It is to have a delegate system from the congregations to the conference.

The first step toward another merger, some will say. A corrosion of the freedom of the congregation, still others will insist.

In our own ministry, operating under both the delegate and free conference system, there is no question as to which system was more apt to produce representation at the conference. That was more apt to occur under the delegate set-up. Where everyone is free to attend and to vote, it is very easy for the pastor to make general announcements of the conference and invite everyone to attend. In some congregations the chances are certainly no better than 50-50 that someone will actually go.

But if a congregation knows that it is entitled to one or more definite delegates it may take more seriously the matter of sending those delegates. Such was our experience.

Under which arrangement is the congregation most free? When a number of members attend a conference on their own initiative, perhaps with no responsibility to report back? Or when one or more members is sent as an official representative?

A delegate system could work in at least two ways. One, congregations could be awarded delegates according to size. The smallest congregation would have one or two, the largest ten. Others who chose to come could have the right of speaking, but not of voting. Second, every congregation could be limited to one or two delegates with others granted the privilege of the floor, but not the ballot. Under such a procedure, large congregations could not dominate the smaller ones.

Furthermore, such a system in a free church could not be installed without a congregational referendum. Those who felt that the introduction of the delegate system in the Lutheran Free Church without a referendum was wrong are correct. There should have been one. We must not make that mistake.

We are well aware that many people will reject what has been proposed as being without merit. The idea of a free conference has always been precious to us. But is it turning out to be the best way to exercise responsible freedom?

This is being written out of the background of a conference which saw two-thirds of the free congregations represented, and never on the floor all at one time. Our church is made up of congregations which have fought for freedom. How can they be helped to live with it in a way which will honor God? If a congregation is not really a congregation until it works with others, conference representation should be a matter of concern for us all.

We are sure that Dr. Olson joins with us in inviting comments on this question from whatever viewpoint they are raised. Address them to him: Dr. Iver Olson, 3311 14th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

UNIFORMITY IN RADIO

At the Annual Conference in Fargo there was some talk about radio ministry. A number of parishes are involved in radio work. One or two stations carry a semi-official Association program.

There was some discussion about uniting all radio programs under one heading such as the Commission on Evangelism. This was strange talk coming from free Lutheran congregations. It would be a foolish mistake to try to push a uniform code upon all broadcasts. Let us leave room for individual initiative and ingenuity. Some programs are direct church service broadcasts, others are 15-30 minute devotionals. They must all be handled differently.

That doesn't rule out the possibility of one day having an "Association Hour" type of program. That would be the same everywhere and would be a distributed tape. But we wouldn't like to see even that happen if it meant the death of all local programs.

Radio affords two tremendous opportunities. It reaches many listeners with the Gospel. And it provides an outlet for talents and abilities. It is an area our churches should get into more and more. We rejoice that a number of our pastors and parishes have been able to enter this field.

But don't let's try to put it all under one roof in the sense of requiring uniformity. That would be too bad.

KALISPELL IN 1967

The Kalispell convention for our young people will be a convention nurtured in tribulations. And that may only enhance the benefits and blessings to be received from it.

There have been problems in arranging it. Even as we write this some details are not finalized. Train transportation had to be given up for buses. Plush motels had to give way to dormitory-style living. Eating accommodations had to be switched with the convention only weeks away.

But there will be a convention and it will be a good one. Elsewhere in this issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* you will find the program. The preaching and teaching of the Word of God will be central. There will be no gimmicks, no high-paid entertainers. Young people will be challenged to accept, live and share Christ and His forgiveness.

Another glory of the convention is that it will involve people. There will be the chance to meet people from throughout the church. Those who travel some distance to get to Kalispell will have had much rich fellowship before they ever arrive. Those who come from the east have never-to-be-forgotten experiences in partaking of hospitality from friends along the way in overnight stops at Grand Forks and Epping (Tioga) in North Dakota.

The convention location is a beautiful one. Kalispell, Montana, is known over much of the country as one of the truly great vacation spots. Those who have never seen the Rockies will see them on this trip. Whether a trip into Glacier Park can be arranged or not, there will be plenty to see.

It is almost two years now since a convention has been held. Biennial conventions are sufficient, but we

must make them good ones.

We must do what we can to unite the youth of our church. Care must be taken to provide service opportunities for our own young people, in our own church, if possible. We don't begrudge their services to other churches, as some are presently engaged, but we must try to have ways to use them ourselves. The Luther League Federation and the Youth Board must show the way.

God has blessed us with a host of fine youth. Some of them are consecrated Christians. For some reason youth work in our church has suffered more than its share of setbacks. But we must hope and pray that the road will be smoother from now on and that Kalispell will mark a real turning point in many ways.

When this reaches our readers there will still be time for some to put on a last minute drive for convention registrations. Make that effort. Do what you can to insure a good turnout.

And there is time yet for much prayer. Pray that the Lord will not be hindered in doing what He wants among the youth of our church who will be at Kalispell, and through them to the church and society at large.

Constitution and By-laws

[Continued from page 6]

4. A committee on resolutions, consisting of three members, shall be elected by the convention. It shall present resolutions of thanks to be acted upon by the convention.
5. Other committees may be elected or appointed as the business of the Federation may demand.

ARTICLE VII FINANCES

1. The Executive Committee shall annually prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year to be presented to the annual meeting of the Federation Council for approval.
2. The Luther League Federation shall receive its principal financial support from constituent leagues. This support shall be given through annual offerings and regular contributions.
3. The fiscal year shall be from February 1 to January 31.

ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS

By-laws may be made, amended or repealed at any regular business session of a Federation Biennial Convention* by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the delegates present.

The asterisks denote places where changes have been made in the constitution and by-laws of the old Luther League Federation. In most cases the changes concern only the name of the Association. All changes will be explained at the Federation convention in Kalispell.

WOMEN for Christ



The honored women in Valley City are pictured here: seated, left to right, Mrs. Martina Burkhart, Mrs. A. C. Sorenson and Mrs. Olga Sorenson; standing, Miss Emma Nelson, Mrs. Olga Johnson, Mrs. Corine Bredeson, Mrs. Emma Anderson and Mrs. Anton Sorenson.

Not pictured and unable to attend due to illness or being out of town are Mrs. Enga Severson, Mrs. George Tvedt, Mrs. Gusta Stenhagen, Mrs. Mathilda Pickens, Mrs. Carl Monson, Mrs. Ole Larson, Mrs. Hannah Bjornson and Mrs. Carl Smestad.

GRACE LUTHERAN GRANTS HONORARY WMF MEMBERSHIPS

Grace Lutheran Church of Valley City, N. Dak., honored 16 ladies for their service to their Lord with Honorary Memberships in the Women's Missionary Federation. The candlelighting program on May 18 was led by Mrs. A. L. Skonnard and each lady was presented a pin signifying this honor, as well as a certificate. Mrs. Skonnard was assisted by Mrs. Marcus Faust in preparing this program.

ROSEAU WAS SCENE OF DISTRICT SPRING WMF RALLY

The Northern Minnesota District Women's Missionary Federation Spring Rally was held at Roseau Lutheran Church, Roseau, Minn., May 2, 1967, Larry Severson, student pastor.

The theme for the rally was "Continue Steadfast in the Faith" (I Cor. 15:58). The theme song was "Yield Not to Temptation." The pianist was Mrs. Gene Sundby of Newfalden.

The service was opened with a singspiration led by Mrs. Norman Peterson of Thief River Falls, followed by the Scripture reading and prayer by Mrs. Bernard Engevik of Gatzke. The welcome was given by Mrs. Albin Helstad of Roseau and the response by Mrs. Ingvald Rokke of Strandquist. Mrs. Conrad Engelsrud and Mrs. Gilman Stennes sang "I Travelled Alone."

Mrs. Melvin Walla, Thief River Falls, gave the Bible study based on Deuteronomy 20:8. How can we help someone else if we are fearful ourselves? We should be steadfast and unmoveable because of those around us. Those who are leaders should be steadfast. Whether we go to heaven or hell, we take someone with us. Psalm 27:1: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" We should watch and be steadfast, not in our own strength, but in God.

Remember, she said, God has commanded us to be steadfast and courageous. When snow, rain, cancer or death come, do these things move us? Through it all, can I be steadfast? Acts 5:29 tells us that we should obey God rather than men. As women of the Association, are we steadfast and courageous? We ought to have real concern for more praying servants, pastors, and help for the sick. Our concern should be for the kingdom of God.

Pastor and Mrs. Sundby sang a duet. Mrs. Clifford Holm of Badger was elected treasurer, Mrs. Emmanuel Seidel, Badger, vice president, and Mrs. Engevik, cradle roll secretary, at our business meeting. Pastor Walla closed the forenoon session with remarks and the benediction.

The afternoon session opened with singing the theme song and a singspiration led by Mrs. Peterson. Scripture reading and prayer were given by Mrs. Philip Grothe of Thief River Falls. She used Phil. 4:1-7. Mrs. Clifford Elgin of Roseau sang a solo. Mrs. Orville Olson of Greenbush gave a report of the Central Minnesota WMF meeting at Dalton. Mrs. Ernest Melvei and Mrs. Ole Ose sang a duet. Mrs.

Seidel gave a report on our missionaries. A group of ladies from the Roseau parish sang "Jesus, I Come to Thee."

Pastor Hubert DeBoer of Fosston gave a message on our theme. He also read from the first chapter of Joshua. Don't be afraid, but go forward in the Lord. Joshua led the people into the Promised Land. He took God at His Word.

We haven't possessed all the land the Lord has given us, Pastor DeBoer stated. Everything we've done has only been our duty to do. He gives us strength and provides grace. We pray for revivals and they must start with the church of God. We can be faithful in little as well as in much. There is no time to go back. Oh, if only we could say like Jesus said, "It is finished," as we review our lives. Yes, Christ's work must be our merit as we look at our lives. There are many lands yet to possess. Have we really entered in?

Mrs. Burton Rygh and Mrs. Bernhard Dalager sang a duet. The meeting was closed by Pastor Sunday. Eighty-six persons had been registered.

Mrs. Bernhard Dalager
Secretary

A CALL FOR INTERCESSORS

The more we experience what prayer is and the wonderful power with God which it has, the more grateful to God we should be that He has allotted this privilege to us. As we look at world conditions today and ponder on their results, we realize our only hope is our obedience to II Chron. 7:14. We need to "humble ourselves, pray, seek his face, and turn from our wicked way"; then we, too, shall experience the promise which is given, "He will hear from heaven, will forgive our sins and heal our land." We must confess that we have become careless and indifferent concerning the things most essential in life, the reading and obeying of God's Word and spending time with Him in prayer.

We must take time from our busy

walk of life to meditate on His precious Word and also tarry at the foot of the throne to pray and learn the work of intercession. Christ taught His disciples to have a secret place of prayer where they could be alone with God (Matt. 6:6). Do you have such a place in your home where you are alone in the presence of the Almighty, where you can pour out your heart to your heavenly Father and can hear His still, small voice speak to you? We as women of the church need to spend much time with God alone. The busier we are the more time should be spent in prayer. As God looks down upon the Church today, will it have to be said of Him, "And he saw that there was no man and wondered that there was no intercessor" (Isa. 59:14).

Are we concerned about the salvation of souls in our midst, the people we rub shoulders with from day to day, our missionaries, the natives on the field where our missionaries are working, the vast field which is yet untouched by the Gospel? Can we close our eyes and say, "That's not our responsibility"? Ezek. 3:17-19 tells us it is our responsibility.

Christ not only taught His followers to be alone with God in prayer but to pray with others (Matt. 18:19-20). If we could but realize that God rules the world by the prayers of His saints and that prayer is the power by which Satan is conquered—what responsibility and what privileges are ours! Oh, that we could become real prayer warriors for the expansion of the kingdom. We need to pray for more men to go into the ministry, more Bible school students, teachers, building expansion, more missionaries, and also ask God to open our eyes to the need in our own community. The Bible says, "Where there is no vision the people perish" (Prov. 29:18).

I must tell you what wonderful experiences and blessings we are receiving from united prayer. Last winter we started a ladies prayer group here in town; we meet every

Tuesday morning from 9 to 10 a.m. We also meet at the throne of grace the other days of the week in our respective homes at 9 o'clock. What wonderful blessings we have experienced. Many tears have been shed as we have seen ourselves in the mirror of the Word, but there have also been tears of rejoicing when we have seen God's hand at work in answer to our prayers. It has drawn us together in a bond of love and unity and we all look forward to this precious hour we spend together as intercessors.

How about starting a ladies' prayer group in your church? There is power in united prayer. What a real power house we could be if we all became intercessors and could meet at the throne of grace at the same hour! God's work done in God's way never lacks God's supply."

Mrs. Knute Jore

Culbertsen, Montana

NOTICE

Occasionally, through an error in mailing, you may miss an issue or two of the *Ambassador*. When you are certain that you have missed an issue and your subscription is still in force, please write our office for the missing number and it will be furnished free of charge.

Should you continue to miss copies of the *Ambassador*, write and ask that an inquiry be made as to the reason.

Address all inquiries and requests regarding subscriptions and mailing to:

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Minneapolis, Minn. 55427



NEWS

of the Churches

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW CHURCH IN GRAND FORKS

Members of the Trinity Lutheran Church assembled for a ground-breaking ceremony on Sunday, June 11, at the site of the future church building. The land was purchased during the summer of 1965. The original site was on the corner of Belmont Road and 32nd Ave. South in an undeveloped area. Relocation was later made at the intersection of Chestnut St. and Cherry-Lynn Drive, some three blocks southwest of the initial land purchase.

Trinity Lutheran congregation met for the first time in July, 1963, at 424 Belmont Road with Rev. John Abel, now an Association of Free Lutheran Congregation's missionary to Brazil, conducting initial

Sunday services. Organization and incorporation followed and on May 24, 1964, Trinity Free Lutheran became an official congregation. Rev. F. B. Monseth, vice-president of the AFLC, presided at the installation service. Student pastors Gary Skramstad and Robert Lee served Trinity for approximately one year. Later Rev. Hans J. Tollefson, Rev. George Schuster, and Rev. Trygve Dahle carried on the pastoral work and aided in the church plant development program. Rev. David C. Molstre, a member of the AFLC theological seminary's first graduating class, is now pastor of the local congregation.

The land site will hold a uniquely designed church drawn by Mr. Lyle Voiss, a member of the church, and approved by the congregation. The initial building program calls for the erecting of the



Mr. Gordon Johnson, right, chairman of Trinity congregation, and Pastor David C. Molstre at the ground-breaking ceremonies.

fellowship chapel, a 32-foot by 62-foot structure, seating approximately 230 people, and the north center unit which includes offices, kitchen, rest rooms, basement furnace room, and vestibule.

Construction of the first unit began during the last week in June. It is expected that the building will be available for occupancy in the latter part of October.

Trinity Lutheran congregation is currently meeting at 424 Belmont Road.

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OBSERVED 65TH ANNIVERSARY, DEDICATED ADDITION

The 65th anniversary of Tabor Lutheran Church, Webster, S. Dak., was observed and an addition to the church was dedicated in festivities held June 3 and 4. Raynard Huglen of Roslyn is the pastor.

In the remodeling project, the parish hall was attached to the church on the west side and 12 feet of building were added between. A basement was placed under this and a spacious ground-level entry which serves both the sanctuary and the hall. The kitchen and serving area are located



Members of Trinity Lutheran Church gathered for ground-breaking ceremonies in Grand Forks on June 11.



Tabor Church before the remodeling project. Note the parish hall on the right. —Photo by Dale Battleson



The remodeled Tabor Church. Note the parish hall on the left and the ground-level entry.

in the basement. The hall now serves as an overflow room and is set off from the church by folding doors. The old kitchen is now a conference and confirmation room.

The chancel was enlarged by three feet. Work on the project was done mostly by members of the congregation under the direction of Ervin Tvinnereim.

The Rev. John P. Strand, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, officiated at the dedication rites on Sunday afternoon. He preached on the theme "O Give Thanks Unto the Lord for Our Opportunities of Worship and Service."



The new road sign placed on Highway 23 north of Webster.

At that same service Julius Stavig, a friend of the congregation, presented a miniature Tabor Church to the congregation for placement on the Roslyn-Pierpont highway. It will stand there as a marker for travellers, with a guest book for visitors to sign. An attractive sign was placed on highway 23 north of Webster to direct visitors from that direction. Sherman McCarlson responded on behalf of the congregation to Mr. Stavig's gift.

Greetings were given at the dedication service by Pastor Hobart Skilbred of Pierpont and Pastor Marvin Ketterling of Roslyn.

The anniversary festivities of the congregation which was organized in 1902 by the Rev. J. U. Pederson began on Saturday afternoon with a memorial service. 19 persons who had passed away since the golden jubilee of the church were honored. As Pastor Huglen read their names, Mrs. Reuben Tvinnereim, deaconess, placed a white carnation in a bouquet. The sermon was preached by the Rev. E. S. Vik, Waubay, S. Dak., who had served Tabor for 35 years.

A confirmation reunion banquet was held on Saturday at 6 o'clock with about 150 persons present.

Mrs. Arnold McCarlson acted as narrator for a musical program that

evening which was entitled "For His Unspeakable Gift." Three choirs from the church, plus many other individuals and groups rendered numbers in a delightful evening of music.

On Sunday morning another former pastor of the church, the Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn., preached the sermon.

Other pastors who have served the congregation are K. Knutson, O. C. Olson, H. O. Lee and H. M. Hemmingsen.



Rev. John P. Strand, left, president of the Association, and Michael Johnson, one of the congregation's oldest members, stand by the replica of Tabor Church built by Julius Stavig. The day after this picture was taken, Mr. Johnson and his wife celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. She passed away three weeks later.

FROM THE REPORT OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Luther League Federation offered three \$80 scholarships for students to attend our Association Lutheran Bible School last year. There were four applications, so the Officers thought it best to give all four an \$80 scholarship for our Bible school, since it would save a meeting of the appointed Scholarship Committee and hence save money. This year we are offering the same. The qualifications for the scholarships are:

1. Recommendation from the home pastor.
2. Two other recommendations.
3. Personal statement, "Why I want to go to Bible school."
4. Relation of the Luther League work to the AFLC.
5. Financial need.

All applications for this year's scholarships must be post-marked by August 4 and sent to the Luther League Federation president.



Mrs. Jacob Ullestad, Story City, Iowa, left, Martin Kanterlie, Willmar, Minn., and Mr. Ullestad chat outside Jackson Hall on the Oak Grove campus during the conference. Rev. A. L. Hakanson, Faith, S. Dak., and Nels Jodock, Northwood, N. Dak., are pictured in the background.

Committee No. 5—Stewardship, Pensions and Others

Rev. G. F. Mundfrom, Pukwana, S. Dak.
Rev. David Molstre, Grand Forks, N. Dak.

Gayler Jensen, Austin Minn
Harry Rorvig, Dalton, Minn.*
Reuben Moland, Fertile, Minn.

* Will have to be replaced on this committee since he was elected by the conference to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 1968 conference.

MRS. HOWARD SORTLAND PASSED AWAY IN MAY

Mrs. Howard Sortland, 40, passed away in Minneapolis on May 29. She was the wife of the senior pastor of St. Olaf Lutheran Church of that city. Funeral services were held at St. Olaf on June 1 with the Rev. Rennard Svanoie and Dr. Melford Knutson officiating. The Rev. Donald Ronning of Fargo, N. Dak., conducted the graveside rites in that city the next day. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Fargo.

In addition to her husband, her survivors include two sons, Kurt and Rand, and one daughter, Maura.

The Sortlands had served parishes at Mora, Minn., and Ascension Lutheran Church, Seattle, Wash., before coming to St. Olaf Lutheran Church,



A large welcome sign greeted conference delegates on the Oak Grove campus.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE FOR 1968

The following committees were elected by the Annual Conference of 1967 to serve at the conference in 1968 at Cloquet, Minn. That conference will have only five resolution committees instead of the eight which operated in Fargo this year. Resolutions of thanks will be the responsibility of Committee No. 1 from now on.

Committee No. 1—Administration

Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn.
Rev. Robert Rieth, Juanita, Wash.
Robert Knutson, McVillage, N. Dak.
Leif Fosterfold, Willmar, Minn.
Olger Rokke, Newfolden, Minn.

Committee No. 2—Schools

Pastor Orville Olson, Greenbush, Minn.
Rev. Albert Hautamaki, Ishpeming, Mich.

John Arlen Johnson, Sacred Heart, Minn.
Ove Aaker, Valley City, N. Dak.
Manvel Moe, Thief River Falls, Minn.

Committee No. 3—Missions

Rev. John DeBoer, Villard, Minn.
Rev. E. J. Langness, McVillage, N. Dak.
Harry Johnson, Chatham, Mich.
Morris Moen, McIntosh, Minn.
Art Olson, Tioga, N. Dak.



Part of the audience present at the Ordination Service on Sunday afternoon at the Annual Conference.

Committee No. 4—Publications, Parish Education and Youth Work

Rev. Marvin S. Undseth, Shevlin, Minn.
Pastor Edwin Kjos, Roseau, Minn.
Mrs. Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.
Mrs. Sherman McC Carlson, Webster, S. Dak.
Palmer Haugen, Portland, N. Dak.

NOTICE

There will be no issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* on August 8. The next issue will be published on August 22. Material for that number and the two following it should be addressed to Dr. Iver Olson, 3311 14th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407.

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55427

Second-class postage
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