

July 2, 1974

The Lutheran Ambassador



Sequoia National Park
Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.

MEDITATION MOMENTS

A LIVING DOG— A DEAD LION

“A living dog is better than a dead lion” (Eccles. 9:4).

“As long as there is life there is hope.” You have heard this saying many times and have probably said it yourself more than once. It is certainly true.

Death is a certainty. Death is the end of every hope, dream, plan and purpose of man in this earthly life. How wonderful it is to read the first part of the verse quoted above, “For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope.” For the Christian there is hope in the midst of death.

A dog is much smaller, weaker, and less dangerous than a lion. The lion is king of the forest and something to be feared by all. This gives us a picture of what we were by creation—created with all the possibilities for good and blessing. Man by nature was created like a lion, one to rule the universe. Man was given the charge at creation to subdue the earth and have dominion over every other living thing. What a responsibility. With it God gave man the ability, wisdom and strength to carry it out. This is the lion.

Then sin entered into the picture. As a result of the Fall into sin, man is no longer that lion, able to carry out the responsibilities God gave to him. The lion is dead. Man is unable to carry out his responsibilities be-

cause of SIN. The great potentials of man can never be realized as he uses these abilities for his own ends and eventually destroys himself. The mess man finds himself in while on this earth gives us a true picture of how dead that lion is. Man plans, works, succeeds and progresses outwardly. He makes great strides in science, medicine and other areas. He holds up his first in God’s face and says he doesn’t need God because he is doing so well by himself. The lion is dead, however, because along with all these outward successes there is envy, jealousy, murder, strife, adultery, immorality, lack of natural affection, boasting, violence and many other evils. As these show themselves more and more, the ominous threat of actual extinction from the face of the earth appears just when final success seems to be approaching. The lion is dead. Man without God always walks down the path that eventually leads to death. In this dilemma of life many become disillusioned with life and feel there is no use for living. The suicide rate is highest among college students, the very group that should have the most to live for. The lion is dead.

“For to him who is joined to all the living there is hope.” How does one become joined to the living? There is only one way and that is

by faith in Jesus Christ. God sent Jesus to the Cross so the lion in us can be crucified and the new man, the man of life, can come forth. A living dog is better than a dead lion. The newly created man may not be the lion God created because this old flesh keeps us from fulfilling the potential we were originally created with. However, with this new life in Christ we have re-created in us new potentials of blessings for others. We are not the lion as originally created but even though by comparison we are smaller and weaker, we have life. A living dog is better than a dead lion. Death is certain, but to him that is joined to all the living there is hope. In this world of corruption, immorality, mistrust, violence and all the other evils there is hope for one who is joined to all the living—Jesus Christ.

Luther calls despair a great and shameful sin because it rejects the hope that is found in Jesus Christ. No Christian need ever feel a despairing of life. No matter how bad things may be for a child of God there is hope because Christ has won the victory over sin, death and the devil once and for all.

“For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion.”

—Laurel M. Udden

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AFLC To Call Two New Workers as a Result of Conference Action

An evangelist-youth worker and a stewardship counsellor have been authorized by the annual conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations at its recent session at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, June 12-16.

The calling of an evangelist has been before many of the annual conferences in the past, if not all of them. But this was the first time the securing of one was commissioned. The evangelist is to also be the youth worker for the church. Some delegates questioned the wisdom of combining the two positions. An amendment was proposed which would have severed the two responsibilities, but it was defeated. The youth worker position has been vacant since Mr. Wayne Pederson resigned last winter.

The stewardship counsellor will be "a qualified lay person," according to the resolution which set up the position. Duties of the job were not spelled out in the resolution, but prominently mentioned were counselling as to wills and legacies and assisting churches in budget planning.

There was vocal opposition to the setting up of a stewardship counsellor. Some delegates disapproved of

deciding on the counsellor before the securing of an evangelist had been agreed upon. Some questioned the need of a person in stewardship work at all, feeling that the preaching of the Gospel resolves all stewardship needs in individual and congregational life. But when it came to a vote, the measure passed 100 to 54.

\$15,000 was added to the General Fund budget to provide for the evangelist-youth worker. The stewardship counsellor is not expected to require a full-salary, at least for the present, as the position may be filled by a retired person or be only a part-time job.

Rev. Richard Snipstead, dean of Association Free Lutheran Bible School, was re-elected vice-president of the AFLC. Rev. Dennis Gray, Grafton, N. Dak., was elected secretary. Rev. Robert L. Lee, Valley City, N. Dak., who had been secretary for two years, declined nomination, pleading the press of other duties.

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, Minn., was nominated for the vacancy on the Co-ordinating Committee, the between-conferences administrative body. Nomination to the Committee is tantamount to election.

A packed church heard Pastor Lee preach the opening night sermon on

Wednesday on the conference theme and text, "Continuing in His Grace" (Psalm 91). The next night the individual session attendance high was reached when 510 persons took part in the mission festival service sponsored by the Women's Missionary Federation. Approximately 2600 persons attended the evening and Sunday inspirational services.

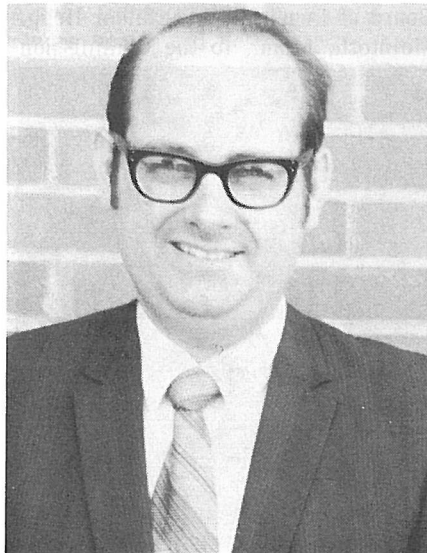
The matter of the salaries of local pastors came up several times during the conference. In one resolution it was urged that congregations review their pastors' salaries from time to time and make cost-of-living increases as needed. In another resolution, the Co-ordinating Committee was asked to have salary and pension information available for congregations which desire such help.

Concerning the Schools, the conference recommended that AFLBS continue to send out at least one Gospel team each summer for "the purpose of witnessing for Christ and challenging youth to attend our Seminary and Bible School." The call for more men for the ministry was sounded in another resolution, too, as this is seen as a real need in the Association.

The conference asked the Board of Foreign Missions to call and send a



Pastor R. Snipstead



Pastor Dennis Gray



Pastor Wendell Johnson

missionary family to Brazil this year if finances allow and the family is available. The Board reported that finances allow only for one new single worker this year.

In loving concern for suffering brethren in other parts of the world, a few moments of silent prayer were observed on Friday and then Mr. Sidney Swenson, St. Paul, Minn., offered a prayer.

Several states were revealed as prime areas for new home mission work. They are Arizona, Colorado, North Dakota and Ohio. It was stated that the lack of a full-time home mission director is hampering advancement. A resolution on Saturday provided for further study of this need and asked for recommendations at next year's conference which will likely be held in Minneapolis, Minn., at the church's headquarters and schools.

In response to the Board of Publications and Parish Education's survey of hymnbook usage and needs in the Association, the conference simply thanked the Board for their work, but took no other action.

The annual conference again recognized God's great gift to the AFLC in her youth. It further urged the congregations to encourage the young people to attend AFLBS and avail themselves of opportunities for spiritual growth.

Resolutions on stewardship called for proportionate giving to God's work, for earlier giving in the fiscal year and for greater vision of "the fields and the needs" of the world.

The Special Pension Fund was set

before the delegates and an offering in the congregations during October, 1974, was encouraged. This fund assists unusual cases of need in pastors' families.

In his report to the conference, Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, McVie, N. Dak., stated that two new congregations had been received into fellowship during the past year. They are Zion Lutheran, Wadena, Minn., served by Rev. Fred Carlson, and Victory in Christ Lutheran, St. Paul, Minn., served by Rev. Francis Monseth. They bring the total of congregations in the AFLC to 125.

Rev. Jay G. Erickson, Ferndale, Wash., led the morning prayer hours during the business sessions.

In elections by corporation annual meetings during the conference, Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn., grocer, was re-elected to the Board of Trustees of the Association's Bible School and Theological Seminary. Rev. Julius Hermunslie, Fergus Falls, Minn., was chosen for the Board of Home Missions and Vernon Russum, Grafton, N. Dak., farmer, was placed on the Board of World Missions.

Elected to other major board and commission posts during the conference were: Miss Eula Mae Swenson, Fargo, N. Dak., to the Board of Publications and Parish Education (re-election); Rev. David C. Molstre, Thief River Falls, to the Youth Board; Arlo Kneeland, Ortley, S. Dak., to the Stewardship Board; Oscar Christopherson, Minneapolis, to the Board of Pensions; and Haldor Hegg, McIntosh, Minn., to the Commission

on Evangelism (re-election).

Pastor Monseth spoke at the mission festival service on Thursday night. Laymen conducted the service Friday evening and H. Donald Hansen, Minneapolis, was the speaker. Rev. Michael Brandt, Lake Stevens, Wash., brought the message to the Saturday evening youth night. Testimony meetings were held both Friday and Saturday nights.

At the early Sunday morning communion service, Rev. Richard W. Gunderson, Sedan, Minn., and missionary to Bolivia, spoke. Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minn., preached at the worship hour service.

Two young men were ordained into the church's ministry on Sunday afternoon, concluding conference session. They are Richard Anderson, East Grand Forks, Minn., who will serve Rosedale Lutheran, Minneapolis, and Dennis O'Neil, Mayville, N. Dak., who will become pastor of Faith Lutheran, also of Minneapolis. Both men have been serving as student pastors in the churches to which they are going. Rev. John P. Strand, Association president, conducted the ordination and preached the sermon. Pastor Anderson was the liturgist.

Pastor Strand is presently in the second year of his fourth full three-year term as president. He is the only president the church has had since it began in October, 1962, at a conference also held in Thief River Falls.

The conference approved a budget of \$312,840 for 1975-76 (as compared to \$264,200 in the current fiscal year) an increase of \$48,640. Individual budget items are: General Fund—\$73,000; Home Missions—\$53,000; Foreign Missions—\$66,840; Schools—\$102,000; and Praise Program—\$18,000.

Rev. David Molstre was the host at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, where all sessions and services were held.

The registration committee reported a total of 382 delegates (322 lay, 60 pastors) at the opening of Saturday afternoon's session. They came to the conference from 11 states and Brazil.

The dates of the 1975 annual conference will be June 11-15 and the place will presumably be Minneapolis.



Pastor Francis Monseth



Pastor Leslie Galland

The President's Report to the Church

The Association is enjoying a steady but unspectacular growth. Normally, when there is growth, the time comes when staffs must be enlarged to meet various challenges. The administrative or service staff of the Association has grown little since the president was called for full-time service about ten years ago. Actually, the Association has seldom had a full-time president, as he has invariably been involved in teaching or pastoral work besides his duties as the president. Now we are hearing many calls for adding to the staff for several reasons.

The Association has deep convictions concerning evangelism. Conferences have discussed at some length the desire to call a full-time evangelist. The availability of an evangelist without hurting the pastoral supply has been a basic hindrance. The generous willingness of pastors to go out on evangelistic work, and the willingness of the congregations to share them, has ameliorated the need for a full-time office of evangelist for the Association. But the desire to have an evangelist remains strong. Surely there should be some tremendous fruits from such a ministry.

There is need for a better organized and more aggressive Home Mission program. This can come only when there is a director giving study to promising fields, and seeking out gifted home missionaries. The director could perhaps spend months on each new field, laying the right spiritual and organizational foundations before the regular pastor is called. The home missionary is as much of a specialist, rightly understood, as a foreign missionary or a teacher in the Seminary. A "hit and miss" home mission effort is too costly and unproductive. Souls are at stake. Money would not be wasted on unpromising fields.

Our people have supported the work of the AFLC in a fine manner. There is so much that should be done in the

field of stewardship education, however. Our people need help in the matter of investments, the preparation of wills, annuities, and loans. Not enough attention is being given to showing proper appreciation for support and concern. The last few months have underscored the conviction that many of our people want to give greater financial support but they need encouragement and know-how. A full-time stewardship man would have plenty to do, and would create great benefits for our work.

The Association has often discussed having, and has had, a youth worker. Undoubtedly one could do a great deal of good. It is popular to single out youth for special attention. The loneliest and neediest people in most communities are not the youth, however, but the aged, who often have the most severe spiritual doubts and problems.

The Association has shown tremendous concern for the youth by establishing the Bible School. Its ministry, however, does not reach into every parish or congregation. Here the work of the local Luther League is of utmost importance. A youth worker to encourage the Luther Leagues could have a fine outreach. It is doubtful that this should be a full-time position, however.

There are some real dangers when personnel are added to a staff. Too large staffs have destroyed many an organization. The budgets get too heavy. People needed out in the congregations are channeled to do the corporate work. A large staff invariably creates the illusion that the most important work is the corporate work, not the local work. Too much of the local efforts must go into supporting the corporate staff. A large staff does not always solve the problems and needs. At times it only makes new ones.

The right-sized staff can be of great help to the congregations, however. The staff are not to be the experts

of their field, coming with superior wisdom and piety to the parish. They are to be of help when called upon to strengthen and encourage the local work. They are to show understanding to the pastor and congregation and strengthen the total work. They are not to do the work for the pastor or boards, but prepare helps and resource material. The place of the pastor and congregation must be respected. Above all, everything must be Word-centered, not activity-centered, thus truly edifying and building up the congregations.

It is obvious that we cannot meet all the desires for an adequate staff at one time, certainly not now. A beginning should be made, however. Various proposals have been made as to uniting some of the needs, such as evangelist and home mission director, or evangelist and youth worker. Some have suggested the youth worker to be a faculty member of the Bible School. May God lead. May we not run ahead of God, or follow too far behind.

We are grateful that congregations are recognizing the need to make salary adjustments for their pastors. Some are experiencing real need, however.

From time to time serious and costly health problems come to pastors. We have a small fund from which emergency help has been given, and can be given. This is not enough, however. Some have suggested that a pastoral disability program should be set up so congregations will have the assurance that their pastor will be cared for should he become disabled for a long period of time. This could be carried much like our present pension program and does not appear to be costly.

The Association nearly reached the budget goal this year, too. The percentage of increase in giving was less than most other years. Perhaps giving to the new dormitory explains this.

The budget goals are realistic and should be met, if not oversubscribed.

An annuity program is being prepared so people can invest some of their savings in the work of the Association and get a high rate of interest for as long as they live. There are some definite tax and other advantages for the donors. This would be of great help to the Association.

Some estates are being probated which will result in generous gifts to the Association. We trust that many will remember the Association when preparing their wills. We are grateful for all such support for God's Kingdom.

At the Conference last year the suggestion was made that Mrs. Strand and I take a trip to visit our Brazilian mission field. Hopefully, this could bring benefits to our total work. This trip should be made, however, when our schools in Brazil are functioning. This would not be a vacation trip, but an attempt to make an in-depth study of the mission work and to give encouragement. It would appear best that the chairman of the Foreign Mission Board go with the president of the Association on this trip. Mr. (Robert) Knutson has made one study trip to the field and thus is better prepared as to what to look for and to assess the progress. We hope that such a trip can be made this year, perhaps in November.

Necrology

Lay-pastor Otto Saukerson passed away on November 9, 1973. Funeral services were conducted at the Pukwana Lutheran Church, Pukwana, South Dakota, Dale Battleson, pastor, November 13, 1974. Burial was at Chamberlain, South Dakota. We thank God for Otto Saukerson. His was a genuine faith in the Savior who had done so much for him. His witness continues to bear fruit in several communities. We express sympathy to the sorrowing family.

Mrs. Morris Eggen, the widow of former pastor Morris Eggen passed away on October 28, 1973, and was buried from the Green Lake Lutheran Church, Spicer, Minnesota, Pastor Leslie Galland officiating, on November 2, 1973. Mrs. Eggen was a devoted and sincere Christian, and is missed

by family and friends. We express our sympathy to the sorrowing family.

(The section "Events of Particular Interest" is omitted here, but may be found in the printed annual report to be available later.)

Thanksgiving

Again we express our thanksgiving to God for His guidance and provisions during the past year. We are grateful to the people of the Association for their faithful concern and support of the total work of the Association. We are grateful to the Boards of the Association for their concerned and faithful work so necessary if the work is to go forward. May our God continue to lead us, that He might have His way with us as individuals and as an Association.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor John P. Strand, President
Association of Free Lutheran
Congregations

ELECTIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Vice-President of the AFLC

1-year term
Rev. R. Snipstead,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Secretary of the AFLC

1-year term
Rev. Dennis Gray,
Grafton, N. Dak.

BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED BY CORPORATIONS

To the Board of Trustees (Schools) by the Corporation

5-year term
Stanley Holmaas,
Newfolden, Minn.
Other Board members are:
Rev. E. J. Langness,
Ishpeming, Mich.
Rev. Leslie Galland,
Spicer, Minn.
Amos Hinderaker,
Radcliffe, Ia.
Raymond Jacobson,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Rev. Robert Rieth,
Kirkland, Wash.
Orville Qualley,
Brockton, Mont.

To the Board of World Missions by the Missions Corporation

5-year term
Vernon Russum,
Grafton, N. Dak.
Other Board members are:
Robert Knutson,
McVille, N. Dak.
Rev. Alvin Grothe,
Stacy, Minn.
Rev. Eugene Enderlein,
Minnewaukan, N. Dak.
Chester Dyrud,
Thief River Falls, Minn.

To the Board of Home Missions by the Missions Corporation

5-year term
Rev. Julius Hermunslie,
Fergus Falls, Minn.
Other Board members are:
Rev. Herbert Franz,
Cloquet, Minn.
Rev. Larry Severson,
Wallace, S. Dak.
Joel Rogenes,
Buxton, N. Dak.
Paul Flaten,
Strandquist, Minn.

1975-76 Budget for the AFLC As Adopted by the Annual Conference

General Fund	\$73,000
Home Missions	53,000
Foreign Missions	66,840
Schools	102,000
Praise Program	18,000
Total	\$312,840

Note: The current budget, 1974-75, amounts to \$264,200.

ELECTED TO THE MISSIONS CORPORATION

The following persons were nominated by the 1974 Annual Conference to membership on the Missions Corporation and were subsequently elected by the Corporation to membership.

5-year terms
Andrew Anderson,
Radcliffe, Ia.

[Continued on page 10]

Women For Christ

REPORT OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION, June 12-13, 1974

Wednesday morning

"How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God" (Ps. 84:1-2).

As we gather for Annual Conference and the WMF Convention we feel it is a foretaste of heaven—old and new friends who are one in Christ come from the east and the west, north and south, to join hands and hearts in praise to the Lord and to go about our Father's business.

Again this year we sensed the anticipation of great blessings to come from the Lord as we felt the warm hospitality and all the markings of well-organized preparation there at the beautiful Our Savior's Lutheran Church at Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

The banner at the front of the church with our theme, BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD did still us for the opening prayer service led by Mrs. Torkel Ose. The Lord was praised and many petitions ascended to the Throne of Grace.

WMF President Mrs. Robert Dietzsche read "Our Commission" from the WMF Handbook: "The Lord Jesus Christ, our Shepherd and Example, used various persons to perform a service to humanity. Women were also called to serve. We dedicate ourselves to the great commission of the Lord Jesus Christ when He said, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.'"

The singspirations, devotions, wel-

comes, special music—and all that was part of the program helped fulfill that commission. (See the June 4th issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* for detailed program.)

In the Bible Study based on this year's theme Scripture verse, Psalm 46:10, Mrs. Kenneth Rolf brought out SO many good things—a few samples of which we will give here. Psalm 46 inspired Martin Luther to write "A Might Fortress Is Our God." In order to have peace and calm we must have peace with God—we must be pardoned sinners. I John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

"Do you know if you belong to Jesus?" she asked. She stressed that we CAN know that our sins are forgiven. If we confess our sins and truly repent we HAVE forgiveness. Then THANK God for the forgiveness. We were reminded of the important prerequisite for being forgiven, that is, we must forgive others. All bitterness, grudges, evil spirit must be confessed and forgiven. Also, it is necessary to pray in JESUS' Name because our name is not good enough.

BE STILL was also stressed. In order to receive guidance we must be still—we must have our quiet time regularly—both alone and with a group. She urged women to bring the whole family to the mid-week Bible study and prayer service.

Two statements that especially impressed me, too, were: "Do not be afraid of the will of God." "Hold your

children in your hand with an open, not a clenched, hand."

Many personal soul-searching questions were asked: Is Jesus Christ first in my life? Do I exalt the name of the Lord? Am I faithful in prayer? Do I give sacrificially?

How tragic it will be if we have a form of Godliness but don't have salvation.

Let us do what we can to bring others to Jesus so they, too, can gather at the Throne of Grace for all eternity.

The Memorial Service, led by Mrs. Melvin Walla, past president, was again an impressive service as we remembered the women of our group who during this past year have gone to be with the Lord. For some, tears fell as they thought of a very near and dear one numbered among those honored today. The songs by Mrs. Don Olson so awesomely lifted our thoughts heavenward.

The annual business meeting was held at which the proposed budget of \$30,000.00 was accepted for the year 1975-76. This is an increase of \$2,500 over this year. Mrs. Palmer Haugen was re-elected as first vice-president and Mrs. Oscar Christopherson was elected secretary.

The Nomination Committee for 1975 was announced: Mrs. Sheldon Mortrud, Mrs. Jerome Nikunen and Mrs. Stanley Holmaas.

The Resolutions Committee will be Mrs. Melvin Walla, Mrs. Harry Rorvig, and Mrs. Ray Oscarson.

Noon

In order that the women of the Thief River Falls parish could be freed from kitchen duties and thus be able to attend all the WMF sessions on Wednesday, arrangements were made with Zion Lutheran Church, where we went for the delicious noon luncheon served by their women.

Afternoon

In the afternoon Missionary George Knapp spoke on the mission work in Brazil and we were challenged and given much to pray about. He stated that the aim there, like in all mission fields, is to train and prepare the national workers who, because of the same cultural background, are best able to win their fellow men for Christ. The work there is handicapped by

lack of workers to both man the faculty of the schools and the churches. New churches cannot be added till men are ready to serve them. At the present time the faculty and students serve congregations on weekends.

He spoke of the radio program opportunities and said they are on the air three times weekly. He requested prayer that souls will be won through this ministry.

He, too, stressed the greatest necessity is for us all to have Jesus Christ as our personal Savior. He often came back to our theme—to be quiet before the Lord. "Jehovah is in His Holy Temple, let all the earth keep silence before Him."

We were reminded that there are temples not built with hands also. Many services in Brazil are open-air churches.

We were admonished to do His bidding that His Name might be exalted in all the earth. Be still before God that we might hear His calling and His leading us to get the message of salvation out before it is too late.

Greetings were given by two missionary wives, Mrs. Leonard Swanson from Nogales and Mrs. George Knapp from Brazil. A letter from Mrs. Dynneson was also read.

299 were registered for Wednesday. The offering received for Missionary Furlough Housing at the Convention was \$2,292.20

Thursday Evening—Festival Service

About 500 were gathered for the Festival Service. The devotions—the special music—the installation of the newly elected officers—the presentation of honorary membership pins to Miss Margaret Anderson from Sand Creek, Wisconsin, for her writing of the Women's Bible Studies for 1973 and to Mrs. Amos Dyrud as out-going secretary—all helped make it a real "festival service." The offering to Dormitory Furnishings received was \$1,946.29.

Pastor Francis Monseth gave the message and it, too, was a powerful one! He used as his text the missionary command from Matt. 28:18-20. (Please read it)

We would like to print it all, but here are just some excerpts... The fields of the AFLC are a part of Brazil and an area by the Mexican Border

—Nogales (and what a thrill it is to see them won for Christ). BUT our true vision must be to the uttermost parts of the world. Our field is the world. Christ died for the sins of the world. He filled us in with some statistics and facts of the situation in Europe, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Africa and the picture is not bright at all! 220,000 babies were born in the world today. If things go as now, 20,000 will HEAR of Jesus before they die. At this rate, heathendom will overtake the world in 50 years. Yet the foreign mission staff is declining. Do we take seriously what the Bible says about heaven and hell? What is wrong with us? The channel must be plugged up with something. There needs to be a real house-cleaning in each of us. "Search me, O God, and know my heart today."

Revival of God's people is the greatest need of the hour. Missions and evangelism are the same and must be the major thrust of our church, our schools, ourselves—and that is the reason for our WMF. God wills that ALL men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. And following His command is His promise—"Lo, I am with you always." Our field is the World! Give us the vision!

Thursday Morning Women's Fellowship Breakfast

This was held at Our Savior's Church. Again, in order that the women could be free to enjoy the WMF activities, the men of the parish and the very young girls served us. This traditional breakfast which is open to all the women, has become a time of informal sharing of spiritual blessings and a time for questions regarding the WMF work. Ideas are shared and we feel a wonderful oneness of purpose and a warm bond of Christian love.

Of the many things that could be told in this report, I will just mention two items that should be made known among all. Our treasurer, Mrs. Emberson, asked for opinions on the suggestion of discontinuing sending receipts for every contribution sent to her. Being postage rates are high, some have felt it is not justified or necessary to send receipts. The cancelled checks can be the receipts. By a show of hands it was decided that

receipts will not be sent out unless it is specifically requested by the donor. Therefore, if you send a contribution, no receipt will be mailed to you unless you request her to send you one.

Our president, Mrs. Dietsche, also asked for help in keeping the mailing list currently correct. With local groups having elections at various times during the year, our list is never current. She suggested that it would be good if local elections could be held in October, November or December and that the new officers' names be sent to her in January. I am sure that I speak for you all in saying that we are grateful to the Lord for the devoted and able leadership of Mrs. Dietsche and I trust we will all do what we can to cooperate even if it requires some of these changes on the local level. Why not make a note of this and schedule your local elections for one of these suggested months and remember to send in the new information on the form you will receive in December or thereabouts.

May I personally, as out-going secretary, take this opportunity to thank you all and the Lord for the privilege which has been mine these past four years. It has been a rich experience, and may the Lord bless us all as we continue to serve Him—each in our own place of service.

In Christ,
Mrs. Amos Dyrud, Secretary, WMF

PERSONALITIES

Rev. A. L. Hokonson has terminated his ministry at Olivet Lutheran Church in Spokane, Wash., and he and Mrs. Hokonson are at home at 414 South Third Street, Silverton, Ore. 97381.

COULD YOU HELP IN COUNSELLING AT FAMILY BIBLE CAMP?

Counsellors are needed for girls attending Family Bible Camp at Lake Geneva, Alexandria, Minn., August 19-25. Counsellors must be at least one year out of high school. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Aini Myking, dean of girls, at 2925 Hillsboro Avenue North, Apt. 713, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427, as soon as possible.

editorials

A GRATEFUL THANK-YOU

We are at that time in the Association's history when the two-term limitation on board membership is being applied for the first time. Actually it refers to two consecutive full terms. It was enforced last year in the case of Rev. Julius Hermunslie and the Co-ordinating Committee. This year it has applied to Rev. Harry C. Molstre, Co-ordinating Committee; Roy Mohagen, Board of Foreign Missions; and Eldor Sorkness, Board of Pensions.

Pastor Molstre and Mr. Mohagen served ten years and Mr. Sorkness served for 11 years. Naturally, these men have become synonymous with the areas of the work with which they were associated. They will not be quickly or easily replaced. Pastor Molstre, particularly, would have an interesting story to tell of his years on the administrative board of the Association. There have been many crucial moments over the years as a young movement sought a straight and good course. Pastor Molstre has been a vital part of all that for ten years.

Roy Mohagen in world missions and Eldor Sorkness in pensions have been very important in getting these areas well established. Roy has been the secretary for missions and Eldor the chairman for pensions. Very early in life the Association knew that she must get involved in these aspects of church life. Because of men like Mr. Mohagen and Mr. Sorkness she was able to do so.

As we said last year in connection with Pastor Hermunslie, being unable to serve after two consecutive full terms on a board doesn't rule out future service on that board or some other. It only means that a person must remain off that particular board for at least one year. Pastor Hermunslie has been put to work again, this time on the Board of Home Missions for five years.

The church says a grateful thank-you to Pastor Molstre, Mr. Mohagen and Mr. Sorkness for their faithful tenures on their respective boards. We are glad, too, that your interest continues in the church fellowship to which you have given yourselves.

SPLETSTOESER, FEATHERSTONE, AND O'NEIL

The people who organized the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations were largely of Norwegian ancestry. The Lutheran Free Church had been largely that.

The original list of pastors affiliating with the AFLC, as a consequence, was strongly a who's who of Norwegians, although not entirely so.

Very soon after, there began to appear some Finnish names both as congregational members and as members of the clergy roster. There were other nationalities scattered in that roster, too, Germans, Dutch, perhaps English, other Scandinavians. Today as one looks over the list of the church's pastors he sees names such as Spletstoesser and Featherstone, and, after the recent ordination, even an O'Neil.

It is good that it should be so. Nice as some of us may think it is to see a long list of Norwegian names, it is even nicer to see a mixing of the nationalities. The church is for all nationalities and races and there is a greater sense of the all-inclusiveness of the church (where there is faith) when it includes more than one national group. This is true of the local congregation and the church body.

We suppose that we will still turn a Norwegian phrase now and then and refer to some Norse forefather of the free church movement among Lutherans, but we want the AFLC to serve all people and we are glad for the evidences that increasingly it is doing so.

A BLESSED CONFERENCE

We recall the former editor of *The Lutheran Standard* applying various adjectives to biennial conventions of the American Lutheran Church. The word "blessed" comes to mind in thinking about our recent annual conference in Thief River Falls, Minn., June 12-16.

It wasn't a conference that will be remembered for the great number of decisions that were made. Really, there were very few. But it was permeated by a good spirit, it was well attended and it will be remembered for its very fine worship services throughout.

In the news account of the conference, it is stated that about 2600 people were present at the inspirational services. We are not sure whether that includes the communion service, but even if it does, it means an average of over 350 per service. Perhaps no other conference has had such consistently high attendance for these services.

Without making a full check, the 382 delegates registered for the conference by the opening of the Saturday afternoon session may be an all-time high for the Association. It was good to see the auditorium so well filled for many of the business sessions.

Pastor Robert Lee's opening night sermon on the conference text (Psalm 91) set a good tone for the days to follow. It was one of the most incisive and "insightful" opening night sermons that the Association has heard. The pattern of good preaching continued in Pastor Monseth's mission address Thursday night, in Mr. Donald Hansen's talk at the laymen's service, in Pastor Brandt's message at the youth night on Saturday, in Pastor Gunderson's exhortations at the service of holy communion, in Pastor Galland's sermon at morning worship and in Pastor Strand's charge and admonition at the ordination service on Sunday afternoon.

Not to be forgotten are the helpful and challenging

prayer hour meditations which Rev. Jay G. Erickson gave on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings.

It was good to be at Thief River Falls last month for conference. There was good spiritual food and good fellowship. The sincere thanks of the church goes to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, to Pastor and Mrs. David Molstre, to sister congregations of the parish and to the

whole Thief River community for their admirable hospitality to all of us who came to attend conference.

We carry away many fine memories as we go on with our work in God's kingdom, each in our place. We look forward to gathering in Thief River Falls again some other year for an annual conference should it be in God's providence that we do so.

[Continued from page 6]

Alver Christopherson,
Grand Forks, N. Dak.
Paul Flaten,
Strandquist, Minn.
Rev. Julius Hermunslie,
Fergus Falls, Minn.
John Arlen Johnson,
Granite Falls, Minn.
Ed Mathison,
Bagley, Minn.
Rev. Elden Nelson,
Eugene, Ore.
Rev. Stephen Odegaard,
Winger, Minn.
Rev. Reuben Wee,
Granite Falls, Minn.

4-year term

Soren Engevik,
Eden, S. Dak.

2-year term

Rev. Richard Anderson,
Minneapolis, Minn.

ELECTED TO THE SCHOOLS CORPORATION

The following persons were nominated by the 1974 Annual Conference to membership on the Schools Corporation and were subsequently elected by the Corporation to membership.

5-year terms

Rev. Jay G. Erickson,
Ferndale, Wash.
Rev. Dennis Gray,
Grafton, N. Dak.
Amos Hinderaker,
Radcliffe, Ia.
Howard Johnson,
Astoria, Ore.
Rev. Howard Kjos,
Roslyn, S. Dak.
Howard Lieder,
Minneapolis, Minn.
Rev. Francis Monseth,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Eugene Nesland,
Thief River Falls, Minn.
Rev. Orville Olson,
McIntosh, Minn.
Kenneth Rolfe,
McIntosh, Minn.

BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Stewardship Board

5-year term

Arlo Kneeland,
Ortley, S. Dak.
Other Board members are:
Rev. Wendell Johnson,
Dalton, Minn.
Robert L. Dietsche,
Sand Creek, Wis.
Arne Aanestad,
Battle Lake, Minn.
Rev. Stephen Odegaard,
Winger, Minn.

Commission on Evangelism

5-year term

Haldor Hegg,
McIntosh, Minn.
Other Commission members are:
Rev. Jay G. Erickson,
Ferndale, Wash.
Lay Pastor Verle Dean,
Culbertson, Mont.
Ed Mathison,
Bagley, Minn.
Rev. Kenneth Pentti,
Bessemer, Mich.

Youth Board

5-year term

Rev. David C. Molstre,
Thief River Falls, Minn.
Other Board members are:
Rev. Herbert Franz,
Cloquet, Minn.
Robert Bilden,
Bagley, Minn.
Roger Strom,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Rodger Olson,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Board of Publications and Parish Education

5-year term

Miss Eula Mae Swenson,
Fargo, N. Dak.
Other Board members are:
Kent Quanbeck,
McVile, N. Dak.
Palmer Haugen,
Portland, N. Dak.
Mrs. Melvin Walla,
Fergus Falls, Minn.
Rev. Raynard Huglen,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Board of Pensions

5-year term

Oscar Christopherson,
Minneapolis, Minn.
Other Board members are:
Rev. Jerome Nikunen,
Roseau, Minn.
Melvin Gravggaard,
Tioga, N. Dak.
Lay Pastor Melvin Walla,
Fergus Falls, Minn.
Clifford Holm,
Minneapolis, Minn.

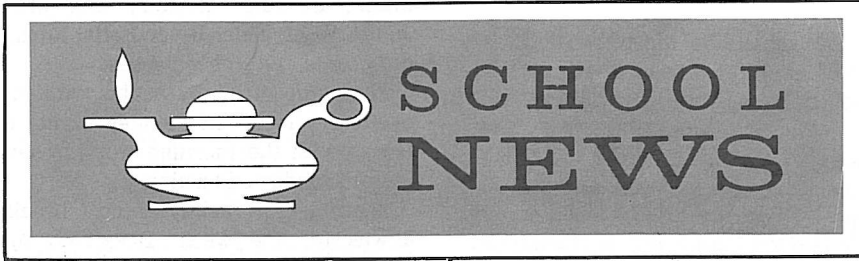
LAKE METIGOSHE BIBLE CAMP DETAILS GIVEN

Fun, fellowship and spiritual enrichment for the entire family—this is what is advertised for the annual Family Bible Camp at Lake Metigoshe State Park in the Turtle Mountains of North Dakota, July 15-21.

The camp is sponsored by the Eastern North Dakota and Western North Dakota—Eastern Montana Districts of the AFLC. Camp dean is Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Minnewaukan, N. Dak.; and the registrar is Rev. Ray Larson, Hampden, N. Dak.

Members of the teaching staff will

[Continued on page 12]



ASSOCIATION FREE LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SUMMER SHORT COURSE

July 29-August 9, 1974

- Old Testament—Introduction to Genesis** 1 hour (10 days)
by Pastor Harold Hosch
2 semester credits
- New Testament—Pastoral Epistles** 1 hour (10 days)
by Dr. Iver Olson
2 semester credits
- The Gospel According to John** 1 hour (8 days)
by Pastor Amos Dyrud
1½ semester credits
- Systematic Theology** 1 hour (10 days)
—BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THEOLOGY
by Pastor Francis Monseth
2 semester credits
- Practical Theology—Church Polity** 1 hour (2 days)
by Pastor John Strand
½ semester credit

(In lieu of examinations, we shall assign papers to be written and handed in by Feb. 1, 1975.)

Classes are held Monday-Friday each week:

- 7:45- 8:00 a.m. — Opening Devotions
8:00- 8:50 a.m. — Introduction to Genesis
9:00- 9:50 a.m. — Basic Principles of Theology
9:50-10:00 a.m. — Mid-morning break
10:10-11:00 a.m. — Church Polity (first two days)
The Gospel According to John (the remaining days)
11:10-12:00 noon — Pastoral Epistles

Note: Registration fee is \$5.00. Room at the Bible School Dormitory is \$1.50 per day. Please bring linen and blankets as needed. Meals can be obtained in area restaurants. Registrations should be sent in at once.

Our AFLC Family Camp will meet again this year at the Lake Geneva Bible Camp at Alexandria, Minn. Registration will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, and will close with dinner at 12:15 p.m. on Sunday, August 25. There will be a noon luncheon meeting for all camp staff and the counsellors on Monday prior to the camp opening.

We could not use the camp during our usual July dates this year. Perhaps it will be possible to use those preferable dates again in 1975. Few camps can accommodate a group as large as our family camp. Maybe the development of an AFLC camp facility could be considered for the future.

Brochures are available to our people and any interested friends by writing to Rev. Dennis Gray, Box 497, Grafton, N. Dak. 58237. If you are in Minneapolis, you may pick up brochures at our headquarters at 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.

Physicals must be taken by all youth under age 18 if they attend camp without a parent or guardian. Pastors will receive both brochures and physical examination blanks in the mail automatically. However, the blanks may be secured by writing Mrs. Stephen Odegaard, Winger, Minn. 56592.

At this writing, camp rates remain the same as last year and as printed in the brochure. However, a rate increase may be indicated to offset rising camp costs.

Lay Pastor Rodney Stueland of Buxton, N. Dak., will be our camp evangelist. Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Minnewaukan, N. Dak., will be our adult Bible teacher and discussion leader. Rev. Bruce Dalager, Bagley, Minn., will be our youth Bible teacher and discussion leader and Mr. Ronald Hoehne, seminary student serving at Fergus Falls, Minn., will instruct the confirmation groups.

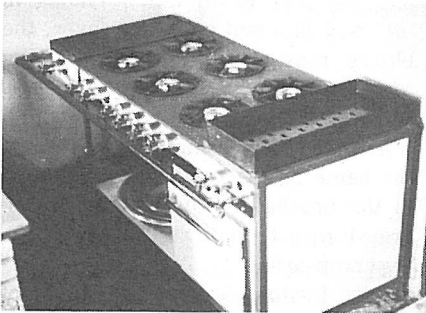
Let us be in prayer for the camp dean, Lay Pastor Gene Sundby, who is seriously ill. You are urged to write the Sundbys at Box 68, Stewart Valley, Sask., Canada.

—Rev. Dennis Gray
Asst. Camp Dean



THANK YOU FOR THE NEW STOVE

We wish to thank the ladies of the WMF for their financial help in the purchasing of a new stove for the Bible school and seminary here in Brazil. It has really been a blessing and great help to those who do the cooking. We had a pastors' conference here not long ago and were we ever thankful for the big burners that let us cook the food much quicker.



You all can be assured that it will always be put to good use. Thank you all again and may the Lord continue to bless the work of the WMF.

Joy in His Service,
Your missionaries in Brazil,
the Abels, Knapps and Dyruds

BLAZING THE TRAIL

It was a thrill to see the courage and enthusiasm of our friends from the States who came to visit us in Brazil. They showed a real love for the people and a thirst to know more about this vast country and the mis-

sion work here. Even with the thermometer bubbling over 100 degrees, this did not seem to slow them down.

The Brazilians who got to meet the travelers were very much impressed with the true Christian love and consideration shown them by our Christian brothers and sisters from the States. The language barrier did not seem to be a problem at all. They still ask about you by name and wonder when you'll be back to visit them.

We, the missionaries on the field, were greatly encouraged by the presence of those who came to see the work first-hand in Brazil.

We enjoyed to visit with our traveling friends and co-laborers but found their stay in our mission compound much too short. There was so much to show and discuss and too little time to get all around what we wanted to share.

We hope and pray this will be just the beginning for such future tours to our mission. We also encourage individuals, couples and families to feel free to come at a time that you find most convenient and stay as long as you can. Even get involved in the work here.

In closing, we, the missionary families and staff, wish to thank you for coming and ask you to continue to pray for us and the work here in Brazil. We also ask you to transmit what you experienced in Brazil to those in the States.

May God richly bless you.

Joy in His Service,
The Connely Dyruds

be Rev. Forrest Swenson, Tioga, N. Dak., adult Bible hour; Rev. Bruce Dalager, Bagley, Minn., youth Bible hour; Rev. Stephen Odegaard, Winger, Minn., Christian growth hour; Rev. Francis Monseth, Minneapolis, Minn., evening speaker; and Miss Judith Wold, Thief River Falls, Minn., director of children's classes.

The camp officially begins with the evening service on Monday night. It closes with the morning worship service on Sunday and a dinner.

There are a variety of cost breakdowns for the week. Basically, for those staying in the dormitory, the charge for lodging and meals is \$22.00 for adults; \$17.00 for teenagers; \$13.00, ages 6-12; and \$6.50 below age 6. The maximum family rate is \$85.00 or \$65.00 with camper, plus the camp site rates.

Lake Metigoshe is 16 miles from the famed International Peace Gardens. Campers should bring their own fishing equipment and swimming clothes.

It is already late for registering, but for immediate response call Pastor Larson at Hampden.

GUDRUN BORGHILD DAHLE

Gudrun Borghild Dahle was born in Duluth Minnesota, of parents, Rev. Ole Dahle and Regine (Gulbrandson) Dahle (who were both born in Norway).

When a young child, her parents moved to Aitkin, Minnesota, and settled on a homestead on the west shores of Farm Island Lake, ten miles south of town. At this place she grew up and attended grade school together with her eight brothers and sisters. At the age of 15 she was confirmed by her father in Ceder Lake Lutheran Church (LFC). In the fall of 1911, the family moved to Starbuck, Minn., where Borghild graduated from high school, after which she attended the State Normal School, where she received a teacher's certificate, and taught school for a few years. Then

she entered the Lutheran Deaconess Hospital, Minneapolis, Minn., and graduated with an R.N. degree and worked as a nurse in Portland, Ore., Rochester, Minn., and Chicago, Ill. Later she took a course in county nursing at the University of Minnesota and worked as a county nurse in Ada, Minn., and on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, at Hardin, Mont., and at Montevideo, Minn. Upon retiring from county nursing, she did private duty and floor work at Fairview Hospital, Minneapolis, for several years until retirement age.

While living in Minneapolis, she made her home with her sister Astrid and the Rev. Leif H. Awes and later moved to Spicer, Minn., making her home with her brother, Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, until illness made it necessary to enter the Bethesda Homes, Willmar, Minn., where she remained until flu and pneumonia took her life March 30, 1974, at 2:00 p.m.

She is survived by two brothers, the Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, and Rev. Ernst I. Dahle of Minneapolis, and one sister, Mrs. M. M. (Dagney) Hilliard, of Oceanside, Cal.; several cousins, some in the U.S., and some in Norway; many nephews and nieces; other relatives; and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held on Friday, April 5, at 10:30 a.m., at Green Lake Lutheran Church, Spicer, Minn., with the Rev. Leslie Galland officiating, and interment was in the Green Lake Lutheran Cemetery, with Johnson Funeral Home, New London, in charge.

Blessed be her memory.

TWO NORTHERN MINNESOTA DISTRICT CHURCHES TO NOTE SUMMER ANNIVERSARIES

Two congregations in the Northern Minnesota District of the AFLC will observe anniversaries of founding this summer.

On July 21, Bethania Lutheran Church, rural Newfolden, Minn., Rev. Hubert DeBoer, interim pastor, will celebrate its 90th anniversary. Scheduled speakers for the day are Mr. Ed Mathison, Bagley, Minn., at the 10:30 a.m. worship service and Rev.

John P. Strand, president of the AFLC, at the 2:00 p.m. anniversary service.

Oiland Lutheran Church, rural Greenbush, Minn., Mr. Gust Nordvall, lay pastor, will note its 75th anniversary in festivities on Sunday, August 4.

Both congregations extend an invitation to all friends to share in these special occasions.

HAVE A HAWAII VACATION WITH A PLUS

The Seattle Bible School is offering a summer institute of Biblical studies on the island of Hawaii—August 6-28, 1974. They are offering a three-week course of systematic Bible Study in one of the world's most beautiful settings and surrounded by the camaraderie of like-minded people.

Four different courses will be offered—Luke, Ephesians-Colossians, I and II Corinthians and The Doctrine of Christ. It is possible to earn five credits. These credits are issued by the Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle and are transferrable to the AFLC Bible School. The teachers are Rev. Donald Baron, dean of the Hawaii Lutheran Bible Institute, and Rev. Arnold M. Stone, part-time teacher at the AFLC Bible School and pastor of the Redeemer Lutheran Church of Fridley, Minn.

The cost: a special package price of \$255 includes room, board, and ground transportation on Hawaii (includes beach and volcano trips, plus airport travel) and three days' hotel accommodations and airport transportation in Honolulu. A special air rate of \$335.50 is available when you join the tour group leaving St. Paul-Minneapolis under the leadership of Mr. Gregg Olson, 2755 Rice Street, Apt. 402, Roseville, Minn. 55113. Telephone (612) 483-4138. Only the meals during the three-day stay in Honolulu are not included. It will cost less if you join the group in Los Angeles.

Who can go? Anyone. You may choose to audit the courses or take them for credit. For more information, contact Mr. Gregg Olson.

—Corr.

YOU WERE THERE

There were times when I could reach the world—
You were there.
All-knowing,
All-patient,
All-understanding.
You were there through the worst

times,
holding fast to me,
giving peace through the confusion,
for if I lost the battle with myself,
You had won a far greater one,
the war for my soul.

When the word came,
"You can handle life on your own now,"

I knew it wasn't me at all,
and wanted to shout praises to Your name.

I owe everything to You.
Thank you, Lord, for bringing me home.

Lord, you were with me,
when I was in hell,
when nothing was real,
not even myself.
When I challenged reality,
You made me face it
and said, "This life can be more beautiful than a dream world will ever be."
When I wanted to die,
You took the pills away
and promised, "Things will change."

When I realized
how "nothing" I was without You
and said, "I've made a mess of myself, Lord,
but I know You can make me whole.
Take me and use me as You will,"

You said, "I will never let you go."

And You didn't.
I was still 'disturbed'
but You were there.

—Dorothy

(Dorothy came to Our Redeemer Lutheran, Kirkland, Wash., a couple of years ago as an older teenager with serious emotional and mental problems. She had been seeing a professional counsellor for a lengthy period of time. Through coming to saving faith in Jesus and the resulting transformation in her life, she is able to write this testimony.—Pastor Robert Rieth)

The First Prayer in Congress

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, and Lord of Lords, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers on earth, and reignest with power supreme and uncontrolled over all the Kingdoms, Empires and Governments; look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these our American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor, and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee; to Thee have they appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support, which Thou alone canst give; take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, under Thy nurturing care; give them wisdom in Council and valor in the field; defeat the malicious designs of our cruel adversaries; convince them of the unrighteousness of their cause; and if they persist in their sanguinary purposes, O! let the voice of Thine own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapons of war, from their unnerved hands in the day of battle! Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation. That the scene of blood may be speedily closed; that order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety, prevail and flourish amongst Thy people. Preserve the health of their bodies and vigor of their minds; shower down on them and the millions they here represent, such temporal blessings, as Thou seest expedient for them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Savior.

Amen.

"The First Prayer in Congress" was offered by the Rev. Jacob Duche before the First Continental Congress, on September 7, 1774, in the presence of many of the most illustrious of the Founding Fathers. This prayer is a classic example of that trust in Divine Providence which characterized early American history.



THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

* Famine in Africa is getting worse. Formerly unaffected areas are drying up. At least nine Christian organizations are pumping money, food, and men into the stricken areas. Meanwhile, the U.S. and U.N. are being charged with "neglect and inertia" in their response to the disaster... but torrential rains have come to parts of Ethiopia, and flooding has washed out crops planted along the rivers. In Niger, early rains have come... but plow animals have died, seed grain has been eaten, and without more rain, the crops will not grow.

* A Canadian evangelist refused to pay his property taxes after four homosexuals were allowed to expound their views at his daughter's school. His action drew wide support from other parents and prevented future similar actions.

* Revival in a high school in Rhodesia recently brought 80 of the 350 students to Christ. 120 more expressed a desire to join Bible study groups. There were three Christians before the outreach.

HIGHER EDUCATION DIRECTORY LISTS 74 LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

Minneapolis — (LC) — The seventh edition of the most complete directory of Lutheran higher education currently being published has been issued by Lutheran Brotherhood, fraternal insurance society based here.

The directory includes information on 74 Lutheran institutions—34 senior colleges, 14 junior colleges, 19 seminaries, four Bible schools and three deaconess schools. About 50,000 copies were printed.

"I am personally very pleased and excited about the booklet," said the Rev. Robert L. Anderson of Washington, D.C., associate executive secretary of the Division of Campus Minis-

try and Educational Services of the Lutheran Council in the USA. "I think it is well done and very attractive in format."

Available through Lutheran Brotherhood district representatives, the directory is designed to aid youth counselors in encouraging young people to attend Lutheran schools. Complimentary copies are being mailed to every Lutheran congregation in the United States and to about 1,600 Lutheran church libraries.

Updated every two years, the publication is prepared with the help of Lutheran college personnel at each of the schools listed. A brief description of each school is followed by information on faculty, enrollment, degrees offered, costs and whom to contact for further details.

(Ed. Note: The cover of the booklet features a picture from AFLBS and the two pictures in the Bible Schools section are also of life at AFLBS.)

LCMS BOARD CENSURES ELIM, ORGANIZATION OF MODERATES

St. Louis—(LC)—The Board of Directors of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has censured the moderate organization called Evangelical Lutherans in Mission (ELIM) and warned Synod members to "exercise great care and caution" in joining the group.

The resolution passed here during a meeting of the board, May 30-31, said that since ELIM solicited funds for a seminary, an independent mission society, publications, and an organizational structure, the organization was "substantially a church within a church."

CHARGE OF BEING DIVISIVE ANSWERED BY ELIM LEADER

St. Louis—(LC)—The president of Evangelical Lutherans in Mission (ELIM) said here that anyone who "takes a stand on either side of the

controversy in our Synod" becomes vulnerable to the charge of being divisive.

The Rev. Samuel J. Roth was responding to a resolution from the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod which warned members of the denomination from joining the moderate group because the organization was "divisive" and "substantially a church within a church."

Mr. Roth said that ELIM exists "chiefly in order to make a confession of faith and to stand with men and women of God who have been treated unjustly." Mr. Elwyn Ewald, general manager of the organization, also rejected the Synod's charge that ELIM was divisive or constituted a new church.

"If supporting seminary students and faculty and mission staff who have taken strong stands of conscience is divisive," Mr. Roth continued, "then we will have to plead guilty." ELIM has announced that it will give support to those in the LCMS who are protesting synodical policies.

"Our activities in ELIM have been termed 'divisive,'" said the moderate leader. "It seems clear that anyone who takes a stand on either side of the controversy in our Synod becomes vulnerable to that charge. The only way to avoid it is to take no stand at all, and those of us who feel deeply about the issues find that impossible."

CONCORDIA FACULTY ENDORSES SIX SEMINEX GRADUATES

St. Louis, Mo.—The faculty of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, announced today that it has endorsed six graduates of Seminex for ordination into the ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. All six Seminex seniors have successfully completed interviews with the Concordia faculty in recent weeks.

Dr. Ralph A. Bohlmann, acting president of Concordia Seminary, expressed pleasure with the action of the Concordia faculty: "All of these young men gave a good account of themselves in the interviews and expressed a deep commitment to the doctrinal position of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. They also expressed a willingness to observe the Synod's constitutional processes. We, in turn, have assured these young men

that their action in receiving our endorsement does not prevent them from a responsible expression of criticism of the Synod or its policies. The Concordia Seminary faculty and I continue to hope that many other Seminary seniors will avail themselves of the opportunity to receive endorsement from our faculty so that they may enter the ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in the proper constitutional manner."

More News and Reports from the 1974 Annual Conference Next time.

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

Second-class postage
paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

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