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Vol. 7

July 8, 1969

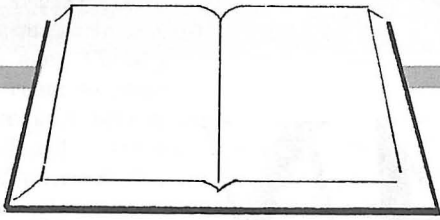
No. 14

LUTHERAN

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Reports from the 1969 Annual Conference





According to the Word

TRUE . . . ALMOST . . . BUT

Ole came up the street one day, driving his car. As he came to a crossing, he saw a sign on the other side of the street saying "NO U TURN."

But Ole made a U turn anyway.

Hardly had he turned when a policeman stopped him and asked, "Can you read?" Ole answered, "Sure, I can read!" "Then," said the policeman, "will you read that sign?" Ole looked, then answered, "It says 'NOW U TURN.'"

Ole was right . . . almost.

Language-wise he had added one letter only. In some other combination of letters that "U" might not have made so great a difference. But in this case the change he had made sent him in the opposite direction from what the sign really said.

What was Ole's difficulty?

In his eagerness to escape the consequences of his violation he wittily made a small revision in the message of the sign! Since he was unable to produce a good reason for having broken the law, he subtly suggested an excuse—he was a poor reader, and therefore did not understand directions.

Have you ever done this? Or I?

Jesus tells us in Matt. 6:33: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things

shall be added unto you." Our Lord had been talking about human anxiety, worry and care, and ended by saying that our "Heavenly Father 'KNOWS that you have need of all these THINGS.'" "Things" are what belong to our "daily bread."

But how easy for us to revise this clear statement by Jesus in the way we travel life's street! The sign before us says: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God . . ." while we revise the sentence structure to read: "Seek ye first all these things, and the kingdom of God shall be added unto you."

A man I knew well years ago told me once, as I approached him on spiritual ground, "God has never given me anything; I have had to work for what I have." And worked he had—no question about that! Some years later, after I had entered college, word came that W. had cancer—a terminal case. As I called on him in his home he was easy to approach about the kingdom of GOD. These "THINGS" he had worked for, and which had been first, he was now slipping away from; and the kingdom of God came first.

At last he was reading the sign correctly!

Anxiety over "things" robs us of power to live for God and serve our fellow men. We know this, and yet the truth is that no one has the power to break the chains that bind us to anxiety. God must do that and He says, "Seek first God's Kingdom."

Anxiety simply expresses that the world and worldly things are Number One in our lives. Hence Jesus says, Let God's kingdom be Number One, and I will be responsible for your entire life on earth.

Will we dare take Him at His word, change the course with reference to "things" and rest in His promise?

Our Lord tells us in Matt. 10:30: "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered." Can this be true? I cannot even count the hairs on my own head, and our earth's population is ca. three billion.

But where our reasoning falls short, our faith reaches forth. How good for us if we could quit measuring God with our yardstick. How good for us if we could resolve for all time that we are human beings, and that God is God. What would happen then? Then we could fold our hands and rest with our difficulties in our all-knowing Heavenly Father's arms.

If we who have been "born again," by receiving Jesus as our atonement for sin, would experience God's power both for rest and for labors, we must seek His kingdom first.

A world seemingly gone mad after "these things" is searching for something satisfying. Do our lives bring proof that Jesus is our portion and that our riches are based in God's kingdom?

—Karl Stendal

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.

AFLC Conference was Held in Minneapolis Last Month

The 7th Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations was held at the church's headquarters in Plymouth Village, Minneapolis, Minn., June 11-15. The Seminary and Bible School and Medicine Lake Lutheran Church were co-hosts. Rev. R. Snipstead is the interim pastor of the congregation.

Rev. John P. Strand, Minneapolis, was re-elected president for his third three-year term. He also served from the formation of the AFLC in October, 1962, to October 1, 1963, when his first full term began.

Pastor Snipstead was re-elected vice-president for a fourth one-year term by more than a three-fourths majority, the margin necessary to continue in office after three full terms. Rev. Harry C. Molstre, Valley City, N. Dak., who had served three terms.

Pastor Molstre was nominated by the conference for another five-year term on the Co-ordinating Committee Corporation. While the corporation elects its own members, the conference nomination is tantamount to election in this case.

In a main conference decision, the Co-ordinating Committee and the Seminary (Schools) Corporation were directed to effect the transfer of some of the Minneapolis property on Medicine Lake from the Co-ordinating Committee to the Seminary Corporation. The resolution stipulated that those areas of the property definitely involved in the educational work should be transferred.

The transaction will be in line with AFLC policy that property ownership be shared by the several corporations. The Association itself is not incorporated, a feature which differentiates it from most other church denominations.

The conference also approved the study committee's recommendation that the Co-ordinating Committee's size be retained at seven members rather than increased to 21 or 30, figures that had been mentioned in the past. Those figures had been suggested in connection with the possibility that the Committee might continue as a major property holder in the church fellowship.

Another major conference action and one which was a departure from previous policy was the decision to ask the Board of Trustees of the Schools to initiate in the fall of 1970 a discount to AFLC students at the Bible School. Prior to the conference the Board had voted an increase in tuition to \$120 per quarter in September, 1970. There are also to be increases in board and room costs. The conference action was taken because of considerable feeling that Association students should receive special consideration in view of the fact that their congregations maintain the School and contribute heavily to its support. It was also pointed out that even with the anticipated increases in costs, non-Association students will likely not be able to obtain a Bible School education more reasonably anywhere else.

A special committee reported to the conference on the question of erecting a retirement home on the Medicine Lake property. The report advised against any move toward such a home at the present time and questioned the need for such a facility. The conference was loathe to drop the matter completely, however, and asked the committee to continue its investigations and report further findings in **The Lutheran Ambassador** beginning no later than three months from that date.

The annual conference set up a budget analysis committee on a permanent basis. The committee will consist of five members and will have the responsibility of analyzing the budget requests of the major church agencies prior to an annual conference and then present its recommendations to the conference. The committee will conduct its inquiries in consultation with the boards involved. Committee members themselves are not to be members of the boards concerned.

The annual conference chose the following men to serve on the 1970 Analysis Committee: Rev. Albert Hautamaki, Rev. David Molstre, Rev. Orville Olson, Mr. Robert Bursheim and Rev. Gerald Mundfrom.

There was a flurry of excitement on the otherwise generally placid con-

vention floor when Resolutions Committee No. 3 presented a budget for missions far in excess of what the Budget Analysis Committee for the conference had proposed. There had been a gentlemen's agreement among the boards to adhere to the committee's suggestions. But after some discussion the conference voted almost unanimously for the Analysis Committee's recommendation.

The total budget voted by the conference for 1970-71 was \$175,000, a figure somewhat less than the current budget, but about \$41,430 more than the total receipts for the last full fiscal year, 1968-69.

Two services of special import concluded the conference on Sunday. In the morning six young men were ordained into the church's ministry. All received their training at Free Lutheran Theological Seminary. Class members, their homes and the places where they will serve are: Gary Skramstad, Valley City, N. Dak., to Kalispell, Mont.; Wendell Johnson, Cambridge, Minn., to Dalton, Minn.; Connely Dyrud, Thief River Falls, Minn., to Campo Mourao, Parana, Brazil; Marvin Haara, L'Anse, Mich., to Virginia, Minn.; Larry Severson, Walnut Grove, Minn., to Abercrombie, N. Dak.; and Forrest Swenson, Roseau, Minn., to Winger, Minn.

Pastor Strand conducted the ordination and preached the sermon, using the Sunday's text, Luke 14:25-35, as the basis for the message. He said that the marks of Christian discipleship are the bearing of the cross, the weakness to which the Lord brings strength and a refusal to make peace with the enemy.

On Sunday afternoon another large crowd, although slightly less than in the morning, attended the dedication of the dormitory building for the Bible School. Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn., delivered the dedicatory address, based on Psalm 85:6. He dealt with a number of subjects and traced the progression of events leading to the occasion at hand.

The dedication itself took place at the entrance to the Bible School building. A greeting was brought by an

[Continued on page 14]

Reports from the 1969 Annual Conference

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE 1970 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Eastern North Dakota

Mr. G. N. Arneson
Fargo, North Dakota

Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana

Mr. Arley Hartsoch
Ray, North Dakota

South Dakota

Rev. Raynard Huglen
Roslyn, South Dakota

Northern Minnesota

Mr. Irvin Schmitke
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

North Central Minnesota

Mr. Edwin Mathison
Bagley, Minnesota

Central Minnesota

Rev. Wendell Johnson
Dalton, Minnesota

Minneapolis

Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson
Radcliffe, Iowa

Northern Michigan

Mr. George Johnson
Eben Junction, Michigan

West Coast

Rev. Jay G. Erickson
Ferndale, Washington

In a caucus during the Conference the Nominating Committee elected Pastor Huglen as temporary chairman of the committee and Pastor Anderson as temporary secretary. Permanent officers will be chosen at the time of the Annual Conference in 1970.

NOMINATED BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO THE MISSIONS CORPORATION AND ELECTED BY THAT BODY

(1 year)

Rev. Larry Severson, Abercrombie,
N. Dak.

(4 years)

Mr. Fred Ferguson, White Earth,
North Dakota

(5 years)

Rev. Francis Monseth, Everett, Wash-
ington

Pastor Gene Sundby, Culbertson, Mon-
tana

Mr. Paul Flaten, Newfolden, Minnesota
Mr. Edwin Mathison, Bagley, Minne-
sota

Mr. Andrew Anderson, Radcliffe, Iowa
Rev. Reuben Wee, Tioga, North Dakota
Mr. Alvor Christopherson, Grand
Forks, North Dakota

Mr. Daniel Oien, McVile, North
Dakota

Mr. Alvin Grothe, Badger, Minnesota
Mr. Roy Mohagen, Grafton, North Da-
kota

NOMINATED BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO THE SCHOOLS CORPORATION AND ELECTED BY THAT BODY

(1 year)

Mr. G. N. Arneson, Fargo, North Da-
kota

(3 years)

Mr. Clarence Quanbeck, McVile,
North Dakota

Rev. Ernest Langness, McVile, North
Dakota

Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minne-
sota

Mr. Arthur Olson, Tioga, North Dakota
Mr. Irvin Hodnefield, Radcliffe, Iowa
Mr. Paul Bjornstad, Duluth, Minnesota

Rev. Albert Hautamaki, Ishpeming,
Michigan

Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minnesota
Mr. Vernon Madsen, Virginia, Minne-
sota

Mr. Lester Hanson, Ferndale, Wash-
ington

BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED BY THE 1969 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BOARD OF PENSIONS

(5 years)

Eldor Sorkness*
Sand Creek, Wisconsin

YOUTH BOARD

(5 years)

Rev. Forrest Swenson
Winger, Minnesota

STEWARDSHIP BOARD

(4 years)

Rev. Marvin Undseth
Shevlin, Minnesota

(5 years)

Mr. Kenneth Olson
Radcliffe, Iowa

BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS AND PARISH EDUCATION

(4 years)



Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash., who
was chosen secretary of the Association.



Rev. John P. Strand, re-elected as presi-
dent of the AFLC.

Mrs. Philip Dyrud
Newfolden, Minnesota

(5 years)
Miss Eula Mae Swenson
Fargo, North Dakota

* Re-elected

**NOMINATED BY THE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE FOR ELECTION
BY THE CO-ORDINATING
COMMITTEE**

**EDITOR, THE LUTHERAN
AMBASSADOR**

(3 years)
Rev. Raynard Huglen
Roslyn, South Dakota
Rev. Francis Monseth
Everett, Washington

**OFFICERS ELECTED AT
THE 1969 ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

PRESIDENT (3 years)
Rev. John P. Strand*
Minneapolis, Minnesota

VICE-PRESIDENT (1 year)
Rev. Richard Snipstead*
Minneapolis, Minnesota

SECRETARY (1 year)
Rev. Robert Rieth
Kirkland, Washington

* Re-elected



The Schools Corporation met during the Annual Conference.



Ordained into the ministry of the AFLC on Sunday morning of the Annual Conference were, left to right, Forrest Swenson, Wendell Johnson, Connelly Dyrud, Marvin Harra, Gary Skramstad and Larry Severson.

**NOMINATED BY THE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE TO THE
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE
CORPORATION**

(Tantamount to election)

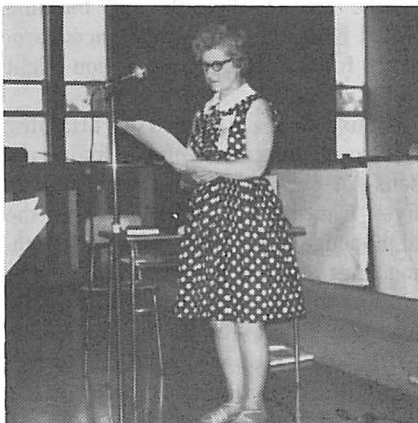
(5 years)
Rev. Harry C. Molstre*
Valley City, North Dakota

* Re-elected

**NOMINATED BY THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND
ELECTED BY THEIR
CORPORATIONS**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
(SCHOOLS)**

(5 years)



Mrs. Lawrence Dahlgren, Lake Park, Minn., read one of the committee reports.

Mr. Philip Grothe
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

(1 year)
Rev. Karl I. Stendal
Pukwana, South Dakota

BOARD OF WORLD MISSIONS

(5 years)
Mr. Roy Mohagen*
Grafton, North Dakota

BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

(5 years)
Rev. Hubert F. DeBoer*
Willmar, Minnesota

* Re-elected

**MORE CONFERENCE REPORTS
AND PICTURES NEXT TIME**

“So you see that it is men of faith
who are the sons of Abraham.”
Galatians 3:7

“And I pray that the sharing of your
faith may promote the knowledge of
all the good that is ours in Christ.”
Philemon 6

“For by grace you have been saved
through faith; and this is not your own
doing, it is the gift of God—not because
of works, lest any man should boast.”
Ephesians 2:8, 9

The President's Report

Part II

THE ASSOCIATION

The Association has had a good year under the blessing of Almighty God. The fine Annual Conference in Cloquet, and the inspiring Family Bible Camp are still producing good fruits. The completion of the new Bible School building at a very reasonable cost made a great contribution to our Bible School and Seminary program. The continuing developments on our grounds here speak of great things here and to come.

The offices have been short-handed most of the year. There was some reluctance to add personnel until after this conference. The financial receipts also caused hesitation. More help is absolutely essential. The new office arrangement will greatly assist towards a more efficient operation.

The Home Mission Board created by the last conference has begun its work and will be of great value. Home Mission opportunities are countless and great wisdom is needed so that work is done in the right areas.

Reports from our work in Brazil continue to be good. We are happy that the chairman of the Foreign Mission Board consented to go to Brazil on a fact-finding mission. This will make it much better for the Board to give the necessary leadership for the Foreign Mission work.

The Board of Parish Education has come a long way toward providing materials for our Sunday Schools. The materials will not be perfect, but they are a beginning. They will be improved, we are sure, as time goes on. We trust that the Sunday Schools will use the lessons. We are grateful to those who have prepared the studies. Some may depreciate the material because there were not enough degrees in Christian Education involved, and "A prophet is not without honor save in his own country." Let us receive the work gratefully.

There was a fine increase in receipts

for the work of the Association this year. While we did not receive our budget goals, it was a good year, particularly when we consider the building program. The winter was very severe, and with prices for farm produce being on the weak side, the receipts this winter and early spring were down. There was a good response, however, to a special appeal from the office.

Our Conference last year adopted a very optimistic budget. From a practical standpoint, it seems unreachable this year. This calls for a little study of what is wise procedure.

No one can successfully argue that our budget this year is beyond the capabilities of our people. We are not always obedient to the leading of the Spirit, however. We must deal with facts as they are, not what they ought to be.

As an Association, we cannot enter every opportunity as a larger fellowship might. We cannot hire every teacher that may want to teach, send out every one who may want to go to Brazil, enter every home mission field, hire all the personnel we could use at our offices, nor print all that could be printed for distribution. We must establish priorities as to what will build the Association most effectively. Surely the entire work is aimed at the saving of souls and building God's Kingdom. A well-balanced program for the entire Association ought to be the goal.

A budget that is beyond our attaining is discouraging. One of the main reasons for the merger of the Lutheran Free Church with the ALC was the high budget the LFC was not reaching. Let us not get trapped into a similar situation. Let us rather have a program that will challenge our people but that they will not find burdensome. If more monies come in, it can be used for added opportunities. I am confident there will be more progress this way.

We as an Association have now a good base of operation. It is wonderful how the needs have been provided. The Association is in good financial condition. It would seem wise to consolidate at this time, however, rather than to launch out in further expansion beyond what is already determined.

Each year a representative of every board has met as a budget analysis committee to assess budgets and make recommendations to the Conference. This procedure is nowhere provided for. It might be well if a committee of non-board members is elected by every Conference to study the budget requests and come with recommendations to the following Conference.

There is need for more stewardship promotion of a kind that will not cost more than it produces. Each board should take more initiative to encourage support for its particular responsibilities. Plans are being made to do this, and it is to be encouraged. People generally respond when they know the program and the needs.

(Events of significance in the Association during the past year are then listed. Their enumeration may be found in the Annual Report for 1969 when it is available later this year.)

One of our co-laborers was taken into the Church Triumphant this past year. Pastor George Soberg, who was the pastor of the Medicine Lake Lutheran Church and very active in the work of the Association, passed away December 10, 1968, and was buried from the Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, December 13, 1968. He was for many years on the Seminary Board and a fund has been started to purchase an organ in his memory to be installed at the Medicine Lake Lutheran Church and be used in Bible School and Seminary work. May God bless his memory to us all.

FACING THE FUTURE

Our schools are the heart of our
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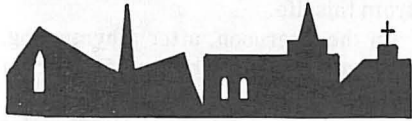
MEET

the

Churches

OF OUR

FELLOWSHIP



**Today: The McIntosh-Fosston
(Minn.) Parish**

Trinity Lutheran Church

Begun as a congregation in the Norwegian Danish Conference on Dec. 27, 1884, Trinity Church became a part of the United Church in 1890 and of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (then the Norwegian Lutheran Church) in 1917. In 1963 the congregation left the successor American Lutheran Church and later affiliated with the AFLC.

Trinity was organized in a log house in Lessor Township. Its current location is five miles north and three-fourths mile west of McIntosh.

Rev. Obert Lowe, an ALC pastor in Green Bay, Wis., came from Trinity, being ordained in 1953. Lay pastor and Mrs. Knute Jore, who serve in

the AFLC, recently at Culbertson, Mont., were commissioned for Indian work at Trinity in December, 1954. Another couple, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ramse, were commissioned in May, 1956, to be in charge of the Tokio Lutheran Indian Mission south of Devils Lake, N. Dak.

Trinity has been served by these pastors: Nicolai Heierman, 1884-93; Andreas Helland, 1893-94; Kristofer Dalager, 1895-1903; Gabriel N. Isolany, 1903-04; J. B. A. Dale, 1904-22; C. M. Westermoe, 1922-43; G. Gabrielsen 1943-49; Arthur H. Grimstad, 1949-53; Harry C. Molstre, 1954-63; Joel Pederson, 1963-67; Hubert DeBoer, 1967-68; Mr. Edwin Mathison, 1968; and Orville T. Olson, 1969-.

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

Mt. Carmel, in McIntosh, purchased a church building in St. Hilaire, Minn., and had it moved the 40 miles to the basement which had been prepared. The first service in the new church took place in December, 1965. Extensive renovations were made in the building and Mt. Carmel enjoys spacious and attractive accommodations.

The congregation was organized in September, 1963, and at first held its worship services in the Rodseth building on Main Street in the eastern Polk County town. Some of the members of Mt. Carmel were formerly affiliated with an ALC congregation called Our Savior.

These pastors have served Mt. Carmel: Joel Pederson, 1963-65; Hubert De Boer, 1965-68; Mr. Edwin Mathison,

1968; and Orville T. Olson, 1969-.

The ordination of Pastor Olson took place in Mt. Carmel on Mar. 2 this year.

Calvary Lutheran Church

Calvary is one of the younger churches in the Association, being organized in July, 1965. The basement church in which the congregation worships is located in the town of Fosston.

When the work was started in Fosston by Pastor Joel Pederson in 1963, services were held in the Elementary School. For a time in 1966 joint services were conducted in Mt. Carmel Church in McIntosh. The first service in their own church facilities took place on Jan. 22, 1967.

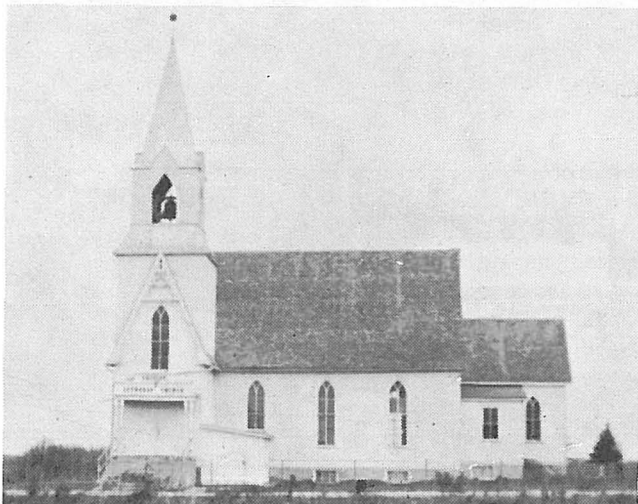
Some of the members of Calvary were previously members of Kingo Lutheran Free Church, a congregation which was organized in 1884.

In addition to Pastor Pederson, Calvary has been served by the following: Mr. Dewayne Thorson, 1964; Pastor John DeBoer, 1965; Mr. Robert Lee, 1965; Pastor Hubert DeBoer, 1965-68; and Orville T. Olson, 1969-. Mr. Edwin Mathison and Mr. Robert Bilden, both of Bagley, have also served the church as lay pastors.

The Parish

Calvary, Grace Lutheran and Rice Lutheran of Bagley, and Emmanuel Lutheran of Clearbrook composed one parish from February to August, 1965. Mt. Carmel joined the parish that fall. Trinity entered in November, 1967.

[Continued on page 13]



Trinity Lutheran Church



Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

WOMEN for Christ

REPORT OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE WMF

Our seventh annual convention of our Women's Missionary Federation was held at our headquarters building at Medicine Lake, Minneapolis, Minn., on Wed., June 11. An opening prayer service was led by Mrs. Clifford Johnson, Esko, Minn. Our president, Mrs. Herbert Presteng, Grafton, N. Dak., then opened the convention and introduced our song leader, Mrs. William Smerdon, Cloquet, Minn. Mrs. Francis Monseth, Everett, Wash., led in scripture reading and prayer. The welcome was given by Mrs. John P. Strand, Minneapolis, followed by the response by Mrs. Presteng. Mrs. Jerome Nikunen of Ontonagon, Mich., sang a solo, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness."

Mrs. Roy Syverson of Tioga, N. Dak., gave the morning Bible Study, based on I Samuel 12:24: "Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things He hath done for you." She divided her Bible study into three parts. The first part was "Godly Fear." This is to love and respect our Heavenly Father. We should fear and love God as told in Deuteronomy 6:1-2 and we are to obey his command given us in Deuteronomy 6:6-7. How do we measure up to this command? How consistent are we in our homes telling the children about Jesus? We are to implant in them and instruct them in the Word of God. We blame the younger generation when it is the parents who are failing them. Sin is so rampant because the little ones are not taught the Word. We are not to

be conformed to this world but set our affections on heavenly things and abstain from fleshly lusts. The world is watching the Christian. We must be ever Christ-like at all times, possessing what we profess. We must be dedicated, using our talents for him.

The second part of Mrs. Syverson's study was "Godly Service." This godly service of ours, is it the "May I" of love or the "Must I" of duty? We often salve our consciences by weak excuses. We must seek His strength for blessings to do His bidding. We need believers who want to do His bidding. Salvation is not a reward, it is a gift. God has promised rewards for what we have done, as He tells us in II Corinthians 5:10.

The third part was "Gratitude and Thanks." In Colossians 3:15-16, we

read of the call for praise to God and also the peace of God. Three reasons for praising God are the greatness of God, the goodness of God and victory through Christ. God will go with us daily as we seek His strength.

We were favored with a vocal duet, "Fill My Cup, Lord" by Mrs. Walter Ruhiluoma and Mrs. John Lunde of Stacy. Mrs. Gerald Mundfrom, Grafton, conducted the Memorial Service with women from each district placing flowers in a vase in memory of those of our WMF who have departed from this life.

In the afternoon, after a hymn sing, devotions were given by Mrs. Ervin Tvinnereim, Webster, S. Dak.

A duet, "Have I Done My Best for Jesus," was sung by Mrs. Gerald Madison and Mrs. Robert Dietsche of Sand Creek, Wis. Our president then called on Mrs. John Abel who brought a word of greeting and a beautiful vocal solo.

Mrs. Eugene Enderlein of Minneapolis brought the afternoon message. She based her message on Nehemiah. Nehemiah wept, mourned, fasted and prayed because of the situation in the homeland. Do we feel the pressure and burden of those without Christ? We should ask God to give us a burden for broken lives and where we are to be used. We are to help rebuild the broken walls of people in spiritual

[Continued on page 13]



A partial view of the audience at the WMF convention on Wednesday morning. Mrs. Roy Syverson is at the podium. The motto on the banner reads "Serve the Lord in Truth."



THE CONFERENCE IS HISTORY

Annual conferences, like Christmases, come but once a year. They are anticipated with a great deal of excitement, the events themselves are savored slowly like some delicious morsel, and then before one knows it, they are at an end for another year.

Christian fellowship is one attractive feature of the conferences. Delegates enjoy renewing acquaintances with one another. There are new friends to be made. The conference this year was typical in that it brought out a number of new people, some from newly-affiliated churches. Informal discussions are under way during every waking hour and the only problem is that there aren't enough hours to do all the visiting one would like. For instance, we came to the end of the conference without having had the chance to talk at length with a number of persons.

Then, of course, the chief task of conferences and those who attend them is the conducting of the church's business. More will be said about this next time, but for the present we merely mention the effort which is put into this. The greater expenditure of energy, of course, is made by members of the committees on resolutions. At least one committee last month worked late at night on Wednesday in order to be ready for the first business session the next day.

Convention delegates put in long days, too, if they are diligent. Counting the devotional periods the representatives are on hand for six hours a day, minus the coffee breaks. The evening service involves another hour or two. So there is a great deal of time spent in being a good convention-goer.

We spoke of the church's business. We trust that that is God's business. Whatever we do should be for the purpose of extending His kingdom in the hearts of men. Sometimes it is difficult to keep the larger view in mind, but it is essential that this be emphasized.

The Lord gave us wonderful conference weather. Cool weather is good church conference weather. We have seen

hot, humid evenings and days in Minneapolis during annual conferences. They have been difficult for speakers and delegates alike. Last month we enjoyed comfortable temperatures. On Sunday, the closing day, the air was warmer than for most of the conference and it was a most pleasant day.

Some representatives at the conference were seeing the church's property for the first time. No doubt they were favorably impressed. We have an exceptionally fine location and the several buildings on the land now make it even more attractive.

Some saw the Bible School building for the first time and they liked it. Also creating a favorable impression on those who were viewing it initially was the new roadway up from East Medicine Lake Boulevard.

The Association has many reasons to be optimistic and those who were at the annual conference are perhaps more aware of that than others are. God is good! Great is the Lord, as the conference theme stated it. If God has been great, we believe He will continue to reveal His power in the days ahead as we are obedient to Him.

FOCUS ON FINANCES

The annual conference concluded in June did about the only thing it could when it accepted the Analysis Committee's proposals for a budget of \$175,000 for 1970-71. There was an abortive attempt to increase the mission goals, but the conference was of a mind to hold the line on minimum goals in an effort to keep those goals and income in balance.

The Analysis Committee report brought out the fact that in the last completed fiscal year (1968-69) receipts from congregations and individuals fell over \$27,000 short of the goal. To keep raising proposed budgets without meaningful relation to income is not good business any way that you look at it.

The present fiscal year, ending Jan. 31, 1970, has a higher budget than the one the annual conference set for 1970-71. In many ways it seems beyond reach. Perhaps close to one-third of it has been raised at this time. Certainly the best efforts of everyone are needed in the remaining months of the fiscal year. It will be interesting to see where the Association stands in relationship to that goal on next February 1.

It seems to us that the annual conference next year will have a clearer picture of the Association's financial capabilities than was possible for the conference this year. In viewing a mountain, it is necessary to begin climbing it, perhaps to some distance, before one gets a true picture of it. So it is in regard to the AFLC. We may have to go a bit further before we see more clearly what her responsibilities and potentialities are. Some of that understanding, we think, will come during this next year.

As a part of this evaluation, it would be beneficial if each major agency, and not only the major ones, would conduct an in-depth study of its particular task and come up with at least a "five-year plan." Just as it is helpful to see the picture before one begins work on a picture puzzle, so it would be advantageous to see what sort of long range plans we have as a fellowship. All of this

would have to be done paying attention to reasonable financial expectations from the congregations.

You see, at present our dreams and plans seem in great danger of far out-stripping our financial potential (that is, based on stewardship as we have practiced it). Take, for instance, the report given by Pastor Fritjof Monseth in his opening sermon to the conference last month. He stated that 13 students in the Bible School last year expressed the desire to go to Brazil as missionaries. Mission statistics prove beyond argument that of those who express such a desire only a minority actually ever get to the field or stay there long enough to earn the title of "missionary." But let us say that 13 young people after receiving proper training asked to be sent to Brazil over a two year period. It would be an impossibility to send them in the foreseeable future.

What if a considerable number of young men felt called to the ministry, all parishes were filled, and there were few funds for starting new work? What do we do to aid home mission congregations to build new churches and parsonages when the church extension fund is very small?

This isn't meant to be scare talk, but in the light of great open doors and a great host of young people whom we trust will heed God's call to full-time Christian service, how can we best face up to the challenges? You ask, will not God enable where He opens doors? Yes, we believe that. But in the meantime we must think and plan and prepare intelligently and with consecration. God is able to provide, but it is possible for us to frustrate His plans and purposes.

To consider standing still as an alternative for our church is not acceptable. The Association could not last long in this day and age with such a policy. And even if the organization could be held intact and maintained, the blessing of the Lord would depart from it.

But how to go forward is the question, one that will demand our best thinking, our greatest fervency in prayer and our most sacrificial giving up to this point. By the time another year has passed by, if the Lord tarries, we shall have a much better idea of what can be expected of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations in the great task of evangelization for Christ.

[Continued from page 5]

work. More of the right kind of teachers will be needed shortly. Our students must be taught to appreciate what the Association stands for and be loyal. The right kind of teachers come only as an answer to prayer.

The right kind of students are needed in our schools. We must not be afraid of being selective. We will continue to have a shortage of pastors for some time, but the shortage will not be critical. Short cuts to the ministry should be discouraged. Congregations desire trained and ordained men. While many laymen do good work, often as good as ordained men, the standards of the day require college, if at all possible, seminary and ordination. As the ordained pastor supply improves, the laymen find it more

difficult to be accepted as regular pastors. I am only reporting what I have seen as the President of the Association.

We may be tempted to promote seminary enrollment. This should be done sparingly. Men should be prayed out. Men should come because "Woe is me if I present not the Gospel." Men should come to the Association because of their convictions, not for any other reason. Let us not try to "buy" students.

"The fields are white unto harvest." There is no limit to opportunity. We are a rural church and the rural congregations must not be neglected. Some of them, because of the shift of population, will have a wider field of service in the future. We also must enter urban fields for here are num-

berless souls in need of the Truth.

Our theme Psalm speaks of God's greatness. The saints are to speak of the glory of God's Kingdom, and talk of God's Power. Let us as an Association do just that. If we faithfully, and with confidence in the Word, sow the Seed, fruit will come in strange and wonderful ways! Let us trust God for the increase.

I wish to personally thank the Association for wonderful cooperation again this year. We are unworthy of your trust. May God bless you all.

Sincerely in Christ,

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

JAPANESE CHURCH SENDS MISSIONARY TO BRAZIL

Kobe, Japan—(LWF)—A woman pastor of the Kinki Evangelical Lutheran Church has become the first overseas missionary of the 1,150-member body. The Rev. Toshiko Arai will work in southern Brazil where many Japanese immigrants have settled. She lived several years in the country before becoming a missionary.

The Kinki Lutheran Church, started 19 years ago by the Norwegian Missionary Society and Lutheran Free

Church of Norway, has 13 pastors. Four of its parishes are self-supporting.

ITALIAN LUTHERANS NAME NEW PRESIDENT

Florence, Italy—(LWF)—Mr. Edouardo Bachrach of Naples was elected here as president of the Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Italy.

The synod also re-elected the Very Rev. Adolf Luedemann as dean for another three-year term.

Mr. Bachrach succeeds Mr. Heinz Blume in the presidency. Mr. Blume, who has been a German Consul in

Italy, has been transferred to North America.

WMF CONVENTION OFFERINGS

Convention offering for travel expenses of Missionaries .. \$2,236.85

Mission Festival offering for Home Missions 1,348.16

Total as of June 16, 1969 .. \$3,585.01

It is also possible that there may be some more coming in by mail.

Mrs. R. M. Konsterlie
Treasurer, WMF

a.If the disciples had not slept but prayed, do you think they might have remained faithful?

Jesus invited His disciples to pray with Him for spiritual strength to face the future. Even now while in the garden Jesus was being hunted as a fugitive. Jesus was well aware of this. The responsibility of dying on the cross for the sins of the world lay heavy on Jesus' heart at this time.

He had taught His disciples to pray. How He must have longed to hear from their lips a prayer to the Father on His behalf. This would have been encouraging to Jesus.

But the disciples slept. They utterly failed Jesus at this point. And because they failed Him in Gethsemane, they failed Him a few moments later when He was taken captive, and they failed Him when He died on the cross.

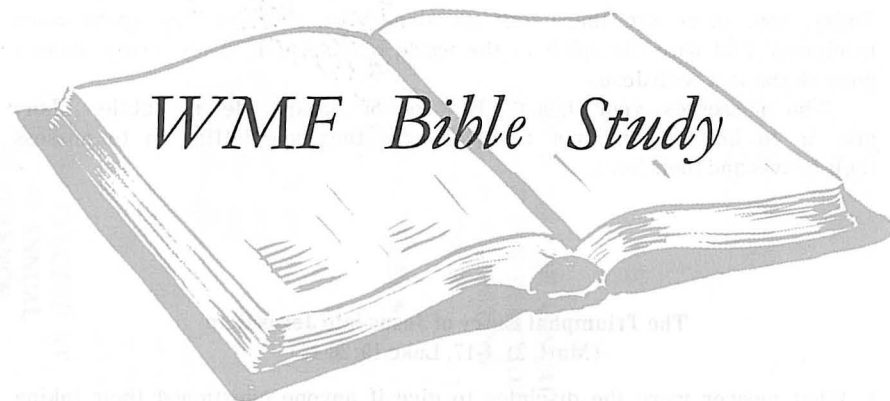
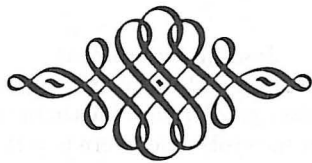
The Bible might well have been written differently at this point if the disciples had not failed Jesus in praying with Him in the garden. They, too, would have received courage and strength to stand with Him, and even die with Him, if it had come to that.

“Men ought always to pray, and not faint” (Luke 18:1).

CONCLUSION

Jesus is now in the hands of His enemies, the religious leaders. But more so, He is in the hands of Satan, His bitter enemy, to whom He refused to bow down (Matt. 4:9-10). But He would overcome Satan.

Satan would show no mercy to Jesus. He willed to destroy Jesus. We can sense an evil power at work exciting the religious leaders and the people as they move on toward the cross.



NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE HISTORY QUESTIONS

PASSION WEEK—SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY

Lesson 8

August 1969

INTRODUCTION

We now come to the climax of Jesus' ministry and stay on this earth. His unpopularity was fast changing to bitter hate—especially on the part of His enemies, the religious leaders.

As we come to Palm Sunday it might seem for a moment that Jesus would gain back His popularity. No doubt there were those who did sense Jesus' great love and soul concern for them. These people also had an influence on the public and spoke favorably of Jesus. The public seemed to waver between being all out for Jesus, or all against Him. But it was not so for long.

We can be sure that the real battle of contention here was between Jesus and Satan. Both were contending for the hearts of these people. The battle seemed to be leaning in favor of Jesus on Palm Sunday. On Good Friday and at the cross, Satan again possessed the hearts of the people. Thanks be to God, on Pentecost Sunday many truly gave their hearts to Jesus.

But the war has not ended. Jesus and Satan are still contending for the hearts of men. It is a constant warfare. And people have not changed.

Today, too, there are those who go along with the Christian spirit when in church, and with the spirit of the world outside of it. They really haven't gone all the way with Jesus.

Who possesses your heart? Beware of Satan! He is subtle. Many give in to his trickery, not realizing who they are letting in to possess their hearts and their lives.

The Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem

(Matt. 21:1-17, Luke 19:28-44)

1. What answer were the disciples to give if anyone questioned their taking the donkey?
2. How did the crowd react to Jesus' coming?
 - a. Can you imagine how the crowd made the ride more comfortable for Jesus?
3. What did the crowd sing?
 - a. What does Hosanna mean? (look up in dictionary)
4. What did the people of Jerusalem think when they saw this procession coming?
 - a. Who did they conclude was coming?
 - b. Were they right in their conclusion?
5. What did the Pharisees who were present think of this procession?
 - a. What did they ask Jesus to do? (Luke 19:39)
 - b. What did Jesus answer?
6. How do you account for the sudden change that took place in this crowd a few days later? (On Good Friday they cried, "Crucify Him.")
7. Why did Jesus weep when He came near Jerusalem?
8. What is meant by "You did not know the time of your visitation"?

At this point the crowd seemed to be so very pious and open to Jesus. They recognized Him for who He was, and they sang praises to His name.

But just a few days later they hated Jesus and wished Him dead. Why the sudden change in their attitude toward Jesus? Were they not sincere on Palm Sunday? Were they just pretending?

No, they were sincere all right, but their sincerity was not very deep. It had no root. They sang praises to Jesus but they didn't really know Him. And so they were easily convinced that He was not Christ, but an impostor. If they had really known Him, they would not have thought evil of Him so quickly.

How very important it is to know Jesus personally! People are still saying false things and drawing false conclusions about Jesus. When we know Jesus personally and in an intimate way, we will not be led astray by those who have a false concept of Christ. We can learn to know Jesus

through the Bible, the inerrant Word of God.

Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper

(Matt. 26:17-35, Mark 14:12-25, Luke 22:7-38, John 13:1-30)

9. What problem faced this group as they began the supper?
10. How did Jesus shame the disciples at this time?
11. What did Jesus teach His disciples about greatness of character?
12. How did Jesus indicate that He knew who was going to betray Him? (John 13:21-30)
13. Who besides Jesus and His disciples was present at this supper?
14. What occasion were Jesus and His disciples celebrating at this supper? (Luke 22:7)
15. What sacrament did Jesus institute at this time?
16. What boast did Peter make at this time? (John 13:36-38)

We usually think of this last supper that Jesus had with His disciples as a most holy meeting. We think of only Jesus and His twelve disciples, a total of thirteen people present.

But there was still someone else present. Satan was also present. Though he was not seen, his influence was greatly felt.

At this meeting we see jealousy between the disciples, and we see pride in that they failed to take upon themselves the washing of each others' feet.

It was at this meeting that Judas made his break with Jesus, and went out into the night to betray Jesus to the enemy.

We see the boast of Peter, which caused him to be blinded to his own shortcomings, and which led to his denying Christ.

The devil is bold. He does not wait for an invitation, but will enter the most holy place and even the Christian heart, if given a chance. He comes to church without being invited. He waits his chance to rule and ruin your life and mine. Beware of the evil one.

Jesus in Gethsemane

(Matt. 26:36-56, Mark 14:32-45, Luke 22:39-53, John 18:1-11)

17. What instructions did Jesus give His disciples in the garden?
 - a. For what do you think these disciples were to watch?
18. What did Jesus mean by "if it be possible" in Matt. 26:39?
19. How did Jesus conclude His prayer?
20. How did Judas betray Jesus?
21. In what two ways did the disciples fail Jesus in the garden?

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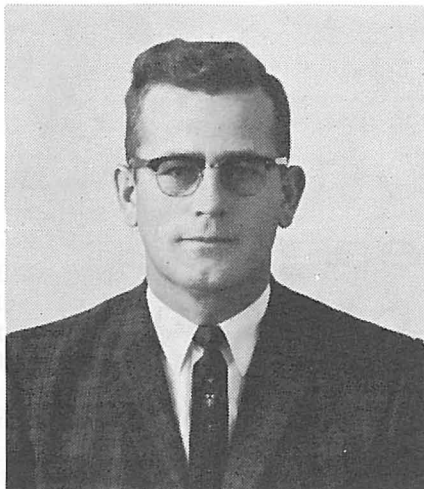
During Rev. Hubert DeBoer's pastorate the pastor resided in Fosston.

In May, 1968, the parish was divided and Calvary, Mt. Carmel and Trinity called their own pastor and he lives in McIntosh.

Grace and Rice form the other parish and have a parsonage in Bagley. Emmanuel Lutheran merged with Grace Lutheran several years ago.



This is the parsonage in McIntosh where the Olsons live. It was purchased in 1963.



Orville T. Olson, pastor of the parish, and his wife Shirley are both natives of Iowa. Before coming to McIntosh, he served the AFLC parish at Greenbush, Minn. He took his seminary training at the Lutheran Brethren Seminary in Fergus Falls, Minn., and spent some time in Japan as a missionary under that church. Pastor Olson was ordained in March of this year. The couple has four sons.

the different projects and thanked all who had helped in the past year. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and accepted. A motion to carry the Praise Program as one of our projects was carried. A motion to accept the 1970 proposed budget of \$18,000 was carried. A motion was made and passed that we support Mrs. George Knapp and Mrs. Connely Dy-rud through the "My Missionary for a Day" project. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Melvin Walla, Thief River Falls, Minn., president; Mrs. Robert Dietsche, second vice-president; and Mrs. James Eletson, Duluth, Minn., treasurer.

A 7:00 a.m. breakfast meeting was held on Thursday morning for pastors' wives, national officers, district presidents, and presidents and representatives from the local aids. Various ideas, problems, and blessings were shared.

On Thursday evening after the singing of "Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling," Mrs. Kenneth Anderson of Radcliffe, Ia., led in Scripture reading and prayer. Rev. and Mrs. Richard Snipstead, Minneapolis, then sang a very inspiring duet, "Lord, Use Me." The message for the evening was brought by Missionary John Abel who has just returned from our mission field in Brazil. He based his message

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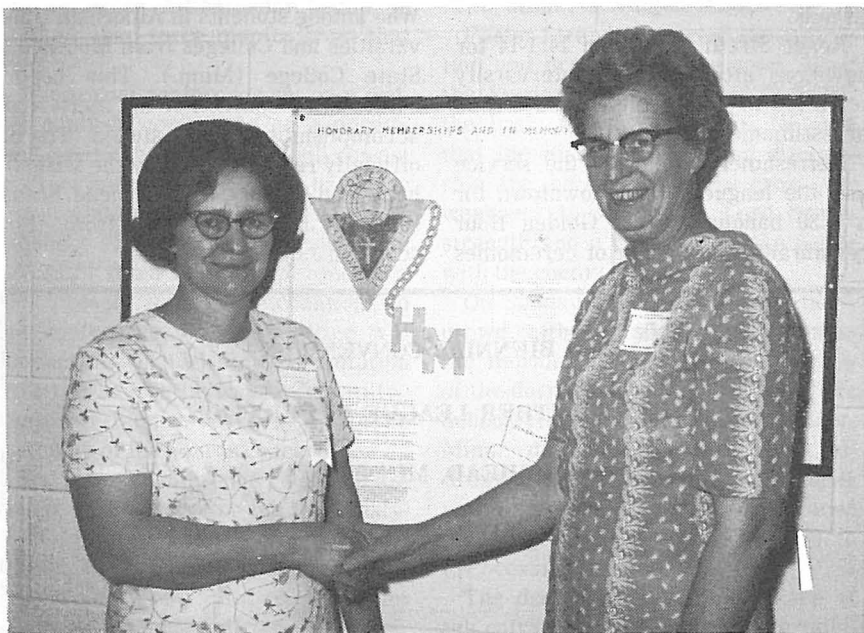
ruin. Nehemiah prayed and confessed his sins. We must also do this if we are to be channels through which God can work. We must ask God to prepare us to approach and reach people. The Christian life is a warfare. She continued, "I claim my loved one for Jesus. You can't have them, Satan." We must be bold. However, we must first have victory at home. We must be willing to be used at home first. God's plan is converting people one by one. Are we entirely abandoned to the Lord and willing to be used by Him to win others to Him?

Greetings were given by Mrs. Lawrence Dyneson of Nogales, Ariz., Robert Knutson, chairman of the Foreign Mission Board and Rev. Herbert Franz, chairman of Home Mission Board.

During our business sessions, Mrs. Presteng in her report welcomed the new groups which have joined us. She continued, "In all our planning and organizing it has been our motive to tell all people why Jesus Christ entered history and laid down His life

on the cross. The Christian faith is the only way to a rich and full life. We admonish our women to begin at an early age to teach this truth in our homes and churches. She reviewed

[Continued on page 16]



Mrs. Herbert W. Presteng, left, retiring WMF president, congratulates Mrs. Melvin Walla upon her election to succeed her.



Luther League Activities

Edited by Jane Thompson

[Continued from page 10]

assistant to Governor Harold LeVander of Minnesota. The school choir, under the direction of Mr. Donald Rodvold, sang at the outdoor service as well as at the indoor one which had preceded it. Pastor Strand led the dedication liturgy and the dean of the school, Pastor Snipstead, pronounced the benediction.

Pastor Fritjof Monseth, Osseo, Minn., a teacher at the Schools, spoke at the conference's opening session on Wednesday evening. He used the theme of the conference, "Great is the Lord!" for his topic. The text was Psalm 145:1-6. He traced the history of the Association and saw the hand of the Lord in the progress that has been made. The Lord is great, he said, because everything depends on Him.

Other convention speakers were Rev. John Abel, recently returned from Brazil, at the Women's Missionary Federation service on Thursday night; Mr. Leonard Stulen, Spicer, Minn., at the laymen's meeting on Friday evening; Mr. Lyle Twite, Cloquet, Minn., at the youth service on Saturday night; and Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia., at the Holy Communion service on Sunday morning. Rev. Laurel Udden, Fergus Falls, Minn., who will begin teaching in the Schools this fall, addressed the pastors and their wives at the traditional supper on Friday.

The morning prayer hours were led by Pastor Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet.

The six business sessions of the conference were opened devotionally by the following men: Wm. Kangas, Minneapolis; Olaf Knutson, Sunburg, Minn.; Arnold Hagen, Cumberland, Wis.; Kenneth Moland, Fertile, Minn.; Raymond Jacobson, Minneapolis; and Bruce Dalager, Roseau.

Registration for the business sessions of the conference was 263. That compares with 268 last year at Cloquet, 256 at Fargo, N. Dak., in 1967, and 329 at Thief River Falls in 1966. In 1965, the only time previous that the annual conference has been held in Minneapolis, there were 220 persons registered for the business sessions.

EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA LEAGUERS CONVENED IN GRAND FORKS IN MAY

The Eastern North Dakota District spring youth rally was held on May 17 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, N. Dak., David Molstre, pastor.

The rally began with an opening prayer by Roger Strom, president of the district. A group from the Intersarsity Christian Fellowship at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N. Dak., and Moorhead State College, Moorhead, Minn., presented songs and testimonies, each telling of the greatness of God. He claims us as His friends.

Roger Strom read John 14:1-14 for devotions, after which the Intersarsity team led in group singing and a time of testimonies.

Refreshments followed the service and the leaguers went downtown for a 5:30 banquet at the Golden Hour restaurant. The master of ceremonies

was Ken Moland of St. Paul's Lutheran in Fargo.

Glen Knutson from McVille sang "He Touched Me," after which Pastor Sterling Johnson, Lutheran Evangelistic Movement evangelist, challenged us with John 8:34-36: "If the Son shall make you free, you shall be free indeed."

—Corrine Hermunslie
Secretary

AFLC STUDENT RECEIVES HONOR

John A. Molstre, son of Pastor and Mrs. Harry C. Molstre, Valley City, N. Dak., has been placed in the **Who's Who** among students in American Universities and Colleges from Moorhead State College (Minn.). This honor comes in recognition of the merit and accomplishment of the student who is officially recommended by the student body and faculty of Moorhead State College. John graduated from this school in June.

2ND BIENNIAL CONVENTION

OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION

MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA

AUGUST 20-24

(Please note change in dates)

How is it with your Soul?

Today the Lord is speaking to each of us so let us turn to Romans 3:10 and examine ourselves before him. Now as the Lord speaks we have to acknowledge that there is none righteous (this includes each of us as individuals). We can turn to Psalm 14:2-3 and here we see that as God "looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God, they are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: There is none that doeth good, no, not one." With the above in our minds let us turn to Romans 3:23. Here we find "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." After coming this short way we find that man in himself has nothing, and nothing in himself to look forward to. Once more, to show us how horrible man is in himself, let us turn to Romans 6:23. Here we read, "For the wages of sin is death." Those of you that don't have Jesus as your Savior, I ask you, HOW IS IT WITH YOUR SOUL?

So far we have seen that to live in sin is death; this means spiritual death, physical death, and forever separated from Jesus throughout all eternity. This is something all Christian men and women should also remember: "sin is death." By keeping this in mind we would and should be all out to reach the unsaved for Jesus. It is the duty of Christian men and women to bring the Gospel of Jesus to the unsaved.

Still at Romans 6:23, we continue: "but"—but what? Yes, that small three-letter word tells us that God has something else he wants us to know, so let's read on: "the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." We have now come to the place where we find that God is giving us a gift of eternal life. The gift is free or it wouldn't be a gift. It is free through Jesus. Why is it free? Why did God give it to us? The gift is free because Jesus paid for it when He died upon the cross for our sins. In Romans 5:8, we find that God gave us this gift because of His love toward us for while we were still in sin Jesus died for us.

Again I ask you: HOW IS IT WITH YOUR SOUL? God has been speaking to you, you have heard Him and have read what He has to say about sin. I urge you to accept Jesus now as your personal Savior, now as He is speaking to you. I ask you: DO YOU BELIEVE WHAT YOU HAVE READ FROM THE WORD OF GOD? "Yes" is the only answer that can be honestly given.

Then do you ask, how do I do this? Let us turn to Romans 10:9 to find out: "That if thou shalt CONFESS with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt BELIEVE in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be SAVED." Yes, that's right, CONFESS with your MOUTH, and BELIEVE with your HEART. Ask Jesus to come into your heart today and let him be your Lord and Savior from now on. In I John 1:9, we read, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Also, in Romans 10:10, we read, "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." And again, in Romans 10:13, we read, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Now ask Jesus into your heart, confess unto Him your sins, and believe with your heart unto righteousness as spoken in Romans 10:10. God is speaking, and He tells us in Hebrews 3:7-8, "Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts"; in II Corinthians 6:2, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." I say to you, accept the Lord Jesus today, for this may be the last time He will speak to you. So accept Him and know the peace and joy which can be yours through Jesus Christ our Lord. Then as you stand for self examination and the question is asked, HOW IS IT WITH YOUR SOUL? you can answer, I am in Jesus, He is my Lord and my master; that is how it is with my soul.

—Irvin M. Schmitke
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

PERSONALITIES

Rev. and Mrs. Hubert DeBoer and family have moved to 613 Ann Street in Willmar, Minn., from Granite Falls, Minn. Pastor DeBoer continues to serve Faith Lutheran Church in Granite Falls, as well as Zion Lutheran Church in Willmar.

Pastor and Mrs. Marius Haakenstad, Thief River Falls, Minn., are on a trip to Norway at the present time and expect to be gone for some months. Pastor Haakenstad serves Immanuel Lutheran Church of Holt, Minn.

WILLMAR CONGREGATION VOTES NAME CHANGE

At the annual business meeting of the congregation in April, Free Lutheran Mission Church in Willmar, Minn., Hubert F. DeBoer, pastor, voted to change its name to Zion Lutheran Church. That name is now being used and will become final at the annual meeting of the church in 1970.

WEST COAST FAMILY BIBLE CAMP BEGINS THIS MONTH

The 2nd annual Family Bible Camp for the West Coast District of the AFLC will be held at Camp Gilead, Carnation, Wash., July 28 to August 3.

Rev. John Abel, recently returned from the mission field in Brazil, will be the evening speaker and also teach a course in missions. Veteran pastor Lars Stalsbrotten of Eugene, Ore., will teach the adult Bible hour. Mr. Kenneth Stenberg, who has been a missionary to Japan and Brazil, will lead a study in Christian renewal. Pastor Francis Monseth, Everett, Wash., will conduct the Bible studies for teenagers. Pastor Ray Persson, Astoria, Ore., will direct a discussion group.

Advance publicity for the camp declares that there will be opportunities for canoeing, horseback riding, hiking, swimming and softball, in addition to the spiritual refreshment available at the camp.

Costs for the camp are adults, \$17.50; ages 6-18, \$15.00; and ages 3-5, \$7.50. Maximum cost for any larger family is \$60.00 for the week.

Anyone wishing to register beforehand may still do so by writing to Mrs. Lester Hanson, 3143 Grandview Road, Ferndale, Wash. 98248.

[Continued from page 13]

on Colossians 1:21-28. He thanked the WMF for their unflinching and sacrificial faith in them and for their prayers. He said this was their third trip to the mission field and had been the most blessed of all because it was the most prayed for. We should practice the presence of Christ—a mystery of the ages. Christ's presence is a map or route to chart our lives by. It is a magnet that draws and lifts us to God and a mirror to show us what and where we are. Jesus is concerned about the "salvation gap" not the generation gap. Many churches are closed Sunday evenings. This will weaken them and they may die. In Brazil they have good turnouts for services. Let Christ be all!

Lois Presteng and Steven Berg favored us with a duet entitled "Lord, Send Me There." Following this duet, Pastor Strand installed the WMF officers. In closing everyone joined their voices in one great choir to sing the beautiful hymn "How Great Thou Art," followed by the benediction.

A special "thank you" to the host congregation of Medicine Lake Lutheran for their wonderful Christian hospitality and for all the love and kindness shown us during our stay there. May God richly bless you.

Mrs. Robert L. Dietsche
Miss Margaret Anderson
Sand Creek, Wisconsin

(See WMF Convention Offering Report on page 10.)

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

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