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Vol. 7

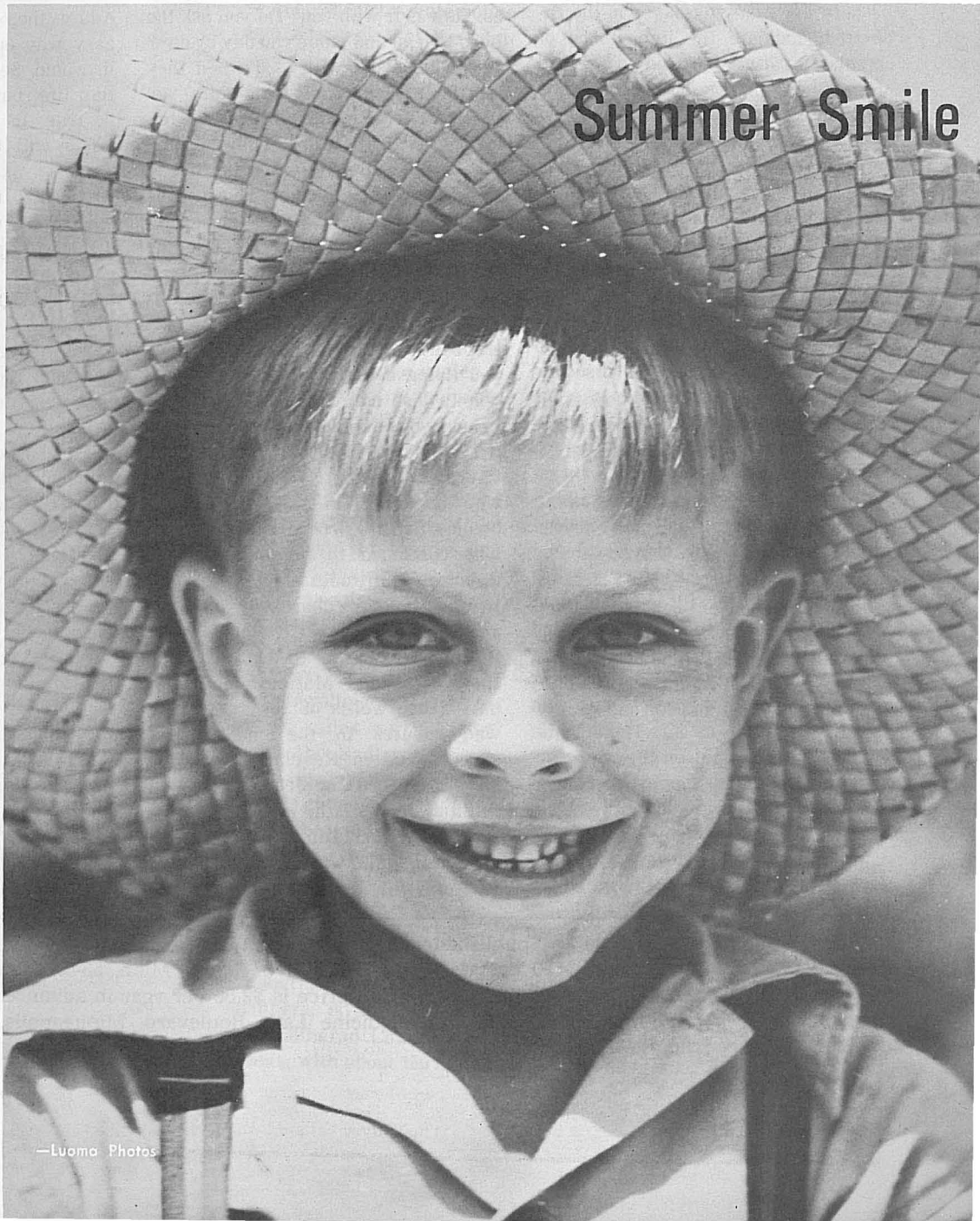
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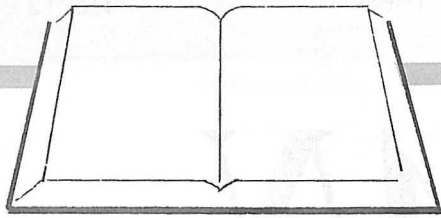
# ***LUTHERAN***

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Summer Smile



—Luoma Photos



## *According to the Word*

### FAITHFUL 'TIL DEATH

Matt. 10:22; Matt. 24:12-13; Rev. 2:10

There are many passages in the Bible that indicate the importance of remaining faithful to God to the end of our lives, for it is only such people who will receive eternal life and heaven. There have been many over the centuries who began the Christian life, being brought to God in baptism, attending Sunday school and church; yes, they were even confirmed, and promised to be faithful to God 'til the end, but who fell by the wayside somewhere along the way. We ask, why? Certainly we have no easy answer as we seek to discover why there are so many who lose out with God along the way.

We do know, and we must always keep in mind, that we have a three-fold enemy contending for our allegiance and our souls. This enemy is none other than the devil, the world and our own flesh. In ourselves we are helpless to fight this three-fold enemy. We can only defeat this enemy in and through the power of God. His word, not my word, His power, not my power, can defeat this great enemy who is out to destroy us all. The Apostle Paul tells us "to put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand. Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might."

The Apostle Paul refers to the Christian life as a walk. We are to walk with

the Lord in fellowship with Him. We are to walk guided by the Spirit of God rather than our own desires and wishes. How is it with you? Do you ask the Lord to lead and guide you day by day? People lose out with God when they let the pressures of their daily activities crowd out their time of fellowship with the Lord. They become too busy to spend time with God in His Word and in prayer. Every time the devil gets someone to neglect coming to church, to neglect reading the Bible, to neglect praying, etc., he has won a victory. The devil is winning many such battles every day. He will do anything he can to keep you living a defeated life. He wants you to lose out with God. He wants to keep you out of heaven.

The Apostle Paul also refers to the Christian life as a race. Only those who remained in the race had a chance for the prize. And only those who continued to the end received a prize. Multitudes have been confirmed in our churches over the years, but only a few have been faithful to the end, 'til death. In Matthew 10:22 and Matthew 24:13, we have these words of Jesus: "But he who endures to the end will be saved," and in Revelation 2:10, we have the words of Jesus: "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life."

We ask again, why is it that so many lose out with God and do not remain

faithful 'til death? We answer, because they give in to the pressure of the devil and the pressure of the old Adam, the old nature which seeks the easy way out. Jesus never said that it would be easy to live the Christian life, but that the opposite would be true. In Matthew 10:22, we read: "You will be hated by all for my name's sake." And in John 15:20, we read: "If they persecuted me they will persecute you." And in Luke 9:23, we read: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." And finally, in Matthew 7:14, we read: "For the gate is narrow and the way is hard (difficult) that leads to life, and those who find it are few." Certainly all of these passages indicate that it costs something to follow Christ and to live for Him. It is not an easy path to travel because our own sinful flesh does not die easily. We also have the pressures of the world against us.

As we close this meditation, let us heed the exhortation of Hebrews 12:1-2. The Lord promises to go with us and to empower us to live for Him if we will only seek Him and His power to enable us to live for Him until death. The Apostle Paul said, "I can do all things through Him Who strengthens me." Let us also claim this word from the Lord.

—Marvin S. Undseth

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# The President's Report

## Part I

To the Seventh Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations gathered in session at the Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 11-15, 1969.

### GRACE AND PEACE!

"Great is the Lord!" Surely as we gather at this, the Seventh Annual Conference of the Association, we are amazed at the Grace of God towards us. We are meeting for the second time at a place which has become the heart of our work. Much has changed since we met here in 1965. At that time our Seminary was only one year old, with nine students. Our mission work in Brazil had just begun. The decision had been made to open a Bible School, but it was not opened until September, 1966.

This year as we gather here we are aware of changes that have taken place. Three classes have graduated from our Seminary. The foreign mission work in Brazil has made good progress. Our Bible School has graduated two classes, and this year we are dedicating the new classroom-dormitory building. Many improvements have been made on the campus. A garage and shop has been built. A fine home has been erected for the Dean of the Bible School. A better office arrangement has been provided for Association personnel. A home has been provided for the caretaker. The road and parking lots have been relocated and much paving has been completed. Yes, God has blessed the work far more than we dreamed possible.

The greatest work is the spiritual work, hardest to measure. We know, however, that God has blessed here too. Souls have been reclaimed for God's Kingdom. There have been signs of awakening in various places. God is honoring His Word. New candidates for full-time Christian service are presenting themselves. Congregations are joining the fellowship. Fields are white unto harvest no matter where we look. The future for the Association seems bright indeed.

Our roots as an Association are many and varied. In 1969, we pause to remember one of them.

One hundred years ago, in 1869, the first theological seminary among Scandinavians was begun in Marshall, Wisconsin. This was Augsburg Seminary which was such a vital part of the Lutheran Free Church, and had such an important influence on many of us. Established to train pastors for Norwegian and Danish immigrants, it for years stood for personal Christianity, spiritual awakening, witnessing by the laity, evangelism, a democratic ministry, and a church life which followed as closely as possible the pattern set forth in the New Testament.

Augsburg Seminary had a turbulent history and knew many difficult struggles. It did, however, wield an influence far beyond that which its size and position would indicate.

As we meet on the campus of our Seminary and Bible School, we look to them to provide the leadership and inspiration for truth needed in these days of general apostasy. We trust and know that the influence of our schools will be felt far beyond the Association fellowship. The entire Association stands in a very unique position. May God help us to be faithful. If we fail to be true to our responsibilities and opportunities, not only will the Association come to an untimely end, but the hopes of multitudes of others will be dashed.

### OUR TIMES

Christian people are deeply disturbed by developments about us. There is confusion, rebellion, and turmoil on every hand. The Viet Nam war continues to take a heavy toll of lives, and the end is not in sight. Many would offer easy and quick solutions. This is a time to earnestly pray for the national leaders that a righteous solution may be found. Situations like this are not to be used for political advantage. It has become increasingly evident that some do not want peace. Love of mankind is at a low ebb.

Racism is not on the decrease.

While minorities enjoy greater advantages in America than anywhere else, there is still much to be done. Solutions will not be found politically, economically or socially, but only spiritually. The heart of man must be changed. This is becoming increasingly clear, but there is not a turning back to God. Christian people must use their influence in all areas of life to win men to Christ, and assist them to attain dignity as human beings. Law, order, and social justice go hand in hand. There can be no social justice or law and order are meaningless. Social justice is not the supreme end. The need of a man's soul must always be uppermost. People in the ghettos are not to be pitied nearly as much as the socially and economically elite who may have no spiritual purposes. They are often most miserable. They too must be reached with the Gospel.

There is a tremendous increase in crime in the United States. Atheism and humanism are on the increase. While there is to be no Bible reading or prayer in our schools, humanism and sex education divorced from a meaningful morality are coming as a flood. The moral standards are changing. Situation ethics and "the pill" give ample excuse for promiscuity. Scriptural standards are given new interpretations or ignored. What natural man wants is his god. Self-denial is ridiculed. Lust is called love.

The walls of separation between church and state are crumbling. Parochial schools are winning more and more aid, but will be sacrificing their religious purposes in the process. This has always been the historical development. It is quite possible, however, that because of developments in our public schools, elementary parochial schools will become essential, if they can be kept free from state controls. In the meantime, parents would do well to take a more active part in the school life of their community. The educational complex has become quite separated from the homes, and the wishes of the parents. Schools are often used as vehicles of propaganda and indoctrination.

trination, instead of education.

The churches have enjoyed a tax advantage given to them because of the benefit they are in the community. Many have abused this tax advantage, and attempts are being made to plug tax loopholes. The municipalities are facing real economic problems. Some churches are giving their municipalities regular donations as part payment for essential police and fire protection. The Village of Plymouth has been most cooperative with the Association and perhaps some financial gesture would be in order.

While a large percentage of our youth are very fine and give great promise, a very vocal minority continues a disruptive influence. Seeking to change the social structure, but having no clear answers as to goals, and having no means to accomplish ends, they are an easy prey to misdirection. While having many high ideals, they often confuse change with progress, and are destroying the democratic process which is their hope. The "generation gap" and the rejection of authority make them hard to reach. Undoubtedly much of the blame for the situation must lie in permissiveness in the home and the lack of spiritual challenge in church and school. The generation gap must not be widened by a too great emphasis on age groups. There ought always be the emphasis on the solidarity of the home and the fellowship for all ages and between all ages in the Christian congregation. The youth and the adults must attempt to understand each other, but the mature must not surrender their responsibilities.

These are days of tremendous opportunity for the Christian Church. Unfortunately much of the organized church has surrendered her spiritual tasks to become involved in political and social arenas. Competent observers at the World Council of Churches' meeting in Sweden felt it to be more of a political and sociological gathering than a meeting of Christians concerned with the saving of souls. The United States came in for the usual judgment, but the communist bloc of nations received little criticism.

The authority of the Word of God

continues under attack. When respect for the authority of the Word is destroyed, all kinds of other evils follow.

Spiritual life is at a low ebb. There is little real conviction of personal sin amongst many who call themselves Christians. Sin is ignored, or given another name. There is a great deal of confusion on the meaning of being a Christian. There is needed a renewed emphasis on Christian growth in Christ. Experimentation continues on worship forms and liturgies. The social gospel is the main message of many, and their zeal is commendable.

Multitudes of people are confused about the outward church. Seeking guidance in spiritual matters, they find the church without a message. Teachings to be defended a few years ago are now disavowed with ease. The attempt is made to replace that which feeds the soul with social activism and people are spiritually hungry.

The ecumenical movement is gaining in momentum. Seeking some kind of unity, it largely ignores the spiritual unity that binds all believers together because of their love for Christ. This spiritual unity, pronounced by the Lord, must be understood and appreciated more. Some desire unity based on doctrinal exactness. Some seek a unity held together by a human program. Some seek a unity based on denominational loyalty. Some seek a unity of organization. The spiritual unity must be our continuing emphasis. It advances only as men know Christ, and are committed to His Will!

The next few years will see continuing developments that will dismay many Christians. There is little prospect that liberalism in theology and practice will moderate. The conservatives must be ready with the scriptural alternative. Unfortunately the conservatives spend too much time and effort questioning each other. It would seem desirable that there be better communication among them. There have been some modest beginnings, and we trust some good fruits will come.

The Roman Catholic Church is in the midst of far-reaching discussion of her doctrine and practice. We dare

not prophesy the end result. These developments may open the door for an evangelical opportunity to reveal the Grace of God in Christ. This is not the time for condemnation nor judgment, but a time for friendly, wise concern that the many fine Catholics who may not know Christ may come to know Him as Lord and Savior, and find true freedom and peace in Him. Let our first concern be that men may know Christ, not join our church. This is true, not only for Roman Catholics, but for all who are seeking for spiritual reality.

There are many conservative Lutheran pastors in personal dilemma. They are unhappy with their synodical position, but are held by synodical loyalties and fellowships. Some are giving consideration to joining the Association and the door is open. Some may not be happy, however, with the Association's stand on the relationship between the pastor and the congregation, and may not appreciate our pietistic and evangelistic emphasis. While we are one with them in their concern over the doctrine of the Word, we are not ready to forget some of our other convictions. We must pray that God would lead so our conduct would create confidence and understanding and that those pastors and congregations of like mind would find freedom to join our fellowship. We must be careful not to give an impression of being isolated and exclusive.

Admittedly, this report has been to this point quite negative. We cannot avoid facts, and we ought to be alert to the situations of the day, and warn our people. There are many reasons to rejoice, of course.

There are signs that people are awakening to the realization of modern ecclesiastical trends. We pray that they might not become bitter and judgmental, but may grow in love, seek God's guidance, and find courage to do His will. These days may demand real sacrifices on the part of many, but we know God will take care of those who trust and obey.

People are awakening to many of the social evils. People are becoming more involved in our government and

*[Continued on page 8]*



# NEWS

## of the Churches

### **SOUTH DAKOTA CHURCH OBSERVED ANNIVERSARY ON JUNE 8**

Saron Lutheran Church, rural Roslyn, S. Dak., the oldest Association congregation in the state, observed her 85th anniversary on Sunday, June 8. A large crowd was in attendance on a beautiful, cloudless day.

Organized on May 27, 1884, under the leadership of Rev. Ole Olson, Morris, Minn., the congregation has given two sons to the Christian ministry. Both participated in the anniversary program. Rev. Calvin J. Storley, Hopkins, Minn., a regional youth director in the American Lutheran Church, preached at the Sunday morning service on the theme "God, Our Help." He referred a number of times to the church's altar painting on Christ rescuing the sinking Peter after he had walked on the water.

The other man from Saron in the ministry is retired completely now but he had a long workday, being ordained in 1911. He is Rev. L. B. Sateren, Minneapolis, Minn. It is only a year or two ago that he gave up interim work in parishes after being occupied with that following his retirement a few years ago. He led the devotions at the afternoon meeting and spoke briefly.

Using "God, Our Hope" as his theme, Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia., preached the afternoon message. He is a former pastor of the church.

Two daughters of former pastors were present at the occasion and gave greetings. One was Miss Marie Kjelaas, Minneapolis, whose father was

the first regular pastor of Saron. Recognized as typical of the hard-working pioneer pastors of the Dakotas (he once served 13 congregations or missions at one time), a picture of Pastor Kjelaas hangs in the South Dakota Capitol in Pierre. The other special guest was Mrs. Milton Erickson, Dalton, Minn., the former Ruth Gjerde. Her father, Mons Gjerde, served the congregation for 17 years, including the major part of the Great Depression.

Mrs. Ronald Hills assisted the congregation by serving as pianist for the day. She and her brother, Thorlief Hovland, sang two duets, "My Only Hope" and "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less," at the afternoon service. In the morning Martin Hovland sang "Thanks to God," two of the stanzas in Norwegian.

Rev. B. L. Hagboe, Brookings, S. Dak., gave some service to the church the same year that it was organized. Others who have served in addition to Pastors Kjelaas, Gjerde and Anderson are Elliot Aandahl, who later served as a missionary to China under the Church of the Lutheran Brethren; C. J. Nestvold, B. P. Farness, G. G. Lee, C. E. Dyrud, R. H. Hofstad, and the present pastor, Raynard Huglen.

Among those who taught parochial school at Saron are Pastor P. A. Strommen and the late Dr. T. O. Burntvedt.

Pastor E. S. Vik, Waubay, S. Dak., who gave interim service to the church during two vacancies, was present at the morning service of the observance.

Overall theme for the occasion was "God, Our Help and Our Hope."

### **FIRST SERVICE HELD IN NEW FERNDALE CHURCH ON JUNE 1**

Triumph Lutheran Church, Ferndale, Wash., the Rev. J. G. Erickson, pastor, held its first service in its new house of worship on Sunday, June 1. While some work remains to be done and dedication will not be held until September, the church is ready for limited use. The church is located at the corner of Mountain View and Church Road on the west edge of Ferndale.

The congregation held its final service in the old church at Washington and School Street on Sunday, May 25, and marked the occasion with two special services. At 11 o'clock a worship service was held and Holy Communion was celebrated. Pastor Erickson preached the sermon on the theme "A Day to Remember."

A fellowship dinner was served at noon to the large crowd assembled.

At 2:30 the closing service was conducted with guest pastors and former members participating. A history of the church was read, pointing out significant events of the years, followed by special greetings from visiting friends. The church's two choirs and the mixed quartette provided special music. A coffee hour followed the program.

Triumph Lutheran is a union of two congregations several years ago. First Lutheran was situated at the location in Ferndale and joined with Golgotha of Blaine to form the new Triumph Lutheran Church.

### **THE UPPER MICHIGAN FREE LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP**

Date: July 20-24, 1969

Place: Camp Shaw, Chatham, Michigan

Speakers:

Missions: Rev. and Mrs. John Abel

Bible Hour: Rev. Albert Hautamaki

Guest Evangelist: Mr. Clifford

Johnson

Camp Director: Rev. Albert

Hautamaki

Program Director and Registrar:

Mr. Otto Saukerson

Camp Manager: Mr. Fred Woimanen

**NEWS FROM LAKE STEVENS, WASH.**

**Easter Sunday**—more than fifty in attendance. The largest number to date. The Sunday School sang and Jon Stenberg played his trumpet.

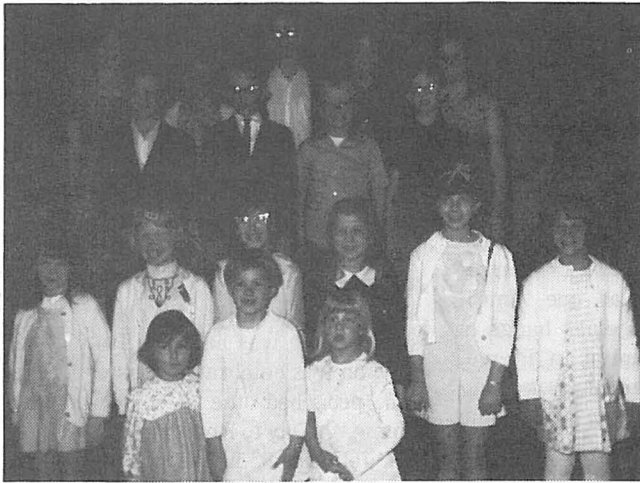
**Mother's Day**—A good attendance as the Sunday School sang a special song to the mothers present and presented each of them with a corsage made by Mrs. Gordon Rux and Mrs. Ed Sharpe, Sunday School teachers.

**Youth Group Organized**—Several youth gathered Wednesday, May 14, to organize a Luther League. Officers were

elected and the first meeting of the group planned. Jim and Marilyn Tanis are advisors for the group.

**Trees Given to Church**—Ken Gregerson, local nurseryman, donated nine beautiful evergreen trees to the church and placed them in the church yard.

**Sunday School**—Approximately thirty children are enrolled in the Sunday School now. Plans are to have an adult Bible Class as soon as possible. Mrs. Ken Stenberg is leading the Sunday School. Rev. Francis Monseth is the pastor.



Part of the Sunday School at Lake Stevens



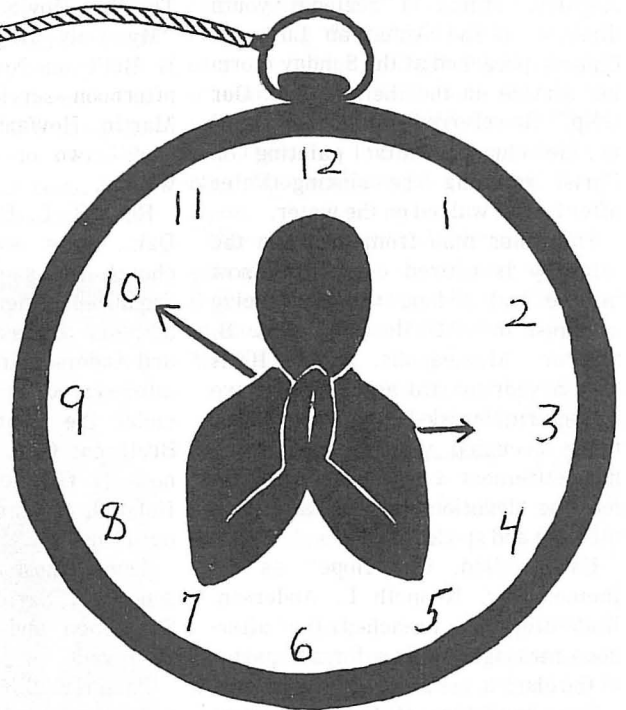
Lake Stevens Church Entrance

**BECAUSE I TOOK THE TIME**

Because I took the time  
To come to You today,  
I found You here by me  
To walk along the way.

Because I took the time  
To talk to You in pray'r,  
My life was bright again  
Because You, Lord, were there.

Because I wanted You  
To put Your hand in mine,  
A miracle was wrought  
Because I took the time.



Poem and illustration  
by Marlene Moline  
Lansing, Iowa

# MEET

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# Churches

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# OF OUR

# FELLOWSHIP



## Today: The Bagley (Minn.) Parish RICE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rice Lutheran Church is situated only a few miles northwest of Itasca State Park in northern Minnesota and the headwaters of the mighty Mississippi. It is also 15 miles south and 1/4 mile east of Bagley.

The congregation was organized in 1908. Included in the membership at that time were seven Danes. A few years later a number of persons of Swedish descent were also in the church. The congregation was organized under the direction of Rev. L. O. Opsata, who was living at Bemidji.

The present church was built in

1925, but not completely finished until 1930. The present chancel furniture was installed in 1936.

Rice Lutheran was a Lutheran Free Church congregation until 1963. Since then it has been affiliated with the AFLC.

The pastors who have served Rice Lutheran are: L. O. Opsata, 1908-12; O. P. Grambo, 1912-17; George Nelson, 1917-19; H. Bode, 1920-21; J. P. Leeland, 1921-26; David Dale, 1926-29; Jacob Mortenson, interim; A. P. Anderson, 1930-42; Karl Berg, 1942-45; Luther Gronseth, 1945-48; Merle Erickson, 1949-51; Philip Quanbeck, 1951-53; P. O. Laurhammer, 1953-54; James Christopherson, 1954-59; Waldeman Framstad, 1959-60; Homer Johnson, interim; Wendell Shiell, 1961-64; John DeBoer and Mr. Melvin Walla, interim; Hubert DeBoer, 1965-68; and Dale R. Battleson, 1968-.

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace Lutheran was organized on March 10, 1965, by members of First Lutheran Church in Bagley who had not wished to take part in the church merger of 1963. First Lutheran had been started in 1895 as a Lutheran Free Church congregation. Their early pastors had been O. Refsdal, 1895-98; A. K. Lockrem, 1899-1903; H. J. Villevik, 1903-08; and O. P. Grambo, 1908-17. From that time on they were served by the same

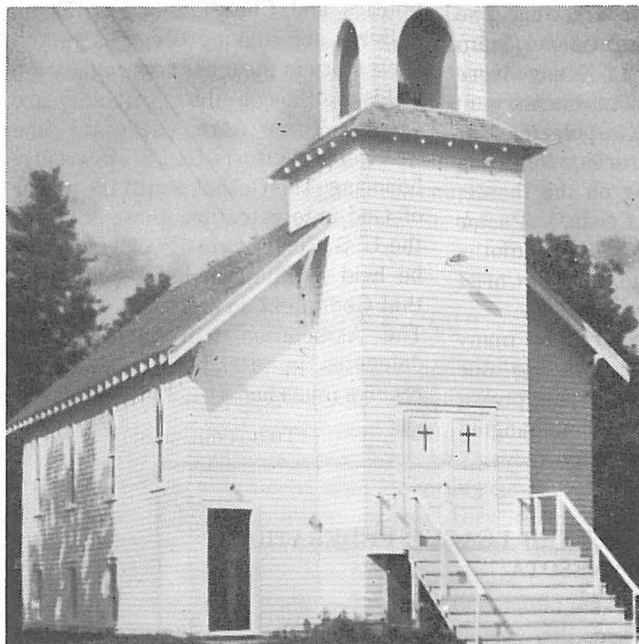


Pastor Dale Battleson serves the Bagley parish. He was ordained at the Annual Conference in 1968 at Cloquet, Minn. A native of Duluth, Minn., Mr. Battleson is married to the former Kay Jeanne Reynolds of Anoka, Minn. The couple has one daughter, Lisa Jane, soon two years old. Pastor Battleson is a graduate of Free Lutheran Theological Seminary.

pastors as Rice Lutheran until the time of the merger.

But back to more recent history. The beginners of the new work faced set-backs. A meeting place had been bought, the former Gospel Tabernacle, and it was undergoing reno-

[Continued on page 13]



Rice Lutheran Church



Grace Lutheran Church



# Luther League Activities

Edited by Jane Thompson

## WEST COAST DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE RALLY HELD IN APRIL

On the weekend of April 25-27, the annual West Coast District Luther League Convention was held at Ferndale, Washington. Jay Erickson, host pastor. About 80 young people attended, coming from the Association churches in Kalispell, Montana; Astoria, Oregon; Everett-Lake Stevens and Kirkland, Washington.

The Friday evening session was opened with a singspiration, followed by a movie, "Face the Music." The local Ferndale Luther League President, John Ellis, welcomed the visiting Leaguers to "Fabulous Ferndale." A mixer followed the opening service.

The young people gathered on Saturday morning for prayer preceding the morning Bible study. Many prayer promises were shared and several took part in prayer.

Pastor Karl Stendal of Kalispell, led a Bible study on Job. Often the Lord permits Christians to go through adversity and suffer as Job did. The Lord's testings are to be desired that we may be drawn ever closer to Him.

After our Bible study, the business meeting was held. Paul Persson, Astoria, president of the District, presided. Paul urged each Leaguer to use

his devotional booklet, **Treasured Moments**, as a supplement to their daily devotions. The major item of business was the election of officers. Officers elected for the coming year are: Jim Erickson, Ferndale, president; Sandy Joines, Kirkland, vice-president; Ruth Solheim, Everett, secretary; Peggy Johnson, Astoria, treasurer; and Evangeline Stenberg, Lake Stevens, Devotional Life Secretary. Pastor Persson was elected pastoral advisor.

Saturday afternoon provided time for recreation. The Leaguers chose either to play in the school gym or to tour the surrounding area by bus, which included a trip to Canada.

One of the highlights of the convention came on Saturday evening. Special guests at the banquet were The Gospelaire, a singing Gospel team from Vancouver, B.C. Many were richly blessed by their ministry in word and song. The Gospelaire also attended the evening service following the banquet. Focusing on the theme, "Christ for every Crisis," Pastor Monseth of Everett used II Timothy 3 as his text to point the need for Christ in the world today.

Testimonies were shared by many of the Leaguers, encouraging one another in the faith and giving praise to the Lord for His power in changing

lives.

Sunday morning Pastor Stendal spoke on Paul during the Sunday School hour. At the morning worship service, Pastor Reith of Kirkland gave a timely message on the theme, basing his message on Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

Following lunch, the Leaguers enjoyed a tour of the new Ferndale church, which was placed in use on June 1.

At the closing service there was a variety of musical numbers interspersed with testimonies. Pastor Persson of Astoria spoke on Psalm 24.

The Leaguers were sorry that the convention had to end after enjoying the fellowship around the Word and with the other Christian young people. It was good for us to draw apart from the world for a time that we might be drawn closer to the Lord. As we went our separate ways, we realized that these spiritual experiences are the only things of importance. We had been reminded once more that our first commitment is to Jesus Christ and Him alone.

Pauline Persson  
Secretary Pro-Tem

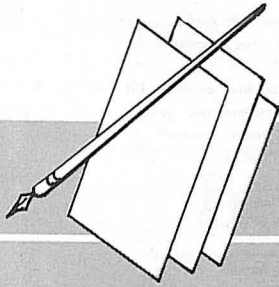
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society. There still is a great need, however, for Christians with the right gifts to get into the field of politics and Christian action. Evangelicals are making progress to tell their story in the mass communication fields, although the obstacles are great. There are several fine evangelistic efforts God is apparently honoring. The Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation. In September, the U. S. Congress of Evangelism will be held in Minneapolis. Let us pray that God might do a great work there. The Association will have several delegates in attendance and should receive much benefit.

(To be continued)

2ND BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION,  
MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA,  
AUGUST 19-24





## EDITORIALS

### THANK YOU, PASTOR UNDSETH

Once again it is time to change writers in the devotional series carried in **The Lutheran Ambassador** under the heading "According to the Word." The feature has proved popular over the years and by changing writers each six months a number of pastors have been able to lead us in our meditations already.

Pastor Marvin Undseth, Shevlin, Minn., has been our most recent writer and his concluding article is found on page 2 of this issue. He has written with a great deal of clarity and upon subjects very pertinent to the Christian walk. But he has also sounded that most important challenge to commitment to the Lord, phrased, for instance, in one of his recent articles as the need for being "in Christ."

Thank you, Pastor Undseth, for the fine contribution which you have made to our church paper over the past months. We ask God's blessings upon the ministry which is yours in the Shevlin parish.

Next time the work of a new writer will appear on page 2. Pastor Karl Stendal, Pukwana, S. Dak., has agreed to write the devotional messages through the month of December. Our invitation to him came just as he arrived at a new parish so it was not a very convenient time for him, but he has graciously consented to take on this added assignment. Recently a resident of Kalispell, Mont., Pastor Stendal is well known throughout the church.

God give him a fruitful ministry in the new parish and this ministry of writing.

### FAMILY BIBLE CAMP

For the third time we are carrying a full-page ad concerning the Family Bible Camp, already the 7th one, to be held next month near Alexandria, Minn.

For five straight years the Camp was held in the month of August. That was a good time for some people, but a very poor time for many others in our very rural church. August means harvest time for large sections of the Association, even as July does for some areas.

At any rate, going back to July (the first camp was held then), will mean that for some people the way will open up to attend camp for the first time, or perhaps the first time

since 1963. This is good. It is unfortunate that holding the Camp in July will prevent some people from attending who had found August a good month for them. Perhaps over the years things will even up.

The Bible Camp at Lake Geneva is a familiar place to hundreds of Association members and to her friends by this time. This is a good time to remind our readers that the Camp week is open to all people who are looking for a Lutheran camp. One need not be an Association member to attend. From the very beginning we have served many others and have been glad to have them come.

Again this year an interesting camp program has been arranged. There is something for every age.

We know how difficult it is for farm families particularly to get away for a week in the summer. It seems an impossibility. By the time you read this it may really be impossible for you to plan on Lake Geneva this summer. But will you seriously consider whether your family could attend Family Camp, say, next year? A week together as a family at the camp might be one of the best things you'll ever do as a family. Sure, you parents can probably make it when the children have all left home or at least when you're retired, but it may not carry the impact that it could now. Don't rule Family Camp out unless you've investigated every possibility. As we said, it may be too late for this year, but keep next year in mind. Perhaps the promise "all things are possible with God" could be claimed here.

Good times are in store for Family Bible Campers. May each one attending be the recipient of God's blessings and mercies in abundant measure. May each person who has some responsibility of leadership, from Dean Leslie Galland on down, be given special strength and grace and joy in his tasks.

### 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

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

Next time—Coverage of the 1969 Annual Conference.



1969

COME TO  
**7th ANNUAL**  
ASSOCIATION OF FREE  
LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS  
FAMILY BIBLE CAMP

**JULY 7-13**  
LAKE GENEVA BIBLE CAMP  
ALEXANDRIA, MINN.

#### LOCATION

BY CAR: 1 mile east of Alexandria on Highway No. 52, approximately 1 mile north, located on west side of Lake Geneva.

BY MAIL: Address in care of Lake Geneva Bible Camp, Alexandria, Minn.

BY PHONE: 763-3680  
Monday - Registration  
First Meal served Monday night  
Evening services at 8:00

#### Camping

Camping area is available on the northwest corner of the camp, for campers with tents and camping trailers.

#### WHAT TO BRING

Bible, pencils, paper, bedding, pillows, blankets, towels, soap and other personal needs, swimming suit, playclothes, etc. Cottages accommodate four persons. Divided cottages accommodate two persons per room. Dormitory rooms available for teenagers and single persons.

#### RATES

	Weekly Rates
<b>Meals and Lodging</b>	
Children .....	\$ 7.00
Teenagers .....	\$13.00
Adults .....	\$18.00
Registration fee per person	1.00
Registration fee per family	2.00
Maximum rate for large families	70.00
Individual meals available at camp.	

## FAMILY CAMP

#### Classes for all Ages

##### Camp Dean

Rev. Leslie Galland

##### Camp Manager

Sheldon Mortrud

##### Assistant Camp Manager

Robert Bursheim

##### Camp Registrar

John Arlen Johnson

##### Assistant Camp Registrar

Mrs. John Arlen Johnson

##### Evangelist

Rev. Kenneth Anderson

##### Adult Bible Study Leader

Rev. Edwin Kjos

##### Youth Bible Study Leader

Rev. Francis Monseth

##### Adult Prayer Hour

Pastor Melvin Walla

##### Youth Prayer Hour

##### Doctrinal Hour

Dr. Iver Olson and panel

##### Mission Hour

Foreign

Missionary John Abel

Home

Rev. Herbert Franz

Rev. Fritjof Monseth

Rev. Jerome Nikunen

##### Confirmation Teacher

Mrs. Vernon Nelson

##### Grade School Teacher

Miss Judith Wold

##### Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Herbert Presteng

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

#### A Bible-Centered Program

#### DAILY SCHEDULE

7:00 Rising Bell  
7:30 Morning Devotions  
7:35 Breakfast  
8:30 Camp Clean-up  
9:00 Bible Hour  
9:50 Recess  
10:05 Doctrinal Hour  
10:55 Recess  
11:10 Missionary Hour  
12:15 Dinner  
1:00 Quiet Time  
2:00 - 5:00 Recreation  
3:30 - 4:45 Swimming  
5:30 Supper  
6:30 Staff Meeting  
7:00 Prayer Service  
7:45 Evening Service  
9:15 Campfire  
10:30 Lights Out

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

#### SPORTS

Swimming, boating, softball, tennis, horseshoe, basketball, fishing, conversation, ping pong.

#### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 - Missions - Rev. John Abel  
11:00 - Morning Worship - Rev. John Strand  
12:00 - Dinner  
2:30 - Closing Service - Connely Dyrud  
3:45 - Coffee Hour  
5:00 - Camp Closed

## CAMP STAFF

Dean of Men ..... Pastor Gene Sundby  
Dean of Women ..... Miss Pearl Aanstad  
Camp Nurses ..... Mrs. Vernon Russum  
  
Office Manager ..... Mrs. Melvin Walla  
Camp Newspaper  
Editor ..... Rev. Howard Kjos  
Recreation ..... Ranleigh Anderson  
Forrest Swenson  
Lifeguard ..... David Abel  
Campfire ..... Rev. Robert Lee  
Choir Director ..... Mrs. Henry Hanson  
Head Usher ..... Arne Aanestad  
Bookstore ..... Rev. Gerald Mundfrom  
Treasurer ..... Marion Hellekson



# Letter

## TO THE EDITOR

### A NEW PLAGUE

"If I do but touch the hem of his garment I shall be healed" (Matt. 9:21).

In Astoria we are now beset with the new plague which is the sensitivity program. This practice is spreading like wildfire out here. The program is carried out by participants revealing their inmost weaknesses and thoughts in a group of about fifteen persons. The participants sit in a circle and listen to one another revealing their failings and sins before the entire group. In one of the Lutheran churches it is carried out by a man and woman standing opposite one another about a foot apart, looking into each others eyes and then revealing their thoughts coming to mind as they do so. In addition, they rub the palms of their hands together as an incentive to remove the walls of inhibitions that exist.

The woman with the issue of blood had only one objective and that was to touch the Lord Jesus. She could have touched many different ones in the multitude but such sensitivity would not have healed her but would have rather worsened her situation even as the many physicians that she had spent her living upon. It is the familiar story of the blind leading the blind and assuredly all shall fall into the pit.

I have pondered, why it is that the pastors and particularly those who are liberal and modern, why they are so enamoured by the sensitivity program. I am persuaded that the reason underlying such activity is that they themselves have not really touched Jesus and as a consequence do not know how to bring others to touch Him. It is easier to get people to touch others.

The woman of our text who touched Him could receive the blessing to go in peace and we ourselves, as we touch Jesus in Christian communion, the Word and prayer.

Pastor R. S. Persson  
Astoria, Oregon

### BOOK REVIEW

#### THE LUTHERAN FREE CHURCH:

A Fellowship of American Lutheran Congregations, 1897-1963, by Eugene L. Fevold. Augsburg Publishing House. 330 pages, cloth, \$5.00.

At the time of the merger of the Lutheran Free Church and the American Lutheran Church in 1963, it was agreed that a history of the Lutheran Free Church should be written and the LFC had funds set aside for that purpose. The job fell, not to a man who had shared in that history, but to Eugene L. Fevold, a professor at Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., who had gained some renown as a chronicler of church history by co-authoring Volume I of the two-part **The Lutheran Church Among Norwegian Lutherans**, the story of the former Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The choice was a good one, in my opinion, for Mr. Fevold has shown great thoroughness and carefulness in setting down the pertinent and salient facts in the account of an always small but vigorous fellowship of Norwegian-heritage congregations. He couldn't say everything, but he has said as much as anyone could in the space allotted.

The author uses a great deal of documentation in **The Lutheran Free Church**. At first glance one is tempted to think that he fears not being taken at face value without it, but the same method is employed in **The Lutheran Church Among Norwegian Lutherans**, already alluded to. The footnotes are invaluable to anyone who wants to go back and do further study on his own. The number of those who can do so is reduced, however, by the fact that for over half the book the sources are often in the Norwegian language.

Professor Fevold properly traces the roots of the Lutheran Free Church back to Norway and the influences of Hans Nielsen Hauge and Gisle Johnson among others. He delineates the antecedents in America from 1825 and on. The tempo picks up with the founding of Augsburg Seminary in Wisconsin in 1869, the institution which would become the focal point for the formation of the

LFC in 1897 by the "Friends of Augsburg." Mr. Fevold seeks to be strictly objective in handling the roles of George Sverdrup and Sven Oftedal, "patron saints" of the LFC. A little more "pro" feeling toward them would have been nice even while trying to hold to the facts.

In fact, one criticism of this book, and there are not very many to make, is that it does not have a great sense of personal warmth. Perhaps the greatest touch of this comes in a description of the late Dr. T. O. Burntvedt, long-time and beloved president of the church. It may be that some time another book, by someone who lived a good part of the 66 years, could be written from the standpoint of personal reminiscences and human interest stories.

Mr. Fevold records the transition from an immigrant, Norwegian-speaking fellowship to a thoroughly Americanized church. He points out how the LFC refused to be drawn into the merger of 1917 (forming the ELC) and subsequently turned aside union overtures until the events leading up to the aforementioned merger of 1963.

This reviewer did not favor the union of 1963 or participate in it, and while there is an understandable temptation to want to argue the pros and cons once more, and to dispute certain procedures, it is difficult to find fault with Professor Fevold's treatment of the whole subject. In fact, we can well be glad to have the arguments listed here in a public record.

I don't agree with everything Mr. Fevold has written, but neither can I imagine any writer turning out a better one volume work on the subject at hand, with such careful attention to narrative and detail. I found it completely fascinating.

—Raynard Huglen

(Note: Some interesting material is contained in five appendices to the book. I shall only mention here an article by Dr. Bernhard Christensen called "The Idea of the Lutheran Free Church." It is actually an address delivered by the author to a Pastor's Institute at Augsburg College and Seminary in 1944. Readers will find this address of great interest.

[Continued on page 14]



## I HAVE A QUESTION

### I HAVE A QUESTION

**Question:** Whose son was the prodigal son when he was among the swine in the far country? What led him to repentance?

**Answer:** He was still his father's son—in a sense. But as far as the father was concerned, he was dead. God has no dead children; for Him they are always alive. So in a real sense—inasmuch as the prodigal was dead—he was the son of Satan. For that matter, so was the older son at home; they had simply died in different ways, these two boys.

What brought the prodigal son back to life? Fond memories of his father and home. Blessed be such memories! The Spirit often uses them to awaken people who live in sin and to instill in them a desire for reunion with the Father.

We read that he came to himself. Where was he before he came to himself? He was beside himself. He wasn't "all there." No one who is out of fellowship with God is "all there." He is like a creature that has lost the use of a basic instinct—like a bird that has lost the use of the migratory instinct. That bird has lost some of his wholeness; he is beside himself. He needs to come to himself in order that he may make a unified resolution—to fly south. The prodigal son came to himself and made the unified resolution, "I will arise and go back to my father." Then he became alive again—and was his father's son again. Unfortunately, the older son did not have this experience; he had always respected his father—and loved his possessions. From the dividedness of his soul he made a resolution, too: I will not go in! For years his brother had made that resolution, too, and remained in the far country. But now he, who had been dead, was alive again.

(Please address all questions in the

summer months to Dr. Iver Olson at 3311 14th Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407).

### TWO HONORED AT FARGO BANQUET

The Mother-Daughter banquet at St. Paul's in Fargo was again the setting for the awarding of honorary memberships in the Women's Missionary Federation. Mrs. Nels Flom and Mrs. Alf Eldevik were presented the membership certificates for their many years of faithful service by Mrs. Russell Duncan, president, on May 3, 1969. Mrs. Flom's pin was presented by her daughter, Joyce Stave, and Mrs. Eldevik's by Mrs. Duncan.

We were pleased to have Mrs. Herbert Presteng and her daughter Jean with us. Devotions were given by Mrs. Presteng who read Hebrews 6:10 and gave a brief talk. The program continued with a Tribute to Mothers, solos, group numbers, and duets.

"...and ye shall be witnesses unto me..." Acts 1:8



Left to right, Mrs. Presteng, Mrs. Flom, Mrs. Eldevik, and Mrs. Duncan.

### ASSOCIATION PASTOR RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY

Rev. Francis W. Monseth, son of Pastor and Mrs. F. B. Monseth of Osseo, Minnesota, has been awarded a \$1500.00 Seminary Graduate Scholarship by Lutheran Brotherhood, Minneapolis-based fraternal insurance society.

Mr. Monseth is a graduate of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations Seminary, Minneapolis, and is presently doing graduate work toward a Master's Degree at Seattle Pacific University while serving the Calvary Lutheran Free Church of Everett, Washington. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Valley City State College in 1964.

The scholarship is one of 14 Lutheran Seminary awards of \$1500 each presented by Lutheran Brotherhood as part of its extensive support of Lutheran higher education in the United States and Canada.

A. Herbert Nelson, President of the society, said that scholarships and grants for various education projects this year total more than a quarter of a million dollars.

In addition to the Lutheran Seminary awards, Lutheran Brotherhood is granting 23 scholarships of \$300 each to junior college students, 75 scholarships of \$500 each to senior college students, and 153 scholarships of \$300 each to 1969 high school graduates who will attend Lutheran colleges.

The society's aid to Lutheran higher education is part of a fraternal activities program for which over 1.3 million dollars is budgeted for 1969, Mr. Nelson said.

News release from Lutheran Brotherhood, May 21, 1969

"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Galatians 6:2

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.' I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

II Corinthians 12:9

[Continued from page 7]

vation. On August 16, 1965, a small tornado struck Bagley and demolished the building. The struggling congregation was discouraged but not ready to give up. They purchased the old post office building and shortly thereafter were able to buy and move into town a Missouri Synod church which had stood about 11 miles south of Bagley.

The church was moved on its new foundation next to the Bagley Park on Nov. 11, 1965. Some remodeling and painting were done and city water and bathrooms installed. Grace Lutheran held her first service in

the new church facilities on Jan. 30, 1966.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, south of Clearbrook, has in recent time been merged with Grace Lutheran. That congregation had been organized in 1898.

Grace Lutheran has received the following pastoral service: Joel Pederson and some area laymen, 1964-65; John DeBoer and Student Pastor Robert Lee, 1965; Hubert DeBoer, 1965-68; and Dale R. Battleson, 1968-.

#### THE PARISH

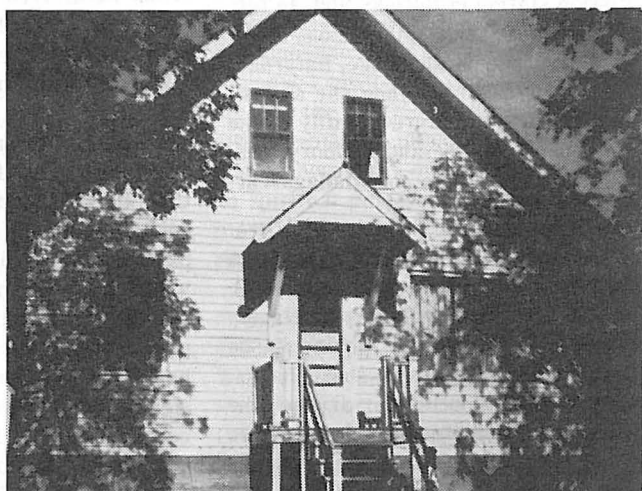
The present parish alignment was

begun only in 1968. A new pastor was called to serve the two congregations. Prior to that one pastor had served these together with Mt. Carmel and Trinity, McIntosh, and Calvary, Foston. The pastor lived in the latter town. Laymen assisted in the preaching tasks.

Going back further, Rice, First Lutheran, Emmanuel, Lanstad and Sell Lake had comprised a parish. In 1947 this was divided into two parishes with a pastor serving the first three and living in Bagley and another pastor living in Shevlin.



The first home of Grace Lutheran congregation after it had been wrecked by a tornado in 1965.



This is the parsonage in Bagley. In April and May, 1968, it was renovated and made ready for use by Pastor and Mrs. Battleson and Lisa.

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#### THE WORLD IS MINE

Today, upon a bus, I saw a lovely girl with golden hair.

I envied her, she seemed so gay, and wished I were as fair.

When suddenly she rose to leave, I saw her hobble down the aisle.

She had one leg and wore a crutch; and as she passed—a smile.

O God, forgive me when I whine. I have two legs.

The world is mine.

And then I stopped to buy some sweets; the boy that sold them had such charm.

I talked with him; he seemed so glad—if I were late 'twould do no harm.

And as I left, he said to me, "I thank you. You have been so kind.

It's nice to talk to folks like you. You see," he said, "I'm blind."

O God, forgive me when I whine. I have two eyes.

The world is mine.

Later, walking down the street, I saw a child with eyes of blue.

He stood and watched the others play; it seemed he knew not what to do.

I stopped a moment; then I said: "Why don't you join the others, dear?"

He looked ahead without a word, and then I knew he could not hear.

O God, forgive me when I whine, I have two ears.

The world is mine.

With legs to take me where I'd go, With eyes to see the sunset's glow, With ears to hear what I would know, O God, forgive me when I whine. I'm blessed indeed. The world is mine.

I am content.

—Anonymous

# A Preaching Mission In Madagascar

by Faythe Dyrud

The writer of this article is World Brotherhood Exchange volunteer Faythe Dyrud who teaches English to Malagasy students at the Lutheran school at Manantantely, and French at the school for American missionary children in Fort Dauphin. She spent Christmas vacation at her uncle and aunt's, Rev. and Mrs. Amos Dyrud, mission station in Betioky-Sud. In this article, she records impressions of her first "tournee" experience, Saturday, December 28, 1968, when she accompanied the Amos Dyrud family to the villages of Efoetse and Kilibory, near the southwest coast of Madagascar.

As the Jeep came to a stop under a spreading kily (tamarind) tree, curious Malagasy crowded around to examine us, reaching their hands through the windows to shake hands. Within minutes after our arrival, the villagers had gathered under the tree for the service. It was evident that this was the mission frontier, as the only communicants were the catechist and his wife, who had been working in Efoetse for three months. The catechist led a choir of enthusiastic children in some songs which he had taught them. Although there may be no statistical evidence of progress, a good cornerstone for the future church has been laid by gaining the confidence and cooperation of the children of the village.

Amos presented the basic Gospel simply, pausing frequently to invite comments from the group sitting in the shade of the kily tree. As he told about Apollo 8's lunar mission, this primitive world seemed centuries removed from the Space Age. On the other hand, as I sat observing this attentive "congregation" composed of women with dung-smearred faces; children picking lice out of each other's hair; men in loin cloths; and mothers nursing their babies; listening to the amazing story of the Baby

born in Bethlehem, another contrast seemed evident. The contrasting scene was Twentieth Century Congregation U.S.A., where people have become immune to the oft-told Story; the Sunday morning service has become a fashion show; and enthusiasm is quickly labelled fanaticism. Perhaps as God looks at the world, Madagascar and the United States do not appear centuries apart.

That afternoon we drove to Kilibory. When we arrived at the village, some little girls ran ahead of the Jeep to direct us to a tree under which to hold the service. When certain trees which looked like good, shady spots were suggested, the girls informed us that they were "kily fady," which means that they were taboo, because evil spirits were in them. Finally we parked under a big kily, hoping that it would be satisfactory. Later some women explained that this place had previously been considered "fady"; however, last July when Amos had slept under the tree while on tournee, no evil had befallen him, so the service could safely be held there.

The work in Kilibory is more established than that in Efoetse, and a grass-bamboo church is being built; however, the group that gathered that afternoon was small, and there were only three communicants, including the catechist. Here, too, it was encouraging to hear the children's special numbers, directed by a girl of about eleven years. In one of the songs, they thanked the missionaries from America to this dark country to bring the Gospel. And how they sang! When Malagasy children gather to sing before an audience, they modestly act like they are shy, but once they open their mouths, their lung power betrays the initial image.

We drove a few kilometers from Kilibory, down to the ocean where we were to camp for the night. It was a beautiful spot: no concession stands, no traffic, and no noisy tourists; just a nice shelter to eat under, a firm mattress of fine, white sand, warm

swimming water, and lakanas (boats) moving about in the distance. There was no need to sharpen hotdog sticks before our picnic supper—of steaming bowls of rice. After rolling out our sleeping bags on the sand, we sat on the shore of the Mozambique Channel, and sang and shared Bible verses for devotions. As we sang "How Great Thou Art," we sensed the awesome wonder of God's majestic creation. Then we prayed together, there under the starry southern cross, and we continue to pray: that the catechists working in these heathen villages may not become discouraged in their efforts to win their brothers to Christ and establish churches; that the enthusiasm of the children who sang may be channelled into effective Christian service; and that the curiosity of these people may lead them to the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

(Ed. Note: This article was written for use in THE MISSIONARY, but is also being used here. Faythe Dyrud is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Dyrud, Newfolden, Minn., a niece of Mr. Chester Dyrud of our World Mission Board, and a cousin of Rev. Connely Dyrud, missionary to Brazil. Missionary Amos Dyrud is known by many members of the Association.)

(Further note: Since the above was written, the Amos Dyrud family has returned to the United States for health reasons. They arrived just before the AFLC Annual Conference and were in attendance at the ordination of Connely Dyrud, Pastor Dyrud's nephew.)

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[Continued from page 11]

written by the man who, unless it was the Sverdrups themselves, had no peer as an articulator on the written page of the spirit of the Lutheran Free Church. R. H.)

# CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

## DR. TIETJEN ACCEPTS CALL TO CONCORDIA PRESIDENCY

New York—(LC)—Dr. John H. Tietjen announced here today (June 5) that he has accepted the presidency of Concordia Theological Seminary at St. Louis.

Dr. Tietjen, executive secretary of the Division of Public Relations of the Lutheran Council in the USA, said he expected to assume his new position early next fall.

He will succeed Dr. Alfred O. Fuerbringer, head of Concordia for 16 years, who has reached the mandatory retirement age of 65 for presidents of synodical institutions. Dr. Fuerbringer will begin a sabbatical leave this summer and will return to the campus next year to serve the school in the area of public relations, recruitment and development.

Dr. Tietjen, who was 41 on June 18, will become the sixth president of the 130-year-old seminary, affiliated with the 2.8 million-member Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. With 1,000 students, including some 600 undergraduates, it is the largest of a score of Lutheran seminaries and the largest denominational seminary in America.

A native New Yorker, Dr. Tietjen obtained both his B.A. and B.D. degrees from the institution to which he has been called as "spiritual, academic and administrative head." In recent years, he also has been a summer lecturer at Concordia, teaching modern church history. He earned his S.T.M. and Th.D. degrees from Union Seminary in New York City.

After his ordination in 1953, Dr. Tietjen was assistant pastor of Grace Lutheran church in Teaneck, N.J., 1953-56, and pastor of Calvary Lutheran church in Leonia, N.J., 1956-66, during which years he studied for his advanced degrees at Union.

## 2 LUTHERAN CHURCHES UNTOUCHED BY TUMULTUOUS WEEKEND IN ZAP

Zap, N. Dak.—(LC)—Two white-

frame Lutheran church buildings, having withstood the wintry blasts of the northern plains for many years, weathered a new kind of storm here recently—the kind of storm usually associated these days with college campuses and concrete jungles.

College students had responded with characteristic zeal to a widely circulated suggestion that they "zip to Zap" on the weekend of May 9-11. Thousands responded.

Mayor Norman Fuchs estimated that 2,500 reached Zap, a village of 300 people, but that additional thousands were headed off by state police and by radio warnings that the community could accommodate no more.

Bonfires fueled by lumber from a deserted building and other refuse, rioting led by drunken rowdies whom Mayor Fuchs described as "less than human," and the destruction of the town's two taverns resulted in general alarm, the summons of National Guard troops, and nationwide publicity which most of the citizens would have preferred not having.

The two churches, both unlocked, one within 100 yards of the center of unscheduled activity, were untouched in the shambles.

Sunday worship in the two churches helped to restore serenity to the community, and at the beginning of a new work week on Monday, most of the citizens were ready to forgive and forget, according to Mayor Fuchs.

"It wasn't the college kids who caused the trouble, but a few troublemakers who always seem to gravitate to such situations," the mayor said.

Zap, situated in rolling, wheat-growing country, 80 miles northwest of Bismarck near the Badlands, is accustomed to Saturday night parties which sometimes get noisy.

In addition to its two churches and two taverns, the town has a dance hall, two grain elevators owned by a single firm, a grocery store, two service stations, and a lumber yard.

Both Lutheran pastorates are vacant. One congregation, Immanuel, with 226 members, is affiliated with the American Lutheran Church. The other, St. Luke's, with about 150 mem-

bers, is a part of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Both have German backgrounds.

## DR. EMPIE MAKING RAPID PROGRESS AFTER CORONARY

New York—(LC)—Dr. Paul C. Empie, general secretary of the USA National Committee of the Lutheran World Federation, returned here by plane on May 17 from Asmara, Ethiopia, where he was hospitalized for three weeks after he suffered a mild coronary in the early hours of April 23.

In excellent spirits and making rapid progress physically from what he described as "this rude incident," Dr. Empie expressed the hope that he would be able to return to his office in July or August.

After a few days at home in Montclair, N.J., he planned to spend most of his time until mid-July at his farm in Palm, Pa., near Allentown.

## LC-MS CONVENTION TO FOCUS ON CHURCH RELATIONSHIPS

Denver—(LC)—The 48th general convention of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, convening here July 11-18, will consider 500 resolutions, about half of which deal with the controversial issue of church relations.

Some 1,000 voting delegates, 600 advisers and 1,000 visitors are expected to attend the week-long session of the 2.8 million-member denomination which, some observers predict, "might make minor ecclesiastical history by its decisions on church relationships."

A 550-page convention workbook is being distributed to the LC-MS's lay delegates, clergy, and men teachers. It contains some 70 reports and 500 resolutions on everything from future convention sites to a proposed \$30 million fund drive for relief and inner-city ministries.

Most of the proposals on church relations focus on the question of establishing fellowship with the 2.7 million member American Lutheran Church. Suggested are rejection, ap-

proval, postponement, or a congregational referendum.

Following previously established procedure, Dr. Oliver R. Harms, president of the church body, in conjunction with the Council of Presidents will recommend that the LC-MS

formally declare itself to be in altar and pulpit fellowship" with the ALC. Earlier this year, the Council, consisting of five vice presidents and 35 district presidents, voted 25-13 in favor of fellowship.

### TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT

February 1, 1969 to May 31, 1969

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$ 36,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$14,010.48
Seminary and Bible School	51,175.00	17,058.33	9,618.77
Missions	72,800.00	24,266.66	14,511.12
Praise Program	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>6,262.08</u>
	\$189,975.00	\$63,324.99	\$44,402.45

One Grand Fellowship—\$5,633.33

## Directory of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

### OFFICERS

#### President

Rev. John P. Strand  
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Vice-President

Rev. R. Snipstead  
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Rev. H. C. Molstre  
Dalton, Minn.

#### Business Administrator

Mr. Donald Hansen  
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

### CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

#### Chairman

Rev. Julius Hermunslie  
832 W. Stanton Ave.  
Fergus Falls, Minn.

#### Secretary

Mr. Sheldon Mortrud  
715 S. Tindolph Ave.  
Thief River Falls, Minn.

### ASSOCIATION SCHOOLS

Board of Trustees

#### President

Rev. E. J. Langness  
McVille, N. Dak.

#### Secretary

Rev. Raynard Huglen  
Roslyn, S. Dak.

#### Acting Dean of Free Lutheran Seminary

Dr. Iver Olson  
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Dean of the Bible School

Rev. R. Snipstead  
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

### WORLD MISSIONS

#### Chairman

Mr. Robert Knutson  
McVille, N. Dak.

#### Secretary

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