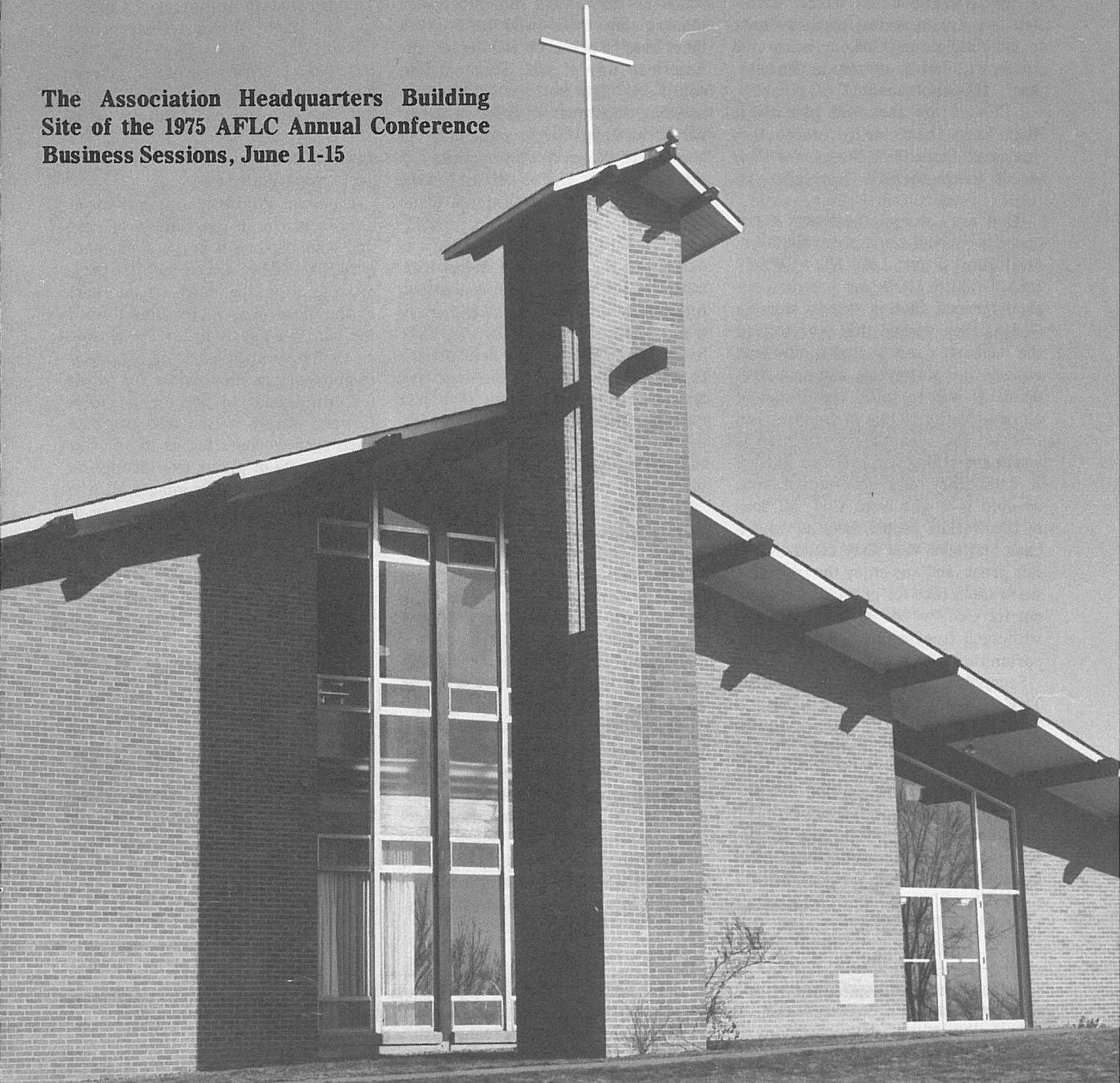


May 20, 1975

The Lutheran Ambassador

**The Association Headquarters Building
Site of the 1975 AFLC Annual Conference
Business Sessions, June 11-15**



MEDITATION MOMENTS

REMEMBER THE DEAD

"For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (II Corinthians 5:1).

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth . . . that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!" (Revelation 14: 13).

What are some of the things every one of us should remember this Memorial Day? First, LET US ALWAYS REMEMBER GOD. As a nation we should recall that it was to worship God as they wished that men braved the uncharted sea to find a new land with new opportunities and new freedoms. It was to fulfill the dream of an opportunity to live in freedom and to exalt the idea that every man is worth something and precious to God. A democracy and government such as ours is a gift from God. Millions of the world's people envy us Americans and wish that they could live in this great land and enjoy the freedoms we so often take for granted. If it were not for God, we would not be blessed with such freedom and numerous opportunities.

Secondly, LET US REMEMBER THE DEAD WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES UPON THE BATTLE-FIELDS OF THE WORLD. Today we think especially of those who have been called into the service of their country and who have sacrificed their lives on land, in the air, and at sea. Empty places in our homes call forth memories, and we pray that all might have been well with their

souls. Let us always remember with thanksgiving those who have given their lives to preserve and defend our American way of life. Abraham Lincoln said, "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." Unfortunately, the opposite has often been true. Let us remember the ideal for which our honored dead made their sacrifices. They fought, were captured, and died to save our nation and the world from being overtaken by evil forces which would soon turn all freedom-loving people away from God and democracy. In their honor and in love for our dear America, let us proudly fly the flag this Memorial Day. It is more than just "another holiday"; may we remember the dead, for without their sacrifice we would have no holiday to enjoy.

Thirdly, LET US REMEMBER THE DEAD WHO DIED IN THE LORD. Nothing that God has promised is lost. "If the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God . . . eternal in the heavens."

Hauntingly beautiful is the song that pays tribute to our war dead. Its title is "There Is No Death." Gordon Johnstone, who wrote the words, met a retired army colonel in 1919, whose command had been wiped out in a series of bloody battles. At first the colonel was bitterly despondent, so deeply he felt the loss of his men. Gradually his attitude of despair changed to one of quiet faith, a faith in God and in eternal life.

This became his testimony: "I began to feel their breath. Their hands touched mine as I walked down the trenches. I could hear their voices. I tell you, they have not died." Yes, for the one who has faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior, there is no death. "Because I live," the Savior said, "you will live also."

The proof of immortality is all about us. We see it in the sunsets of rose and gold. We see it in the stars gathered like lights throughout the sky. We see it in the dawn as our part of the globe once more turns toward the sun. We see it in the springtime as God covers the earth in a blanket of green and as He provides the power for little seeds to become beautiful flowers. Surely a God who can produce such wonders for us to enjoy is also capable of giving everlasting life to those created in His image. All who are trusting in Jesus can be sure of eternal life. Did not the Master say, "Let not your hearts be troubled . . . In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?"

With honor and love and gratitude, LET US REMEMBER THE DEAD this Memorial Day. Let us thank God for their sacrificial deaths to preserve our great American heritage. Let us thank God for those who left a Christian witness to the world. "BLESSED ARE THE DEAD." Praise God for all those, known and unknown, who gave themselves for God and man.

—Dale R. Battleson

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
of
THE ASSOCIATION OF FREE
LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS
June 11-15, 1975

co-hosts:

**The Association Schools and
Medicine Lake Lutheran Church
3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441**

Theme: "FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD"
Conference Text: John 6:41-51

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1975

- 9:00 a.m. — The Conference committees meet for devotions, instructions, and room assignments in the small classroom on first floor in the men's dormitory.
- 8:00 p.m. — The opening service of the conference with the sermon on the conference text by Pastor Wendell E. Johnson, Dalton, Minnesota. Pastor Jay G. Erickson, liturgist. The opening of the conference by Pastor John P. Strand and the appointment of the necessary committees. Offering to the General Fund.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 1975

- 9:00 a.m. — Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee, always in order.
Election of the Nominating Committee for 1976
President's Report
Report of the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee, Pastor Kenneth Anderson
Financial Report, Pastor Albert Hautamaki
Report of the Budget Analysis Committee
Report of the Nominating Committee, always in order.
Election of nominees for the Mission Corporation and the Schools Corporation.
Report of Committee No. 1.
- 11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour. The prayer hours will be led by Pastor Alvin Grothe, Stacy, Minn.
- 2:00 p.m. — Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 1
Election of the President, the Vice-President, and the Secretary of the AFLC
Election of nominees to the Co-ordinating Committee
Election of Committee No. 1 for the 1976 Annual Conference
Discussion and decision concerning amending the Rules for Work, litera 10a.
Report of the Dean of the Theological Seminary, Pastor Amos Dyrud
Report of the Dean of the Bible School, Pastor Richard Snipstead
Report of the Chairman of the Seminary Board, Pastor Ernest Langness
Report of Committee No. 2
Election of nominees to the Mission Boards and the School Board
- 6:00 p.m. — Annual Meeting of the Seminary Corporation
- 8:00 p.m. — Mission Festival Service conducted by the Women's Missionary Federation. Message by Pastor John P. Strand. Offering to the Library Fund. Installation of WMF officers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1975

- 7:00 a.m. — Mission Corporation Annual Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. — Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 2
Election of Committee No. 2 for the 1976 Annual Conference
Report of the Schools Corporation meeting

Report of the Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board, Mr. Robert Knutson
Report of the Chairman of the Home Mission Board, Pastor Herbert Franz
Report of the Chairman of the Commission on Evangelism, Pastor Jay Erickson
Report of Committee No. 3

11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour

2:00 a.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee
Continuing discussion of the Report of Committee No. 3
Report of the Mission Corporation meeting

6:00 p.m. — Banquet for the pastors and their wives at Radisson West, Highways 494 & 55, Plymouth, Minnesota

8:00 p.m. — Worship Service conducted by laymen of the church. The message will be given by Mr. LaVern Thompson, Fergus Falls, Minnesota. The service will be led by Mr. Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn. Offering to the Praise Program.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 1975

9:00 a.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 3
Election of members to the Commission on Evangelism
Election of Committee No. 3 to the 1976 Annual Conference
Report of the Chairman of the Board of Publications and Parish Education, Pastor Raynard Huglen
Report of the Executive Secretary of the Department of Parish Education, Miss Judith Wold
Report of the Chairman of the Youth Board, Mr. Roger Strom
Report of the Luther League Federation, Pastor Kenneth Moland
Report of Committee No. 4

11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour

2:00 p.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee
Report of the Colloquy Committee
Election of members to the Board of Publications and Parish Education, and the Youth Board
Election of Committee No. 4 for the 1976 Annual Conference
Election of the Colloquy Committee for the 1976 Annual Conference
Report of the Chairman of the Stewardship Board, Mr. Robert Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wisconsin
Report of the Chairman of the Board of Pensions, Mr. Clifford Holm, Minneapolis, Minn.
Report of Committee No. 5
Election of members to the Stewardship Board and the Board of Pensions
Election of Committee No. 5 for the 1976 Annual Conference
Report of special committees
Election of the Budget Analysis Committee for 1976
Report of Committee No. 1 as the Committee on General Resolutions

8:00 p.m. — Youth Night at the conference. The service will be led by Mr. Roger Strom, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The message will be given by Pastor Bruce Dalager, Bagley, Minnesota. Offering to Home Missions.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 1975

8:00 a.m. — Communion Service with the meditation by Pastor Elden Nelson, Eugene, Oregon

10:30 a.m. — Dedication Service for the new men's dormitory. Message by Pastor Richard Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Offering to Schools.

2:00 a.m. — Ordination Service with the message by Pastor John P. Strand, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Offering to Foreign Missions. Closing of the Conference.

Conference Committee:
Pastor Dennis Gray
Pastor John P. Strand

**OFFICERS TO BE
ELECTED AT THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*designates incumbent—

President (3-year term)

*Rev. John P. Strand, Minneapolis, Minn.

(Having served three full consecutive terms, the incumbent must receive a 3/4 majority on the first ballot to be re-elected.)

Vice-President (1-year term)

*Rev. R. Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.

Secretary (1-year term)

*Rev. Dennis Gray, Grafton, N. Dak.

**NOMINATIONS BY THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*designates incumbent
(Elections by respective corporations)

Co-ordinating Committee

(5-year term)

*Clarence Quanbeck, McVile, N. Dak.

Foreign Mission Board

(5-year term)

(Chester Dyrud, recently deceased, was finishing his second full term and would not have been eligible for re-election.)

Home Mission Board

(5-year term)

*Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn.

Board of Trustees, Schools

(5-year term)

*Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minn.

(3-year term)

(To fill the unexpired term of Amos Hinderaker, deceased. The vacancy has been temporarily filled by Howard Lieder, Minneapolis, Minn.)

**ELECTIONS BY THE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*designates incumbent
(All 5-year terms)

Stewardship Board

*Rev. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, Minn.

Youth Board

*Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn.

Board of Pensions

*Rev. Jerome Nikunen, Roseau, Minn.

Board of Publications and Parish

Education

(Rev. Raynard Huglen, Minneapolis, Minn., has served two full consecutive terms and is not eligible for re-election.)

Commission on Evangelism

*Rev. J. G. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.

**THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE
FOR THE 1975
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Alver Christopherson, Grand Forks, N. Dak.

Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Culbertson, Mont.

Rev. Edwin Kjos, Faith, S. Dak.

Morris Moan, McIntosh, Minn.

Ernest Thompson, Sebeka, Minn.

Raymond Jacobson, Minneapolis, Minn.

Mrs. J. C. Eletson, Duluth, Minn.

Rev. Kenneth Pentti, Bessemer, Mich.

Leonard Swanson, Nogales, Ariz.

Rev. J. G. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.

MISSIONS CORPORATION

The Nominating Committee of the Annual Conference will present two (2) names for every vacancy on the Mission Corporation. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The Conference will then by secret ballot choose one person for each vacancy, sending those names to the Corporation for decision at its annual meeting on June 13. Members of the World and Home Mission Boards must come from the membership of the Corporation. However, any Board member whose term on that Board has not expired is allowed to finish his term even if his membership in the Corporation is not renewed. Here is the present membership. * denotes World Mission Board member. ** denotes Home Mission Board member.

Terms expire in 1975:

Miss Pearl Aanstad, Hampden, N. Dak.

Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn.

Chester Dyrud, Thief River Falls, Minn.* (deceased)

Sheldon Mortrud, Thief River Falls, Minn.

Marvin Quanbeck, McVile, N. Dak.

Harry Rorvig, Dalton, Minn.

Rev. Larry V. Severson, Wallace, S. Dak.**

Rev. Gary Skramstad, DeKalb, Ill.

Rev. Forrest Swenson, Tioga, N. Dak.

Rev. Marvin Undseth, Salem, Ore.

Terms Expire in 1976:

Rev. Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, Minn.

Joel Rogenes, Buxton, N. Dak.**

Melvin Gravgard, Tioga, N. Dak.

Rev. John Rieth, Ortley, S. Dak.

Rev. Jerome Nikunen, Roseau, Minn.

Mrs. Aini Myking, Minneapolis, Minn.

Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.

Rev. L. C. Dynneson, Nogales, Ariz.

Pastor R. S. Persson, Astoria, Ore.

Robert Knutson, McVile, N. Dak.*

Terms expire in 1977:

Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Minnewaukan, N. Dak.*

Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn.**

William J. Kangas, Minneapolis, Minn.

Mrs. Leslie Kjos, Kalispell, Mont.

Vernon Russum, Grafton, N. Dak.*

Dr. Wayne Sletten, Faith, S. Dak.

Mrs. Roy Syverson, Tioga, N. Dak.

Olve Willand, Ferndale, Wash.

Miss Judith Wold, Thief River Falls, Minn.

Rev. Ronald Knutson, Drummond, Wis.

Mrs. Rodney Stueland, Buxton, N. Dak.

Terms expire in 1978:

Mrs. Birdeen Holt, Fosston, Minn.

Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.

Mrs. Gene Sundby, Outlook, Sask.

Rev. Fred Carlson, Sebeka, Minn.

Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Culbertson, Mont.

Rev. Kenneth Pentti, Bessemer, Mich.

Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom, Grafton, N. Dak.

Elmer Gravgard, Spicer, Minn.

Rev. Philip Haugen, Fargo, N. Dak.

Soren Engevik, Eden, S. Dak.

Terms expire in 1979:

Andrew Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia.

Alver Christopherson, Grand Forks, N. Dak.
 Paul Flaten, Strandquist, Minn.**
 Rev. Julius Hermunslie, Fergus Falls, Minn.**
 John Arlen Johnson, Granite Falls, Minn.
 Ed Mathison, Bagley, Minn.
 Rev. Elden Nelson, Eugene, Ore.
 Rev. Stephen Odegaard, Winger, Minn.
 Rev. Reuben Wee, Granite Falls, Minn. (deceased)
 Rev. Alvin Grothe, Stacy, Minn.*
 (Summary: Ten members must be elected for five (5) years and one member for four (4) years.)

SCHOOLS CORPORATION

The Nominating Committee of the Annual Conference will present two (2) names for every vacancy on the Schools Corporation. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The Conference will then by secret ballot choose one person for each vacancy, sending those names on to the Corporation for decision at its annual meeting on June 12. Members of the Board of Trustees must come from the membership of the Corporation. Failure to be re-elected to the Corporation while serving on the Board of Trustees automatically excludes one from further membership on the Board. Here is the present Corporation membership. * denotes Board member.

Terms expire in 1975:

Rev. Dale Battleson, Pukwana, S. Dak.
 Rev. Michael Brandt, Lake Stevens, Wash.
 Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minn.*
 Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn.*
 Rev. Ernest J. Langness, Ishpeming, Mich.*
 Rodger Olson, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.*
 Dale Quanbeck, McVile, N. Dak.
 Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.*
 Leonard Swanson, Nogales, Ariz.

Terms expire in 1976:

Rev. John Rieth, Ortley, S. Dak.
 Rev. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, Minn.
 Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, McVile, N. Dak.
 Paul Flaten, Strandquist, Minn.

Raymond Jacobson, Minneapolis, Minn.*
 Rev. Robert L. Lee, Valley City, N. Dak.
 Rev. David Molstre, Thief River Falls, Minn.
 Rev. R. Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Rev. Bruce Dalager, Bagley, Minn.
 Dr. Wayne Sletten, Faith, S. Dak.

Terms expire in 1977:

Rev. J. G. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Rev. Dennis Gray, Grafton, N. Dak.
 Amos Hinderaker, Racliffe, Ia. (deceased)
 Howard Johnson, Astoria, Ore.
 Rev. Howard Kjos, Roslyn, S. Dak.
 Howard Lieder, Minneapolis, Minn.*
 Rev. Francis Monseth, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Eugene Nesland, Thief River Falls, Minn.
 Rev. Orville T. Olson, McIntosh, Minn.
 Kenneth Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.
 (Summary: Ten members must be elected for three (3) years and one member for two (2) years.)

MRS. OLE K. OSE

Mrs. Ole K. Ose, 68, first president of the Women's Missionary Federation under the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, passed away on April 21, at Northwestern Hospital in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

Funeral services for Mrs. Ose were conducted on April 23 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls, by Rev. Hubert DeBoer. The organist was Randy Moe. Harvey Dyrud sang the solo "Herrens Barneskare" ("The Lord's Host of Children") and Mrs. DeBoer and Sandy sang "Over the Sunset Mountain." Interment was in the Satersdal Cemetery with Loiell Dyrud, Joe Ose, Stanley Goodman, Claire Kjersten, Jerry Skyberg and Kenneth Ose as pallbearers.

Mrs. Ose, the former Alma Kjersten, was born Nov. 30, 1906, at Wilton, N. Dak., to Helge and Clara Kjersten. At the age of five she moved with the family to Badger, Minn. She attended school in that community and was confirmed in Oiland Lutheran Church. She was a graduate of the normal school at Warroad

and taught for 15 years in Roseau County, Minnesota. She was also a graduate of the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis, Minn.

On Oct. 3, 1936, she was married at Badger to Ole K. Ose. They made their home in Excel Township, Marshall County, Thief River Falls address. Mr. Ose farmed, was a mail carrier and a lay preacher.

On Feb. 2, 1947, Mr. and Mrs. Ose began the Sunday Morning Devotional Hour over the new radio station, KTRF, Thief River Falls. Following the death of her husband in 1971, Mrs. Ose continued the program until shortly before her death. Pastor DeBoer took over her work with that when she could no longer manage it. She opened each program with the song "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Mrs. Ose was the president of the WMF from 1963 to 1965.

She was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, north of Holt, Minn.

Mrs. Ose is survived by a foster son, Henry Sollid, Thief River Falls; two brothers, Arthur and Hillard Kjersten, Badger; three sisters, Mrs. H. G. (Mildred) Goodman, Piney, Man., Can., and Mrs. Gilbert (Esther) Anderson and Mrs. Elmer (Evelyn) Skyberg, East Grand Forks, Minn.; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Blessed be her memory.

PERSONALITIES

Pastor R. S. Persson has resigned as pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Astoria, Ore., and has accepted the call to serve Bethany Lutheran Church, Bemidji, Minn. He and Mrs. Persson will move to Bemidji shortly. He will be the first full-time pastor at Bethany.

Rev. Alvin Grothe, who has served Sunnyside, Stacy, Minn., and Hope, Wyoming, Minn., for several years, will leave that parish to take up the work at Bethany Lutheran, Astoria, Ore., some time this summer.

Rev. Leslie Galland, pastor at Green Lake, Spicer, Minn., for six years and at Zion, Willmar, for several years, has resigned to accept a call to serve Calvary Lutheran Church, Everett, Wash. He will begin work there on August 15.

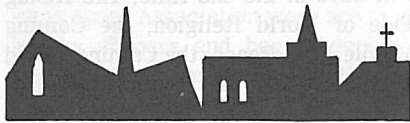
MEET

the

Churches

OF OUR

FELLOWSHIP



ST. PEDER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (NYSTED), Dannebrog, Nebr.

Soren Madsen came to America in 1872 from Demark as a pastor. In 1879 he came to Nebraska to do pioneer work. He preached his first sermon on Whitsunday in a school house near Dannebrog and thereafter the community of Nysted was established. He left in 1885 and C. J. Skovgaard came in 1886 to serve until 1891. During these years the Nysted Folk School came into existence, and so many of the following pastors not only preached but taught also (see following story).

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church (American Evangelical Lutheran Church) was served by

H. C. Strandskov (1891-1898), Thorvald Knudsen (1898-1901), Aksel Dorf (1902-1907), C. P. Hoiberg (1907-1912), and Lerager served during 1912 while living in Elba. Then Aage Moller became pastor and served during the years of 1913-1930. During this period the old church was sold and the present brick structure was built. The cornerstone was laid in 1919, but due to prevailing circumstances the church was not finished until 1921.

One only wishes that these pioneers might have known the inspiration they left to future pastors and church members by the purchasing of a pulpit and an altar carved by Jes Smidt of West Denmark, Wisconsin. The solid oak pulpit with its carvings of the four Gospel writers was his way of preaching—and his works continue to touch the hearts of those who share in the fellowship at St. Peder's.

C. P. Hoiberg returned in 1931 and when he left in 1936 Aage Moller returned in 1937. This time he remained only a short time and later the congregation was served by Arild Olsen, Erik Bach, and Howard Christensen while they were living in Cozad. In 1949 Pastor Christensen moved to Nysted and served until 1952, followed by Arnold Knudsen until 1958.

During the next summers the following students served the community: Everett Nielsen (1958), Harold Sorensen (1959), Rudolph Jenny (1960), Don Williams (1962, 1963). During the school terms of these years, the church was given spiritual guidance by students and faculty from Central Seminary, Fremont, Nebras-

ka. Later Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Dannebrog (ALC) shared their leadership and a merger was acted upon but dissolved in 1967.

Rev. Freeman of Trinity (LCA), Wolbach, began serving St. Peder's on February 4, 1967, and this act of stewardship continued to be a blessing until the fall of 1970. Rev. Freeman accepted a call to Gothenburg and once again St. Peder's was without pastoral care.

But the members of a non-Lutheran church in Dannebrog were concerned for the needs of the Nysted congregation and graciously agreed to share their pastor, Rev. George W. Craig. His ministry at St. Peder's began March 21, 1971, and once again St. Peder's is a living congregation with a renewed commitment and awareness of Christ Jesus.

And so, we have a rich past for which we thank God. But we believe we also have a great present and future. During 1972 we somewhat reorganized with a new constitution that emphasizes our position as a free and independent Lutheran Church. With Rev. Craig's leadership the congregation voted unanimously in June, 1972, to become affiliated with a group of like-minded Lutheran churches, the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. We thank God for this fellowship and new friends, and pray that He will bless us as we work together.

Today St. Peder's is served by Rev. Ken Gaureke of the same church, mentioned above, in Danne-

(Continued on page 13)



The parsonage of St. Peder's



St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Letters TO THE EDITOR

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

As I sit here reading the last copy of the **Ambassador**, my mind wanders. So often I am pressed to send a few lines to your paper, but it might not get in. As I was at the last Lenten service, looking through the song book, my eyes fell on a hymn my mother loved, No. 279 in the **Concordia**: "O herre Krist, jeg flyr til dig, Lad mig din naade faa! Men vender du dig bort fra mig, Vorhen skal jeg da gaa?" (English: "Lord Jesus Christ, I flee to Thee, Let me Thy grace obtain! But if Thou shouldst turn from me, My quest would all be vain."—Ed.)

Can we ever repay the debt we owe to God-fearing parents, and God-fearing ministers, later in life, when we are far away from home and almost lost in this commercialized world? It is God's wonder that a self-righteous person like me could be saved. But it is a miracle when anybody gets saved. It is the work of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' name, when we see our sins and lost condition. "And His blood washes whiter than snow."

But I'm sure it would have been different if we hadn't had the good training back there when we were children, where the Bible History and the Explanation of Luther's Catechism were required subjects in public school. It wasn't just a quick reading and reporting what you may have remembered, but memorizing word for word. That was good teaching. The teacher had ten children of his own. They surely had to know their lessons.

Those Scriptures kept me from many pitfalls when I was young and foolish.

Now spring is here and soon school is out. So will Sunday School be, too. And that is a **crime**. Doesn't anybody feel bad for the children who are growing up in this pleasure-mad age? In some places there is **one week** of Bible school for the younger Sunday

School children. What is one week? There are three months in the summer. Then there is one week of Bible camp, but very few get to them. They are often far away and what is it when parents can't even take one Sunday off to take their family to the Bible camp?

We have a God-fearing pastor and family here, but I fear he will be worked to death before he is middle-aged. He has three churches and they all want Sunday morning services. The home church is at 8:30 a.m. The next one is 15 miles away and the service is at 10:00 a.m., the last one at 11:15. Those churches must be three or four miles apart. The last two churches have Sunday School before services and then the children can be in church, too, which is good training. But the first church has Sunday School after the church service, as is understandable seeing it is so early in the morning.

Why can't these people change and have at least one evening service? It's a very sad thing, especially in the summer. It makes me feel bad that they want the rest of the Sunday for themselves. Years ago we had one or

(Continued on page 12)

NOTICE OF SCHOOLS CORPORATION MEETING

The annual meeting of the Schools Corporation (present membership) will be held at Tally Ho Cafe, 5216 West Broadway, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Thursday, June 12, at 6:00 p.m.

Rev. David C. Molstre

ARMAGEDDON By John F. Walvoord with John E. Walvoord price 1.75

This book is the most current bit of literature I have ever read. It points out how our present major current events relate to prophecy of the end time. It is very much in line with what the Bible says.

The author does not tell us what is going to happen as much as he is showing us what is happening, and where it is leading.

It speaks of such things as the Arab Oil Blackmail, the place Jerusalem will have in the end time, The Rising Tide of World Religion, the Coming Middle East Peace, the Coming World Dictator, and the Final Battle of Armageddon.

Somehow after reading this book, I do not mind paying fifty cents a gallon or more for gasoline, as long as so doing will help the oil industries to develop our energy resources. Such has great spiritual (as well as economical) implications.

This book helps the reader to see ahead, and to have a fuller insight into some of the things that are happening today.

I highly recommend this book to both young people and older adults. I especially recommend it to those who are interested in Jesus' Second Coming, and who await His return.

Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom

(This book may be purchased from Bible Book Mission, Inc., 809 McHugh Ave., Grafton, N. Dak. 58237.)

ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS February 1—April 30, 1975

	Total Budget	Current Budget	Received in April	Total Received	% of Current	% of Total
General Fund	\$ 64,250.00	\$16,062.48	\$ 6,814.19	\$10,759.19	66	16
Schools	102,000.00	25,500.00	16,865.66	22,086.26	86	21
Home Missions	53,000.00	13,249.98	3,913.80	7,367.44	55	13
Foreign Missions	66,840.00	16,710.00	4,629.32	8,127.26	48	12
Praise Fund	18,000.00	4,500.00	2,555.80	2,913.92	64	16
Total	\$304,090.00	\$76,022.46	\$34,778.77	\$51,254.07	67	16
1974-75	\$264,200.00	\$66,140.00	\$22,249.41	\$40,629.19	61	15

editorials

CONCERNING THE ELECTIONS

Now concerning the elections at the forthcoming Annual Conference, there are a few things that ought to be put in remembrance. Needless to say, most of the decisions about Association work are made, not at conferences, but by officers and boards during the year. Therefore, elections and nominations at the annual meeting take on great importance. Much thinking and prayer should go into these decisions.

Every three years we have an election for president in the church and 1975 is such a year. Rev. John P. Strand has been the president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations since its beginning in October, 1962. According to our Rules for Work (7e), as an executive officer, since he has served three consecutive terms his re-election requires a three-fourths majority. And it has been interpreted that this must come on the first ballot. In other words, a president continues in office only at the will of the overwhelming majority of the people.

The Order of Business for the Annual Conference of the AFLC stipulates that nominations for executive office (president, vice-president, secretary) shall be made from the floor and that at least two nominations must be made for each office. Congregations, and delegates to the conference, should realize, therefore, that if several nominations for president are made, the present president could very well be denied re-election. And we feel that unless there are compelling reasons, Pastor Strand should be continued in office for another term. He has given steady leadership and it is difficult to see how a change now would be wise.

As to vice-president (Pastor R. Snipstead) and secretary (Rev. Dennis Gray), they haven't served three consecutive terms yet in the present run and can be re-elected by simple majorities. Their terms are for one year each.

Noted elsewhere in the *Ambassador* is the fact that some board officers are only nominated by the conference while others are elected by the conference. But even where the conference only nominates, the boards in question (Co-ordinating Committee, Foreign and Home Missions, Board of Trustees) take very seriously the recommendations of the conference and almost always elect those persons to office.

Perhaps greater care can be taken to spreading representation around on the various boards. Also, the Nominating Committee has the right to examine an incumbent's attendance record at meetings. If a member is unable

to attend at least a majority of meetings held, there should be no sense of unfairness in nominating someone else.

Finally, we come to the Nominating Committee itself. The Order of Business has these guidelines concerning it. There are to be seven members, although we have used nine members, one for each district. Three should be pastors, although in our enlarged committee it would be four. At least one person shall be nominated from each district and no more than one person from a district can serve. No one can serve on the Nominating Committee for more than two years in a row.

The Nominating Committee is a very important committee in the church. Indicative of this is the fact that the committee for the following year is elected at the beginning of each conference. Delegates should come to this year's conference with nominations in mind for this vital committee.

Both prior to the conference and at the conference itself, anyone should feel free to offer suggestions to the Committee for this year. The members are open to this and welcome recommendations. A list of the Nominating Committee members is to be found on page 5 of this *Ambassador*.

Pray for conference elections and nominations. If you are coming to the Annual Conference, give forethought to the best choices to make, whether it be for an executive officer of the church, a board or corporation member, the editor of the church paper, or someone to serve on the Nominating Committee or another conference committee next year.

MR. CHESTER DYRUD

Chester Dyrud would have completed 11 years on the Board of Foreign Missions had he lived to the coming annual conference, but he passed away on May 1. By church rule he would not have been able to continue on the Board, having served two consecutive terms.

From the first, then, he was picked to help guide the world mission interest in the Association. Perhaps it was partly because he had a brother who was at that time a missionary in Madagascar, Pastor Amos Dyrud. But Chester had mission interest beyond that and he and his wife later had the joy of seeing one of their own sons, Pastor Connely J. Dyrud, go to Brazil to preach Christ.

I knew Chester's parents, the Peter Dyruds. They were godly people, solid Christian witnesses in community and church at Newfolden, Minnesota.

The Church says farewell here, for the time being, to Chester Dyrud and a thank-you for his interest in the work, for having been a co-worker in the Gospel.

It is well to note, too, the passing of Mrs. O. K. Ose, first president of the Women's Missionary Federation in the AFLC. Her husband was a brother of Mrs. Chester Dyrud. Her passing left a great host of friends through the Christian radio broadcasting in which she had been involved since 1947. She had been confirmed by my father at Oiland Lutheran Church, Badger, Minnesota, and at the anniversary there last summer had spoken of that in her greeting.

Raynard Huglen

HOUSING INFORMATION

for the 1975 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Minneapolis, Minnesota June 11-15

This year there will be approximately 155 beds available in the dormitories on campus of Association Free Lutheran Bible School. The cost will be \$3.50 for one person and \$5.00 for a couple per night. We request that the price of one night's lodging accompany your reservations. Make checks payable to the AFLC Schools. If you are handicapped or for other health reasons should not walk the stairs, please indicate that. There will be linen packs to rent at \$1.05 each. These packs contain two sheets, a pillow case, towels and a wash cloth. Bring your own blankets and pillows; however, we have a few blankets and pillows for those coming by air.

Make reservations with Raymond Jacobson, 8408 32nd Ave. No., Minneapolis 55427, or phone 612-544-8118.

There will be plenty of electrical hookups and camping spots at \$1 per night.

Make reservations directly to the motels.

MOTEL	TELEPHONE	NIGHTS: 1	2	3	4
Ambassador Motel 3924 Excelsior Blvd.	927-7731	\$15	\$19		\$25
Bungalow Hwy. 62 & Bass Lake Rd. 6221 - 56 Ave. N.	533-5371	13	15	19	21
Carriage House 8625 Hwy. 12	544-3601	17	20		
Crystal Hwy. 52 & Co. Rd. 10 5650 N. Hwy. 52	537-3680	11	13	17	20
Holiday 812 N. Lilac Drive Hwy. 100 & Hwy. 55	588-4665	16.50	20.50	24.50	28.50
Minnetonka 15818 Hwy. 12 3/4 miles west of 494	473-4616	15	17	20	21
Hopkins House 4820 Hwy. 55	588-0511	18.72	21.84		29
Cosmopolitan Hwy. 100 & 36 Ave. N.	537-3696	12	14		18
Radisson Inn Hwy. 55 & 494 2705 Annapolis Lane	544-1600	24.50	29		30
Royal Crown 6000 Lakeland Ave.	533-2900	12.50	14.50		18.70
Suburbia 5454 Lakeland Lane N.	537-9900	9	12		13
Voyageur Inn 2823 Wayzata Blvd.	377-7100	17.50 18.50	18.50 20.50		24.50 29.50

Rollaway beds are \$3-\$4 extra.

Women For Christ

OFFERING MEDITATIONS

SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR WRITING THE OFFERING MEDITATIONS (for local WMF's)

- ___ Scripture Text
- ___ Short explanation of text
- ___ Direct thoughts on project for the month
- ___ Verse of a hymn
- ___ Prayer

The purpose of the offering meditation is to direct our thoughts to the project for the month. It is with thankfulness that we have the privilege of responding and sharing in a material way with the gifts God has given us.

OFFERING MEDITATION FOR JUNE

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him" (Col. 3:16-17, KJV).

What a difference it makes when a person totally yields to and exercises faith in God's Word. It takes this total commitment, this total obedience, before we can fully experience the peace and joy which God has for each one of us. We need to let the Word of Christ DWELL in our hearts.

For example, a person living in a trailer home utilizes every corner, every nook and cranny. Likewise, in our lives, we need to yield every nook and corner to God's will. If we entrust everything, every area to Him, we will be rewarded! "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise..." (II Pet. 3:9a).

As we prepare for the Annual Conference, let's "give our all" in prayer preparation. Let's seek God's guidance for the future of the AFLC and our WMF and its outreach. **YIELDED HEARTS ARE GIVING HEARTS** ... hearts overflowing in gratitude!

Lord, my praise shall be unceasing
For Thou gav'st Thyself to me,
And besides so many a blessing
That I now sing joyfully:
Be it unto me, my shield,
As Thou wilt, Lord, as Thou wilt.

Hymn 217—Concordia, verse 4

PRAYER: Lord, we thank and praise You for Your presence, Your patience, and Your perseverance in dealing with us. Make us ever mindful of Your divine promises and protection. Forgive us, Lord, for failing to return to You in full measure what you have so willingly and wonderfully given to us. Give us a vision, Lord, that we may give with open eyes and open hearts that Your Word may go forth in our own communities and throughout the world. Grant us peace and joy as we share in the spreading of Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

"GOD HAS NO HANDS BUT OURS" THEME OF NORTHERN MINNESOTA WOMEN

An inspiring day was experienced by all who attended the Northern Minnesota District Women's Missionary Federation Rally held at Golden Valley Lutheran Church near Wannaska on April 19. The congregation is served by Ev. Clarence Haaland. The program centered around the theme "God Has No Hands But Ours."

The theme verse was "For we are

labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building" (I Cor. 3:9). The song for the day was "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee." The morning session began with a singspiration led by Mrs. Gust Nordvall, Ross, with the pianist being Mrs. Dallas Erickson, Greenbush. Miss Connie Grothe led in Scripture and prayer. Mrs. Arlene Bervig, Gonvick, and Miss Kristi Lundsetter, Wannaska, provided special singing. Mrs. Bervig then gave a Bible study on "Mission Impossible and Mission Possible."

A business meeting was held in which the following officers were elected: vice-president—Mrs. Neil Nikunen, Roseau; treasurer—Mrs. Norris Fugleberg, Badger; and cradle roll secretary—Mrs. Bernhard Dalager, Roseau; the latter two being re-elected. Other district officers are: president—Mrs. Roger Berg, Wannaska; and secretary—Miss Rebecca E. Anderson, Badger. Pastor Gerald F. Mundfrom, Grafton, N. Dak., told about the book nook he had at the meeting and also closed the morning session. A delicious dinner was served by the Golden Valley ladies.

The afternoon session began with another singspiration followed by Scripture and prayer by Mrs. John Berg, Wannaska. Special singing was provided by Mrs. Hubert DeBoer, Thief River Falls, and a rally day choir. The afternoon speaker was Pastor Merle Knutson, Newfolden. His message was based on Luke 10: 25-37, the parable of the Good Samaritan. He pointed out that each one should be like the Good Samaritan and let God use her hands for His work. He also told of various experiences on the mission field. Pastor Knutson closed the afternoon session.

Rebecca E. Anderson
Secretary

LAKE SUPERIOR WOMEN GATHERED AT DULUTH

The WMF of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Duluth, Minnesota, hosted the Spring Rally for the Lake Superior District WMF on Saturday, April 26, 1975. The theme for the day was "Praise the Lord," based on Psalm 150. Hymns of praise were sung throughout the day. Mrs. Ted Hanson,

district president, presided over the sessions. Special music was provided by St. Stephen's, the Mason, Wis., and Cloquet, Minn., churches. A very special number was a vocal solo by Mrs. Dorothy Hanson, a dear lady who is willing to share her testimony and songs each time we meet. She is a fine example for the rest of us. Praise the Lord!

The Bible study was conducted by Mrs. Reuben Emberson. The Bible study was taken from the study presented by Rev. Philip Haugen at the Winter Bible Conference. An offering was received for the project of Cradle Roll and Junior Missions.

The afternoon session was opened with devotions and prayer by Mrs. Henry Johansen, from Psalm 32. "A Day in the Life of a Missionary Family" was the interesting message brought by Mrs. George Knapp, our missionary from Brazil. She also prayed in Portuguese for us. Mrs. Knapp also expressed thanks for all the prayers and financial support the missionaries receive from the people here at home.

A time of sharing testimonies, music, and singing choruses of praise and hymns closed the program. John Kjos led the prayer and benediction for us.

There were 54 people registered for this rally.

Mrs. Clarence Tuura
Secretary

COLUMBIA RIVER TOWN SCENE OF WMF RALLY

Bethany Lutheran Church in Astoria, Oregon, hosted the Spring Rally for the West Coast District Women's Missionary Federation on Tuesday, April 22, 1975. The theme for the day was "His Grace is Sufficient," from II Cor. 12:9. "Grace Greater Than Our Sin" was the theme song. The district president, Mrs. Sig Christensen, presided over the session. Helen Hilmo, Lake Stevens, Wash., sang "He Giveth More Grace." Marion Rieth, Kirkland, Wash., conducted the morning Bible study. Everyone was inspired and challenged to step forward in their Christian growth and experience God's grace given freely according to our need.

Marilyn Bottem, Vancouver, Wash.,

led us in the prayer session. Pastor Lars Stalsbroten was our afternoon speaker. Pastor Ray Persson, Astoria, installed the officers: vice-president, Mrs. Erna Kurlle of Spokane, Wash.; and secretary, Mrs. Joseph Bottem of Kirkland. An offering was received for Church Extension, requesting Vancouver, Wash., to be the recipient. There were 84 ladies and 5 pastors in attendance.

Mrs. Joseph Bottem
Secretary

(Continued from page 8)

two services a month, as the minister lived 30 miles away. I remember that the Sundays we had no church seemed so long. Didn't even have a radio those days. Then the church services were always in the evening. It seems long ago, over 20 years. Surely the home church where the minister lives should have an evening service. And they should surely last more than one and one-half hour. With all the signs of the Lord's soon return, will our lamps be burning?

"Is it true that the Lutherans teach that you can be saved by taking the Lord's Supper, the sacrament of bread and wine?" Many people talk like that, but my parents told us differently. You must be born again and it is God's work in Christ. We can't do it ourselves. By faith are you saved, not by works, lest any man could, or would, boast.

A Concerned Member

(Ed. Note: The writer also quotes the last verse of Bernard of Clairvaux' song, "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded.")

PRAISE THE LORD THAT HE HAS BUILT

Praise the Lord that He has built
Here on earth a sanctuary,
Where the soul oppressed by guilt,
Safe beneath His wings may tarry,
While His mercy, love and grace
All its guilty stains efface.

Built upon the rock it stands
Firmly through the passing ages,
Heeding not the world's demands,
Nor the storm that round it rages,
But to souls with cares replete
It remains a blest retreat.

There the wounded hearts are healed
Grace to yearning souls imparted,
Light to sightless eyes revealed,
Strength renewed in feeble-hearted,
So that souls from weakness prone
Grow like trees in Lebanon.

Send us, Lord, Thy Spirit's dove,
Open wide Thy living fountain,
Deck Thine altar with Thy love,
Teach us from Thy holy mountain,
Shield us all beneath Thy wing
Till, at home, Thy praise we sing.

J. C. Aaberg
(from Hymnal for Home and Church)

PICTURES, ANYONE?

A great many pictures have accumulated in our office over the years. We are referring to photos and snapshots that have accompanied news stories. Some of these should have been returned to the senders, but have not been.

With the Annual Conference being held at church headquarters this year, we foresee an opportunity to get some of these pictures back to their owners and save postage at the same time.

If you have pictures you wish to get back from us, please bring that request on a piece of paper, hand it to me at the conference and I will do my best to locate those pictures for you.

This will be the best way out of a difficult situation.

The Editor

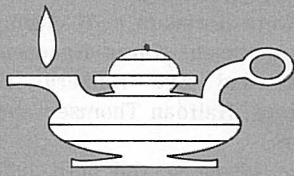
The writer of the article "A Family Affair" in *Introducing Our Seminar-ians* (School News), May 6, 1975, is John Koski, a second semester junior at Free Lutheran Seminary. We are sorry his name was omitted.

WEEP NOT FOR TODAY

Weep not for today, you know
'Tis but a passing minute.
Yet all the years we may hold
Are interwoven in it.

Weep not for today, but trust
In God for your tomorrow.
He will turn the bad to good,
And joy He brings from sorrow.

Marlene Moline



SCHOOL NEWS

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM AFLBS

The Choir being away on a weekend tour, most of the students around school on Sunday afternoon, May 4, went for a picnic at Theodore Wirth Park. Pastor Huglen accompanied them. The weather was ideal. Vickie Ingulsrud, Edmore, N. Dak., and Dean Bernard, Erskine, Minn., headed up arrangements for the picnic.

A basket social was held on May 1 in the boys' dorm recreation room, sponsored by the Mission Club. Over 20 baskets had been prepared, some of them by two or three girls together. Jeff Dahl, Bagley, Minn., was the auctioneer again this year.

The new tennis courts have proved popular among the students. The lines haven't been painted in yet, but the players have been able to work on their serves and returns anyway. When students come to AFLBS in the

fall they will find a large outdoor basketball court available to them. In addition there is the softball field and room for touch football. By the fall, too, it is expected that mats for wrestling will be on hand in the weight and wrestling room of the boys' dorm.

Homecoming for 1975 has been moved back to the last weekend of September after having been announced for the weekend of Oct. 3-5. Plans did not work out for a special sesquicentennial (of Norwegian immigration to the U.S.) observance on Oct. 5, but it can be assumed that some recognition of that event will be made at the Schools this fall.

There will be some Gospel Team activity from AFLBS this summer, but no special details can be given at this time about that. Watch for later announcements.

Now that school is out for another year, preparations are being made for the coming annual conference of the

church to be held at the Schools. There is cleaning to be done in the dorms. It is hoped that the landscaping necessitated by the recent building program will be completed before June 11, too, opening day of the conference.

Gene Froehlich, Kenyon, Minn., Junior, was honored with the Star Farmer Award by the Future Farmers of America at the group's state convention banquet in St. Paul, Minn., on April 28. Congratulations, Gene.

A full church marked the graduation exercises for Seminary and Bible School on May 16. There were seven graduates of the Seminary and 30 of the Bible School. The address was given by Pastor R. Snipstead, dean of the Bible School and who will be returning to the parish ministry in the fall, at Ferndale, Wash. The Choir and Choral Club both sang. A reception was held in the church parlors following the impressive ceremony.

The home concert of the Bible School Choir was given on Sunday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m.

Thinking of attending Bible School next fall? Begin the application process now. Registrations for 1975-76 are running ahead of the normal pace. Contact the Dean at 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441.

(Continued from page 7)

brog, four miles to the southeast.

St. Peder's has one son in the Lutheran ministry. He is Rev. Laverne L. Larkowski, Bethany Lutheran Church, Axtell, Nebr. He is the son of Steve Larkowski. Two daughters of the congregation will be in Christian work. Barbara Sorensen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Sorensen, received her nurse's training at Immanuel Lutheran School of Nursing in Omaha, Nebr. She is currently attending St. Paul Bible College, St. Bonifacius, Minn., and will have her degree in missionary nursing this year. Caryl Grorud, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Max Christensen, is the wife of Mark Grorud, who will enter Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., this year after graduating from Dana College, Blair, Nebr.

—Corr.



The unique pulpit in St. Peder's Church

NYSTED FOLK SCHOOL

The spiritual father of the Folk School movement was N. F. S. Grundtvig, who believed that man's entire life was a God-given gift with a value in itself. He fought for a school where learning, development and enlightenment were their own rewards. Its main object was to lay a foundation for a fuller and richer life. And so the Nysted Folk School was an American outgrowth of this movement. It was begun in 1887 while C. J. Skovgaard was minister of St. Peder's. At this time the east wing was built. In 1904 the west wing was added and in 1946 the center part was removed.

There were no academic entrance requirements, no examinations or grades, no diplomas or degrees. The school served many Danish immi-

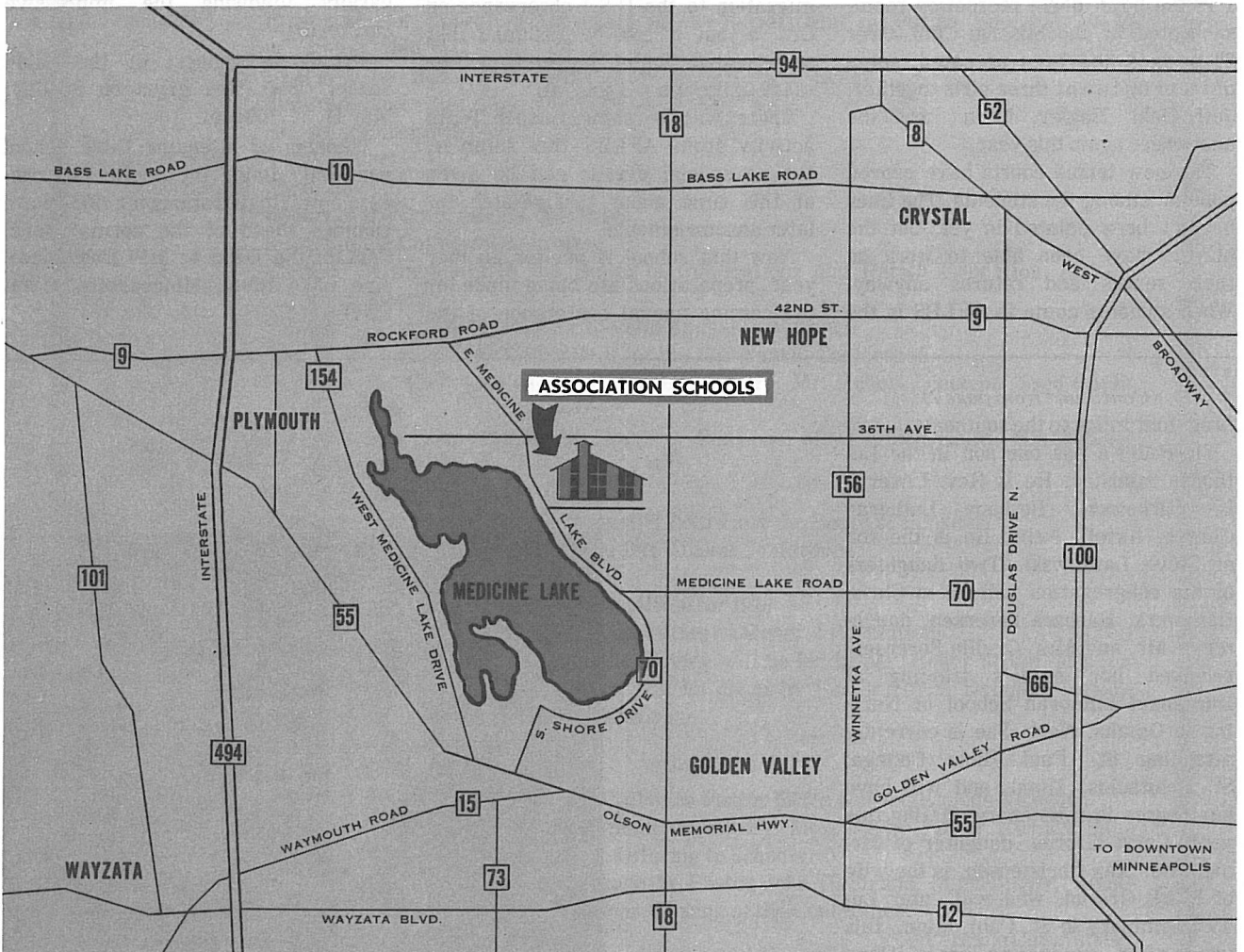
grants who wanted to learn more about the country they had chosen. Farm boys who were busy through the summer often came in the winter to attend classes and lectures. Out of the lecture-discussion periods, the faculty sought to create a public mind and a public morality in its students so that they could enter life and take their place as an intelligent and alive citizenry.

Some of the subjects that were offered through the years were: English, Capitalism, Socialism and Communism, Modern Trends in Psychology, World Literature, United States History, Science and Religion, Art, Athletics, the Future of Farming, and the Role of the Negro in American Civilization. Some of the faculty members were pastors of St. Peder's, namely C. J. Skovgaard, H. C. Strand-

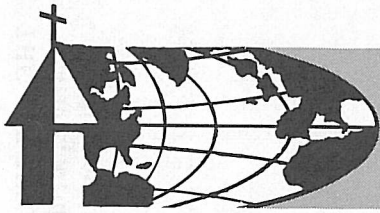
skov, Thorvald Knudsen, Aksel Dorf, C. P. Hoiberg and Aage Moller. Others were Roredam P. B. Ammentoro, Kr. Andersen, Karen Knudsen, Otto, Hans, and Eva Hoiberg, Dagmar Bobjerg, Halfdan Thomsen and many others.

The school served until 1937 when the depression and drought made it impossible for it to continue. The educational ideas expressed above were then carried on through camps, recreational laboratories and retreats. In 1967 the Folk School was sold to the Western Conference of the Evangelical Wesleyan Church. During these many years it inspired men and women so that the Faith of Our Fathers and the Glory of God might grow in our homes, our church, and our Nation.

—Corr.



Map showing location of the Association schools
Site of the 1975 Annual Conference of the AFLC.



CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

** The Lutheran Church in America (LCA, 1,825,000 membership) has 183 active missionaries and is unable for budgetary reasons to send out additional missionaries this year.

** Compared with a membership of 9,500 thirteen years ago, Mormons in Great Britain now number 80,000, with 1,600 missionaries active there.

** *Time* magazine recently reported that a community of 1,200 Christians has sprouted in Foochow, mainland China, in the last five years. News of this church came to light when five of its leaders were paraded through the streets in dunce caps. Reports of other clandestine Christian meetings in China continue to filter out.

** Weekday religious services near Wall Street are twice the size they were before the current economic recession.

4,000-MEMBER BODY VOTES TO JOIN WISCONSIN SYNOD

Hillsboro, Oregon — (LC) — Delegates to a special convention of the 4,000-member Federation of Authentic Lutheranism (FAL) voted here to merge with the 390,000-member Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

The merger is subject to a congregational referendum in which the affirmative vote of two thirds of the FAL congregations is required.

The FAL was formally organized in November 1971. At the time of its organization, the Federation stated that it intended "to serve individuals who for conscience reasons are withdrawing from synodical membership in heterodox Lutheran bodies and declaring themselves to be independent."

The Federation maintained that it was continuing the doctrinal position

of the former Lutheran Synodical Conference of which both the Wisconsin Synod and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod were charter members.

At the time the merger resolution was approved, all the FAL members were former members of the Missouri Synod.

If the merger is approved by the congregations, the merger resolution states, no member congregation "shall be hindered by the FAL from seeking membership in either of our sister synods or becoming independent."

The two sister synods referred to in the resolution are the Wisconsin Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, both of which declared fellowship with the FAL soon after it was organized.

According to the Rev. Eugene P. Kauffeld of St. John's Lutheran Church, Watertown, Wis., chairman of the FAL, the merger was voted "mainly for economic reasons." He said it was becoming increasingly difficult to fund the missions of the Federation. He cited in particular the FAL mission in Antigua. "The resources of our 11 congregations are just too limited to do justice to the mission possibilities in Antigua and several of our other missions."

"Our congregations are widely scattered throughout the United States," Mr. Kauffeld said, "and this poses severe administrative difficulties. Then, too, we find ourselves short of pastors with years to wait as we train our own. But these are less important considerations."

The merger resolution called for the referendum among the FAL congregations to be concluded by June 30.

LUTHERAN PASTOR AUTHORS HYMN FOR BICENTENNIAL

New York—(LC)—A Lutheran pastor who also serves as a campus

minister is the author of a hymn that has been chosen by the Hymn Society of America for use in celebrating the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976.

The writer is the Rev. Roger B. Kronmann, 37, who recently assumed the pastorate of University Lutheran Church in Gainesville, Fla., and a ministry to Lutheran students at the University of Florida.

Ordained by the American Lutheran Church in 1963, he was pastor during the past five years of Peace Lutheran Church in Glen Burnie, Md.

Dr. Kronmann's text, entitled "Lord, We Give Thanks for All Your Grace," was one of 14 winning compositions for which composers are invited to submit music before Dec. 31, 1975. The 14 were selected from more than 200 submitted.

Following are the words to the hymn:

Lord, we give thanks for all your grace,
Showered alike on every race,
Your greatest gift to fifty states:
To know the Lord who liberates.

Lord, we remember all Your deeds;
The strength that met a country's
needs,
The thoughts behind a Bill of Rights,
To build a fairness that unites.

Lord, we will sing for what can be:
For dreams to build reality,
For hope to change what still is wrong,
That we may keep our country strong.

Lord, bless, we pray, our land today
That she may walk a righteous way,
That she may seek to do Your will,
At home, abroad, with strength and
skill.

Lord, we sing praise to You alone
For plains and mountains You still
own,
For all the good that You have done
And all the good not yet begun.

(Ed. Note: This hymn may be sung to the tune of Old Hundred, the Doxology.)

BEDS NEEDED AT GALILEE CAMP, SITE OF 1975 FAMILY CAMP

Beds, both single and double, with mattresses, are needed at Galilee Lutheran Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn., site of the 1975 AFLC Family Bible Camp. Room for more beds has been made available through remodeling and building projects at the camp this spring.

Anyone having beds they can donate to the camp should notify the dean of the camp, Rev. David Molstre, 404 Kendall Avenue South, Thief River Falls, Minn. 56701. Telephone 218-681-1910.

The camp will be in session June 30-July 6.

SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED FOR 1975 LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION CONVENTION

Rev. Richard Snipstead, dean of Association Free Lutheran Bible School, will be the Bible teacher at the 1975 Luther League Federation Convention to be held at AFLBS, Minneapolis, Minn., July 23-27. The evening speaker will be Rev. Michael Brandt, Lake Stevens, Wash.

Attendance will be limited to young people who will be in 9th grade this fall and above. Total cost is \$20.00, including registration.

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
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