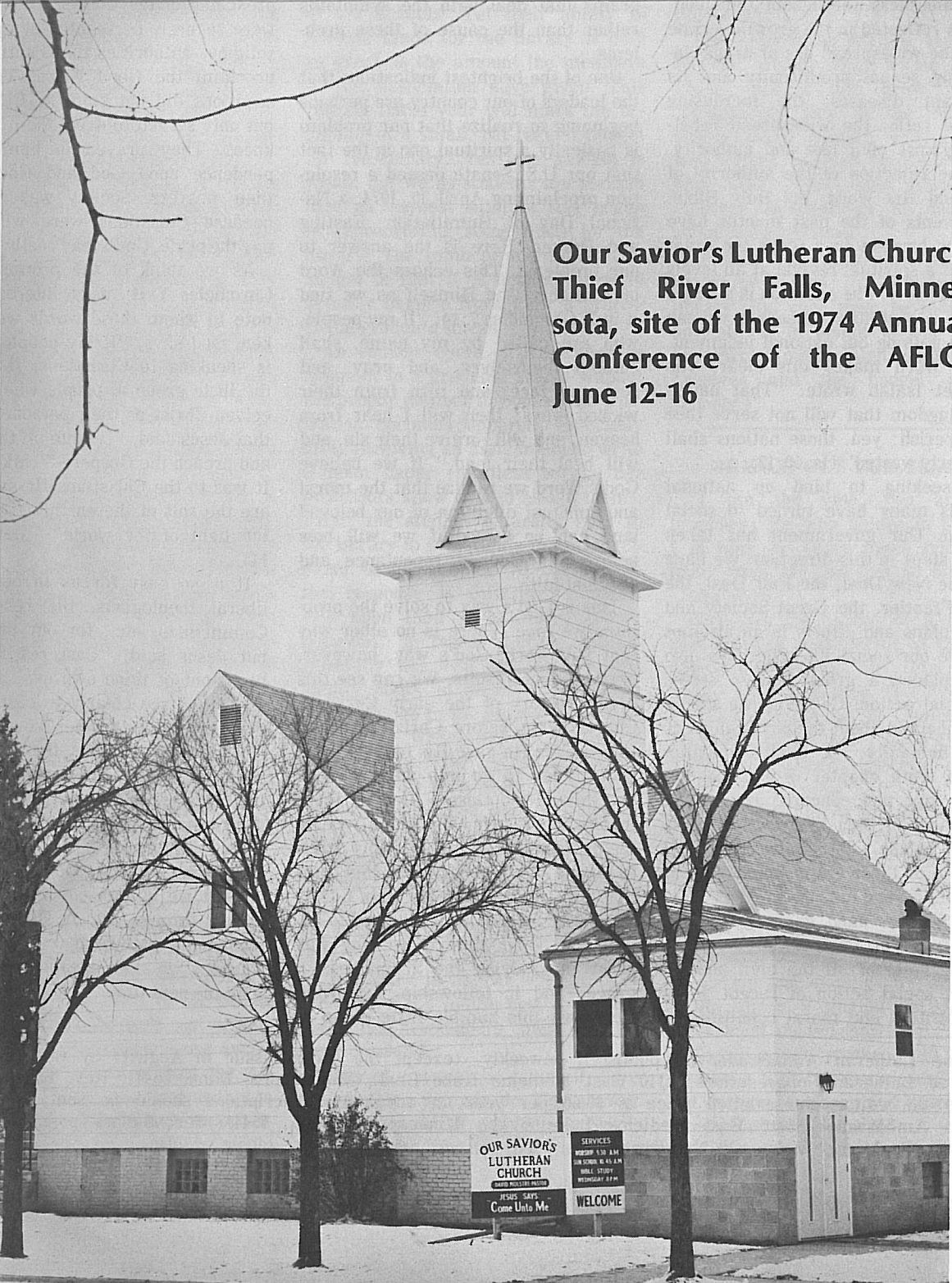


May 21, 1974

The Lutheran Ambassador



**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Thief River Falls, Minne-
sota, site of the 1974 Annual
Conference of the AFLC,
June 12-16**

OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
DAVID HOLLISTED PASTOR

JESUS SAYS
Come Unto Me

SERVICES
WEDNESDAY 8:30 A.M.
SUN SCHOOLS 10:45 A.M.
BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY 7:30 P.M.

WELCOME

MEDITATION MOMENTS

REVIVAL RESPONSIBILITY

One of the tragic trends of modern times has been the consistent increase of Godlessness throughout our land. This is reflected in the growing crime rate, the widespread use of drugs, increasing sexual promiscuity and its attendant diseases, the increasing divorce ratio, the widespread rebellion against civil law and authority, and the rejection of the authority of God and His Word, the Holy Bible. The events of the past months have perhaps brought to a focus the great need of a spiritual revival at all levels of our society. The situation is a tragic one. If it continues unchecked we can expect nothing but national judgment. God's Word makes this clear. The Prophet Isaiah wrote: "That nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted" (Is. 60:12).

In seeking to bind up national wounds many have turned to social reform. Our government has taken many steps in this direction. We have had the New Deal, the Fair Deal, the New Frontier, the Great Society and other plans and efforts in an attempt to cure our social ills. Churches also have placed a great deal of stress on social action. Certainly we should be concerned about the physical needs of all humanity. The Good Samaritan in the tenth chapter of Luke had a social love and concern. Jesus said, "Go, and do thou likewise." This is a part of the fruit of the Spirit. An absence of these fruits indicates that our faith is dead (Jas. 2:26).

On the other hand, good works alone do not get at the real problems of life. In spite of all the civil and religious social action of recent years the spiritual and moral conditions in

our land have become worse. Our response has been to produce more programs that deal with the symptoms rather than the cause of these problems.

One of the brightest indications that the leaders of our country are perhaps beginning to realize that our problem is basically a spiritual one is the fact that our U.S. Senate passed a resolution proclaiming April 30, 1974, a National Day of Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer. Here is the answer to our problems. This echoes the Word of Almighty God Himself as we find it in II Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." If we believe God's Word we realize that the moral and spiritual dilemma of our beloved land can be solved if we will bow before our God in repentance and obedient faith.

This is God's way to solve the problems we face. There is no other way that will work. God's way, however, does produce results. We can see this in the history of the early Christian Church. Just before Christ ascended into heaven He gave His followers the commission to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. He told them that in a few days they would receive the promised power of the Holy Spirit to enable them to carry out this commission. In obedience to their Lord's command the disciples returned to Jerusalem. Their time of waiting was spent in studying the Scriptures, in prayer and in fellowship. Following Pentecost this humble little group of

prayer warriors went forth and turned the world "upside down" with the preaching of the Gospel. Though they were severely persecuted by civil and religious authorities they continued to proclaim the Good News. The persecutions did not stop the Christians but only served to drive them to their knees. They prayed in humble dependence upon God and God heard their prayers. Society was changed because Christians were willing to pay the price. God's way really works!

As we think of the promise of II Chronicles 7:14, it is interesting to note to whom these words were spoken. God says, "If **My people**—." He is speaking to Christians. It was to the little group of people who had received Christ as their personal Savior that Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel—" (Mk. 16:15). It was to the Christians He said, "Ye are the salt of the earth—", "Ye are the light of the world" (Matt. 4:13, 14).

It is so easy for us to blame the liberal theologians, the rebels, the Communists, etc., for our problems, but Jesus said, "Cast out first the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye" (Matt. 7:5). We can't expect the unregenerate to produce righteousness or to be instruments of revival. Fellow Christians, the responsibility comes back to us—"My people," as God said. Are we willing to allow God to revive us so that we in turn can be the instruments through which He can bring awakening and revival to our land? Perhaps we shall expand this thought a bit the next time.

Edwin M. Kjos

The **Lutheran Ambassador** is published biweekly (except the second issue in August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Rev. Raynard Huglen is the editor. Subscription price is \$3.50 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to **The Lutheran Ambassador**, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn. Volume 12, Number 11

The Twelfth Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

June 12-16, 1974

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Thief River Falls, Minnesota

Theme: CONTINUING IN HIS GRACE
Conference Text: Psalm 91

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1974

- 9:00 a.m. The conference committees meet for devotions, instructions, and room assignments.
- 8:00 p.m. The opening service of the conference with the sermon on the conference text by Pastor Robert Lee, Valley City, North Dakota. Pastor David Molstre, Thief River Falls, Minnesota, 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 13, 1974

- 9:00 a.m. Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee, always in order.
Election of the Nominating Committee for 1975
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 the 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 Jay G. Erickson, Ferndale, Washington.
- 2:00 p.m. Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 1
Election of the Vice-President and the Secretary of the AFLC
Election of Nominees to the Co-ordinating Committee
Election of Committee No. 1 for the 1975 Annual Conference
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 Board of Trustees, Pastor Ernest Langness
Report of Committee No. 2

Election of nominees to the Mission Boards and the Board of Trustees

- 5:30 p.m. Meeting of the Seminary Corporation at the Rex Cafe, Thief River Falls.
- 8:00 p.m. Mission Festival Service conducted by the Women's Missionary Federation. Message by Pastor Francis Monseth. Offering to the Dormitory Furnishings Fund. Installation of WMF Officers.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 1974

- 7:00 a.m. Mission Corporation Annual Meeting at the Rex Cafe, Thief River Falls.
- 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 1975 Annual Conference
Report of the Schools Corporation meeting
- 11:30 a.m. Prayer Hour
- 2:00 p.m. Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
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
Report of the Mission Corporation meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Banquet for the pastors and their wives at Lon's Cafe, Thief River Falls
- 8:00 p.m. Worship service conducted by laymen of the Church. The message will be given by Mr. Donald Hansen, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Offering to the Praise Program.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1974

- 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 1975 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, Pastor Forrest Swenson
 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 1975 Annual Conference
 Report of the Chairman of the Stewardship Board, Pastor Wendell Johnson
 Report of the Chairman of the Board of Pensions, Mr. Eldor Sorkness
 Report of Committee No. 5
 Election of members to the Stewardship Board, and the Board of Pensions
 Election of Committee No. 5 for the 1975 Annual Conference
 Report of Special Committees
 Election of the Budget Analysis Committee for 1975
 Report of Committee No. 1 as the Committee on General Resolutions
- 5:30 p.m. Luther League Banquet
- 8:00 p.m. Youth Night at the Conference with Pastor Pastor Gary Skramstad, Kalispell, Montana, leading the service. The message

will be given by Pastor Michael Brandt, Lake Stevens, Washington. Offering to Home Missions.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1974

- 8:00 a.m. Communion Service with the meditation by Pastor Richard Gunderson, Sedan, Minnesota
- 10:30 a.m. Worship service with the message by Pastor Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minnesota. Offering to Foreign Missions.
- 2:00 p.m. Ordination service with the message by Pastor John P. Strand. Being ordained are candidates Richard Anderson and Dennis O'Neil. Offering to Schools. Closing of Conference.

Conference Committee,
 Pastor John P. Strand
 Pastor Robert L. Lee



The sanctuary of Our Savior's Lutheran Church where annual conference sessions will be held.

**MISSION CORPORATION
 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Mission Corporation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will hold its annual meeting at a 7:00 a.m. breakfast at the Rex Cafe, Thief River Falls, Minnesota, on Friday, June 14, 1974.

Roy Mohagen
 Secretary

**SCHOOLS CORPORATION
 ANNUAL MEETING**

The annual meeting of the Corporation of Free Lutheran Seminary will be held, Thursday, June 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rex Cafe in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

Rev. David Molstre
 Secretary

DO IT NOW

It seems we have so little time
 To do the kindly things.
 Before we realize the truth
 We find that time has wings.

We plan to give a word of cheer.
 To one who needs a friend;
 We plan to see someone who's ill
 Who may be near the end.

And there's a letter we should write
 To someone who is sad;
 Our words may be just what they need
 To cheer and make them glad.

It's easy to procrastinate
 And leave such tasks undone;
 But such a course will bring regrets
 When life's short race is run.

There is a cure for all these ills
 Just three words tell us how

To bring a speedy, perfect cure,
 They're simply: "Do it now!"

—Selected
 —(New Hope Center Beacon)

THE MAGNETISM OF JESUS

Yet never once did Jesus say that men would be drawn unto Him, in an undeviating loyalty, by either His precepts or His example. On the other hand, He did repeatedly say they would be so drawn as a result of His death upon the cross. . . . I admire Jesus as the most unique character of all time. But I cannot come to adore Him until I see Him hanging there, with the nails driven through His hands and feet, and with the spear print in His side.

Edward L. Keller

INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Time passes so rapidly. It is already a year since we were planning our Eleventh Annual Conference to be held in Ferndale, Washington. What a blessed conference it was! And now another conference treat is near at hand.

The twelfth annual conference will be hosted by Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Thief River Falls, Minnesota. This congregation hosted the conference which gave birth to the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. We will not be on strange ground.

The annual conference has many purposes. Surely it is an annual **inventory** time. Are we as an association remaining true to our original convictions, and are we consistent in striving for our established goals? Are the boards, committees, and elected officials serving the best interests of the entire association, and are they committed to that which is best for the local congregations? As we give an account of our stewardship, we have always experienced Christian understanding and fellowship.

The annual conference is also a time of **thanksgiving**. God is continuing to shower extraordinary blessings and spiritual graces upon us as a church. For this we gather to give thanks.

The annual conference is also a **planning** time. Times, needs, and challenges often change. We must adjust the program, not the theology, to fit our times. There have been changes this past year which make it necessary to perhaps reconsider former decisions and make new plans. As the A.F.L.C. grows, her vision must also expand.

The annual conference is also **commitment** time. Again we must commit



Rev. John P. Strand

ourselves to our Lord and His church. Ours is a great privilege and task. It demands our best. This is not a time to play church. Our best is none too good to give.

Come to our annual conference. Every congregation should be represented. Blessings and opportunities await you.

"Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen."

Sincerely in Christ

Pastor John P. Strand
President, AFLC

THE ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard

Minneapolis, Minnesota

BUDGET RECEIPTS

February 1 — April 30, 1974

	Proposed Total Budget	Current Budget	Received During April	Total Received to Date
General Fund	\$56,000.00	\$14,000.01	\$ 5,035.39	\$10,608.03
Schools	82,830.00	20,707.50	8,078.92	12,584.02
Home Missions	50,000.00	12,500.01	4,292.42	7,283.34
Foreign Missions	57,370.00	14,432.49	3,892.52	8,134.64
Praise Program	<u>18,000.00</u>	<u>4,500.00</u>	<u>950.16</u>	<u>2,019.16</u>
Total	\$264,200.00	\$66,140.01	\$22,249.41	\$40,629.19
Received last year same date				\$32,357.44
Legacies: \$182.19				
Dorm Fund:				
Unpaid pledges			\$ 21,903.00	
Cash Received through March			144,139.77	
Cash Received during April			<u>8,072.85</u>	
			\$174,115.62	

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*designates incumbent

Vice-President (1-year term)

*Rev. R. Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.

Secretary (1-year term)

*Rev. Robert L. Lee, Valley City,
N. Dak.

NOMINATIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*designates incumbent

(Elections by the respective corporations)

Co-ordinating Committee

(5-year term)

(Rev. Harry C. Molstre, Fergus Falls,
Minn., has served two full terms
and is not eligible for re-election.)

Foreign Mission Board

(5-year term)

(Roy Mohagen, Grafton, N. Dak., has
served two full terms and is not
eligible for re-election.)

Home Mission Board

(5-year term)

(Rev. Hubert DeBoer, Thief River
Falls, Minn., was not re-elected to
Missions Corporation at the last
annual conference and is not eli-
gible for re-election to the Board.)

Board of Trustees, Schools

(5-year term)

*Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn.

ELECTIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

* designates incumbent

(All 5-year terms)

Youth Board

*Rev. Forrest Swenson, Tioga, N. Dak.

Board of Pensions

(Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.,
has served two full terms and is
not eligible for re-election.)

Stewardship Board

*Erling Brekke, Antelope, Mont.

**Board of Publications and Parish
Education**

*Miss Eula Mae Swenson, Fargo, N.
Dak.

Commission on Evangelism

*Haldor Hegg, McIntosh, Minn.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE 1974 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Roy Mohagen, Grafton, N. Dak.

Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Culbertson,
Mont.

Arlo Kneeland, Ortle, S. Dak.

Irvin Schmitke, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Rev. Henry Johansen, Virginia, Minn.

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, Minn.

Robert Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wis.

Dr. James Gerdeen, Chassell, Mich.

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

Howard Johnson, Astoria, Ore.

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 va-
cancy, sending those names on to the
Corporation for decision. Members of
the Board of Trustees must come
from the membership of the Corpora-
tion. Failure to be re-elected to the
Corporation while serving on the
Board of Trustees automatically ex-
cludes one from further membership
on the Board. Here is the present Cor-
poration membership. *denotes Board
member.

Terms expire in 1974:

Ernest Hegre, Northwood, N. Dak.

Rev. Raynard Huglen, Minneapolis,
Minn.

Philip Grothe, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Rev. Orville Olson, McIntosh, Minn.

Kenneth Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.

*Amos Hinderaker, Radcliffe, Ia.

Jacob Ullestad, Story City, Ia.

George Johnson, Eben Jct., Mich.

Howard Johnson, Astoria, Ore.

Rev. Karl Stendal, Minneapolis,
Minn.

Terms expire in 1975:

Rev. Dale R. Battleson, Pukwana, S.
Dak.

Rev. Michael Brandt, Lake Stevens,
Wash.

*Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer, Minn.

*Stanley Homaas, Newfolden, Minn.

*Rev. Ernest J. Langness, Ishpeming,
Mich.

Rodger Olson, Minneapolis, Minn.

*Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.

Dale Quanbeck, McVilleville, N. Dak.

*Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.

Leonard Swanson, Nogales, Ariz.

Terms expire in 1976:

Rev. John Rieth, Ortle, S. Dak.

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, Minn.

Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, McVilleville,
N. Dak.

Paul Flaten, Standquist, 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.

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 va-
cancy, sending those names to the
Corporation for decision. 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
Board member.

Terms expire in 1974:

Andrew Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia.

Alver Christopherson, Grand Forks,
N. Dak.

*Paul Flaten, Strandquist, Minn.

*Rev. Alvin Grothe, Stacy, Minn.

Ed Mathison, Bagley, Minn.

*Roy Mohagen, Grafton, N. Dak.

Rev. Francis Monseth, Minneapolis,
Minn.

Daniel Oien, Binford, N. Dak.

Lay Pastor Gene Sundby, Greenbush,
Minn.

Rev. Reuben Wee, Granite Falls,
Minn.

Terms expire in 1975:

Miss Pearl Aanstad, Hampden,
N. Dak.

Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Sr., Spicer,
Minn.

*Chester Dyrud, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Sheldon Mortrud, Thief River Falls,
Minn.

Marvin Quanbeck, McVilleville, N. Dak.

Harry Rorvig, Dalton, Minn.

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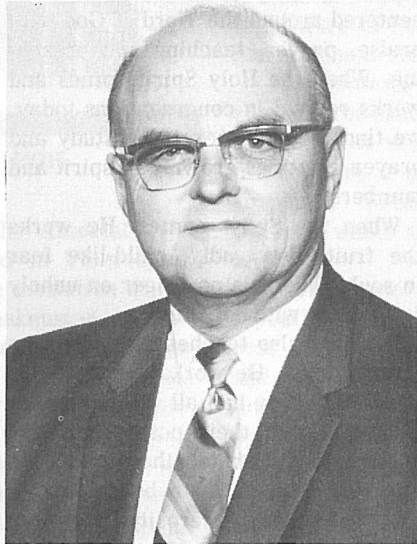
When the Holy Spirit Comes

by Rev. Raymond L. Larson,
Hampden, N. Dak.
Acts 2:37-47

In these days when false winds of doctrine concerning the Holy Spirit are furiously blowing, the concerned Christian will prayerfully go to the Word of God for guidance and strength to withstand these furious winds. Our text tells us what happened when the Spirit came upon repentant and believing souls that first Pentecost. The Holy Spirit is the third person in the Godhead. He is God, and God is unchanging. When He comes today, He (the Holy Spirit) works the same fruit in hearts and lives. On that first Pentecost the disciples miraculously spoke in foreign languages. Our text does not reveal that those who came to faith on that day spoke in "tongues."

The Lutheran Confessions define the Church as being made up of twice-born men who have common experiences of the Holy Spirit in the heart. Christianity is a supernatural religion. It is not a mere human society that is and has been organized for the moral uplift and betterment of community life (a fruit of free and living congregations). Paul wrote, in I Thess. 1:5a: "For our Gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance." It must be stressed that the Holy Spirit comes into willing, obedient, believing hearts through the Word, for He has bound Himself to the Word. On that first Pentecost the Spirit worked extraordinarily, and He can today, but the normal means are the Word of God and the Sacraments based upon that Word.

Our text sets forth at least eleven things the Spirit does when He comes. One of the first is to convict of sin. Jesus foretold that when the Spirit comes, He will convict of sin (cf. Jn. 16:8). This He did on that first Pentecost; so He does today. It is written, "Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, . . ." (Acts



Rev. R. L. Larson, pastor of the Hampden, N. Dak., parish (Zoar, Zion and Bethany) is serving on the fellowship basis in the AFLC at the present time. For the past three years he was editor of *Lutherans Alert* and taught dogmatics part-time in an independent seminary in Tacoma, Wash. He was chairman of The Word Alone Committee for several years prior to that.

Pastor Larson, a native of Otranto, Ia., is a graduate of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., and of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., in 1945. He has served parishes (ELC, then ALC) at Petersburg, Minn., Elliot, Ill., Lacrosse, Wash., Perley, Minn., and Kenyon, Minn.

In 1944 he was united in marriage to Miss Esther Simonson, also a graduate of St. Olaf College. They have five children.

2:37). When the Word of God is taught and preached in its truth and purity, the Spirit, working through that Word, brings men under conviction of sin. The law does its killing work. It is through the Word that consciences are awakened and enlightened. The sinner is disturbed about his sin. He has no peace until he accepts the peace that Jesus wrought for him on Calvary's cross.

On that first Pentecost, when the Spirit came, there were those who cried out, "What shall we do?" The answer came, "Repent, and be baptized." When the Holy Spirit comes, He calls men to repentance. The risen Christ commissioned His disciples to

go out and preach repentance. Repentance is a godly sorrow for sin, a heartfelt acknowledgment of it, a turning from sin to Jesus, trusting in Him, and living for Him.

If men heed the Spirit's call to repentance and are baptized, they are then brought into union with Jesus by the Holy Spirit who works through the means of grace. The Holy Spirit applies the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus through baptism. The conscience is cleansed, and there is that peace of God that passeth all understanding.

The conviction of sin, repentance, and cleansing from sin is a daily experience in the lives of those who are living in their baptismal covenant. This experience is a sure sign that the Holy Spirit has come to us. One has reason to question any other religious experience that isn't based on the experience of conviction of sin, repentance, and the genuine joy and peace that come to the soul because of Calvary and its great miracle of all time.

A fourth thing the Spirit does when He comes is to call the converted sinner to sanctified and separated living. On that first Pentecost the Spirit called the candidates for baptism to save themselves from their evil generation. It has been said that the paganism of today is much worse than that of ancient Rome.

The Bible teaches that the believer's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (cf. I Cor. 6:19, 20). The Holy Spirit is holy. He is God; therefore He cannot stand sin. The soul in whom the Holy Spirit dwells is made to feel uneasy in a worldly, carnal environment, and as a result that person can no longer participate in certain questionable worldly practices as he did before the Holy Spirit came to dwell in his soul.

This miracle of living the separated life puzzles the unconverted. They cannot understand why those who profess to be Christian can no longer go with them in their worldly ways. If

there is lacking in the church today a stress on the separated life, the Holy Spirit is grieved, and He can be and will be caused to depart. The hymn writer once wrote, "I hate the sins that made Thee mourn, and drove Thee from my breast."

The Bible says that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth and that He leads the believer into the truth (cf. Jn. 15:16). The one who is enlightened and led by the Holy Spirit cannot stand doctrinal error. II Cor. 6:14 is a call of the Spirit not only to be separate from sinful, worldly ways, but also from those who promote doctrinal error. This latter truth the Lutheran Confessions clearly teach as do the older Lutheran dogmatists. They say it is a sin to knowingly support and help promote church fellowships that tolerate and teach doctrinal error. Many evangelicals are seriously grieving the Spirit these days by not heeding the Spirit's call to separate themselves from those who promote doctrinal error. Some of these people say, "We don't want to be negative, critical or separatistic." The modern neo-evangelical says "infiltration," not "separation."

When the Spirit came into hearts on that first Pentecost, He wrought not only the miracle of conviction of sin, of repentance, and faith, and the miracle of the separated life, but also He wrought an insatiable hunger for the Word of God. It is written that "they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching."

Dear friends, is the Holy Spirit who is the same today as He was on that first Pentecost being permitted to work the miracle of an insatiable hunger for the Word of God in your soul? Where the miracle of a hunger for the Word is wrought, there is an appreciation for the whole counsel of God, even for the Word of God that is hard on the old Adam.

On that first Pentecost the Spirit wrought another miracle in hearts, and that was the desire for intimate and frequent Christian fellowship. Our text tells us that day by day the early Christians gathered in the temple and in their homes for Christian fellowship. Some of us can remember when revival came, the Sunday and midweek services were not enough. We had to meet more often around the

Word. This fellowship found and finds expression in different forms. One form is the Lord's Supper by which the believer is assured of forgiveness and strengthened for holy and energetic Christian living. There were and are the informal and formal services centered around the Word of God with praise, prayer, teaching and preaching. When the Holy Spirit comes and works revival in congregations today, we find the midweek Bible study and prayer meetings growing in spirit and numbers.

When the Spirit comes, He works the fruit of a godly, child-like fear in souls. There is no longer an unholy familiarity with holy things.

Our text also teaches that when the Spirit comes, He works generosity in the heart. They had all things in common and sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need. It is to be noted that this **voluntary generosity** does not give credence to the communist principle of shared wealth.

When the Spirit comes, He works a spirit of brotherly love and unity. The spirit of bickering and quarreling is burned out of congregations when the Holy Spirit comes.

Also when the Spirit comes, He makes souls glad. A fruit of the Spirit is joy (cf. Gal. 5:22)

Our text states that when the Spirit comes, souls are saved and added to the body of believers. The changed hearts and lives are seen by others. They, too, are convicted and led to faith.

May the Holy Spirit, who is the same today, yesterday, and forever, be permitted to do His good work in the hearts and lives of every individual member of the AFLC. We need a genuine Holy Spirit revival in our congregations in these last days. Let every consecrated person pray and work for such. Let us pray with the hymn writer: "Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest, vouchsafe within our souls to rest; come with Thy grace and heavenly aid, and fill the hearts which Thou hast made" (cf. Lk. 11:13).

[Continued from page 6]

* Rev. Larry V. Severson, Wallace, S. Dak.
Rev. Gary Skramstad, Kalispell, Mont.
Rev. Forrest Swenson, Tioga, N. Dak.
Rev. Marvin Undseth, Everett, Wash.

Terms expire in 1976:

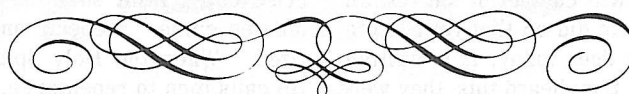
Rev. Roy A. Bredholt, Leeds, N. Dak. **
* Joel Rogenes, Buxton, N. Dak.
Melvin Gravggaard, Tioga, N. Dak.
Rev. John Rieth, Ortley, S. Dak.
Rev. Jerome Nikunen, Roseau, Minn.
Mrs. Aini Myking, Minneapolis, Minn.
Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.
Rev. L. C. Dynneson, Nogales, Ariz.
Pastor Ray Persson, Astoria, Ore.
* Robert Knutson, McVilleville, N. Dak.

Terms expire in 1977:

* Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Minnewaukan, N. Dak.
* Rev. Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet, Minn.
Wm. 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, Greenbush, Minn.
Rev. Fred Carlson, Sebeka, Minn.
Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Culbertson, Mont.
Rev. Kenneth Pentti, Bessemer, Mich.
Oscar Olson, Kalispell, Mont.
Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom, Grafton, N. Dak.
Elmer Gravggaard, Spicer, Minn.
Rev. Philip Haugen, Fargo, N. Dak.
**No longer affiliated with the AFLC.



editorials

AFLC RETURNS "HOME" FOR 1974 CONFERENCE

The organizational conference for the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations was held in Thief River Falls, Minn., October 25-28, 1962. At the invitation of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Marius Haakenstad, pastor, representatives of a sizable group of congregations largely from the Upper Midwest gathered for the historical conference. They met under the theme "Press on Toward the Goal" (Phil. 3:1-6).

Next month, June 12-16, Association Lutherans will assemble in Thief River Falls for the 1974 Annual Conference. In a special sense, then, meeting there will be a homecoming. In 1962, and again in 1966, when the conference was in session in Thief River, it was necessary to hold some sessions at nearby Knox Elementary School because the church couldn't accommodate everyone. But this summer all sessions are planned for the church because it has recently been enlarged and remodeled. A picture elsewhere in this issue of the *Ambassador* shows a portion of the nave, the chancel and part of the overflow area of Our Savior's Church. Rev. David Molstre is pastor of the congregation.

In the soon 12 years of the Association's existence, great strides forward have been taken. A theological seminary and a Bible school are well established at the church's headquarters property at Minneapolis, Minn. At the present time over 100 young people are served at these institutions each year. We hope that this enrollment will advance steadily upward in the coming years.

The AFLC has been engaged in mission work in Brazil

almost from the beginning. There, too, the work is well established, emphasizing, and rightly so, the need to aid Brazilians to assume greater leadership responsibilities. Our World mission work has been another exciting phase of our kingdom task. In home missions a good number of congregations are being given some assistance. Some are old in point of years, others are recent developments. The future of the Association will be closely tied to what can be done to strengthen the outreach at home.

The women's auxiliary, the Women's Missionary Federation, continues to be very successful in maintaining an excellent esprit de corps among her members and in provoking generous financial response for the projects supported. Whatever the WMF is able to do decreases the load which the congregations as such must take care of.

Youth work in the Association is presently without a youth director, but one is being sought. Generally, success in youth work depends on what is done by pastors and advisors in the local situations, but there is a place for a wider fellowship and the Luther League Federation and the Youth Board are working on ways to implement this.

Finances have never been a major problem in the AFLC. More money could have been used, but we cannot say our work has suffered through any lack. A good deal more could be done in establishing new congregations, but there haven't been enough pastors to do this anyway. Occasional legacies come in. A report has been heard of a large one coming our way at this time. It is true that much of our building in Minneapolis is financed by loans from our own people and friends. They will have to be paid up, but some of those loans will eventually be turned over to the Schools as gifts, too.

In going to Thief River Falls, the AFLC will be in one of the strongholds of the church, northwestern Minnesota. We have many congregations in that territory and they will support the conference in a good way. May the friends in that district be encouraged in the work together by our coming to be with them, even as we desire to be heartened by their fellowship and friendship.

God's blessings on our annual conference in historic Thief River Falls.

WHAT IS VICTORY?

To sing when the days are dreary,
And the burdens are pressing down;
To smile when the heart is weary,
And never give way to a frown;
To see your hopes torn asunder,
Then follow the Master's lead,
To rise after every blunder,
Is victory indeed.

To do your duty with pleasure,
Though the task is often dull;
Be content with the small measure
When you cannot have it full;
To rejoice in the gain of another,
To be glad when neighbors succeed,

The flames of envy to smother,
Is victory indeed.

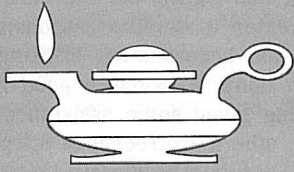
To be misunderstood and rejected,
Yet prove a faithful friend;
To be slighted and neglected,
Yet willing service lend;
To travel the mile that's longest,
To visit a friend in need,
To prove in sorrow the strongest,
Is victory indeed.

To be praised and yet be humble,
To be great and yet be small,
To be blamed and never grumble
But meekly endure it all;

To lift up a fallen brother
Is a great and noble deed,
But to give honor to another
Is victory indeed.

To be true when friends are failing,
To bravely lift the cross,
Always in truth prevailing,
Bearing the gain or loss;
To go "Home" when earth's ties are
breaking,
And the soul from the clay is freed;
To the glory of Heaven awaken,
Is victory indeed.

Agnes Shefelund Arhaug
Thief River Falls, Minn.



SCHOOL NEWS

BASKET SOCIAL, SUMMER WORK OPPORTUNITIES

On the last Friday of the regular school schedule, AFLBS students enjoyed themselves at a basket social. The girls prepared baskets or boxes of food which the fellows bid upon in auction. The girl who prepared the basket then ate lunch with the one who had bought it. Proceeds from the social evening went to the Mission Club.

A number of AFLBS students are planning to spend the summer in parishes as youth workers, at the same time earning money in other jobs provided in the community. As to church work, some will teach vacation Bible school and lead youth groups in Bible studies and recreation. For the fellows there may even be opportunities to conduct a worship service and preach a sermon. We hope to have a list of these workers later. Arrangements are being made through the Luther League Federation.

Still other students will be teaching a week or two of vacation Bible school in their home parishes or in another. Some will serve as counsellors at their district Bible camps or at the AFLC

Family Camp at Lake Geneva.

Some Gospel Team work, representing AFLBS, will be done again this summer. The plan is that a different group will go out each month for at least part of the month. One group will be an all-girl team, the others will be mixed. Further details will be given when they are available.

NORWAY PASTOR RECENT CHAPEL SPEAKER

A recent speaker at the joint chapel services at AFLBS was Rev. Leif Flørenes of Grorud Parish, Oslo, Norway. In addition to his parish duties, Pastor Flørenes is president of the Norwegian Lutheran Israel Mission. In connection with that work he has made eight trips to the Holy Land and was there most recently just prior to Easter. Pastor and Mrs. Flørenes are in the U.S. to visit relatives and to observe Jewish mission work here.

Another guest chapel speaker has been Rev. Erling Huglen, Roseau, Minn., who visited our school while in the Cities for the Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts. He is a brother of Rev. Raynard Huglen and brother-in-law of Rev. Francis Monseth. Mrs.

Monseth also visited the schools on Apr. 24, the day her husband spoke.

REGISTER NOW FOR FALL QUARTER

As one school year ends, plans are being made for the academic year beginning in September. Those who would like to be a part of the AFLBS family then should begin the application process now. While it will be possible to accommodate everyone next fall due to the additional dormitory facilities being made available, it is still a good idea to register at this time.

The fall term will begin on Monday, Sept. 9. A two-year course in Bible and theology is offered at AFLBS, but some find it possible to take only part of the six quarters that make up the two years.

For information, write to
Dean, AFLBS
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

WORK ON BUILDING PROJECT GOES ON APACE

Good progress on the boys' dormitory at AFLBS has been made during the past weeks. When this is read, block work on the third and top floor of the building should be completed. Much of the exterior brick work may also be completed by then.

In the second half of April, construction work began again in earnest and has moved according to schedule. Barring unforeseen delays, the fine new building should be completed sometime in August and be ready for occupancy in September.



Karen Quanbeck, left, McVille, N. Dak., and Debbie Rudebusch, Ortley, S. Dak., at their study desks in their room.



Steve Lee, a graduate of AFLBS, talks to students interested in the summer church work program.

JESUS ONLY

Matthew 17:8 "And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only."

Friend, is this what you see as you lift your eyes—Jesus only; or do you see only a troubled world full of despair and without hope? Satan rejoices if we keep our eyes fixed on the world. He wants to drag us down and defeat us. The Psalmist says: "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." If we are to be victorious in our Christian lives our eyes must be on Jesus. We must daily look to Him. We read, "Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart." Do we allow Jesus to take us aside to have communion with Him? How very blessed these three disciples were to have this close communion with their Lord. We as His children are told in Isaiah 33:17, "Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty." In the 12th chapter of John certain Greeks came to Philip saying, "Sir, we would see Jesus." Is this the desire of our hearts?

Jesus only on the mountain,

Jesus only on the sea.

Jesus only in the valley,

There in dark Gethsemane.

Jesus only up to Calv'ry,

Jesus only on the cross.

Jesus only in all suff'ring,

All things else are empty dross.

Jesus only in life's evening,

Jesus only gives me rest.

Jesus only can support me,

When the sun sinks in the west.

Jesus only in the morning

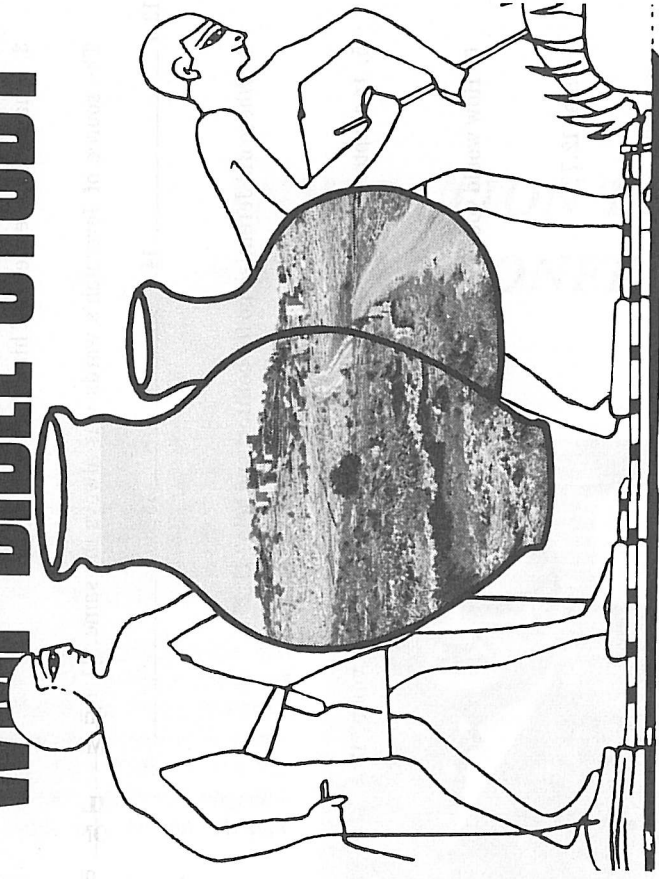
Of that vast eternity,

There reveal'd in glorious splendor,

In the home He won for me.

Mrs. Robert Dietsche, President

WMF BIBLE STUDY



JEREMIAH LESSON 6

JUNE, 1974

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

In the past lessons we have been mainly concerned with what God had to say through Jeremiah. Now we will be looking at Jeremiah's personal experiences—the things that happened to him because of his faithfulness in proclaiming God's message.

1. In Lesson 1 we looked at Jeremiah's call. What did God tell him would happen? 1:19

But at the same time He gave him a promise. What was it?

2. Who was against Jeremiah? 11:21
Where was Jeremiah from? 1:1

3. What had these men told him? 11:21

The source of Jeremiah's words was always the same: 11:1 _____

13:1 _____ 14:1 _____ 15:1 _____

4. Where did Jeremiah go for comfort and help? 11:20

5. In chapter 12 what complaint of the ages does Jeremiah voice? 12:1

6. How would you explain the Lord's answer in 12:5?

Also 12:7?

7. What are God's instructions? 16:2

Why? 16:3, 4

8. In answer to Judah's question in 16:10, notice again the persistent recurring theme of Jeremiah's ministry. 16:11, 12

9. 16:19 With what three words does Jeremiah address the Lord?
My _____, my _____, my _____

May we each be able to use the personal pronoun when speaking of God. Jeremiah found God's strength to be sufficient in his day and God never changes. See how Paul puts it in Phil. 4:13.

10. Who is Pashhur? 12:1

What did he do? 20:2

11. Read Jeremiah's complaint in 20:7-18.

20:7b What makes him complain?

20:9 Why must he proclaim the Word?

20:10 Who denounces him?

Yet in the midst of his lament, we have v. 13. Read it! What a testimony to Jeremiah's faith in God to deliver him. Why is he able to rejoice?

11a _____

12b _____

“Are you surrounded by difficult circumstances right now? Have you been struggling to understand why they have come to you? Then try to accept with your understanding that God does love you and has allowed those circumstances because He knows they are good for you. Praise Him for what He has brought into your life.” **Power In Praise**, Carothers

NEWS of the Churches



GENTLE BREEZES FROM VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

"The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8).

It is about four months ago now since Pastor Lars and I came to Vancouver, Wash. It was the most unexpected move we have ever made. It came about when there came an appeal from a family, Jim and Marilyn Bottem, who felt there was an urgent need for an Association church in this area. As it so often happens, there was no pastor available. Like a thunderbolt, one morning I heard my husband say, "Lord, if You can use me, here am I, send me!"

That was why we left our home in Eugene, Ore., temporarily and boarded the train for Vancouver on an icy January day. The first service was held January 13th in the Hazel Dell Grange, which had been rented for \$15.00 a Sunday. There were 14 present. Our Saviour Lutheran was the name chosen for the new church.

Although intensive canvassing began, it did not produce great results. Indeed, it rather seemed the Lord sent people to us. Each Sunday there were new people who came because they were looking for a warm, friendly, neighborhood church, one where the truth was preached, right from the Word of God.

Our sister congregations on the West Coast, especially Our Redeemer in Kirkland, Washington, and Spencer Creek in Eugene, Oregon, have sent letters and gifts which have greatly encouraged our small group here.

One of the biggest highlights so far was when ten of our Christian college youth came to our church on Sunday, April 28th, to bring us a message in testimony and song. From various of our churches in Washington, there was Lyle Forde, Lois Presteng, Sandy Joines, Olga Solheim and Carrol Lane. From Astoria, Oregon, Paul and Pauline Persson and Jacky Dahl, and from Portland, Oregon, Bette Mokness and Oliver Stalsbrotten.

As each one gave his personal testi-

mony one could sense how the Holy Spirit had brought changes in each life, so now they could sing from the heart, "Thank You, Jesus; thank You."

Now our assembly had grown to 45, and we were all so blessed. At the potluck dinner which was held in the spacious home of Ralph and Clara Thompson, our new church family melted together in Christian love which is but a foretaste of heaven.

As other Association churches recall how you started from small beginnings, we covet your prayers that also this new venture of faith may prosper, and that new families will be added.

It is amazing to see what God can do because one family dared to step out in faith. There are many more places where there should be Association churches, because wherever we go we find people in need of a Savior.

I write these lines to challenge our Christian young people to "take hold" and to answer the call, just as the 87-year-old pastor did when he said, "Here I am, send me."

—Mrs. Lars (Esther) Stalsbrotten



ORIGINAL EASTER PROGRAM GIVEN AT MINNEWAUKAN

"The Call of the Cross," an original Easter program, was presented at Trinity Lutheran Church in Minnewaukan, N. Dak. Trinity's Choir, directed by Mrs. Dwayne Herman, accompanied by Mrs. Duane Huffmann, sang many favorite hymns along with solos, duets, quartets and the men's chorus. Members of the Married Couples Club and all the teens presented the message of Christ's death and resurrection through narrative and Scripture. A large oil painting depicting the angel seated by the open tomb, hung at the front of the sanctuary, and was painted by Mmes. Carl Hansen, Thor Sallin and Mildred Brekke. The church was filled to capacity for this program, which will be an annual event at Trinity. Pictured here is Trinity's choir, with Pastor Eugene Enderlein giving a closing challenge to the congregation.

Women For Christ

NOTES ABOUT OUR ANNUAL CONVENTION

June 12th, Wednesday, beginning at 9:00 a.m., and June 13th, Thursday, at 8:00 p.m., are the dates of our Twelfth Annual Convention and Festival Service at Our Savior's Lutheran Church at Thief River Falls, Minnesota. This is the time when we gather as the women of the WMF to be about our Father's business. We encourage you to come and share in the fellowship, the business, and the blessings.

Our WMF Breakfast will be Friday morning, June 14th, at 7:00 a.m. and this is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Conference time always means fellowship, coffeekes, and cookies. We are again asking each local WMF to share in supplying these cookies.

This year there will be a Ladies' WMF Convention Choir that will sing at our Thursday evening Festival Service. There will be one rehearsal on Thursday during the noon hour.

In order for the National WMF to keep in closer touch with the District WMF work I would appreciate it if each district WMF secretary would send me a copy of the minutes of your rallies. Will you please make a note in your Leader's Handbook adding this to the duties of the District Secretary?

General Fund is the project for May and is used for promotional literature, administrative expense and projects which do not reach their goals. June's offering goes toward our convention offering. This year our convention offerings go to Missionary Furlough

Housing and Dormitory Furnishings.

May we join our hearts together in prayer for our WMF work and for our Annual Convention that through it all we may see **Jesus only**.

In His service,
Mrs. Robert Dietsche, President

THE PRECIOUS WORD BY Mrs. Melvin Walla Fergus Falls, Minn.

"Forever, O Lord, Thy Word is settled in heaven" (Ps. 119:152).

"There hath not failed one word of all His good promises" (1 Kings 8:56).

We could just go on and on thinking about the Word and the authority of the same. A few years ago, while teaching a junior confirmation class, we used for our devotions each time the 119th Psalm. I had read the Psalm many times, but when we went through it verse by verse dealing with what God said about His Word, and the young people sharing what the verses meant to them, it took on a new and real meaning for me. It is good to read the Word and ask ourselves, "What does this verse mean to me?" Surely we want the Holy Spirit to open the Word to us. God speaks to us each time we read His Word. We can read and not hear Him, just as we can listen to others talk and not hear them.

The older I become as a Christian, the more precious the Word becomes to me. It was my privilege as a young mother to claim Proverbs 22:6 as mine as I sought to bring our two children to the Lord daily. It was still more wonderful when as husband and wife we could do this together. I firm-

ly believe that if we are faithful in planting the Word, God is faithful in using it. God's Word says we are to instruct and teach. What a joy to see fruits of this as the children grew into manhood and womanhood, and got their own families. What a thrill to hear the very first words of the little ones as they say, "Jesus," when they see the Bible. This brings joy to the heart of grandma and grandpa. These are very personal, homey thoughts but given with the prayer that they might help some young, frustrated, busy mother who dearly loves Jesus and wants this for her little ones. Claim God's promises and He will reward you greatly for it both for time and eternity. Maybe you feel you don't have time. Take time. This is an urgent task and a command from God. He will give the needed strength.

We need the mothers of bygone days, who covered their faces with their aprons and found the strength through prayer in this secret chamber for their tasks. We live in a time of stress when there are many things pressing from every angle. We need that "secret place" to be alone with Jesus. We need to take time to read the Word and hear what God has to say about our world.

Recently I read the book called **Hansi, the girl who loved the Swastika**. I would highly recommend reading this book if you have not read it. Just one thought. Hansi was brought up in a home by a Christian mother, but later in life turned away from her mother's God to follow the ways of Hitler. Thoughts of God and her mother and prayer came to her many times in the trying days that followed. Things happened to her about which she could not understand how or why, but after coming back to Jesus later in life she acknowledged it was God following her because of her mother's faith and prayers. This was reassuring to my own faith. God is faithful, He keeps His Word. I can trust that regardless of whatever else happens to me, God will not forsake His children and will keep His Word.

It is wonderful to have experienced the Word in our own lives. I am a sinner, Jesus saves, keeps and satisfies. I am so thankful that our pur-

[Continued on page 16]

FRUSTRATION REMAINS AT ASSOCIATION SEMINARY

by Tim Skramstad, Middler

Members of the Association have often remarked how happy they are with their seminary. It is described in glowing terms as an institution which stands unreservedly upon the Word. The students at our school are confident that God has called them to our seminary and they are united in a love for the Lord Jesus Christ. Yet, a serious condition exists at the Association Seminary which is causing unbearable frustration for the students and faculty of our schools.

The particular situation of which I write has been one reason why graduates from our Seminary in the past few years have not been as thoroughly prepared for the ministry as they ought to be. It has been used by Satan to keep at least a few good students from coming into the Association. Many other injuries could be listed because of this need, but I will mention only one more. It is a main source of discontent with the present student body.

The situation of which I write is none other than the deplorable condition of the Association Seminary's library. An immediate reaction to this article by some might be indignation at the students for requesting such facilities at a time when the Bible School dormitory project stands in need as well as other areas of the Association. The point of this article is not in any way to detract from the basic needs of the Association, rather it is hoped that each reader will understand that another basic responsibility lies before our entire church.

When the congregations of the Association decided to take on the responsibility of establishing a theological seminary for the express purpose of training their own pastors, I wonder if very many of the people fully understood the high cost of education. All of our students are aware that our schools and in fact the Association itself is new and with the formation of a new church many expenses are incurred which would

otherwise never be experienced. However, with each passing year, valuable time is lost in gathering books for the library.

The boards governing the activities of our schools have done an outstanding job in administering the finances of our schools. Yet their ability to provide funds for the library is only as great as the amount the members of the Association have given. This coming fiscal year will mark the beginning of a small, but regular budget for the library. Yes, the amount is small, but we as students are pleased that an earnest attempt has begun in appropriating some funds for the library. The main problem with this budget is that it is not sufficient to actually begin a library for a professional graduate school.

An endless cycle of frustration is rampant in a graduate school without the proper number of books. The frustration becomes apparent especially after receiving an assignment to write a term paper (needless to say our professors know how to assign them). First, the student naturally goes to the library to investigate material relevant to his subject. At our school, the response is different. Students rely upon their own limited source material, a public library (which generally has few and rather poor quality books in areas of theology), or he may go to the library of another seminary. Whenever a student is forced to visit the library of another seminary, the reasons for the Association insisting upon her own school seem shallow or vague.

The people of the Association have a great obligation ahead of them to fulfill. This obligation will not be met by simply filling a building up with books one year, and then forgetting it. A library is like an ever-growing creature. Each month new books, periodicals, newspapers and supplies must be added.

Many of you may be asking if there is something you can do. The answer is, yes! First of all, pray for our Seminary and its library that funds for

its support might be provided. Secondly, give as generously as possible. Encourage your congregation or a special group within it to set aside a monthly gift for the library. Another very thoughtful and meaningful way to support the library is to give a memorial or even mention it in your will. Finally, if you have any used books or magazines, we have a great need for these. Before sending these, however, please write to our librarian with a description of the items that you want to donate.

The Association will by the grace of God, become force within Lutheranism, but it will grow and be strengthened only as the individual congregations mature with capable, well-trained pastors helping them. May God grant each friend and member discernment as we pray about this great need.

(Ed. Note: Mr. Skramstad has made an earnest plea for the seminary library. But care must be taken that any efforts in behalf of the library are carried out through the Board of Trustees and the budget of the Schools.)

BRANCH OUT FOR JESUS

"I am the vine, you are the branches; He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

This was the theme of a retreat held at Lake Wapogasset on the 30th and 31st of March. The retreat was hosted by the Section Ten Free Lutheran TAB's group of Cumberland, Wisconsin. The other church that attended was Rosedale Lutheran of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Our sessions were lead by seminarian Richard Anderson from Rosedale Lutheran and seminarian Tim Skramstad of Section Ten. Our counselors were students from the A.F.L. Bible School. They assisted in leading small group discussions, the workshops, recreation and singing. We also had a film, times of singing and sharing, and a talent and fun show.

We had a busy weekend full of fun, but also a time to grow closer to God, and to have a closer and more dedicated relationship with Him.

Roxanne Flach, Corr.

[Continued from page 14]
 poses and goals in the WMF are to act in obedience to the Word of God. We have the Word as the center of all we do. Pray much for the Bible Study writers as well as the ladies who prepare and give the lessons in our groups. This is our privilege, ladies. Don't push it over on your pastor. Sure, he may do better, but you are not learning to dig into the Word and share what you found with others. It is good training for service in God's vineyard. We desperately need women who can lead and help others to lead. Many good talents are buried because we are not willing to use them, or are not given a chance to use them. Coupled with the Word of God is prayer. Go to your neighbor or friend and

pray together. Gather three or four women. Claim God's promises. Expect an answer, and we will see great things happen in our own lives, in our homes and in our churches. God's Word has great things for us. Let us claim them!

CORRECTION

In the first paragraph of the article "The Trip That Was," April 23, page 3, please change the sentence to read, "The child of God would surely hope, then, that all this marvelous work is not a demonstration of a people trying to work their way to heaven (as warned against in the writings of the apostle Paul)."

The word "not" was inadvertently omitted.

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR
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