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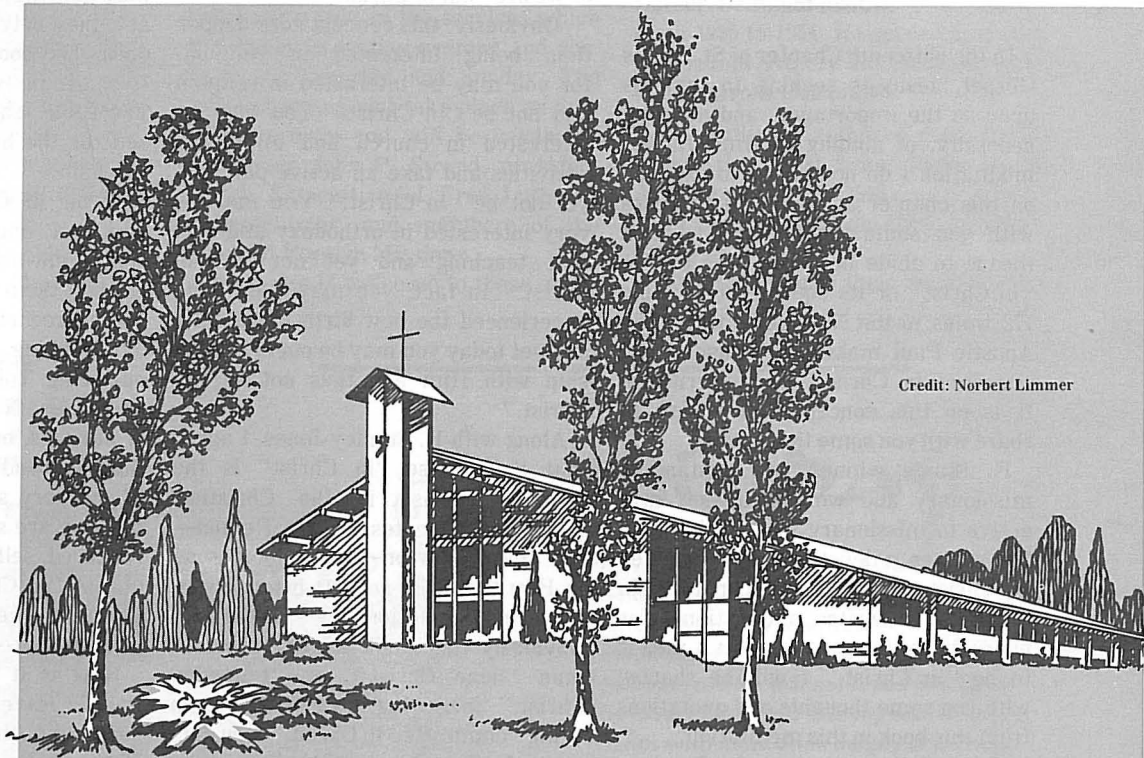
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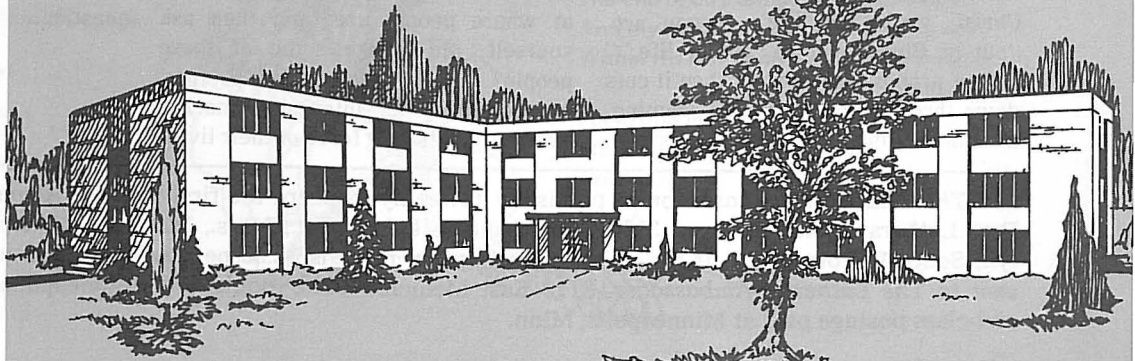
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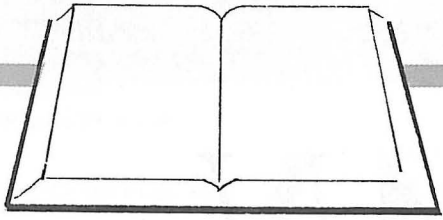


Credit: Norbert Limmer

**The Seminary Building
Center of Annual Conference Activities
June 11-15**



**The New Bible School Dormitory
To Be Dedicated on Sunday, June 15**



According to the Word

ABIDING IN CHRIST

John 15

In the Fifteenth Chapter of St. John's Gospel, Jesus is seeking to impress upon us the importance, and absolute necessity, of abiding in Him. In this meditation I do not intend to expound on this chapter as such, but to share with you some thoughts on what it means to abide in Christ. The phrase "in Christ" or its equivalent is found 172 times in the New Testament. The Apostle Paul makes much use of the concept "in Christ" in his writings. It is on this concept that I wish to share with you some thoughts.

E. Stanley Jones, an outstanding missionary and world traveler, still active in missionary work in his 80's, has written a devotional book entitled **In Christ**. He uses the concept "In Christ" and writes a devotional for every day of the year on what it means to be "in Christ." I will be sharing with you some thoughts and quotations from this book in this meditation.

He said that he wanted to reduce the whole of life to the utmost simplicity. He felt he had found this concept in the phrase "in Christ," and I believe he is right. He says, "If you are 'in Christ' you're 'in life'; if you are 'out of Christ' you're 'out of life.'" If that proposition be true, then it cuts down through all veneer, all seeming, all make-believe, all "halfwayisms,"

and brings us to the ultimate essence of things. We are either "in Christ" or we are "out of Christ."

Obviously, this concept goes deeper than being interested in religion, for you may be interested in religion and not be "in Christ." You may be interested in church and all of its activities and take an active part and yet not be "in Christ." You may be very interested in orthodoxy and correct teaching and yet not be "in Christ." In fact, you may even have experienced the new birth in the past and yet today you may be out of fellowship with Him and thus not be "in Christ."

Along with E. Stanley Jones, I agree that the phrase "in Christ" is the ultimate phrase in the Christian faith, for it locates us in a Person—the Divine Person—and it locates us in Him here and now. It brings us to the ultimate relationship—"in Christ." Obviously this "in" brings us nearer than "near Christ," or "following Christ," "believing in Christ" or even being "committed to Christ." You cannot go further or deeper than "in."

I can hear someone just now say: "But how can I get to the place that I can be 'in Christ'?" How do I go about it? First, let us take a look at where people are, and then ask yourself, am I like some of these people? Some are "in self" as they are guided by self-interest primarily, which is the driving force of their lives.

To get for self is the compelling motive. Some are "in the herd." Before they act, they look around. They don't act, they only re-act to what the herd does. The roots of such people's motives are in "what will people think?" The Bible teaches that the making of self, or the herd, our god, is sin, the chief sin.

To be "in Christ" means to pull up roots of one's very life from the soil of sin and self and the herd and to plant them "in Christ." He becomes the source of our life, the source of our thinking, our feeling, our acting, our being. This obviously involves self-surrender. Not merely the surrender of our sins, our bad habits, our wrong thinking, and our wrong motives, but of the very self behind all these. All of these are symptoms, but the unsundered self is the disease. So the phrase "in Christ" is not only the ultimate concept, but it demands the ultimate act—self-surrender.

How is it with you, reading these lines? Have you made this self-surrender, this full commitment that Christ asks and demands of you? Are you "in Christ" or are you "outside of Christ"? Are you "in self," "in the herd," or are you "in Christ"? You, and only you, can answer this question.

—Marvin S. Undseth

The Lutheran Ambassador is published biweekly (except the first issue of August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Mpls., Minn. 55427. Rev. Raynard Huglen, Roslyn, South Dakota 57261, is the editor. Subscription price is \$2.50 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to *The Lutheran Ambassador*, 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

AFLC to Meet in Annual Conference

The Seventh Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will be held at the Church's Headquarters Building and Schools on the west side of Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 11-15. Also hosting the Conference in Plymouth Village is Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Richard Snipstead, interim pastor.

In special ceremonies on Sunday afternoon, the new dormitory building on the campus of Association Free Lutheran Bible School will be dedicated. The building was constructed last year and for the present is also used as a classroom facility. The chairman of the Board of Trustees, Rev. E. J. Langness, McVille, N. Dak., will preside at the service. The sermon will be preached by Rev. T. F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn. The Bible School Choir, under the direction of Mr. Donald Rodvold, will sing. Officiating at the dedication will be the Church's president, Rev. John P. Strand.

Four young men will be ordained into the ministry of the Association in a Sunday morning service. A fifth graduate of the Seminary will be ordained in Virginia, Minn. Pastor Strand will deliver the message to the ordinands and conduct the ordination.

The Conference will hear a report from a study committee concerning property ownership and the size of the Co-ordinating Committee. The report has already been published (April 15, 1969) and calls for the retention of the Committee at its present size and for the transfer of some of the Minneapolis property from the Co-ordinating Committee to the Seminary (Schools) Corporation.

There will be elections held for the three constitutional officers this year. Pastor Strand, as president, has completed two three-year terms in office. He is eligible for re-election. Also eligible for re-election are the vice-president and secretary, Rev. R. Snip-

stead and Rev. H. C. Molstre, respectively. However, since they have served three consecutive terms they will need to gain a three-fourths majority of votes cast to continue in office. All nominations for these three positions are from the floor.

Numerous other elections to committees and nominations to corporations will be made by the Conference. It will also send nominations to the Co-ordinating Committee for an editor of **The Lutheran Ambassador** for a three-year term.

All terms of office begin on October 1, unless specified otherwise by individual by-laws.

Rev. Fritjof Monseth, Osseo, Minn., a teacher in the Seminary and the Bible School, will preach the sermon at the opening service on Wednesday night. He will speak on the Conference text, Psalm 145. The theme for the five day conclave is "Great is the Lord."

The Women's Missionary Federation, ladies' auxiliary of the Association, will hold its annual convention on Wednesday, June 11. There will be morning and afternoon sessions. Approximately 200 women will attend these meetings at which time a successor to Mrs. Herbert Presteng, Grafton, N. Dak., as president of the WMF, will be chosen. She has served the two terms allowed by law.

On Thursday night the service at the Conference is a mission festival sponsored by the WMF. Speaker at the event this year will be Missionary John H. Abel, who with his family has recently returned from a term in Brazil, during which time he established the Association's work there, in Parana. Special recognition will also be given to Pastor and Mrs. Connelly Dyrud, who with their daughter

will soon leave for Brazil. The Dyruds will be commissioned on June 22 in Thief River Falls, Minn.

Pastor Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn., will lead the prayer hours each day at 11:30.

Other speakers will include Mr. Leonard Stulen, Spicer, Minn., at the laymen's service Friday night, and Pastor Kenneth L. Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia., at the Holy Communion service on Sunday morning.

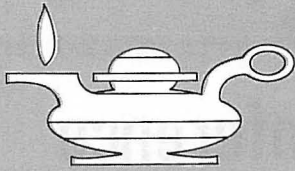
On Saturday night a group of Luther Leaguers will be in charge of the service.

Rev. Laurel Udden, Fergus Falls, Minn., new teacher in the Schools, will speak to the pastors and their wives at their supper on Friday evening.

About 250 pastors and lay delegates are expected to be present for the business sessions of the Annual Conference. Additional guests will be present on Sunday for the ordination and dedication festivities.



Rev. T. F. Dahle, speaker at the dedication service for the Bible School dormitory building



SCHOOL NEWS

none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Cheryl Kallunki

Cheryl attends the Our Savior's Lutheran Church near Annandale, Minn. She is employed by the Wisconsin Manufacturing Co. Cheryl's plans for the future are as yet undecided.

TESTIMONIES FROM THE BIBLE SCHOOL SENIORS

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

I John 1:5: "This is the message we have heard of Him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all."

Before I came to Bible School I wasn't a child of God but after being here for a quarter and being under the preaching of the Word and living among Christian people, I came to see that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. I knew what I had to do to be saved, that was to confess my sins to God and invite Christ into my heart as Lord and Savior. But I just couldn't because I felt I was too great a sinner and God couldn't save me, but, thank God, that isn't true, for Romans 10:13 says, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." I'm thankful to God for bringing me under conviction of my sin so that I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. How I praise and thank God for salvation and that I'm living in the light of God

and not in the darkness of the world! So this is the message which I have heard of Him here at Bible School and I declare unto you that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

Arley Hartsoch

Arley is from Ray, N. Dak. He is a member of Beaver Creek Lutheran Church and is employed by the Wisconsin Manufacturing Company.

WHAT I HAVE IN CHRIST

I look up into the face of Jesus, for there my heart can rest, my fears are stilled; And there is joy, and love, and light for darkness, and perfect peace, and every hope fulfilled.

Yes, I am looking to Jesus as my Savior and Lord. It is so wonderful to know that my sins are forgiven, that I have peace with God, and that someday I will see Christ face to face.

I pray that you might also be looking to Jesus. "For neither is there salvation in any other: for there is

A HANDFUL OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Phillipians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

I am so thankful for the new life Christ has given me. I am also thankful for this school, for this is where I have really grown in faith and a closer walk with God. Every time I stop and look at this verse I can't help but get a big handful of encouragement no matter how the surrounding circumstances may be affecting me. Christ has said... "can do all things." Now He didn't leave out much I can't do if I only trust in Him. Isn't that quite a promise? What's more, God keeps His promise. Of course we might have to wait a while for answers, as God's time for us to have this request answered is not quite ready.

As I look forward to college, military obligations, etc., I truly thank God for reaching down His hand for me. Now I'm holding His hand, and will let Him lead me, not only through college and the Service, but throughout my life.

Steve Berg

Steve is from Hoople, N. Dak. His home church is the Park Center Lutheran Church. Steve plans to go on to college.

A NEW LIFE

"What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought, since Jesus came into my heart." This line of an old favorite song of mine expresses my testimony and the two years spent here at Bible School. Truly it was a wonderful change when Christ came into my heart and gave me new life, a complete and full purpose for living.

As I was faced with the idea of com-
[Continued on page 6]



Bottom row, left to right, Arley Hartsoch, Marlene Haara and Steve Berg; top row, Cheryl Kallunki, Karen Kvistero and Lynda Hendrickson.

Invitation to the Conference

It is now a year since the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations gathered in Annual Conference. Much has happened so a time is needed to re-evaluate situations and make plans for the future. Time is needed for spiritually-refreshing Christian fellowship. We need to "come apart" for awhile.

The Seventh Annual Conference of the Association will meet at what is often called the "heart" of our work. We will meet on the campus of our Seminary and Bible School which are co-hosts with the Medicine Lake Lutheran Church. This will be a fine opportunity for many to see our schools for the first time. Of particular significance will be the dedication of the new Bible School building at the Sunday afternoon service. We are sure all will be thrilled at the progress made at our schools, and the fine facilities so appreciated by all.

If we are to have a good conference, there must be much prayer. May we

all prepare the conference with much prayer. If we are to have a good conference, there must be representation from all of the congregations of the Association. May all of the congregations make sure that they are represented at the Conference. All of the members of our congregations are eligible to take part in the discussions, to vote, and enjoy the fellowship, whether they are elected by their congregations or not.

"Great is the Lord," is the theme of the Conference. In these days when old mores are being discarded, and old truths are scorned, we need to be reminded that our God is great. Change and decay surround us. But our God is great! In Him we hope!

We extend a sincere invitation to you to come to the annual conference.

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor John P. Strand
President



Rev. John P. Strand

MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

For those delegates and friends desiring motel lodging for the Annual Conference, the following motels are listed. We encourage you to register early by writing or calling directly to the motel. The Minneapolis area code is 612. Rates are per night.

Cosmopolitan Motel

Highway No. 100 at 36th Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55428

Phone 537-3696
1 double bed — \$9.50
1 double bed and single — 12.00
2 double beds — 14.00

Knoll-Way Motel

Highway No. 12 at Plymouth Road
Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55427
Phone 545-9914
1 double bed — \$8.50
2 double beds — 12.00
Twin beds — 11.50

Bell Motel

13712 Wayzata Blvd.
Highways No. 494 and 12
Minnetonka, Minnesota 55343
545-9920

1 person — \$9.00
2 people — 11.00
Larger rooms
3 people — 14.50
4 people — 16.50

Aqua-Tel Motel (Osseo Area)

Highways No. 52 and 152
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427
Phone 425-3283

1 person — \$8.50
2 people — 10.00
3 people — 12.00
4 people — 14.00

Osseo Motel (Osseo Area)

Highways No. 52, 152 and 21B
Osseo, Minnesota 55369

Phone 425-3224
1 double bed — \$10.00
2 double beds — 14.00

Hyatt Lodge

8635 Highway No. 12
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55426

Phone 544-3601
1 double bed — \$10.00
2 double beds — 14.00

Minnetonka Motel

15818 Wayzata Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55391
Phone 413-4616

1 person — \$8.50
2 people — 10.50
4 people — 16.50

DORMITORY HOUSING

We will have room for about 100 guests at the Bible School Dormitory.

This will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. The charge is \$2.00 per person per night. We must ask that all guests bring their own blankets, pillow and towels. Sheets and cases will be furnished.

All meals will be served in the Dining Hall.

.....
For Dormitory Housing Only

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations
3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427

Name _____

Address _____
Street Address or Rte.
City
State

Date of Arrival _____ Cong.

Date of Departure _____ Floor preference at dorm
 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____

ONE TIME PUKWANA PASTOR DEPARTS THIS LIFE

Rev. Selmer H. Framstad, pastor of Pukwana and St. Olaf Lutheran Churches in South Dakota from 1920-23, passed away at his home in St. Paul, Minn., on January 27. He was 75.

In addition to the Pukwana parish, his first after graduation from Augsburg College and Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis, Minn., he also served at Bethany in St. Paul and Glen Cary, Anoka, Minn. Since his retirement he had been serving as a visitation pastor.

Born at Argyle, Wis., he was married to Edythe H. Erickson and she survives him. Mr. Framstad was preceded in death by two pastor brothers, Albert and Clarence.

[Continued from page 4]

ing to Bible School in my senior year of high school, I neglected it and started to go my own way. After going through some trying experiences, I realized I was not my own, that God had a hold on my life and was leading me to Bible School. As I review the past two years, I can only thank my family and above all, praise God for

the concern for my soul and spiritual life. These two years have indeed been most precious and I will always cherish the friends made here and the warm Christian fellowship.

As the future lies ahead, it is my prayer with Paul in the book of Colossians, the tenth verse of the first chapter, that I may "lead a life worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God."

Marlene Haara

Marlene is from L'anse, Mich. Her home church is St. John's Lutheran (LCA). She is employed by the Prudential Insurance Company and plans to continue working.

A SONG OF DELIVERANCE

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:10).

My God has been gracious to me for though my own righteousness is as filthy rags, He, in his great love has given me the robe of His righteousness. He has made me a

new creature, free from the bondage of my sins, and has placed within my heart a song of deliverance.

Yes, I shall rejoice in the Lord, for "the Word of the Lord came unto me" —came unto me with all of these according to the multitude of His tender mercies.

Since attending Bible School I have gained the assurance of salvation and have found God's will for my life. I have many people to thank for this: teachers, friends, pastors, parents and all those within the AFLC who have upheld us with their support and prayers. "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

Lynda Hendrickson

Lynda, a member of Faith Lutheran, is from Sand Creek, Wis. Upon graduation she plans on pursuing nurse's training in preparation for foreign missions.

HE HAS CONQUERED ALL

A verse that has come to mean a lot to me here at Bible School is I Corinthians 15:57: "But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

I am so thankful for these last two years. Studying His Word and living in it each day is an experience never to be forgotten. God has provided the means for me to attend Bible School and has kept me in His gracious care. He has blessed me beyond all measure. Most of all, I am thankful to Him for giving me the victory through His Son. I know that in Christ I have nothing to fear for He has conquered all. Life in Christ is one of peace, joy, victory, and hope. In no other name can you find this blessed life with hope of eternal life. All of this has come to mean more to me here at Bible School.

I would also like to say a word of thanks to all of you who have supported our school both with your prayers and your gifts. These have been two of the greatest years of my life. Thank you for providing a school

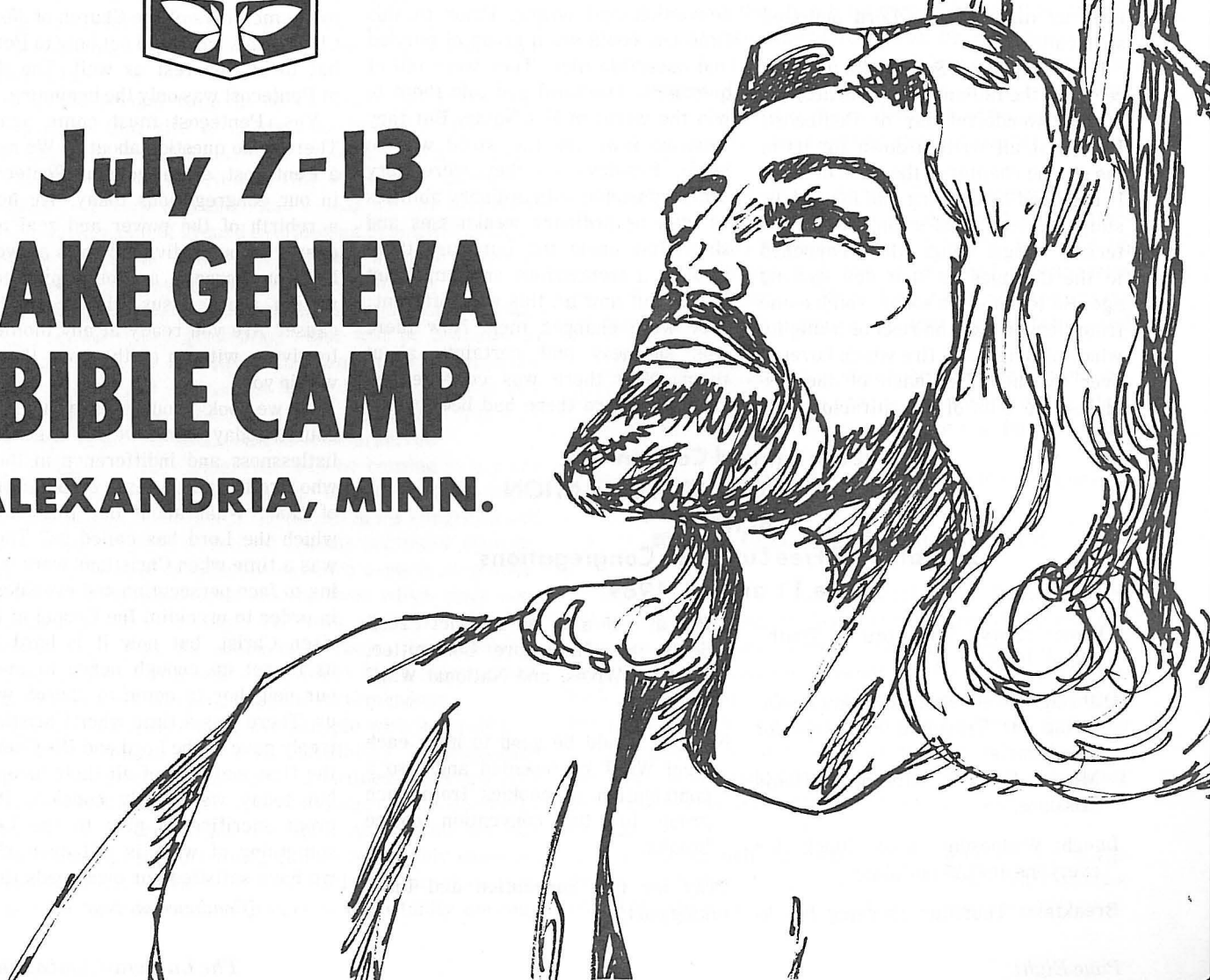
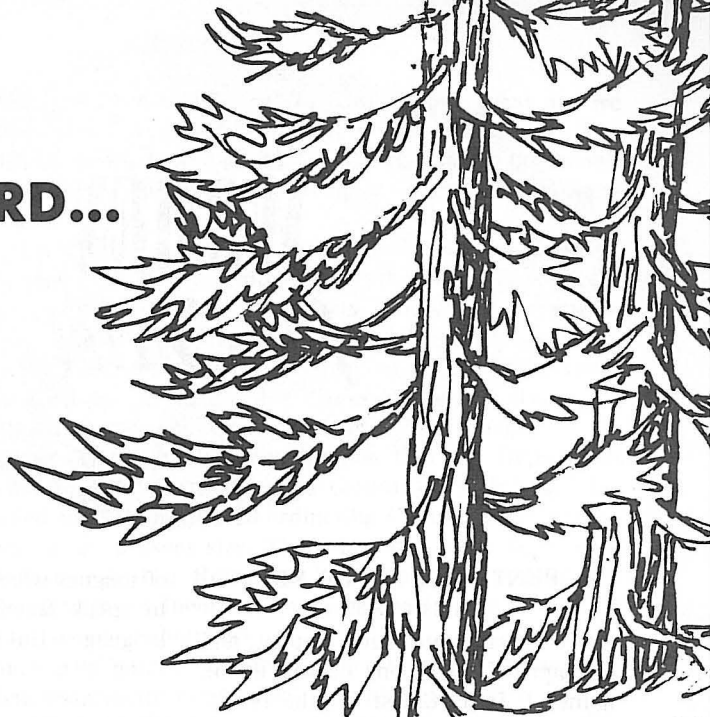
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DRAW NIGH UNTO THE LORD...

7th ANNUAL FAMILY BIBLE CAMP




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



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT ▶

**THE ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS
3110 EAST MEDICINE LAKE BLVD. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., 55427**



WOMEN for Christ

PENTECOST IS FOR YOU

Acts 2: 38-39

“Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”

From the pen of Saint Luke we have received the full and complete account of that wonderful day of Pentecost. He has it all written down for us in the second chapter of the Book of Acts. It is indeed an exciting and marvelous story. He tells us of strange and mysterious things, things which happened to the disciples on that day so long ago. He tells us of a sound which came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind; of tongues of fire which hovered over the heads of each of the disciples. He tells of the miraculous gift

of tongues which enabled the disciples to speak fluently in many different languages. But Luke also tells of something else, something of far greater importance and it is: “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.”

This is the real miracle of Pentecost which is evidenced in the lives of those men who were filled with conviction and power. Prior to this time one could see a group of puzzled and uncertain men. They were full of questions. The Lord had told them to win the world in His Name. But they were so few, and the world was so large. Besides this they were very ordinary people with ordinary abilities as well as ordinary weaknesses and sins. How could the Lord use them in such a tremendous and important task? But now all this was different; they were changed men. Now there was sureness and certainty about them. Now there was courage and strength where there had been weak-

Seventh Annual Convention WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations June 11 and 12, 1969

Theme: “Serve The Lord in Truth”
I Sam. 12:24

Offerings: Wednesday Convention Offering for Traveling Expenses for Missionaries.
Mission Festival Offering for Home Missions.

Lunch: Wednesday noon lunch for everyone at \$1.25 per plate

Breakfast: Thursday morning break-

fast at 6:45 a.m. for District Presidents, the Literature Committee, Pastor's Wives, and National WMF officers.

Note: It would be good to have each local WMF represented and also a contribution of cookies from each group for the convention coffee breaks.

Pray for this convention and those taking part.

ness and cowardice. Now they understood spiritually and added maturity to their faith where before there were doubts and uncertainty. And what made the difference was the entrance of the Holy Spirit into their lives, for by the power of the Holy Spirit they were given power and courage and fire and zeal that nothing could ever quench or subdue.

Peter is a good example of this newfound courage and strength. When we look at his behavior on this fateful day, we see just how great a change had actually taken place within him. Here was a man who just a few weeks ago had shamefully denied His Lord, not once, but three times, and had done so at the slightest hint of danger. But now on Pentecost, we find him standing before the people of Jerusalem, proclaiming the resurrection of Christ the Crucified with such courage and conviction that on that day 3000 souls were converted and made members of the Church of Jesus Christ. This happened not only to Peter but to all the rest as well. The day of Pentecost was only the beginning.

Yes, Pentecost must come again. There is no question about it. We need a Pentecost, a real genuine Pentecost in our congregations today. We need a rebirth of the power and zeal and energy in our individual lives as well. Do you possess a Holy Spirit-conviction about Jesus Christ and His cause? Are you ready at any moment to give a witness of the hope that is within you?

As we look about ourselves in the church today, don't we see a general listlessness and indifference in those who like to call themselves the people of God? What about our mission to which the Lord has called us? There was a time when Christians were willing to face persecution and even death in order to proclaim the Gospel of the risen Christ, but now it is hard for us to get up enough nerve to invite our neighbor to come to church with us. There was a time when Christians freely gave to the Lord and His Church the first and best of all their income, but today we usually consider it a great sacrifice to give to the Lord something of what is left over after we have satisfied our own needs first.

[Continued on page 15]



ANTICIPATING THE CONFERENCE

In less than two weeks the Seventh Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will be in session at our church headquarters near Minneapolis, Minnesota.

For the second time in seven years the AFLC will be going to that site to conduct its business. The other meeting was in 1965. At that time the property was relatively new to us. Now a fine three-story dormitory building, a garage and shop, and a dean's home also stand on the 21-acre plot of ground overlooking beautiful Medicine Lake in Plymouth Village. In addition, a house adjoining our property has been purchased with its lot.

In 1965 a seminary had been in operation for one year. This year our third graduating class will be ordained at the Conference. In 1965 there was thought about beginning a Bible School but no classes would be held for over one year. Today, three years have been put in and this past year approximately 45 students have been served.

Delegates to the Conference will be coming to a place where things have been happening, because of the interest and support and direction of the people in the congregations and a host of other interested friends scattered over the land. It is so easy to speak of outward aspects of growth. Of much more importance are the lives which have been moulded for Christ through the work of the schools. Remember, too, that the products of these institutions fan out into many communities as pastors or as other church members and the potential for good is tremendous.

Annual Conference 1969, will grapple with its problems, too. In the midst of a great possibility for expansion and a great need for the same (as witnessed by the plea in behalf of Home Missions in this issue), the Conference must try to determine for the whole Association the size of the financial support which can be reasonably expected by our common agencies such as schools, missions, etc. This is not a small matter. Doors of opportunity not only

stand ajar, but wide open. In light of that, what are we economically capable of assuming and maintaining? The task is not made any easier by the fact that no one knows just how many people claim membership in the Association.

The Conference will hear a report from the Property Ownership Study Committee recommending that the portions of the Minneapolis property used solely for educational purposes be transferred to the Seminary (Schools) Corporation. The Report was printed in the **Ambassador** on April 15. A request for discussion of the Report or related matters in the **Ambassador** has brought no response. This may be an indication that the Report has been favorably received. The Committee's findings also called for holding the Co-ordinating Committee (Corporation) at its present size. There is some doubt as to what that size is. The **Rules for Work** say seven members. The Articles of Incorporation allow up to nine. Presently there are seven members.

This will be a presidential election year at the Conference. Every three years this happens and a special interest is created because after all the choosing of a leader is of vital importance. There is an incumbent who is eligible for re-election. He has served from the beginning of the Association and knows the work, and the problems, of the church fellowship better than anyone else. At least two candidates must be nominated from the floor, as in the case for the positions of vice-president and secretary. The incumbents in the latter two offices must secure a three-fourths majority in order to continue in office since they have served three consecutive terms of one year.

Other highlights of the Annual Conference will be the dedication of the new dormitory building on Sunday afternoon, the ordination of four men into the ministry on Sunday morning, the greeting of returned missionaries from Brazil, Pastor and Mrs. John Abel, and the saying of farewell to new workers for that field, Pastor and Mrs. Connely Dyrud.

"Great is the Lord" will be the theme for the Conference. He has done great things for us, whereof we are glad. That He will do great things today, we can be sure. May He find us willing servants.

God give us a good Conference. Pray for His blessings.

BISHOP PIKE LEAVES THE CHURCH

There can only be commendation for Bishop James Pike in his decision to leave the Episcopal Church and thus the "organized church." He had shown for a long time by his statements of belief (or unbelief, if you prefer) and his own personal life that he did not belong in the church anymore. A man who has journeyed from one set of beliefs, or no beliefs, to another in his lifetime, the conviction gradually gripped him that he had better sever his connections with his church and we respect him for that.

One cannot help but agree with **some** of the things the former bishop says in his valedictory in **Look** magazine (April 29, 1969). He points out some of the hypocrisy pres-

ent in the church today. But who does not admit that there is hypocrisy in the organized church and deplors the fact? And the former bishop shows his own blind side when in the article he fails to admit the possibility that perhaps other people saw a bit of the hypocrite in him, too, when he moved about as a bishop of the church

of Jesus Christ while being involved in some very tangled marital affairs, to say nothing of his heretical convictions.

One can only hope and pray that James A. Pike, with his unquestionably searching and gifted mind, may one day find the peace which passes understanding and in simple faith rest in the work of Jesus on Calvary.

LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION CONVENTION

Dates — August 20th through August 24th

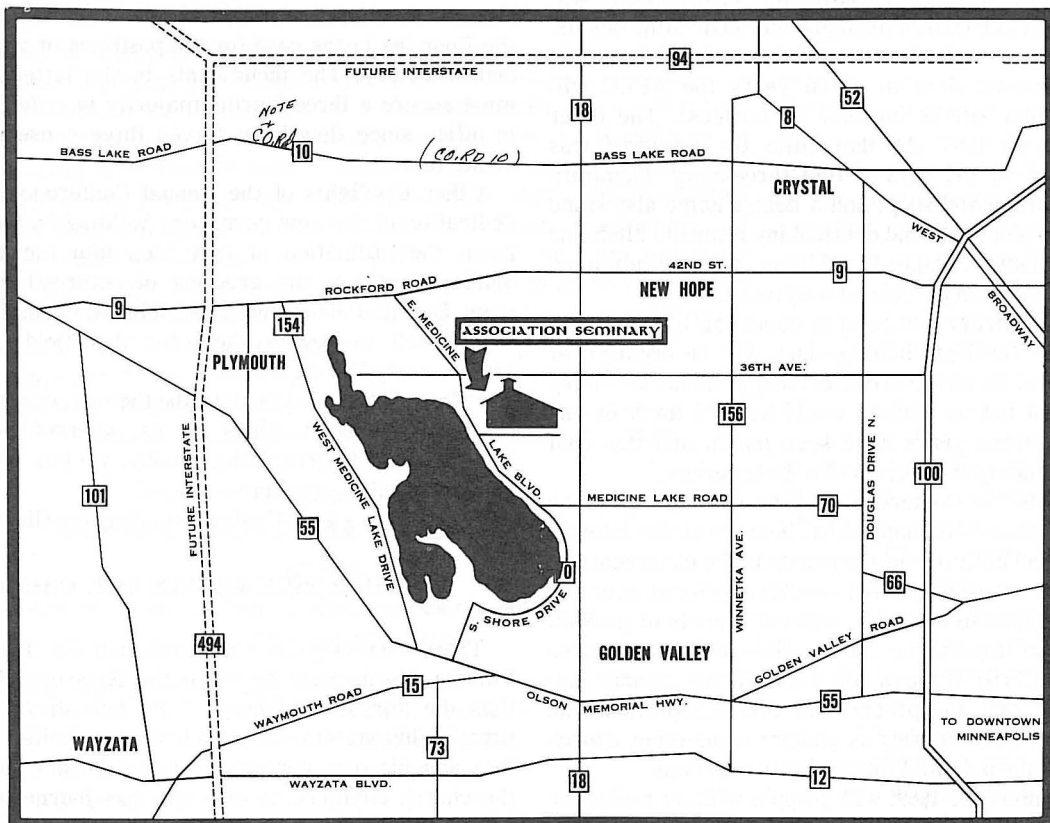
Place — Moorhead State College campus

Theme — “How Big Is God!”

Cost — \$22.00 per leaguer

Highlights — Evening messages by Pastor Alban Douglas, from the Prairie Bible Institute, Three Hills, Alberta, Canada. Morning Bible studies by Pastor Bob Rieth, Kirkland, Wash. Also, special interest sessions, film hours, Science and the Bible, personal evangelism, messages by youth, panel discussion, musical opportunities, devotional-life banquet, and much more!

Pre-registration fee: \$2.00—send to THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION, 1603 North Fifth, Fargo, North Dakota 58102



A Map of the Medicine Lake Area

Some of the highways marked "future interstate" are now completed. Convention-goers are reminded to approach the AFLC property on County 18, No. 70 and East Medicine Lake Blvd. If approaching from the north, take 36th Avenue.

**Seventh Annual Conference
of the
ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN
CONGREGATIONS**

June 11-15, 1969

Hosts: Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Richard Snipstead, Interim Pastor
Association Free Lutheran Bible School
Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary
3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Conference Theme: "Great is the Lord"

Conference Test: Psalm 145

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

10:00 a.m.—All Conference Committees will meet in the Bible School Classroom for devotions and room assignments.

8:00 p.m.—Opening service with message on Conference text by Pastor F. B. Monseth, Osseo, Minn. Opening of Conference by President John P. Strand. The appointment of necessary committees.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

9:00 a.m.—Devotions
Report of Credentials Committee
Election of Nominating Committee for 1970
President's Message
Report of the President of the Co-ordinating Committee
Report of the Budget Analysis Committee
Treasurer's Report
Report of Committee No. 1

11:30 a.m.—Prayer Hour. The prayer hours will be led by Pastor Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minnesota

2:00 p.m.—Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
Report of the Nominating Committee
Election of nominees for the Mission Corporation and the Mission Board
Election of nominees for the Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary Corporation and Board
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 1
Report of the Property Ownership Study Committee
Election of nominees to the Co-ordinating Committee
Election of the President, Vice-president and the Secretary of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations
Election of Committee No. 1 for the 1970

Annual Conference

6:30 p.m.—Meeting of the Seminary Corporation in the Bible School classroom

8:00 p.m.—Mission Festival Service conducted by the Women's Missionary Federation. Sermon by Missionary John Abel

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

7:00 a.m.—Meeting of the Mission Corporation

9:00 a.m.—Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
Report of the Dean of the Theological Seminary, Dr. Iver B. Olson
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
Report of the Nominating Committee
Election of Committee No. 2 for the 1970 Annual Conference

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
Report of Committee No. 3

6:00 p.m.—Banquet for the pastors and their wives. Message by Pastor Laurel Udden

8:00 p.m.—Worship service conducted by laymen of the church. Message by Mr. Leonard Stulen, Spicer, Minnesota

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

9:00—Devotions
Report of the Credentials Committee
Continuing Discussion of the Report of Committee No. 3
Report of the Nominating Committee
Election of Committee No. 3 for the 1970 Annual Conference
Report of Chairman of the Board of Publications and Parish Education, Pastor Ray-

nard Huglen
 Report of the Chairman of the Youth Board,
 Mr. Sheldon Mortrud
 Report of the President of the Luther League
 Federation, Pastor Robert Lee
 Report of Committee No. 4

11:30 a.m.—Prayer Hour

2:00 p.m.—Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee
 Report of the Nominating Committee
 Election of members to the Board of Publi-
 cations and Parish Education and the Youth
 Board
 Election of Committee No. 4 for the 1970
 Annual Conference
 Report of the Chairman of the Stewardship
 Board, Dr. Iver B. Olson
 Report of the Chairman of the Pension Board,
 Mr. Eldor Sorkness
 Report of Committee No. 5
 Report of the Nominating Committee
 Election of the members to the Stewardship
 Board and the Pension Board
 Election of Committee No. 5 for 1970 Annual
 Conference
 Report of special committee concerning build-

ing of the retirement home
 Report of special committee concerning char-
 ities
 Report of Committee No. 1 as the committee
 on General Resolutions

8:00 p.m.—Youth night at the Conference with the youth
 in charge of the service

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

8:00 a.m.—Communion Service with the meditation by
 Pastor Kenneth Anderson, Radcliffe, Iowa
 10:30 a.m.—Ordination service led by Pastor Julius
 Hermunslie with President John P. Strand
 presenting the message

2:30 p.m.—Dedication service for the new Bible School
 classroom-dormitory building with the Semi-
 nary Board in charge of the service. The mes-
 sage will be brought by Rev. Trygve F.
 Dahle, Spicer, Minnesota

Closing of the Conference.

Conference Committee
 Rev. John P. Strand
 Rev. Harry C. Molstre



MEMORIAL FUND: FAVORITE VERSE DEPARTMENT

An idea occurred to me that could be a very rewarding way in which to raise money in a very special way for a worth while cause, the various branches of our AFLC, depending, of course, on how other members would respond to my suggestion.

The suggestion is simply this, that at any time or at various times we submit a favorite Bible verse, short poem, or some other appropriate short piece of satisfactory material and a donation of money in any amount in memory of a loved one, either a departed member of our own family or

of a dear friend. The material could be either a favorite of the one we wish to remember, or some favorite of our own. The donor should specify if the gift is for a specific department or for the General Fund.

Although this idea occurred to me some time ago, I am more enthused and encouraged that the idea could catch on and become very rewarding after having read the editorial "Time For Decision" in the April 1 publication of **The Lutheran Ambassador**.

I would like to start the ball rolling by donating five dollars to the General Fund, or wherever it is needed the most, in memory of my father and mother, J. Christ Nielsen—June 23,

1873—July 24, 1959, and Maria Nielsen—May 15, 1880—Dec. 17, 1965. They were members of Hope Lutheran church, Sisseton, S. Dak.

One favorite of mine is the story of the mustard seed, Mark 4:30—32. "What should we say God's kingdom is like," He asked, "or how should we picture it? It's like a mustard seed, which when sown in the ground is the smallest of all the seeds on earth. But when it's sown, it comes up and becomes the largest of all the garden plants. It grows such large branches that the birds in the air can make nests in its shade."

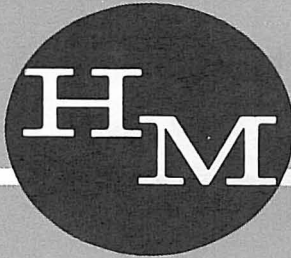
When God wants to do something big that will really grow and flourish He almost always starts with the smallest, most humble, if not unusual and insignificant, surroundings.

One favorite bit of my mother's, which so very well typifies the wonderful person she was is the following,
 Do all the good you can, for all the people you can.

In every place you can, at all the times you can.

As long as ever you can.

Ellen Nielsen
 Sisseton, S. Dak.



HOME MISSIONS

POTENTIAL UNLIMITED

What a thrill to read the financial reports of our AFLC—especially concerning the Bible School dormitory! What a thrill to see people take on a seemingly impossible task... and to see them give sacrificially with smiling faces and joyful hearts! When the Bible School was proposed, some sincerely felt that this little group known as the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations was biting off more than they could adequately chew "at that time!" But, because they trusted God and gave in the manner which was well pleasing to Him, not only is there a growing Bible School, but a dormitory.

All this shows that, if the mind can be properly challenged and the heart is in it, God can work marvels also today with human instruments. In all of this **God hasn't changed**; His will, His power, His desires, His promises, etc., remain the same. But He doesn't want us to just take care of the Bible School and Seminary facilities. He urges us to lift our eyes and see the fields white unto harvest! Often, when that verse is referred to, our minds' eyes see the heathen in some far off land, worshipping gods they make with their hands. But, we believe God wants us to see not only **those** heathen, but the heathen right close at hand.

Our missionaries (both foreign and domestic) challenge our hearts and minds with visions of opportunities that lie right at our doorsteps!

In raising funds for the dormitory, our dear departed friend and saint, Prof. George Soberg, used a term which really caught fire and gathered funds to build: that expression, through his quaint humor, was **ONE GRAND FELLOWSHIP!**

In looking at the primary project

of every Bible-believing, Christ-loving individual... that primary project must always be **MISSIONS!** Truly, as we look around us at the exploding metropolitan areas... we must call it **POTENTIAL UNLIMITED.** But, how can this potential be harnessed? In order to support foreign missions, our Bible School, our Seminary, etc., it is imperative that we harness **first our home mission potential**

The Home Missions is the newest member of the AFLC family of projects, but we recognize that it is actually the oldest and most important arm of the Christian Church. Because Home Missions is rather "new" to us, we find it receiving very little of our attention in our giving to God's work.

Any metropolitan area can somewhat duplicate similar figures, but these came from a Home Mission pastor serving on the West Coast, Pastor Robert Rieth, who serves the Seattle area. When we think about population explosions... we must mean the areas like Kent, Kirkland, Lake Stevens, Bothel, Burien, Auburn, etc. Just to give you an idea of growth, let's look at some figures. Five years ago at Kent, Washington there were 5000 to 7000 people... today, 17,000. Last year the school attendance increased 16.2% and this growth is projected well into 1975. It is called the "prime growth area of King County." The 15 large schools that now serve the area will have to increase to about 55 schools in order to educate the exploding population.

King County grew 75,000 people in 1967! It is impossible to get figures on the population—not even estimates.

But the need doesn't exist just in size, appalling as that is. The saddest part of the whole picture is that so

few attend church of the vast expanding multitude! Estimates vary from 10% to 27%.

Now let's look at Kirkland (where Pastor Rieth's church, Our Redeemer Lutheran, is located. The housing developments, Kingsgate—Highwoodlands, and Queensgate, were non-existent four years ago. Today there are 1530 homes now occupied. The realtors say that by fall that will have increased to 2650 homes. Many other housing developments are experiencing the same exploding growth within the same area served by the church. A new elementary grade school, located one block from the mission church, now serves 663 pupils in an area that did not exist four years ago. Junior and Senior high students are bussed to other areas awaiting the completion of more schools. The population of the Kirkland area is now 58,100 people, which is an 8.7% increase each year since 1964.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church began with two families served by Paul Jecklin in the summer of 1966, with the first service held the first Sunday in August 1966. That winter Pastor John De Boer, Steve Odegaard and Dale Christopherson served the group. Rev. Robert Rieth came in July of 1967 and began with five families at that time, with about 25 at worship services and 19 in Sunday School. Presently there are 20 families in membership with the average attendance about 70 in church and Sunday School.

Surely such opportunities must be seen as our primary mission in our AFLC. As this potential is developed and utilized, the outreach in ALL other areas of our church will receive the manpower and financial thrust which now is lying dormant!

POTENTIAL UNLIMITED is the cry of unreached millions and the sound of our responsibility to them.

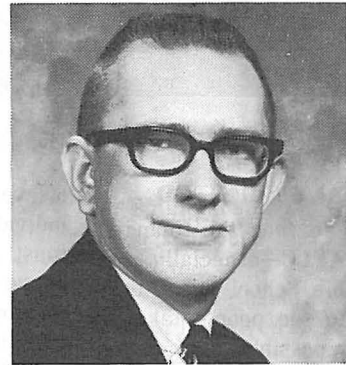
Signed — The Board of Home Missions

(The name "One Grand Fellowship" was not original with the late Prof. George Soberg, even though he helped so much to popularize it. The name was first suggested by a member of the Stewardship Board at a meeting in the spring of 1967.—Ed.)

THE GRADUATES OF FREE LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—1969



Connely J. Dyrud
Home Town: Thief River Falls,
Minnesota
Called by the Board of Foreign
Missions to serve in Brazil
To be ordained at the Annual
Conference



Marvin Haara
Home Town: L'Anse, Michigan
Called to Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church, Virginia,
Minnesota
To be ordained in Virginia,
Minnesota



Wendell Johnson
Home Town: Cambridge,
Minnesota
Called to the Dalton, Minnesota,
parish (Kvam, Zion, Torden-
skjold and Sarpsborg)
To be ordained at the Annual
Conference



Larry V. Severson
Home Town: Walnut Grove,
Minnesota
Called to serve the Abercrombie
(N. Dak.)—Doran (Minn.)
parish (Bethany and Stikle-
stad)
To be ordained at the Annual
Conference



Forrest Swenson
Home Town: Roseau,
Minnesota
Called to serve the Winger,
Minnesota, parish (Dovre,
Union Lake, and Maple Bay)
To be ordained at the Annual
Conference

*"Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest"
(Matt. 9:38)*

[Continued from page 6]

where we as young people might be drawn closer to Christ.

Karen Kvistero

Karen is a member of the Hawk Creek Lutheran Church at Sacred Heart, Minn. She is employed by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and plans to continue working there.

PARISH BIBLE CAMP SET FOR BRUSH LAKE

The Tioga Parish will be sponsoring a Bible Camp, June 17-21, at the Brush Lake Lutheran Camp, Dagmar, Montana. Our faculty will include Rev. Robert Reith, pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Kirkland, Wash.; and Mr. Kenneth Moland, student pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Fargo, N. D.

Anyone desiring further information may write to Box 546, Tioga, N. D. 58852.

EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA PLANS DISTRICT PARISH EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Mr. Gordon Johnson, Grand Forks, N. Dak., president of the district parish education committee, announces that a mid-summer parish education workshop will be held at New Luther Valley Lutheran Church in McVille on Friday, June 27, at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Vernon Nelson, Grand Forks, secretary of the Board of Publications and Parish Education in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, will report on materials available for district use.

Eula Mae Swenson

PERSONALITIES

Pastor Gene Sundby has resigned from the Newfolden, Minn., parish and has accepted a call to serve the Culbertson, Mont., parish (Bethel and Zion). He will take up the work there sometime this summer.

[Continued from page 8]

Let us examine ourselves.

Yes, Pentecost is for you and for me. Has a Pentecost happened to you? Does the Holy Spirit witness with your spirit that you are His?

—Mrs. Albert Hautamaki

THIEF RIVER FALLS TO HAVE COMMISSIONING SERVICE

A Mission Conference and Commissioning Service for Mr. and Mrs. Connelly Dyrud, who will be leaving for Brazil in August, will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls, Minn., on June 20-22.

Missionary John Abel and others will have a part in the services which will begin on Friday evening and continue on Saturday and Sunday. The commissioning will take place on Sunday afternoon and will be conducted by Pastor John P. Strand, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, and members of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Everyone is welcome to these meetings.

TWO FORMER SEMINARY LEADERS IN THE ALC DIE

Dr. John R. Lavik, 88, and Dr. T. F. Gullixson, 86, both of whom headed theological seminaries in the Evangelical Lutheran Church before the merger, died recently.

Mr. Lavik passed away on March 7 in Minneapolis, Minn. He served as president of Luther Seminary in Saskatoon, Sask., for 14 years. He had also led Camrose Lutheran College in Alberta for four years and was district president in Canada at one time.


Not long ago he had written a book named **The Bible is the Word of God**.

Mr. Gullixson was president of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., from 1930 to 1954. He served as leader of the old American Lutheran Conference from 1944 to 1955.

Dr. Gullixson authored a number of books, the latest being **Down to the Arena**, published in 1968.

He passed away on April 2 in Capser, Wyo.

Both men began their ministries as parish pastors.



this day

*This is the day that the Lord God has made;
I hold it in my hand, a gift of God.
I enter it full of joy, unafraid —
I dread not His will nor His chast'ning rod.
The bent reed He will not break but lift up
The load it bears, His love my soul sustains;
His lips with mine drink deeply of my cup,
He shares my trials; His friendship will remain.
He walks with me! How wonderful it is —
All the day's worries, duties, little griefs
Become joys when I place my hand in His;
The end of day brings a greater belief,
And my soul weary finds renewing rest
Within His loving arms, upon His breast.*

*Poem and illustration by
Marlene Moline
Lansing, Iowa*

TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT

February 1, 1969 to April 30, 1969

	Proposed		Total Received
	Yearly Budget	Current	
General Fund	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 8,816.37
Seminary and Bible School	51,175.00	12,793.75	5,516.22
Missions	72,800.00	18,200.00	9,845.99
Praise Program	30,000.00	7,500.00	3,994.08
	\$189,975.00	\$47,493.75	\$28,172.66
One Grand Fellowship	\$2,633.33		

ADDITIONAL NOMINATION FOR THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ASSOCIATION SCHOOLS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (Director
1 year)

To fill the unexpired term of Rev.
A. L. Hokonson, who resigned.

MISS JUDITH WOLD ACCEPTS POST AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR PARISH EDUCATION, WMF

Miss Judith Wold, Thief River Falls, Minnesota, has accepted the call to become executive secretary for the Associations's Department of Parish Education and for the Women's Missionary Federation. She will assume her new duties on August 1.

Further details will be given in the next Ambassador.

Directory of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

OFFICERS

President

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

Vice-President

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

Secretary-Treasurer

Rev. H. C. Molstre
Dalton, Minn.

Business Administrator

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

CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman

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

Secretary

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

ASSOCIATION SCHOOLS

Board of Trustees

President

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

Secretary

Rev. Raynard Huglen
Roslyn, S. Dak.

Acting Dean of Free Lutheran
Seminary

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

Dean of the Bible School

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

WORLD MISSIONS

Chairman

Mr. Robert Knutson
McVille, N. Dak.

Secretary

Mr. Roy Mohagen
Grafton, N. Dak.

PUBLICATIONS AND PARISH EDUCATION

Chairman

Rev. Raynard Huglen
Roslyn, S. Dak.

Secretary

Mrs. Vernon R. Nelson
1909 11th Ave. N.
Grand Forks, N. Dak.

STEWARDSHIP

Chairman

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

Secretary

Rev. T. F. Dahle
Spicer, Minn.

YOUTH BOARD

Chairman

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

Secretary

Mr. Gordon Johnson
1924 4th Ave. N.
Grand Forks, N. Dak.

BOARD OF PENSIONS

President

Mr. Eldor Sorkness
Sand Creek, Wis.

Secretary

Rev. G. H. Spletstoesser
Pine River, Minn.

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION

President

Mrs. Herbert W. Presteng
Grafton, N. Dak.

Secretary

Mrs. H. C. Molstre
Dalton, Minn.

Treasurer

Mrs. R. M. Konsterlie
Route 1
Willmar, Minn.

LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION

President

Rev. Robert Lee
Tioga, N. Dak.

Secretary

Miss Peggy Soyryng
Cloquet, Minn.

Treasurer

Mr. Kenneth Moland
Fertile, Minn.