

THE

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No. 11

LUTHERAN

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According to the Word

THE KNOWN PERSON

Psalm 23:

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want;

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil;

For Thou art with me;

Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

A famous aviator who had faced death many times and in many circumstances said that it was only the unknown that frightens men. The Psalmist walks also through the unknown valley but he has no fear because the KNOWN PERSON is beside him.

The KNOWN PERSON delivers one from the fear of the unknown. David Livingstone, when facing un-

known and terrible dangers, placed his finger on Christ's promise to be with him, and he realized His presence and wrote in his diary: "I feel calm now, thank God!"

It takes so little to throw us into a state of confusion. I remember back a few years, to the day that President Kennedy was shot. Now, I'm in no way belittling the tragic moment of that day—but it only took one bullet from a rifle to throw our nation into a state of panic. Even as those were days of stress and tribulation, there may be even worse days ahead of us as a nation. Because we just don't have control of the future, there likely are unknown heights and unknown depths yet ahead of us as a nation. We shudder when we run into the black clouds preceding a fierce thunder storm. And soldiers who have tasted the acrid fumes of exploding shells on the road ahead—the road which they must tread—know the gnawing fear of the unknown.

But what reassurance, in spite of the unknown, that whatever happens, there is a KNOWN PERSON who walks with us in each experience. And to know that He has been "through the mill" regarding suffering and sorrow in this life. This comfort is often the only comfort we can really hold on to, that is really meaningful: when a notice comes from the

government of the supreme sacrifice of a son in Viet Nam, HIS PRESENCE is the secret of our poise—our strength—our courage—our determination that the sacrifice shall not be in vain—therefore, our peace.

Our nation has been disgraced by sinful men in the past, and there's much disgrace being practiced today which is simply a cover-up for cowardice and fear of the unknown. But so it has ever been, when people disregard God and His Law and become a law unto themselves, chaos can only ensue. Let us, by prayer and supplication, as Christian people, rededicate ourselves to the God-given blessings upon which our country has been established.

Let us, in the freedom we experience in this wonderful country of ours, walk hand in hand with that great KNOWN PERSON, our Savior Jesus Christ! Emotions of love and hate run high when we are faced with emergencies, but let us keep our feet firmly planted on the Rock, so we shall constantly have His presence to bolster and sustain us.

The future is unknown to us, so let us walk by faith, with our hand tightly clasped by the hand of the KNOWN PERSON who gave the Psalmist his assurance and trust. Let us keep faith with our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ.

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Welcome to Fargo

Dear Friends of the AFLC:

"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1).

St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation hereby wishes to extend a hearty welcome to Fargo, to the Fifth Annual Conference of the AFLC, to be held at Oak Grove Lutheran High School, June 14-18, 1967.

The theme for the Conference is "God Is Able" (II Cor. 9:8).

To those who are strangers in Fargo, it might be well to give some simple direction as to how to find Oak Grove and St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

To get to Oak Grove, if you come from the south or east, turn right on Broadway, go north until you cross the Great Northern tracks. Turn right on the first street after crossing the tracks, which is 6th Ave. North. Stay on this avenue for about one mile and

you will be at Oak Grove. If you come from the west or north and go south on Broadway, turn left on 6th Ave. North.

To get to St. Paul's Lutheran, go north on Broadway to 16th Ave. North. Turn right, go one block and you will be at St. Paul's where the Communion Service will be held at 8:00 a.m., Sunday the 18th. All other sessions will be held at Oak Grove, as well as registration for the WMF, the registration for the convention and also housing desks. If you come by bus or train, let us know what train or what bus and when you will arrive and someone will be there to meet you.

If you drive, remember parking will be at a premium. Please be as considerate as possible in your parking so as to not "hog" space with one car, where two could be parked. Thank you

There will be two phones avail-



Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Sr., pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Fargo, and host pastor to the Annual Conference.

able for reaching delegates or pastors in emergency. They are as follows: 701-235-1511 or 232-4831, Fargo, N. Dak. The phone at the church is 234-5555.

We are not very many members in St. Paul's Lutheran and many of them are working, but we will do our very best to see to it that you find housing and are taken care of.

Above all, let us all be much in prayer for our convention, that all things may run smoothly and that God may guide us in all deliberations and endue us with wisdom and good judgment, not only in our discussions but also in our voting on the many very important issues that confront us. Remember, "He is able."

All meals will be served in the dining room in Jackson Hall. Breakfast: 7 to 9 a.m.; the noon meal at 12:00 and on, and the evening meal at 5:30 p.m. and on. It will all be cafeteria style.

Again, welcome to Fargo, and may the Lord give you a safe journey both ways.

In His joyful service,

Trygve F. Dahle, Pastor
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1603 N. 5th St., Fargo, N. Dak.



Jackson Hall on the Oak Grove campus. Some of the delegates will be housed here and the dining hall is located in the basement on the right.

Invitation to the Annual Conference

We are all looking forward to the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations in Fargo, North Dakota, June 14-18. To this Conference will come, we trust, members from all the congregations of the Association. They will have full privileges to speak and vote. Reports will be given as to where the Association is today, and plans will be made for the future. We know that all will experience a deeper understanding of our Fundamental Principles and our work.

We are a group of free and independent congregations. Freedom that is not exercised is soon lost. A part of freedom is cooperation. We read in our Fundamental Principles that "A free congregation gladly accepts the mutual assistance which the congregations can give one another in the work for the advancement of the Kingdom of God. Such assistance consists partly in the mutual sharings of spiritual gifts among congregations through conferences, exchange visits, lay activities, etc., whereby congregations are mutually edified, and partly in the voluntary and Spirit-prompted cooperation of congregations for the accomplishing of such tasks as exceed the ability of the individual congregation."

Use the freedom by attending this Conference. Show your cooperation by attending this Conference. Take time for four days of Christian fellowship and work.

As congregations and individuals we are thankful to God. God has been good to the Association. Great joy will be experienced as we see how great God's blessings on us truly are.

One of the fruits of cooperation among congregations is intercongregational fellowship. What joy it is to work together with folks from across our land. This gives us a deeper understanding of the scope of our work and our privileges. It also creates a wonderful Christian bond.

Welcome to Fargo. Come praying that God may be permitted to reveal Himself to us, and that He may lead and guide in all things.

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



STEWARDSHIP

"One Grand Fellowship"

"How blessed is the little flock, whom Jesus calls His own."

When the Stewardship and Coordinating Committees met in joint session at Headquarters recently, after a warm devotion and prayer session, we discussed at some length ways and means to reach our much enlarged budget for this year.

If you recall, we voted at our last Annual Conference at Thief River Falls, to include our Praise Program Budget of \$30,000.00 in our annual Budget of Schools, Missions and the General Fund. This together gets to be quite a sum; however, not insurmountable.

But, because of the much needed dormitory for students arising from the anticipated explosive enrollment at our Bible school next fall, we are faced with the crucial need for added funds.

Plans are already in the making for such a dormitory, but we can do nothing until it has been voted on by the Annual Conference in Fargo in June of this year. This project is one of the many very important items we will have to decide on at the conference and one we will have to pray much about before we meet in Fargo, June 14-18. It seems to us that this dormitory is a "must," as we are growing out of our present quarters.

As we were praying and discussing how we could raise an added \$50,000 which we must have on hand before we can even start (providing the Annual Conference gives us the green light), the idea of starting a "Thousand Dollar Club" was brought up and the idea

caught fire. There must be at least 50 individuals within our group who would be willing and able to give one thousand dollars for such an important project. But we didn't like the word "club." The word "fellowship" was suggested as a possible substitute, and a member of the Stewardship Committee quipped, "One Grand Fellowship," eh? We all had a good laugh about that one, but the more we thought about it the better we liked it.

Well, whatever name we put on it, we already have the first \$1,000 as a charter member of such a "Fellowship," given by one of the members of the Stewardship Committee. Could it be that there are forty-nine others who could and would do the same? And we could come to the Annual Conference in June with \$50,000 to present as a good reason to vote favorably on this dormitory. If so, we could start building by July 1 and have the building ready for occupancy by Jan. 1, 1968, or at the latest, by the second semester in 1968.

Will you all pray much about this and if the Lord lays it on your heart to do the same, be obedient and write either the undersigned, or President Strand, that you want to be one of the fifty charter members of this "One Grand Fellowship." You do not necessarily have to have the cash, but it would help to get it before the Annual Conference.

"The silver and the gold are mine," says God, "and the cattle on a thousand hills."

We read about the early Church in Acts 4, "There was not a needy person among them, for as many

as had possessions of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of what was sold, and laid them down at the Apostles' feet" (Acts 4:34).

"He that hath this world's goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him?" (I John 3:17).

May God open up the windows and pour out upon us such a blessing that there shall not be room to receive it.

In His joyful service,

Trygve F. Dahle, Sec.
Stewardship Board

EDITOR TO VISIT NORWAY, EUROPE THIS SUMMER

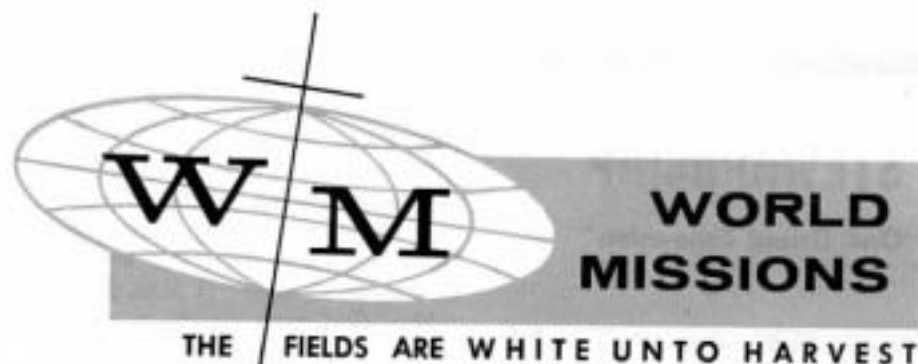
Rev. Raynard Huglen, editor of *The Lutheran Ambassador*, is making plans to make a personal trip to Norway and other European countries this summer. He will leave New York on July 12 and return to the United States in September. A replacement in the editorial work will be announced in the next issue of the *Ambassador*. The parish work at Roslyn will be directed by Mr. Larry Severson, a student in the seminary.

SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS MISSION TO BEGIN SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

A group of people, mostly from south Minneapolis and suburbs, will begin meeting regularly for Sunday worship services from June 4 and on. Place of meeting will be the Ridgeview Elementary School at 94th Street and Nesbitt Road in Bloomington.

The mission plans to organize under the name Bush Lake Lutheran Church. Worship services will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Interested persons are invited to attend.



WHERE ARE THE REINFORCEMENTS FOR WORLD MISSIONS?

by Missionary John H. Abel

"He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he has set judgment in the earth; and the isles shall wait for his law" (Isa. 42:4).

"Ask of me and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession" (Ps. 2:8).

The above verses help to recall to our minds the preeminent desire and program of our Lord, whose last command was the great commission: "You shall be witnesses unto me in Jerusalem . . . and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). We have made some steps in the direction of fulfilling this supreme mandate from our Lord in our Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. At our first annual conference of the AFLC in Fargo in 1963 we expressed our desire to send out at least two couples to world missions in 1964. At our second annual conference in Valley City the Conference approved a motion to make it our goal to send two couples a year for the next three years to world missions. Now we are coming into our fifth annual conference and as yet we have only two couples on the field, not six, nor eight. We have none in language school preparing to replace the couples now in Brazil's interior. The couples in Brazil will soon be due for furlough, and for unexpected health reasons one or the

other might be subject to an early departure from the field.

At this writing we know of no candidates to be presented to the fifth Annual Conference. All of this makes us here on the field ask, "How serious are we about world missions?" But you may respond, "With all our organizational problems as a new group we haven't been able to face a heavy mission budget. We've had a seminary and headquarters building to buy, a Bible school to begin, struggling parishes and pastors to help." Yes, that's all true, but have the problems beclouded our world vision and so perhaps our world emphasis and our faith in His ability to provide for this program? Why have we no called candidates as yet? When we went to the field in 1964 there were several college couples who had expressed themselves as dedicated to serve in the cause of world missions and interested in our Association. And need they be always college couples? Consecrated laymen with high school and Bible school have made some remarkable pages in mission history. William Carey, founder of modern foreign missions, is one such person.

As to the heavy world mission budget, let us remember that it is not very proportionate as yet. In the former Evangelical Lutheran Church, several years back the budget proportion for missions was 50 percent, ours at present is 29.3 percent. The Lutheran Brethren Synod, who have about the same number of congregations as we do, have as many pastors on the for-

eign field as they do at home. They have a crying need for funds also, as we know they are trying to build a new seminary building and are even thinking of a junior college, yet they haven't held down or cut back their foreign mission program. If we were to equal them on a percentage basis, we would have to have about twenty couples now involved in missions.

But how, you ask, can we possibly have a larger world mission program when we barely raised the budget this last year? To us the answer lies in a faith challenge. We must not be afraid of giving such a challenge to our people, for it has been proven over and over again, that when people have a world vision they have a vision for all the work of their church. The Lutheran Brethren let their mission candidates go out to the churches and help find their support. Hundreds of missions operate more or less in this way, including some inter-Lutheran missions. We as an AFLC Conference in 1964 by recommendation of our Board of World Missions made provisions for such a faith challenge in our "Missionary Sponsorship Plan" passed by the Valley City Conference. This plan outlines the possibility of an individual, congregation or group sponsoring a missionary, taking on his partial or full support. He is in a sense their missionary, they support him through the mission office of our AFLC. With this plan in operation only God knows how many missionaries could be supported by our AFLC people. To this date, as far as we know, this plan lies quietly at rest in the files. We then suspect that many of our sincere Christians who have the desire and means to do more for missions are supporting other missions and other than Free Lutheran missionaries. Meanwhile, our badly needed reinforcements here are not arriving, and we are in a serious condition as to the future of the work here.

A few years ago on Cuban shores a brave group of soldiers

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THE GRADUATES OF FREE LUTHERAN SEMINARY—1967



Richard W. Gunderson
Home town: Minneapolis, Minn.
On loan to the World Mission Prayer League
(Bolivia)
To be ordained at the Annual Conference



Edwin Kjos
Home town: Pelican Rapids, Minn.
Called to the Roseau, Minn., parish
(Roseau, Narland, Spruce and Rose)
To be ordained later



Howard Kjos
Home town: Pelican Rapids, Minn.
Called to the Hampden, N. Dak., parish
(Zoar, Bethany and Zion)
To be ordained at the Annual Conference



David Moltre
Home town: Dalton, Minn.
Called to Trinity, Grand Forks, N. Dak., and
Bethel, Grafton, N. Dak.
To be ordained at the Annual Conference



Francis W. Monseth
Home town: Valley City, N. Dak.
Called to Calvary, Everett, Wash.
To be ordained later



Robert Rieth
Home town: Valley City, N. Dak.
Called to Redeemer, Juanita, Wash.
To be ordained at the Annual Conference

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



Luther League Activities

Edited by Jane Thompson

Jane Thompson is another writer in our series of articles on vocations and education for AFLC youth. She is a sophomore at Moorhead State College and attends Maple Bay Lutheran Church, Mentor, Minn.

Now that two years have passed since my full year of Bible classes at the Lutheran Brethren Bible School in Fergus Falls, I can more easily look back and evaluate the time that I spent there.

Some of you who are contemplating Bible school before college, between college years or after college may have several questions about the advantages of this year of concentrated study.

Some who are well-grounded in their faith may think, "I'll wait until I graduate from college. Then I'll know just what I want from Bible school. Then I'll benefit more."

Well, come graduation, you may get the itch to go out and earn that tuition money before Bible school. After all, you will have loans to pay back. You don't want to pile up more debts now.

Then there are those who just lose that urge to attend Bible

school. They've had most of their questions answered in college, and they can study the Bible on their own if they want to.

And that's how it goes. The ideal situation would be one year on a college campus and then have your questions answered and discussed at Bible school. Since that isn't practical for all of you, there are many suggestions I have for making better use of your time now to prepare for Bible school, college and living with others. There are some things that I'd like to suggest also to Bible school administrations.

After one year of living in a dormitory with non-Christians and two years of apartment living, what would I do differently or emphasize now?

First of all, if you are in high school, prepare now to get involved with other people. Join clubs that you are genuinely interested in, work hard, and let others know that you care about them personally. One of the worst criticisms that can come upon a Christian group is that it is cliquish. If you have only Christian friends, how

do you expect others to really get to know you? What's more important, how do you expect to get to know others as real people with problems and joys?

Some people get real joy out of saying, "I don't have one non-Christian friend." Be a loner once in awhile and don't be shocked by their actions and opinions. After all, they are important to them, just as yours are to you. This is so very important in college.

Practice honesty with your roommates, whether there be one or five. At the beginning of the year, suggest a time of sharing and praying together. This way, a lot of tension can be avoided.

At college, join more than one group. Don't have a religious organization as your only activity. Get involved in the political club, in art, recreation, journalism. Here is where you'll meet people who can be valuable friends and who will be instrumental in helping you grow spiritually.

Read newspapers, magazines and novels that people are discussing. Don't stick to only one subject in your conversations and interests.

Some things I would like to see explored in Bible school more than they are, are theological trends. The philosophies of Kant, Hume, Bertrand Russell, Karl Barth, and Bultmann are being discussed in college philosophy, literature and history classes. A Christian should know how to discuss these intelligently.

Learn about Darwin's theory of evolution. Find out different Christians' views on Creation. You will be asked about this sometime in your near future. Recently in a humanities class all 32 of us had to tell how we stood on the Bible's

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Kalispell, Montana in 1967



EDITORIALS

ANTICIPATION

Without question, the highlight of the Annual Conference in June, viewed from this vantage point, will be the ordination of four young men into the Christian ministry on Sunday, June 14.

Thousands upon thousands of Lutheran men have been ordained in American churches over the past two hundred years, but this will be the first class of men ordained by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, the first graduates of our seminary. Therefore, it is a special occasion.

When you consider the fact that up to this point the youngest pastors in the church have been in the ministry from 12-14 years, it is quickly evident that new young pastors are urgently needed. Ordination day at conference will begin what should be a steady flow of new pastors into the Association.

Attend that service if you possibly can. If you have any yen for historical occasions, be at this one. Approximately 900 persons can be "packed" into the Oak Grove auditorium in Fossum Hall if need be. And we ought to need that much room. Auto parking will be a problem, so come early.

And as we prepare to ordain our first class, let us make it a responsibility to pray for more men for the seminary and the ministry. How many we ought to have each year we will leave up to the Lord, but let us do what we can to encourage those whom He calls.

FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS

The conference committee in Fargo is to be commended on securing the use of Oak Grove Lutheran High School for the annual conference this year. And appreciation is to be expressed to the people of Oak Grove for opening their doors to our convention.

Oak Grove is a familiar place to many of those who will be at conference. Not so few of our people are graduates or former students of the school and most of our congregations contributed a good deal to the institution of the former Lutheran Free Church over the years. Furthermore, annual confer-

ences of that body were held in Fargo in the recent years of 1956 and 1960 and delegates were lodged at Oak Grove. And in 1957 some of us attended the regional Luther League Federation convention at the school.

We stopped in at Oak Grove a few weeks ago and were re-acquainted with the fine facilities which are being made available to us for the conference. A part of this is the tree-covered campus and we need not forget the near-by city park. It will be a pleasant place for our meeting.

But parking is a problem. Please allow extra time in arriving for sessions to permit proper parking.

The fact that two other conventions (not church) will be in session during the Annual Conference will create problems in regard to uptown eating, housing and shopping, but other than that all needs will be taken care of at Oak Grove.

If any delegate wishes lodging at Oak Grove, it will be necessary to secure reservations at once. If you should find yourself seeking a place at the last minute, you will very likely be out of luck in view of the convention activity in Fargo-Moorhead those days. Write for a room now and give the committee a chance to do everything they can to make arrangements for you. Their address is on page 15.

We look forward to seeing many at Oak Grove in Fargo, June 14-18.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Unfortunately, annual conferences often do not get to make as many key decisions as one might expect. Of necessity, much spadework and groundwork must be done by boards and committees. (Which illustrates that nominations and elections at a conference are very important.)

But the conference this year will get to sink its teeth into a few solid things. For one, it must approve the size of the building project to be entered into at the Bible school, how it shall be financed and when construction shall begin. Secondly, and tied in with the above, the mechanics of the ongoing Praise Program are to be determined. A plan will be presented to the conference for approval. Thirdly, the *Rules for Work* (revised) are to be finally adopted and there are several paragraphs in that which could provoke discussion.

Also, in his message to the church prior to conference, Missionary John Abel calls attention to previous conference action concerning our world mission program which has not been implemented and he asks why this is so. The whole matter of missions, therefore, may get a thorough airing at this conference. (See page 6.)

Add to these points, the issue of administration costs in the church. Are they too high for a group of our type and size? A letter to *The Lutheran Ambassador* recently indicates that the question may well

come up on the convention floor, where it ought to come if it is an issue in some people's minds. At the same time as some feel that administration costs should be lowered some of us think that rather than reducing the number of personnel employed in "administration" we must not delay the day when someone is hired in the area of stewardship and public relations in the Association.

So there are issues coming before the conference which should create special interest and this is all to the good. Any convention which is too "routine" tends to be dull and boring. No one should be interested in floor fights and bitter quarrels. But we mean that out of the honest and brotherly exchange of ideas the best course for our church can be worked out.

It could be wished that more advance publicity were available to the church people prior to an annual assembly. This is something we must work toward.

The evening sessions of any conference are always good and filled with blessings. The same goes for those of Sunday morning and afternoon and this year the latter will be the ordination service.

SODOM AND GOMORRAH?

On his daily broadcast several weeks ago, well-known newsman Bob Considine made a statement to the effect that there is ample evidence that the United States is fast becoming the Sodom and Gomorrah of this age.

It is true that some people may disqualify Mr. Considine as intellectually unacceptable because he has said some nice things about General Douglas MacArthur, for instance, and he seems inclined to defend the American position in Viet Nam. But he is a man of great experience in news reporting and has travelled the world over, so he must have some basis for his observation.

In the course of his broadcast, Bob Considine recalled how certain "four-letter words" were once frowned upon in literature, but today are called "realistic." He mentioned the incident of Nikita Khrushchev in Hollywood when he was shown a wild dance scene on a movie set and the Russian leader was somewhat offended by it.

As still another illustration of the moral corruption stealing across our national life, he referred to a situation which occurred in one of the European countries. Citizens of the country, whatever it was, were watching an American film in a theater. It was one featuring an abundance of sex. At last the theatergoers became so disgusted with it that many went out, walked across the street and entered a hall where a Russian troupe was entertaining and where, to our way of thinking, there was at least a semblance of artistic accomplishment.

Also several weeks ago, the nationally known columnist Carl Rowan wrote a piece which appeared in the Minneapolis Star under the title "Is Something Wrong With Us?"

After listing, among other things, the Senator Thomas Dodd ethics case, the rape of a 16-year-old girl while she was praying in church, a doctor convicted of murdering his wife with a paralyzing drug, and the bilking of the U.S. government out of nearly \$400,000 by a Florida man and a South Vietnamese profiteer, Mr. Rowan said, "The briefest sober reflection suggests that there is something wrong with us."

Yes, we don't have to accuse Carl Rowan of an overstatement.

And tragic as all of this is, and the illustrations have only been of a few news items that gained national attention, it is very sad that by and large the large denominations, the major Lutheran churches among them, do not come out and attack the evils of the day as they should. They have a voice that could be heard, but too often they are silent on these issues.

Thus it happens, too, that there is even a Lutheran synod which boasts of championing purity of doctrine and adherence to the Bible as the inerrant Word and yet gives a place of honor to a brewery executive. No wonder things are confused today.

Many Lutheran leaders and pastors are afraid to be against anything. Oh yes, some will raise their voices against race prejudice and poverty. And so would we, for these things ought to weigh heavily on the Christian conscience.

But let us not forget that the corroding of the moral fiber of our nation is a very real threat, too. Some churches have swung over to quite a strong emphasis on the social and economic ills of society. Too often, however, this program and preaching has been at the expense of the message of the need for personal redemption and salvation. This is unfortunate because it is only as individuals experience Christ's deliverance and are committed to Him that life is truly changed.

Without question, evangelical Christians have often lacked a proper social consciousness, but the social activists have been guilty of trying to put a facade or veneer over rot and decay and it will not work.

Now is the time for increased evangelistic preaching. Now is the time for the Christian churches to once again uphold the commandments of God without making excuses for them. Now is the time for individual Christians to use their influence and their power to resist the inroads of moral corruption wherever they can.

Or our end could be like Sodom and Gomorrah, too.

WOMEN for Christ

Edited by Mrs. J. G. Erickson

The following original poem was written by one of the teachers at the AFLC Bible school. She is also the director of the choir. Many of our churches have been enriched by the sincere testimonies and excellent quality of music presented by these students. May all the teachers and students be richly blessed as they continue to serve our wonderful Lord.

SAVE US FROM OURSELVES

Save us from our selves, dear Lord—
Those gleeful specters who would scamper
Unheeding toward the morrow,
Loudly rallying behind some gaudy banner—
We would follow Thee.

But Thou dost know—
Hast known them all along,
The phantom shapes
Which we in shame acknowledge
To be our selves,
(And such noisy ones!
Arrogant, unclean, and noisy.)

Oh, forgive
Bend us low to the revealing of
Those deceitful, parading ghosts
Who pervert Thy Word and
Prevent Thy will—
God have mercy on Thy children!
Strong mercy,
Mercy that corrects and shapes
And makes real.

Lord, we would be real persons
Firm, solid citizens of heaven.
Forgive us, for even to our poor,
dim vision we appear
As only half-truths, part fantasy,
Shallow graves of self.

Lord Jesus, reveal to us the desperate wickedness
And black deceitfulness
Thou didst long ago discover in our hearts.
Cause us to ponder in amazement
That Word of Thine—
That blessed Word—

While we were yet sinners and enemies,
Filthy, repugnant sinners;
Wild-eyed, murdering enemies,
Thou didst lay down Thy shining,
sinless self
In our stead.
Unbelievable love and grace
That can look on such as we
With desire!

Oh, the unspeakable riches of Thy grace.
Lord, have mercy on Thy children.
—Esther Farrier

THE WEST COAST DISTRICT WMF RALLY

The West Coast Rally met at Calvary Lutheran Church, Everett, Washington, on Tuesday evening,

April 4, and Wednesday, April 5. Rev. Albert Hautamaki was the host pastor.

Mrs. Hilmar Melseth, president of the West Coast District, and Mrs. Solveig Hays, president of the Everett Ladies Aid, welcomed the ladies to the rally. "Hail to the Brightness" was sung by the audience, and Pastor Ray Persson, Astoria, Ore., led in devotions. "The Hand That Was Wounded for Me" was sung by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Braaten of Everett. Pastor O. K. Stenberg from Seattle L.B.I. showed slides and talked about his work in Brazil. The choir from Calvary Lutheran sang a number, after which Rev. Hautamaki gave a short talk on missions. The audience then sang "Christ for the World We Sing," followed by the closing prayer and benediction. There was a fellowship hour in the church parlors after the meeting.

The Wednesday morning session opened with the audience singing "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." For devotions Rev. Snipstead, Ferndale, Wash., read from Hebrews 4 and spoke about the "rest" which we can receive through Christ and how to attain it. Several members of the Everett Ladies Aid presented a skit on "Christian Hands." Mrs. Donald Nelson then sang "He Holds My Hand."

The secretary's, treasurer's and various committee reports were given and approved. The following women were elected for a two-year term: Mrs. Minnie Lande, vice president; Mrs. Donald Nelson, secretary.

A vocal duet was sung by Mrs. Jim Bottom and Mrs. Harold Ostlund of Kirkland. Mrs. Herman Johnson extended an invitation to come to Ferndale for the fall rally. Pastor John DeBoer, Juanita, Wash., led the Bible study on Matt. 9:36-38.

To open the afternoon session Rev. and Mrs. Snipstead sang "With God and His Mercy." Mrs. Ray Persson led the prayer session with several ladies taking part. The

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Luther League Activities

(Continued from page 8)

statement of creation and the theory of evolution. The teacher concluded that we are still in the "Bible belt," but most of the students did not know why they believed what they did. They simply "were brought up that way."

Learn to lead a Bible study effectively. You will want to use this both on or off-campus. A Christian group will be needing good leaders, so make good use of your preparation in high school and in Bible school.

Learn to love others. People can tell, you know, if you really do care about them personally. There will be a future article concerning the art of loving others.

And then, some words from the "wise" one who has been through that important year of Bible training. Study harder than you plan on. I wish I had had that bit of wisdom then. Buy all those required books. They're invaluable for your own library. They may seem expensive at first but you won't regret it.

Learn to know those professors and your classmates. Sit down and talk with them. Go into an instructor's office and sit down. They want to know you. Some students learn more by talking than from any of their classes.

Finally, put yourself entirely in the hands of Christ. That bit of wisdom has become especially precious to me in the last weeks. Your education days will be much less traumatic if you are willing to take those hard paths with Christ's hand in yours, instead of trying to tread on thin ice by yourself.

Jane Thompson
Fertile, Minn.

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH EVERETT, WASHINGTON

The West Coast District Luther League Rally was hosted by the

Calvary Luther League April 28-30 under the theme, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE" (John 14:6). Sixty young people were registered representing Leagues from the Bethany Lutheran Church, Astoria; Stillwater Lutheran Church, Kalispell; First Lutheran Church, Ferndale; Golgatha Lutheran Church, Blaine; Redeemer Lutheran Church, Juanita; and Calvary Lutheran Church, Everett. The theme song, "Thou art the Way the Truth, the Life," as well as the rally theme, was held before the group during each of the sessions.

The rally opened with words of welcome from Lyle Hanson, president of the host league. Singspirations were led by Pastor Richard Snipstead of Ferndale and William Moberg of Astoria before the various sessions and each League offered vocal and musical numbers.

The Saturday morning Bible study was conducted by Pastor John DeBoer of the Redeemer Lutheran Church, Juanita. His subject was "Discipleship." The business meeting was held after the Bible study during which the following new officers were elected: President—Paul Persson, Astoria; Vice President—Kristen Kjos, Kalispell; Secretary—Shirley Solheim; Everett; Treasurer—Lyle Hanson, Everett; Devotional Life Secretary—Susan Rockhold, Astoria.

Saturday afternoon was enjoyed by all at the Seattle Center. The highlight of the rally was the Saturday evening banquet with turkey and the trimmings.

The guest speaker at the rally was Pastor Erman K. Lunder, a faculty member at the Seattle Lutheran Bible Institute. He spoke at the banquet as well as at the Sunday morning worship service and the closing session on Sunday afternoon. Pastor Lunder spoke on the theme, dividing it into three different messages, "Jesus Is the Way To Go, the Truth To Know, and the Life to Live." We are grateful to God for the simple, clear pre-

sentation of the Gospel. I am sure that everyone who heard the messages was deepened in his spiritual life and others who do not know Jesus Christ were given a definite invitation to accept Him.

Other pastors at the rally were Pastor Karl Stendal, Pastor Ray Persson and Pastor Albert Hautamaki. Oh, how good it is to get together for spiritual fellowship. "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ" (I John 1:3).

—Pastor Albert Hautamaki

SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION WAS HELD AT TABOR CHURCH

"What Does the Lord Require of Me?" This was the theme of the third annual Luther League convention of the South Dakota District when it met April 1 and 2 at the Tabor Lutheran Church of rural Webster. Raynard Huglen was the host pastor.

There were approximately 57 leaguers who registered and attended the sessions, which were usually led by a district officer. Theme song for the two days was "Our Best."

Volleyball was played on Saturday afternoon at the Roslyn High School gym.

A highlight of the convention was the banquet on Saturday night. Leaguers from Calvary and St. Paul churches, Wallace, attended and the talk was given by their pastor, Jasper Swenson. Joe Bosmoe acted as toastmaster.

Other speakers throughout the convention were Pastor G. F. Mundfrom, Pukwana, who spoke on the subtopic "To Fear the Lord," Mr. Paul Huagen, Luther League Federation treasurer, "To Serve the Lord Wholeheartedly"; and Pastor A. L. Hokonson, Faith, "To Keep the Commandments."

A filmstrip, "A Tip or a Talent," and the film "Teenage Challenge" were shown to the group.

Saturday evening the closing service was in the form of vespers. There were various musical numbers during the convention as well as numbers by the convention choir on Sunday morning and afternoon. The choir was under the direction of Mrs. Carol Tvinnereim of Tabor Church.

Pastor Huglen installed the newly elected officers at a brief Sunday afternoon service. The officers for 1967-68 are: Wayne Knutson, Pukwana, president; Deanna Gunderson, Chamberlain, vice-president; John Mundfrom, Pukwana, secretary; Patsy Hosek, Chamberlain, treasurer; Joy Jeffries, Eagle Butte, devotional life secretary; and Rev. Mundfrom, pastoral advisor.



Officers elected at the South Dakota District Luther League convention were, left to right: Wayne Knutson, president; Patsy Hosek, treasurer; John Mundfrom, secretary; Deanna Gunderson, vice-president; and Joy Jeffries, devotional life secretary.

Upon invitation, the convention next year will be held at Pukwana Lutheran Church, Pukwana, with the joint St. Olaf-Pukwana Luther League as host.

We had a wonderful convention which was well attended, full of activity and enthusiasm and inspired by the Word of God.

Julie McCarlson
Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following persons will serve as the Nominating Committee for the 1967 Annual Conference in Fargo. Please contact them regarding any suggestions you have for nominations.

Pastor Knute Jore
Culbertson, Mont.
Rev. Raynard Huglen*
Roslyn, S. Dak.
Rev. Hubert DeBoer
Fosston, Minn.
Mr. Clarence Quanbeck
McVillie, N. Dak.
Mr. Obert Berg
Everett, Wash.
Mr. Philip Grothe
Thief River Falls, Minn.
Mr. Ted Aasness
Doran, Minn.
Mr. David C. Hanson
Minneapolis, Minn.

* Not eligible for re-election to the Committee

ELECTIONS BY THE CONFERENCE

(The incumbent is listed in parentheses)

Stewardship Board
5-year term (Mr. Even Ose)

Board of Publications and Parish Education
4-year term (Mr. Kent Quanbeck)

Youth Board
5-year term (Mr. Sheldon Mortrud)

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Women for Christ

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evening offering of \$65.06 is to be given to Junior Missions and the afternoon offering of \$75.10 to the General Fund of the WMF.

"Take My Life and Let It Be" was sung, after which Pastor Persson closed the meeting with prayer.

—Mrs. Donald V. Nelson
Secretary

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

District WMF Presidents, Pastors' wives, and national WMF officers will have a 7:00 a.m. breakfast meeting on Thursday morning, June 15, in Fargo.

NOMINATIONS BY THE CONFERENCE

(The incumbent is listed in parentheses.)

Co-ordinating Committee
5-year term (Mr. David C. Hanson)
(If the Rules for Work are adopted, two new lay members will also be added to the Committee)

Mission Board
5-year term (Rev. Harry Molstre)
Nominations will be made for ten members of the Mission Corporation, exclusive of any vacancies which may exist.

Nominations will be made for ten members of the Seminary Corporation, exclusive of any vacancies which may exist.

ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT

February 1, 1967 to April 30, 1967

	Fiscal Year Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$ 39,980.00	\$ 9,995.00	\$ 5,507.11
Missions	41,000.00	10,250.00	12,597.65
Seminary and Bible School ..	29,000.00	7,250.00	5,968.63
Praise Program	30,000.00	7,500.00	5,150.18
TOTALS	\$139,980.00	\$34,995.00	\$29,223.57

Received for Seminary Library Fund: \$35.00

Fifth Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

June 14-18, 1967

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1603 Fifth Street North
The Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Sr., Pastor
Host Congregation

Sessions at Oak Grove Lutheran High School

Conference Text: II Cor. 9:8

Conference Theme: "Our God Is Able"

Program for the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

- 9:00 a.m. Registration for the annual Women's Missionary Federation Convention
- 10:00 a.m. The Women's Convention begins
- All Conference Committees are to meet at the Oak Grove Lutheran High School dining hall for a devotional session and room assignments
- 8:00 p.m. Opening service with a message on the Conference text by Reverend Julius Hermanslie, Spicer, Minnesota
- Opening of the Conference by President John P. Strand
- The appointment of necessary committees

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

- 9:00 a.m. Devotions
- The report of the Credentials Committee
- The election of the Nominating Committee for 1968
- The President's message
- The report of the President of the Coordinating Committee
- The Treasurer's report
- The report of Committee Number 1
- 11:30 a.m. Prayer Hour. The Prayer Hours will be led by Rev. Lars Stalsbrøten, Eugene, Oregon
- 2:00 p.m. Devotions
- The report of the Credentials Committee
- The report of the Nominating Committee
- Election of nominees for the Mission Corporation and the Mission Board
- The election of nominees for the Free Lutheran Theological Seminary Corporation and Board
- Continuing discussion of the report of Committee Number 1

Election of the Vice-President and Secretary of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

Election of Committee Number 1 for the 1968 Annual Conference

Report of the committee on revising the Rules for Work

Election of one member to the Coordinating Committee

6:00 p.m. Supper meeting of the Seminary Corporation at a place to be announced

7:30 p.m. Mission Festival Service conducted by the WMF of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minnesota, speaking

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast meeting of the Mission Corporation at the Gardner Hotel
- 9:00 a.m. Devotions
- Report of the Credentials Committee
- Report of the committee on the observance of 450th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation
- The report from the acting dean of the Theological Seminary, Dr. Iver Olson
- The report from the acting dean of the Bible School, Rev. John P. Strand
- The report of the chairman of the Seminary Board, Pastor George Soberg
- Report of Committee Number 2
- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Election of Committee Number 2 for the 1968 Annual Conference
- 11:30 a.m. Prayer Hour
- 2:00 p.m. Devotions
- The report of the Credentials Committee
- The report of the Missions' Director, Rev. Harold Schafer
- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Report of the chairman of the Mission Board
- Report of the chairman of the Commission on Evangelism

Election of Committee Number 3 for the 1968 Annual Conference

6:00 p.m. Banquet for the pastors and their wives

8:00 p.m. Worship service conducted by laymen

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

9:00 a.m. Devotions

The report of the Credentials Committee
Report by the chairman of the Stewardship Board, Dr. Iver Olson

Report of Committee Number 4

Report of the Nominating Committee

Election of one member to the Stewardship Board

Election of Committee Number 4 to the 1968 Annual Conference

Report of the chairman of the Board of Publications and Parish Education

Report of the Executive Secretary of the Department of Parish Education

Report of Committee Number 5

Election of Committee Number 5 for the 1968 Annual Conference

Election of one member of the Board of Publications and Parish Education

11:30 p.m. Prayer Hour

2:00 p.m. Devotions

The report of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Youth Board

Report of Committee Number 6

Election of one member to the Youth Board

Election of Committee Number 6 for the 1968 Annual Conference

Report of the Pension Board

Report of Committee Number 7

Election of one member to the Pension Board

Election of Committee Number 7 for the 1968 Annual Conference

Report of the General Resolution Committee

Election of the General Resolution Committee to the 1968 Annual Conference

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church with Pastor Albert Hautamaki bringing the meditation

10:30 a.m. Worship service at the Oak Grove auditorium. Message by Rev. Ernest Langness, McVie, North Dakota, Rev. Richard Snipstead, vice-president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, liturgist

2:00 p.m. Ordination Service in the Oak Grove auditorium. Pastor George Soberg, chairman of the Seminary Board, leading the service, message by Rev. John P. Strand who will officiate at the Ordination

Closing of the 1967 Annual Conference

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



St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Trygve F. Dahle, Sr., Pastor, Host Congregation to the Annual Conference. The church is located at 1603 Fifth Street North in Fargo.

LUTHER LEAGUE BANQUET AT CONFERENCE

A banquet for the Luther Leaguers will be held during the Annual Conference on Saturday, June 17. The banquet, which will be held at the Sveden House in Fargo, will begin at 5:00. The cost is \$1.50 per person for the smorgasbord. A program will be presented, consisting of musical numbers from the various leaguers and a message by the Rev. Hubert DeBoer of Fosston, Minn.

ROOM RESERVATIONS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Name No. of Adults
Address Children under 12

Housing (please check several in order of preference)

- Oak Grove (\$2.00 first night, \$1.00 each additional. Linen and towels furnished.)
- Moments of Meditation Camp, Lake Park (\$1.00 per night. Furnish own bedding and towels. Breakfast available)
- Motel
- Private home (unable to obtain hotel reservations)

Indicate dates for which you need the above housing: June 13-____, 14-____, 15-____,
16-____, 17-____

Please check if you plan to take most of your meals at Oak Grove: yes _____, no _____
You will be notified by mail of your room placement. Mail the above form as soon as possible to:

Housing Committee
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1603 North Fifth Street
Fargo, N. Dak. 58102

World Missions

[Continued from page 14]

made an invasion designed to return liberty to the island. History has led us to understand that they were well trained and well equipped, but they lacked reinforcements at the strategic hour, air coverage promised them was withheld. Their heroic efforts have gone down in history as the "Bay of Pigs Fiasco." They asked, "Where are the reinforcements?" Perhaps someone reading these lines will want to volunteer, saying, "I'm ready to be a reinforcement."

The disciples, walking with their Master through the foreign country of the Samaritans, had become very preoccupied with their physical needs. When they returned to the well they found Jesus dealing with a lost soul on foreign territory. They had little to say, but Jesus gave them an invitation, saying:

"Do you not say there are yet four months until the harvest? I say unto you, Lift up your eyes and see the fields, for they are already white unto the harvest."

Fellow disciples, we have problems, but our Lord is looking above them and beyond them. He invites us also to look up, up to Him, and by faith beyond to the whitened harvest fields of the world. He would invite you to come over now with reinforcements and help us.

Elections by the Conference

[Continued from page 13]

Board of Pensions

5-year term (Mr. Albert Moen)

Vice-President

5-year term (Rev. Richard Snipstead)

Secretary

1-year term (Rev. Harry Molstre)

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