

November 18, 1975

# The Lutheran Ambassador

TVAR

**SAYING GRACE**  
by Norman Rockwell  
(American, 20th Century)  
RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE PHOTO



# MEDITATION MOMENTS

## THE PILGRIMS' LEGACY

Romans 1:21: "For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened." A hollow life may indeed be the setting for a "hollow day," and make Thanksgiving Day another hollow day as the grace and mercy of God are ignored.

By many a standard we in the U.S.A. are a most privileged people; therefore, we should have hearts filled to overflowing with the true holiday spirit of Thanksgiving. "Underprivileged Americans?" Who? Many in America today, or those who decreed the first Thanksgiving on American soil? After nine weeks on the ocean, the Mayflower with its 100 souls anchored near Plymouth Rock. Hardly had they landed and were sending prayers of thanksgiving to God, when the terrible New England winter was upon them. By the following summer half of the party had died. They were the most underprivileged Americans who kept that Thanksgiving Day. They had between them seven homes and only four other buildings. They had no means of transportation but their legs. They had only the little clothing they were able to bring with them on the Mayflower. Their only food came from the sea and the forest and they had to get it for themselves. They had no hospitals, no schools, not much money and no place to spend it if they had. They had no amusements except what they made for themselves; no neighbors but savages, no means of com-

munications with their relatives in England, no Social Security, no minimum wage law, no unemployment compensation. No hope of an old age pension. They did have around them the graves of those who had succumbed to the hardships of their pilgrimage.

They were the ones who pioneered for us and gave us the custom of Thanksgiving Day to give thanks to God for His blessings, for theirs was an invincible courage and a boundless faith. The Christian religion was the very soul of their existence. For this they came to America.

"You will keep the feast..." God said to His people through His servant Moses, "when you make your ingathering from your threshing floor and your winepress; you will rejoice in your feast, you and your sons and your daughters, your maidservant and your manservant, the Levite, the sojourner, the fatherless and the widows who are within your towns — so that you will be all together joyful." Let it be a festival of Thanksgiving to the God of all bounty. Let it be a Christ-centered holiday. Let it be an act of joyful and thankful faith in God. Let the Spirit open our eyes to see innumerable blessings material and spiritual. Let us say with the Psalmist: "O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever." Then we may have a holiday without the hollowness, a full and joyous day.

Had we ever so few material things, troubled as Job, as plagued and persecuted as St. Paul, we could

still have reason to say with that Apostle, "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift!" Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!"

A note we should remember today in thanksgiving is for fellow members of the Body of Christ. A pastor his people, the people the pastor, and all each other. Ephesians 1:15-16: "For this reason I, too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus Christ which exists among you, and your love for all the saints, do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers."

Philippians 1:3-6: "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the Gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus."

A word of warning from Ezra 9:12: "So now do not give your daughters to their sons nor take their daughters to your sons, and never seek their peace or their prosperity (that is, of the heathen or worldly), that you may be strong and eat the good things of the land and leave it as an inheritance to your sons forever." V. 15: "O Lord God of Israel, Thou art righteous, for we have been left an escaped remnant, as it is this day; behold, we are before Thee in our guilt, and our nation's guilt. Humble yourselves, repent and rejoice, give thanks.

Lawrence C. Dynneson

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# Let Us Count Our Blessings

by Rev. Norman S. Tenneboe,  
Cumberland, Wis.

We are reminded on this Thanksgiving Day, with our Nation's Bi-Centennial approaching, of an epoch when our nation's leaders issued a proclamation calling upon her citizens to observe this national holiday as befitting a people richly blessed by their Creator. It was also a call to her people to gather in their respective places of worship to join in a fellowship of prayer and praise and thanksgiving to a gracious God.

One cannot help but wonder about the response that is given to this proclamation today when so many of the temporal attractions are set forth to distract the heart and mind away from that which has eternal value. There are voices across our land today that would silence the heart-warming songs of thanksgiving and praise to God by initiating and supporting legislation to rebuke and silence the followers of Him who is the Great Cause and Source of all spiritual and material blessings. Jesus, who healed the sick, restored sight to the blind, miraculously satisfied the hunger pangs of thousands, blessed little children, uplifted souls time and again as He spoke to the crowds "as man had never spoken before," was rebuked by the Pharisees. He was asked by them to silence His followers who were demonstrating expressions of joy, who were manifesting grateful hearts that remembered. The Pharisees, with their spirit of self-righteousness, would have nothing to do with this display of gratitude. A heart that consents to a spirit of self-righteousness and which involuntarily includes selfishness will scornfully ignore God's gracious blessings, no matter how bountiful.

Another common characteristic that I believe to be among the nation's populace today is an attitude of indifference. Many families across the nation have come together for a day of sumptuous feasting only to have their



Rev. Norman S. Tenneboe

Thanksgiving praises drowned out by gathering around the TV set and indirectly joining the cheering crowds at the football games that can be visited from one stadium to another by a flick of the switch. Many congregations who do not uphold this proclamation as being a part of the church's real business must bring it up to a vote before its members whether it is worthwhile, with others neglecting it altogether. In some communities where church attendance for Thanksgiving services is being neglected, ministers have joined in an effort to hold a united community service on this day so that there could be a group coming together for worship.

As we near our Nation's Bi-Centennial and are reminded of the events in the past that have directed this nation's upward movement to become the greatest nation on earth, should this not also direct us to its "Cause," its "Benefactor"? He was the Great Cause of the first Thanksgiving observance by the Pilgrims who debarked at Plymouth Rock in 1620. Certainly, there must have been a deep sense of gratitude from the hearts of that small group to a merciful and loving God who was and still is the Cause for the heritage of this great nation. As each one stepped upon these

shores, they, individually, must have breathed a prayer of thanks to God for a safe arrival in their new homeland as was evidenced on a later date when they gathered together for their first Thanksgiving Day. It should speak mightily to us if we would but identify with the Pilgrims' awareness of the benevolent guidance of God in the midst of the hardships which were encountered. We should be grateful to God for this precedent that was handed down to us by our forefathers, as well as being thankful for courageous men and women who feared and loved God and were zealous in their praise to Him.

Yes! How great God's mercies have been upon us. Psalm 147:20 tells us, "He hath not dealt so with any nation . . ." The Psalmist said this of the Hebrew nation. Can we not say that this is most certainly true of us, also?

Freedom still belongs to us and should be valued as a rich heritage for each of us as we see country after country falling before the onslaught of Communism, with Vietnam as its most recent victim. Do we thank God for being free and not slave; praying that our country may be godly and free? But then, how much do we really try to make this the land of the free by granting freedom to all races and individuals? Have we expressed thanksgiving by taking an interest in our schools, by working to make them much better in training sound, law abiding citizens for tomorrow? Good schools are gifts from God for the training of minds in His wisdom. May we rejoice!

And what about the blessings of good hospitals staffed with the finest physicians and nurses, along with the latest medicines and drugs, plus health standards second to none. Thanks be to God!

Farmers, workmen at various jobs, professional men! Are we not blessed with the finest land, factories, equip-

ment and working conditions ever known to man? Our homes with their modern convenience, are they taken for granted? Our missionaries have shared with us with filmstrips showing natives by the thousands living huddled together in paper boxes which is home to them. Be thankful, friend, for your home!

Do we ever think about the miracle of birth, of ourselves, how we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" or about the very ordinary things that sustain our existence, such as the gift of good water and food on our table, while in many underprivileged lands there are millions of people who have never tasted one cup of pure water, with others dying daily for lack of nutritious food? We need to give thanks and share from our abundance with others!

And, certainly, closest to our hearts of God's great blessings are our lifetime companions, our children, our parents, our relatives, our friends. Praise be to God!

The greatest of all gifts is that of the spiritual which is of eternal value. To know "the Way, the Truth and the Life," this is the greatest blessing. To know this Way, yes, to know that God gave us His holy precious Son, Jesus, who came down to earth to die on the Cross for our sins and rose again to live forever; to know that He is the Intercessor for all who will come to Him by faith, and to know that our sins are paid for by His death on the Cross, thereby becoming heirs to eternal life with Christ, is indeed, the Gift of gifts. There is no greater love than this. Glory to God in the highest for this, His grace!

Christian lives are to reflect God's grace in their thoughts, words and deeds. We are to grow in this grace day by day even though they be mixed with good and evil; turning to Him, "the author and perfecter of our faith" and learning to thank God "in everything." To be content in all things. This is Thanksgiving.

Thankful hearts also grow in the grace of sharing with others the riches of our spiritual and material possessions. Might our eyes turn to the solemnness of that hour when all mankind will stand before God's throne, hearing Jesus presenting our dealings with

the hungry, the naked, the ill, the comfortless, the friends of Christ. Will we be among those who will hear Him saying, "I was hungry and ye fed me." There seems to be an increasing number of destitute crying out for shelter, for freedom, for God. The "night is far spent." Let us then be "looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of the Lord."

We have so much to give because of our richness in Christ. Will we give? This is what Thanksgiving is all about—"which is your reasonable service."

### IN THE BEGINNING

In the beginning was God; nothing more

But emptiness of frigid space. Before The beginning was God. He spoke.

In that cold empty place the silence broke.

A word sprang to life and the earth was formed.

A word flashed to light and the day was born,

In the beginning.

In the beginning was God, and He clove

The swirling vapors above and below. His hand omnipotent gathered the seas.

Dry land brought forth from its bosom the trees,

The herb and the flower, the bush and the vine,

Each ripe with the seeds of more of its kind

In the beginning.

In the beginning God stretched His hand high.

His fingers brought forth the orbs of the sky.

He spoke. His words formed the sun into flame,

The moon and the stars the night to proclaim.

The signs of the seasons He placed in the sky,

The signal of unborn years marching by

In the beginning.

In the beginning the fierce water's strife

Rolled endlessly onward devoid of life.

Out of those waters were formed at His voice

All the sea's creatures with life to rejoice.

Out of the air He formed all those with wings,

All gliding, glistening, earth-soaring things

In the beginning.

In the beginning the soil's richness stirred,

The beasts of the land were formed at His word.

Then God made man in image of Himself,

And woman He made and gave them the wealth

Of His creation, sovereigns of all; But foolish man heeded the dark

traitor's call

In the beginning.

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## AFLC BOARDS MEET IN WORKSHOP SESSION

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

On Friday October 3, 1975, a joint meeting of all boards and the special committees of our AFLC was held at the church headquarters, Minneapolis, Minnesota. This meeting has become an annual fall event which proves to be profitable for the work of each board and committee. The highlight is always the rich spiritual blessing from God's Word and the prayer fellowship at these sessions.

Rev. John P. Strand, president and ex-officio member of the boards, presided.

The Scripture was read from Corinthians, challenging each person to be faithful in his area of responsibility. Prayer was offered in closing the devotions.

Pastor Strand shared an inspiring presentation of what our AFLC is all about, its basic concerns and goals. These concerns cited were, first, non-liturgical worship where God's Word is central; second, congregational polity, where the congregation is recognized as the right form of the Kingdom of God; third, Lutheran pietism, with emphasis on being as much like our Lord as possible in contrast to worldly life styles; fourth, Biblical theology; and fifth, spiritual unity, with oneness of purpose centered in Christ. These concerns were expanded on as our basic concerns as an AFLC even above schools or missions, good as they may be.

This presentation was followed by an earnest call to prayer, stressing first, the need to be taught how to pray; second, what to pray about; and, third, how we need to learn to pray. Pastor Strand expanded on the seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer, the content of which would require the writing of a special article on that theme.

In closing, there were especially inspirational and touching moments as President Strand prayed the petitions

of the Lord's Prayer with a guitarist's accompaniment.

Rev. Kenneth Anderson, chairman of the Coordinating Committee, shared three items of interest: 1) regarding properties, the Lawrence Dahlgrens have donated some very valuable properties in the Pelican Rapids, Minn., area which could be used for a future Bible camp site; 2) concerning future ordinations there was a point of policy to be clarified. The position stated: all seminarians are to be ordained at the Annual Conference with a possible exception if a candidate is from an AFLC congregation. All candidates are to be cleared by the ordaining committee; 3) pastors were encouraged to come to refresh themselves at the Summer Short Course in future sessions.

Pastor Anderson closed his remarks by reminding boards and committees how intimately each is related to the others. Decisions of one board affect all. He further urged all to keep the congregations in mind, and respect and love one another.

Pastor Ernest Langness, in his report on the schools, introduced the new staff. He reported there are 40 seniors and 85 juniors to total 125 people enrolled in AFLBS. The central thrust of his report was an earnest exhortation to pray daily for the faculty and staff. All must be upheld with prayer.

Following noon lunch, Rev. Amos Dyrud, Dean of the Schools gave a very complete survey of faculty, staff and students. A similar report appears in the Oct. 7th, 1975, edition of **The Lutheran Ambassador**, in the School News section.

The progress of Home Missions was enthusiastically given by Rev. Herbert Franz. The focal point was the work in Minot, N. Dak., which will be solidly under way as Pastor and Mrs. Bruce Dalager settle there in November. Other important areas under prayerful consideration by the Home

Mission Board are Victory in Christ, St. Paul, Minn., Our Savior's, Vancouver, Wash., Kirkland, Wash., with its new addition, Cleveland, O., Dickinson, N. Dak., Spokane, Wash., Alston, Mich., and Everett, Wash.

The World Missions concerns were reported by Robert Knutson, chairman. There is a need for prayer as this board is faced with decisions which will affect AFLC missions in Brazil for decades to come. The current plan is to encourage the Brazilian people to "take hold." Mr. Knutson stated the emphasis should be that of "church planter," replacing the present emphasis on the Brazilian school and seminary. He concluded by stating the task of the Brazilian church is to go forward.

Mr. Robert Dietsche spoke on behalf of the Stewardship Board. He spoke of the bulletin service, mentioning that 64 AFLC congregations are now using this service.

Parish Education was represented by Mr. Kent Quanbeck, who indicated this board is presently re-organizing.

There was no report from the Youth Board.

Rev. Trygve Dahle spoke for the Commission on Evangelism. He encouraged use of articles on evangelism in **The Lutheran Ambassador**. His closing remark was "all pastors are evangelists."

Rev. David Molstre, the AFLC full-time evangelist, underscored Pastor Dahle's remarks by stating, "Evangelists confirm what has already been told by the pastor."

Some of the boards held meetings before and/or after the close of the general workshop session.

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[Continued from page 4]

In the beginning was God and His Son.

No thing was made without that Holy One.

In the beginning was God's love and grace

For Adam and Eve and the fallen race.

The cross and the crown, the joy and the pain,

His was the blood that would blot out the stain

In the beginning. —Marlene Moline  
Lansing, Iowa

# AROUND THE HUMP AND UP THE AMAZON

By Pastor John H. Abel, Missionary to Brazil

## Part II

Our bus pulled into Forteleza about 5 p.m. The only address we had was of the local evangelical bookstore. As quickly as possible, we arranged two taxis and headed that way. This was often our problem. There were so many of us we had to have two taxis to handle us six and all our luggage. The Lord was answering our prayers. We found the bookstore with some difficulty, but it was after 5:30 and the lights were out and the place closed. Yet I could see a light in the back and we pounded on the door. Sure enough, the missionary manager, Britisher Harold Mead, was still working on the books and let us in. After explaining the situation, he replied, "Sure, I know Peter Brooks; saw him down at the Police Station getting some paper work done this morning. He was supposed to fly his plane out of here yesterday, but there's been some delays and he and his wife are still here. They've just brought their last teenager into the American school, classes start tomorrow." What a joy to hear this, and soon Harold was calling the Baptist Mid-Missions Cottages and had Peter on the line. We had a joyful conversation and received a quick invitation to come out to the cottages and stay with them. By 6:30 p.m., we were at Peter and Louise's apartment in the mission cottage area. They wanted us to see a little of their beautiful city right away and then drive over to the mission high school where their daughter was, so we went out to a beautiful open-air dining area and had hamburgers. Then over to the school and later their favorite ice cream drive-in place, all the while Paul, Nathanael, Lydia and Priscilla were riding in the back of their pickup, having an open-air view of that beautiful city. That evening most of the children slept in hammocks, as is the custom in this northern part of Brazil.

There are some real advantages to hammock sleeping in a warm area.

It is much cooler to be strung up in the air than lying on a low bed and, of course, if there are any bugs, "caroaches," or scorpions around, it's nice to be up and off the ground. From the standpoint of the family, you sure can sleep a lot of people in a room that is full of hooks on the wall.

We were due to leave about supper-time of the next day, Wednesday, so we were all up early and missionary Peter Brooks, "Uncle Pete," took us all out to the airport to see his almost new four-passenger Commanche Piper plane. We all had a flight over this large port city, which resulted in some good slides and movies for us. After this we were taken to the seaside itself, where we watched dozens of the log fishing rafts (jangadas) being blown in on their big one-sheet sails after a night of fishing. It was interesting to watch them unload their nets. We were reminded of Jesus' words: "The kingdom of Heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind" (Matt. 13:47). We bought a plastic sack full of shrimp, and taking them home, "Nano," Paul, Lydia, Priscilla and I soon had them cleaned and ready for Mother to fry in butter. What a delicious lunch that was! After lunch it was time for Uncle Pete and Aunt Louise to take off in their plane for the 200-mile flight to their interior station. We bid them goodbye and then a short time later we also were on our way to the bus terminal.

It was supper-time when we left for our final lap of the journey by road to Belem at the mouth of the Amazon. We had to pass through two large cities, Terezinha and Sao Jose, a total of about 900 miles of road yet in front of us. Yes, Brazil is truly a big country and though the road was a new asphalt highway it stretched on and on and it seemed as if we would never arrive. The last day of our journey was a hot one, to add to our

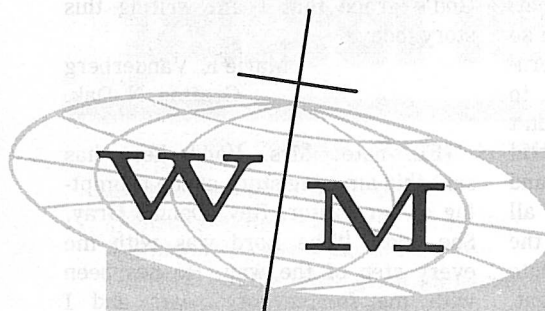
tiredness, and on this stretch we also got an older bus that vibrated and roared, finally breaking down at one point, but fortunately we were only about 20 miles away from their terminal and soon another bus came out to get us. We did have about an hour's wait on the side of the road, however, and during this time we went over to some native farmers' huts near the road and saw how they lived and ate a new kind of nut that comes off the palm trees. So really we learned a little more about life in this area through this unscheduled stop over.

Our last leg of this part of our trip was an all-night bus ride and then we pulled into Belem. It was early morning, but already warm, so we were happy that we had arrived. A taxi took us to the New Tribes Mission Home, run by Alfred and Marion Keast. They made us feel right at home. What an interesting couple they are. They decided to be missionaries after becoming grandparents, and he had retired from the police force. Alfred is the picture of a big husky policeman and now he has taken on the biggest fight of his life, against the powers of darkness in a heathen land.

Our first task in Belem, before looking around the city and buying a few souvenirs, was to check on river boat accommodations for the four-day trip up the Amazon to Manaus. We had been informed that there was one government line that runs three large ships for passengers and cargo but their sailing dates were not definite. After going to the main office in Belem, we found to our dismay that they were sending out only one ship going each direction per week and the ship had sailed the night before. What to do now? All those weeks of planning on sailing up the Amazon and now we had missed the boat. Inquiring further, we found that we could take an hour's plane ride and catch the ship at its first docking in a little town. So off to the air taxi office. It was interesting there to meet the owner of that large Amazon air taxi service, the son of a Scottish planter, who had served in the Brazilian Air Force, Colonel Gib-

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# WORLD MISSIONS

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST

**PEDRO SIMAO de ABREU**  
**Peter Simon de Abreu**

With much love and happiness I take my pen in hand to give you my testimony. When I was not a Christian my life was completely filled with difficulties, but my mother, who is a Christian, gave me counsel on how to become a Christian and I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. Now I feel very happy following the good and straight path that leads to heaven. I am now praying that God would help me succeed here at the Institute as I study the Word of God. I am very happy because God is blessing me in my studies, thanks be to God.

I feel the Lord is calling me to be a pastor to preach the Gospel to those who do not know Christ. I am very thankful that God has called me to this Bible school to study His Word with these other students at the Institute. We are all very happy and very active students studying the Word of God because God is very good to us by giving us health, happiness, peace, clothes, food, but most of all, spiritual food. We are trusting in God because it is He alone who has the power to give all good things.

The pastors are very good to us because they teach us with great love; we are very content and are learning very much about the Gospel. God bless them and all of you. I sing in the Bible School choir and I am receiving great blessings from God as I sing His praises.



Pedro Simao de Abreu

God is great, my friends. Please take a Bible or a tract and study it because God will bless you and help you in your life. He can transform you and give you peace and happiness and love. If you walk with God He will pour out upon you great blessings because Jesus Christ, His Son, came to this world, was nailed to the cross, suffered and died for our sins to give us salvation, and now He is the Savior of our souls. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, you and your family, and you will receive great blessings in this world. Let us leave the things of the world behind and let us serve the Lord our God, the Creator of all, who will deliver us from all evil.

I accepted Jesus Christ when I was fourteen years old. Now I am very happy with the Lord Jesus in my heart. If you are in the world, do as I did and accept Jesus Christ

as your only Savior, who is the Savior of our souls. Because Christ is coming soon, let us prepare before He comes. If we are prepared then we will go to heaven with Him and will not suffer any more.

(Let us remember Peter's father and his brothers whom he prays for every day because they are still in the world. Let us also remember him in his studies because he is having difficulty keeping up with the others.)

## PRAYER AND PRAISE FROM BRAZIL

### Praise God:

—For a week of rain, after a 2-month dry spell, following the "Big Freeze." This rain has brought life to the rice planted on the school land. The new growth reminds us of God's promises of eternal life.

—For growth spiritually in new converts.

—For God's raising up of a new layman with ability in Santo Rei, as the present leader there plans to move to Rondonia.

—For the painting and repair work done on Central church.

—For Brazilians able to carry on their church activities when the missionaries are not present.

—For a leader in the Umuarama church.

—For converts in Cianorte church.

### Pray:

—For our many church families who have moved to Rondonia. It is not an easy task they have chosen. Pray for their spiritual needs.

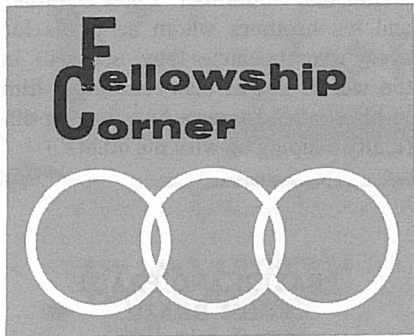
—For Carol Knapp who has a muscular disease, as yet undiagnosed.

—For our students who soon will finish another year in Bible school and secular schools.

—For students' summer activities. Some will preach at tent meetings, others will teach D.V.B.S. May they be filled with power from the Holy Spirit to reach their people for Christ.

—For the missionaries as they teach in the Bible school, make decisions of administration, and travel to eight churches.

—For Pastors Yeddo and Clemente.



### WHY I BELIEVE IN MIRACLES

I believe in miracles because one happened to me. It was back in October, 1973. In August of that year while working as a foster grandparent at the State School for the Retarded in Grafton, N. Dak., I suffered a light stroke. After taking an electrocardiogram of my heart, my doctor told me that I would have to give up my work and just rest for a while. He also gave me a prescription for both tranquilizers and heart pills. After following his directions for two months I decided I would go to Long Beach, Calif., to visit my four children who live there.

So, one morning the first week in October, armed with two bottles of tranquilizers and one bottle of pills for my heart, I set out for California. I made the trip to Long Beach without mishap as I only had to take the bus from Grafton to Grand Forks and then transfer to a plane which flew me all the way to Los Angeles International Airport. My oldest daughter met me there and took me to her home. After staying with her for a few days she took me to Carson, Calif., to visit my youngest son, Bob, and his family. On the way to Carson we stopped in Long Beach and visited my oldest son and his family.

When I left North Dakota I intended to spend a month in California, but after two weeks I was tired of visiting and told my son that I was going

back to Grafton. You see, my mind wasn't functioning right, due to the light stroke I had suffered. My son realized that I was in no condition to travel alone, so he compromised by flying with me as far as Butte, Mont. We had to stay overnight in Butte so we got hotel rooms and the next morning he put me on a train going to Fargo, N. Dak. What my son didn't know was that that night in my hotel room I had been unable to sleep and had been taking tranquilizers all night, so that when I boarded the train I was confused and went into the Minneapolis coach, found a seat, sat down and promptly fell asleep.

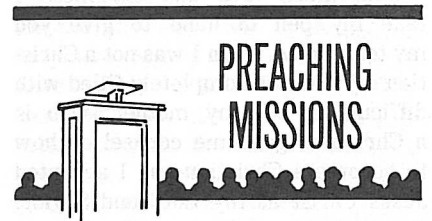
Why they never checked my ticket, I don't know. They probably couldn't awaken me as I was dead to the world. Anyway, hours later I was awakened by the conductor shining his flashlight in my eyes and saying, "You had better wake up, Lady, as we will be in Minneapolis in a few minutes and you get off there." "Minneapolis?" I said groggily, "I am going to Fargo!" "I am sorry, Lady," he replied. "Then you should have gotten off at Fargo. We went through Fargo five hours ago."

I have no recollection at all of getting off at Minneapolis. The next recollection I have is of wandering around in the train depot in Fargo and trying to make a long-distance call to my landlady in Grafton, to ask her to meet me at the bus station. I vaguely remember someone in a uniform helping me make the phone call. The same person must have helped me across the street from the train depot to the bus depot and bought me a ticket and put me on the bus to Grafton, as the next thing I remember is the bus driver helping me off the bus at Grafton. My landlady was at the bus station to meet me, bless her heart. She took me home and helped me upstairs to my apartment where I immediately threw myself on the bed and slept for 24 hours. She finally managed to get me downstairs and into her car. She then took me to the nearest clinic. The doctor took one look at me and ordered me into the hospital. The nurses immediately put me to bed and when they opened my purse they found three empty pill bottles! I was in the

hospital for two weeks suffering from hallucinations, lung congestion and a kidney infection, brought on by an overdose of tranquilizers and heart medicine. It is only by a miracle of God's grace that I am writing this story today.

Marie E. Vanderberg  
Grafton, N. Dak.

(Ed. note: Mrs. Vanderberg has sent this amazing story at the prompting of her pastor, Rev. Dennis Gray. She adds, "The Lord was with me every step of the way. He has been with me for seventy years and I know He won't desert me now.")



**McLeod, N. Dak.**  
United Lutheran Church  
R. P. Haakonson, pastor  
Nov. 30-Dec. 3  
Rev. Dale Mellgren, Abercrombie,  
N. Dak., speaker

**Greenbush, Minn.**  
United Lutheran Church  
Karl Stendal, pastor  
Nov. 30-Dec. 3  
Rev. John H. Abel, missionary on  
furlough, speaker

Let us not forget our material prosperity. God is interested in every economic and social problem that engages the thoughts of men; hence He is interested in the bread-and-butter question. So when our fields yield plentiful harvests, and our orchards blossom and bear fruit in abundance, we should remember that it all comes from the beneficent hand of God, who does not want His people to go hungry.

L. S. Keyser



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# editorials

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## EVERY DAY, THANKSGIVING

"I thank Thee for so many things—  
Through autumn, winter, all the springs  
And summers, every day holds cause  
For thankfulness. Then grant me pause  
At each new silvering dawn to say:  
This, Lord, is my Thanksgiving Day."

Marie Barton

When we were children Mother would sometimes encourage us to write a list at Thanksgiving of things for which to be thankful. At least a couple of those lists have survived to the present time. They are interesting to read now, children's thank-you's to God. They contain some of the very same things that Pastor Norman Tenneboe mentions in his article "Let Us Count Our Blessings" on page 3.

Whenever we do stop to count our blessings and name them individually, we ought to remember that they are worthy of gratitude to God not only on the official Thanksgiving Day, but every day. May we be cognizant of this fact each day and be thankful people always.

Yet it is good to have one day set aside for the special purpose of giving thanks to the Giver of every good and perfect gift. For those who will it can be a testimony to the fact that one admits his dependence on the Creator and that he is not at all sufficient unto himself. Rather, it is in Him that we live and move and have our being. This must be the Christian's attitude and outlook.

Thanksgiving Day ought to find a great flocking to the churches for the purpose of taking part in services of praise to the Lord God. The thought will not leave us that crowded churches on that day would augur well for our nation. It is easy to raise a hue and cry at attempts to divorce Christian manifestations from national public life. How better begin to resist such inroads than by great support of days set aside in our nation for the recognition of God's influence in the affairs of state?

But we were speaking of the rightness of being thankful every day and we return to that theme. Recall each day the mercies and benefits of the Lord. Testify with Jeremiah of old that "they are new every morning." Proclaim with the Israelites that "hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Daily thankful, daily radiant. A thankful spirit will mean an attractive life, for one who acknowledges God's goodness to him will not be a selfish person, but a sharing person. He will live unto Him who for his sake died and rose again. And a life lived unto Christ will be a life for others, in the spirit of the Master.

Raise your prayers of thanksgiving to the Lord on November 27, but let them be part of a daily offering of praise to Him who alone is worthy of all adoration.

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## *Wonderful Experiences in the Work of God's Kingdom*

### A RESULT OF OBEDIENCE TO THE CALL OF GOD

As a traveling evangelist for the United Norwegian Lutheran Church, the writer was also invited to Reverend L's charge in W., Wisconsin. He served two congregations—one in the city where evangelistic services were held every evening—and where several gave their heart to God.

In the large country congregation, about eight miles out of town, forenoon services were held. This large church was filled to capacity nearly every day.

The fourth day that I spoke there my text was Luke 18:35-43: "About the blind Bartimaeus, who was told that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by." During the sermon my heart was

filled with a longing and burning desire for the salvation of souls—and God's presence was felt.

After the sermon Reverend L. said, "Jesus of Nazareth, with His spirit, has been close to our hearts today. The meeting is now over and the congregation may depart. But if there is anyone who wishes to remain we shall hold a short after-meeting with prayer for those who so desire."

Everyone—both in the balcony and downstairs went out. There was no one left but the pastor and myself. With a deep sigh the pastor said, "No, the people are not used to such things here."

When we were putting on our overcoats in came 16 people—men and women from the outside and went into the inner part of the church. They

fell on their knees and under tears prayed for salvation. Within a few minutes the church was nearly half-filled with people who came in to look from curiosity.

The result of these 16 persons' obedience to God's call was that there came a great spiritual awakening and salvation to that congregation—even to such an extent that two years later Reverend L. in a letter wrote, "The spiritual awakening and blessing is still going on."

Not to men—but to God alone belong the thanks and praise.

As the result of obedience, these 16 persons received God's salvation and they became a blessing for many others.

O, how necessary it is for our salvation and blessing to be obedient when Jesus of Nazareth, with His spirit, is near our heart. For many it either means saved or lost for eternity.

—E. B. Slettedahl

# Women For Christ

## WEST LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH SCENE OF WOMEN'S RALLY

The fall rally of the Southwest Central Minnesota District Women's Missionary Federation was held at West Lake Lutheran Church, Sunburg, Minn., Rev. Albert Hautamaki, interim pastor, on Tuesday, Oct. 7.

Mrs. Norman Haugen, district president, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, as did Mrs. Harold Shuck, the local aid president.

The theme for the day was "Continue in Prayer," with Col. 4:2 for our theme verse: "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."

Pastor Ronald Hoehne, Fergus Falls, had the Bible study, using the theme verse and Jas. 5:16. He stressed that prayer is the breath of the soul and that God had commanded each individual to come to Him in prayer.

The music was furnished by Rev. and Mrs. Wendell Johnson, Dalton, and our song leader was Mrs. Mauritz Lundeen, Brandon. The morning offering was given to the Praise Program.

At the business meeting it was decided to give the afternoon offering to the Cradle Roll-Junior Missions project.

Mrs. Harry Molstre, Fergus Falls, led the prayer fellowship in the afternoon. She stressed many areas where prayer is needed in our church fellowship. Several took part. The ladies from Green Lake Church, Spicer, furnished the music in the afternoon.

A sumptuous noon meal was served by the ladies from West Lake Church.

Rev. Gerald Mundfrom had a fine book display as always. He also brought a greeting from the small group in Pelican Rapids who are resuming the work there. An offering was lifted to help with repairing the roof of their church.

Pastor Hautamaki brought a greeting and closed the rally with the benediction. The wonderful day of evidences of God's grace closed with a coffee hour. There were 139 in attendance.

Mrs. Irene Torgerson  
Secretary

## "WORK FOR THE NIGHT IS COMING" THEME OF MINNEAPOLIS GATHERING

The Minneapolis District WMF held their fall rally at Morgan Avenue Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Minn., on Sat., Oct. 11. The theme and theme song were "Work for the Night is Coming," with the theme verse, Jn. 4:35. Mrs. Irvin Hodnefield, district president, presided over the sessions. Special music during the morning session was provided by the Grace Notes Trio from De Kalb, Ill. Missionary John Abel brought the morning message, reading from Matt. 4:12-25. First we must heed the "local" call for salvation, then we must heed the "broad" call to be fishers of men and go into all the world. The morning offering was received for Honorary Membership and In Memoriam.

Music for the afternoon session was provided by a ladies' chorus, made up of district WMF members who had practiced during the noon hour, and directed by Mrs. Marlin Benrud. Mrs. Abel brought the after-

noon message. Her topic was "Lettuce" that is good for our spiritual growth. The words "Let us" are found often in Hebrews and carry helpful and encouraging guides to Christian living. Debbie, Lydia and Priscilla Abel then sang two numbers. The afternoon offering was received for General Fund. There were 118 members and friends in attendance.

Mrs. Burton Boyum  
Secretary

## ZECHARIAH 4:6 IS TEXT FOR EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA WOMEN

Zion Lutheran Church, Valley City, N. Dak., hosted the Fall Rally of the Eastern North Dakota District WMF in Grace Lutheran Church, Valley City, on Saturday, Oct. 18. The theme for the day was "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord" (Zech. 4:6b). "Spirit of God, Descend upon my Heart" was the theme song for the rally. The district president, Pearl Aanstad, Hampden, presided over the sessions. Special music was provided for the morning session by ladies from New Luther Valley church, McVille. Miss Eula Mae Swenson, Fargo, conducted the morning Bible study, basing her lesson on Zech. 4:6. God's message to us is that we are called to be part of God's building program. We cannot do this in our own power and strength but our Lord has promised He will provide. The Lord will meet men's weakness with His perfect strength.

Music was provided for the afternoon session by ladies from Valley Free Lutheran Church, Portland. Rev. Philip Haugen, Fargo, brought a challenging message. He pointed out that the greatest need in the world today is to spread the Gospel. This is the responsibility of every child of God. It is a command. Each command to us is followed by a promise. God has promised to give us power if we are willing to be used by Him to do His work here on earth.

An offering was received for General Fund and Junior Missions. Re-elected were Mrs. Russell Duncan, Fargo, secretary; Mrs. Marlowe Martinson, Hatton, vice-president;



and Mrs. Don Olson, Fargo, Cradle Roll secretary.

Song Leader for the day was Mrs. Paul Bjornson, Valley City, The registration committee reported 141 present.

Mrs. Russell Duncan, Secretary

### WEST COAST WOMEN CONVENED AT KIRKLAND

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Kirkland, Wash., Robert Rieth, pastor, hosted the fall rally of the West Coast District Women's Missionary Federation on Tuesday, Sept. 23. The theme for the day was "Be Ye Thankful," from Psalm 100:4. "Now Thank We All Our God" was the theme song. The district president, Alice Christensen, presided over the sessions. Music was provided by the ladies from Astoria, Ore.

Helen Hilmo provided the Bible study. She gave a very warm talk on thankfulness. An offering was received for Brazil missions.

The afternoon session began with a songfest led by Marion Rieth. The message was brought to us by Pastor Alvin Grothe, Astoria. He spoke about how thankfulness can motivate us. We thanked the Lord for all the new pastors and wives with us on the West Coast. There were 79 ladies in attendance and seven pastors.

Alice Bottem, Secretary

### MCINTOSH AID HONORS TWO WOMEN



Honorary membership pins for the WMF were given to Mrs. Johnnie Johnson and Mrs. Manda Johnson (above) by the Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid, McIntosh, Minn., a year ago. Orville T. Olson is the pastor of Trinity.



### FALL PARTY HELD

A fall party was held at AFLBS on Thursday night, October 30, in the school cafeteria. Most of those present wore costumes, thus gaining a lower admission fee. In the costume competition, Cheri Carter, Patty Broden and Gracia Stenberg won first place. Second was seized by Al Herset, Keith Nash and Dick Moberg. The third award went to Bob Ordway and Jeff Burmester.

A brief program was offered with Terry Kornberg, a transfer senior, as the MC. There was bobbing for apples, a fish pond, photography studio and a relay. Three fellows had a pudding-eating contest with Loren Julin as winner. Dan Larson was left "holding the bag" in a banana eating contest.

Kool-aid, cupcakes and cookies were served as refreshments to the large crowd in attendance.

### NEWS NOTES FROM AFLBS

Rev. Laurel Udden, former faculty member and now executive director of the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement, was the speaker in joint chapel on Oct. 29. He spoke on the Protestant Reformation.

Pastor F. Monseth accompanied a Gospel team to Hauge Lutheran Church, Kenyon, Minn., on Oct. 26. Pastor R. Huglen was with a team to Emmanuel Lutheran, Kenyon, on Nov. 9.

Eight students served as coun-

sellors and singers at an annual retreat at Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, Minn., Oct. 31-Nov. 2. They were Deb Nelson, Naomi Nash, Kendra Broten, Kathy Ostrand, Dave Rudebusch, Keith Nash, Al Herset and Reuben Quanbeck.

The basketball squad, the Conquerors, held its first workout on Nov. 6 under the watchful eye of Coach Ken Moland. The team was preparing for its first YMCA church league game. In addition to the league schedule on Monday nights, some non-league games will be arranged. League games will be played at North Community YMCA, 1717 West Broadway.

Rev. O. D. Thompson of Ebenezer Lutheran Brethren Church, Minneapolis, was the speaker at the November youth rally on Nov. 8.

Officers of the Mission Club this year are: Kathy Ostrand, Ranier, Ore., president; Al Herset, Kila, Mont., vice-president; Myrtle Thompson, Newman Grove, Nebr., secretary; and Wayne Walker, Kenyon, Minn., treasurer. Pastor Monseth is faculty advisor for the club.

### COMING EVENTS

- Nov. 24-26—Final Exams, First Quarter
- Dec. 1—Registration and beginning of Winter Quarter
- Dec. 14—Christmas Concert by Choir and Choral Club, 4 p.m.
- Dec. 19—Christmas Vacation begins, 11:50 a.m.

## "THINKFUL"—THANKFUL

The plan for a regular season of Thanksgiving actually originated some 3,400 years ago.

The Feast of the Tabernacles was a seven-day thanksgiving festival, established by the Lord. In the autumn, when the harvest was gathered in, God planned that the people stop and give thanks to Him for these material blessings.

Deut. 16:13-17: "Thou shalt observe the feast of tabernacles seven days, after that thou hast gathered in thy corn and thy wine; and thou shalt rejoice in thy feast, thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy manservant, and thy maidservant, and the Levite, the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow, that are within thy gates. Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose: because the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice. Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the Lord thy God in the place which He shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the Lord empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessings of the Lord thy God which He hath given thee."

In the mind of God, thanksgiving was to be more than lip-service. It was to be the voluntary expression of their heartfelt gratitude for benefits they had received. Real thanksgiving comes from the heart.

David expressed this attitude with these words, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name" (Ps. 103:1).

God says, "Be ye thankful" (Col. 3:15). Is it not strange that God would have to command us to give thanks? The Lord pours out His blessings of sunshine and rain, health and happiness, and yet must wait for our expression of gratitude. The Psalmist says, "Forget not all His benefits" (Ps. 103:2).

God knew that we would tend to forget His benefits and blessings and remember instead the bitter experiences of life.

God must teach us to be thankful, just as we must teach our children to say "Thank you."

Someone has said, to be thankful means to be "thankful." As we think upon the blessings of God, our hearts will overflow with thanksgiving and love to Him. While the ungrateful person is complaining about all his misfortune and disappointments, the child of God, who thinks upon the blessings of God, is seeking opportunities to express his thanksgiving to his Heavenly Father.

The Thanksgiving season at harvest-time is set aside for giving thanks, yet every day should be "thanksgiving day" as far as spiritual blessings are concerned. The greatest of all spiritual blessings is salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May we all make this our prayer today: Lord, in thankfulness for all You have done for me, I give myself to You, spirit, soul and body. I am wholly Yours. Use me in any way You desire, for Your praise and glory. This is my sacrifice of thanksgiving, my gift of gratitude. Amen.

Mrs. Francis Drown  
Roseau, Minnesota

## OUR EVANGELIST'S SCHEDULE

Rev. David C. Molstre, AFLC evangelist-youth worker, announces the following schedule for December-March:

Nov. 30-Dec. 4—Badger Creek Lutheran Church, Gustav Nordvall, lay pastor.

Dec. 7-14—In Dickinson, N. Dak., to meet with people interested in an AFLC work in that community.

Dec. 31-Jan. 4—Faith, S. Dak. (youth retreat), Edwin Kjos, pastor.



Pastor Molstre

Jan. 7-11—Bethel Lutheran Church, Grafton, N. Dak., Dennis Gray, pastor.

Feb. 8-11 — Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, N. Dak., Harvey Carlson, pastor.

Feb. 29-Mar. 18—Tioga Lutheran Parish, Tioga, N. Dak., Forrest Swenson, pastor.

Mar. 28-Apr. 1—Faith Lutheran Church, Brockton, Mont., Verle Dean, lay pastor.

Inquire locally about the time at which services will be held. Uphold the ministry of our evangelist in prayer.

### *Now a Tradition*

### **The Annual Christmas Concert at Association Free Lutheran Bible School**

Sunday, December 14, 4 o'clock

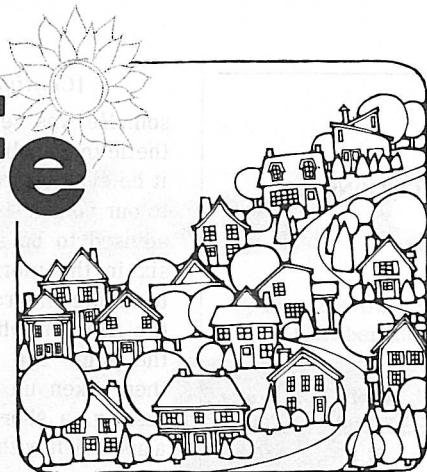
Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Senior Choir and the Ladies' Choral Club  
under the direction of Mr. Donald Rodvold.

A light supper will be served following the concert.



# Life on the Edge of Town



## ANY HELPFUL IDEAS HERE?

In the past several weeks I had the opportunity to take in a church dedication-anniversary and a confirmation service in congregations of another Lutheran church body.

At the dedication (Oak Grove, Richfield), a brass ensemble added a nice touch to the music of the service. Occasionally some of our congregations use a trumpet or two, or some other instrumentation, but this is an area where so much more can be done to add something special on festival occasions, at least. This service also used a bell choir and that is a possibility that could well be looked into by some of our congregations. Perhaps some are already using a bell choir.

A thrilling feature of the afternoon service was the singing of the hymn "Built on a Rock," some verses by a massed choir with brass and organ accompaniment and two by the congregations. Such music is truly majestic and lifts the soul.

The confirmation was at Grace, St. Paul, and a nephew was in the 35-member class. I have often wondered what it would be like to work with classes of that size and more. I can appreciate that some doubling up must occur in the service itself to save time, a problem many of us haven't faced with our smaller classes.

But what I wanted to say now is that the congregation and pastors had made a real effort to make the

confirmation experience something meaningful. About two weeks before confirmation the class was on a two-day retreat. Another thing that was done was to have cluster meetings of six or eight confirmands, their parents and a pastor in one of the homes. At these sessions there would be a free discussion of the Christian faith initiated by means of questions and answers between pastor and young people. A third pre-confirmation meeting was a banquet for the class and their families, with the program given by the confirmands.

Perhaps some of these procedures have been used by our pastors, too. But I think we should recognize one congregation's attempt to make confirmation meaningful even though dealing with large numbers of young people, realizing, of course, that activities in themselves won't make it so. Grace Lutheran is attempting to let the young people know that they are important and that the church cares what profession they make.

## TEARING IDOLS AWAY

Two of our boys at Bible School recently made decisions for Christ, at separate times. They also attended the Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts where, among other things, they were challenged on the evil effects of some music on the human spirit.

At any rate, moved by their new commitment and the challenge, and

aided by friends, they proceeded to destroy 40 or more tapes of "hard rock" music which they had brought along to school in the fall. I am not up on these things, but some of you will be able to reckon the money value of that which was destroyed.

It is always a sign of genuineness when one is moved to act against something once held dear, under the "explosive power of a new affection," if I have the quotation correct. The words of the old hymn come to mind also: "The dearest idol I have known, whate'er that idol be, help me to tear it from Thy throne, and worship only Thee." Sometimes, apparently, that idol can take the form of 8-track tapes.

Or a hundred other things.

## NEVER TOO OLD

On Oct. 31 I stopped in at the Franklin Nursing Home to visit Mrs. Marie Hagen, who will be 101 years old in January. Some of you know her. I was told that she had just been taken upstairs to a Hallowe'en party. I left, but returned later and had a good visit with her. She takes a keen interest in all things around her but waits for the Lord to take her, too.

Raynard Huglen

## ONCE MORE THE LIB'RAL YEAR LAUGHS OUT

Once more the lib'ral year laughs out  
O'er richer stores than gems or gold;  
Once more, with harvestsong and  
shout,

Is nature's bloodless triumph told.

O favors ev'ry year made new!  
O blessings with the sunshine sent!  
The bounty overruns our due,  
The fullness shames our discontent.

We shut our eyes, the flow'rs bloom  
on;

We murmur, but the corn ears fill;  
We chose the shadow, but the sun  
That casts it, shines behind us still.

Now let these altars, wreath'd with  
flow'rs

And piled with fruits, awake again  
Thanksgiving for the golden hours,  
The early and the latter rain.

John G. Whittier  
(from *Concordia*, 1917)

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

**Budget Receipts**

Feb. 1-Oct. 31, 1975 (9 Months)

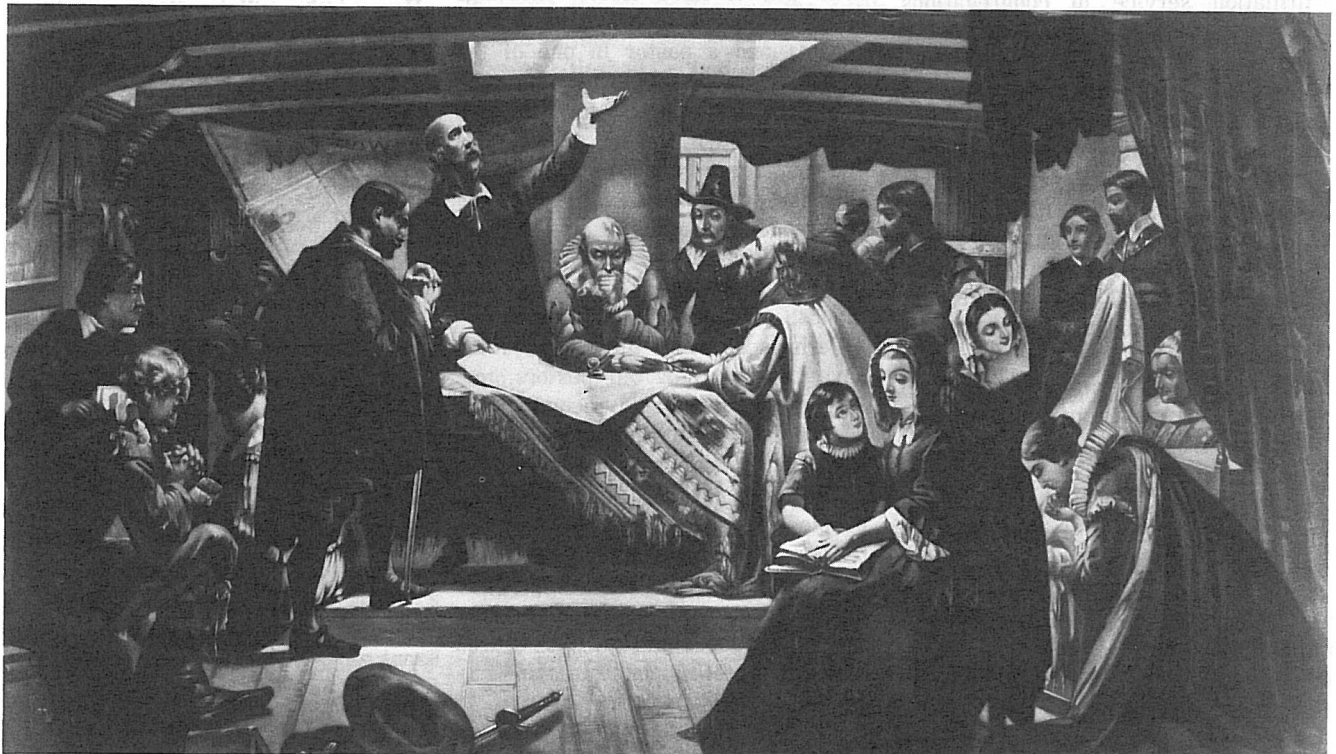
	<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>Current Budget</b>	<b>Received in Oct.</b>	<b>Total Rec'd to Date</b>	<b>% of Current</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
General Fund	\$ 64,250.00	\$ 48,187.44	\$ 4,572.54	\$ 29,786.39	61.8	46.3
Schools	102,000.00	76,500.00	5,908.22	52,899.08	69	51.8
Home Missions	53,000.00	39,749.94	5,322.07	30,639.20	77	57.8
Foreign Missions	66,840.00	50,130.00	6,297.18	33,326.09	66.4	49.8
Praise Fund	18,000.00	13,500.00	548.41	7,326.41	54	40.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$304,090.00</b>	<b>\$228,067.38</b>	<b>\$22,648.42</b>	<b>\$153,977.17</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>50.6</b>
1974-75	\$264,200.00	\$195,150.01	\$29,138.26	\$135,228.52	69	51

Legacies: \$6,401.82  
 Dorm Fund: \$3,989.90

[Continued from page 6]

son. He was very cordial and sympathetic to our plight. After a bit of a visit he even offered to give a free ticket to our youngest, Priscilla. So we were advised to be at the landing strip at six in the morning and ready to fly to Monte Alegre, the little town along the Amazon where we could wait for the ship. The rest of Saturday was then taken up with washing clothes, resting, a short trip to the city and a good visit with Alfred and Marion.

Sunday, August 17th, dawned as a beautiful, clear Amazon day, promising to be a hot one as the sun came up. It was interesting to get to the air taxi strip and find Colonel Gibson already there checking over the passenger movement and the preparation of various planes and flights. One interesting thing that they were going to do that day was to fly a search mission for a cruise



**SIGNING OF THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT**

Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower, now free to worship as their conscience dictated, sign the famous Mayflower Compact before landing in Plymouth in December, 1620. The Compact was an agreement for the temporary government of the colony by the will of the majority and contained a short set of laws establishing certain concepts of religious freedom.

This engraving by George E. Perine is based on a painting by Edwin White and is reproduced courtesy of Kennedy Galleries, New York.

**RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE PHOTO**



boat that had been missing in the Atlantic Ocean near the mouth of the Amazon for four days. Their fleet of propellor planes was quite large. They had three large Viscount Turbo jets also. One of those would make the run up the river, so we would be on it. By 7 a.m., we were in the air and after one stop in a jungle city called Altamira, we were up again and down at our destination, Monte Alegre (Happy Mountain).

We found the sleepy little Amazon town of Monte Alegre an interesting place. The airport was in the higher upper hills of the town and the old city down on the water front. Our taxi took us to a little hotel right across from the wharf. It would be no problem to get to the ship from there, no matter what hour of the day or night it arrived. The hotel was more like a family boarding house, just one story and stretching back with rooms on various sides of the open patio. When shown our two bedrooms, we wondered where the beds were, but then we looked at all the big iron hooks in the wall and we remembered we were indeed in North Brazil, and everyone strings up their hammocks. Across the sandy street, along the docks, many small river boats and canoes of all sizes were tied up. We all had an interesting walk, going up and down the shore and looking into these small ships, some loaded with bananas, others with grain. We even saw them hoisting a cow and her calf on one rather large river craft, and the animals didn't like it. What a struggle as ropes were pulling all over the place. It was interesting to note how these people live mainly on fishing. Every house has a few little boats, and even the children go out and throw out the big circular net that always seems to net a few fish. On the large dock across from the hotel we were informed that the ship had radioed her position and would not be in this port until sometime in the early hours of the morning. Well, this meant we could take it easy the rest of the Saturday afternoon and evening, probably even get a few hours of sleep before being called out of the hammock.

The day was beautiful, but hot and

sultry. Ruby rested in the hammock. I walked over to the dock to watch our four swimming with the Brazilian kids. We asked if it was dangerous and they all said, "No, not if you keep swimming around." I noticed once when Priscilla was sitting on a boat landing with her feet in the water that a young fellow came over to her and told her not to do that. "Either swim or get out of the water," he said. Guess they have all kinds of fish in the Amazon, but a good splashing will usually keep all the dangerous ones away. However, dangling your toes in the water isn't recommended. A few of the teenagers were fishing, many with heavy weights on their lines, which they swung wildly over their heads like a cowboy swings a lasso, and then let it fly as far out as they could, slowly pulling it back to the dock. Those fishing in this manner were catching a small fish about two feet in length that looked like a miniature shark, and once in awhile a bass-like fish that was white with dark black bands around it. I'll never forget going out to watch them fish off the dock after supper and seeing one little fellow, who had but one big minnow, throwing his line off into the river with no weight on it. He didn't wait a minute until he had a strong strike and brought in a large, croppie-like, silvery fish. Must have been at least a five-pounder. Then he quickly got his minnow out of the mouth so as not to lose his bait. This he did five times in a row and in the space of 10 or 15 minutes he had five beautiful fish. He said, "Well, I've got plenty now; guess I'll go home." I said, "Say, would you mind if I tried swinging your line out?" "Go ahead," "ja tenho bastante" (I've already got plenty). I swung that line around, gave it a toss, and I don't believe it had hardly floated before I felt a good strike. I pulled it in and as it came up the side of the dock I saw another nice big white fish, but then, one more tug, and away went the fish and the bait. Well, I'm glad my little friend had plenty before this inept American lost his minnow.

Perhaps it's no wonder these people are without ambition, if you can fish for an hour and get your daily supply

of meat, throw a few seeds around and get manioc root and bananas and breadfruit (mamao), and it's pretty hot and sticky all day long. Who wants to work? Then there are the ever-present flies, worms and jungle sicknesses. In one area of the Amazon they say that about eight percent of the people have leprosy. In this connection, it was interesting to encounter the next day, at the rather large river city of Santarem, a floating hospital, just a good-sized river raft, that was called Hope Hospital (Esperanca). This is a philanthropic work carried on by some Catholic priests, who call it a non-sectarian work. They invite U.S. doctors and nurses and students to fly out and donate a couple months of their vacation. We met several specialists and nurses who were working on this Amazonian floating hospital, had a little lunch with them, swam off their hospital raft and, in all, the children found it very educational and interesting to see this work.

(To be continued)

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#### NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Rev. Donald Greven, Sedan, Minn., was the speaker at special meetings in Zion Lutheran Church, Willmar, Minn., Nov. 9-11. Marlin Olson is student pastor at the Willmar church.

Special meetings were held in the Boscobel, Wis., parish Oct. 26-30, and the speaker was Rev. Gerald Mundfrom, Grafton, N. Dak. From Nov. 2-7, he preached at meetings in Hegland Lutheran Church, Strandquist, Minn. The local pastors are Frank A. Miller and Merle Knutson, respectively.

Tenor soloist Palmer Vaadeland of Park Rapids, Minn., presented a concert at the Zion Luther League in Dalton, Minn., on Nov. 2. Mr. Vaadeland has toured Norway twice and has sung under the direction of Dr. Paul J. Christiansen. Wendell Johnson is the pastor at Zion.

A library has been started in Roseau Lutheran Church, Roseau, Minn., and there are already over 50 volumes in it. A simple check-out

system is being used. Monthly reviews on books will be contained in the parish paper, The Lamplighter. Rev. Jerome Nikunen is the pastor at Roseau.

Pastor Nikunen has been chosen as dean of Galilee Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn., again next summer. Assistant dean will be Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Thief River Falls, and Mr. Sheldon Mortrud, Thief River Falls, will be the camp manager.

A Norwegian service was held at United Lutheran Church, Greenbush, Minn., Rev. Karl Stendal, pastor, on Nov. 16. The sermon was preached

by Rev. Carl Field, East Grand Forks, Minn. Lunch was served by the WMF.

Mrs. Gerald Knudsvig, Buxton, N. Dak., was the speaker at the mission festival at Maple Bay Lutheran Church, Fertile, Minn., Nov. 9. Mrs. Knudsvig has served as a missionary in Madagascar. A smorgasbord preceded the 8 o'clock service.

Members and friends hosted an open house in honor of Rev. and Mrs. J. G. Erickson on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 9, at their home. Pastor Erickson serves Medicine Lake Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Minn.

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Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

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Ferndale, Wash. 98248

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