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Vol. 7

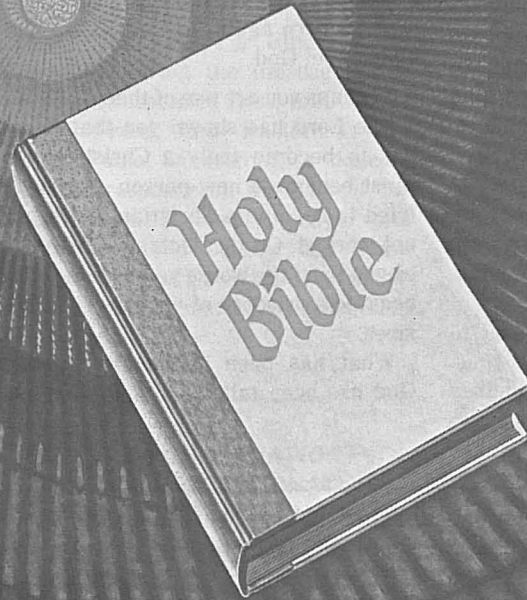
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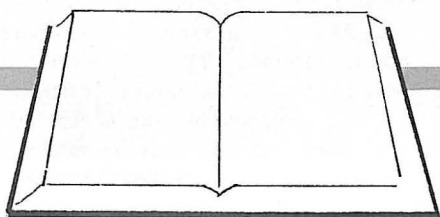
LUTHERAN

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**truth
for modern
man**



**NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK • NOV. 23-30
WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING • NOV. 27-DEC. 25**



According to the Word

WHICH WAY?

“By the Law is the knowledge of sin” (Romans 3:20).

If you were standing precisely on the polar axis within the Arctic Circle it would make no difference which way you walked, in that you would be traveling south, regardless.

A person crushed by the Law of God may choose several paths, but only one leads to salvation and peace with a righteous God.

Some who have seen sin in their lives feel they are making spiritual progress. They have nearly conquered the habit of swearing. And they no longer tell lies.

Then they took up the battle against evil, wicked thoughts; but this was not so easy. Now they resolved to read the Bible more. And they felt certain that with more time evil thoughts would also be conquered.

But, alas, the power of sin seemed to resurge! They had been so sincere about living a better life, but it did not work for them. So they went into the old ways again. They were even glad they had told no one of their noble intentions. At least they would not need to be embarrassed about it.

I have met folks like that. When we talk to them about their soul, they answer, “I have tried to be a Christian, but it did not work for me.”

But others were determined not to give up, no, not for anything. However, in their battle against sin they

have decided to use “common sense.” God is merciful; if they don’t get the best of sin at once, God will be patient.

Then, too, they have done the best they knew how. And progress they have made. Now they have joined the “people of God” and have even begun to pray aloud in public places. The Bible they read as well. No, they don’t claim to be perfect, but neither are the “other Christians” perfect.

These dear people sound like an echo of Luke 18:10ff. This man prayed “with himself,” thanking God that he was unlike others, but better. He was satisfied with his piety, and felt God must be satisfied, too.

What does Jesus say about such religion? In Matthew 23, He calls it hypocrisy!

On the other hand many can’t get their religion to work. God has spoken plainly—so plainly that it really hurts. No matter where they turn they see a Bible verse emblazoned: “Except a man be **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Perhaps you are one of these?

The Lord has shown you that in order to become truly a Christian you must become a new person. You have tried to become a Christian, but it has not worked. On the contrary, the harder you tried the worse you became. You became a prisoner of your own evil desires.

What has been happening to you? God has been talking to you. God has

been pointing out sin in your life—in **words and deeds**. Now God is showing you your **inner** filthiness—that of the **heart**.

God is an excellent marksman!

We humans usually speak of sins (plural) while God is concerned mainly with SIN (singular). How is this? Because an unconverted person is supremely in love with himself. His inflated ego is the center of his life. He is his own God; and that is his SIN.

Such a person cannot but sin. His most pious-looking deeds are sinful, for his goal is to glorify HIMSELF, not God.

Is this your experience?

Then the Lord asks you to confess it to Him.

A young prophet stood in the temple. He had seen God’s holiness. Then he cried, “Woe is me! for I am undone.”

Near Damascus lay a man whom God had struck down. Now he, a proud Pharisee who had thought his own deeds were building a stairway to heaven, heard Jesus ask, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

God will use His Law until the proud heart quakes and the boastful mouth is silenced. Then the soul needs a Savior; and He is JESUS who died for you, and all.

Listen to Him.

—Karl Stendal

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

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

LUKE 14:33; MAL. 3:10

Pastor A. L. Hokonson
Faith, S. Dak.

Do you own what you possess? The principle of stewardship and accountability is the very heart of Christ's teachings, 2 Cor. 5:9-10. The steward has the attitude that God is the owner. "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all he hath, he cannot be my disciple" (Lk. 14:33). This is a statement on attitude and acceptance of Christian stewardship. It is not to abandon physically your possessions, but the ties must be broken which a man makes in his natural life between himself and his goods. He is a steward of them, and they are not to be spent in his own will, but in God's Will, (Matt. 25:15-21, I Pet. 4:10, Lk. 16:12, and 12:36-48).

God Is Owner Of All

Abraham acknowledged this, Gen. 14:22. So also the Lord spoke to Moses in the same vein, Deut. 10:14. So also the Psalmist heard, Ps. 50:10-11. Jesus also speaks, "One is your Master" (Matt. 23:8). How beautifully David expresses it in I Chron. 29:11-14!

Not only the earth and people belong to the Lord but also our talents and our strength belong to Him. He asks, "Who maketh thee to differ from another?" God made us with varying talents, I Cor. 4:7; Ex. 31:1-6; Eph. 2:10. The Lord has also given us the power to make money, Deut. 8:17-18, Jer. 14:22; Lk. 12:16-21. God's dominion is an everlasting dominion. Whenever this ownership has been denied, God has brought down judgment upon nations and individuals, Dan. 7:25-27 and 4:25-37.

Stewardship Covers All Of Life

Giving is not the first thing in Christian stewardship, but it does follow. God has also a claim upon our TIME, Eph. 5:15-16, I Pet. 1:17, Eccles. 12:1, I Pet. 4:1-5. In stewardship, God looks upon our business and the acquisition of wealth. Here is where the application of stewardship begins, in the acquisition of money and property. God takes into account your spirit and method of making money, Jas. 5:5, Is.

3:14-15, Ezek. 22:29.

The Lord always wants us to serve Him in our business, not to give up our business to serve Him, Jn. 17:15, Jn. 17:18, and I Cor. 7:24. It was Carey, the great missionary, who put it in these words, "My business is to preach the Gospel, and I cobble shoes to pay expenses." We must Christianize our vocations and that is the responsibility of every Christian, I Cor. 10:31, Col. 1:18. Our vocations must be made a holy calling in order to build God's Kingdom in human hearts. When you see a man building an extravagant house, one wonders how his church is faring. Today it is not unusual to see children with ten and twenty dollar bills, and we are reminded that we are not so to live that our children need not work, but that when they work, it shall be for the motive of service.

The Christian is not to obtain wealth by oppression, but it must be a stewardship before God. Employees should not be oppressed and underpaid, Prov. 14:31, 21:13, Eccles. 5:8-16, Jer. 22:13-17.

Now we come to the miracle of money. The Bible has a great deal to say about money. In fact, it is the most talked of thing in the Bible. Sixteen out of thirty-eight parables deal with money. One out of every eight verses in the Gospels deals with money. We should by the way we use our money bring glory to God. Romans 1:21-31 gives the result of those who do not glorify God in their living. The sins committed because of money are appalling. Colossians 3:5 tells us that covetousness is idolatry. There are many warnings in Scripture on the dangers and pitfalls of money, Ps. 62:10, Prov. 23:3-5, Matt. 13:22, I Tim. 6:17, Lk. 12:16-21, Jas. 5:1-4, Lk. 6:24, Matt. 6:19. Money in itself is not evil. Properly used it can become a window through which we may catch a glimpse of God, Mal. 3:10.

Money is a Miracle in that it is not Mainly Material.

It is so much stored up human effort and can be a blessing. A week's pay to the laborer is a week's worth of

muscle or a week's worth of myself. So also is it to the clerk, the merchant, etc. Money is a symbol of so much energy expended. Money is a miracle because it is stored power. It can become a reservoir of vital energy. By our money we can talk in any language. We call it **missions**. The missionary represents you in Christ on the field of service. You can't go, but your money talks on the mission-field and souls are won for the Lord. By our money we can heal the sick. We call it **benevolence**. Because you gave, a child is probably being given needed medicines. Your money talks. By our money we can be teachers either at home or on the foreign field. We call it **service**. Think what your money does and can do in Home Missions. A community is receiving teachings in the Scriptures. Though we ourselves may be untaught, our money helps teach others. You spend \$1000.00 in educating your child and so you have put \$1000.00 of yourself in all his work. **YOU CANNOT GIVE YOURSELF TO CHRIST APART FROM YOUR MONEY.**

Money is a Miracle Because Money Talks About Those Who Possess It.

Money reveals men. It is a megaphone that publishes your miserly tendencies, or your generous nature, your covetousness or your Christ-likeness. **The coin that you drop in the collection plate talks about you.** Many people's prayers are not heard because their money talks louder. When Jesus called Zacchaeus to come down from the tree, Zacchaeus' money began to talk. And Jesus said, "Today is salvation come to this house" (Luke 19:9).

Money is a Miracle because Money may be the Cross on which we Die.

Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me" (Matt. 16:24). We can take our money and make it a cross on which to die to self-profit, ease and pride. We can die in our money. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21). When we scatter our money, we scatter ourselves.

Money can be Christianized. There

is a divine law which says that our money increases when we give it away for Christ's Kingdom. We have the example of the loaves and fishes, Matt. 14:17. "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully" (2 Cor. 9:6).

The Scriptures also have spiritual rules for Christian Stewardship.

1. "Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth" (Matt. 6:3).

2. Give cheerfully. "For God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7).

3. Give liberally (Prov. 11:25).

4. Give systematically (I Cor. 16:2).

5. Give proportionately as God has prospered you (2 Cor. 16:2).

6. Give sacrificially. David said, "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing" (2 Sam. 24:24).

The Bible also teaches a method of Stewardship: Tithing.

Tithing is setting aside one-tenth of your income as belonging to the Lord, Mal. 3:10, Gen. 14:20, 28:22, Lev. 27:30, Num. 18:21, 2 Chron. 31:5. Many families have a **Lord's Purse** in which

they place their tithe, the Lord's money. Then they have something to give to the Lord's work at all times. And the blessings accrue to the giver. The Christian who begins to tithe will have at least six surprises in store for him. He will be surprised:

1. At the amount of money that he has for the Lord's work.

2. At the deepening of his spiritual life in paying the tithe.

3. At the ease in meeting his own obligations with the nine-tenths.

4. At the ease in going from one tenth to larger giving.

5. At the preparation this gives to be a faithful and wise steward over the nine-tenths that remain.

6. At himself, for not adopting the plan sooner.

Finally then, the principles of Christian Stewardship are:

1. That God is **OWNER OF ALL**.

2. That I am His steward and must give an account of all that I have.

3. That God requires of me to give a definite proportion of my income for His service in acknowledgement of His ownership and my stewardship.

4. That I should use all the rest, what I spend and what I save, in ways pleasing to God.

Our Association of Free Lutheran Congregations is founded upon the Word of God as taught in our Lutheran doctrines. The Lord has bountifully blessed us. Should we not give bountifully in return? As we look back, we can only plead, "Lord, forgive us. Forgive us for our lack of Christian stewardship." As we look forward, we ask His blessing and plead as He has taught us, "Lead us not into temptation." May we as an Association give as He has given unto us, that our Church may prosper both spiritually and materially. Our needs are great, but He is able if we are faithful. He gave His all on the Cross. Should we give any less? He says, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matt. 16:24). And there is also a cross in stewardship. May we willingly and sacrificially bear that cross and make it one that is borne in Triumph. He is able.

A PROGRESS REPORT

"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation" (Psalm 68:19).

At a recent meeting of the boards and committees of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations a decision was made by the Co-ordinating Committee to share a progress report with our AFLC people.

By decision of the annual conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations we are operating on a total budget of \$36,000 in the General Fund and \$30,000 for the Praise Program.

On a percentage basis a total of \$27,000 should have been received in the General Fund at the end of the nine-month period on October 31. Actual receipts by the end of October was \$25,034.56, which is exactly \$1,965.44 short of the current budget. rent budget.

The Praise Program is set up to cover payments on contracts and interest on loans, as well as the necessary maintenance and improvements at the Headquarters-Seminary Build-

ing, and the asphalt paving of parking areas and campus driveways, and other expenses. The cost of operation may exceed the proposed budget of \$30,000. By October 31, a total of \$10,084.97 has been received. The receipts for the Praise Program by October 31 should be \$22,500. The actual receipts are \$12,416.03 short of the current budget for the Praise Program.

We want to share with you readers of **The Lutheran Ambassador** a matter of real encouragement. A gravel pit on the Bemidji property recently given the AFLC by a faithful friend, Carl Opsata, has been leased to the Minnesota State Highway Department. Proceeds from this gravel pit by October 31 amounts to \$5,836.96. The Co-ordinating Committee has voted to credit these funds to the Praise Program for payment of interest and retiring loans on the property. We thank God for providing this additional income for the Praise Program.

We do, however, wish to encourage personal gifts, and contributions from congregations to the General

Fund, and also contributions to the Praise Program. Personal loans to the Praise Program will also be of great help. A united effort will be needed to reach our budget for the General Fund and also the Praise Program.

Thanks for every contribution. Your continued support will be appreciated.

AFLC Co-ordinating Committee,
Julius Hermunslie, Chairman

In Memoriam

Key: The name of the town is the address of the deceased. Following that is listed the name of the deceased, age, date of death and the church in which he or she held membership.

MINNESOTA

Brainerd

Ole Finstad, 82, Oct. 9

Medicine Lake Lutheran, Minneapolis, Minn.

Thanksgiving Message

This is the month of our national Thanksgiving festival. As a nation we are to remember from Whom all blessings flow, and return our thanks.

God has been good to us. Again the fields have yielded the increase. We are an affluent people because God has provided. No nation is as materially wealthy as ours. Our conveniences, working and living conditions are unsurpassed. Many have a greater concern for leisure than necessities. It is God Who has provided, we have no right to boast.

The greatest blessings are spiritual. There is an eternal wealth God desires for all men. These treasures are ours through the Gospel. Multitudes have heard nothing of Jesus. Many, having heard, have rejected Him. Many on fire for Christ and God's Word have lost their zeal and message. The Christian minority is getting smaller by the minute. But we are among those who have God's Word in truth and purity. We are among those who have confidence in a Savior Who is coming again to right the wrongs. We are among those who have a Hope for a glorious eternity where all is well, because our Lord is King of Kings.

God has been good to the Association. Our congregations are flourishing. Our missions and schools are growing. The progress since October in 1962 when the work began is phenomenal. To God belongs the glory.

The picture of the world is sad. There are tumults of various natures on every hand. Trouble and sorrow is the mark of the day. Many answers from the mind of men are brought forth. Christ, we know, is the only answer for the tumult of this and any generation. We who know Him, must share Him with people who are as sheep without a shepherd.

The Association has always enjoyed fine support from members and friends. This year the receipts for the first nine months of the year total \$7,000.00 more than last year at this time. Our budgeted needs are much greater this year than last year, however. We reached only 47% of our budget goal the first three-fourths of the fiscal year. We have much to do by February 1, 1970.

The task is not beyond us. Remembering God's blessings upon us as individuals and a church, we pray, work and give. As we sacrifice, greater joy will be ours, and the only answer and hope will come to more people. May our gratitude to God be according to His Will.

Pastor John P. Strand
President, AFLC

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR FOR CHRISTMAS (NEXT TIME) WILL CONTAIN THESE FEATURES AMONG OTHERS:

How a pastor helped a church member to become a witness in the congregation, by Rev. Gerald Mundfrom
A story for Christmas by Avis Hoel Dyrud
Recollections of a boyhood Christmas in North Dakota before the turn of the century, by Henry T. Quanbeck
A sermon for Christmas by Pastor Laurel Udden
How Christmas is observed in Madagascar, by Mrs. Amos Dyrud
A pastor's wife reminisces about the parsonage at Christmas, by Mrs. A. L. Hokonson
Poems, including some by Marlene Moline
The first WMF Bible Study for 1970, by Miss Judith Wold
Plus other articles, and pictures—24 pages in all.

Please place your order now for gifts of the Christmas issue for friends. See the enclosed insert for details.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT TO BE HELD AT BIBLE SCHOOL

The First Annual Christmas Concert will be held at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn., on Sunday evening, Dec. 14, 8:00 p.m., sponsored by Association Free Lutheran Bible School.

The Choir and the Choral Club, both under the direction of Mr. Donald Rodvold, will sing in the program titled "O God, Our Help in Ages Past, Our Hope for Years to Come." Silent drama will be utilized in the production.

A cordial invitation is extended to the Twin Cities community to attend and it is hoped that many Association members can be present also for what it is hoped will become a Christmas tradition.

**ASSOCIATION FREE LUTHERAN
BIBLE SCHOOL
WINTER QUARTER SCHEDULE**

Dec. 1—Registration for Winter Quarter
Dec. 2—Winter Quarter Classes begin
Dec. 20-Jan. 5—Christmas Recess
Jan. 6—Winter Quarter Classes resume.

WINTER QUARTER COURSES

Juniors

Old Testament	3 — Udden
John	3 — Snipstead
Revelation	3 — Stone
Bible Doctrine	2 — Olson
Church History	2 — Dyrud
	—
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Electives: (Two required)

Choir	2 — Rodvold
Choral Club	1 — Rodvold
Conducting	1 — Rodvold
Prayer	1 — Dyrud
Christian Ed.	1 — Udden

Seniors

	Cr.	
Old Testament	3 — Udden	
Acts	3 — Snipstead	
General Epistles	1 — Snipstead	
Bible Doctrine	2 — Olson	
Mission Survey	2 — Dyrud	
Philippians	1 — Heikkinen	
	—	
	12	



The truths of the Bible are like gold in the soil. Whole generations walk over it, and know not what treasures are hidden beneath. So centuries of men pass over the Scriptures, and know not what riches lie under the feet of their interpretation. Sometimes, when they discover them, they call them new truths. One might as well call gold, newly dug, new gold.

Henry Beecher

ADVENT

When the days have grown shorter,
And the nuts have fallen down,
Leaves that once were red and gold
Are dried all crispy brown.

When the wild geese have flown
south,
When the grain is in the barn,
There're apples in the cellar
And ice rings on the pond.

When the wind is touched with snow,
And the hills are sparked with rime,
Thanksgiving's feast is over,
And it is Christ's Advent time.

It only takes a moment
For a baby to be born;
How quiet was His coming
In that far Judaeen morn.
There is another Advent
That is greater than the first;
It is Christ's second coming
To His triumph here on earth.

When the sun grows dark and cold,
And the moon no longer shines;
The stars will fall from heaven
In the second Advent time.

When Christ shall come in glory
Brighter than the rising sun,
Then He shall gather nations
To His Kingdom one by one.

Then He will call His people
To the safety of His rod,
Then all those but the faithful
Will know the full wrath of God.

'Twill be less than a moment,
In the twinkling of an eye,
When comes the King of Glory
Cleaving through the blinding sky.

The signs point to His coming,
They are written in His word;
The days are quickly closing
On the Advent of the Lord!

—Marlene Moline
Lansing, Iowa

Men think that God is destroying them because He is tuning them. The violinist screws up the key till the tense cord sounds the concert pitch; but it is not to break it, but to use it tunefully, that He stretches the string upon the musical rack.

Henry Ward Beecher

RADIO LOG

The following radio broadcasts are sponsored by Association congregations or individuals. There are others, too, and when they are reported they will be listed here. This Log will be printed from time to time.

Astoria, Oregon

Glad Tidings Broadcast, KVAS, Sunday a.m., 8:45 (15 min.). Bethany Lutheran, Ray Persson, pastor.

Everett, Washington

The Bible Lutheran Hour, KWOZ, Sunday a.m., 9:05. Calvary Lutheran, Francis Monseth, pastor.

Grand Forks, North Dakota

The Trinity Lutheran Hour, KILQ, Sunday a.m., 10:05. 1440 kc. Trinity Lutheran Church, David Molstre, pastor.

Fargo, North Dakota

St. Paul's Free Lutheran Hour, KFNV, Sunday a.m., 12:30. 900 kc. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, John Abel, pastor.
Moments of Meditation, KFNV, Sunday p.m., 4:30. 900 kc. Speaker: Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.

Williston, North Dakota

Free Lutheran Meditations, KEYZ, Sunday p.m., 1:30. Laymen's League, Morris Borstad, Tioga, chairman.

Tioga, North Dakota

Worship Service, KTGO, Sunday a.m., 9:30. 1090 kc. Zion Lutheran Church, Robert Lee and Reuben Wee, pastors.

Ferndale, Washington

The Lutheran Hour of Praise, KPUG, Sunday a.m., 9:00. Triumph Lutheran Church, Jay Erickson, pastor.

Thief River Falls, Minnesota

Trumpet of Truth, KTRF, Sunday p.m., 7:00. Newfolden Lutheran Parish.

Kirkland, Washington

Moments of Meditation, KGDN, Sunday p.m., 4:00 (15 min.). 630 kc. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Robert Rieth, pastor.

Kalispell, Montana

Stillwater Lutheran Hour, KGEZ, Sundays. Stillwater Lutheran Church, Gary Skramstad, pastor.

Valley City, North Dakota

The Fellowship Hour, KVOC, Sunday p.m., 6:35. Grace and Zion Lutheran Churches, Harry C. Molstre, pastor.

MEET the Churches OF OUR FELLOWSHIP



Today: The Winger (Minn.) Parish

Union Lake Lutheran Church

By a vote of three to two Union Lake Congregation was organized at a meeting of interested persons at Schoolhouse No. 114, on Jan. 18, 1896. Pastor S. E. Sorenson was elected chairman and D. D. Bodahl secretary.

The new congregation continued to hold services in the school and it was not until 1902 that a church was built, the result of initial action taken at the annual meeting the previous fall.

Of the major improvements added to the church, the following may be mentioned: in 1917 a kitchen was added at the rear of the church; in 1935 a full basement was put under the church with room for a kitchen, eight feet were added to the church itself

and a steeple placed on the church. In 1940 pews were purchased and in 1941 the lights were installed. The old kitchen on ground level was remodeled into a chancel with an arch, and the walls and ceiling were refinished. That same year, 1948, a cement floor was put in the basement. An oil furnace was put in in 1953 and this year the latest improvements have been made: carpeting of the chancel and aisle, a loudspeaker system, new front doors, re-shingling of the roof and an exterior paint job.

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1897 and its main objective was to raise money for the church. Few women took part in the work and were sometimes discouraged. At one meeting when the possibility of discontinuing the Aid was being discussed, Pastor M. Iverson spoke up and said, "If you quit, it will be the end of the congregation." They couldn't give up the congregation and so if their efforts were that important they must keep on. And they did.

The Young People's Society and Sunday School weren't started until several years after the congregation's organization and for many years did not meet regularly.

Pastors who have served Union Lake Church, which is located eight miles northwest of Winger in Polk County and which was begun as a congregation friendly to Augsburg Seminary and then joined the Lutheran Free Church and later the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, are: S. E. Sorenson, 1894-1900; T. O. Od-

land, 1900-02; M. Iverson, 1902-07; B. O. Clausen, 1908-11; I. H. Hovland, 1912-13; J. Hjelmeland, 1914-20; A. Dahle, 1919-20; B. I. Land, 1921-25; A. Bredesen, 1925-28; C. I. Ostby, 1929-33; Elias Pederson, 1934-37; O. P. Grambo, 1937-40; Waldemar Anderson, 1940-45; J. Husfloen, lay pastor, 1945-46; K. Stendal, 1946-51; Louis Olson, 1951-55; G. E. Amundsen, 1955-57; H. E. Nyhus, 1957-62; G. A. Almqvist, 1962-63; H. C. Molstre, 1963-65; Gary Skramstad, student pastor, 1965-67; J. DeBoer, 1967-68; and Forrest Swenson, 1968—.

Forrest Swenson served the congregation as a student until his ordination in June of this year.

Maple Bay Lutheran Church

While the Spirit of God has moved within the congregation through the years to the salvation of souls, special mention could be made of a revival which occurred in 1932 during the ministry of Rev. Carl I. Ostby. The evangelist was Oscar Knutson. Many came to a saving faith in Jesus Christ then.

Maple Bay, eight miles southwest of Mentor, was started in 1894 when Pastor S. E. Sorenson and members of the original Maple Bay Church wished to adhere to Free Church principles rather than continue under the United Church. So the 22 charter members and pastor set about to build a new church and did so well that the first worship service could be held in June of that same year.


That church was destroyed by fire
[Continued on page 13]



Union Lake Lutheran Church



Maple Bay Lutheran Church



WOMEN *for Christ*

JUNIOR MISSIONS

Mrs. Robert Knutson
McVile, N. Dak.

“Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Right here in the home congregations of our AFLC is one of our biggest mission fields, our own children. This is why here, in New Luther Valley, we were so pleased when a year and a half ago our Ladies Aid offered to be the sponsors of a Junior Mission group.

We know that in our homes and churches our children are learning and growing in the knowledge and the love of their Lord Jesus Christ, but we wanted a place where they could have the opportunity to be of service both to the people in their home community and also to our AFLC Mission endeavors. We feel that this organization gives to these children the chance to put into practice the things they are learning.

We realize what works in our situation may not apply to another's situation but perhaps some of you might be interested in how we organized the Junior Mission group here.

With our Ladies group as our sponsor to underwrite expenses such as material for crafts, postage for packages sent to our missionaries, and lunch supplies, three volunteers for leaders were asked for with no special terms of office specified. Since we wanted this group to be a blessing, not a burden, for sometimes-overworked parents, the lunch is kept simple and is fixed by the leaders. Because of the extra activities in December and May, we have no meeting during these

months. We have no offerings at our meetings but we made banks at one of our meetings and explained to the children how to tithe their money during the year. At the Junior Mission program the children give for the congregation in the fall, these banks are brought and the money used for a project the children have chosen.

If you were to visit us at one of our meetings, it might go like this. On the 4th Friday of each month, you'd find about 30 children from first to seventh grade hurrying from school to church for their Junior Mission meeting. As they arrived they would come to the church kitchen for a snack, perhaps a piece of fruit, a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, or a popsicle during the summer months. Time now to sign the birthday cards we send each month to our missionaries and their families. As we settle down for the program, the children wonder who will be having the prelude and devotions today, and when their turn will come. Now our Bibles come out for our Bible study on the Books of the Bible given by one of the leaders. Today the children get to choose several of their favorite songs for our song time. Since the program theme for the next few times was to be service to others, stories were read from **Happy Acres** about an elderly man, Gramp Haglund, and his reaction to children's kindness. The thought that all must be done for the love of Christ is stressed. Each of the three leaders now takes her age group to work on the day's project, making cards for shutins and those of our people in the hospital. At 5:25 we meet to close with prayer and then comes a flurry of coats, caps, and books as they rush

for home, leaving three leaders looking blankly at each other saying, “Where did the time go?”

We have made cards for shutins, place mats for Nogales, paper flowers and vases, banks, tray favors for the rest home, gathered pictures for give-away cards for the mission field, fixed a library of Bible Books to use with our Bible study. David Abel and Terry Grothe have spoken to the group about Brazil and Mrs. Charles Carlson told us about their visit to Nogales. These are a few of the things we have done. As time goes on and the leaders change and bring fresh and new ideas into the group, we hope that the activities will be kept both varied and meaningful.

This group has been a pleasure to work with. Their enthusiasm and energy is endless. It is our prayer that the purposes of our Junior Mission group might be fulfilled.

WEST COAST WMF MET IN NEW FERNDAL CHURCH

The West Coast District Women's Missionary Federation Fall Rally was held at Triumph Lutheran Church at Ferndale, Wash., on October 28, 1969.

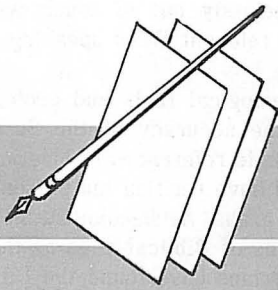
Registration began at 9:30 a.m. with the opening session beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Luvonne Nelson, president of the Ferndale WMF welcomed the ladies and Marian Rieth, district president, responded with an opening prayer. The opening hymn by the audience was “How Great Thou Art.”

Mrs. Corrine Klein, Kirkland, Wash., read the devotions and led in prayer.

The Bible study was led by Mrs. Carole Stenberg of Lake Stevens, Wash. It was based on First Samuel 12:24, “Only fear the Lord and serve Him in truth with all your heart, for consider how great things He has for you.” She stressed the three words, Fear, Serve, and Consider. She noted there were two kinds of fear, child-like fear as in I John 4:18 and slavish fear as in Genesis 39:9. She then went on to explain why we should serve, how we can serve, and what it is to serve. She then discussed what there is for us to “consider” and recited the words to the song “How

[Continued on page 14]



EDITORIALS

ALL THROUGH AT 14?

Whatever one may think of Vice President Spiro Agnew as a politician, friend and foe alike will concede that he is a man who says what he thinks, a virtue not altogether contemptible.

Following the Viet Nam War Moratorium (a misnomer, it seems to us) on October 15, he was criticized for his criticism of the day's events and for not allowing his 14-year-old daughter to march with the war protesters that day. It is on this latter point that we wish to comment at this time.

The criticisms directed at the Vice President for forbidding his young teenager to participate in a parade representing convictions contrary to his own pictured him as an authoritarian, unfeeling father. The criticisms also implied that parents somewhere before their children reach age 14, and certainly by then, have no right to make decisions for them. It is this idea that bothers us in the critics. We wonder if this attitude isn't part of the problems of the day.

That some parents have lost control of their young teenagers is evident. They no longer can make very many decisions for them and all they can do now is play "catch up" with them. It isn't a pleasant thing to see.

The Bible teaches parental responsibility for setting a good example, exercise of discipline and training a child in the way he should go. Of course, it also teaches that parents have to respect the personalities of their children and be honest with them, while at the same time requiring that children honor their parents.

Parents, as soon as the child is old enough to understand, should be willing to explain why this or that should or shouldn't be done. If explanations are reasonable, children will respect those guidelines.

A teenager of 14 is not very astute politically. He cannot judge very well the complexities of a Viet Nam, for instance, when his elders have a hard enough time comprehending all the ramifications of it. Therefore, a father and mother have the right to forbid their young teenager to take part in something which they feel he does not fully

understand and when his participation would embarrass them, providing that they tell the child why they must require him to refrain.

When a teenager gets a bit older more care must be taken in laying down absolute prohibitions, but at age 14 parents ought yet to be doing that and the Vice President was clearly in the right to do so in this case.

PENNEY'S CAPITULATES

The J. C. Penney Company, that first clothing chain department store that many of us grew up with, and one founded on Christian principles by a small-time merchant in Wyoming, has announced that it will forsake its historical policy of remaining closed on Sundays, wherever it is necessary to meet competition.

The action was taken at a time of year when Penney's could take advantage of Sunday openings to accommodate the crush of shoppers getting ready to celebrate Christmas. Clerks will not be forced to work on Sundays but the prospect of time and half pay will lure out all but those with the strongest convictions.

The capitulation of J. C. Penney's to economic pressure is a sad and unfortunate thing. Mirrored here is the story of so many individuals who would like to stand for one moral principle or another, and do for a time, but the price eventually becomes higher than they are prepared to pay and they give in. And it makes one wonder, what hope is there really after all?

This Christmas season will see more shopping done on the Lord's Day than ever before. Thousands flocking to the stores to merchandise on Sunday so that they can celebrate the birth of Jesus who came to turn men's hearts from love of the material to love of the spiritual. The contradiction is staggering and could just be enough to start a trend away from the great commercialization of a holy and sacred season. Maybe enough people will take a second look at their Christmas, seek to stress the real meaning more than they have, shift some of the gift-giving to other seasons, such as birthdays, and emphasize more the sharing with the unfortunate.

We've said it before and we say it again, one of the reasons for moral decay in America is the growing disregard for the Lord's Day. It was set as a memorial of the presence of God. After the resurrection of Jesus it became a weekly Easter. Now it is desecrated in all fashions. No one is innocent of transgression. No one can decide for another. But our call is that in whatever way we can we uphold the sanctity of the Lord's Day and that we encourage those who are seeking to do the same, even in the face of economic pressures that would break weaker men.

No revival will come to America that is not accompanied by a hallowing of the Lord's Day.

GIVE A GIFT TO GOD

You will notice in this issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* that there are a number of articles dealing with stewardship and finances in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations and requests for greater contri-

butions to the common endeavors as the fiscal year draws to a close (Jan. 31).

The articles are perhaps bunched up more than they might have been by the fact that they were prompted by a recent meeting of boards and committees in Minneapolis, the time is short for this year and the needs are great, and the next issue is our Christmas one and will mostly contain articles dealing with Christmas. So the appeal is being made in this issue although there may be other reminders before the fiscal year ends.

Pastor Trygve Dahle, that ambassador-at-large for the Association, made a suggestion in his article last time that we'd like to second. He proposed that individuals send in a personal gift to the Association, as an additional boost to the treasury. Why not do that? For instance, mail a check for five or ten dollars, or whatever, to the Treasurer, AFLC, and designate which cause you'd like to have it go to: General Fund, Missions, Schools, or Praise Program. All can use your help.

Please remember that this should be an **additional** gift to what you have or will otherwise give. One thing more, support the drive for funds for the AFLC in your own congregation. Encourage as large a contribution as you can. If the Association is to meet her obligations your congregation **must** send in more this year than last.

As a family or as an individual, send in a gift this Christmas for the AFLC work. It is greatly needed.

THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORD

The Seven Wonders of the World: (1) the Pyramids of Egypt; the largest, Cheops, is 481 feet high and covers nearly 13 acres; (2) the Hanging Gardens of Babylon built by Nebuchadnezzar about 600 B.C., on five terraces; (3) Phidias' statue of Zeus, decorated with ivory and beaten gold, at Olympia; (4) the Temple at Ephesus, 425 feet by 225, with 127 columns, each 60 feet high, and visited by the Apostle Paul; (5) the Tomb of Mausolus, built about 325 B.C., by his widow at Halicarnassus; (6) the Colossus at Rhodes, a bronze statue of Apollos, 110 to 115 feet high, at the harbor of Rhodes on the Aegean Sea; and (7) the Pharos at Alexandria, a lighthouse built on the island of Pharos outside the port of Alexandria, Egypt.

Of all these ancient wonders that mystify the modern mind, only the Pyramids of Egypt remain. Scattered traces of some others may be found, such as of the Ephesian Temple. Others are completely lost, without trace. Today there are new wonders of the world, such as the Taj Mahal of India, but they shall all pass away.

In honor of Universal Bible Sunday, already held this fall, we submit to you the Seven Wonders of the Word, the Book that shall never pass away, for it is the Word of the Living God.

1.) It has **one message**—"the great truth that Jesus is the way to salvation for all who believe," as the Catechism puts it. That this one message should be found in a book containing 66 smaller books written over a period of as many as 15 centuries by about 40 writers using three languages, can only be laid to the guiding hand of the Holy Spirit, as we do.

2.) Its **contemporaneity**, or up-to-dateness. Next Sunday you will gather in your church to hear a pastor speak from this Book, the last part of which was written over 1800 years ago and the earliest portion about 3300 years ago. Yet, you will not go to hear some musty, even if cunningly-devised, fables, hopelessly out of touch with today's realities, but a highly relevant Word speaking to everyday needs.

3.) Its **authenticity**. Archaeological finds and geological discoveries substantiate the accuracy of the Scriptures. Geologists have noted Bible references to locations of minerals and chemicals and have verified the presence of such in those geographical areas. Archaeologists have again and again found the ruins of Biblical sites as they have searched for them. Historians have found the Bible an invaluable aid in the study of ancient history, for while it is not a history book in the accepted sense of the term, the history within it is true.

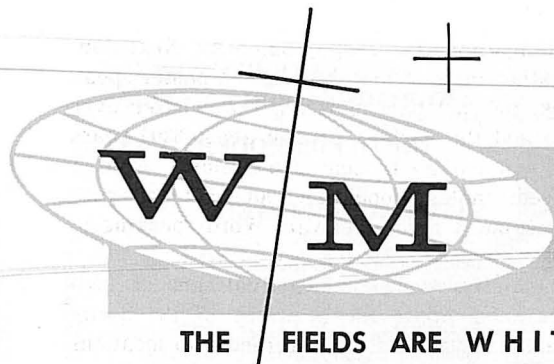
4.) Its **integrity**. The Bible pictures men and women as they are. Today we would say that it "tells it like it is." And that is good. What is told is not always good, but it is reliable. We might rather have known David only as the sweet psalmist of Israel, but we are forced to see him also with an adulterous heart. We might prefer only the pictures of the loyal, devoted Peter, but we must see him also in the valley of despair. In these and other cases, fortunately, there is the happy side of repentance and restoration. But bear in mind that the Bible not only pictures the glories of heaven but the torments of hell.

5.) Its **history**. We have spoken of the history in the Bible. Now we speak of the history of the Book of books. By this we mean the transmission of the Bible to us today. Copied laboriously by hand for centuries on inferior writing materials, 66 books gathered at last in the canon or official list that we know, translated from language to language, distributed at least in part today in well over 1,000 languages and dialects, this is the magnificent history of a volume that could only be divine, although God accomplished all of this through men.

6.) **The Christ of the Bible**. The Greatest Figure of history moves through the pages of Holy Writ, Jesus Christ. "No man ever spoke like this man!" (John 7:4). And no man ever lived like this Man or died like Him. He towers above all figures of literature because He is more than that, a living, moving Presence also today. He is the Lord and Savior, lovingly calling all to come to Him.

7.) Its **products**. The Word of God has a marvelous power to change men's lives. Whoever believes that one message we spoke of at the first and accepts the matchless Christ as Deliverer experiences the transformation of a new life. He finds that old bonds and chains are broken and that a new affection and allegiance turns life about for him. Here is the truly incredible story of "rags to riches." Yes, in willing, receptive hearts the Bible's message, Jesus Christ, will fashion new men and women.

These are the Seven Wonders of the Word. They speak of a Book that survives, not like some giant, brooding Cheops on an Egyptian plain, but as a living, vital force in human life and with the message that can enable one to find hope for all eternity.



WORLD MISSIONS

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST

BUSY FOR THE LORD

Dear friends in Christ,

Time has a way of moving on and adding days and years to history. How much longer we will have history we do not know, when we look about us and see the events of the world and the actions of men one toward another. Philippians 4:5, "The day of the Lord is near at hand."

We have now been back in Brazil and at Campo Mourao for 8 months. It doesn't seem that long, yet so many things have happened since we arrived. The first was a short, short visit by the chairman of the Foreign Mission Board and his wife, Robert and Helen Knutson. We are sure you are all enjoying their reports of the visit and the work down here. Next was seeing the Abels off on their way home for a well-earned rest(?), at least a change of scenery. Then after they were gone to find ourselves in the work and becoming acquainted with the schedule and people, and seeing the tremendous amount of work the Abels had done.

We have finished a series of Daily Vacation Bible Schools and evangelistic services in each of the churches. Some had to be postponed from the original scheduled date because of rain and cold weather, again bringing to mind the verses in James 4:13-15, that man may plan and lay down a program but it still is God that ordains and rules.

Speaking of cold weather, northern Parana had very heavy frosts again this year, killing the coffee trees, and bringing another financial crisis to the area. With this, it is interesting to note the difference in the attitudes of the Christians and the non-Christians. When you trust in the Lord these mundane catastrophes are not so terrible. The upward look is valuable.

We were thrilled to have our co-workers, the Connely Dyruds arrive in Brazil on Sept. 4, and to have the joy of their visit in our home for ten days. They are now settled in Sao Paulo, studying the Portuguese language.

Our children are occupied with studies, studying English subjects by correspondence or attending Brazilian public school. Some of them do both. Mother is kept busy at home and with a few visits to make each week.

The Bible School choir has gone on its first tour. There were 19 of us who traveled in a 1942 Chevrolet truck. The weekend was a blessing to us, with good weather, large crowds and happy hearts, as we traveled and witnessed of our salvation in Christ Jesus.

Remember our students in prayer. For many it is the first stay away from home. Most of them have so little schooling before coming to Bible School. They have so little funds for the essentials they need. All of these put together cause them frustrations. Pray for these dear young people as they prepare for Christian service.

Your Missionaries in Brazil,
George and Helen Knapp

ONWARD WITH CHRIST

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

"What's the matter with the true Christians?" someone asked me the other day. "Why don't they speak out? Are they afraid? Are they ashamed?" I guess we are like some baseball players who sit on the bench a week, a month, two months. Then when the coach calls them out to bat, how are they going to loosen up those muscles that have gotten stiff from sitting on the bench? That's the way some

Christians are. Tomorrow may be too late. The people we are living with, those who work with us on the job, those who go to school with us, our relatives, when we come into the presence of Christ and they ask us, "Why didn't you speak to me about Jesus?" What a hard question! The Lord says, "Freely you have received, freely give." Mark 16:15 is your commission and my commission.

Last month (summer) we were led to have evangelical services in the main square in Nogales, Sonora. After several days of praying about it, I went to the local authorities to get permission—the Mayor, the Syndicate, and even the Director of Holiday Celebrations. God was with us and we got permission to hold the service Sept. 14th, the week-end of Mexico's Independence Day. Mrs. Swanson hurried to get some flyers ready to announce the meeting.

The day arrived. The service was to be at 3:00 p.m. At 2:45 the police came to my door and took me to jail. Satan had been working. I was praying all the way. The Lord spoke to me saying, "Not with words of wisdom but in manifestation of the Spirit. Use the power I have given you." I Cor. 2:4 and Acts 1:8. I trusted in the Lord. Arriving at the jail, they took me to the **Commandante**. Under pressure from the Romanists he refused permission to speak in the center of the Plaza but ordered us to gather over to one side. So we did. And God manifested Himself. At the invitation to receive Christ, a woman of the streets came forward and received salvation with tears in her eyes. Some men, deeply touched, asked for prayer. Pray for them.

Since then a drug addict who just got out of jail, Ruben Briseno, has been coming to our meetings. Dear brothers in the Lord, God wants to do great things. He is only waiting for us to get serious in praying and in witnessing. Jesus said, "Greater things than these shall ye do, for I go unto the Father." Here in Nogales and there where you are, they expect much of us Christians, of Christ in us! So onward with Christ!

From one who loves you in the Lord,

Manuel Esquer



Luther League Activities

LUTHER LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

Edited by Jane Thompson

Relax...with a book and good music!

It's time to review again.

The record is an LP by Linda Rich and the book is fiction by Edith S. Pedersen. Both are recommended for gift giving this Christmas.

"There's More To Living Than I Know So Far," an Inter-Varsity Records release by a coed from Kansas, has brought so much pleasure in listening to so many people that I cannot refrain from giving it an enthusiastic plug.

Linda, who has given concerts in the Fargo-Moorhead area, cut her first album after being encouraged by Bear Trap Ranch campers in Colorado, her friends in Kansas, and by the thousands of students at the Urbana Mission Conference two years ago in Illinois.

She has written over one hundred songs dealing with her walk with Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, only 12 are heard on this album. The soft guitar background is perfectly styled for her clear melodic voice. Sincerity comes through every note, perhaps because one knows that her testimony is being used by God to reach others for him.

She has woven Scripture from Paul's letter to the Philippians, the Psalms, and Matthew's Gospel into her lyrics. The mountains of Colorado have also influenced her choice of words describing the Christian's walk; descriptions such as: "One day I walked upon the mountain...I met

the living Saviour, and sat and talked with Him," abound.

Linda, the poet, comes out with her personal glimpses of "I long to hear Him whisper in my ear, 'Come nearer than the edges of My ways.'" And the joy of walking with Jesus: "There is no greater thrill! Walking with Jesus calms my heart, like nothing else will."

Her testimony in song is available in stereo (LPS-03498) for \$4.98 from Inter-Varsity Records, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515.

* * *

"After Their Own Pleasure," a Moody Pocket Book, available in Christian Book Stores and from Moody Press Publications in Chicago, was written 30 years ago. Aside from a few choices of words, the book will speak to teenagers and older powerfully even today. It not only is an interesting story, but it carries with it a message of evangelical Christianity that Christian parents will appreciate. Christian teens and college students will be challenged by problems which are common to today's youth.

Don's loyalty to Christ after his conversion, despite his whole crowd's attempts to sway him, is especially moving when the girl he had almost worshiped ridicules his faith. The pointed look at the unconverted religious is loving, but firm in its conviction that we must be born again.

Reading and listening to music are two of God's gifts of relaxation. Take advantage of your time now to do these before 1970's resolutions must be made and broken. The pause truly does refresh.

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING TRUTH FOR MODERN MAN

NATIONAL BIBLE WEEK

Deuteronomy . . . 6 . . . Nov. 23 . . . Matthew 5
Psalms 8 . . . Nov. 24 . . . Mark 4
Psalms 19 . . . Nov. 25 . . . Luke 6
Proverbs 3 . . . Nov. 26 . . . John 15
Isaiah 40 . . . Nov. 27 . . . Romans 12
Isaiah 55 . . . Nov. 28 . . . I Corinthians . . . 13
Jeremiah 31 . . . Nov. 29 . . . Ephesians 6
Micah 6 . . . Nov. 30 . . . I John 3

DECEMBER

1 Isaiah 2.2-4
2 Isaiah 9.2-7
3 Isaiah 11.1-9
4 Isaiah 35.1-10
5 Isaiah 7.10-16
6 Isaiah 40.1-5
7 Sunday Isaiah 42.1-4
8 Isaiah 43.1-21
9 Isaiah 44.1-8
10 Isaiah 49.1-13
11 Isaiah 52.1-12
12 Isaiah 52.13-53.12
13 Isaiah 55.1-12
14 Sunday Isaiah 60.1-14
15 Isaiah 61.1-11
16 Isaiah 63.1-5
17 Malachi 3.1-4
18 Malachi 4.1-6
19 Jeremiah 23.1-6
20 Zechariah 9.9-10
21 Sunday Joel 2.23-29
22 Micah 4.1-8
23 Micah 5.1-5
24 Matthew 1.18-25
25 Christmas Matthew 2.1-12
26 Matthew 2.13-18
27 Matthew 2.19-23
28 Sunday Luke 1.5-25
29 Luke 1.26-38
30 Luke 1.39-56
31 Luke 1.57-80

Will you make Bible reading a daily practice? Ask your minister for reading lists; or request a free "Daily Bible Reading 1970" from the:

Whatever merit there is in anything that I have written is simply due to the fact that when I was a child my mother daily read me a part of the Bible and daily made me learn a part of it by heart.

John Ruskin

To do God's work we must have God's power.

To have God's power we must know God's will.

To know God's will we must study God's Word.

[Continued from page 7]

in 1930. The next spring the congregation began construction of a basement on the same site. Services were held in the basement until the church proper could be completed and in 1947 a brick superstructure was erected.

In 1960 a bell fund was started and a bell was secured from the Petri congregation at Ada, Minn. The bell and new organ were dedicated on Dec. 20, 1968.

Organizations active in the congregation include the Ladies Aid, family-type Luther League, Sunday School of about 45 youngsters, adult choir, youth chorus, men's quartet and girls' chorus.

Kenneth Moland from Maple Bay is presently studying for the ministry at the Association Seminary in Minneapolis. Mrs. Gwen Johnson Krapf served as a parish worker.

Maple Bay has been served by the same pastors as Union Lake and Dovre and has been a member of the AFLC since its beginning.

Dovre Lutheran Church

Dovre Lutheran Church was the first congregation to be organized and have a church building in the village of Winger, Minn. The congregation was formally organized in 1895, but its beginning dates back several years earlier. After a controversy in the newly-formed United Church, a number of people joined a group known as "The Friends of Augsburg" and organized a congregation known as Saron Lutheran Church. The name Saron was later changed to Dovre.

Sixty-five members made up the

original congregation which was started on Jan. 2, 1895.

During the early years services were held in various homes and in a nearby schoolhouse. In 1898 the first plans were begun for the ingathering of funds for a building and in 1899 it was decided to build on the cemetery site which had been secured several years before. The construction began in the spring of 1900 and the building was ready for use the following winter.

The Ladies Aid was organized in 1896 and has grown to be one of the most important groups in the church for fund-raising. The Luther League was begun in 1901.

Several families in the newly-formed village of Winger expressed their interest in joining this congregation if plans would be made to move the church building into town. This was done about 1908. In 1915 the construction of the basement and an addition to the building, including a steeple, was completed.

During the pastorate of Rev. Ostby there was an awakening and revival and many accepted Christ as Savior. Mr. Oscar Knutson was the evangelist in the awakening.

Dovre has been known as the "singing congregation."

The church was remodeled and a new chancel and study built on in the summer of 1967.

In the early years, Dovre had these pastors: J. A. Brynjulfson, 1895-96; S. E. Sorenson, 1896-1900; S. Odland, 1900-02; M. Iverson, 1902-07; A. L. Larson, 1907-08; B. O. Clausen, 1908-12; I. H. Hovland, 1912-13; P. Steen, 1913-15; and Jacob Mor-

tenson, 1915-28. Since 1929 the congregation has had the same pastors as Union Lake and Maple Bay. Pastor H. E. Nyhus was stricken with a heart attack while serving the congregations and passed away in June, 1962.

The Parish

In 1928 the Maple Bay and Union Lake congregations met together with Dovre Church to call a pastor to serve them. This had been the practice earlier also but for a number of years Dovre was served by pastors of the Fosston parish to the east.



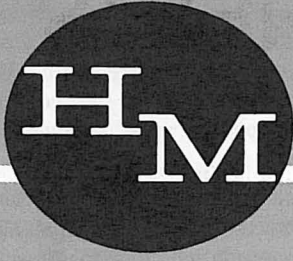
Rev. Forrest Swenson serves the Winger parish and is a graduate of Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary in Minneapolis. Prior to studying for the ministry he was engaged in farming near his native Roseau, Minn. He is married to the former Adeline Besserud of Roseau and the couple has six children: Jerome and Peter, both married and living near Roseau; Marsha, married, in Everett, Wash.; Janet, working in Fargo, N. Dak.; and Ann and Julie at home. Pastor Swenson was ordained in June.



Dovre Lutheran Church



The parsonage of the Winger parish. It was purchased in 1928.



HOME MISSIONS

REMEMBER HOME MISSIONS

Jesus said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work" (John 9:4).

The Lord Jesus Christ was conscious of the fact that the day of life grows shorter for the reaper as well as for those souls to be reaped. Daylight is fading and night is coming in that opportunities to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our homeland are passing away and perhaps return no more. If we are to say anything for Christ, or do any work for Him, we must do it NOW, in the PRESENT. The Lord's business requires **action** and **haste**. Paul said, "We are to redeem the time, for the days are evil."

We on the Home Mission Board are just frustrated by the lack of manpower and funds which we so desperately need in "working the works of Christ while it is day." Every day we hear the Macedonian call coming to our ears from concerned people, "Come over and help us." What are we to say, what are we to do when we don't have the means by which to help. It is true that we have Christ, we have His Gospel, we have prayer, but we need men and money also to carry out the Great Commission. God still uses dedicated earthen vessels to work the works of Christ. I must ask myself, where is my dedication to the task before us; where is the dedication of those within our group who will sacrifice that others might hear the Gospel of Christ? Are we like the priest and Levite in the story of the Good Samaritan, we just "pass by on the other side"? We are so wrapped up in our smug com-

placency and selfishness that many times we don't see the others with deep needs all around us. We fail to see the fields white unto harvest and to hear the voice of God to us, "Go work in my vineyard, for the night cometh, when no man can work." The Gospel is spelled this way, **go-spell** out the name of Jesus Christ in both word and deed.

The challenge of Christ comes to everyone of us in the AFLC. If we are Christian in life as well as in name, then we are to live for God and work for the advancement of His Kingdom. Our purpose in life is not fulfilled in seeking selfish ease, pleasure, fame, riches or power. We do the works of God when we cooperate in any way in advancing the Kingdom's interests. We cooperate by first giving ourselves unto the Lord as the Macedonian Christians and then giving of our time, talents and gifts unto Him.

Jesus said, "I must work the works of him who sent me." We are "sent people" with a message and with a work. But we work together with Him. For the Lord works in us to will and to do. We are ambassadors of His. He works in us and through us through the power of the Holy Spirit. But we must be urgent. The night cometh when no man can work. The day is slowly coming to a close for many of us. Will we face our Lord empty-handed because we failed to give unto His work when the need was so great? May the Lord inspire us to respond in the affirmative, "Here am I Lord; take all there is of me. All I have is yours to use for your Kingdom work."

Rev. Herbert Franz,
Board of Home Missions

[Continued from page 8]

Great Thou Art" in reference to this Bible verse and ended her Bible study with a one sentence prayer. The audience sang "Beautiful Savior."

Those who responded to the president's call for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee were: Mrs. Lorraine Johnson, Ferndale; Mrs. Viola Johnson, Astoria; Mrs. Ringman, Everett.

There was a delicious lunch served by the ladies of Ferndale.

The afternoon session opened with the audience singing the hymn, "Praise Ye the Father."

Viola Johnson made a report on the Praise Program. The money raised for this project is used to support and improve the Bible School, the buildings on the campus and also to maintain and improve the grounds and parking lot. Nine West Coast students are attending the Bible School. Mrs. Alfred Bredeson of Everett reported on Mission Scholarships and said there was a reserve of \$500.00 and we are waiting for scholarship applicants. The offering amounted to \$158.13 for the Praise Program.

Mrs. Elvira Ostlund sang "Thanks to God." The audience then sang two hymns, "I Ought to Love My Saviour" and "I Love to Tell the Story."

Lorraine Johnson introduced the speaker, a missionary, Mrs. Norman Gamble. She and three other ladies wore the Pakistan native costume and explained what type the poor women wore and what type the wealthy woman wore. She based her story on Matthew 21, verse 28: "Son, go work today in my vineyard," and told how she learned to really know the Lord when she was a high school student, and how her yearning had been fulfilled by serving Him as a missionary in Pakistan. She described all the adverse things they had going against them, but what a joy to be able to convert a Pakistan family by leading them to read and learn and hear the Gospel. After her wonderful story, Mrs. Adrian Hamann of Kalispell conducted the prayer service.

"We Have a Sure Prophetic Word" was sung by the audience and Mrs. Harriet Erickson prayed the closing prayer and the audience closed by praying the benediction.

Mrs. Howard B. Johnson
Astoria, Oregon

CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

COUNCIL SPOKESMAN URGES SOCIAL SECURITY CHANGES

Washington, D.C.—(LC)—A spokesman from the Lutheran Council in the USA, testifying here on proposed amendments to the Social Security Act, affirmed “the need of this nation to rise to a new level of moral commitment to the well-being of all its citizens.”

“People are the nation’s most precious resource and their welfare must be our first priority,” asserted Henry J. Whiting, secretary for social research and planning in the Lutheran Council’s Division of Welfare Services.

Appearing at an open hearing of the Committee on Ways and Means of the U.S. House of Representatives on November 4, Dr. Whiting said:

“All Americans wherever they live

in this land, whatever their circumstances of birth, their social situation—children, the poor, the deprived, the aged, the handicapped—all should be able to walk in dignity and peace as responsible participating members of our national community.”

ORDINATION OF WOMEN MAY BE RECOMMENDED TO LCA

Minneapolis, Minn.—(LCA)—Ordination of women probably will be recommended next year to the Lutheran Church in America, the president of the 3.3 million-member denomination, Dr. Robert J. Marshall, said at a news conference here.

Dr. Marshall said it was more difficult to predict what the LCA’s fourth biennial convention will do about such a recommendation from a special study commission when it meets in

Minneapolis, June 25 to July 1.

He noted that there is disagreement among Christians over what the Bible says about having women as pastors and that the Apostle Paul can be quoted on both sides of the issue.

He said he personally believes that St. Paul’s statements would not have permitted ordination of women in his time, but added that “these are temporary counsels and not binding on the church in our generation.”

Dr. Marshall estimated that only about a half-dozen women either are or have attended LCA seminaries as full-time students. At present there are no women Lutheran pastors in the United States.

The recommendation about ordaining women is being prepared by the LCA Commission on the Comprehensive Study of the Doctrine of the Ministry.

GOOD SHEPHERD PASTOR INSTALLED

Marvin Haara was installed as pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Virginia, Minnesota, at a service held on Sunday evening, September 14.

A pot-luck supper was served by the Ladies Aid of the church preceding the actual installation service. After the supper, Pastor Herbert Franz spoke from Acts, challenging both pastor and congregation.

The installation service began with a welcome and a singing of the hymn “Lord, Pour Thy Spirit From On High.” Following this hymn there was Scripture reading and prayer by Pastor Haara. Special music for the occasion included two vocal duets by Mr. and Mrs. Eli Wainio, who sang “Have Thine Own Way, Lord” and “Living For Jesus,” and a vocal solo by Pastor Herbert Franz, who sang “Teach Me To Pray.”

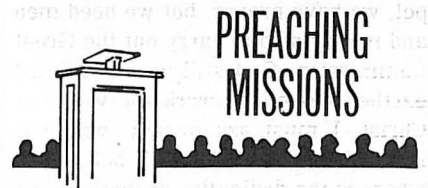
Pastor John P. Strand presided at the installation and spoke from Ephesians 4. He challenged both pastor and congregation to walk worthy of the calling. There was a time for responses following the message. Pastor Haara responded first, followed by Pastor Franz and Pastor Trygve Dahle. Folke Sandstrom, a deacon, gave the response on the part of the congregation. A closing prayer and benediction followed by the hymn “Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing” closed the service. A fellowship hour followed.

PRAYER PROCLAMATION IN MINNEAPOLIS ORIGINATED IN AFLC SEMINARY

A Prayer Proclamation issued by Mayor Charles Stenvig of Minneapolis, Minn., for October 14, originated among the students of Association

Free Lutheran Theological Seminary, Plymouth Village.

The proclamation called upon the people of the city to ask the Lord’s help for guidance and for healing in the nation and for His blessings.



White Earth, N. Dak.
Nov. 30-Dec. 3
Norman Lutheran Church
R. L. Lee and Reuben Wee, pastors
Speaker: Rev. Leslie Galland, Spicer,
Minn.

TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT
 February 1, 1969 to October 31, 1969

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$36,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$25,034.56
Seminary & Bible School	51,175.00	38,381.25	19,689.95
Missions	72,800.00	54,599.99	34,317.69
Praise Program	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>22,500.00</u>	<u>10,084.97</u>
	\$189,975.00	\$142,481.24	\$89,127.17

One Grand Fellowship — \$7,563.33
 Library Fund — \$50.00
 Legacies (to Missions) — \$10,704.34

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