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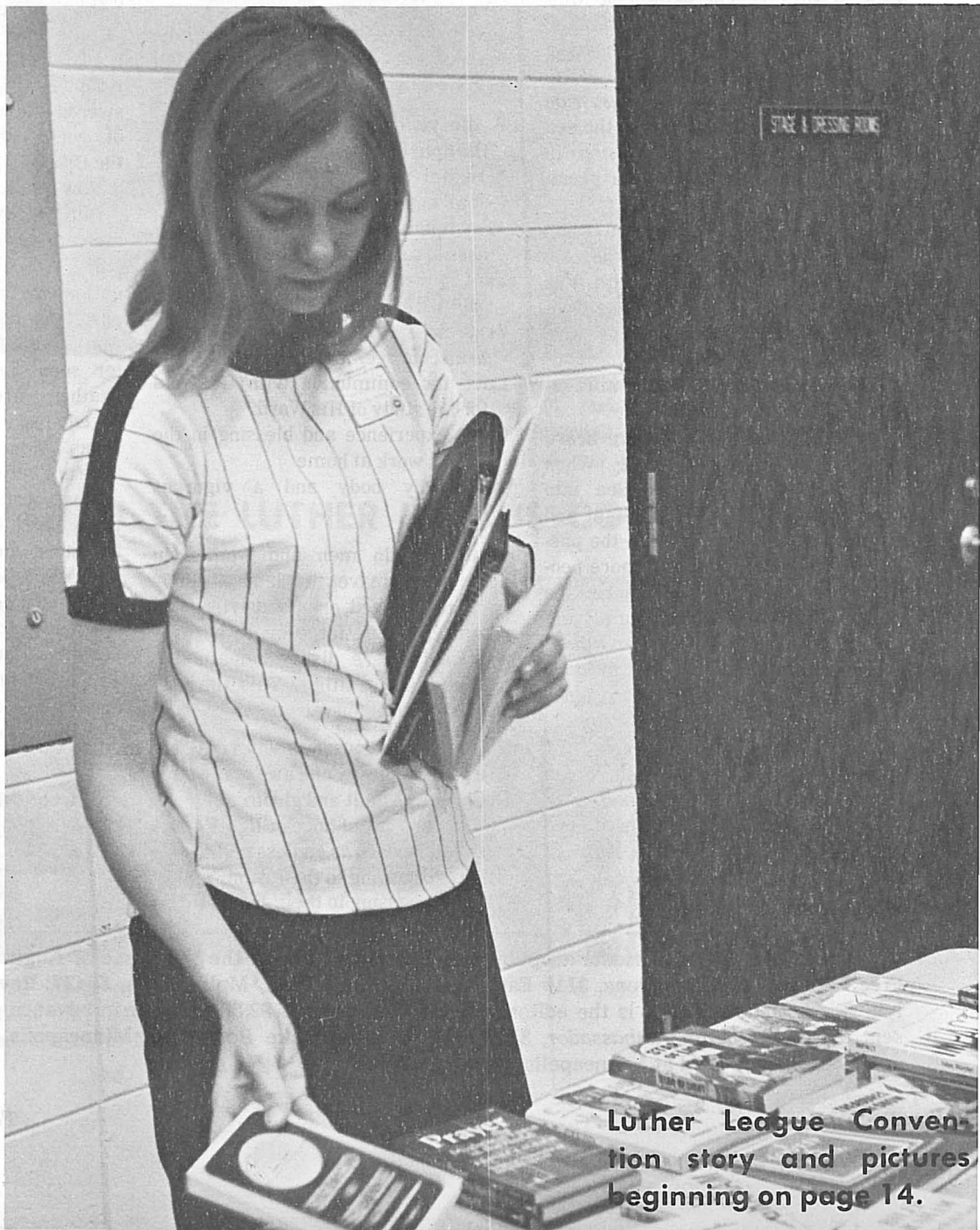
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September 16, 1969

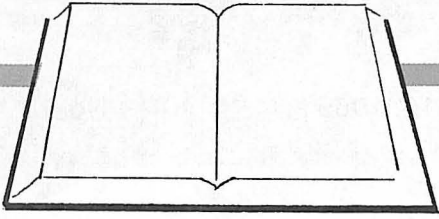
No. 18

LUTHERAN

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Luther League Convention story and pictures beginning on page 14.



According to the Word

COME . . . AND HELP US

This S.O.S. we are told about in Acts 16:9.

To begin with the Apostle Paul had planned on doing missionary work in various places in Asia Minor. But at two different times the Holy Spirit hindered him from going where he would. When he came down to Troas, which is on the west side of Asia Minor and just across the sea from Greece, he had a vision in which a man from Macedonia pleaded for help.

Paul, who had been obedient when the Lord had closed doors, was now obedient when He opened doors. For the first time the Apostle to the Gentiles crossed over into Europe with the message of salvation.

This message has wrought miraculous results.

Saved men and women have heard the call for help and come. When Paul crossed the Aegean Sea into Greece he brought heaven's light and life through the Gospel. With the passing of the years more and more people were converted and more and more churches were founded. Eventually the Gospel spread to those countries of Europe where most of our **Ambassador** readers were born, or their descendants.

Often these torchbearers for Christ met with hard-hearted, proud people. Often these redeemed soldiers of Jesus Christ suffered and died in the cause of the King of Kings, but they heard the call and came.

The Macedonian cries have been many. They have come from Africa, India, China, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Asia Minor, South America, and many other areas.

What is a missionary's equipment? Let a world famous missionary—J. Hudson Taylor—tell us:

"A life yielded in God, controlled by His Spirit.

A restful trust in God for the supply of all needs.

A sympathetic spirit and a willingness to take a lowly place.

Tact in dwelling with men and adaptability toward circumstances.

Zeal in service and steadfastness in discouragement.

Love for communion with God and for the study of His Word.

Some experience and blessing in the Lord's work at home.

A healthy body and a vigorous mind."

But why do men and women in their prime leave the land of their birth, their loved ones and friends, a potential career, for a far-away mission field where disease, death and loneliness are waiting? This time let a Christian poet answer:

"One hundred thousand souls a day

Are passing one by one away

In Christless guilt and gloom:

Without one ray of hope or light,

With future dark as endless night,

They are passing to their doom,

They are passing to their doom."

We know, of course, that the mission challenge is world-wide, for Jesus has made that so plain. But at the risk of being called narrowly provincial, I would like to say that the lost in Brazil have sounded an S.O.S. to us in the Association: "Come over and help us." And already the Abels, the Grothes, the Knapps and the Dyruds have answered the call. Yes, and a number of young people are preparing for the Brazil field.

How God has blessed us!

But before long we shall need to face another situation. It is this: will our Free Lutheran Congregations be able and willing to support those who will answer the call? And we shall need to face this matter soon. Look at the picture: the heathen are facing eternity **unsaved; no one has told them of Jesus.** Men and women are saying, "We are willing to go."

Most certainly we who are Christians are the product of foreign missions; and Paul was probably the first European missionary. "When the saints come marching in," Paul will be there, and we will be there because Paul and others obeyed the Savior's command to go. He had sacrificed his life on the cross for our salvation, but He said to others, "Go, tell!"

You can **pray**; you can **work**.
Maybe you can go?

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.

While still a student at Augsburg the late Fritjof B. Monseth wrote the following essay. Part of it was read at his funeral by Dr. Iver Olson. It is reprinted here in full because it reveals the code by which he sought to live and it has a challenge for us today.

DIRECTION

By Pastor Fritjof B. Monseth

If the personality of Christ conquers my life, truth and love must become my source of direction. The things that ruled in His life must rule in my life. Few men, if any, are great enough in themselves to exercise even a temporary influence over others, but the humblest individual may become the greatest personality when Christ is permitted to reign. In like manner the one who is the weakest contender for the cause of truth may become the strongest when the Strong One is at the center of his being. That which applies to individuals in this case applies equally well to groups. Those who will conquer must first be conquered.

What will be the direction of my life if it is brought under the compulsion of the personality of Christ? It will be in the way of fearlessness in the face of any situation. So great was the faith of Christ in the power of truth that He dared to expose the evil of those who were regarded by themselves and others as good people. He exempted no one. Had He assumed the methods of a modern diplomat He would not have exposed the errors of His fellow religionists. But He was concerned about bearing witness of the truth at all costs.

Truth must win! Truth shall make free!

Only insofar as men will subject themselves to truth is progress possible in any field. Whether it be in the realm of the material or in the spiritual, I must bow before truth. And in the measure I dare to let this fearless spirit dominate my life, will my life count in the battle for righteousness.

Under the rule of the Christ my direction will also lead in the way of concern for those about me and for those far away. His concern was one of loving, burning earnestness. For those whom others thought unimportant He showed personal interest.

My way will lead in the direction of sympathy. A deep sense of compassion was continually motivating the Christ. To the despised races His heart was not closed, and to the bigoted leaders He did not fail to sound a warning. Other men have spoken many clever and true things, but very frequently with an air of superiority. Instead of entering into the problems of life feelingly, some brilliant men seated in a place of comfort have scornfully denounced the ignorance of their fellow-beings. What they have said may have been

painfully true, but because the truth issued from a heart of pride, it lacked the warmth of love that is needed in order to ignite another life.

Directed by the motives of perfect fearlessness, genuine concern, and tender sympathy, the Christ went forward pouring out His life in complete self-giving. To minister, not to be ministered unto, was the direction of His entire life. Whether we see Him on the mountains above or in the midst of the thronging multitudes, streams of life issued forth to help and to heal. In the face of bitter and cruel opposition He followed in the direction truth and love led. Men would not understand, and they finally nailed Him to a cross. Yet He was confident that He had not lost. He came to bear witness of the truth and He came to minister. Before yielding up His spirit He exclaimed, "It is finished!" Truth had won! Love had conquered!

Can it be that my life, too, in the struggle for righteousness may follow in the way of self-giving? Is that too high an ideal? It must be my way if the Christ has conquered me; if He lives in me.

(from *The Augsburgian*, 1935)

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427

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Name
 Street
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(If you are a member of an AFLC congregation, we suggest you subscribe through your church.)

DEATH OF MISS AGNES TANGJERD NOTED

Miss Agnes Tangjerd, former librarian at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minn., passed away the first week in August. More recently she had been archivist at Augsburg. She was the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Peder Tangjerd. He was prominent as a pastor, teacher and editor in the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America and its antecedents.

WOMEN for Christ

IN GOD WE TRUST

Mrs. Karl Stendal, Pukwana, S. Dak.

This slogan has been on our coins for many decades. For what may we trust God?

Psalm 37:3 admonishes us to "Trust in the Lord...and verily thou shalt be fed." God desires that we trust Him for our **food**, an important daily necessity. He sends the sunshine and rain in order that the seeds may grow and bear food. "The birds, without barn or store-house, are fed; from them let us learn to trust for our bread."

"He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler" (Psalm 91:4). Thus God provides **shelter** for us. How much we need the shelter He has provided for us!

God will supply the needed **strength** for each day's testings. We have a faithful God who can supply our needs. In Isaiah 26:4, we are admonished, "Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

We may trust God for **guidance**. The Psalmist admonishes us: "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him," in Psalm 37:5. We may wait on the Lord as the Israelites did at the Red Sea. They learned how the Lord helps in time of need when they called on Him. You may have experienced God's guidance in the time of a particular need.

"And why take ye thought for **raiment**? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not,

neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?" (Matthew 6:28-30). We have a wonderful God!

We may trust in God for **courage**. "So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Hebrews 13:6). We need that courage to live a life that is pleasing to God. It is that courage that has enabled

God's children to do great things for Him. We need that courage today to be the faithful witnesses He would desire us to be.

May the Lord make our lives channels of blessing as a result of a faith: "In God We Trust"

"I will put my trust in Jesus for tomorrow,
As I've put my trust in Jesus for today.
He will keep His own in happiness and sorrow,
And will guide each footstep in the narrow way."

—Selected

SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT WMF WILL MEET AT WEBSTER

The annual convention of the South Dakota District Women's Missionary Federation will be held in Tabor Lutheran Church, rural Webster, on Wed., Oct. 1. Raynard Huglen is the local pastor.

No program details have been given, but registration and a coffee hour will begin at 10:30 a.m. There will be sessions at 11:00 and 1:30. Dinner will be served at noon.

Mrs. Marie Kost of Eagle Butte is the district president.

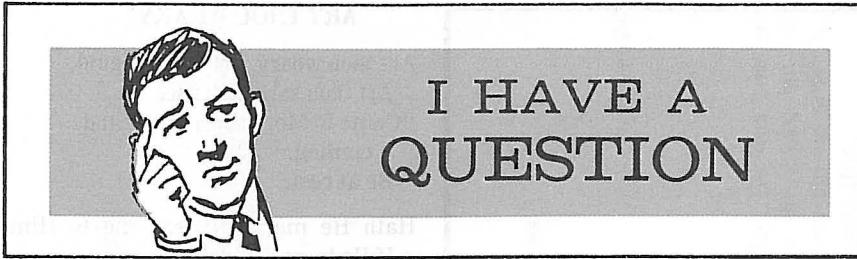


DALTON WOMEN HONORED FOR WMF SERVICE

These three women were awarded Honorary Memberships in the Women's Missionary Federation by the Zion Ladies Aid of Dalton, Minn., in appreciation of their many years of faithful service. They are, left to right, Mrs. Bert Sander, Mrs. Clifford Formo and Mrs. Berton Skrove.

After receiving their certificates and pins an appropriate program was given and refreshments were served.

"Holding forth the word of life: that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain" (Phil. 2:16).



QUESTION: Who or what are the "interdenominational churches"?

ANSWER: It may be difficult to give a complete answer to this question insofar as that most of these churches also are independent, with differences from one group to another. They are usually not listed in the compilations of religious groups, and often claim to have no specific doctrinal statements. It has been said that they are baptists who are ashamed to admit it. Baptists, generally, are not so; they state their beliefs and practices, and are to be respected for it.

We suspect that the interdenominational" or "non-denomina-

tional" front is used to attract people from all denominations, intimating that they accept the teachings of all the Christian denominations. Upon closer examination, however, one will discover that their teachings on the Sacraments follow most closely those of the baptists. We have not known a single instance of such a group's professing and practicing the Lutheran views on Baptism and the Lord's Supper—which they should do if they truly were interdenominational as they claim to be. We would rather deal with religious groups who forthrightly state what they believe and practice, even if we cannot agree with them in all points.

Iver Olson

THE BOOK OF DAILY DEVOTIONS

Letters are going out these days to pastors and other leaders in the AFLC with the request that they submit names of people who are willing to write a short meditation on an assigned Scripture passage. We trust that the response of the people who are approached will be favorable.

May we remind the pastors and the other leaders whom we are approaching that we should like to have a preponderance of men from the congregations to do this writing. This is not because we fear that the ladies cannot write so well as the men; usually they write better. But the ladies also feel better about having their men taking the lead in the projects of the Church, and it is only when the men fail to act that the ladies take over to save the day and the situation. The AFLC is a Church of strong men, and we want this to be reflected in the proposed book. Ladies will be included; but let the men be in the majority.

Iver Olson

OLD COPIES OF THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR AVAILABLE

Copies of most of the issues of **The Lutheran Ambassador** which have been printed in six and one half years still are available at our office in Minneapolis, Minn. Before long we shall be destroying these copies except for those we keep in our permanent files. Anyone wishing any of these back copies (a few issues are no longer available is welcome to write and ask for them, free of charge. Please state what specific numbers you want and they will be supplied to you if at all possible. There is no charge but a small amount to cover postage would be welcome. Write to The Lutheran Ambassador, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55427.

This announcement will be printed once more before the offer is withdrawn.

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, KWYZ, Sunday a.m., 9:05. Calvary Lutheran, Francis Monseth, pastor.

Grand Forks, North Dakota

The Trinity Lutheran Hour, KILO, 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, Kenneth Moland, student 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.

NOW AVAILABLE

AFLC SUNDAY SCHOOL MATERIAL

- Grade 4—The Apostles' Creed
- Grade 5—Old Testament History
- Grade 7—Christ in the Bible
- Grade 8—The Book of Acts
- Grade 9—The Overall Study of the Bible
- Senior High—Stewardship and the Teens
A Christian Teen and Understanding the Adult

All studies come in quarterly pamphlets containing thirteen (13) lessons each. The courses for Grades 4 through 9 will have second and third quarters available on or about November 1 and February 1 respectively. The present quarters cover September through November. At least one more Senior High course will be ready before the third quarter begins in March.

The cost of each study book is 45 cents with no charge for postage.

There are no teacher's manuals.

Please send your order to Department of Parish Education,
AFLC, c/o Miss Judith Wold, 324 North Arnold, Thief River Falls,
Minnesota 56701

ORDER NOW

ART THOU WEARY?

Art thou weary, art thou languid,
Art thou sore distrest?
"Come to Me," saith One, "and,
coming,
Be at rest."

Hath He marks to lead me to Him,
If He be my guide?
"In His feet and hands are wound-
prints,
And His side."

Is there diadem, as monarch,
That His brow adorns?
"Yea, a crown in very surety,
But of thorns."

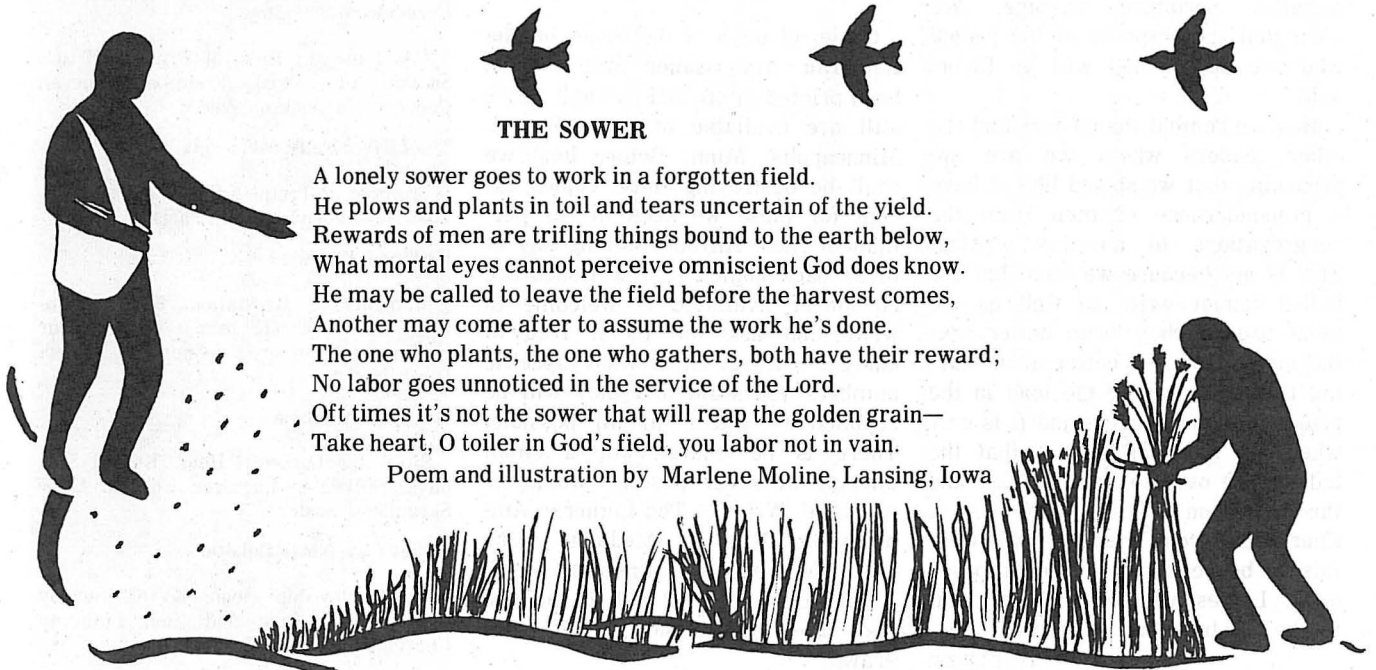
If I find Him, if I follow,
What His guerdon here?
"Many a sorrow, many a labor,
Many a tear."

If I still hold closely to Him,
What hath He at last?
"Sorrow vanquished, labor ended,
Jordan passed."

If I ask Him to receive me,
Will He say me nay?
"Not till earth and not till heaven
Pass away."

Finding, following, keeping, strug-
gling,
Is He sure to bless?
"Saints, apostles, prophets, martyrs,
Answer, "Yes."

J. M. Neale
(from *Concordia*, 1917)



THE SOWER

A lonely sower goes to work in a forgotten field.
He plows and plants in toil and tears uncertain of the yield.
Rewards of men are trifling things bound to the earth below,
What mortal eyes cannot perceive omniscient God does know.
He may be called to leave the field before the harvest comes,
Another may come after to assume the work he's done.
The one who plants, the one who gathers, both have their reward;
No labor goes unnoticed in the service of the Lord.
Oft times it's not the sower that will reap the golden grain—
Take heart, O toiler in God's field, you labor not in vain.

Poem and illustration by Marlene Moline, Lansing, Iowa

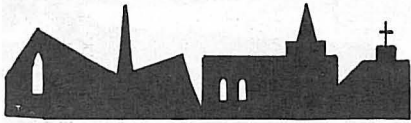
MEET

the

Churches

OF OUR

FELLOWSHIP



Today: The Lake Region Parish (S. Dak.)

Tabor Lutheran Church

Named after the Biblical Mount Tabor, the congregation's church is located on a hill in Day County, which makes it visible for many miles at several points. And on a clear night the lights of a half dozen towns can be seen from Tabor.

The church was built in 1903, a rather unusual building because even though it was small it has a sloping floor. However, by the time the steeple had been erected and a bell installed it was 1908. The total cost from the beginning of construction was only about \$2000.

Later on the chancel was enlarged (1925). A parish hall, separated from the church proper, was built in 1937. For many years it served as an overflow area for extra large gatherings, but a loudspeaker had to be used. In 1966-67 12 feet were added to the west

side of the church, the parish hall was attached, a basement was put in beneath the hall and addition and a large spacious entry to the church was made. Today Tabor can accommodate any group it is called upon to handle.

Tabor congregation has always been known for its musical talent. For many years there was a male chorus. At present there are four choirs—cherub, junior, youth and senior.

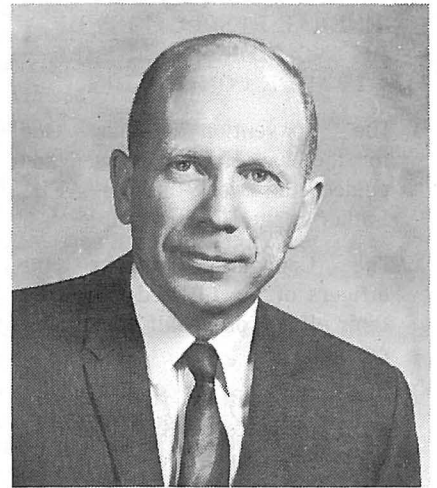
Sixty-seven years old, having been organized on January 12, 1902, one man served the church over half that time as pastor. He is Rev. Edw. Vik, who was pastor of Tabor from 1928 to 1963. Today he and his wife continue to make their home in Wauabay, S. Dak.

Other pastors have been J. U. Pederson, 1902-05; K. Knutson, 1905-15; H. M. Hemmingsen, 1916-17; H. O. Lee, 1918-19; O. C. Olson, 1919-23; Trygve F. Dahle, 1923-28; and Raynard Huglen, 1963—. Dale Battleson and Larry Severson, both AFLC pastors now, assisted briefly as student pastors.

Always affiliated with either the Lutheran Free Church or the AFLC, Tabor Church is situated 12 miles northwest of Webster and 10 miles southwest of Roslyn.

Saron Lutheran Church

On June 8 Saron (Norwegian for "Sharon") observed her 85th anniversary. Miss Marie Kjelaas, daughter of pioneer pastor L. E. Kjelaas, the first man to serve Saron regularly, was present, and Mrs. Milton Erickson (Ruth), daughter of Rev.



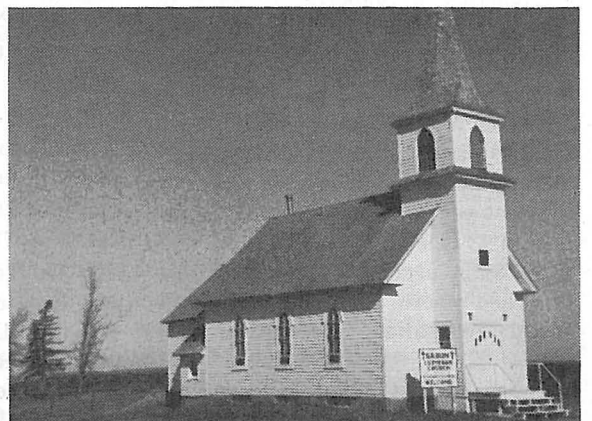
Raynard O. J. Huglen, pastor of Lake Region Lutheran Parish, also serves as editor of **The Lutheran Ambassador**, a position he has held since 1963. He is a son of a Lutheran pastor and a native of Wildrose, N. Dak. Mr. Huglen is a graduate of both Augsburg College and Augsburg Seminary and has served parishes at Medicine Lake, Mont., New Effington, S. Dak., and Hatton, N. Dak.

Mons Gjerde, also attended. Her father had the longest pastorate at Saron of recent years. Only one former pastor of the congregation was able to attend, Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson. But the two sons of the congregation who are pastors were both present: Rev. Calvin J. Storley, a regional youth director in the American Lutheran Church and Rev. L. B. Sateren, now a retired ALC pastor.

Organized in the Norwegian-Danish Conference on May 27, 1884, Saron subsequently affiliated with the United Church in 1890 and the



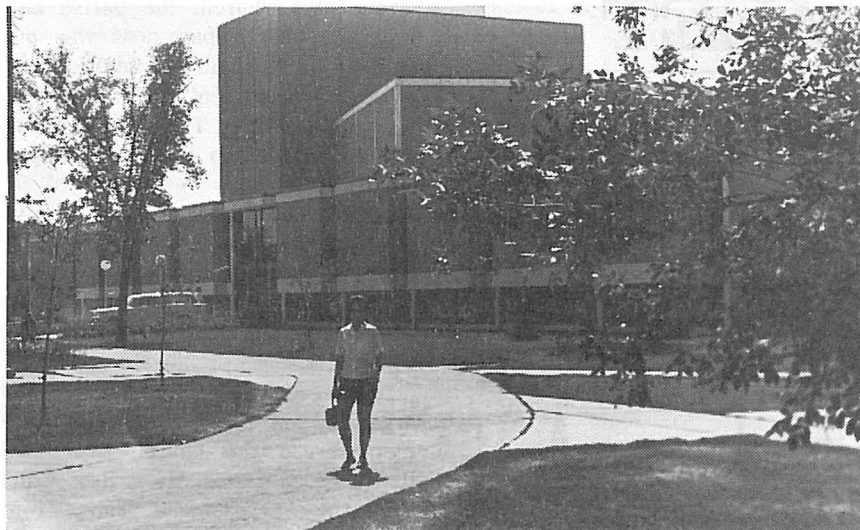
Tabor Lutheran Church



Saron Lutheran Church

**GENERAL RESOLUTIONS OF
THE 2ND BIENNIAL LUTHER
LEAGUE CONVENTION**

1. The Convention thanks God for the way He has blessed and guided the work of the AFLC Luther League Federation.
2. The Convention thanks the officers of the LL Federation for their efforts on behalf of the Federation.
3. The Convention thanks the student pastor, Ken Moland, and the members of St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church of Fargo, N. Dak., and all others who have contributed to making this convention a success.
4. The Convention recommends that the youth actively oppose drug usage, pornography and the use of tobacco and alcoholic beverages by a program of education and positive Christian living.
5. The Convention recommends that the youth faithfully work and worship toward the building of the local congregation, which is the right form of the Kingdom of God on earth.
6. The Convention recommends that a biennial report be presented by the President and Treasurer of the LLF to the business meeting of the National Luther League Federation.
7. The Convention thanks the



The Center for the Arts where all convention sessions were held.

8. The Convention recommends that a handbook of guidelines consisting of philosophy, policy and procedure be drawn up together by the youth board and the executive committee of the LLF.
9. The Convention recommends that the congregations in the immediate area consider cancelling their activities for the week of the convention.
10. The Convention recommends that the pastors of the AFLC cooperate fully with the LLF.
11. The Convention recommends that our faith be expressed in the Bible as the Word of God, and that we submit to the authorities God has placed over us.
12. The Convention recommends that districts hold youth rallies with an emphasis on Bible study and evangelism.
13. The convention recommends that the executive committee, together with the Youth Board of the AFLC, investigate the possibility of having an annual LL convention.
14. The convention recommends that an attempt be made by the LLF to sponsor a counseling and Gospel team during the summer months.

A report of the Luther League Convention and more pictures can be found on pages 14-16.

**LUTHERAN CHURCH
RECORDS 150,000-MEMBER
INCREASE**

GENEVA—(LWF)—A gain of 150,000 baptized members by Lutheran churches around the world in the past year has boosted the denomination's global membership to 75,157,352, according to statistics compiled here by the Lutheran World Federation Information Bureau.

The world total represents 58,164,757 members reported by Lutheran churches in some 80 countries

plus 16,992,595 Lutherans who belong to United churches in Germany which also have some Reformed congregations.

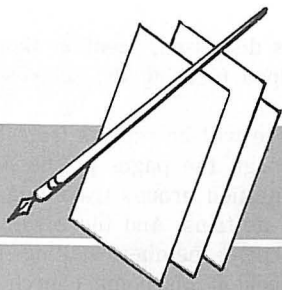
The Lutheran Church is the third largest grouping of Christians following the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches.

In the homeland of the Reformation, where over half—or 37,600,219—of the Lutherans are located, a slight dip compared to last year's figure was reported in total membership, mostly attributed to losses in East Germany.

(Continued from page 10)

beautiful Kakabeka Falls, Ft. William and Port Arthur with their massive grain terminals at the lakehead. And so to return by way of the North Shore and Duluth, always a delightful journey.

Summer, a time of church gatherings, of vacation trips, of visiting with families and friends, of occupation and leisure, of prelude to what in many ways is the new year.



EDITORIALS

A GOOD CONVENTION

The fifth Luther League Convention, or second biennial Luther League Convention, whichever you prefer, closed almost a month ago in Moorhead, Minnesota. But the memories of it and the impact of it will go on and on. When human lives and spirits are touched, who can say when the influence of specific events ever ceases to be?

It was a good convention, even a wonderful convention. We have been to so many Luther League conventions, all of them inspirational and wonderful, all of them alive with the presence of God's Spirit. It is difficult to rank them in order of impact upon oneself (and no two people view all events exactly the same) because our minds tend to be influenced overmuch by that which we experienced first (primacy) and that which we experienced most recently (recency).

But this was a good Luther League convention. For those Luther Leaguers who made decisions for Jesus at Moorhead, or found new strength, or learned Christ's purpose for them, or gained new courage to face their particular situations, it may indeed rank as the best ever.

There was some very fine preaching and teaching. Rev. Alban Douglas of Three Hills, Alberta, won the hearts of the people, young and old, through his interesting, simple and vivid sermons. They were laced with references to God's grace in his own unlikely background and in his life as a missionary, pastor and teacher. His description of his father's conversion at the 11th hour after 17 years of prayer for just that was especially moving.

In his unique chalk-talks, preceded by a thought-provoking commentary and testimony, Mr. Ray Lahikainen of Chicago brought the message of God in a different dimension to the convention audience at the evening services.

Our own Pastor Robert Rieth of Kirkland, Wash., was the morning Bible teacher. Like Pastor Douglas, he directed the studies under the convention's theme "How Big Is God!" In a clear and forceful way he depicted some of the things God is able to do in individual lives.

It should also be mentioned that various young people through talks and music served in an effective way to witness to their peers. There is some real ability among the youth of our church (we saw just a fraction of that talent) and if this is yielded to God's service through the ministry, missions, other Christian vocations, and in the

laity, the future is indeed bright for our church fellowship and any other areas where we may have influence.

Personally, it was gratifying to see that the convention was run on a non-sensational basis, as has also been the case in the past. In a day when so many think that you have to ape the world to get any hearing at all, it was satisfying to find that the program made its appeal on the Word of God, undergirded by a good deal of prayer. The music was the kind that has stood the test of time and where the new was introduced it had meaning and substance.

As indicated earlier, it is dangerous to make comparisons with the past, for memory can play tricks. But we feel quite safe to say that in twenty-five years of attending Luther League conventions, the food served at Moorhead State was the best of all. Delicious and bountiful food. In fact, there was really too much and each person was required to exert some discipline. The whole setting at Moorhead proved very good for the convention also.

What might have been improved at the convention? The talk-back sessions after the evening services should have been given a better trial. One night out of four was not enough for a testing. There should be a time for testimonies, but there could also be a great value in smaller groups discussing issues, not always in the form of what we call "testimonies." We'd like to see this given a try again, perhaps at some other time in the program, if necessary.

There were problems in planning. Arrangements that had seemed settled fell through at a late hour. New agreements didn't give time for needed preparation. The business session was scheduled too late in the program and then had too little time for covering the business at hand. Work on the constitution had to be delayed another two years!

There were more men counsellors than needed and too few women counsellors for the girls, who outnumbered the boys by three to one. A number of key people at the convention had to return for Sunday responsibilities. This left their work to others. In the future it would be good if those who have convention or Bible Camp duties arrange to spend the full time at the convention or camp. Local congregations should expect this.

No one outside of Pastor Rieth came from the West Coast District until Saturday evening. A national convention doesn't seem like a national convention when an important area goes almost unrepresented. No one who hasn't lived in that district can really appreciate the problems of distance, time and money involved in coming back East. But when the convention is held only every two years it would do so much for the fellowship if some of the West Coasters could come.

Finally, the Luther League Federation remains a very loose organization with little sense of togetherness. Largely, it functions for the purpose of holding a convention every two years. At present it has no projects although a committee will study the matter during the next two years. The re-activating of the Federation Council (national and district officers) for a yearly meeting which could also serve as a leadership training school

would help to create a greater sense of unity in the LLF.

Until some full-time or part-time youth director is secured, it will be difficult to make the LLF a vital fellowship within the Association. Of course, youth work sinks or swims according to the program developed in the local congregation, but there is value in the church-wide fellowship and assistance that can be given in youth work.

A very fine Luther League convention was held in Moorhead last month. Great appreciation should be expressed to the local committees for the arrangements they had to make, to the executive committee headed by Pastor Robert Lee, and to all who shared in any of the several responsibilities. Above all, thanks be to God for His blessing and for the working of His Spirit among the youth of our church.

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

About 60 Bible School students and 14 Seminary scholars have begun another term on the campus of the Association Schools at Medicine Lake. For those returning there is the joy of greeting old friends and walking familiar pathways. And the newcomers experience the thrill of what is new and strange, as well as the opportunity to make new friendships.

And for both groups, whether of men studying for the ministry or young men and women seeking greater familiarity with the Bible, there is the excitement of handling the Word of God and listening for the Master's voice under the guidance of consecrated teachers.

Nine or ten men will make up the first or junior year of the Seminary. While entrance upon theological studies is no guarantee of completion of the course of study, prospects are that the young school's largest class will be graduated three years hence. The Bible School has its largest enrollment as it begins its fourth year of operation. Enrollment should continue to climb for some years. While the school was established to primarily serve Association young people, it will increasingly find opportunities to provide a Bible training for youth of other Lutheran churches and even other denominations.

The Lord has graciously provided faculty for our schools. Two new full-time teachers will be at work this year and one who has moved from part- to full-time work. The former are Pastors Laurel Udden and Amos Dyrud. The latter is Mr. Donald Rodvold, who will work basically at the Bible School. Pastor Udden comes to us with a rich background of pastoral ministry, youth work and conference preaching. Pastor Dyrud has a wealth of experience as pastor, teacher and administrator in almost twenty years of mission service in Madagascar. Mr. Rodvold is already well known throughout the church for his excellent work with the Bible School choir.

The passing of Pastor Fritjof Monseth leaves the faculty situation one member short of what it might have been, but with the use of part-time instructors our needs will be taken care of and the students of both schools can look forward to having a variety of teachers during the year, a situation which is always stimulating.

As faculty for this year is discussed, mention should be made of all who have helped to bring the schools to where they are today.

As the year progresses there will be reports from the schools. Some will come through the pages of the *Ambassador*, others through deputation groups travelling on week-ends or by the choir on its trips. And there will be the personal contacts, a faculty member visiting the congregations or a student back at his home church on a holiday. God grant that the news will be that of things happening for Christ's kingdom in the lives of students, under the gracious working of the Holy Spirit.

And in the churches of the Association and among other interested friends two things must take place. First, there must be earnest prayer made for the Medicine Lake campus. Not much will occur without that lifeline. And, second, there must be a mounting financial support. Contributions to the schools must increase notably from year to year.

God bless the Seminary and Bible School as they launch the new academic year.

SUMMER IS OVER

The end of summer brings heightened activity in many areas of life. But one backward glance at the summer's program remains. And summers are fuller than they used to be.

There was the Annual Conference in Minneapolis, the local and district Bible camps, the Family Bible Camp at Alexandria and the Luther League Federation convention in Moorhead. And for some there were church and family anniversaries, reunions and evangelistic campaigns. Add to this a multitude of projects for which the summer seemed ideal and the regular work by which one makes a livelihood or maintains a home or learns obedience and diligence.

And there were vacation trips. For the very fortunate, a journey to the old country—Finland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, England, Denmark, or a host of other lands from which one's forebears may have come.

Others travelled to far-off points in the United States and Canada—to the East or the Far West, to the Southwest or the Canadian Rockies. So much to see and so little that is actually discovered.

Our own travels this summer were northward to the sister country of Canada. It shouldn't be strange that that sprawling giant still holds a peculiar fascination, for in our case it is there that life's first conscious memories lie. There was a trip back to old familiar places in Saskatchewan and some where only scattered fragments or recollection endure. Often one longs to recapture things as they were, but the evidence abounds that the social revolution in a rural land has made many changes in over thirty years. Some family friends remain, still other folks remember names and faces and there is a pleasure in meeting once again.

Other trips were made to Manitoba and Ontario. To places like Winnipeg Beach, Ft. Frances and its magnificent Noden Causeway across Rainy Lake, Atikokan, the

(Continued on page 8)

It seemed as if Jesus was being overcome by the powers of evil. It seemed as if justice was a forgotten word. But Jesus gained the victory even while dying on the cross. Even here the enemy did not have the last word.

The calmness with which Jesus died, the way in which He loved even His enemies, the way He saved a soul and brought peace to the heart of a sinner even while dying on the cross, the earthquake and darkness sent by God, the tearing of the veil in the temple, the raising of the dead, the testimony of the centurion—all brought glory to Christ and caused Him to die as a hero rather than as a criminal.

The enemy wished to greatly discredit Christ by causing Jesus to die a most humiliating death, even the death on the cross. God turned the tables. The enemies of Jesus became the villains, and Jesus became victor.

CONCLUSION

Again we may ask, was it necessary for Jesus to die on the cross in order to save man from his sin?

Ever since man first fell into sin, God tried various ways to win man back to Himself. He sent blessing and judgment. He sent prophets in an attempt to reason with man. He performed miracles, thus proving Himself to be the Lord God. But man would not listen to God. Man refused to repent of his sin. Man blindly and madly was racing toward hell and his own doom, refusing to be stopped even by God.

Finally in desperation, with man on the very brink of hell, as a last resort, God permitted His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to be crucified, in order that man could see and sense the full consequence of sin before plunging into hell and thus reaching the point of no return.

Did God succeed in bringing man to His senses?

Yes and no. Many a person has stopped in his tracks and made an about face, again facing God when he saw what sin, even his own sin, did to Jesus.

However, sad to say, many rush right by the cross and over the brink into hell to be lost forever. God has done everything that He possibly could to warn them and to save them, but they would live their own lives. They would cling to the sin that destroys them.

Was it necessary for God to pay so great a price for sin? For some it still doesn't seem to be enough. They still go lost. But there is no more that can be paid. God gave the very best He had when He gave Jesus. What else can be given or done to save the unrepentant and bring them to their senses? Nothing more can be done for those who refuse to be saved.



New Testament Bible History Questions

Lesson 10

October 1969

ON THE CROSS

INTRODUCTION

The verdict had been given. Jesus was found guilty. He was now sentenced to die on the cross. Jesus could have escaped the cross, but willfully died to pay the price of sin—even your sin and my sin—in order that we might escape the consequence of sin, and share heaven with Him.

It was as if Jesus, who had all the comforts of heaven, was lonely for us, and was concerned for us, and grieved for us because we were enslaved and deeply enmeshed in sin.

He came to our rescue. He paid a great price because He loved us, just so that He could share the blessings of heaven with us.

The question has often been debated, was it really necessary that Jesus should suffer and die? Even heaven seemed to debate this question right up to the time that Jesus prayed in the garden, at which time He pleaded with the Father to take this bitter cup of dying on the cross from Him, unless absolutely necessary in order that man could be saved.

But it was necessary. During the trials of Jesus and at the cross one gets a glimpse of how deep in sin man had come. Sin had so blinded man that he thought the innocent (Jesus) to be guilty, and the guilty (Barabbas) to be innocent. It took the dying of Jesus on the cross to open man's eyes to see how blind to the truth he was, and how deep into sin he had fallen.

Jesus on the Cross (Matthew 27:33-36, Mark 15:16-41, Luke 23:27-49,
John 19:17-30)

1. What did they do to Jesus before leading Him away to be crucified?
2. Who carried the cross for Jesus?
 - a. Why did this many carry it?
3. Who else was crucified at the same time?
4. What happened to Jesus' personal possessions, His clothes?
5. What sign did they nail over the cross?
6. What did those who stood under the cross tempt Jesus to do?
7. What did the chief priests, scribes, and elders say about Jesus now?
8. What did Jesus ask God to do to those who were guilty of crucifying Him?
9. What happened at the sixth hour?
 - a. What time is that in our time?
10. How long did it last?
 - a. Until what time?
11. What did Jesus say at this time? (Matt. 27:46)
 - a. Did God really forsake Jesus at this time?
12. What did Jesus mean by "it is finished"? (John 19:30)
13. What were the last words that Jesus spoke on the cross? (Luke 23:46)
14. What time of day would you say that Jesus died?
15. Name three things that happened immediately when Jesus died.
16. What truth did the tearing of the veil in the temple signify?
17. How did these things affect those who were at the cross?
18. What is meant by "centurion" in Matt. 27:54? (see dictionary)
19. What was this centurion doing here?
20. What did the centurion conclude about Jesus?
21. Who would you say crucified Jesus directly and indirectly?
 - a. Did you have a part in crucifying Jesus?
 - b. In what way?

Lutheran Free Church in 1897. Since 1963 it has held membership in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

The present church building was constructed in about 1886. Ten years later it was enlarged with the old nave becoming the chancel of the new building. Other improvements have been made on the church from time to time. The basement, which was made in 1925, was panelled several years ago and a new floor put in.

Rev. B. L. Hagboe, Brookings, S. Dak., assisted in the early days of the congregation. The actual organization of Saron had taken place under the leadership of Pastor Ole Olson of Morris, Minn., a man who had attended the Augustana Seminary at Paxton, Ill. As indicated earlier, L. E. Kjelaas was the first regular pastor, 1885-1907. Others have been Elliot Aandahl, 1908-10; C. J. Nestvold, 1910-13; B. P. Farness, 1914-20; Mons Gjerde, 1920-37; G. G. Lee, 1938-41; E. S. Vik, vacancies in 1938 and 1941; C. E. Dyrud, 1941-46; R. H. Hofstad, 1946-59; Kenneth L. Anderson, 1959-60; and Raynard Huglen, 1963—. Various men gave service during the years 1960-63. They include students George Lundquist and Kenneth Hatland and Mr. Melvin Viland and Mr. Don Andrews. Dale Battleson and Larry Severson served briefly as student pastors more recently.

Saron is about seven miles north-

east of Roslyn and is one of the oldest Lutheran congregations in Day County. It is the oldest AFLC church in the state. In the summertime visitors from the lakes can be seen at nearly every service.

Hope Lutheran Church

Hope congregation is 71 years old, but part of the church building is about 100 years old. After worshipping in homes from the date of organization, Jan. 6, 1898, an Indian church by Buffalo Lake was purchased in 1903 and moved to its present location ten miles northwest of Sisseton in Roberts County. The church that was moved was over thirty years old at the time.

In 1929 an addition was made to the church, placing the chancel to the east. A basement was also added at that time. A few years ago pews from Saron Lutheran Church, rural Sisseton, were secured, replacing the theater-type chairs in use before that.

Again we hear the name of Pastor L. E. Kjelaas, for he led the organization of this new Lutheran Free Church congregation and served it until 1907. The list of pastors at Hope is much the same as that for Saron. Student S. G. Nome substituted quite frequently during Elliot Aandahl's absence both at Hope and Saron. Due to poor health, G. G. Lee was not always able to meet his appointments. Rev. E. P. Dreyer of New Effington helped out in those situations and

also following Pastor Lee's death. Raynard Huglen is the present pastor.

Like the other churches in the parish, Hope has a fine highway sign giving directions to the church.

Hope Lutheran Church is affiliated with the AFLC.

The Parish

In the fall of 1963, Tabor, Saron and Hope chose the name "Lake Region Lutheran Parish" for their new alignment. The name was appropriate because the parish lies in an area often designated as the Lake Region. Numerous lakes dot the Sisseton hills which the Frenchmen called "coteau des prairies."

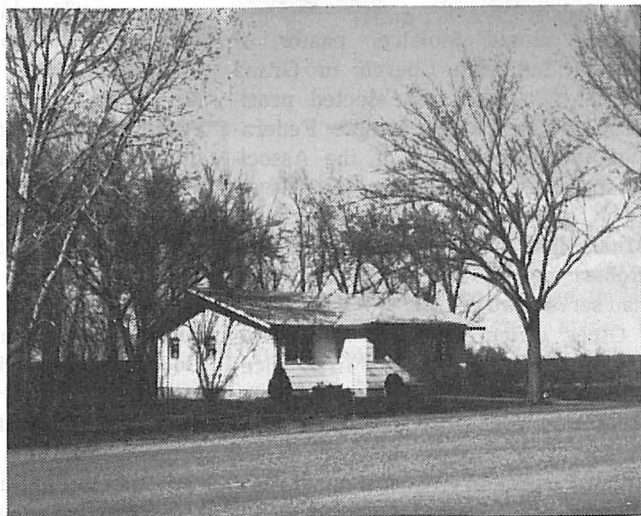
Tabor had previously belonged to the Waubay parish with the pastor residing in Waubay and also serving Our Savior's Church there.

Saron and Hope were members of the Grenville parish together with Zoar, Grenville, and for a short time, Saron of Sisseton. They maintained a parsonage by the crossroads community of Wist, northeast of Grenville.

The new parish purchased a small house in Roslyn in 1963 and enlarged and rebuilt it into this fine home along Hwy. 23. It is a two-bedroom home with a large study. Last fall a two-car garage was erected on parish-owned property to the east of the house.



Hope Lutheran Church



Lake Region Parsonage



Luther League Activities

Edited by Jane Thompson

REV. DAVID MOLSTRE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION



Rev. David Molstre, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, N. Dak., was elected president of the Luther League Federation, youth auxiliary of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, at its convention in Moorhead, Minn., last month. He succeeds Rev. Robert Lee of Tioga, N. Dak., who had served two years.

Other officers elected were Lyle Twite, Cloquet, Minn., first vice-president; Rev. Francis Monseth, Everett, Wash., second vice-president; Miss Peggy Soyryng, Esko, Minn., secretary; Stanley Miller, Binford, N. Dak., devotional life secretary; and Kenneth Moland,

Minneapolis, Minn., treasurer. Miss Soyryng and Mr. Moland were re-elected to their positions.

About 200 leaguers, pastors and advisors attended the second biennial Federation convention, with all sessions held on the campus of the State College, Aug. 20-24.

The theme for the conclave was "How Big is God!" Guest speaker for the occasion was Rev. Alban Douglas, professor and extension worker at Prairie Bible Institute, Three Hills, Alberta. In his four messages to the conference he described God as being big enough to number the stars, big enough to save all sorts of people, big enough to keep you, and big enough to answer your prayer and give you what you desire, and above.

In a talk on Wednesday afternoon, the opening session, Mr. Douglas spoke on "The big Beat-A Christian Analysis." He pointed out that the syncopated beat of "rock" music stirs emotions and expressions of emotions which are debasing to the human spirit and more so, to the Christian spirit.

The morning Bible studies were taught by Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash., who will become secretary of the AFLC on Oct. 1. He, too, considered the theme and spoke of God as big enough to save, to make me into a new person and to lead me to spiritual maturity, in his three presentations.

A special feature of the evening services were chalk talks by Mr. Ray Lahikainen of Chicago, Ill. He is a

brother of Mrs. Herbert Franz, of Cloquet, Minn. On Wednesday night he portrayed the abundance of the Father, on Thursday he pictured Jesus as a bridge between man and the Father, on Friday he depicted Christ in the storms of life and on Saturday night his topic was the world on fire.

The convention was divided into four groups for interest hours once each day. One hour was for viewing the film "I Hear a New Song." Another session was a panel presentation about the Christian in the armed services or college after high school. Pastor R. Snipstead discussed the AFLC Bible School in still another hour. The fourth group heard a missionary challenge from Mr. Eugene Enderlein, a student in the Seminary.

On Thursday afternoon Mr. Lahikainen spoke and at the same hour on Friday Pastor Herbert Franz spoke on personal witnessing. He said that witnessing is conversing about Jesus to others.

Miss Cynthia Hodnefield, devotional life secretary, addressed the convention at an early evening meeting on Saturday. She told of personal experiences as a Christian on a state college campus.

Several leaguers spoke at morning "Youth Speaks Out" periods. They gave testimonies about the experience of Christ in their lives. There were sharing times on Saturday night and Sunday afternoon, occasions at which many young people, and some older, told of faith in Christ. On Thursday night a talk-back session was held after the service. Leaguers were divided into groups of about 15 each.

Pastor Laurel Udden, new teacher in the Seminary and Bible School, brought the devotional message at the Holy Communion service on Sunday morning. Pastor John Strand, president of the AFLC, spoke at the morning worship. And at the closing service in the afternoon Pastor Franz preached the sermon.

A youth choir from Hope Lutheran Church (LCA) in Minneapolis, Minn., sang at the Saturday night meeting. Roger Carlson is the pastor of the congregation.

Mr. John Rieth, Valley City, N.

Dak., served as singspiration leader for the convention and also directed a volunteer choir.

Host congregation for the fifth convention the Federation has held was St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Fargo, N. Dak., Kenneth Moland, student pastor. Mr. Moland has entered the Association Seminary now and was united in marriage to Miss Barbara Tarvestad of Ada, Minn., on Sept. 6.



The Rieth brothers, Robert, left, and John.



Two Grand Forks girls chat between sessions.

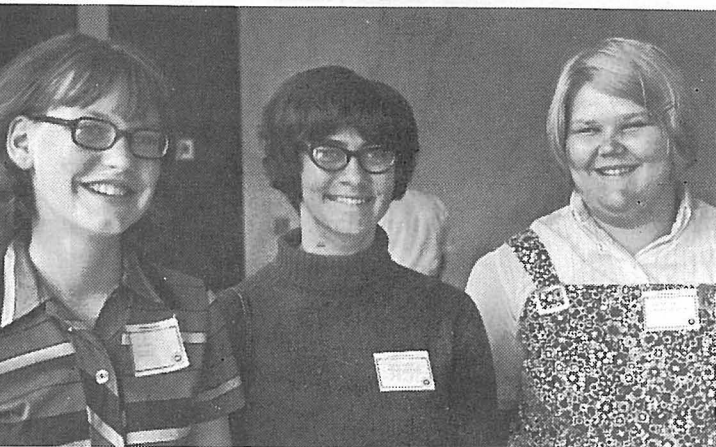


Music had a big part in the convention.



Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nelson of Portland, N. Dak. They were married the Saturday before the convention. Harold is a Viet Nam veteran.

PICTURES FROM THE LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION



Left to right, Gail Ness, Sandie Thompson and Colleen Oien of the Maple Bay Lutheran Church in Minnesota.



How shall we work this out?



Pastor and Mrs. Alban Douglas of Alberta enjoy a meal at the State College's Kise Commons.

All photos by Jane Thompson

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