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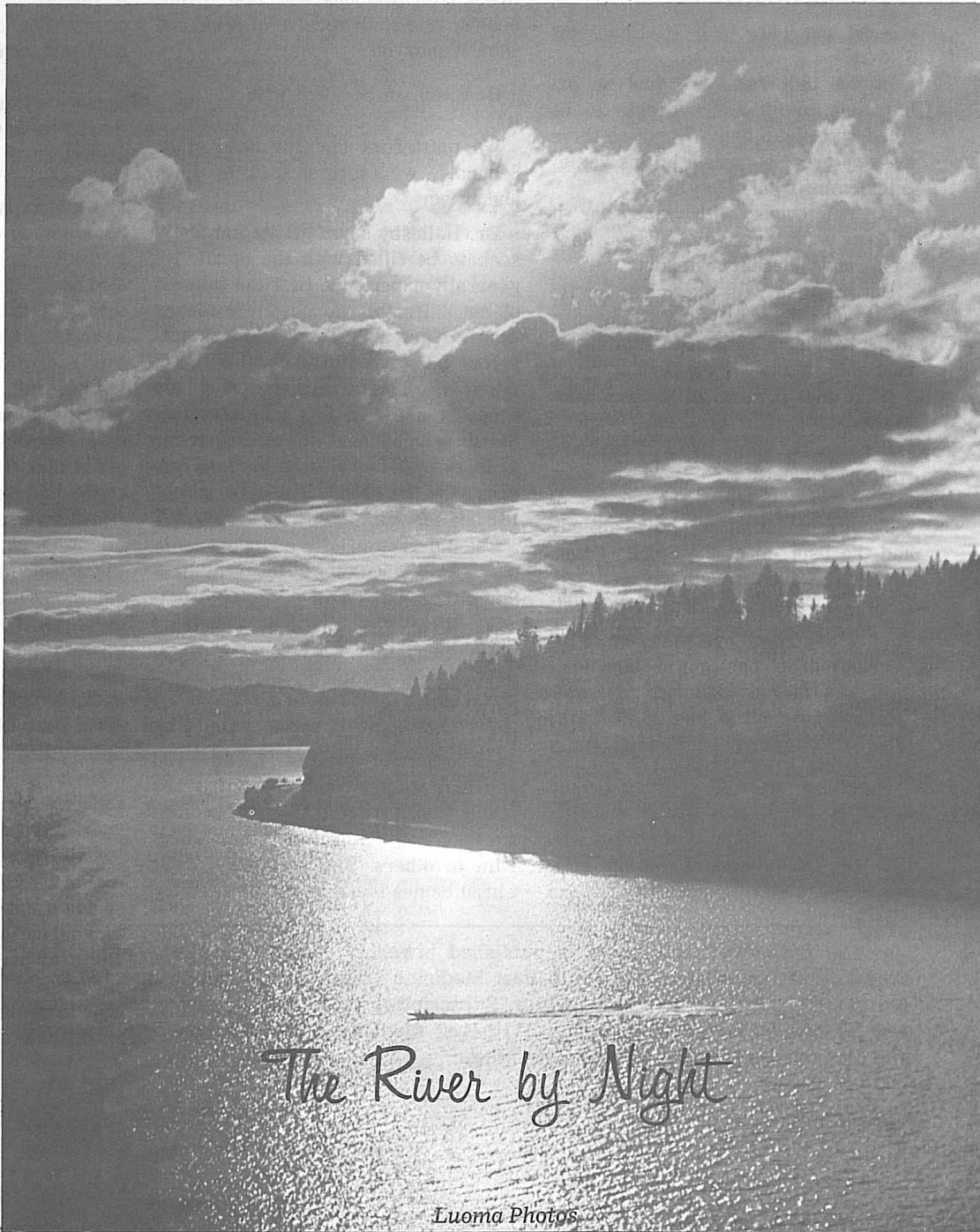
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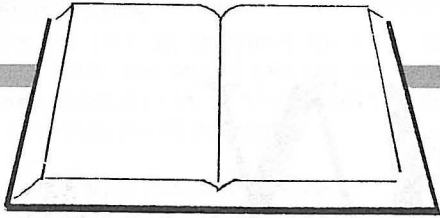
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The River by Night

Luoma Photos



According to the Word

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

Read and learn by heart Ephesians 5:18-21.

In the 18th verse we find an exhortation to all God's people to be filled with the Spirit. We notice there are two great contrasts in this verse: **Intoxicating wine—Holy Spirit.**

Be not drunk with wine, for it makes your eyes dim, your back weak, and your feet unsteady.

But be filled with the Spirit, for He gives you a clear vision, a strong spiritual backbone, and He establishes your going in the ways of God.

What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

It is not the same as to be baptized with the Spirit.

Paul says, if we are members of the body of Christ we have already had the baptism of the Spirit (I Cor. 12:13). But even if we have been baptized once into the body of Christ, we need to be filled again and again for life and service.

This does not mean that the Holy Spirit has a fulness of His own. **All the fullness of God is in Christ** (Col. 1:19; 2:9).

Therefore, he who is filled by the Spirit is filled with Christ and His gifts. The Holy Spirit is the filler who fills with the fullness of God in Christ Jesus. He came to glorify Christ, to

make Him precious and real to our hearts. "He shall receive of mine and show it unto you."

How can we be filled with the Spirit?

We must first feel the need of it. Secondly, we must seek it by faith and prayer.

Dr. Hallesby says, "If we earnestly seek to be filled with the Spirit, we generally experience first the fullness of sin." By this he no doubt means that we get a clearer vision of ourselves and everything that is sinful in our life. This in turn creates a deep sense of need. In this way the Holy Spirit brings about a full surrender and paves the way for a greater fullness of Christ and His gifts in our life and service.

Let me very briefly point out from our text several marks of a **Biblical Spirit-filled Christian**:

He is a Christian with a singing heart, v. 19. In other words, a **happy Christian**. Note the close connection between the 18th and 19th verses. Be filled with the Spirit so ye speak to each other in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. When the Spirit has made Christ real to us it becomes so easy and natural to speak about Him to others. The testimony about Christ comes like a fresh stream from

a singing heart. It is just bubbling over. "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

A Spirit-filled Christian is also a **thankful Christian**, v. 20. "Giving thanks always for all things." He always finds a reason to be thankful, in sickness, in health, in prosperity and adversity. Instead of griping and complaining about everything and everybody, he finds so much to thank God for.

Finally a Spirit-filled Christian is a **humble Christian**, v. 21. "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." He is willing to submit to others; he does not look for a place of prominence, but for a place of service. He is doing nothing through strife or vainglory, but in humility he esteems others better than himself.

Listen to the most Spirit-filled Christian that ever walked on this earth: "Unto me who am **less than the least of all saints**, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ" (Eph. 3:8).

This is a little picture of a **Biblical Spirit-filled Christian**.

Look at it carefully and prayerfully. Compare yourself with it, and ask yourself, in the sight of God "AM I SUCH A CHRISTIAN?"

Lars Stalsbrotten

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Congregational Singing

Prof. H. N. Hendrickson

The Lutheran Church has always been a singing church. While the Roman Church in the early Middle Ages banished congregational singing from its public worship, and while the Calvinistic churches for a long time hampered the development of congregational song by insisting that nothing but the Psalms of David should be chanted in the service, the Lutheran Church from its earliest days encouraged congregational singing as a vital part of divine worship. In so doing it was simply in a logical and practical way carrying out the idea of a general priesthood, which was a fundamental principle in the Lutheran Reformation. It was a providence of God that the man to whom, humanly speaking, our church owes its existence should be a lover of song and should be musically gifted. By personal example he inspired his early followers to express their Christian faith and hope in lyric form. It was also very fortunate that Luther, a peasant's son, knew how to draw his musical inspiration from the deep and copious spring of folk-music which through the ages had been welling from the hearts of the common people. The artless simplicity of these folk-melodies, their genuine sincerity and depth of feeling, gave to the Lutheran choral from the start a chaste and unsurpassable loveliness. Therefore the choral has stood the acid-test of time. For four centuries it has poured its rich harmonies through chancel and nave wherever Lutheran people have met to worship. Nor has it now lost its power to arouse in the truly reverent heart a sense of deep, sincere devotion.

In the choral our church has a noble heritage which it ought not barter for a mess of pottage in the form of "Jazzy" ditties turned out for so much per page by hack-composers who cater to a depraved taste merely to "catch the coin." The best proof of

the utter worthlessness of this stuff is the fact that in actual use most of it scarcely lasts four months instead of four centuries. It rings false from the start.

"But," somebody suggests, "we must have sprightly music in the church to attract the young people." In answer I submit that if any set of people is susceptible to the charm of dignified, devotional church music, it is our young people, provided—provided we elders have not neglected to awaken their innate sense of the really beautiful in music. But here lies one of the great stumbling blocks. Too often we feed them on trashy music all through Sunday school, and then we expect them to relish the strong, solid choral in the church service. It is about as sensible as if someone should try to bring up a baby on sweetened water and then suddenly change the diet to undiluted cream.

Now I do not mean to say that nothing but chorals should be sung in church or Sunday school. Variation always gives zest. There are numerous excellent songs with lighter rhythm and more emotional melodies that may well be used to great advantage in religious gatherings of young or old. But they should be selected with critical judgment both as to music and text. Many gospel hymns and other spiritual songs have won a well merited place in the love of our Christian people and have a legitimate use. Here experience seems to indicate that songs built on folk-melodies possess the greatest vitality.

But even the best music may be utterly ruined by bad singing or playing, just as mediocre music may be enhanced by being artistically rendered. Listless, draggy singing, like spiritless, perfunctory prayer or preaching, leaves the heart cold. In this as in everything else we reap according as we sow.

The causes of poor singing are of

course numerous. I will mention a few. In the first place, a small audience scattered around here and there in the pews can never sing effectively. Even a trained choir can not do it under such conditions. The same bad effect is bound to result if a large number in the audience has no books or from sheer laziness neglects to join in with the rest. The first unfavorable condition can easily be overcome by having a scattered audience move together; the second, by providing enough books; but the third condition is a moral evil and must be so treated.

The fault may lie with the organist. He may be incapable because he reads music slowly, has imperfect sense of rhythm, or on the whole lacks the quality of leadership. Under these circumstances try to find a good singer who can lead both organist and audience. He may find it a formidable task, especially at first, but he may get excellent results. Some of the best choral singing that I have ever heard was done without an instrument but with a good singer taking the lead. Leadership of this kind inspires the whole audience with self-confidence and causes them to join in heartily. Even if the organist is capable, it greatly improves the singing to have a precentor or song-leader. In one of the prominent churches in Minneapolis some years ago, where they had a splendid organ and a thoroughly competent organist, they greatly improved the singing of the congregation by having the baritone of the quartet lead in the hymns. I fail to see any valid reason for objecting to such a practice in our churches.

Even with a good organist and a congregation willing to sing, and a good song-leader, we may fail to obtain the best results in congregational singing if we neglect to consider the nature of text and music. The style of singing is important and must harmonize with the nature of the music. Melodies and songs vary in character.

Some are bright and exultant; some are stately and sedate; some are even plaintive and sad. In singing them this must be kept in mind. Usually there is not much difficulty in singing the lighter songs, for they are generally strongly rhythmical, and the melody is generally dominated by a characteristic motive, so it is easily caught. These songs generally belong to a class of music which we may call "staccato music." In rendering this style of music the tones are produced with more or less explosive effect. If the music is dramatic in character, these songs easily evoke in the audience that emotional response which is necessary to good singing. So marked is this at times, that we say the song sings itself, as it were.

It is somewhat different with choral and with music of a marked lyrical quality. These belong to a class of music which we may call "legato music." To get the proper effect in songs of this nature, the tones must be produced evenly and must be tied closely together, otherwise the effect becomes as when a person tries to sing when he is out of breath. Unfortunately, one may not infrequently hear chorals sung with an effect equally pathetic. Sometimes the organist is at fault. I have heard organists, in playing a choral, thump the keys and produce an effect similar to that heard in Grieg's "March of the Dwarfs." In the latter such an effect is legitimate, for it is one of the most grotesquely humorous pieces ever composed. But humor has of course no place in church music. Nor is that their intention. They fall into this error unconsciously, either because they do not understand the organ, or the music is beyond them, or they have an idea it helps the audience to keep time. The latter is unnecessary in playing the choral. If they will study the harmonization they will soon discover that in the choral the bass is always moving, or in case the same bass note is repeated, the other voices move in such a way as to indicate the time.

In the rendering of chorals two extremes are to be avoided in tempo or rate of speed. The excessively slow movement sometimes heard in rural churches is deadening, while

the galloping speed sometimes indulged in by organists in city churches destroys the true spirit of the choral and reduces it to an absurdity. To play or sing a choral in march or waltz time is a desecration, all the more flagrant if the tones are executed with staccato effect.

Chorals are not all to be sung in the same tempo. Here the musical discrimination of the organist must decide what rate of speed will be appropriate. Obviously two chorals of such different character as "A Mighty Fortress" and "The Morning Star" require different styles of performance. The former is martial and dramatic; the latter is the very type of serene contemplation.

It is also a good idea for the organist to vary the dynamics or force from verse to verse. The first verse or two might be played with full organ to get the audience keyed up; in the third verse the organ may well recede into the background, as it were, and merely accompany the audience, if the song is well known and the audience is taking hold vigorously; but in the final verse the organ should come out full and strong so the song may culminate in a climax. However, no general rule should be laid down as to this, for so much depends on the nature of both text and music. In singing "America," for instance, an unusually impressive effect may be obtained by singing the last verse, which is a prayer, quite softly. The organist or leader must therefore watch the text of the song. If there is a marked change of mood in the words, the playing and singing should as far as possible harmonize with this, even though the same notes are played. Skillful organists who are also expert musicians frequently vary the mood of changing the harmony, but this had better not be attempted by a novice.

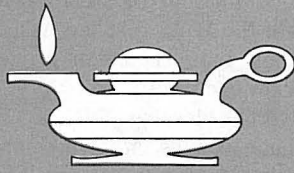
At this point I would like to utter a warning to pastors and others who set the hymns for congregational singing, and I trust it will not be taken amiss. Do not assign more than four verses or so, even if they are short. Continued repetition, especially of a short melody, is deadening, unless the performance can be skillfully varied. I have a very depressing recollection of having to "saw" through eleven

wearily verses of a hymn assigned to us in chapel at Augsburg once by a professor who had to cut his discourse short in order to catch a train and who evidently thought it would be good for our souls if we were kept busy until the regular chapel hour was up. It was a long chapel hour. Until this very day I am convinced that he reached his destination before we had sung the last note. In those days we did not use an organ in chapel at Augsburg, yet we often had some good congregational singing—but not on this particular day.

One error which frequently causes choral singing to become dull and sluggish is the habit of holding the last note of a phrase too long. If this is a quarter note, or only one beat, and no rest follows, the attack on the first note of the next phrase is delayed, thus causing the rhythm to lag and the phrasing to become indistinct or muddled. In all mass-singing the effect of this is extremely bad. There is no excuse for this in our day, when we usually have text and music printed together and when most people have some knowledge of notes. Let organist and singers observe the notation of the composer. He had a definite purpose in mind when he constructed his rhythmical scheme just as well as in the development of his melody. In fact, both rhythm and melody came to him as a unity when he received his inspiration to compose. This unity we cannot destroy without incurring consequences that are disastrous to devotional as well as artistic effect. A soloist may take liberties at times, but only when the result justifies the change. In mass-singing, however, no such liberties should be attempted, for it usually leads to confusion. What gives mass-singing its irresistible grandeur is unity in attack, fidelity to rhythm, and crispness of phrasing. If these are observed, the results are likely to be inspiring.

A not infrequent cause of poor congregational singing is unacquaintance with the melody. This is one of the causes that are driving out the choral. The old people who know the choral melodies are fast disappearing, and they have failed to im-

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SCHOOL NEWS

BIBLE SCHOOL OPENS 5TH YEAR

The opening service for the new school year at the Association Free Lutheran Bible School will be held on Sunday, September 13th at 7:00 p.m. Parents and friends are welcome.

ENROLLMENT GROWS

School enrollment will be up over last year when classes begin. Over 70 students have been accepted at this mid-August date. With a month remaining before school opens, the number will be increased over this number.

NEW HEAD COOK

Mrs. Alma Wold of Badger, Minnesota, has been hired as the new head-cook for the Bible School.

CARETAKER SECURED

Mr. Clifford Holm, Badger, Minn., has been hired by the Board of Trustees as the new caretaker at the Schools and Headquarters, replacing Robert Bursheim, who resigned to take a position with the Winger, Minn., public schools system. Mrs. Holm will assist in the kitchen of the Bible School.

FACULTY FOR 1970 FALL QUARTER

Rev. Dyrud—Mission Survey

Rev. Heikkinen—Bible Orientation
Rev. Molstre—Philippians
Dr. Olson—Bible Doctrine
Mr. Rodvold—Choir, Conducting
Rev. Snipstead—John, Personal Evangelism
Rev. Stone—Luke
Rev. Udden—Old Testament, Isaiah

FINANCIAL NEEDS

We express our appreciation for the continued fine support for our Bible School. A special thanks to those who responded to our special appeal in June. Without the extra support received through your response at that time we would have been unable to meet our obligations. We have now weathered the "dry" summer months, and look forward to being able to bring our receipts up to the present budget needs.

There are two reasons for the financial squeeze which we have been experiencing these past few months. The first reason is that we ended the fiscal year, January 31st, almost \$9,000.00 short of our budget. We simply are not able to ignore such a deficit. That amount of money was paid out for salaries, equipment, operating expenses, etc. We must make up that deficit in some way in the current year. The second reason for our financial problems is that contributions for the first four months of the year were far below our budget needs.

The approved current budget for

this year for the Seminary and Bible School is \$59,000.00. This is above the amount received in tuition fees in the Bible School (no tuition is paid by the Seminary students). This means that we need to receive just under \$5,000.00 per month in order to balance our books. Below is listed the contributions to schools per month so far this year.

February—\$1,343.49
March—994.78
April—4,091.47
May—1,560.55
June—5,498.25
July—5,834.40

GIFTS OF FOOD ACCEPTED

Though our boarding club is expected to pay its way, gifts of food to the school are a financial aid. Gifts of vegetables, fruits and meat are welcome at the school. Since our storage and freezer space is somewhat limited, please contact the school before bringing a supply of meat or vegetables.

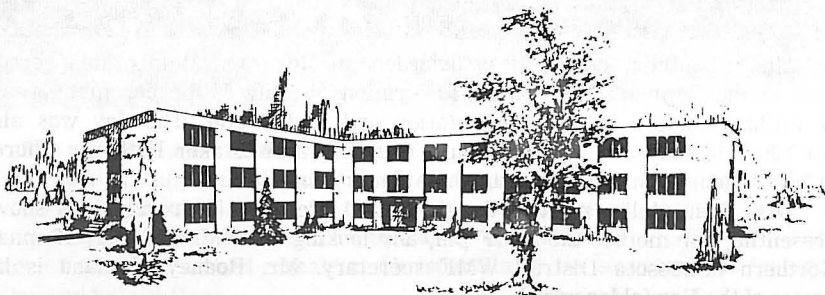
ASSIST YOUR YOUTH IN BIBLE SCHOOL

A number of congregations are helping their youth by granting aid for tuition. Some individuals have also done this. We would encourage congregations to give serious consideration to giving this kind of assistance and encouragement to your youth for Bible School attendance.

PARISH EDUCATION MEETING SET FOR GRAND FORKS

A District Parish Education Seminar will be held Sunday, October 4th, 2:30 p.m., at Trinity Free Lutheran Church, 3426 Chestnut Street, Grand Forks, N. Dak. Miss Judith Wold, Executive Secretary of the AFLC Publications and Parish Education will be guest speaker. Theme of the session—"The Sunday School: Agency for Personal Witnessing." There will be a business session and refreshments.

Sunday School workers and parents are encouraged to attend.



WOMEN for Christ

Given at W.M.F. Day
at Valley City

WELCOME

On behalf of Grace Ladies Aid and Zion Ladies Aid, a very warm welcome!

A few months back, Mrs. H. C. Molstre handed me a list of items that would be the responsibility of our Ladies Aid, such as arranging for ushers, flowers, etc. When I came to the part that said "Welcome by Aid President", frankly, my knees started shaking. I thought, "How can I stand before so many ladies and speak?" But then I also remembered how for the past few years I had come back from the other Annual Conferences wishing so much that all of my ladies could have been there with me.

Wishing they could have taken part in the wonderful Christian fellowship I had experienced.

Wishing they could have heard the marvelous Bible studies.

Wishing they could have heard and felt the prayers of consecrated Christians.

Wishing they could have voiced their opinion of the business of the day—"The Lord's Business", I might add!

Wishing they could have listened to the reports of the committees and to realize how the Association had grown and how the Lord had answered our prayers and given us much more than we had even asked.

Wishing they could have met our dear missionaries and talked to them face to face.

Wishing they could realize how very fortunate we are to have such de-

voted, Bible-believing, praying pastors in our group.

Wishing that they might realize how great it is that we are blessed with such wonderful teachers at our Bible School and Seminary. How we need to be thankful for the building and land, the beautiful setting that make up our schools and headquarters.

Wishing that we could all be more aware of this privilege of having our people coming together each year for this Annual Conference. People, I would feel safe in saying, that are 99% born-again Christians, or maybe 100%.

We should all be so very thankful for our slate of outstanding officers in both the WMF and the Association, for their many hours of prayers and labor for each one of us.

What a blessing this is. What a privilege for us at Grace and Zion Churches to serve you at this time. We want you to know we want to help you in any way we can during your stay in Valley City.

We also want you to know we have all just loved preparing for these days. We have prayed you will have a deep blessing from this time together.

So once again on behalf of our Aid members and myself, I say, "A very warm Welcome!"

I have asked our Ladies Chorus to welcome you in song at this time.

The Lord Is Able

The Lord is able to do exceedingly abundantly above what we could ask or think.

The Lord is able to do exceedingly abundantly above what we could ask or think.

We welcome you now, to fellowship with us, to pray with us, to listen to His word today.

We are so happy that we can serve

[Continued on page 8]

MINNESOTA WOMAN GIVEN HONARY MEMBERSHIP



Mrs. Ida Julin, center, was awarded an Honorary Membership certificate in the Women's Missionary Federation on July 8, for her many years of faithful service in the congregation and Ladies Aid. The day was also her 80th birthday and an open house was held at Westaker Lutheran Church in Newfolden, Minn., sponsored by the Aid members.

Miss Irene Julin, right, a daughter, and present Aid president, is shown presenting her mother the WMF pin, and looking on is Mrs. Stanley Homaas, Northern Minnesota District WMF secretary. Mr. Rodney Stueland is lay pastor of the Newfolden parish.

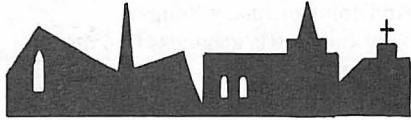
MEET

the

Churches

OF OUR

FELLOWSHIP



TODAY: HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH, ISHPEMING, MICH.

Hope Lutheran Congregation was organized on a fellowship basis at Ishpeming on February 9, 1967. The following men were appointed as officers pro tem: Kenneth Williams, chairman; Onni Jarvinen, vice-chairman; Walter Peterson, secretary, and Andrew Kari, treasurer.

The first worship service was held on February 12, 1967, at the Diorite School at which the Rev. Albert Hautamaki, pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church, Everett, Washington, was the guest speaker. A schedule for regular Sunday worship services was drawn up, and through the generosity of Rev. Lloyd D. Welton, the congregation was permitted to use the facilities of the Bible Baptist Church. Bible studies

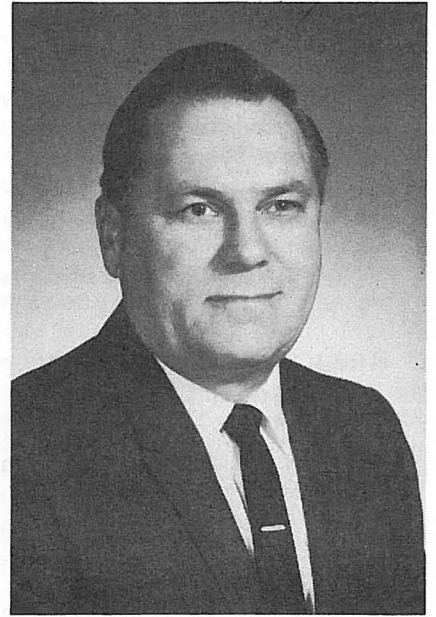
and prayer meetings were held each Wednesday evening at the homes of the members.

On February 15, 1967, the official name of Hope Free Evangelical Lutheran Church was adopted, and a decision was made to apply for affiliation with the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. Our application was accepted on February 24, 1967. The Rev. John P. Strand, president of the AFLC, met with us on March 5, at which time we were able to discuss some of the problems that confronted us as a new congregation.

A letter of call was extended to Pastor Hautamaki, on March 2, 1967, to become the first pastor of Hope. He accepted our call to assume the duties of the pastorate on June 21. During the interim period, lay members conducted the worship services and on several occasions guest speakers were obtained. Special services were held May 18-19, with Pastor Herbert L. Franz of Cloquet, Minnesota, as the guest speaker.

A building and site committee was formed on March 29 to locate property on which the congregation could build their church home. A parcel of land, eight acres, was obtained in West Ishpeming on a lease basis from the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company.

The official initial meeting of the congregation was held on July 17, at which time the pro tem officers were elected to their respective offices. It was decided that charter members would be received into the congregation up to December 31, 1967. It was proposed and decided that the



Rev. Albert Hautamaki, pastor of Hope Lutheran Church, is a native of Eben Junction, Mich. He has previously served parishes at South Range, Mich. (Atlantic Mine, South Range, Painesdale and Toivola), Ishpeming, Mich. (Bethel and National Mine), and Everett, Wash. (Calvary). Following almost three years in the U.S. Armed Forces, one and one-half of which were spent in Europe, he studied at Suomi Junior College, Hancock, Mich., and at the Theological Seminary there, being ordained into the ministry of Suomi Synod at Fairport Harbor, Ohio, in 1952. In 1957 he completed work at Northern Michigan University for his B.A. degree. He is married to the former Merva E. Ericson and the couple has six children: Lois, Charles, Diann, Rachel, Debbie and Kevin. The family resides in Negaunee, Mich.

Building Committee be authorized to check on building plans and present same to the next congregational meeting and also that a building permit be sought at the earliest convenience. Great interest and enthusiasm were expressed by the membership to proceed with building plans as soon as possible. This indeed was a venture of faith as there was no building fund at the moment, but the membership put their trust in God who prospers every venture that honors Him.

A building permit was obtained on August 8 and ground-breaking ceremonies were held on September 3. Construction of the church began about the middle of September with Mr. Sulo Wepsala in charge. Both volunteer and hired help were used. The



Hope Lutheran Church

[Continued on page 13]

[Continued from page 6]

you now the whole week through,
In Jesus precious name we pray.

The Lord is able to do exceedingly
abundantly above what we could
ask or think.

The Lord is able to do exceedingly
abundantly above what we could
ask or think.

Mrs. Paul Bjornson
Valley City, N. Dak.

HELP THEM IN THE FAITH

by Mrs. Albin Haugen
Kloten, N. Dak.

In recent months we have seen
many of our young people confirm
their Christian faith at confirmation,
high school and college students
graduate and graduation from Bible
school and seminary. They have taken
one more step into an unknown future.

To prepare them for this life have
we given them a strong faith and a
firm foundation?

Let us say to them, "Trust in the
Lord with all your heart, and do not
rely on your own insight. In all your
ways acknowledge him, and he will
make straight your paths" (Proverbs
3:5-6).

We need to heed these verses as
parents, too. Perhaps during the first
dozen years of a child's life, it was
not so hard for parents to decide yes
or no to their questions, but as the
problems and decisions increase, the
answer is not so definite as "yes"
or "no" as we seek to guide them.
We need to trust in Jesus and rely
on Him for help.

The world places many pressures
upon them and us. To be accepted
by others seems so important at
times. We yield to them, only to find
out in a little while how much hu-
mans let us down. Hebrews 13:5 says
of Jesus, "For he has said 'I will never
fail you nor forsake you.'" Yes,
Jesus is with us always and may we
all be able to say "The Lord is my
helper, I will not be afraid; what can
man do to me?" (Hebrews 13:6).

Next, have we taught our young
people to pray? Prayer is our source
of power and strength. This gives us
communion with Him. When we very
seldom talk with someone, there is
not much confidence or closeness with

that person. So it is with Jesus, if
He is to give us strength and help.
Ephesians 6:18: "Pray at all times
in the Spirit, with all prayer and sup-
plication." We also need to remember
to pray for one another as believers
of all ages.

The words of a beautiful hymn,
"Jesus, Saviour, Pilot Me," come
to me. Will you make it your prayer
as I make it mine?

"Jesus, Saviour, pilot me, over life's
tempestuous sea;

Unknown waves before me roll,
hiding rock and treach'rous shoal;
Chart and compass came from Thee;
Jesus, Saviour, pilot me."

"When at last I near the shore, and
the fearful breakers roar,
Twixt me and the peaceful rest,
then, while leaning on Thy breast,
May I hear Thee say to me, 'Fear
not, I will pilot thee.'"

JUST A HOUSEWIFE!

They call me "just a housewife,"
And I'm proud to bear the name.
You will never see me listed
On the Honor Roll of Fame;
Career women look with pity
At my apron, brush, and mop,
But I wouldn't trade them places
For the things their money bought!
They call me "just a housewife,"
And I'm surely glad indeed
That God thought I would be useful
In this work of love and need;
As I polish floors and windows,
Stylish ladies pity me,
But I wouldn't trade them places
If their mansions were all free!
Some folks are quite successful,
"Kings of Finance"—so they say,
And they seem to find their glory,
Gathering gold along the way;
Let them have their golden moments,
I'm not jealous of their life,
For I feel just like a princess,
When my husband calls me "Wife!"
Yes, they call me "just a housewife,"
But, I'm more—much more! You see
I am keeper of a household,
Which is "Home Sweet Home" to me;
I am rich in love and loved ones,
And I'm free from strain and strife,
And so glad God thought me useful,
Being "Just a plain housewife!"

—Ethel M. Dunn

A SUMMER MORN

The apple boughs are bowing down
With promise of the harvest borne,
The bright thrill of the rooster's song
Awakens the new summer morn.

I think how wonderful it is;
Just life as is, no more, no less;
This is what God has given me
And I know I am very blest.
In all the wonders 'round about,
In all the miracles I see,
I marvel that the Lord should give
All these things to someone like me;
An ordinary person I
And doing ordinary things;
Why should His goodness fold me
'round

And make my heart with nature sing
Of His great glory? I have felt
Full measure of His boundless love
Sent down to earth this summer morn,
A holy blessing from above.

Marlene Moline, Lansing, Iowa

RANDOLPH HAUGAN RETIRES; NOTED CHURCH PUBLISHER

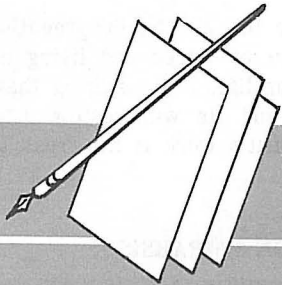
Minneapolis—(LC)—Randolph E.
Haugan retired as executive director
of the Division of Publication of the
American Lutheran Church and gen-
eral manager of Augsburg Publish-
ing House on July 31—his 68th birth-
day.

With Dr. Haugan's retirement, a
career unique in the history of de-
nominal publishing came to a
close.

It was unique in its duration: 46
years with the same organization, 41
of them as general manager.

It was unique in its accomplish-
ment: the transformation of Augs-
burg Publishing House from a rela-
tively small publishing operation into
one of the nation's largest and best
known religious publication firms.

For all his accomplishments, how-
ever, he is perhaps best known as
editor for 40 years of *Christmas, An
American Annual of Christmas Lit-
erature and Art*. The first issue was
put on the presses in 1931, and then,
as now, the aim was to bring to-
gether the best of Christmas tradi-
tions—the Gospel account, the le-
gends, the observances—so that peo-
ple would pause to reflect on the re-
ligious significance of the Christmas
Season.



EDITORIALS

REMINISCENCES ON SUMMER

The calendar indicates several more weeks of summer remain, but in our thinking summer, for all practical purposes, closes with the end of August, or at least at Labor Day.

In earlier days summertime was considered a slack season in church work. Nowadays it is at least as busy as other times of the year. In thinking of the summer of 1970, we recall the daily vacation Bible schools, the annual conference of the church in Valley City, the various Bible camps sponsored by single congregations, by districts and by areas, the Family Bible Camp at Alexandria, the Luther League and parish education workshops, the youth group visits to other parishes. Wonderful memories of the Word of God sown, of harvest gathered in, of planning for the extension of kingdom work.

Summertime was also vacation-time for many people, including this writer. That meant our first visit, albeit a quick and incomplete one, to the Black Hills of our own state. The Passion Play at Spearfish was greatly appreciated. True, the Play contains some Roman Catholicisms, but the overall impression is good. Several thousands of people attend it for each of the three showings per week during the season and it is encouraging that this is so. The Passion Play causes a person to think seriously for there is a confrontation with the Christ through it.

Mount Rushmore is one of the truly patriotic shrines in America and we found it a thrilling sight. Again, it is gratifying to see the large number of people who come to Mount Rushmore, from all over the nation. Patriotism is not dead. The large crowds do pose some problem, however, for on mid-summer weekends traffic must be slowed to a virtual snail's pace.

This camping trip with two nephews took us next to the Custer Battlefield near Hardin, Montana. For some years we had wanted to visit this place which has caught the imagination of so many. It seems difficult to escape the conclusion that Gen. George Armstrong Custer made a rash decision and engaged the Sioux Indians in conflict too soon, if it was necessary at all. No survivors remained to tell exactly what happened on that late June day in 1876. The National Park Service has the approximate site of Custer's death marked near the crest of a sagebrush-covered ridge. Nearby is the Reno-Bentzen battle-

field, scene of a heroic stand until relief came from the forces of Gen. Alfred Terry.

Southeast Montana, a new area to us, has a beauty all its own. Travelling across country to Ekalaka, some of the journey over gravel and dirt roads, brought us through land almost untouched by the tourist. It is the land of the rancher, of badlands, of tremendous sweep. In the distance, and we only saw them from afar, the Chalk Buttes looked like Tibetan monasteries with their dark green slopes, then the perpendicular white walls capped again with green. The Medicine Rocks north of Ekalaka are most interesting formations. Our last camp was at Bowman in North Dakota, a town we had not been in for 21 years, since Bible school-teaching days. Camping in a tent and cooking meals outdoors brings a person closer to the world of nature than most anything. The warming morning sun on canvas is an attractive invitation to a new day.

The summer also brought opportunity to see several baseball games played by the Minnesota Twins. Beautiful Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington, Minnesota, is a far cry from the wooden grandstands in which we sat and watched ball games in boyhood days in Govan, Saskatchewan. But the love for the game hasn't diminished over the years.

Still another venture took us to Mother's home at Newfolden, Minnesota, and to Winnipeg, Manitoba. Not far from the latter are Grand Beach with its white sand dunes on Lake Winnipeg and Pine Falls, site of a large pulp mill.

These are some of the recollections we have of the summer. Our readers will have seen other fascinating places. Again and again we are impressed with the thought that there is so much to see in the world of nature, in one's own state and country, to say nothing of the world. At best, we see only a very small part of it. Perhaps in eternity, if that "new earth" is this one made over, we shall be able to see all that we missed here in this life. That will have to be by God's grace, for it is only to those who trust in Him through the merits of Jesus that the promise of new heavens and a new earth are given.

READY FOR THE FALL

A pastor stated on a radio broadcast several weeks ago that his congregation needed 364 workers in order to fill all the positions that were open in the church's program. Over 90 were needed for the Sunday School alone.

Of course, he represented a large congregation. No church in the Association needs that many workers. On the other hand, ideally, every church member should be a worker, whether on some official board or committee or staff or not. Certainly every Christian member should be a worker. Whenever and wherever the congregation fails or lags behind it is because some have failed at their posts.

Sunday Schools are opening at this time in many congregations. Others are continuing their programs which have run through the summer. How wonderful it would

be if each teacher could enter September's work with new zeal and new hope for the task ahead. If in some way the Christian way could be pictured for the great adventure it is! It is good to know that many Sunday Schools are finding the new AFLC materials (available for some grades) useful and attractive. Most courses are written in such a way, too, that they can easily be adapted by congregations of other Lutheran bodies.

As for confirmation classes, no new material is available, but there will be something forthcoming in the next several years. Confirmation instruction is a tremendous opportunity for the pastor and others who teach in it. Even in our church hundreds of young people are reached through this teaching program. Let us make the best use of this time.

Music is an important part of every congregation's life and worship. A choir, or choirs, where that is possible, adds much to the service. Organ and piano music together with audience singing can put something into the meetings in a church or detract from them. The article "Congregational Singing" by the late Prof. H. N. Hendrickson, even though written many years ago, contains much that is applicable for today and should be of interest to many people and is reprinted for that reason.

May this be a good year for all the congregations. Remember the aim we boast of—"free and living congregations." Let us strive for life, remembering that it is the Lord who gives life and He will bestow it and maintain it wherever His Spirit's work is not frustrated and resisted.

WORLD MISSION EMPAHSIS

The next issue of **The Lutheran Ambassador** will carry a heavy emphasis on the world mission program of the church. Other areas of the common work will be featured in later issues as we seek to make all our people as fully informed as possible about the work the congregations do together.

It is our hope that every Association member and other interested friends will try to be as informed as possible about the work of world missions, specifically in Brazil, and that the forthcoming issue will aid in that understanding.

Some extra copies of that **Ambassador** will be available and those who request them first will receive them for distribution to non-subscribers. They will be sent free of charge but anything that is included for postage will be welcome.

DISTRICT LUTHER LEAGUE HOLDS FAMILY PICNIC

The Luther League Federation of the Northern Minnesota District sponsored a family-type picnic at the Old Mill State Park near Newfolds, Minn., on Sunday, Aug. 9. Approximately 200 persons attended.

Following the pot-luck dinner a program was held under the theme "A Time for Christ." "Christ for Me" was the theme song.

Jim and Tom Fuglestad of Roseau led the singspiration. Devotions were given by Mary Ellen Flaten of Strandquist. Special musical numbers were presented by each parish of the district. Mr. Ken Moland, student pastor at Grafton, N. Dak., this summer, brought the message concerning life with Christ.

Recreation followed the program and consisted of horseshoe, volleyball and softball. In the feature of the sports program the married men defeated the singles in a softball game.

An afternoon lunch concluded the festivities. The offering at the program went to the district league.

TREASURER'S PROGRESS REPORT February 1—July 31, 1970

	Proposed Yearly Budget	Current Budget	Total Received
General Fund	\$40,500.00	\$20,250.00	\$ 9,812.86
Schools	59,000.00	29,500.00	19,432.95
Foreign Missions	35,500.00	17,750.00	20,887.76
Home Missions	25,000.00	12,500.00	10,996.18
Praise Program	15,000.00	7,500.00	4,415.96
	<u>\$175,000.00</u>	<u>\$87,500.00</u>	<u>\$65,545.71</u>
Received at same time one year ago			\$62,748.09
One Grand Fellowship — \$858.33			
Special Pension Fund — \$235.50			



NEWS

of the Churches

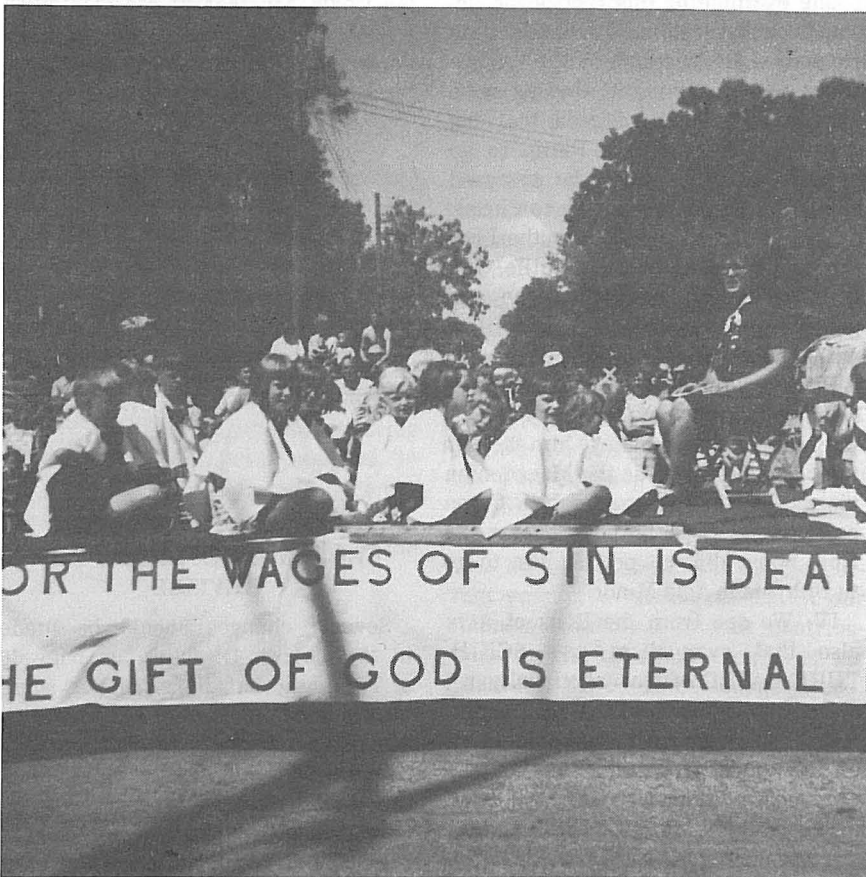
PARISH APPOINTS YOUTH DIRECTOR

The Our Savior's Lutheran Parish of the Brooten-Sunburg area, Dennis

Gray, Student Pastor, has appointed Mr. Dale Mellgren as its youth director.

Mr. Mellgren will be attending the

CHURCH SPONSORED FLOAT IN JULY 4th PARADE



The Green Lake Lutheran Church of Spicer, Minn., sponsored a float in the 4th of July parade at Spicer. The Junior Choir, directed by Mrs. Dale Flickinger rode on the float and sang several songs, accompanied by Larry Stulen on the ukelele. The theme of the float was "Discover Christ Where You Are." A seed mosaic of Christ made by the leaguers was featured on the front of the float.

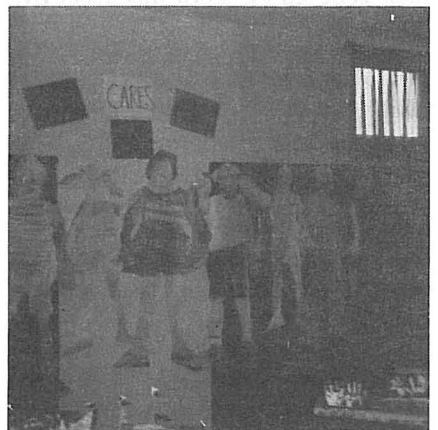
Willmar Junior College next year and is presently working at the Willmar Poultry Company. He is a member of West Lake Lutheran Church and plans to go to the Free Lutheran Theological Seminary after he completes his college work. He has served in the Armed Services of this country.

He will be in charge of programming for the West Lake Lutheran Church and the Parish Luther League. Under his direction, youth from the parish will be presenting Christ at the Sibley State Park near Sunburg and at various Senior Citizens Homes.

SUNBURG LUTHERAN PLANS DEDICATION

The Sunburg Lutheran Church is planning to dedicate its new parish education and kitchen facilities on September 30, 1970, with Pastor John Strand preaching.

BIBLE SCHOOL STUDENTS CARRY OUT PROJECT



"Discover Christ Where You Are" was the theme of the 1970 Vacation Bible School at Green Lake Lutheran Church of Spicer, Minn. Approximately 65 children attended June 22-26, from 9 to 3 each day. Pictured is one project made by the four to six year-olds during the craft hour.

Real Bible Evangelism

The Bible is the textbook for pulpit evangelism and the handbook for personal evangelism. The Book of Acts excels in its practicality of teaching the methods of personal evangelism.

I. A notable fact concerning evangelism in the Book of Acts was that it was often connected with a MIRACLE of the Lord. We see an illustration of this in the third chapter of Acts. Peter and John were going to a prayer meeting one day when they encountered a lame man at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful. The man asked Peter and John for some money whereupon Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."

When Peter took the man by the hand his feet and ankle bones received strength and he walked with them into the temple, leaping and praising God. This caused the people to gather together, greatly wondering as to what was going on. Peter, seeing his opportunity, began to speak, giving God the glory for the miracle, and calling on the people to repent. We read in Acts 4:4 that the number of the men that believed the word was about five thousand.

II. Another illuminating discovery in the Book of Acts is that evangelism was EXPERIENCE-CENTERED. They had had a definite meeting with the Lord and knew the reality of His presence in their lives. They had experienced that they were hell-deserving sinners and had received the grace and mercy in Christ Jesus through the free and full forgiveness of their sins when they repented.

Paul is one who related his personal experience of salvation when he witnessed. He told how righteous he used to consider himself, how zealous he was as a Pharisee, how educated he thought he was in the law of God, how fervent he was in persecuting those whom he considered the enemies of God, the fanatical Christians. Then he related how Christ spoke to him on the Damascus road and how

he was blinded until Ananias came and laid hands on him and he was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Paul told his experience before the multitude at Jerusalem (Acts 22) and also before King Agrippa (Acts 26). He always gave the glory to God. Agrippa admitted to Paul at the conclusion of his testimony, "Almost thou persuadest me to become a Christian."

III. Furthermore, we learn that evangelism in the Book of Acts was DIVINELY-GUIDED. The believers waited for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. They sought His will and were sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

One example of this fact is the account of the revival at Samaria in chapter eight in which Philip experienced a real moving of God as souls were saved. Then we read that the angel of the Lord told Philip to go to the Gaza desert where he was used to win the Ethiopian eunuch to Christ.

Also Peter was guided by the Lord through a vision to the Gentile Cornelius with the result that he and his household were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10).

Paul also was guided in his missionary journeys by the Holy Spirit. One time the Lord spoke to him through what is now known as the Macedonian vision, in which a man said, "Come over and help us." Another time the Holy Spirit did not permit him to go to Bithynia in Asia Minor.

IV. We see from the Book of Acts also that evangelism was SCRIPTURE-BASED. Peter continually referred to Scripture on the day of Pentecost showing how the outpouring of the Spirit was fulfillment of the prophecy in the Book of Joel. Paul also used the Word of God with authority. Stephen, too, spoke the Word of God in the ears of his persecutors who stoned him when they could take no more.

V. Finally we see that evangelism in the Book of Acts was largely PERSONAL VISITATION. Again and again we read how the believers

went from "house to house." (Acts 2:46, Paul's missionary journeys, etc.) The believers went with the Gospel from door-to-door, sharing the good news that Jesus Christ came to seek and to save the lost.

This is the need of the hour! Someone has said, "We have been ringing church bells when we should be ringing door bells." We desperately need a return to New Testament evangelism. There never has been a more dynamic witness for Christ with such results as there was in this early church of the New Testament. It is sheer folly to ignore the pattern and program of the Apostolic New Testament Church. In fact this young pastor would say that unless we return to New Testament methods and are backed by the same Holy Spirit, we are wasting our time—also God's.

—Pastor Francis Monseth
in **Free Lutheran Voice**,
Everett, Washington

CHURCH DIRECTORY TO BE REVISED

Several changes should be made in the Church Directory on page 16 of **The Lutheran Ambassador** as some boards and committees have reorganized and new officers have been chosen. We shall try to indicate all the recent changes in the next **Ambassador**. All addresses for contributions to the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, the Women's Missionary Federation and the Luther League Federation remain the same, however.

Thank you for your patience.

The Editor

[Continued from page 7]

building was rapidly nearing completion as days moved by so that by January 23, 1968, the balcony was used for the first annual meeting of the congregation and for the first worship service, Sunday, January 29.

The annual meeting revealed that membership had increased from its beginning number of 12 to 98, which included 31 families, or 73 confirmed members and 25 children.

A Memorial Fund was established in May of this year with Mrs. Walter Peronto in charge. Gifts received in memory of the late Charles J. Ericson are being used to purchase an organ for the church.

Hope Lutheran Church conducts two radio broadcasts, an English broadcast on Sundays, which commenced on April 7, and a Finnish broadcast on Saturdays, which commenced on September 7.

We are indeed grateful to God for His blessings and guidance. To Him be honor and glory.

[Continued from page 4]

part a knowledge of them to their children. The cure is obvious. We must teach them. The time has come, it seems to me, for arranging special song services where considerable time can be devoted to ordinary drill in congregational singing. This is done with much success by traveling evangelists. They frequently have a capable song-leader with them who spends considerable time in drilling on the songs that they desire to use. And people seem to enjoy it. They sing with great enthusiasm. Why not adapt this idea to our regular work? Give just as much attention to congregational singing in our song-services as to numbers rendered by choir and soloists. Have the pastor or some other competent person instruct the singers in the proper way of rendering the songs. Secure a good song-leader, even if he has to be imported, and let all sing. In this way the young people might learn to appreciate our best church songs and love to sing them. In such exercises the church choir should of course take a leading part. If the choir in preparation could

learn a new melody which it could teach the audience at each song-service, there would be something novel to anticipate. In lighter songs the choir may sing the harmony; but the chorals should invariably be sung in unison both by choir and audience. Most chorals are arranged with this in view, that they should be sung in unison, the organ alone supplying the harmony.

In closing, I feel again impelled to emphasize the value of the choral and the desirability of retaining it as a vital part in our service. If we drop it or allow it to die out for lack of

attention, we shall seriously impoverish our Lutheran church service. For the choral there is absolutely no substitute. We shall be doing our young people a real spiritual service if we teach them to appreciate its beauty and its grandeur. It will increase their general musical intelligence, chasten their musical taste, and enrich their spiritual life. It will help to create in our places of worship that atmosphere of reverence which transforms even the humblest building into a house of prayer.

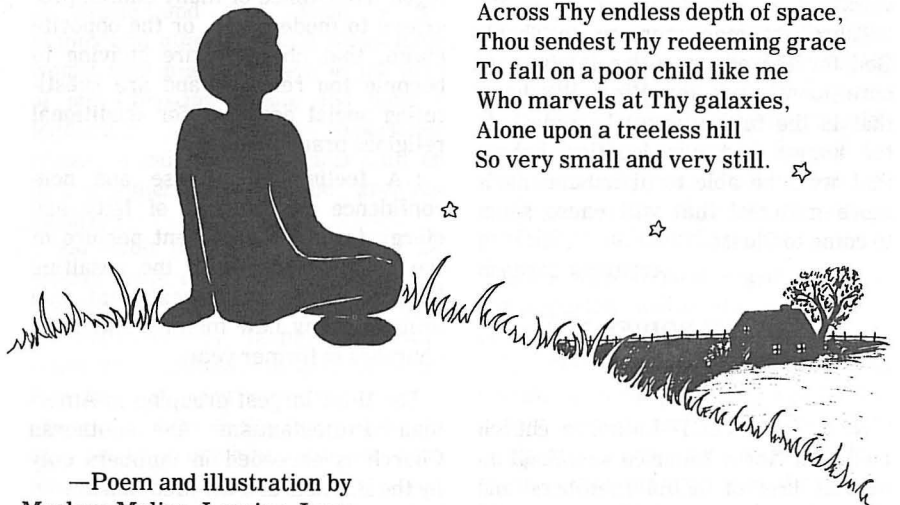
—Reprinted from *The Lutheran Free Church Messenger*

AT NIGHT

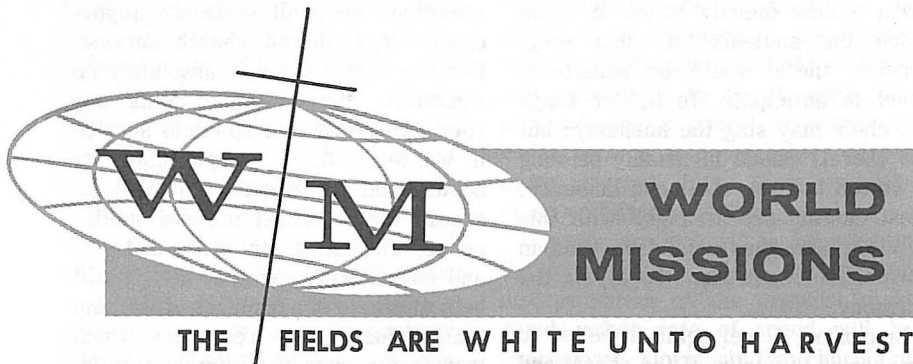
Across Thy trackless sky I see
The pale edge of our galaxy,
And farther spark the diamonds
bright
Of other galaxies of light.
How faintly my mind is aware
The span of years from here to there,
A span too great to comprehend,
A universe that has no end.

How many worlds that sail that sea
Bow their heads to acknowledge Thee?
Yet it was this rebellious earth
That gave Thy Son His mortal birth,
That hung Him on a cross of shame
And scorns with heart Thy holy name.
I wonder why that it should be
That Thou shouldst care so much for us
Who still turn from the way He trod
To seek a counterfeit of God?

Across Thy endless depth of space,
Thou sendest Thy redeeming grace
To fall on a poor child like me
Who marvels at Thy galaxies,
Alone upon a treeless hill
So very small and very still.



—Poem and illustration by
Marlene Moline, Lansing, Iowa



BOOK STORE

On October 1, 1969, the Livraria Editora Luterana Livre opened its doors in a new downtown location. It is on an avenue where many high school students pass by on their way to and from school. Having school items for sale causes many of them to stop, and gives us a chance to witness.

I, Aristides Cardoso, have been working in the book store since before the opening in this new location. It is a privilege for me to work here and a wonderful opportunity to witness for Christ. We have a good supply of Bibles, records and religious books. There have been nearly 500 Bibles sold since we opened, along with the other materials of a religious nature. The book store has been a blessing for the Christians of the community.

We sent a mobile unit out to another town during a church conference and there were many items sold at this time. When Pastor Abel was here with the tent we used the unit again and it helped with the evangelization work.

There are many reasons to Thank God for the opportunities it gives us here to witness for Him. We hope that in the future as we become better known and our location known that we'll be able to distribute much more material that will cause souls to come to Christ.

Aristides Cardoso

LUTHERAN BODIES LOSE 16,058, REPORT 9,223,216 MEMBERS

New York—(LC)—Lutheran church bodies in North America sustained an overall loss of 16,058 members and the denomination's total membership

dropped to 9,223,216 at the close of 1969, it was reported here by the Lutheran Council in the USA.

An annual summary of statistics supplied by the various branches of Lutheranism disclosed a constituency of 8,919,526 baptized children and adults in the United States—a loss of 24,381 or .27 per cent—and of 303,690 in Canada—a gain of 8,323 or 2.81 per cent.

The net decrease, representing .17 per cent of the 9,239,274 members reported for 1968, is believed to be the first ever recorded by the denomination.

The decline in membership, according to the Rev. Edward A. Rauff, director of the Lutheran Council's Office of Research, Statistics and Archives, can be attributed to at least three factors:

: Decline in the birth rate with the subsequent lowering of the number of baptisms and pupils in religious education programs.

: Turning away of former church members because of either the alleged irrelevance of many church programs to modern life, or the opposite claim, that churches are striving to become too relevant and are substituting social activism for traditional religious practices.

: A feeling of malaise and non-confidence on the part of laity and clergy toward the present posture of the congregation, with the resulting loss of evangelistic zeal that had brought many new members into the churches in former years.

The third largest grouping in American Protestantism, the Lutheran Church is exceeded in numbers only by the Baptists and the Methodists.

The Lutheran Council's summary

encompasses statistics of twelve church bodies. Six of these recorded gains, two suffered losses, one indicated no change, one reported for the first time, and two did not report.

(Ed. Note: The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations was the church body reporting for the first time and reported a membership of 9,000 baptized members. The figure is an estimate since no complete parochial report has been compiled in the church's history.)

[Continued from page 16]

urged by action of the federation's Fifth Assembly here "to declare through their competent authorities that they are in altar and pulpit fellowship with all member churches."

The action was interpreted by theologians as a significant forward step toward the goal of world-wide Lutheran unity.

Lutheran church bodies have long disagreed on the degree of "doctrinal unity" which they regard as necessary for such formal fellowship declarations.

Seven years ago, at the LWF assembly in Helsinki, Finland, member churches were asked to supply reasons for not entering into fellowship with other member churches.

In discussion of the proposal here, participants said they were "aware of situations wherein church fellowship breaks down on the basis of racial and social convictions and prejudices in spite of existing agreement in matters of church doctrine."

Action of the assembly was "to draw the attention of the churches to the fact that church fellowship essentially includes human fellowship and the sharing of common daily life."

Among national church bodies which are not members of the LWF are the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, in the United States, and the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in Australia. Both had observer-consultants present at the Evian meeting.

CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

LUTHERANS TALK VOLUNTARY TAX

NEW ULM, Minn. — Congregations of the Minnesota District of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod have been asked to study a proposal to make voluntary contributions to their communities in lieu of taxes.

The request was made by the district here at its biennial convention, which earlier reelected the Rev. Manfred J. Lenz, Delano pastor, to an unprecedented ninth two-year term as district president.

Pastor Lenz narrowly defeated the Rev. Gerhard Horn, Red Wing, who was later re-elected first vice-president. Also reelected were the Rev. Perley Kurth, Stillwater, second vice-president, and the Rev. Gerhard Birkholz, Lake Benton, secretary.

Paul Unke of Milwaukee, fiscal executive of the Wisconsin Synod, spoke in behalf of the proposal to have congregations make voluntary contributions in lieu of taxes.

He said churches benefit from police and fire protection, street cleaning, and other services provided by their municipalities and pointed to the financial burden of taxpayers of real property.

More than 50 percent of the property in some cities is not taxable because it is either used for public purposes or owned by private tax-exempt organizations, he said.

Unke said the Wisconsin synod's board of trustees has proposed that the voluntary contributions "be premised on at least one half of one percent of the market value of the congregation's residences and church property exclusive of parochial school facilities."

The district convention, in addition to asking congregations to consider the proposal, also requested that a committee be appointed by district officers to study the question. It will report at a spring district pastoral conference.

In the convention essay, the Rev. Wilbert Gawrisch, professor at the Wisconsin Synod's seminary at Mequon, Wis., charged that modern theologians are "crucifying Christ" by

denying His deity and glorifying man. The "new idolatry," he said, is the worship of man.

Greetings were brought to the convention by the Rev. Oscar J. Naumann, Milwaukee, the Wisconsin Synod's president, and by the Rev. R. M. Branstad, president of Bethany Junior College, Mankato.

The convention, held at Dr. Martin Luther College here, drew a record attendance of 297 delegates—pastors, parochial school teachers and laymen.

—The Minneapolis Star

NEWS MAGAZINE ARTICLE SCORED

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — More than 1,000 members of the Lutheran Laymen's League, after hearing their treasurer, Charles H. Burmeister, score *Newsweek* magazine for its report on "Hunting Lutheran Heretics" (August 3), adopted a resolution calling on all members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod "both clergy and laity" to "counteract the polarizing of our ranks at every opportunity and in its place seek unanimity of purpose...."

The League, which ended its 53rd annual convention July 29, is an auxiliary of the LCMS and sponsor of the world-wide Gospel broadcast *The Lutheran Hour*.

Burmeister, vice president of a St. Louis, Mo., investment firm, in presenting his resolution called the delegates attention to the magazine article which he said contains "half truth, suppositions and unvalidated individual opinion" in reporting about strife and "polarization" within the Synod.

"Our president (Dr. J. A. O. Preus)," he said, "has established a policy of unification of the church" and he urged the members of the LLL to show their support of this policy.

Burmeister also called on the members of the League to write letters of protest to the magazine for its "contribution to polarizing a generally stable religious denomination." He said *Newsweek's* article "vitaly portrays vice president Spiro Agnew's basis for attacking mass media

throughout the nation."

Dr. Preus, who returned yesterday from attendance at the Lutheran World Federation Fifth Assembly in France, charged the *Newsweek* article with making "untrue statements," including one which alleged four top Synod officials "lost their jobs" for holding views contrary to his own. He also was critical of the national magazine's newsmanship, for failing to contact him prior to running the story. Informed of the LLL resolution, Dr. Preus expressed gratitude to members of the League. He also thanked delegates to the Michigan-South synodical district convention, who adopted a similar resolution following release of the *Newsweek* article.

RULING ON AID TO CHURCH EDUCATION BELIEVED NEAR

Washington (LC) — The upcoming academic year will probably see the United States Supreme Court rule on the issue of state and federal aid to church-related education, a conference of Lutheran education leaders was told here late in July.

Speaking before synod and district education executives of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod was Howard E. Holcomb, associate executive secretary of the Division of Educational Services in the Lutheran Council in the USA.

In his address, he expressed belief that the Court will rule on the issue at all levels, perhaps handing down a series of decisions late this fall or soon after the start of the new year.

He said the probability of an early ruling was increased when the Solicitor General of the United States filed a legal memorandum with the Supreme Court late in May stating that the federal government would welcome a decision on the constitutionality of using public funds at church-related colleges.

Mr. Holcomb stated further that he believes the Court "will be quite liberal in its interpretation" in setting the parameters for such aid.

In his view, he continued, the Court will follow "the theory of primary

effect which neither advances nor inhibits religion while maintaining a secular purpose."

The Lutheran Council executive called attention to the fact that despite the "exciting education legislation" that has been enacted in recent years, the constitutionality of support for church-related education has never been determined.

But this year, he explained, the Supreme Court has placed two key decisions, handed down by lower courts, for review on its fall calendar.

MISSIONS HEAD PRAISES EFFORTS OF NIGERIANS

St. Louis — "The dignified and self-determined manner in which the people of Nigeria are rebuilding and rehabilitating their nation is an outstanding example of Christian love in action," says Dr. Wolfgang F. Bulle

after 2½ years of administering medical relief work there.

The Nigerians, according to the medical missions secretary of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, are showing that the African churches are on their own and that within 15 years they will have a leading role in the Christian movement.

"The role of the American and European in a leading capacity is finished," Dr. Bulle added. "We are there to provide financial and technical resources with which the Nigerians can help themselves."

LWF MEMBER CHURCHES URGED TO DECLARE FELLOWSHIP

Evian (LC) — Member churches of the Lutheran World Federation were

[Continued on page 14]

Directory of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

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