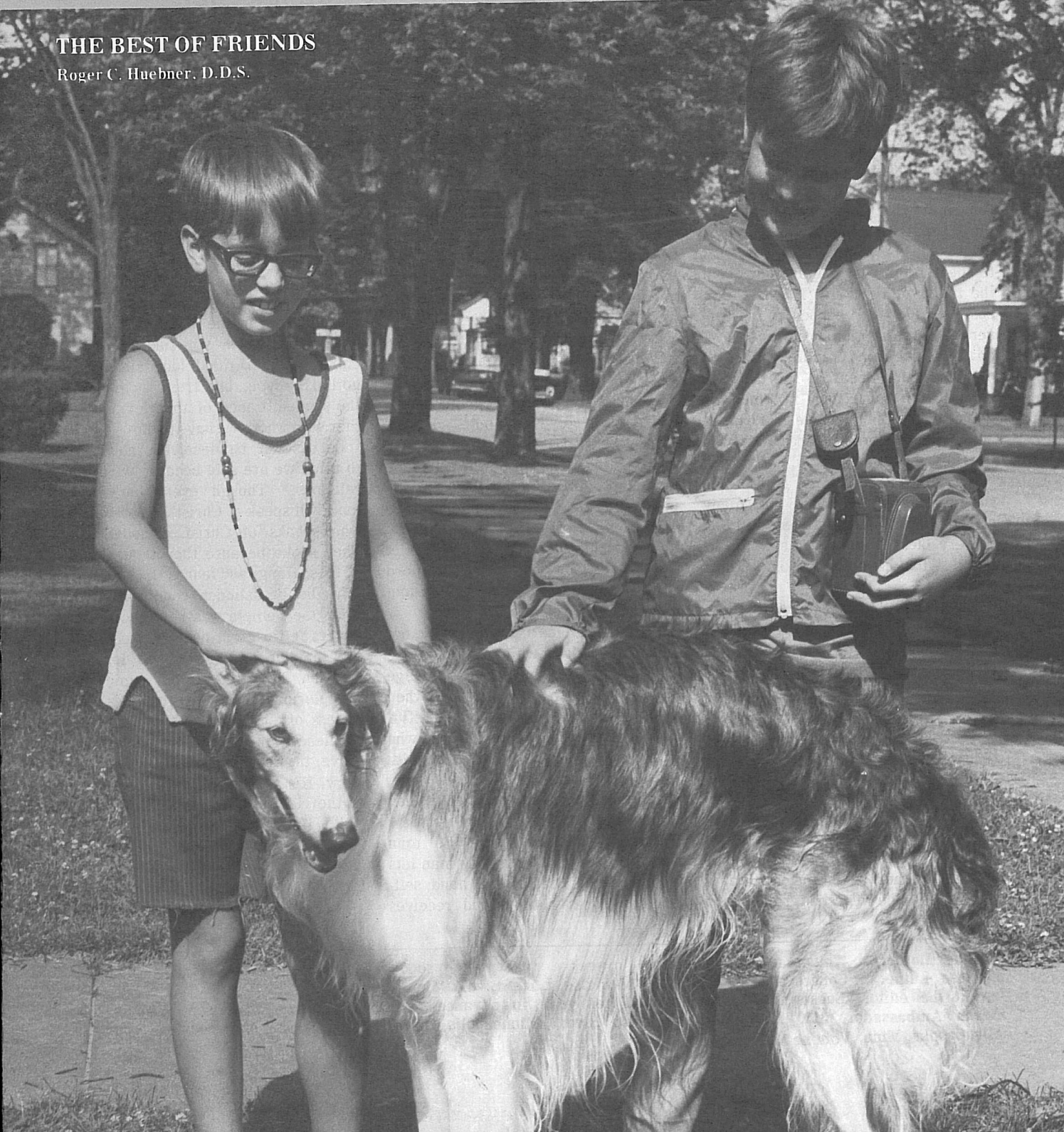


September 9, 1975

The Lutheran Ambassador

THE BEST OF FRIENDS

Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.



MEDITATION MOMENTS

SPEAKING TO ONE ANOTHER

Malachi 3:16-18: "Those who feared the Lord spoke to one another."

Bible Camps, 1975: from Washington — Arizona — Michigan — Carolina Maine—in forest, by lake, by mountain or on the plains. The season for these great conferences may be past for a year. As we reflect, it was great to speak often with one another about the things of the Lord. It was rather easy, for the Word opened up the conversations. Christian brethren drawn apart, of like mind, readily conversed of those things near to the heart of God. The serious times in which we live drew out the language of the Kingdom; righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

And now as the harvest is past, the summer is indeed ended and many are not saved. Many arrogant still feel so very blessed on the outside of His fold. "What have we spoken against Thee?"

The fact is they are not on the "inside," nor fear the Lord, nor speak often to one another. These so called blessed and blessings of the world are short-lived. But "A book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and who esteem His name."

Our Savior Himself may not even ask us to often "cast pearls before swine." However, we are encouraged to speak often with one another and not forsake the assembling of ourselves together as is the custom of some. Let us be refreshed, rather than

have the tendency to weariness at the monotony of religious exercises and beware of the craving for novelty in the human hearts, as may prevail today.

The circumstances of life, the real presence of Christ, the cunning foe, Christian service, and living, ought to bring out the real character and conversation in times like these as well as in Malachi's day.

O, the wondrous ear of God! The thunders of the celestial song that came to His ear as a result of God's blessed showers received on thirsty hearts. The plaintive notes of sorrows: "blessed are they that mourn." The sighing of secret worship even in the closet, later mingled with praise in the assembly of the righteous. The cries of extremity, the poor and destitute. God have mercy. God help me. God heard; God had mercy. The Lord God will hear and preserve a memorial of your godly fellowship.

"Those who feared the Lord," not with slavish fear which exists in the minds of those who love sin, indulge in sin, and then only tremble when they think of the wages of sin. But reference is rather made to those who looked upon God as a Father, with hearts filled with devotion and love, which true knowledge and appreciation of God demands.

Man is a social being. So man speaks to one another and so man lets his light shine. On the other hand, selfishness shares nothing and receives

nothing. "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." This is literally true. Man speaks of work, of sports, of styles, of politics, and of God. Why then should anyone but encourage the zeal of the man who would speak of the Lord's dealing with his soul. "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt." The Lord noted it down in a book of remembrance. In the "Great Day," to your surprise, you will find words recalled to your mind long since forgotten by you, but fresh as ever in the remembrance of that loving Father with whom we have to do.

Let us not be deceived, however, to think we are safe because we "talk religious." Though every converted man will speak of Christ, not everyone who speaks of Christ is converted. They spoke because they thought upon these things and feared His Name.

In the backslidden condition, even when the Temple was being built, believers felt a great need to encourage one another as they looked for the Messiah. Now that He has come, oh, the glorious promises fulfilled: the fulness of time, the spotless life, the obedience, the cross, blood, death, grave, the resurrection, visions of His glory, His ascension, His intercession at the right hand. His coming again. "Will He find faith on the earth?" Find those thinking and speaking together? I'm saved. "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift."

—Lawrence C. Dynneson

God Has A Place For Me

by Linda Moan, Secretary

Have you ever thought about that? God really does have a place for you! It's a personal place—just for YOU—and our loving Father wants you to know the joy of living and serving in this place!

This was the challenge that was presented to over 250 young people attending our 1975 Luther League Convention at Association Free Lutheran Bible School in Minneapolis, July 23-27. Most conventioneers were from the midwest, but it was a special joy to have about a dozen youth from the West Coast. It was a real thrill for me to have a part in this convention and an inspiration to see so many young people who love the Lord and want to live for Him.

Each day of the convention carried a special emphasis: My Place in Becoming God's Child; My Place in Fellowship with God; and My Place in Service. The truths of these themes were explored and discovered through various means during the week, including Bible studies, small group discussions, worksheets, a film, special speakers, sharing times, music, prayer, and witness opportunities. Besides the regular convention sessions, three leadership workshops were conducted by several leaders, featuring sharing program ideas,

leadership responsibilities, and practical helps.

We praise God for the pastors whom God provided to share the Word with us. Our evening speaker was Rev. Michael Brandt from Lake Stevens, Washington. He shared many tremendous challenges and insights concerning God's place for each of us. God's place is: At the foot of the cross—FREEDOM; Of childlike openness—FAITH; Of walking with Jesus—FELLOWSHIP; Living for Jesus—SERVICE. Rev. Richard Snipstead, Minneapolis (now Ferndale, Wash.), led our morning Bible studies, opening God's truths on salvation by grace alone; fellowship with God only after iniquity has been cleansed; service motivated by Christ's love and effective by a yielded life; and worship, which is an attitude of the heart. Rev. Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, shared an enlightening session on how to study the Bible. It is not enough to just read the Bible, but we must realize the meaning and then apply it to our lives, he said.

A very special part of the convention was the Saturday afternoon evangelism outreach. Almost half of the conventioneers chose to go out to various Minneapolis beaches, parks, streets and homes. It was exciting

to see them return with such joy and enthusiasm, telling about their experiences and how much it meant to them to personally tell others about Jesus Christ.

The business meeting of the convention was held on Friday afternoon. The following were elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the LLF for the next two years: President—Pastor Richard Anderson, Minneapolis; First Vice-President—Gary Jorgenson, Tioga, N. Dak.; Second Vice-President—Don Olson, Bothell, Wash.; Secretary—Karen Russum, Grafton, N. Dak.; Treasurer—Stephen Lee, Arvilla, N. Dak.; and Devotional Life Secretary—Linda Moan, Cloquet, Minn. The outgoing officers were: Pastor Kenneth Moland, Wayne Floan, Lyle Forde, Linda Moan, Kathi Jones and Jim Fugleberg. Conference resolutions included a call for prayer and financial support for our Evangelist/Youth Worker, Pastor David Molstre; that local congregations schedule a youth night during special meetings with him; that a workshop for Luther League officers be held each fall; and that consideration be given to hold the next convention on the West Coast.

We thank God for the fine staff we had. Pastor Bruce Dalager, head



Some leaguers with the girls' dorm in the background.



Rev. Bruce Dalager, head counsellor, chats with a few boys.

counselor; Ralph Rokke, dean of men; Mrs. Gene Smith and Miss Corrine Hermunslie, deans of women; Jim Fugleberg, choir director; counselors, cooks, special speakers, and all who helped. Not least, we thank those who made it possible for their youth to come to the convention, and who prayed. We know that God's Word will bear fruit.

Dear Friend, I now challenge you to take these words to heart. God has a place for **YOU!** This is not only in the far future, but it begins right now, **RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE!** Do you want to have the inward peace of knowing God's will and the joy of purpose and victory in life? The first step is making Jesus Christ Savior

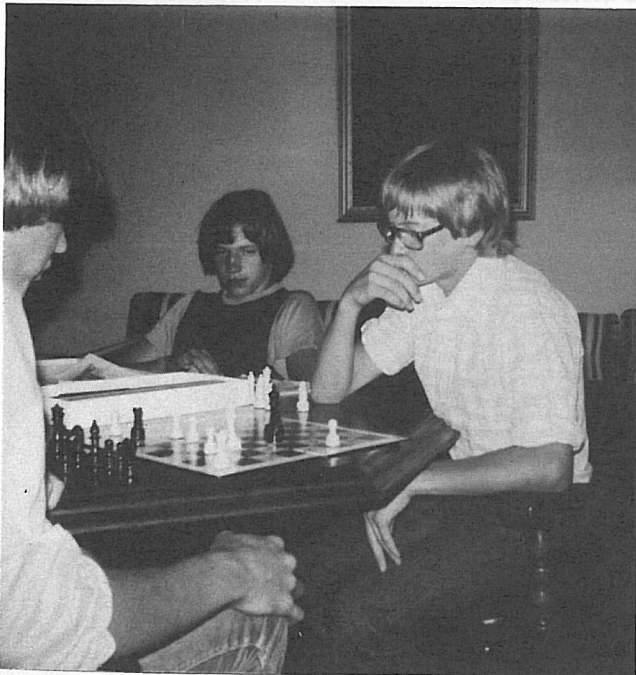
and Lord of your life and putting Him first. Then, if you faithfully serve Him day by day **WHERE YOU ARE**, doing even the smallest duties as unto Him, He will abundantly bless and strengthen you, fitting you for new open doors of joy and opportunity in the future according to your faithfulness in obeying Him today. See Jeremiah 29:11.



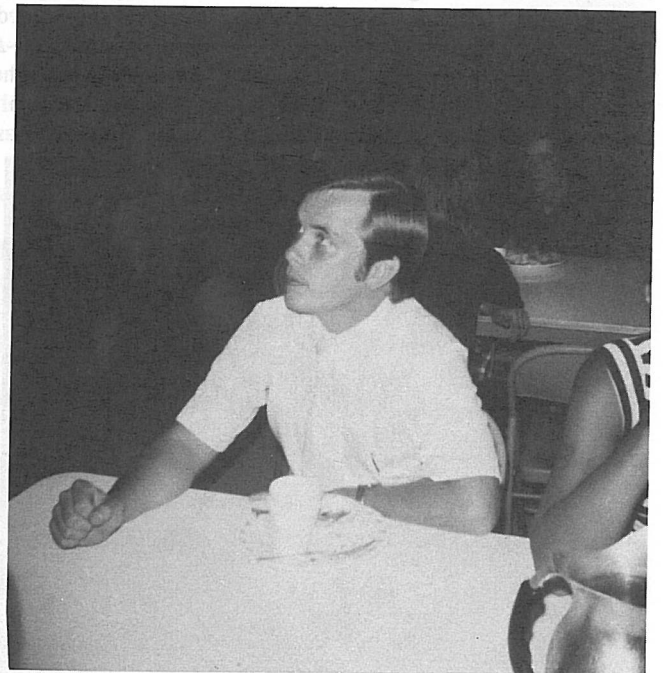
Rev. R. Snipstead, morning Bible teacher.



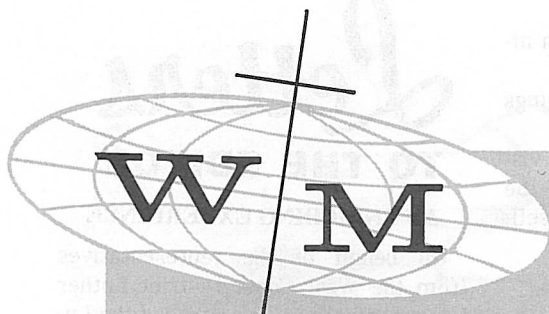
Wayne Hjermsstad and Marge Sorteberg were the congenial canteen managers.



Pondering the next move in the boys' dorm lounge.



Rev. Michael Brandt, evening convention speaker.



WORLD MISSIONS

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST

KAREN TELLS US ABOUT BRAZIL

Brazil is truly a land of color and variety. They have the very rich and the extremely poor; they have the old and the new. It seems that my stay in Brazil so far is true to Brazilian form. My first month was all variety and constant change. I had the privilege of traveling with "Fiel Livros." Fiel is a Christian publishing company out of Sao Paulo. There were three young people from San Diego, California, traveling with us, Robert, John and Janet, along with a missionary and several Brazilians.

We traveled in a large van that was equipped with speakers, and a movie screen on the side of it, so we could show films from the inside at open-air meetings. We spent a week in each of five cities. In the afternoon we would go door-to-door selling Christian books. We usually went two by two, an American with a Brazilian, because we didn't speak the language. Not being able to speak Portuguese is very frustrating. In the evening we had a program in the different churches in each city. We would sing, give our testimonies and show a film. Yeddo Gottel traveled with us to translate for us. He was a real big help to us. We also had a Brazilian evangelist with us to give the message each evening. We saw many souls saved as the weeks flew by.

One of the weeks we spent in Campo Mourao. It seemed like old home week for me to be able to see Dyruds, Abels and Knapps again. I felt right at home, especially when I saw frost on the ground my first morning here. In some parts of the state it even snowed. It felt like I had skipped a few months and landed in December. It was the coldest they have had it in many years. The Brazilians have lost all of their crops, including coffee. We were

all kept busy in spite of the cold because not only was the team here but Bible Camp was in full swing at the same time. Priscilla Wold was on vacation from language school so she got in on the excitement, too. It turned out to be a very blessed week.

The Fiel team moved on for two final weeks before coming back to Campo. We were able to see Iguacu Falls from both the Brazil and the Argentine sides. We also took a half day to go across the border into Paraguay. It was really an exciting month full of so many rich blessings from the Lord. We arrived safely in Campo Mourao just in time to see Abels off for home. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let's go back a couple of weeks and I'll take you with me through an entire day. We will take a day at Campo Mourao since you know where that is.

We are staying at Dyruds. We wake up at about seven-thirty and realize that our noses are quite cold, so it will be hard to come out from under all the quilts. We muster all of our courage, jump out of bed, dress in a flash and head for the fireplace for



Karen, center, with her San Diego friends, Robert, John and Janet.

a little bit of heat. By the time all of us get warm, it is time to go outside and over to the Institute for breakfast at 8. When we have eaten our fill of Brazilian bread and coffee with milk, we go back to Dyrud's for Bible study at 9. We are reading and sharing in Hebrews. A verse that stands out for me in Chapter 2 is verse 3: "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" After Bible study, it is time for prayer. Since we are a mixed group, Brazilians and Americans, some of us pray in English and some in Portuguese. It is at times like this I realize how great our Lord is. He always hears us when we pray, no matter what language. In fact, He knows the very desires of our hearts. After prayer time, we have some free time to do all of our catching up on personal duties like writing to all of our friends back home. I am sure you like to hear from us and know what we are doing.

At noon everyone returns to the Institute dining hall for lunch and then boards the Fiel bus for the city. Central Church is coming in view and there in front are the young people waiting for us, to help us sell books. Roger Kirk, our team leader, pairs us off and I am to be with a young Japanese girl named Tizue. She is a member of Central and a new Christian of two years. I am especially happy because she speaks both Portuguese and English, so for one day I will be able to know what is going on. At each house we clap our hands at the gate instead of knocking on the door. The lady of the house tells us to enter and Tizue tells her who we are and that I don't speak any Portuguese. She tells her that we are with Fiel and we have some books of interest to her family. Tizue explains each book and asks her if she would like to buy any. If so, we gladly sell them to her and if not we give her a tract and go on to the next house. We try to leave some part of the Gospel in every home. When we have finished our blocks, we go back to the bus and compare notes with the other teams. Before going back to the Institute, all of us take time to praise the Lord in prayer and thank Him for the opportunity to share His love with so many. At the Institute the cook has prepared a delicious meal and we eat heartily.

Letters TO THE EDITOR

AN ENRICHING EXPERIENCE

On behalf of the representatives from the West Coast District Luther League, who recently attended the Luther League Federation Convention in Minneapolis, Minn., I would like to express a most grateful thank-you for the financial help and prayer support given by the Luther League Federation.

We found it an enriching experience to be able to attend the convention. We are now better oriented with the function of the Luther League Federation and we hope to be of more useful service and encouragement in our youth groups within our churches. Thank you again.

Cheri Carter
Lake Stevens, Wash.

PERSONALITIES

Miss Linda Moan, secretary to Rev. John P. Strand, Association president, and for **The Lutheran Ambassador**, for the past few years, has left those positions to become parish worker at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Cloquet, Minn., Rev. Herbert Franz, pastor. She began her new duties on Sept. 1 and lives at 205 17th St., Cloquet 55720. Linda will be missed at AFLC headquarters where she served so faithfully, but all her friends wish her well in this new opportunity for service to which she eagerly looks forward.

Address for Rev. Alvin Grothe, now pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Astoria, Ore., 97103, is 575 34th St.

The telephone number for Rev. John C. Rieth, who began his ministry in the Kalispell, Mont., parish in July is 406-755-8225.

Rev. Eugene Enderlein, pastor at Minnewaukan, N. Dak., for several years, has resigned in order to accept a call to serve the Thief River Falls, Minn., parish (Our Savior's and Reiner). He will begin his work there in later October, according to present information.

The Lutheran Ambassador

After a quick change of clothes we head for Lar Parana Church and the evening service. Pastor Dyrud leads in some singing at first. He is followed by Roger, who, in addition to his other talents, is a ventriloquist. His dummy's name is Daniel. Daniel is very good at sharing the salvation message with children of all ages. Daniel says good-night to everyone and it is my turn to give my testimony. Yeddo translates what I say into Portuguese, so I can share Jesus even though I don't speak the language. Janet sings a Scripture song for the people and then the film begins. Tonight it is "The Silver Belt," a Moody film that has been translated into Portuguese. After the invitation has been given we load up the bus again and head for Dyrud's for hot chocolate and a good night's rest. I hope you have enjoyed your day spent in Campo Mourao.

As I look back over my experience I am reminded of Psalm 95. Surely we should shout joyfully to the Lord with thanksgiving for all He has done. Praise His Name!

Karen V. Kvistero

PRAYER AND PRAISE FROM BRAZIL

Praise the Lord for:

—The safe return of the Knapps to the field.

—The visit of Karen Kvistero to the field, her chance to travel with an evangelical book team presenting Christian literature for a month, and her opportunity to work with the missionaries in Campo Mourao for two months.

—The visit of Paul Abel to the field and his witness, especially to the young people.

—The blessings received at Youth Bible Camp from July 15-20.

—The new members received at the Central and Santo Rei Churches.

—The new parsonage in Alvorada.

—The new administration building and remodeling of other buildings at the Institute, giving us adequate classroom space.

—The decrease in meningitis victims due to vaccinations given to a great number of Brazilians.

—The warmer weather and rain after the devastating frost.

—Three new students, which brings the number to eleven.

—The "Fiel Livros" team that visited here and four other cities in the state of Parana, evangelizing and selling Christian books.

Pray for:

—The national workers: Senhor Timothy in Alvorada, Sr. Vicinte in Santo Rei, Sr. Raimundo in Campo Mourao, Sr. Moacir in Lar Parana, and Pastor Yeddo at the Institute.

—The second semester of language school for Priscilla Wold and her ability to understand and speak Portuguese better every day.

—The beginning of a new semester at our Bible Institute and Seminary, and for more students.

—The evangelical radio program broadcast every Friday morning.

—The students at the Bible School and Seminary. Pray for their spiritual growth as they are in the second semester of schooling preparing themselves for their summer ministry.

—A new convert in Lar Parana who is ill and a Spiritist relative wants to put a hex on her.

—Pastor Nathaniel and his wife Aparacida that he would be willing to accept the Lord's will for his life and take on the responsibility of a church.

—The women's retreat to be held in October.

—Priscilla Wold as she is in her last semester of language school—that she would be able to grasp and comprehend the language well.

—The teachers that they may have patience and understanding with the students.

Your Missionaries in Brazil

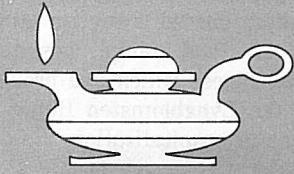
Yes, out, too, went **COMPLAINING**,
Grumbling about trivial things;
I put in **SMILES AND LAUGHTER**
To ease the tension each day brings.

Friends, let's all clean out our
cupboards,

With help from God above;

Throw out **PRIDE** and **HATRED**, too;

Put in **HUMILITY** and **LOVE**.



SCHOOL NEWS

ASSOCIATION SCHOOLS TO OPEN SEPTEMBER 15

Free Lutheran Theological Seminary and Association Free Lutheran Bible School will open the new school year on Sept. 15.

For the Seminary, it will be the 12th year, for the Bible School, the tenth. Twelve men are expected to be in the first year class of seminary, bringing the total enrollment to 21. Rev. Amos O. Dyrud is dean of the Seminary. Other faculty members are Dr. Iver Olson, Rev. Harold Hosch and Rev. Francis Monseth. Mr. Donald Rodvold and Rev. John P. Strand are part-time teachers.

The Bible School will open with approximately 125 students. Eighty-five of them will be juniors and 40 will be seniors. More exact enrollment figures will be given next time.

In addition to the men noted above, who will also teach in the Bible School, other faculty members for AFLBS are Rev. Kenneth Moland, Rev. Raynard Huglen and Mr. Anker Harbo. New to AFLBS this year, Pastor Moland will be in charge of student counseling and in-service training and will serve as athletic director, as well as having teaching duties. Also new, Mr. Harbo, who has been serving as a lay pastor at Hatton, N. Dak., will be in charge of the Bible School office, in addition to some teaching responsibility in the area of church history.

Rev. Dyrud will serve as acting dean of the Bible School until a permanent dean is secured to replace Rev. R. Snipstead, now of Ferndale, Wash.

Another new staff member will be Miss Mary Rolf. She will be dean of women, school nurse and librarian. She is an RN and a graduate of AFLBS.

A service on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 14, at 4 o'clock will mark the opening of the school year. The ser-

vice will be held in Medicine Lake Lutheran Church on the campus. Pastor Dyrud will speak.

Registration and orientation for Bible School students will take place on Monday, Sept. 15, while regular classes will commence on the 16th.

This year will mark the first one in school history in which separate dormitories for boys and girls will be available at the beginning of a school year. The new boys' dorm was not occupied until Oct. 12 last year. Make-shift arrangements were used the first month.

Most AFLBS students work part-time at campus and off-campus jobs to help pay for their schooling. A good many such job opportunities are available for the students.

The annual homecoming for AFLBS alumni will be held the last weekend in September.

Introducing Our Seminarrians

THE LINES IN PLEASANT PLACES

"The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me" (Psalm 16:6).

I praise God for the blessed life that He has given me. Surely the hand of our Heavenly Father is one of love and mercy upon those who fear and love Him.

From the very beginning of my life, God has been good to me. I was born into a wonderful home where the Word of God was loved, respected and taught. The influence of my parents upon my life shall be something for which I shall always be thankful.

I grew up on the farm home of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Olson of Tioga, North Dakota. I am the oldest of four children. I attended a country school for eight years and graduated in 1964 from Tioga High School.

Following high school graduation, I attended California Lutheran Bible

School in Los Angeles, California, and Northwestern College in Minneapolis, Minnesota. I then transferred to Minot State College from which I graduated with a B.S. Degree in Music Education. During my college days at Minot State and continuing through 1973, I pastored the Scandia Valley Lutheran Church, located southwest of Stanley, North Dakota.

Three years were spent teaching vocal music at Tioga High School, after which I accepted a letter of call to be the assistant lay-pastor in the Tioga Lutheran Parish. It was during my ministry at Tioga that I felt that the Lord was leading me to further prepare myself for full-time Christian service. I applied and was accepted by Free Lutheran Seminary where I am now entering my senior year.

The summer of 1974 was spent serving St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church at Finlayson, Minnesota. I continued a week-end ministry there throughout the school year. This past summer has been spent working in the new Home Mission congregation at Minot, North Dakota.

Faithfully encouraging me and putting up with the "gypsy life-style" of a seminarian is my sweetheart, my helpmate, my wife, Helene, who was also born and raised at Tioga. Between the packing and unpacking, she finds time to take good care of our three boys, Aaron, six years, Brent, four and David, two.

I praise my Lord for the wonderful way that He has led me, provided, and proven Himself faithful. We serve a great God!

Rodger D. Olson

PASTOR OLSON DECLINES ELECTION TO STEWARDSHIP BOARD

Pastor Orville T. Olson, McIntosh, Minn., who was elected to the Stewardship Board for a term of five years at the recent Annual Conference, has declined to serve. The Board has asked Pastor Jerome Nikunen, Roseau, Minn., who was defeated in the election by Pastor Olson, to continue on the Board until the next conference and he has consented to do so.

Women For Christ

CULBERTSON WMF OBSERVES TENTH ANNIVERSARY

"Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever" (Psalm 106:1).

II Timothy 2:15 was adopted by the Culbertson WMF at our first meeting as a basis or theme, so after ten years of wonderful fellowship and blessings we felt a response of thanks and praise would be fitting, so we chose Psalm 106:1 as a theme for observing our tenth anniversary at Bethel Church on May 8 at 7:30.

President Esther Brekke welcomed the group and led in devotions, using Psalm 150:1-6.

Alma Thompson and Charlotte Qualley sang a duet, "All That Thrills My Soul."

Alma Thompson led the Bible study using the May Bible Study of our WMF.

Selstine Dahlberg read a poem and also read greetings from Mrs. Melvin Walla and Mrs. Knute Jore.

Gladys Qualley read a brief review of the past ten years of our group.

Nine women from the Tioga Parish were with us. Mrs. LaVern Johnson of Tioga, our district president, brought greetings, as did Mrs. Grace Severson and Mrs. Forrest Swenson.

Mrs. Lester Lallum sang "Fill My Cup, Lord," as her greeting.

Mrs. Verle Dean, our pastor's wife,



Some of the women gathered at the WMF anniversary in Bethel.

brought a brief but inspiring message.

The tables were decorated in red, white and blue by our hostesses of the evening, Mrs. Nina Nelson and Mrs. Francis Sunwall.

—Corr.

MRS. ANNA MELLAND HONORED AT DRUMMOND

Mrs. Anna Melland, pictured below, was honored by the Drummond WMF



at a recent meeting. She was born at Washburn, Wis., but moved to Mason, Wis., soon after and lived there until her marriage. She then came to Drummond, Wis., where she has lived some 50 years. She has seven children, 20 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren. Anna has been a faithful Christian and has taken part in Ladies Aid and the WMF. Her 84th birthday was on July 31 and her daughters and relatives called on her that day at the Washburn Hospital where she has been for some time.

—Corr.

EASTERN NORTH DAKOTA WOMEN SET FALL RALLY

Zion Lutheran Church, rural Valley City, N. Dak., will host the Eastern North Dakota Women's Missionary Federation fall rally in Grace Lutheran Church, Valley City, on Saturday, Oct. 18, with registration at 9:30 a.m.

Theme of our rally will be Zechariah 4:6b: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord."

Mrs. Russell Duncan
Secretary

DR. OSCAR C. HANSON

Dr. Oscar C. Hanson, well-known evangelical Lutheran leader and speaker, passed away on August 17 at a St. Paul, Minn., hospital after a long illness which had brought him into the Lyngblomsten Home shortly before his hospitalization.

Oscar C. Hanson, son of Henry O. and Mary (Rasmusson) Hanson, was born February 2, 1908, in Astoria, S. Dak. He was baptized and confirmed in Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Astoria. His educational life included studying at Augustana College (B. S., 1929), Luther Seminary (B. Th., 1936), an honorary degree from Pacific Lutheran University, 1950, and teaching at Kidder High School, Kidder, S. Dak., Park Region Academy, Waldorf Junior College, and serving as dean of men, Concordia College.

Pastor Hanson was ordained at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn., June 7, 1936. He served the Lutheran Church as pastor of Grace Lutheran, Watertown, S. Dak.; executive secretary of the Young People's Luther League; evangelist; founding pastor of the American Lutheran Church in Oslo, Norway; and president of the Lutheran Bible Institute. He was author of several books and numerous tracts. Because of illness, Pastor Hanson was forced to retire from active ministry in 1965.

On June 22, 1935, Oscar Hanson married Myrtle Lokken in Sioux Falls, S. Dak. Three children were born to them: Joanne Negstad, Mohall, N. Dak.; Mary Trodahl, Torrance, Calif.; and Rev. Mark S., Minneapolis. He is also survived by four grandchildren and two nieces. His parents and three sisters preceded him in death.

He was laid to rest following a family service conducted by Dr. J. Elmo Agrimson, president of the South-eastern Minnesota District of the American Lutheran Church and father-in-law of Mark Hanson.

A memorial service was held that afternoon in St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church, St. Paul, with Pastors Rolf Hanson and Alvin Rogen officiating. Hymns by the congregation were "My Faith Looks Up to Thee," "Beautiful Savior," and "Peace, Perfect Peace." Mr. Alvar Nelson sang "How

(Continued on page 10)

editorials

HE TALKED TO ME

The editorials today will all be about men, men who served or are still serving the Lord.

The first one concerns a Lutheran pastor, now with the Lord, some of whose poems we are going to be using in the *Ambassador*, the first of which appears in this issue. They are from the book *In Quiet Moments*.

The man to whom we refer is Rev. C. K. Solberg of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Some of our readers will remember this saintly man. For just a brief moment in time his life touched mine, then a teenaged boy, but in a way I will never forget.

Pastor Solberg was having meetings in our Lutheran Free Church congregation in Newfolden, Minnesota. I carry no recollection of those services themselves, but do remember that during the week while I was mowing a lawn across the street from the church he came over to greet me and talk for a few minutes. He asked me if I were thinking of the Christian ministry as a calling and encouraged me in that direction. I was indeed already feeling that call of God, but appreciated his encouragement.

That was my association with C. K. Solberg. He carried on a consecrated ministry for Christ. He was in demand for series of meetings in churches. His life was a blessing to many in the Lutheran Church. Now through the use of some of his poems, in coming months, let his memory and witness live on and bless our hearts.

DR. OSCAR C. HANSON

When word reached us that Oscar C. Hanson had died that same day, there was no surprise in the announcement for we knew that he was failing rapidly. But it was a natural reaction to raise a prayer of thanksgiving for this man of God.

Everyone who comes out of a Scandinavian Lutheran background or who is acquainted with the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement or the Lutheran Bible Institute of some years ago knows of the work of Oscar Hanson, for he had a real impact on it all.

Dr. Hanson, in his prime, was a clear voice for personal,

pietistic, evangelical Christianity. He preached conscious, committed faith in Jesus Christ and separated living by those who chose the Christ way. But always this was to be coupled with a missionary concern for the salvation of others and the winsome example of godly living before one's neighbors and associates.

The first evidences of the Parkinson's disease which gradually debilitated his strength and speech were known at least as early as 1962. In the last years, while mentally alert always, he could talk only in a whisper and communication beyond that with family members was very difficult. It must have been very frustrating to him.

How many times in these later years have we not called out, "O God, why has the voice of Oscar Hanson been quieted in this day when we so much need it?" For who has there been as a recognized Lutheran preacher to fill the place he had? Only God in His wisdom knows why He permitted this affliction to curtail and then stop the preaching ministry of Oscar Hanson before his natural time.

Dr. Hanson was a tireless worker. Perhaps he was too hard on himself. Not only did he preach the Word of God in a very effective way, often gathering his audience in with his expressive smile, but he was a writer of tracts and books. These, of course, will live on as they continue to be read by many.

Oscar Hanson was at various times a parish pastor, a college dean of men and teacher, synodical youth director, president of the LBI, Bible Camp and conference speaker, pastor of the American Lutheran Church in Oslo, Norway, evangelist and writer. God bless his ministry. May the fruits and effect of it live on. May other men be raised up to fill the large void he leaves in the Lutheran Church.

A NEW MINISTRY

September marks the beginning of a new ministry in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations and for the man who will carry on that ministry, Rev. David C. Molstre, our first official evangelist.

Evangelism, as we think of it, has been carried on by other pastors, and laymen, in the AFLC before this and will continue to be, but Pastor Molstre will devote himself to this work alone, together with a responsibility toward youth work in the congregations.

There are doubtless a number of AFLC pastors who have the gift of an evangelist as well as the gifts of a parish pastor. But Pastor Molstre is the one who has been chosen to take up this work in the name of the Church, as well as of the Lord Jesus Christ. The fact that he has had experience as a parish pastor—Grand Forks and Grafton, N. Dak., Minneapolis and Thief River Falls, Minn.—is all to the good. Yea, it is unlikely the AFLC would call a man to this position without parish experience because an evangelist preaches in congregations and he must know how they work and have a feeling for the work of a pastor who stays on after an evangelist leaves.

Simply stated, an evangelist is a preacher of the Gospel, the good news of God's love through Jesus Christ. He is also a preacher of the Law, which breaks men's hearts and wills so that they see their need of the Savior. When

an evangelist is called into a parish, it is no sign that the local pastor has not been preaching the Law and Gospel already. We believe all our pastors are doing that. But the evangelist comes as a new voice and called by the Lord and the Church for this office and through his week or two in a place he again sounds forth the truths of God's Word, and because of the advance preparation, including much prayer, there may be a harvest of souls. At the very least, his ministry will add constructively to the ongoing work in the congregation.

We believe that Pastor Molstre will bring to the office of evangelist a sound understanding of the place of evangelism in Lutheran theology. This is what we need for our theology holds that the Sacraments as well as the Word are means of grace, although the former only have validity as they are joined to the latter.

It remains to be seen how the evangelist-youth worker combination will work out and which one may overshadow the other to the point where the one will atrophy. If that were to happen, it is likely the youth worker side that will suffer. But time will tell about that.

May much prayer be made for Pastor Molstre by the church and other interested friends in his work as evangelist-youth worker. Only as the work is borne up by prayer will much be accomplished. God wills revival, quickening, awakening more than any of us do, but as there is prayer, in a way we do not much understand, the chains of evil that bind the lost and the "weights" of this world that hobble the Christian will be more easily cast off in individual lives.

Pray much for Pastor Molstre, and for his family, from whom he must be away often as he carries out his work. Follow his schedule in the *Ambassador*. His first series will be in Calvary Lutheran Church, Eben Jct., Mich., Sept. 21-25. Rev. Wallace Jackson is the pastor there.

AS THE NEW TERM STARTS

It goes without saying that Pastor Richard Snipstead will be missed at Association Free Lutheran Bible School when the new term begins on Sept. 15. Someone else will occupy his office, his duties will be portioned out to sev-

eral others, but it will take some doing to get used to the idea that he isn't the dean of the school any more. This will be true of the returning faculty and students, at least.

Pastor Snipstead, of course, has gone out to Ferndale, Washington to take up parish work again in the congregation he left in 1968 to come to AFLBS. The Association certainly wishes him and his family well as he goes back to the ministry he loves so much and to which he wanted some day to return.

At Bible School, Pastor Snipstead carried out many responsibilities as well as doing considerable teaching. It is unlikely that the next dean will have to shoulder as many tasks, whoever he is. But Pastor Snipstead came early in the school's history, it was only two years old, the staff was small and he had to do various tasks if they were to be done at all. And in order to be as conserving as possible for the school, he took on a larger teaching load, too, than would normally be expected of a dean.

Beyond the normal administrative duties, he was deeply involved with the building project of the boys' dormitory. This occupied much time over a two-year period, at least. There were many obstacles and delays so that it was a trying time for him as well as a joyous one.

One of Pastor Snipstead's great strengths as dean was the fine rapport or relationship he had with the faculty and students. He trusted both groups and they responded positively to the confidence placed in them. When he had to apply discipline to students, they accepted it without personal animosity toward him.

Pastor Snipstead can leave AFLBS with a sense of much accomplishment in the growth and development of our young school. We are sure that he had dreams and plans for its future, but he has left those dreams for others to carry out more directly in order to accept the call to serve as pastor of Triumph Lutheran Church in Ferndale. In that capacity, too, we know that he will remain a strong supporter of the school to which he gave seven good years of his life.

A grateful church and school family remember.

(Continued from page 8)

Great Thou Art" and Mrs. Alvin Lewis rendered "Amazing Grace." The sermon was preached by Dr. Conrad Thompson, a long-time friend, and greetings were brought by Dr. Fredrik Schiotz, Rev. Bernt Opsal, Dr. Alvin Rogness and by the son, Mark Hanson. Dr. Agrimson offered the closing prayer.

Serving as pallbearers were Herman Bly, Gerald Giving, Harold Hammer, Philip Hanson, Thor Haugen and Carl Pederson. Polly Cartford was the pianist and the ushers were Thorwald Loney and Elmer Weltzin.

Blessed be his memory.

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS

February 1—July 31, 1975

	Total Budget	Current Budget	Received in July	Total Received to Date	% of Current	% of Total
General Fund	\$ 64,250.00	\$ 32,124.96	\$ 5,588.39	\$21,877.40	68	34
Schools	102,000.00	51,000.00	4,939.43	38,124.77	75	37.3
Home Missions	53,000.00	26,500.00	3,517.12	19,537.86	73.7	36.8
Foreign Missions	66,840.00	33,420.00	3,599.08	20,581.47	61.6	30.8
Praise Fund	18,000.00	9,000.00	882.20	5,707.46	63.4	31.7
	\$304,090.00	\$152,045.00	\$18,656.61	\$105,828.86	69.6	34.8
1974-75	\$264,202.00	\$132,100.00	\$15,318.87	\$ 85,016.77	64	
Legacies: \$466.35						
Dorm Fund: \$3,195.15						

WMF Bible Study



Is it possible that the Church finds it difficult (maybe even humiliating) to constantly submit to the authority of the Head, even as it is possible for a wife to become stiff-necked and unyielding to the head of her house?

7. _____ What, according to Ephesians 5:22-33, would you say could be the remedy and restoration to submissiveness in both these instances?

8. _____
READ ROMANS 12:1-3 again (we read it in connection with Lesson V). What relationship do you see between these verses in Romans and the verses

we have been looking at in Ephesians 5? 9. _____

What, in Romans 12:1-3, encourages your heart as you see again that God's will for you (as a wife) is to be in sweet, willing subjection to your husband? 10. _____

Finally, where does the unmarried woman fit in, in God's plan of things?

Perhaps I Cor. 7:32-34 will help in your answer. 11. _____

—Mrs. Esther Farrier

WMF REMINDERS

Church Extension was our project for September. Through this fund money is loaned to new congregations and those who need to expand their facilities. As the loan is repaid, the money is reloaned. Do you have a concern for the people in your Jerusalem and Judea? The need is great.

Our project for October is My Missionary For A Day. We continue to daily thank God for those women we support and pray for strength and courage for them. Let us also generously support them with our financial gifts. Does our concern extend to Samaria and the uttermost parts of the earth?

I would like to encourage each one of you women in the local WMFs to attend your fall district rally. I am sure you will find it rich in blessings and inspiration. Let us make a greater effort to attend these rallies.

—Mrs. Robert Dietsche

GOD IS FOR WOMEN . . . GOD IS FOR YOU

Lesson X

GOD IS FOR YOU—HIS WORD TO YOU IS, SUBMIT

Ephesians 5:22-23

Memorize Eph. 5:33

GOD'S ESTIMATION OF A GOOD WOMAN (Proverbs 23:27, 28; 25:24; 31:10-31)

1. Her husband can trust her—with his reputation, his possessions, his children, his love, his confidence.
2. She does good for her husband; speaks well of him to his face and behind his back.
3. She works diligently—with family clothes, with food for her family, with management of her household, with gardening, with intelligent buying for her family, with caring for her family socially and spiritually.
4. She is compassionate toward the needy.
5. She is strong, steady, confident.
6. She is an apt teacher.

October, 1975

7. She impresses her family with the kindness on her tongue.
8. She does not allow herself too much idle time.
9. She is beautiful in her strength on behalf of her husband and children.
10. Her children and her husband see and proclaim her to be "blessed."

OTHER FEMALE SPECIFICS FROM GENESIS:

Woman is a special creation of God, and she is especially fitted to be complementary (not subsidiary) to man, a helper fitted to his needs. (It is interesting that it is the man who is told to leave his home and cleave to a woman.) Woman was "taken from the side" of man.

Very often Satan gets to a man through a woman (Samson, also, for example). Satan approached Eve, not Adam, with the aim of persuading Adam to disobey God. Woman's disobedience brought unique consequences. When man fell from the glorious state in which he existed in Eden, God proclaimed judgment on both the man and the woman: man's judgment was in relation to his work (it should be rigorous and frustrating); woman's judgment was that she should be in subjection to her husband (not to man, generally, but to her own husband). She would be predisposed (God's doing) to lean on and cling to her husband.

PAUL REPEATS THE LORD'S IDEA AND IDEAL FOR WOMAN—

She is to be subject to her man (Ephesians 5:22-33). But he points to a telling example: "as the Church is subject to Christ." In Lesson V we looked at God's thinking on the submission of a creature to his God and Savior; in Lesson IX we noted briefly God's call that Christians submit themselves to one another (let no man think more highly of himself than he ought to think). Now God narrows down His teaching of submission to wives.

Women (and man) are to submit to God, acknowledging His sovereignty and rule. We are to submit to each other, honoring the Christ in every brother and sister. We are, as women, to submit to husbands, honoring the position God has given them, the position of head of the family as Christ is Head of the Church.

Husbands also have a command here from God. They are instructed to love their wives as Christ loved His Church and gave Himself for it. And this in order that He might present it to Himself without blot or blemish. A husband's love should be a covering love, covering any defect in his wife so as to make her appear more lovely, more capable, more gracious in the eyes of others. The love of a husband should be a beautifying thing (no matter how ugly, cantankerous, untidy, critical, old or fat that wife is or has become!) The word is, Love your wife. (Can anyone seriously claim this to be an easier calling than submission?)

So, loving on the one hand and submission on the other are designed to go together. Still, the wife is called to be submissive and to be lovely and kind and strong, NO MATTER IF OR HOW HER HUSBAND FILLS HIS CALLING TOWARD HER.

So then, submission on the part of a wife is a matter between herself

and 1. _____ and love on the part of a husband is a matter between himself and 2. _____. These are not "optionals"; these are not something that one can take or leave; these are direct commands from God. And every relationship in the home has a shining example to follow in

3. _____

SCRIPTURE USES EXAMPLES OF HOME LIFE RELATIONSHIPS

Scripture uses examples of home life relationships to bring to light relationships within the Godhead and also between man and God. (As in Galatians 4, Romans 7, and in the Old Testament, the many references and parables concerning the Bride and the Virgin, the marriage of Jehovah to Israel, and to the unfaithful Bride.) This passage in Ephesians pointedly and specifically pictures Christ's coming to earth, His work on earth and in heaven. And what He did in relation to the Church is exactly the pattern for every Christian husband-and-wife relationship! What does this knowledge do to the philosophy of the glorifiers of women today, the "libbers?"

4. _____
 In verse 31 of Ephesians 5, against a backdrop of verse 32, you will find the work of Christ. Will you rewrite this verse, substituting the eternal

(Christ and His Work) for the temporal (male and female): 5. _____

In your opinion, looking at the Church on earth today, would you say that she is submissive to Christ, the Head, in everything? 6. _____



PARISH ED

WITNESSING TO THE MENTALLY RETARDED By Dan and Judy Hacking, Little Falls, Minnesota

As Jesus was about to ascend into Heaven to sit on the right hand of God the Father, He told His disciples that they would receive the Holy Spirit in a few days, and they were to take the message of the Gospel unto all people and unto all nations (Acts 1:1-9). It must have been a terrific experience for the disciples to feel the Holy Spirit take over their whole beings and direct their lives. This event or spiritual awakening is still as dynamic and terrific today as it was for the disciples of Jesus Christ. It is so wonderful to feel and experience the power of the Holy Spirit upon our lives when we accept Jesus as our personal Savior and when we give our total being to Him and to His service. Dedicated Christians have this same directive or obligation to spread God's news throughout the world as the early disciples did.

It is so easy to say, "Well, I am not really qualified; those Bible scholars who are well versed in the Bible will do a much better job than I could in spreading the Gospel." It is true that today we are blessed with many gifted Bible scholars, including those in the Association, but we, as God's children, still have that same call from God to spread the Good News to others around us.

When God said to spread the Good News unto all people and unto all nations, that is exactly what He means. This includes the elderly, young, poor, rich, middle class, upper class, sick, physically handicapped, and even the "Mentally Retarded." These words, Mentally Retarded, have had bad connotations throughout recorded history, and it has not changed much up to the present day. Not very long

ago, say about 20-30 years ago, these people were treated very badly. The retarded, or slow to learn, were just put out of sight to vegetate away an existence. Of course, not all retarded were treated this way, but the majority were considered not much more than animals. We could cite many cases, and we are sure you know as well of many instances of mistreatment, but we want to dwell, not on what has happened in the past, but what is in store for the future.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, and He also created man to rule over this kingdom, and He also made them according to His own image (Genesis 1:1,26). Therefore, everyone is included in this majestic plan of God, even the retarded. They have a place in God's kingdom just as God has a place for each one of us today.

In many denominations today, the word retarded is not a household word as of yet, but things are changing for the better. People are becoming more and more aware of the needs of the retarded, especially through school programs. Here in the Association, there are a lot of people who are interested and concerned about spreading the Gospel among the retarded or very slow learners. Many of these people have a variety of capabilities and can be of benefit to a church program.

It is true that there are some retarded who could never be reached through Sunday School programs or even special classes, but there are many who can react in a positive way and gain much in the way of spiritual growth. They are very capable of learning in a limited way and the cliché that God will look after their needs because of their condition should not be an "out" for us not to witness to them. Each one has to be

witnessed to on an individual basis, but can be placed in special classes as long as he is dealt with on this individual basis and is given instructional material beneficial to his learning capabilities. It is, however, essential that the retarded, or very slow learners, **not be grouped** with regular children in Sunday School classes. It is not fair to those who can progress at a greater speed to be held back by those less fortunate than them. The retarded need much more repetition and special material to help them learn about the Gospel of Jesus. It is hard sometimes to tell just what they have learned, but we must lead them to their limit of understanding so that they will be able, and also prepared, to meet God on judgment day.

The Lord said to the disciples, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:14). This is still very much a part of this century as it was then when Jesus spoke these words. The retarded are unique in that they are like little children in their thoughts and actions. The Lord said that we would not see the kingdom of heaven unless we are like little children (Matthew 18:3-4). This is because Jesus knows that unless we are like little children and become humble, trusting and come to him with complete faith we will not see the kingdom of heaven. This is what is so fascinating about the retarded. They are humble and very trusting and do things with the utmost ambition and faith. It would be a great shame and waste if we did not give them this training and the opportunity of entering the kingdom of God.

One of my students, who is a high-functioning, trainable mentally retarded, was recently confirmed. Her parents were talking to their pastor about their daughter and the possibility of her attending some of the classes. The pastor said that they would work with her for awhile to see how she would do in the confirmation classes. Needless to say, it was a total success. On the day of confirmation, when class members gave their testimonies and were questioned before the elders of the church, she gave a marvelous testimony. When she had finished, an elder of the church had tear-filled eyes over what had trans-

pired. That is what is so unique about the retarded, in that when they say something it is with all honesty and simplicity. This was just one example of what could be done and the people of that church wished they had tried this with others in their church before. They missed witnessing to many in the past, but they will not let that same opportunity go by again. Let us hope that other churches will see the need to witness to the retarded and will not let these same opportunities go by unnoticed.

If only we could avoid the error of looking at the retarded as helpless and not beneficial members of society, we would not see them as odd, weird or funny, but as God's children who make up a part of this earthly kingdom. Those who have or know of retarded or slow learners should try to teach them and introduce them to the knowledge of God and also have faith that God will give the fortitude to deal with the retarded.

We hope and pray that we may see more and more retarded and slow learners, through the work of the churches and interested persons, become more aware of Jesus Christ and receive salvation.

"Whom we preach, warning every man, teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."

(Colossians 1:28)

Hints on Reaching the Retarded Child

1. It is essential not to group them with regular Sunday school pupils.
2. Should work with them on an individual basis. . . .
Ideal ratio would be 1:1, or not more than 1:3, if anything is going to be accomplished.
3. The use of supplies suitable to his intelligence. . . .
Should start out with very simple material below what you think he is capable of doing.
Increase as needed.
4. Do not spend more than approximately 15 minutes on any one task.
5. Repetition is essential for them to learn.
6. Recognize when his attention span is becoming short or when he is becoming bored.

7. Frequent visits to elementary schools or to special education classes in order to pick up different material and ideas on how to present the same matter in a different way to your student(s).

8. If your student is capable of some reading, then use of simple cards or phrases to complete sentences will help.

9. Using games to bring out communication is helpful.

10. Above all, try not to use bribes to get their attention or to get them to do something, as they will use this to manipulate you later.

11. Most retarded children respond readily to positive praise and need not be given treats when they do something right.

12. Do not be afraid to use negative talk when a child does something incorrectly

it will make the child respond better to positive praise when he receives it.

13. Try to avoid jealousy between students.

14. If space is available, try to set up work stations in different parts of the room.

15. Some materials to use in class:

a. Make up some flash cards, names and pictures of Bible characters and places.

b. Use letters to spell out words of the Bible.

c. Make punch-out cards to assemble.

d. Communications, using simple dialogue as related to the Bible.

e. Arts and crafts as related to the Bible.

f. Chart board with arrow or dial to point out different characters of the Bible.

g. Use filmstrips.

h. Use flannel board.

16. Most of all, it is essential to acquire patience and to use your own common sense as you would in teaching little children.

17. The most important thing of all to remember in dealing with the retarded is to treat them like adults, or on their own age level, and to get away from this cliché of just babying them along without really teaching them anything or just feeling sorry for them all of the time.

(Ed. Note: Judy Hacking is the former dean of women at Association Free Lutheran Bible School. Husband Dan is a special education teacher in Little Falls, Minn.)

THE SINNER'S FRIEND

Are you weak and heavy laden
With the burden of your guilt,
Take your sins at once to Jesus,
For your sins His blood was spilt;
On the Cross He made atonement
For the sins of every race,
Rest assured you were included,
For your guilt He offers grace.

He awaits your full surrender,
Come to Him, your sins confess!
He will grant you full forgiveness
And bestow His righteousness;
He will give you sweet assurance,
Fill you with the Holy Ghost,
He assures you full salvation,
Keeps you to the uttermost.

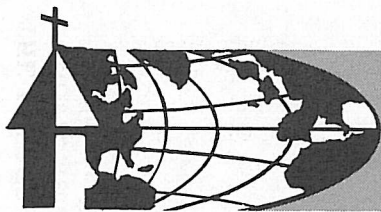
As you bring your grievous burden,
Leave it at the Mercy-seat,
And have faith in Christ your Savior,
Who will all your failings meet;
You shall find, He never fails you,
He's your true and faithful Friend,
He will bless you and your service,
If you serve Him to the end.

C. K. Solberg

CONSTELLATIONS

A myriad of stars
besprinkles the heavens,
numerous as the men
that have walked through time;
some blindly wandering,
wondering,
making gods of
those spinning points of light.
Even the stars
in their cosmic coldness
know Who laid the pattern down,
know Who spoke and formed the
universe.
Our feet, too,
walk among the myriads;
we, too, know the stars.
Will we worship them
or will we look beyond
to God?

Marlene Moline
Lansing, Iowa



CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

WISCONSIN SYNOD ELECTS NAUMANN TO 12TH TERM

Watertown, Wis.—(LC)—The Rev. Oscar J. Naumann, president of the 390,000-member Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, was elected to his 12th two-year term at the Synod's 43rd biennial convention at Northwestern College here, August 6-13.

Named on the first ballot, he received 173 of the 258 votes cast. The rest of the votes were scattered in a field of eight candidates, the highest receiving 25 votes.

President Naumann, 66, was born in Wood Lake, Minn. He was graduated in 1931 from Northwestern College and in 1934 from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis.

After his graduation he served as instructor at Northwestern College for two years. From 1936 to 1940 he was pastor of Arlington Lutheran church, Toledo, Ohio. In 1940, he joined the faculty of Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn. In 1946 he accepted a call as pastor of St. John's Lutheran church, St. Paul, Minn.

From 1953, when he was first elected president, to 1959, he served both as pastor of St. John's and president of the Synod. In 1959 the presidency became a full-time office and President Naumann moved to Milwaukee where the Wisconsin Synod maintains its national headquarters.

Also elected by the convention were the Rev. Carl H. Mischke, Juneau, Wis., first vice-president; the Rev. George W. Boldt, Morton Grove, Ill., second vice-president, and the Rev. Heinrich J. Vogel of the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, Mequon, Wis., secretary. None of these positions is full-time.

5 FAL CONGREGATIONS JOIN THE WISCONSIN SYNOD

Watertown, Wis.—(LC)—Five congregations and six pastors of the Federation for Authentic Lutheranism

(FAL) were received into the membership of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod at its 43rd biennial convention here.

Of the six remaining congregations of the FAL, which had about 4,000 members, two have joined the Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and the others will, for the present, remain independent.

The Federation was formally organized in November of 1971 by former members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The FAL, it was stated, intended "to serve individuals who for conscience reasons are withdrawing from synodical membership in heterodox Lutheran bodies and declaring themselves to be independent."

Expansion of its missions outside the United States was voted by the Wisconsin Synod when it approved work in the United Republic of Cameroon (Southwest Province) and assumed responsibility for the FAL's two-year-old mission in Antigua, West Indies. The mission church has 125 members and maintains a Christian day school with 44 pupils.

The WELS supports missions in Zambia, Malawi, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Colombia, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia and India.

Fellowship relations with the recently organized Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden were approved by the WELS. Formed in September of 1974 by three pastors and 60 lay persons, the church now has three congregations and maintains *Biblicum*, a Bible research institute.

Dr. Seth Erlandsson of Uppsala, Sweden, head of the free church, told delegates here that to remain in the Lutheran Church of Sweden was "intolerable" because it was an "apostate church which has tolerated every denial of the teachings of the Bible."

BLACK LUTHERANS GATHER IN CHICAGO

The First Annual Assembly of the National Conference of Afro-American Lutherans, Inc., met at the Holiday Inn-O'Hare Kennedy on Tuesday, August 12, 1975, in suburban Chicago, Illinois. The theme of the Assembly was "The Fulfillment of Man Through Christian Survival—Revival—Arrival."

Leonard Benton, chairperson of the Conference, is President of Redeemer Lutheran Church, and the Executive Director of the Urban League of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Regional workshops were held in black congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod throughout the United States prior to this meeting. The delegates present at the Assembly came from eastern, south-eastern, southern, western, mid-western and northern areas of the country. A proposed constitution was presented by Mr. Benjamin Dupree of Kannapolis, North Carolina, chairman of the Constitution Committee. The Assembly adopted the constitution in principle, laying the ground work for future growth and development, and elected a board of directors representing all sections of the United States.

There were two keynote speakers: Dr. Will Herzfeld and Dr. Albert Pero. Dr. Will Herzfeld is Pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Oakland, California. In his address to the delegates he brought greetings from Dr. Manas Buthelega of South Africa, Bishop Leonard Auwla and Bishop John Devrees from Southwest Africa, Ramon Castillo of Venezuela, and Daniel Latuu from Tanzania. "We will no longer depend on the umbilical cord of white Lutheran Churches," Dr. Herzfeld said, "but we will reach out and help and be helped first by our African and Latin American Brothers and Sisters." Dr. Albert Pero, executive director of the Nation-

al Conference of Afro-American Lutherans, Inc., reported that "the black Christian church in America is rapidly becoming the fourth largest Christian group in the world." "This fact," Dr. Pero said, "should lead us to recognize the need for development of energy for empowering black Lutherans."

ELIM ASSEMBLY VOICES DESIRE FOR LUTHERAN UNITY

Chicago—(LC)—A resolution recognizing pulpit and altar fellowship "with all Lutherans" was adopted

here Aug. 14 by the third annual assembly of Evangelical Lutherans in Mission (ELIM).

The same resolution encouraged "study, consultation, worship and mission activities which intensify and celebrate Lutheran unity" and gave support to cooperative Lutheran efforts such as the Lutheran Council in the USA and the Lutheran World Federation.

A preamble to the resolution on Lutheran unity stated, "many, both within our church and among our fellow Lutherans, yearn for a positive expression of the unity which God has given all Lutherans."

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