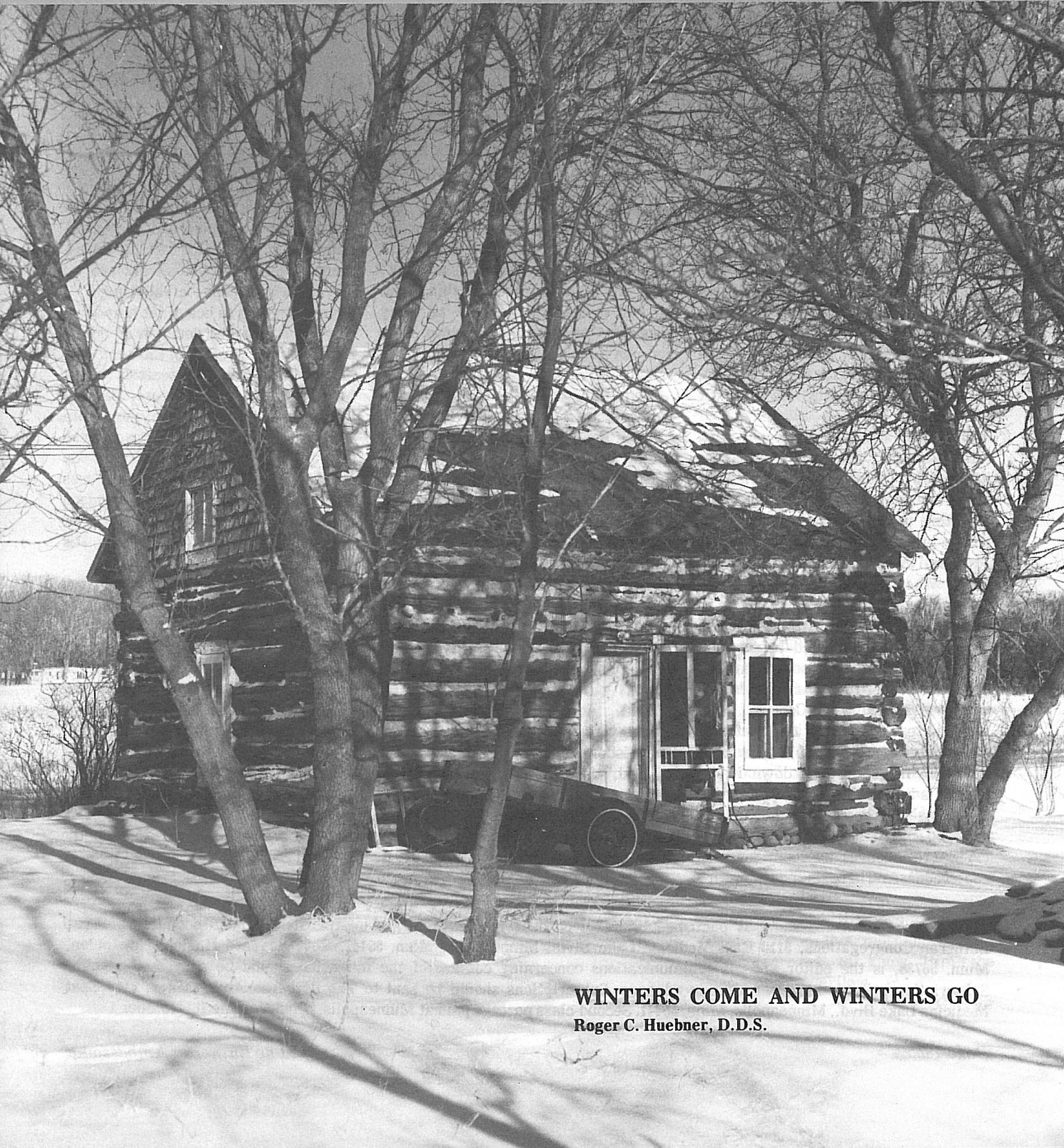


January 10, 1978

The Lutheran Ambassador



WINTERS COME AND WINTERS GO
Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.

MEDITATION MOMENTS

GLORY IN THE CROSS

“He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord” (I Cor. 1:31b).

The message of the Church is always to be the message of the cross. This was the Apostle Paul’s biggest desire, “For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.” Paul wanted people to be drawn to Christianity by Christ and by the cross of Christ.

They were not to be drawn by powerful sermons, not by the ideas of men, or by the personalities of men, or in any other way. Anything short of lifting up the cross of Christ was not to give glory to Him. It is to be our goal as a church to lift up the cross. When this is done, Christ will draw all people to Himself.

Our best efforts at preaching the cross are often distorted by our sin. We can easily draw people around ourselves rather than Christ. This was what was happening in Corinth. When we draw ourselves into the center of things, the centrality of the cross is lost. The message goes down in defeat. It is impossible for people to hear the message because we get in the way.

The cross leaves no room for self-centeredness. There is no room for

self-glorification. Such is really the curse of the Kingdom of God. “. . . no flesh should glory in His presence.” What have we to glory of anyway? “We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away” (Is. 64:6).

What have we to offer God? Are we so wise we can counsel Him? Are we so filled with wisdom we can direct the affairs of His Kingdom? This was another problem of the Corinthians. They had fallen prey to human wisdom. Now, human wisdom cannot understand the cross in the first place, let alone explain the cross to the unsaved! God will not build His church on futile human efforts, but He will build it on the simple declaration of the message of the cross! “Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men.”

Paul states, in I Corinthians 2:5, “That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.” The Lord will draw men to Christ as the cross is lifted up. If we could only realize what Paul is talking about! We would then have a more clear picture of the work of salvation, the work of the church. Such would

help us in our teaching, our evangelism, our preaching and our understanding of the place of the Sacraments! This is all God’s work and we are to rely on Him at all times! If anyone is going to boast, let him boast of what Christ has done. In so doing, he will lift up the cross of Christ.

The Christian who realizes he is weak, ineffective, insecure, lacking wisdom and power is the one whom the Lord can use. The Lord uses these Christians because they cannot do things with natural talent. God uses them because they cannot depend on their own powers and abilities, but they depend upon God. We are His workmanship!

Those who may have talents in any given area need not depend upon the Lord. They can make shipwrecks of things in fast order.

The one who sees that there is no talent in himself, but God-given talent, IT IS HE WHOM THE LORD USES. When any of us lets the Lord direct his talents, then the cross of Christ is lifted up! It is then that the Lord uses us for His work. It is all by grace, sufficient for every need. Friend, are you and I lifting up the cross of Christ?

—Dennis D. Gray

The Lutheran Ambassador is published biweekly (except the second issue in August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Rev. Raynard Huglen, Newfolden, Minn. 56738, is the editor and all communications concerning content of the magazine should be addressed to him. Subscription price is \$4.00 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to **The Lutheran Ambassador**, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn. Volume 16, Number 1

A Summertime Commitment for All Our Days

by Rev. R. W. Gunderson, Nogales, Arizona



Bible camp and the pleasures of long pleasant summer days. A cloudy remembrance of the past? As the frost of the cool fall days and the snappy whiteness of winter replaces the green warmth of summer, I would like to bring to your remembrance the Bible camp experiences enjoyed this past year. It was my privilege to be in three AFLC camps this past summer and to once again reacquire myself with our campers, renew many friendships and make many new friends. I thank God for those opportunities. This privilege included presenting missions. The experience was for me a blessing as I could see and hear the expressions of young and old telling in their own words what mission means to them. I only wish that you all could have been there! Let me tell you a little about it.

I see in the Scriptures certain clear-cut, well-defined concepts about mission. The word mission comes from the Latin, "missio," and is not a word found in the Bible. Orlando Costas, in his relevant and most contemporary book, *The Church and Its Mission*, points out that "missio" means, "to send, or in the context of the worship service, dismissal in order to perform a task." In that the Scriptures do not use the word "mission," at the camps we then looked at Biblical concepts which communicate sending and its cause and effect. While the presentations varied from camp to camp, the general idea was pretty much the same.

The first and obvious concept is the word **apostle**, which also means "to be sent." But before Jesus sent out apostles he made them **disciples**, journeymen, learners, men who traveled with Him attending His mobile open-air class, men who had gained the discipline of the Christian life and

service. Mission is also **witness**, the giving of oneself to the cause of the Gospel as the Gospel has liberated from the condemnation from sin. The words witness and martyr come from the same root stem and communicate the dedication and purpose a Christian should have in his life and service. As a martyr dies having given all for the cause of Christ, so we are called in witness to make this testimony with our whole being lived out in Christ. **Ambassadorship**, of course, is another Biblical concept. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians demonstrates this concept, telling us that we are representatives of the Jehovah God and His domain on earth.

With these concepts clearly in mind we progressed to the reawakening or understanding of what the Scriptures say the church is and how, by its very intrinsic nature, it must go to the ends of the world. As its internal function, it is to live in the reconciling work of Christ, so it just has to burst out of itself to the community in which it exists. Read Ephesians 2:14-18, so beautifully expressed in *The Living Bible*, to get a better idea of what I mean.

It was at this point that I introduced the idea of the USMEs. The Church is the individual personally grafted into the body, the ME, and he not being alone but a part of a corporate group who has that same releasing joyful experience—US. The Church is the USMEs.

So it is that we, then, are all, as God's reconciled children, responsible for the reconciliation of the world to Christ. Being so responsible, we had better get on with the task and do it knowledgeably. Again, Scripture gives us definite guidelines. I pointed out the agricultural law of sowing as given to us by Jesus in the parable of

the soils in Matthew 13:1-23, where it is obvious we should plant the seed in the good soil. The second agricultural law is found in Luke 13:6-9, which is that of pruning. Jesus pointed out that the fig tree which did not produce was to be removed from the vineyard and thrown out, replaced by another. Productivity is what we are called to, being fruitful for God. The third law is the law of the harvest. It is found in the well-known passage of Scripture, Matthew 9:37-38. Let me quote it to refreshen your memory. "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." The fields are now ready for harvest and there is a need right now for workers. Therefore, our strategy is not tomorrow, but today, wisely to harvest and wisely to sow where the best soil is. A lack of action is dangerous, for we can be replaced.

As I mentioned, the response of the campers was an encouragement to me and a blessing to all of us in camp as we shared with one another. Now let me share some of the responses with you as space will allow. The expressions came forth in poems, songs written, and lists of ways the campers felt they could get involved. One observation before continuing, note how they express their witness to their immediate community. As they do express a witness to the world, it is not something nebulous, but well-defined.

The Church is invisible and united
we stand,
With patience, compassion and
gentleness at hand.
The Church is forgiving,
The Church is for all,
The Church will progress,
If upon Him we call

The Church is united
 Because God has provided
 A way to love and forgive
 And a wonderful way to live.
 Our universal congregation
 Joins together every nation:
 Truthful, Godlike and for all,
 Progressive action, growing tall.
 Jesus Christ the same forever,
 He's the center of our endeavor.
 We are so thankful that we're united,
 There's church tonight, you're all
 invited!

Missions Are the Church

God began the search
 When He started the first church.
 He purposed solely
 His temple would be holy.
 Although it's personal
 It's also universal.
 Put on Christ in action . . .
 To see His compassion.
 Salvation for the nations
 Can begin with the congregations.
 Obedience is the key,
 And it begins with the USMEs.
 The Church is growing
 Because others are showing
 That it's great to have Christ's
 Peace in their hearts.
 The Church of God is One,
 Race or color there is none.
 It's a representative
 Of what God has to give,
 One body
 in unity,
 God's eternal mystery.
 The Church is where God's love is
 wrought,
 It's also where His Word is taught.
 When Jesus comes in, He busts the
 shell,
 So that we can't keep it in;
 We must go out and tell.
 It is living in a brand-new life,
 That ends all our fears and strife.
 So thanks be to God who gives us
 peace
 And if we abide in His word, it will
 increase.
 Some songs:
 Tell the world,
 Tell the world,
 Tell the world

He is coming.
 Witness to all
 Witness to all He is coming,
 Witness to all Jesus loves you,
 Witness to all He is coming,
 Witness to all!

"We are all Missionaries"

We are God's missionaries;
 We are His emissaries;
 We are called from heaven above
 To tell of Jesus' love.

In closing, let me bring to mind again some of the things that were brought before the Lord in commitment as the campers, in groups according to their congregations and parishes, met before the altar. For those of you who were not able to be in camp, I would encourage you to look over this list and take it as a stimulus to examine your relationship and call from the Lord so that you, too, may make a specific commitment to Him.

Condensing the list according to similarities, it is as follows:

1. Set aside certain times for prayer and form prayer groups—form study groups.
2. Witness, set examples, visit (retirement homes, hospitals and shut-ins).
3. Willing to invite people to my house and church.
4. Try to get a Gospel singing team going; give programs at church.
5. Help out in bookstores when needed.
6. Giving of tithes and offerings—missions, missionaries, scholarships to seminary students.
7. Send tangible gifts such as clothes, food, medical supplies, Bibles to needy people and people of other countries.
8. Willing to be missionaries ourselves—at home and wherever.
9. Give encouragement to others to go.

To those of you who were in camp this list comes as a reminder to your commitment before God and before each other as a part of the USMEs. As God guides and directs, let's get on with the job. To those of you who are reading this and were not in camp, if God has spoken to you, take

time to pray and to see what God would have you do, what God is calling you to do. Let's all of us take a summertime experience for our commitment today.

ANNUAL WINTER BIBLE CONFERENCE

The 15th Annual Winter Bible Conference will be held at Calvary Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Feb. 1-4. Calvary Congregation and Stiklestad Lutheran Church, Doran, Minnesota, will serve as co-hosts to the Bible Conference. All sessions will take place at Calvary Lutheran Church.

Calvary Church is located approximately one mile northeast of downtown Fergus Falls, just inside the city limits at the juncture of Highways No. 1 and 111.

The Calvary-Stiklestad Parish extends a warm and cordial invitation to all to attend this Bible Conference. We welcome all who will find it possible to attend. Pray with us that God will richly bless this Bible Conference.

Pastor Julius Hermunslie



RE: THE DEAN CASSELTONS IN BRAZIL

It has been called to the attention of the people of the AFLC that Missionary Dean Casselton in Brazil has a health problem which has caused considerable concern for him and his family and for the sending church. Prayers have been urged in his behalf.

At its Dec. 12-13 meeting, the Board of Foreign Missions passed a resolution encouraging, if medically possible, the Casselton family to remain on the field for a minimum of one year before returning to the U.S. The resolution continues: "It is, however, our sincere desire and prayer that complete recovery would be realized so Pastor Casselton and his family could continue on the mission field indefinitely."

The Casseltons were commissioned last June and went out to Brazil later in the summer.



A PAGE FOR CHILDREN

Happy Acres



Foreword to Parents

This book is primarily for families with children of elementary school age. **Happy Acres** is intended as a supplementary book for reading aloud at family devotions.

The Bible is the Word of God; therefore, no other book should ever take its place at the family altar. The author of **Happy Acres** suggests that your family does as the Johnsons at "Happy Acres" do—have every member of the family who can read take part in reading aloud from the Bible. Little ones delight in taking their turns with such reading of a verse; yes, the First Grader may find it hard going at times, even with a parent beside him to help with the big words—but the joy of sharing and belonging is his.

Such child participation may early help establish the habit of daily Bible reading. "Train up a child in the way he shall go; and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Prov. 22:6). Nor will the Word of God return void (Is. 55:11).

It will be best to read only one chapter of **Happy Acres** each day. You will find that each chapter of the book exemplifies or teaches the meaning of a particular Bible verse. The verse may be quoted directly, or its meaning given in everyday speech.

Following each chapter is a memory verse—usually the key verse of that chapter. "Thy word have I laid up in my heart" (Ps. 119:11). After your children have memorized a number of verses, you can occasionally review such verses by playing adaptations of games such as the old "spell down."

Each chapter concludes with family discussion questions. You and your children may find answers to these questions in the Scripture references given. Your children can learn to find their way about the Bible by looking up these references; where there are several older children you might assign a different reference for each. Just how many of these questions and references you use will depend on the age of your children, and the size of the family.

Except where otherwise indicated, the King James version of the Bible has been quoted.

It has been said of the laymen in a congregation that we may lose them if we do not use them. We may well adapt this thinking to those who gather about the family altar. While certainly it is a place where the father should lead, he should not monopolize. If it is only Father who reads from the Bible, juvenile thoughts are more likely to stray than when the child

shares in the Bible reading, in the discussions, and in prayer.

Where, but at the family altar, is a better place for a child to form the habit of free and spontaneous prayer? It may be well and good for the family to join in a memorized prayer—but where only such rote prayer is used there is the danger that it may become merely "repeated." We suggest that besides having the entire family join in a prayer such as "The Lord's Prayer," that Father first offer up his own petition, then Mother hers, and each of the children in turn.

Some of the most beautiful moments of a parent's life will be the hearing of these prayers by their little ones. Parents of smaller children will hear some unique petitions and some phrases never heard at "prayer meeting." There will be times when parents will have to exercise self-control to maintain sober faces. But these little ones who utter them—are not such "of the Kingdom of Heaven"?

Soli Deo Gloria.

Erling Nicolai Rolfsrud

Reprinted from **Happy Acres** by Erling Nicolai Rolfsrud, by permission of Augsburg Publishing House, copyright owner.

SEVEN WOMEN HONORED AT SUNBURG CHURCH

The Sunburg Lutheran Ladies Aid (Minnesota) honored seven of their longtime and faithful members with pins and Honorary Memberships in the Women's Missionary Federation at their September meeting and Bible study.

Devotions were given by Mrs. Julius Sondrol, president, and she read I Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

The group sang the hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" and Virginia Sondrol sang "He Touched Me," accompanying herself upon guitar. Carl Hort is pastor of Sunburg congregation.



The honored women are shown above, left to right, Mrs. Ludvig Anderson, Mrs. Florence Spaanum, Mrs. Clarence Rasmuson, Mrs. Edwin Peterson and Mrs. Peder Johnson. Not present were Mrs. Palmer Gafkjen and Mrs. Ben Estby.

—Cora Tullis

Women For Christ

BROCKTON CHURCH HOST TO WMF RALLY

Faith Lutheran Church of rural Brockton, Montana, hosted the Fall Rally of the Western North Dakota-Eastern Montana District Women's Missionary Federation on Thursday, November 3. The theme for the day was "Christ Liveth In Me," taken from Galatians 2:20. The theme hymn was "He Is Able." Mrs. Erling Brekke was pianist for the day.

Mrs. Gary Qualley of the host congregation welcomed the 50 ladies present. Mrs. Verle Dean of Culbertson, Mont., led in devotions, reading Psalm 23. Mrs. Hildur Nordin of Minot, N. Dak., gave a very challenging Bible Study. The business meeting followed with Mrs. Earl Hartsoch elected as vice-president, Mrs. Marvin Tande as Cradle Roll secretary, and Mrs. Orville Qualley re-elected as secretary.

The noon lunch offering of \$169.90 went to the AFLC Schools.

Guest speaker was Pastor Verle Dean of Culbertson, local pastor, replacing the scheduled speaker, Rev. David Molstre, who had become ill. He used as his text Galatians 2:16-21. He stressed the need of being true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as we can only be effective Christians if we are free in and through Jesus Christ. We are not in the WMF to receive praise for our work but to be of service to our fellowmen with the help of Jesus Christ, he said.

Mrs. Lester Lalim, accompanied by Mrs. Clare Munch, sang "It Took A Miracle."

Mrs. Chester Halverson installed the newly-elected officers with Mrs. Arvy Hartsoch standing in for Mrs. Earl Hartsoch who was unable to attend.



The installation of new officers at the rally.

The afternoon offering of \$122.00 was given to General Fund. Mrs. Hildur Nordin invited us to Minot for the spring rally of the district.

The traveling trophy was won by the Culbertson WMF with 55% of their members in attendance. Mrs. LaVern Johnson, our district president, presented Mrs. Art Olson a gift as retiring district vice-president. Mrs. Donald Anderson will also receive a gift as retiring Cradle Roll secretary.

Mrs. Orville Qualley, Secretary

HEGLAND WMF GIVES HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

At the August, 1977, meeting of the Hegland Lutheran WMF, Strandquist, Minn., the Honorary Membership pin was presented to Mrs. Peter Thompson of Karlstad, right. Shown on the left is Mrs. John Boen, who was honored a year ago and who pinned Mrs. Thompson.

Even though the membership of the

group is small, the Hegland WMF takes in a wide area of surrounding



small towns, namely: Stephen, Kennedy, Lake Bronson, Karlstad, Strandquist and Newfolden. The ladies meet every month except January (on the second Thursday of the month) and gratefully use the Bible studies from **The Lutheran Ambassador**.

At the annual meeting in November, Mrs. Reuben Gunderson was elected president. Rev. Merle Knutson is pastor at Hegland, which is part of the Newfolden parish and which also includes Westaker and Bethania churches.

—Mrs. Paul Flaten



LADIES, REMEMBER THE WMF WORKSHOP

The annual WMF workshop held in conjunction with the church's Winter Bible Conference will convene at 4:30 p.m., on Friday, Feb. 3, in Fergus Falls, Minn., at a place to be named. Be ready for an inspirational program of good music, good message and good fellowship.

The workshop will adjourn in time for all to attend the closing evening service of the Bible Conference at Calvary Lutheran Church.



N. N. RØNNING

A PECULIAR PEOPLE (THE HAUGEANS)

I refer to the Haugeans, especially to those I associated with in the Hauge's Synod. The Haugeans were the followers of the Norwegian lay preacher, Hans Nielsen Hauge.

I taught parochial school in ten different communities in the Hauge's Synod. I visited every home where there were school children and many homes where there were no school children. I have talked with them about sacred things and I have told them stories and listened to their stories. I have prayed with them and laughed with them. I have walked with them to and from church and prayer meetings, and have even read sermons to them in church when there was no minister present.

I am wondering how I may introduce them to you. I know, if it is true that "a man's selection from the Scriptures always throws light upon his deepest being," then I will mention some of the Scripture passages which were much in vogue among the Haugeans.

One passage was: "The law worketh wrath." I take that to mean that when a person comes face to face with the law and its demand upon him for perfection, he grows angry, not with himself, but with this thing that steps in front of him and says: "No, you can't do that!"

As the law continues to speak to him and reveals his sin down to the innermost recesses of his heart, he begins to make excuses. But the law does not accept excuses. "Every mouth shall be stopped." When every mouth, every excuse has been stopped, panic seizes upon the soul.

Then gradually or suddenly the Holy Spirit reveals Christ to the sinner and this passage becomes living: "There is, therefore, no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." How often I heard these words ring

out again and again in a voice of wonder and gratitude.

Another expression was heard very often: "Christ not only for us but Christ in us." Knowledge concerning Christ is essential, but knowledge is not enough. Christ must become our personal Savior, and dwell in our hearts with His light and power. The Haugeans would have understood Kirkegaard when he said that truth must be transferred from the realm of static being into a realm of dynamic becoming.

The Haugeans were never accused of harboring false doctrine. They stressed the importance of pure doctrine, but they also stressed life.

These people were often criticized for being presumptuous enough to claim that they were the children of God. How could anyone know he was saved before death? Did the Haugeans have any Scriptural ground for their claim? Yes, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

Finally, the Haugeans seized upon a saying of Paul which more than any other word in the Bible suggests a solution to the most difficult of all problems, that of suffering, hardship, injustice and even martyrdom: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God."

If it is true that "A man's selection from the Scriptures always throws a light upon his deepest being," then the passages which were current among the Haugeans throw a light upon their deepest being.

—Fifty Years in America, 1938

BOOKS WANTED

The Free Lutheran Theological Seminary and the Association Free Lutheran Bible School are interested in purchasing used copies of the following:

Gerberding: "The Lutheran Pastor"

F. Kalb: "Theology of Worship in 17th Century Lutheranism"

A. W. Knock: "Who's Who in You"

Moyer: "Great Leaders of the Christian Church"

Qualben: "A History of the Christian Church"

(Continued on page 16)

**RESOLUTION ON PROCEDURE
FOR RECOMMENDING
CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE
OF PRESIDENT OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF FREE
LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS
IN 1978**

(This resolution was passed by the Annual Conference of 1977 in Fargo, N. Dak.)

WHEREAS the AFLC is extremely grateful to God for the faithful work and ministry of Rev. John Strand as president of the AFLC these past fifteen years, AND WHEREAS Rev. Strand has indicated that he does not desire to continue to serve in the office of president with the expiration of this term, AND INASMUCH AS the office of president is a weighty and full-time position, **BE IT RESOLVED**, That individuals and congregations through prayerful consideration, give recommendations to the Co-ordinating Committee for individuals for the office. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the Co-ordinating Committee check with these individuals as to their willingness to consider serving in the capacity. **BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED**, That these individuals' names be published in *The Lutheran Ambassador* and read at the Annual Conference, with actual nominations being from the floor.

(This resolution is printed here at the request of the Co-ordinating Committee.)



**THE LESLIE GALLANDS TO
HOST HOLY LAND TOUR**

Pastor and Mrs. Leslie Galland are hosts to a trip to the Holy Land, beginning on March 28, from Seattle, Wash., and returning on April 10. If anyone is interested, please write to the Gallands at 1711 26th St., Everett, Wash. 98201, as soon as possible.

The trip over will include an overnight stop in Copenhagen. On the return, visits will be made to Athens, Corinth, Rome and Copenhagen again.

Here is a good opportunity to see the land where Jesus lived most of His life here on earth.

Perhaps I was **DREAMING**

A VISION OF THINGS FORETOLD

I saw great cities vomiting soot into the face of heaven. I saw men, women, and children being ruined by foolish luxury, and others being stunted by needless poverty. I saw multitudes demented with the "mania of owning things." I saw the devil of militarism stalking abroad upon the earth, inflaming humanity with the hell-fire of hate, destroying the most glorious achievements of civilization and blotting out the lives of millions upon millions of able-bodied men, leaving the perpetuation of the race to the weak and unfit.

But the ghastliest thing I saw was that among the ruins the war god had made the nations fell down and worshipped him. To his service they devoted their talents, their money, their time, their sons, their all. Women, seemingly intelligent, pleaded his cause; and ministers of the Gospel of the Prince of Peace did not blush to proclaim the doctrines of this demon! Children were taught that the way to glory lay in his footsteps, and able-bodied youths were given to understand that in his service only can a man become a hero.

And then I saw the result. But the result was too hideous for words. The telling of it, if indeed it could be told, would sicken the very pen with which I write; it would curdle the ink and scorch the paper. Suddenly there fell a silence like the silence of a lonely grave, and a darkness like the darkness of death. Whence it came I cannot tell. Perhaps I lost consciousness.

When I came out of the mysterious silence and darkness—it may have been a thousand years later, or ten thousand years—the East was golden with the dawn of a new day. The great Sodom cities of the twentieth century were gone; armies and navies were no more; the nations had vanished, but humanity remained; there were no jails and no penitentiaries; no courts of justice—or injustice; nobody was in a hurry, and nobody was afraid, for robbery and murder and theft were gone from the earth; peaceful little homes dotted the landscape, and the morning stillness was sometimes broken by song and laughter—songs the like of which I had never heard and laughter as sweet as any song. A new earth had come into existence, and the secret of it was that a new heaven bent over it—not at all like the silly heaven of material possessions and sensual pleasure to which men had once aspired. God's kingdom had come.

—C. A. Wendell

editorials

THE RESOLUTION ON PROCEDURE

At the request of the Co-ordinating Committee, the 1977 Annual Conference resolution on procedure for recommending candidates for president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations is printed on page 8 of this issue of the *Ambassador*.

It is good for all Association members to refresh their memories concerning this resolution. It points out that Pastor John Strand wishes to be relieved of his duties as president when his current term expires.

The resolution provides that congregations and individuals, in prayer, recommend names of candidates to the Co-ordinating Committee, which, in turn, will ascertain whether those men would accept nomination for the presidency if it were made. If they are willing, their names are to be printed in the *Ambassador* prior to the 1978 Annual Conference and also to be read at the conference. However, actual nominations will be made from the conference floor in accordance with AFLC law.

The Co-ordinating Committee has laid out no timetable for this process. But it should be borne in mind that to assure that all conference-goers, and all the people of the church, have access to the names well in advance of the conference, they ought to appear in our May 16 issue. Therefore, we ought to have them by May 1. The Co-ordinating Committee will have to do its work prior to that time. Roughly speaking, then, it seems that the recommendations should be in by April 1 or soon thereafter, to the Co-ordinating Committee.

May we express the hope that this procedure will produce a half dozen candidates or more and that none of those whose names appear here later on as candidates be accused of campaigning for the office, since they will simply be following the procedure the church has set up.

And as we have said before, it would be excellent if the Co-ordinating Committee would supply the *Ambassador* with brief biographical information about the candidates who come forth from this process.

Let us be much in prayer about this most important matter. May the Lord lead.

Whatever else it will be, 1978 will be a transitional year in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. It will be the year in which the reins of leadership pass from Rev. John P. Strand, the only president in the church's history, to someone else.

This is a sobering thought. No one person is indispensable but an organization, even in the church, grows comfortable under familiar leadership. One knows what to expect, how a leader governs. There is a certain hesitancy about accepting change. Congregations face this when a pastor leaves and a new one comes. The changeover is made and it is usually less traumatic than expected. So it will be now, but yet we shy away from the event itself.

In the first editorial today, something is said about the procedure for finding a replacement for Pastor Strand. Let us pray that when all the ballots have been counted next June the man of God's choice will be prepared to assume the office of president on October 1, with the goodwill and prayers of the whole church fellowship behind him.

And then may Pastor and Mrs. Strand find many good and fruitful years of service in their first love, the parish ministry, when they leave their home on Flag Avenue. Certainly they will carry with them the love and affection of all the people they have served so well in a difficult and yet, many times, rewarding office.

The year of 1978 is critical also in the financial sense. What we do in meeting the goal for debt retirement at the Bible School will reveal in large measure how serious we are about carrying on our work on a pay-as-you-go basis. If we don't rise up to this challenge, then we can look forward to recurring crises as we seek to finance our work.

What remains constant is the Gospel message we have to proclaim and the work of evangelization. And when we contemplate changes it is good to remember the enabling God and how He has provided and will give what is necessary for every day. Confident in Him, we can go forward in this year of transition.

FISCAL YEAR ENDING

The report for December from the AFLC business office is not before us yet as we write, but with knowledge of the one for November in mind we make these observations.

There is a long way to go to meet the suggested goals for 1977-78, about \$135,500, in fact, at the end of November. Check the report for December which is to be found elsewhere in this issue to get the exact totals with one month remaining in the fiscal year (and less now).

Particularly discouraging are the low percentages of goal reached for Schools and Praise Program after ten months. Both were some over 50 per cent reached. We can try to excuse this because of the debt retirement drive which has been carried on for the Bible School.

Perhaps some money which might have gone to current expenses has gone to debt retirement.

But in any special appeal for capital funds, the hope is always that current expenses won't be neglected. If they are neglected, then some of the effectiveness of the special appeal is lost. Peter may have been robbed to pay Paul.

As has been said before, we are proud of our Schools, no question about it. But it is very important that the budget for Schools be met. Please bear in mind that the Bible School is getting less income through tuition and room rental this year due to a lower number of students. Therefore, failure to reach the budgeted goal for gifts from congregations and individuals will mean a loss on two fronts, a very unfortunate thing.

In regard to the Praise Program, it, too, is debt retirement and interest money. Our debts will be paid that much sooner when there is strong support for the Praise Program.

In these closing days of fiscal 1977-78, please give what you can to our joint work for the Lord. Pay attention to the funds most in need and act accordingly.

Thank you for what you have done and will do.

SOME NEW THINGS

There will be some new features in the *Ambassador* this year as we begin our 16th year of publication (the anniversary is actually in February).

It has long been the desire of the Board of Publications and Parish Education that there be a children's page in our church paper. At last arrangements have been made to provide such. It will consist, to begin with, in printing chapters from the book *Happy Acres* by Erling Nicolai Rolfsrud. Many Lutheran families have used this book in their homes. We hope these stories will meet a need in our constituency. Augsburg Publishing House has given kind permission for reprinting.

To replace "The Best of Hallesby," which we carried on page 8 last year, we will use articles by the late C. A. Wendell from his book *Perhaps I Was Dreaming*. Pastor Wendell was a clergyman in the Augustana Synod. We

heard him speak once, at a Christmas dinner for employees of the Messenger Press in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

"Snacks from the Storehouse" will appear on page 14 in place of "A Minister's Musings." The writer will be Rev. Karl G. Berg, an AFLC pastor living in Salem, Oregon. These articles are brief and meant to be so, what Pastor Berg calls "snacks."

Also, we are glad to know that the Luther League Activities page (there'll be a new name soon) and the Parish Ed page will be more active this year. We trust that our young people and our parish education people, respectively, will make good use of these pages especially.

It is our hope and plan that more use can be made of our pastors as writers in 1978 and succeeding years. In 1976 a good number of them participated in the Bicentennial series on the Augsburg Confession. We want to call on many in days to come to write feature articles for us.

We continue to hope that among our readers there will be more use made of the Fellowship Corner. It is meant as a place of sharing how God has worked in a life: how someone met the Savior, how God made a way, how the Lord is leading one to find answers and purpose. The space is available, dear readers. Perhaps you could share something to God's glory.

Enough for now. Pray for this part of the Association work, that it will be effective for Him.

WINTER BIBLE CONFERENCE

At the beginning of next month, Feb. 1-4, the 16th annual winter Bible conference of the AFLC will be held. The location is a new one for us, Fergus Falls, Minnesota. But it is a good location, centrally situated for good attendance.

The Wednesday to Saturday schedule should work out well with the noon closing on Saturday making it possible for people to get home for Sunday activities in their churches.

May the Lord give us good days of fellowship at Fergus Falls. Come if you can. Be in prayer for the conference.

JOB OPENINGS

Two teachers — one elementary major (Kindergarten certificate helpful)
one secondary major (any area acceptable—
some administrative duties
also)

St. Paul's Academy—Cloquet, Minnesota
(an outreach of St. Paul's Lutheran Church)

B.S. degree, Minnesota teaching certificate necessary

Send a letter of application, college transcript, and resume to:

Clifford Johnson, chairman
St. Paul's Academy
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
18th St. & Wilson Ave.
Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

My soul waits only upon God:

The answer comes from Thee. (Psalm 62:5)

Doth not the Lord see all my ways,

Order my every step? (Psalm 37:23)

Then, Lord, give heed unto my cry. (Psalm 55:1)

Oh, hear the prayer I've kept?

For my soul only waits on Thee:

So I expect from Thee (Psalm 62:5)

Salvation, refuge, rock of strength (Psalm 62:7)

Thy power and glory see. (Psalm 63:2)

Thus, I will bless Thee while I live;

In Thy Name, lift my hands. (Psalm 63:4)

Because Thou hast been all my help, (Psalm 63:7)

. My praise shall reach Thy lands.

—Brenda C. Pilgrim

WMF REMINDER

Dear Ladies,

A new year brings new hope, new resolutions and new challenges. May your goal be "Christ-controlled-living." Let's each pray that we will be HIS willing tools day by day.

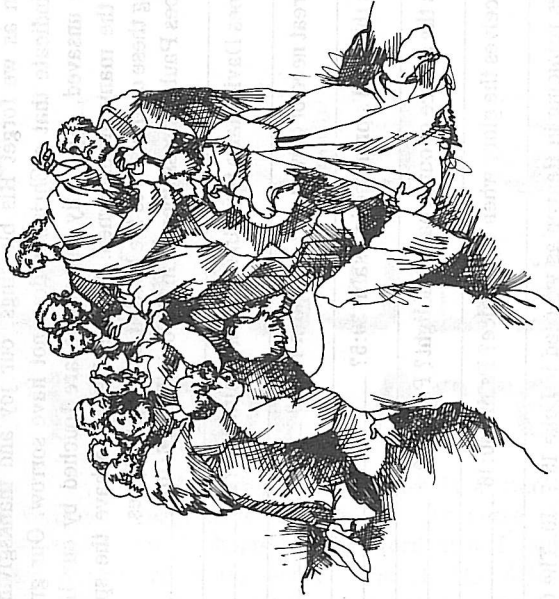
This month we are uniting together in sacrificial giving to reduce our debt on all the real estate of our AFLC. How we do praise our Lord for the beautiful properties and buildings that He has provided! Now let us give generously to eliminate our debts.

I want to personally invite each of you to the Winter Bible Conference of our AFLC, to be held at Fergus Falls, Feb. 1 to 4. We ladies will meet for supper and our WMF Workshop on Friday, Feb. 3, at 4:30 p.m. PLEASE COME!

Your friend in Christ,
Mrs. Eugene Enderlein



W.M.F. BIBLE STUDY



February, 1978

REJOICING AND PRAISE

Read I Samuel 2:1-10 and Luke 1:46-55.

Being thankful to God and praising God for all things is the deep joy found in a true child of our Lord. We find in Mary's song of praise a happy soul. We meet laughing, boisterous, frivolous people, but this is not the genuine happiness we see here in Mary and in Samuel's mother Hannah. Their joy was in God. Many people deceive themselves by thinking that God and joy are not related. They look at it this way: they must choose one of the two, either God or happiness. This is one of the tricks of the evil one to keep us from the joy spoken of in I Samuel 2:1 and Luke 1:46, 47.

Have we lost out on real joy and happiness because we have failed to see the great things which the Lord has done for us? Read Psalm 103:2.

David also has a thought for us in Psalm 149: 4.

1. Give several reasons for praising God.

Psalm 7:17 _____

Psalm 8:1 _____

Psalm 9:4, 7, 10 _____

2. What is our greatest and most important reason for praising God?

Psalm 9:14 _____

Acts 4:12 _____

Romans 1:16 _____

II Thessalonians 2:13 _____

As soon as we forget His blessings, our joy and thanksgiving cease. This does not indicate that a Christian does not have sorrow. Our greatest burden is for the unsaved, especially those who are touched by our lives, our dear ones and the many unconcerned. We need ever to have the spirit of prayer as we bring these dear souls to the Lord at any and all times.

3. What does Paul impress upon us in II Corinthians 6:10? _____

4. What does David claim from the Lord in Psalm 9:17? _____

5. What great need of ours is met in Psalm 19:14? _____

6. What is the Lord's promise in Psalm 30:5? _____

7. What is the source of our greatest delight? Psalm 40:8 _____

8. Who receives the glory when we rejoice? Psalm 40:16 _____

There is rejoicing in Heaven as we read in Luke 15:7, 10. The Good Shepherd goes before His sheep and they follow Him. They hear His voice in their hearts and they recognize it. Among all the voices of earth they can distinguish His voice. The Word also leads and guides His children. Throughout the Bible we can hear the melody of Heaven. May we have the same attitude as Samuel when he said, "Speak Lord, for Thy servant heareth."

God's children know no greater joy than to live their daily lives in His holy presence and thus, at work and at rest, in joy and in sorrow, in prosperity and in adversity, we hear His voice. Throughout every hour of the day we are admonished against sin, rebuked for disobedience, taught to fear that which is evil, and follow the leading of the Good Shepherd.

9. How long does it take for God to hear His children? Isaiah 65:24 _____

10. Of what did Jesus warn the 70 in Luke 10:17-20? _____

a. What then should be our cause for rejoicing? _____

11. What does Paul tell us in Romans 5:1, 2? _____

12. We are admonished to continue in what two attributes? I Thessalonians 5:16, 17 _____

13. Why did Peter and Paul rejoice in Acts 5:40, 41? _____

14. What was the cause for rejoicing in Acts 8:25-40? _____

A well-known Christian leader, Mrs. Hannah Chalmers of Minneapolis, who started the Lutheran Colportage a number of years ago, once told her Bible class at Trinity Lutheran Church, "Read Romans 12 every day. It gives directions for walking with the Lord to His honor and glory." This takes concentrated energy. The author of the Book of Romans has an effective way of summarizing the Christian's daily walk.

15. As we look at Psalm 89, what are some qualities for which the Lord is praised? _____

Psalms 145-150 are a summary of praise to God. They contain daily praise for His many benefits to His children, praise for all creation, praise for salvation and for His excellent greatness. We can never praise God enough for His tender mercies and grace.

"My Heart Is Fixed: I Will Sing and Give Praise"

Psalm 57:7

O Father, lead me to the Rock

Much higher, Lord, than I, (Psalm 61:2)

From the ends of earth my soul cries out (Psalm 61:2)

To reach the throne on high.

My heart is sore, so pained within (Psalm 55:4)

That I would fly away; (Psalm 55:6)

To rest in peace at last, with Thee, (Psalm 55:6)

To walk with Thee always.

A Shelter Thou hast been for me

From my worst enemy; (Psalm 61:3)

Lodging Information for the 16th Annual Winter Bible Conference, AFLC February 1-4

MOTELS AND HOTELS IN FERGUS FALLS, MINN 56537

(Sales tax not included in prices)

<p>THE RIVER INN HOTEL 133 South Mill Street Phone: 218-736-5461 Restaurants within walking distance</p>		<p>1 double and 1 ¾ size 2 double beds (share bath) 25400 6 persons—3 bedrooms 3 double beds (Share bath) 36.00</p>
<p>Rates: (Plain room—wash bowl only)</p>		
<p>1 person —Plain room \$ 4.50 Half bath 6.00 2 persons—Plain room 6.50 Half bath 8.00 Double bed—Full bath 9.00 2 single beds and full bath 10.00 4 persons—Plain room 11.00 2 double beds Rollaway, \$2.00, Cribs, \$2.00</p>	<p>FALLS MOTEL (19 Units) Old Highway 210 West Phone: 218-736-5401 Restaurants downtown—1 mile, or west to junction of Highways 210 and I-94—1 mile</p>	<p>Rates: 1 person \$ 11.00 2 persons—double bed 14.75 or 2 single beds 16.50 Family rates—One unit only 1 double bed and 1 single bed 17.75 2 double beds 20.75</p>
<p>FERGUS MOTEL (11 Units) Highway 59 North Phone: 218-736-7559 Restaurants downtown—1 mile</p>	<p>Rates: 1 person \$ 11.00 2 persons—double bed 13.00 4 persons—2 rooms unit with one double bed in each room 22.00</p>	<p>TRAVEL WISE MOTEL (60 Units) Junction Highways 1-94 and 210 West Phone: 218-739-3311 Restaurants—walking distance</p>
<p>LAKELAND MOTEL (31 rooms) Highway 59 South Phone: 218-736-6938 Restaurants downtown— 1 mile</p>	<p>Rates: 1 person \$ 12.00 2 persons—double bed 15.00 4 persons—2 double beds 17.00 Kitchenette with 1 bath—3 persons 26.00 2 bedrooms—3 double beds \$1.00 extra per person Rollaways, \$2.00 Cribs, \$1.00</p>	<p>Rates: 1 person \$ 11.40 2 persons—double bed 14.40 2 persons—2 double beds 15.90 3 persons—2 beds 16.75 4 persons—2 beds 18.50 Rollaway, \$3.00, Cribs, \$2.00 All children under 12 free Coffee-making permitted in rooms Plug-in available for car heater</p>
<p>JEWEL MOTEL (14 rooms) Highway 59 South Phone: 218-736-5605 Restaurants downtown—1 mile</p>	<p>Rates: 1 person \$ 14.00 2 persons—double bed 16.00 2 persons—twin beds 18.00 4 persons (2 bedroom unit)</p>	<p>SUPER 8 MOTEL (31 Units) Junction Highways I-94 and 210 West Phone: 218-739-3261—Or call Nation-wide (toll free) 1-800-843-1991 Restaurants—walking distance</p>
<p>Rates: 1 person \$ 10.88 2 persons—1 bed 13.88 2 persons—2 beds 14.88 3 persons—2 beds 16.88 4 persons—2 beds 17.88 Rollaways, \$3.00 Cribs \$1.50 Coffee and rolls or doughnuts served in lobby for breakfast—free will offering</p>	<p>Rates: 1 person—1 bed \$ 10.88 2 persons—1 bed 13.88 2 persons—2 beds 14.88 3 persons—2 beds 16.88 4 persons—2 beds 17.88 Rollaways, \$3.00 Cribs \$1.50 Coffee and rolls or doughnuts served in lobby for breakfast—free will offering</p>	

HOLIDAY INN

Junction Highways I-94 and 210 West
Phone: 218-739-2211
Restaurant in motel and also walking distance
Rooms available only Feb. 1, 2, 3.
No vacancy Saturday (Hockey Tournament)

Rates: 1 person (Away from pool) \$ 18.00
2 persons 24.00
3 persons 28.00
4 persons 32.00
For poolside room add \$2.00 to above
Rollaways, \$3.00 Cribs free
May make coffee—bring your own

The last three motels listed: Travel Wise, Super 8, and Holiday Inn are located near two restaurants, namely: Country Kitchen and Perkins Family Restaurant, within walking distance. Also A and W Family Restaurant is nearby, open 11 a.m. until midnight.

Reservations should be made directly with the motel or hotel. Please mention the AFLC Winter Bible Conference when making reservations. Rooms in some private homes are also available.

For lodging in private homes write to:

Mrs. Julius Hermunslie (Calvary)
832 Stanton Ave. West
Fergus Falls, Minn. 56537

Mrs. Sigurd Christenson (Stiklestad)
806 West 7th Ave.
Fergus Falls, Minn. 56537

Letters TO THE EDITOR

COUNTRY GOSPEL AND ROCK

This letter is about an article in the Nov. 15 issue of the *Ambassador* entitled "Elvis Knew Rock Language." I wish to discuss my thoughts and feelings, having read it. First of all, I know Jesus as my personal Savior and in no way do I wish to stir up an argument with my elders.

True, there are some records which attempt to call themselves "Gospel," just as there are phonies in all Christian work, but the author of the article seems to sum up all Christian "rock" as demonic and blasphemous. Let me call your attention to the fact that many worldly artists who sing hard rock also have very beautiful, touching, slow songs that hardly "thump, bump and blur" the words, yet are very sinful and are classified as rock. Does it not remind you of Elvis (Presley)? Maybe Elvis knew rock language, but one cannot deny he knew Gospel language and it's sad that one who recorded such beautiful Gospel albums was outwardly the "Rock and Roll King."

There was no condemning of Coun-

try Gospel, but let's take a look at it. It has the same style as country music as played on the "top 40" and in modern nightclubs. I used to favor country music to rock until I really started listening to the words; most of the songs were sinful. Now, the majority of all worldly music—rock, country, old-time, etc., leaves my conscience nauseated. (Caution, I said the majority.)

Christian music has a big difference. Its sole purpose is to glorify Jesus Christ!

Is it hard to imagine a member of KISS coming to Christ? Is it the same of Waylon Jennings? How about Johnny Cash? (Oops, I slipped.) Or maybe B. J. Tho—(oops, slipped again). See what I mean?

Rock happens to be a name given to a style of music, not necessarily meaning electronically-altered guitars at a volume beyond recognition. Remember the story of the little drummer boy? Was his beat so different from that of the beat of seductive dancers of Roman kings? Or is it impossible today for a drummer boy to offer all he has to give for his Lord and Savior?

Rock can "blow" young people's minds.

They mix it with drugs.

Country is an escape in a nightclub.

People mix it with liquor.

Polkas used to be fun;

Was the beer far off?

True country Gospel does not promote liquor, or cheating on your wife, or avoiding Smoky; it promotes Jesus. True Gospel Rock does not promote drugs, sex, or seductive dance, it promotes Jesus. There are extremes to all music. To which there is no question of its godliness.

It is my opinion that the author of the article heard only the extreme and knows nothing of the true Christians of Jesus Rock. To my knowledge they are just as dedicated to spreading the Word as any Christian I know personally. I do give my advice to young people as I have heard it, that it takes seriousness in prayer to separate the harmful from the helpful, and Satan's workers from God's workers. But in all respect, I believe the article deserves re-writing.

Continue with the *Ambassador*.

Archie Linert
Badger, Minn.

ST. STEPHEN'S CLOSES

When a church closes, inevitably there is a stigma attached to it and most of us will wonder why it closed and whether the writer informing us will go on the offensive and be an offense to the other parties involved or be on the defense and defend himself. A humanistic view may be written in honesty and sincerity but it nonetheless is human.

God's Word says in Jeremiah 17:9:

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

Christ and the Church form one body, of which Christ is the Head; one Vine, of which Christians are the branches; one building, of which Christians are living stones.

I Corinthians 12:26: "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it."

As one body, we of the congregation were not indifferent to the closing and we all suffered together but there our togetherness ended as the closing was caused by human failure and the Lord never appoints us to judge one another but we can go to the Scriptures and find the answer for each one of us in Psalm 139:23, 24:

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Early last summer I had an earnestness and desire to build up our small church and when this did not come as expected, I couldn't stand, so went to my knees with tears and prayers and the Lord gave me the perfect answer—"In whom do you put your trust?" I then realized my zeal and earnestness originated in myself and as such could not be used of the Lord to glorify Himself.

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6). It begins with the beginning of salvation and pertains to all work that He who has no origin can originate His earnestness and desire in us to accomplish His work through our obedience and willingness.

How would any of us grow in the grace and knowledge of Him, had it not been for the convictions of our sins. For sin separates and harms our fellowship with our Lord but He convicts us out of love (Thank goodness, it isn't the sickening love that is propagated amongst men today). God is just and because He is just, He hates sin and because of His hatred for sin and love for us, we, too, can hate sin.

"He must increase, but I must de-

crease" (John 3:30).

That is something that the big "I" in me could never learn but the little 'i' in me is ever becoming more conscious that the decreasing is more blessed each day.

The doors to that church building are closed but may we all thank and praise Him that the Door to the true Church will never close to us who are awaiting His coming.

Jim Hoialmen
Duluth, Minnesota

(Ed. note: Mr. Hoialmen had served as student pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Duluth, since in 1976. Now, through his letter we learn that this work has been laid down and we regret that the congregation found it necessary to take this step.)



PRAISE IN PROGRESS REPORT

\$87,300 Received

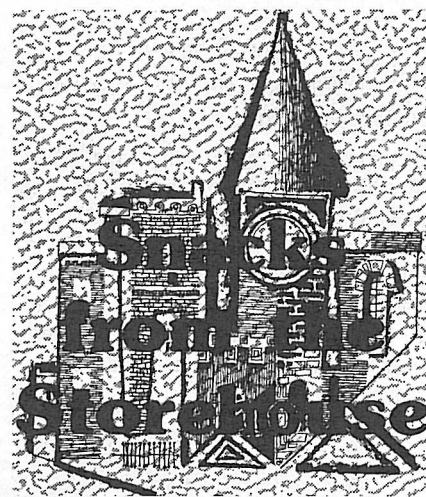
Gifts continue to be received toward the \$100,000.00 goal of the debt reduction program, Praise in Progress. At this point, congregations and individuals have given \$87,300.00 to reduce the debt on the two dormitory-classroom buildings of AFLBS.

Area representatives have contacted many AFLC congregations and the slide presentation explaining the debt reduction goals has been shown to many interested people.

As God's people continue to respond, the reaching of the \$100,000 goal by January 31 appears possible. Prayerful, sacrificial giving will bring the program to its desired goal.

In addition to the cash gifts, pledges totaling \$6,500.00, to be paid over the next three years, have been received. These important indications of intent to give in the future enable wise planning of debt retirement. The goal for pledges is also \$100,000.00.

Thanks be to God that He continues to supply all needs.



THE SOURCE

"Out of his life shall flow rivers of living water." How thrilling! Not a mere dribble. No—rivers of water. Not stale experiences. NO—living water. And He is relating what should be the experience of simple folks like you and me. Isn't that an exciting possibility? Hearts we meet along the way are so thirsty—and so empty. And here is enough and to spare. Enough to make one's own life really exciting and also enough to freshen up lives along the way.

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, this is God's wish for us. He came to give LIFE but more than that. He came to give ABUNDANCE. He came to lead us into His green pastures. But more than that... He came that our relationship with Him might become so intimate that there might be an "overflow." A mere survival isn't enough to meet the needs of a needy world. It's the overflow that counts and that's what He came to bring about.

If we see ourselves so short of God's intention, there can be adventure ahead for us in the coming year. He not only points to the possibilities. He points to the Source that can bring it about. Listen! "If any man thirst, let him come unto Me—and drink." Folks marvelled at the boldness and power of Peter and John, but then they took notice: "That they had been with Jesus." There was the Source of their abundance.

Did you read His love-letter (the Word) to you this morning? That's where we get to know Him—the Source of the overflow.

—Karl G. Berg

(Continued from page 7)

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55427

Second-class postage
paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

W. D. Thompson: "A Listener's
Guide to Preaching"

Persons desiring to sell books, titles
of which are listed above, are re-
quested to write to the Free Lutheran
Seminary Book Nook, 3110 East Medi-
cine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn.
55441. (Gifts of books should be sent
to the Dean, Free Lutheran Theo-
logical Seminary, same address as
above.)

ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS (11 months)
(February 1 — December 31, 1977)

FUND	TOTAL BUDGET 1977-1978	CURRENT BUDGET for 11 months	REC'D DURING DECEMBER	TOTAL REC'D TO DATE	% OF CURRENT	% OF TOTAL	AMOUNT NEEDED TO MEET ANNUAL BUDGET
GENERAL FUND	\$ 72,680.00	\$ 66,623.26	\$ 8,986.29	\$ 55,296.48	83. %	76. %	\$ 17,303.52
SCHOOLS	119,452.00	109,499.83	9,746.85	76,048.50	69.4	63.6	43,403.50
HOME MISSIONS	75,000.00	68,750.00	11,056.25	61,679.50	89.7	82.2	13,320.50
FOREIGN MISSIONS	85,345.00	78,232.88	13,652.33	82,120.59	105.	96.2	3,224.41
PRAISE FUND	30,000.00	27,500.00	1,795.64	17,507.11	63.6	58.3	12,492.89
TOTAL	\$382,477.00	\$350,605.97	\$ 45,237.36	\$292,652.18	83.5%	76.5%	\$ 89,824.82

(Ideal—91.7%)

1976—77 \$402,524.00 \$368,490.39 \$52,904.00 \$272,159.28 73.8% 67.6%

PRAISE IN PROGRESS RECEIPTS \$87,308.98 June 1976 — December 31, 1977
LEGACIES \$53,363.67