

July 26, 1977

# The Lutheran Ambassador

## **HARDANGERFJORD, NORWAY**

**Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.**



# MEDITATION MOMENTS

## The Lord's Work, in the Lord's Way

We often talk today in serious circles about power, victory and fulfillment in our Christian lives. And we wish that we could be like those early Christians who seemed to have something going for them that we do not have today. Men like Paul, Peter and James seem to us to be a different breed of Christian with more power and fulfillment than Christians today. Is this true? I think not.

In Matthew 28:18-20, we read: "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." This Scripture tells us that there is no power for preaching, living or witnessing, except it come from Christ. And Christ has not changed; neither has His Word. If there is a problem today, it is us.

As we consider the Lord's Work in the Lord's Way there are some truths to consider.

I. We must recognize our NEED. A person cannot be a Christian without first recognizing his need of Christ. Like the publican, with at least some comprehension of what we are saying, we must be willing to say, "God be merciful to me a sinner." A close personal relationship with God begins with a sense of need.

Once we become Christians we again must recognize our need for spiritual power. If we think we can operate on our own, if we do not comprehend the need for a power beyond our own, we will not accomplish much if anything for the Kingdom's work.

Our cleverness or intellect is never enough.

II. We must also start in the RIGHT PLACE. Ephesians 5:18 says: "Be filled with the Spirit." It is interesting that after making that statement Paul goes on to talk about our relationships at home, and with our bosses, etc. The importance of beginning at home cannot be emphasized enough when it comes to serving the Lord.

When the man in Mark 5 was healed of demons by Jesus, he wanted and was willing to go and follow Jesus anywhere, but Jesus told him to go home to his friends and tell them what had happened to him. If we by God's grace can be faithful at home, we will have no problem being faithful on the street.

And when it comes to public service we must always begin as servants, not leaders. Luke 14:10, 11 is very clear when it says: "But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher; then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee. For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

III. Also we must always seek God's APPROVAL. Jesus never taught us to seek human praise. Those who seek praise of men, he said, have their reward when they have been praised. If our aim is power and praise and we have them, either in the world or in the church, we have had it.

Paul in I Corinthians 3 pictures a

"believer's" judgment, when every Christian will stand, not for salvation (that is determined at the Cross), but to have his works tried. No Christian will lose his salvation in this judgment, but whatever he had done for himself (including seeking power and praise from men) will be burned up. It will be a most humbling experience to some extent for all of us.

The beginning of wisdom and, also, I think, power, is a respectful fear of God and our accountability to Him and Him alone.

IV. In closing; we must trust God's METHODS. Though we know the power and importance of the Holy Spirit, it is so easy for us to ape the world and its methods, its forms of publicity, its noise, its ways of manipulating men. If we use these methods, we are doing the Lord's work in the flesh.

Under the leadership of Moses and Joshua, the Jews marched when the Ark marched and they stood still when the Ark stood still. They did not rush ahead if God did not order the Ark to be moved. Sometimes they stayed in one place for long periods.

I think that we are too busy today and that we must learn to wait upon the Lord, learn to be quiet before Him, so that instead of doing the clever thing for God, the spectacular thing, we do the right thing. Our prayers need to contain a petition for God's grace making us more sensitive to His leading, to His way of doing things.

May God enable us to do His Work, in His Way. May this be our earnest concern.

David C. Molstre

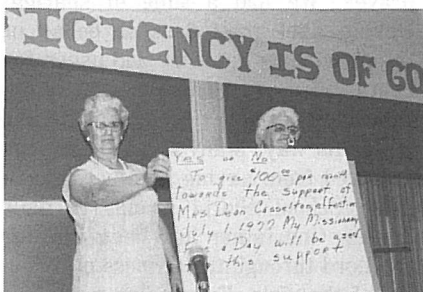
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# Report of the Annual W.M.F. Convention

As numbers upon numbers of women assembled at North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota, June 8-9, it was a time of joy to see former friends and to meet new ones. However, our prime purpose was to pray, study and hear what God's Word said about our theme and theme verse—"Our sufficiency is of God..." (II Cor. 3:5b) and to discuss the work in His Kingdom that has been undertaken by the women.

The opening prayer service was led by Mrs. David Molstre. We sang "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Is He your friend? Mrs. Molstre called our attention to a couple of prayer passages: John 14:13-14 and I John 5:14-15. We come in prayer, expecting and knowing He will see our needs and has the power to answer our prayers. Phil. 4:6-7 tells us to come before Him in humility. John 15:7 challenges us to be obedient to His Word that He might use us in His way. The WMF projects were on our prayer list. We included Priscilla Wold, our missionary families, Judith Wold, our Executive Secretary, the Sunday Schools, seminarians, faculty, schools, Brazil bookstore, etc. Various ones volunteered to pray for these specific requests.

Mrs. John Mundfrom was our song leader for all of the WMF sessions and Mrs. Paul Nash was our pianist. Our theme chorus was "He's Able."



Mrs. Emberson, left, and Mrs. Wee, with a proposal before the convention.

This put our thoughts in tune with our theme. God's sufficiency was echoed in "The Lord's My Shepherd" and "O God, Our Help in Ages Past."

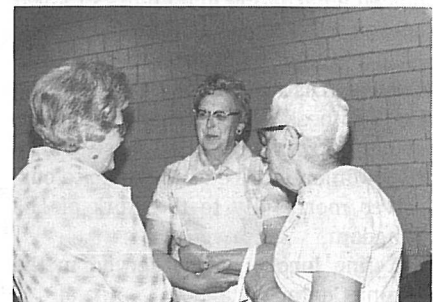
Mrs. Russell Duncan led in devotions. She read from Psalm 27:1, 14 and Psalm 121, stressing our God's sufficiency in everything, no matter where we are or what work we are in. God provides ALL of our needs. Mrs. Donald Olson, president of St. Paul's WMF, welcomed us with Psalm 133:1. She graciously thanked us for our prayers for their women as they prepared for the Conference as well as the Conference itself. Mrs. Robert Dietsche, national WMF president, responded with a sincere thank-you to St. Paul's women and welcomed all the ladies in attendance. She challenged us NOT TO GO HOME UNCHANGED but that GOD'S WILL BE DONE IN OUR LIVES.

Throughout the day our program was interspersed with special music in keeping with our theme. We praise and thank God for the many who are using their talents to witness of and for Him. Thank you.

Miss Eula Mae Swenson gave the Bible Study on "Our Sufficiency is of God." How often we give lip service to a theme but we are slow learners and so often fail to live according to the theme. SUFFICIENCY means competence, to have enough to meet one's needs. We don't think about SUFFICIENCY until we don't have it. We begin appreciating it when we begin to acknowledge our insufficiency. When we admit to our deficiencies, we can begin to realize God's sufficiency. We all have a DEFICIENCY list but these deficiencies need not dominate our lives. God transforms our weakness into His strength. One of God's gifts to us is the ASSURANCE OF FORGIVE-

NESS. Once we acknowledge our need, He can be depended upon to cleanse us from our sins. We have this assurance of forgiveness and that we are His in His Word. Whoever has God's Son has life. Christ lived in the world and knew the conditions and circumstances of the life we must live. Thus, we can take comfort from John 15:5-7 in which the key word is ABIDING—we are occupied with Him. Then we will experience HIS COMFORT and COMPANIONSHIP. We need to be quiet that we might hear our Savior's voice. God is ALL-PROVIDING. He is an abundant, liberal Giver. Nothing is too great for Him. We are NOT PAUPERS—GOD IS OUR SUFFICIENCY. As Christians, we have a responsibility to God. We are to be everything Christ was. HE IS OUR ENERGIZER. Only as we allow Christ to work through us can we be fruit-bearing. We are the vessel. God works IN us that we might work OUTWARD from what HE HAS DONE IN US. As we allow these and other gifts to be developed in us through His power, we can realize HIS SUFFICIENCY, Miss Swenson said.

The annual business meeting was held at which time the proposed budget of \$40,000.00 was accepted for the year of 1978-1979. This was an increase of \$4,000.00 over the present budget. The motion to give \$100.00 per



Three women chatting at the convention.



Mrs. Arlo Kneeland, left, first vice-president, Mrs. Reuben Wee, standing, secretary, and Miss Judith Wold, executive secretary.

month towards the support of Mrs. Dean Casselton, effective July 1, 1977, carried, and is now a part of our WMF projects.

The Nominating Committee for 1978 was announced: Mrs. James Eletson, Mrs. Jack Lee and Mrs. Laura Hegge.

The Resolutions Committee for 1978 is: Mrs. Richard Snipstead, Mrs. Newman Nubgaard and Mrs. Solveig Hays.

Elections were held. Mrs. Eugene Enderlein, Thief River Falls, Minn., was elected president; Mrs. Ronald Knutson, Drummond, Wis., was re-elected second vice-president; Mrs. Emil Hass, Jr., Valley City, N. Dak., was elected treasurer.

Mrs. Lois Oscarson led the MEMORIAL SERVICE. She shared with us her presence at the death of a dear saint, re-affirming God's sufficiency also at this time, both for the one who left this earthly home and for those who were at her bedside. She read I Thess. 4:13-18, which gives us comfort and yet warns us that we must be in a right relationship with God. We should use the gifts we have been given to the best of our ability in His service. The service was beautiful as Mrs. Jim Hoialman, accompanied by Mrs. Nash, played a medley of soft violin music as the district presidents gave their Scripture verses and each placed a carnation in memory of loved ones now gone, one of whom was Mrs. Haldor Hegg, president of the North Central District of Minnesota. May the witness, leadership, and encouragements given by these Christian women inspire us to dedicate ourselves more fully to the work of His Kingdom.

A fine luncheon was served in the Dining Center.

In the afternoon, Mrs. LaVern F. Johnson led in devotions, basing her

remarks on John 15:4-5. Unless we abide in Christ, we cannot be nourished. We become weak Christians. The storms of life make us strong and mature. God is our sufficiency for these testings.

Pastor Eldon Nelson, Home Missions Director, was the afternoon speaker. He reviewed the work of Home Missions in these areas: Congregations receiving a subsidy, making loans from the Church Extension Fund to assist new congregations in buying or building a church, and exploring new areas for Home Mission work. We need to do something in places where God's Word is not being brought. It is from our local congregations that missionaries will be sent out. In John 15:1-11 the True Vine is spoken of. We who abide in Him are the branches. As the branch cannot bear fruit apart from the vine, we cannot bear fruit apart from Christ. The great commission of Jesus in Matt. 28:19-20 sets before us our God-given task. Our responsibility is ALL NATIONS, for in I Tim. 2:4 we see that God's will is that ALL MEN be SAVED. We must work NOW to spread the Gospel because NOW is the time to awaken out of our sleep. "NOW is our SALVATION nearer than when we believed" (Romans 13:11). It is true that many have wilfully chosen not to follow Jesus Christ, yet many have not heard the Word. The efforts of our AFLC have shown growth, but if we combine our efforts with all those who are evangelical, it doesn't show much growth. How disappointed God must be with us many times! What is our great need? The answer is MORE MEN COMMITTED TO CHRIST, MONEY and PROGRAM. We need to tap the resources of God in order that our missionary work will go forward. God's plan calls for PRAYER. Prayer concern for others will never be lost. We must not be too busy to pray and we must pray much BEFORE we make our plans. PRAYER IS NOT OUR LAST BUT OUR FIRST RESOURCE. It is true that prayer is a hard task, yet it is most needed. It is letting Jesus into all our needs. We need to be persistent and spend much time on our knees in talking with God. We were challenged to double our prayer life. As



Mrs. Robert Dietsche, left, and Mrs. Reuben Emberson, outgoing officers.

a WMF we were asked to pray for a vision of what God's will is for us, to bring others before God in prayer, to pray for more laborers in His Kingdom, pray for our mission endeavors and to bear fruit for Him. We sometimes live as paupers because of the slackness in our prayer life. James 4:2b says, "Ye have not, because ye ask not."

The offering for the afternoon in the amount of \$3,006.17 was given to Home Missions. 307 women were registered for June 8, the largest since the beginning of the AFLC.

Thursday morning's women's FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST at St. Paul's Church was well attended; 123 registered. We sang our theme chorus. Mrs. Philip Haugen led in devotions from James 1:2-5. Wisdom is being able to see things as God does. He works to perfect our faith and teaches us through trials which prepare us for life with Him. Mrs. Reuben Emberson, WMF treasurer, greeted us from Eph. 5:20—"Giving thanks always for all things unto God..." as she reported on the Home Missions offering. We all joined in singing the Doxology. Mrs. Dietsche, our retiring president, reminded us to pray for the national WMF officers. Our new president, Mrs. Enderlein, shared II Cor. 12:9. We cannot accomplish anything without God. Let us be ladies of prayer. We had a time of sharing. Debbie Abel greeted us on behalf of the missionary families and asked for continued prayer support. God sometimes has to empty us so He can use us in His way. Many shared blessings received from having members of the Bible School choral groups in their homes. One father had been won for the Lord through the witness of a couple of the girls. Everything works for good to us if it is in God's plan. The witness of a Christian life can bear

fruit even after the death of the Christian. Fervent and persistent prayer in His Name was stressed and examples of answered prayer in the lives of some who were present showed us how such prayer can remove roadblocks in the way of a life in Him. We were encouraged to write to the missionaries and send them cards which could be used later in their work. Encourage your children to write to the missionary children and to pray for them. All postage money gifts should go through the WMF treasurer, not sent direct. To save on postage when sending packages of cards for missionary work, mark the package NO VALUE.

The FESTIVAL SERVICE on Thursday evening, June 9, was very well attended. The musical numbers and singspiration prepared us for the blessings we were to receive from the devotions from Acts 3:1-10 and John 4:12 by Mrs. Einar Unseth. Christ is our sufficiency and there is salvation in none other. As the Tioga Trio sang a medley of songs about the precious name of Jesus, our thoughts soared heavenward. What singing and joy for the Christian when he meets his Savior face to face!

Pastor Kenneth Moland, acting Dean of the Bible School, brought the



Some of the women waiting in the auditorium for a session to begin.

evening message, using our theme verse, II Cor. 3:5b. We do not need to be defeated because of insufficiency. Our God is sufficient for SALVATION. We are so insufficient in this matter. How we respond to this inadequacy is how we treat what God has given us. We try to overcome our inadequacy with a flurry of outside activity and seek to justify ourselves and our righteousness which in ourselves is as filthy rags. Our righteousness is in Jesus Christ, no merits of our own. Our righteousness in Jesus makes us complete in Him. We are justified through "the gracious act of God whereby He for Christ's sake acquits a repentant and believing sinner of his sin and guilt, and looks upon him, in Christ, as though he has never sinned."

Our God is sufficient for SANCTIFICATION. God uses the sanctified vessel. We must put off the old and put on the new. Our sanctification also depends on our sufficiency in God. Satan seeks to destroy our confidence in serving Jesus Christ. He wants us to give up and become despondent. When we recognize that God is working in us, it leads to growth and maturity. Even when we fall, if we have our eyes on Christ, God is able to finish what He has begun in us. Place all in God's hand. He is able. His grace is sufficient in suffering and His strength is made perfect in weakness.

Our God is sufficient for SERVICE. We cannot serve Him in our own strength. God gives us opportunities to serve Him. We see needs in so many areas, yet we know our sufficiency is of God. He has faithfully supplied all believers the gifts necessary to fulfill His great commission. He gives us His Holy Spirit that we might have

power and life. He will provide the financial and material needs of His children for service in His Kingdom's work.

Our offering for the evening, \$2,207.75, was given to the Praise Program.

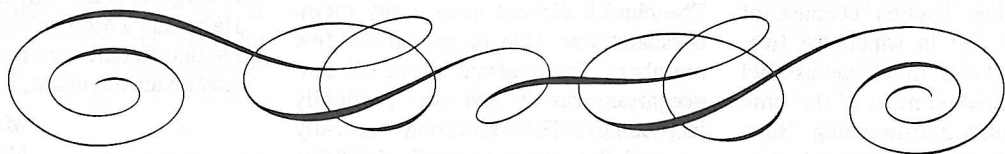
Because the women of the WMF are co-workers with the pastors and men in the congregations, it was very fitting that Mrs. Arlo Kneeland gave a word of thanks and appreciation for the support and encouragement they also give to the WMF projects. Miss Eula Mae Swenson, our Bible Study writer for 1976, was presented with an Honorary Membership pin and certificate from the WMF. Our retiring national WMF Executive Board members, Mrs. Robert Dietsche and Mrs. Reuben Emberson, were each presented a gift in appreciation for their long and faithful work on the board. The newly-elected officers, Mrs. Eugene Enderlein, Mrs. Ronald Knutson and Mrs. Emil Hass, Jr., were installed by Pastor Francis Monseth, AFLC vice-president.

Is God your sufficiency? Do we only say He is or do we live lives that attest of this fact? Let us re-examine our lives and make individual claims to His sufficiency.

**Mrs. Reuben Wee, WMF Secretary**



Preparing to go through the line in the cafeteria.



## PRESCRIPTION FOR TIRED CHRISTIANS

by Rev. Howard A. Kuhnle,  
Buffalo, N.Y.

### I. Symptoms

People know the symptoms of the present age from the Christian standpoint. Those symptoms have been expressed in different ways, including brief statements and lengthy books by the most distinguished Christian scholars and leaders. The problems may be summarized in the following words and phrases:

Young people

Corrupt and rotten politics

War and militarism

Racial relations, both in the city and  
the country-side

City churches

Town-and-country churches

Attacks on the church

Indifference to Jesus Christ and the  
Christian Church

These different ideas apply especially but not exclusively to the middle-aged, elderly and long-time Christian, laity and clergy. Certainly there is no need to go into further detail as one thinks of the symptoms of the times.

With these conditions, problems and situations so obviously before them, it is no wonder that people get tired of hearing about the problems of the Christian Church. As the result of these discussions, some people are becoming disillusioned with the church of our time.

Yet, the present age is not too much different from previous ages in the history of the Christian movement. The world, its people and the Christian Church have always had problems—problems which are not essentially different from the problems of the present time.

The one big difference is that now people learn of all important events as soon as they happen because of the electronic age in which we live. Many people have their radios and televisions turned on most of the time but they are only half-listening. However, if an important or unusual news event is announced, then they give full attention. The result is that people living now in America are more keyed up than at any other time in history.

### II. Remedy

It is always easier to list and describe the symptoms than it is to prescribe the remedies. Several items ought to be mentioned because they are of the highest importance.

First, people should learn to take care of themselves physically. There are far too many people who do not live up to this idea. No wonder they are tired! Fundamental is the idea of getting enough sleep and rest. Too many people are on the edge of physical exhaustion in these days of rushing, rapid transportation and emphasis on the material values of life and civilization. The spiritual health of too many people is impaired because of their low physical vitality. In this particular article, there is no need to go into greater detail, other than to emphasize the matter.

Do not worry unduly. The Bible has a great deal to say about worry which is so natural for human beings. Foremost on the teaching about worry are the words of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6), including, "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. . . . Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Another item of highest importance is that when things do not go as you wish them to go in the Christian Church, do not blame yourself. You are not Atlas who had to hold up the whole world. Rather you have to bear only your own burden. There are doubtless many illustrations, but the one that comes to my mind is the story of the pastor of a small Protestant Church in a largely Jewish community. He felt completely frustrated. The church did not have many members and was able to get only a few members. The average age of the congregation was 59 and was gradually increasing. The situation literally worried the pastor to death, for after a short period as a pastor of the congregation, he had to be sent to a mental hospital where he committed suicide some years later.

While one wants, of course, to be informed on the problems of the day, it is necessary to recall that most people (except influential people such as highly-placed statesmen and politicians, inventors, discoverers and innovators, the wealthy, prominent educators, etc., who can readily take care of themselves) can influence conditions only in their own little corner. It is not likely that any one person, even the most influential, is going to make a change in the war-system, in political corruption, in morality, in racial relations, etc. The only thing that one person can do is to be a positive influence in his own little corner—the home, the job, the school.

Finally, and most important for the Christian, the chief emphasis is on the spiritual, the theological and the doctrinal, as found in the Holy Scriptures:

John 10:11: "I am the Good Shepherd: the Good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep." v. 14, "I am the Good Shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."

John 17:20: "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word."

Psalms 150: "Praise ye the Lord," repeated over and over again.

Matthew 28:20: "Lo, I am with you always."

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### WHERE IS BALM?

Where is balm for wounds unhealed?

Where is love for pain so deep?

Where is forgiveness for such as I?

Is there but anguish this soul to reap?

Yes, balm for others I can give;

Yes, love to ease another's pain;

Yes, forgiveness, complete and free,

That anguish will from others flee.

As I forgive, there comes to me

Balm like a Mother's soft caress;

Love like an ointment flows over me,

And peace abundant, full and free.

Mabel Quanbeck  
McVillie, N. Dak.



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## GET BACK TO THE PLANS

by Rev. Karl G. Berg,  
Salem, Oregon

Well now, how did **that** happen? Have you ever stopped, so to speak, in your tracks, and asked that question? After 30 years of married life, a successful marriage breaks up. Why? Or a Synod which seemed so solid and "spiritual" suddenly veers off course and loses its identity. Why? Paul, I am sure, asked that question as he writes to Corinth. He had been so sure of Corinth. He had labored there so hard and faithfully. He could look back on his ministry there with satisfaction. He had laid the one solid "Foundation" which is Jesus Christ. That's the Rock on which the church was built. Apollos faithfully nurtured what had been started. And God was there with the increase. Everything seemed to fall in line so beautifully.

But something went wrong as time passed. The "crop" was stunted. There were no "graduates." No mature believers. Only the "weeds" of division, pride, contention. The most tragic thing about the whole situation was that they themselves did not see the need. In fact they were proud of their "progress." After all, they had a multiplicity of "gifts." Paul recognized that. "Ye come behind in no gift" (1:5). And who could come up to them in speaking in tongues? And could they prophesy! "Ye were enriched in Him in all utterance, and in all knowledge." Why **then** all the "weeds"?

Paul starts by checking the "Foundation." That's a sensible place to start. After all, he reminds them, they were God's building. If the foundation is falling apart the whole building suffers. We all know that. How was it? Just as sound as ever. Paul calls himself a "master-builder," but could find only one foundation worth considering, namely Jesus Christ. That solid Rock never changes. But, and here was the problem, they were "slipping off" this one-and-only sound footing. In fact, they were somewhat ashamed of it. The message of the cross seemed to sound so "corny" to them. The message of the cross became an offence. Seemingly, "modernism" isn't so modern after

(Continued on page 9)

# The Best of Hallesby

## THE MASTER CALLS FOR YOU

**"And when she had said this, she went away, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Teacher is here, and calleth thee" (John 11:28).**

Mary sat and wept for her dead brother. Perhaps she wept fully as much because Jesus had not come, even though they had sent a message to Him that Lazarus was sick. Then Martha came and whispered to her: "The Master is here, and would speak with you." And when she heard this, she arose quickly and went to Him.

Yes, we can understand this.

Suppose that you, in an hour of distress, received a message that Jesus had come and desired to speak with you.

It is my privilege today to come with this very message to you: The Master is here and is calling for you.

He is here. Here with you. Now, at this very moment. He has received the message that you sent Him. Moreover, He has all power. He can help you, no matter what your trouble may be.

If these words could move you to do what Mary did! Rise up quickly and go to Jesus! And tell Him, as Mary did, your greatest sorrow, the thing that causes you most distress.

Jesus is waiting for you.

Perhaps He has waited a long time already. Why have you not confided in Him? Why do you keep your difficulties to yourself?

Speak to Him about the worldliness that is choking your hidden life with God. About the spiritual coldness which is freezing your heart to the very bottom. About the sinful habits against which you are putting up such a feeble struggle.

The Master is here and calleth thee!

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# editorials

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## STRANGE PRACTICE

Roman Catholic history was made last month when the first male American saint was created in elaborate ceremonies in Rome.

Canonized, that is the term they use, was John Neumann, once bishop of Philadelphia. It is said that he lived an exemplary life of service, veritably giving himself for what he believed in in ministering chiefly to German-speaking immigrants before assuming the leadership of the bishopric at the age of 41.

In Roman Catholic doctrine, no one can be made a saint unless at least three verified miracles of healing are attributed to his or her intervention. The necessary three were found also in the case of John Neumann.

How strange the practice of canonization seems to Protestant sensitivities. How alien to our belief in one Mediator, Jesus Christ, and the priesthood of all believers. The

creation of official saints in the Roman Catholic Church could well have been a casualty of the Second Vatican Council. Some of us can never accept the concept of mere mortals, no matter how noble their lives on earth, as intermediaries or intercessors on our behalf before God. Scripture does not establish such doctrine.

The Apostle Paul called the believers "saints." If we believe in Jesus Christ as Savior, we are saints. Beyond that, we will probably never forsake the tendency to call certain persons of deep piety and faith and acts of charity "saints." But it is never in the sense of praying to them in heaven, only of gaining new courage and resolve from the example of their lives.

Those are the usages of the word "saints" that we can accept.

## FAMILY BIBLE CAMP

The annual Family Bible Camp of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations is only days away now. It will be held August 8-14 at Galilee Lutheran Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minnesota.

The camps haven't had the attendance in recent years that they had earlier. Galilee Camp can't accommodate as many campers as the camp at Lake Geneva could. Also, there is more competition from other camps than there used to be.

Nevertheless, those who attend the official family camp receive many blessings and testify of enriching experience. That will doubtless be the case in 1977 also.

We trust that many people, young and old, will take the opportunity of the week at Lake Bronson in August. Then may the impact made on the lives of those who are there spread out in wide circles in our church and among other friends.

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*(Continued from page 8)*

all. It was at work in Corinth. It started long before that in the Garden of Eden. They had been built on the one solid Foundation—Jesus Christ—but were now trying other material for superstructure. Material that wouldn't stand the test. They didn't seem to realize that a foundation is for "keeps." It is just as important all the way along. So many forget that.

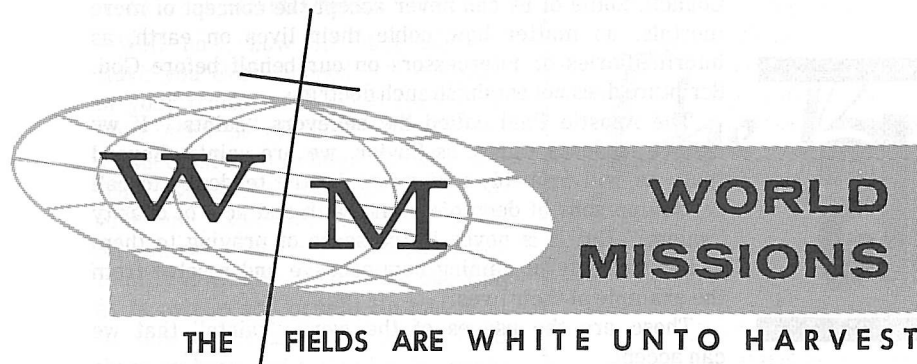
Probably we all need to check our relationship to the "Foundation." Is Christ as precious now as when we first met? It might be in order to check the "plans" (the Word) a little more carefully. I had a home built some years ago. The plans were approved and dependable but I don't know where they are now. I really don't need them now that the building

is finished. We are God's building but where are the plans (the Word)? Are they gathering dust some place? What does it say about the Foundation (Jesus Christ)? After the Foundation is laid can we then go on building the superstructure (life) on our own? Maybe with some assistance from the original Builder? The folks at Corinth felt that way.

But the Word (plan) doesn't seem to agree on that. "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him" (Col. 2:6). Here is a clear-cut pattern to follow. How did we receive Christ? What part did we play in the transaction? "I cried," said David, and "He heard." Simple, isn't it? He didn't ask for any help, nor did He offer any help. God did it all. "So walk in Him." We can't live the Christian life nor does God

expect us to. But He can. "Christ in you, the hope of Glory" (Col. 1:27). Christ working **through us**, the only hope of victory.

So many lives are so frustrated. They struggle and struggle to win. But their life story is that of Paul in Romans 7. In desperation, they often give up. In the meantime Jesus Christ is waiting for a call to take over. He wants to render more than assistance. He wants to take complete control. Then, as He is allowed to do that, praise takes the place of prayer. Praise for victory. He becomes so precious and life becomes so exciting with Him at the helm. Is that your experience? It can be and it should. Christ is **The Answer**. Get back to the plans (the Word). There you can meet Him again, "the Author and Finisher of our faith" (Heb. 12:2).



### VISIT AND VISION IN THE TERRITORY OF RONDONIA

By Missionary John H. Abel

Near the end of April this year, Pastor George Knapp and I, representing our Brazil Field Conference of our Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, made a trip into Brazil's great Amazon basin to an area now being opened up for colonization, called Rondonia territory.

Most of you realize that Brazil is big, a little larger than the continental area of the U.S. The Rondonia territory is not so very large (about twice the size of Minnesota), but it is hard to get to, since it lies between the two huge states of Amazonas and Mato Grosso, both of which are still largely unsettled. The road problem is of paramount importance when you are travelling or trying to make time in investigating an area and it is roads that are practically non-existent in these areas just mentioned. There is one asphalt highway going from our area across half of Mato Grosso to its capital of Cuiaba. George and I entered the interior via this route. It was a 22-hour bus ride, but under comfortable conditions, for we caught an almost new, large Greyhound-type bus running from Sao Paulo across the corner of our state of Parana to Cuiaba.

Having arrived in that bustling small capital, we discovered that buses could not get us through to the territory of Rondonia without long delays. Some bridges had been wiped out by heavy rains and the dirt road had turned into a muddy quagmire in which hundreds of trucks were

lined up or stuck axle-deep in the ruts. We were fortunate to have arrived the day before a scheduled airline run up to the farthest northern point in the territory. We could fly to an old rubber trading city, now turned capital of the territory and caught up in the boom of colonization, Porto Velho. The next morning, then, found us out at the airport to catch a small, English-made Viscount jet, and in just two and one-half hours we landed in Porto Velho.

What a change from the cool fall air of Parana to the hot tropical climate of the Amazon basin! We were now only a few minutes by air from Bolivia. The city of Porto Velho is on one of the large tributaries leading into the Amazon River. For more than a hundred years it has been a sleepy little trading town on the river, but in the last 15 years it has been caught up in the great territorial immigration into the Amazon basin. It is the temporary capital of the territory and the headquarters for the Brazilian army in its region, which is building and maintaining the new roads and many of the new cities.

George had the address of a missionary family, the Don Pattons, who lived at the Wycliffe Bible Translators Base Camp a few miles beyond the airport. We took a taxi from the airport and after a few inquiries along the way we arrived in the midst of a large jungle clearing with a couple dozen buildings scattered around a big circle. It was quite easy to identify these houses and school buildings as being of American construction, for they had screens in the windows and

wide overhanging eaves. I might add that since it is so warm all the year around in the Amazon basin, the people do not put in glass windows, just an opening with screen nailed in, as at this camp, or wooden shutters, which can be closed at night, the usual Brazilian arrangement.

We were warmly welcomed by Mrs. Judy Patton and their six children, all living on the base. Don came home about supper-time and added to our welcome. You can imagine my surprise when Judy said to me, after I introduced myself, "John Abel, well, fancy meeting you here in the jungle. You know, you're the reason we're out here in Brazil." Well, that really caught me off guard, for I could not even remember having seen this young mother before. So about all I could say was, "Well, that's very interesting; tell me about it." It seems that back in about 1970 I had spoken and shown films on Brazil for a couple days in Radcliffe, Ia., with Pastor Kenneth Anderson and the Lord had really spoken to the hearts of this young couple to become missionary volunteers in Brazil. It took them three more years to be able to get to the field, but here they were, deep in the heart of South America, faithful to the call God had given them. The thought came to me, that as we faithfully and prayerfully give out the Word, we never know fully what God is doing, and only in eternity will we get to know all that God has done.

Having spent an interesting evening with the Pattons and been shown around the big permanent jungle base, the next morning Don took us into the old city of Porto Velho, which means "old port." Here we visited with one of the graduates of our Free Lutheran Bible Institute in Campo Mourao. He moved out to this territory shortly after his parents and family immigrated into the territory. Now Manoel Bastos works in a bank and is actively helping in one of the local evangelical churches. After our enjoyable visit with him, we caught the afternoon bus for a city in the center of the territory. It is called Vila Rondonia.

We were interested in seeing Vila Rondonia because it is sort of the show-case city of this territory.

The government has given much advertisement to that modern new city being built in the jungle, the so-called future capital of a future state. Free land and much possibility for material advancement are offered to those young couples who come to a future "bread basket" of Brazil. Several of our AFLC families have gotten the "frontier fever" and headed out here over the past few years. Now we as a church, and particularly Helen and George Knapp as missionaries, are trying to follow up our families and help them organize new churches in the territory of Rondonia. Our first step in this direction was taken last February when a Brazilian graduate of our Bible School, Miss Lucia Lima, was sent to live with one of our AFLC families in the city of Vilhena, Rondonia. Lucia and this family are actively conducting a Sunday School and church services in this new city.

(To be continued)

#### MISSION WORK

Mission work, whether at home or abroad, is the pressing forward proclaiming the Gospel message to undying souls. Christ, the Lord of the Church, has called us to this work. Jesus said, "As my Father has sent Me, even so send I you" (John 20:21b). What a privilege to be a part of the team proclaiming "that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:47).

In this work there are times when the individual or the little company of God's people feel so alone and helpless. I suppose we feel something like Joshua did near Jericho (Joshua 5:13-15). The strong walls rose up just where he must go forward. Similarly, we also come face to face with difficulties and problems that we must solve, but cannot. Let us, like Joshua, remember to worship and pray for help when God shows us our helplessness and tells us to "put off your shoe from off your foot" (Joshua 5:15).

Let us lay bare our soul before God, hide nothing from Him of all that we see and know and that is on our heart. Let us bring our whole life, the outer as well as the inner, into the light of

day before Him. Then we are putting off our shoe from off our foot. Then we stand on holy ground. Then the Lord will show us the way to victory.

If we believe and obey the Lord's command in this way, we, too, shall see the strongest walls fall before us. The Lord fights for us. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him" (II Chronicles 16:9a).

Let us always remember that it is only as we permit Christ to live in us and we in Him, that we find favor in the eyes of the Lord and can be used of Him here at home, in Brazil and in any part of the world.

Again, we say, what a privilege to be a part in proclaiming the Gospel!

—Pastor Amos Dyrud  
(Medicine Lake Messenger,  
Minneapolis, Minn.)

#### OBITUARY

##### MRS. JOHN HJELMELAND

Mrs. Christine Hjelmeland was born at Westeraalen, Norland, Norway, on March 11, 1883, a daughter of Ole and Johanna Olson. Christine came to America in 1909 to be married to John Hjelmeland, a seminary student at Augsburg Seminary in Minneapolis, Minnesota. They were united in marriage at Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, on November 13, 1909, by Rev. Jens S. Strand.

Upon her husband's ordination as a minister in the Lutheran Free Church, their first parish was in Maple Bay, Minnesota. Other parishes they served were Newfolden, Minnesota, Hampden, North Dakota, and Ferndale, Washington.

After 59 years of marriage, her husband John passed away in August of 1968.

Christine was a devoted Christian and loved her Lord and Bible. She leaves many memories of her love and concern for the cause of Christ.

Christ was her Hope of Glory!

For a number of years, she was a resident of Bethany Home in Everett, and the last six years she resided at the Foss Sunset Home, Seattle, Washington.

Christine Hjelmeland departed this life on Wednesday, March 30th, at the age of 94. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. C. Herman (Lorraine) Johnson of Gig Harbor, Washington, and four sons: Andrew, Joseph and Raymond of Seattle, and Sigvald of Minneapolis.

She also leaves five grandchildren and six great grandchildren, and a host of friends.

The funeral service for Mrs. Hjelmeland was held on Friday, April 1, at Wiggen and Sons Chapel, Seattle, and was conducted by Rev. Clair Grube, Chaplain at Foss Sunset Home. Mrs. Edna Melseth and Mrs. Sig Christenson sang two duets, "When They Ring the Golden Bells" and "Abide with Me." Elna Coolidge was the organist.

Honorary pallbearers were Sigvald V. Hjelmeland, John B. Hjelmeland, Raymond C. Hjelmeland and Rev. James Clarke. Active pallbearers were Joseph I. Hjelmeland, Andrew O. Hjelmeland, C. Herman Hjelmeland and Olve Willand.

Interment was in Pacific Lutheran Cemetery.

Blessed be her memory.

(Ed. note: The Hjelmelands were good friends of my parents. Possessing a great sense of humor, he also had the gifts of both pastor and evangelist. Mrs. Hjelmeland was a good homemaker and helper for her husband and willing to help others.)



#### BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE

Stumbling block or stepping stone,  
It's only what you make it.  
Help or hindrance to your goal,  
It's all the way you take it.

God's plan is in it—ofttimes  
Our greatest burden of care  
Turns a ladder to the stars,  
Given back to God in prayer.

Marlene Moline  
Lansing Iowa



### GALILEE BIBLE CAMP, SITE OF 1977 AFLC FAMILY CAMP

The Bible Camp, owned by the Northern Minnesota District of the AFLC, is located near Lake Bronson, Minn., in the northwestern corner of the state. In the picture, the dining hall is shown in the upper left corner and the chapel in the upper center. The boys' dorm is on the left and the girls' dorm on the right. Lake Bronson, a man-made lake, is in the upper portion of the aerial photo. Camp dates are August 8-14.

#### SPEAKING, TEACHING STAFF ANNOUNCED FOR AFLC FAMILY BIBLE CAMP

Rev. Eugene Enderlein, dean of the 1977 Family Bible Camp of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, which will be held at Galilee Lutheran Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn., August 8-14, has announced the following staff for the week. Rev. Dale R. Mellgren, Abercrombie, N. Dak., will be the evening speaker. Service leader will be Rev. Bruce Dalager, Winger, Minn.

The adult Bible teacher will be Rev. Einar Unseth, Ortle, S. Dak. Rev. Ralph Rokke, McIntosh, Minn., will teach the youth class. The Christian Growth Hour will be under the direction of Rev. Richard Gunderson, Minneapolis, Minn., and soon of Nogales, Ariz.

Mr. David Abel, student intern at Newfolden, Minn., will lead the confirmation class sessions and Miss Judith Wold, Thief River Falls, Minn., executive director of the AFLC department of Parish Education, will be in charge of the elementary section of the camp.

Financial charges for the week will be the same as last year. Family registration is \$2.00, and for an individual, \$1.00. Maximum charge for a

family is \$88.00. The individual charges are adults, \$20.00, teenagers, \$18.00, and children, \$12.00.

The camp week begins on Monday afternoon, August 8. The first meal served to the camp family is at supper that day.

#### POSSIBLE ITINERARY FOR ALFBS CONCERT CHOIR IN NORWAY

The itinerary printed below is the one first proposed for the choir for its tour in Norway this summer. It may not be the exact one followed, but it will give an idea of the route to be followed. The Lutheran Ambassador will carry a report on the tour after it is concluded. The Lutheran Inner-Mission Society is arranging the tour. Mr. Kaare Liodden is in charge of the arrangements.

July 26—Oslo  
July 27, 28, and 29—Romerike and Østfold  
July 30—Fredrikstad  
July 31—Unknown  
August 1—Tonsberg  
August 2—Sandefjord

August 3—Larvik  
August 4—Skien-Risør  
August 5—Arendal  
August 6—Grimstad  
August 7—Kristiansand  
August 8—Venneslad  
August 9—Mandal  
August 10—Lyngdal  
August 11—Flekkefjord  
August 12—Egersund  
August 13—Sandnes  
August 14—Stavanger  
August 15—Aakra, Karmøy  
August 16—Haugesund  
August 17 and 18—At least two concerts en route from Hauge-sund to Oslo  
August 19—Oslo. Departure will also be from Oslo.

#### LET US KNOW OUR BIBLE

“There is only one law of Bible Study and that is to read the Book, and when you have read it, to read it again, and then sit down and read it some more, and by and by you will come to know the book of life.” Gray.

#### I. To Know Our Bible, We Must Have

- A. A heart determination to overcome Christian's threefold enemy.
- B. A heart determination to allow the Bible to mean what it says.
- C. A heart determination to allow the Bible to speak to us.

#### II. How Shall We Read the Bible?

- A. In solitude—for one's private devotion arrange to be alone.
- B. Meditate—God speaks to us—“Be still and know that I am God.”
- C. Pray—pray for the enlightenment of God's Spirit, so that we will understand.
- D. Daily—definite, regular time should be set aside to read God's Word: 1. In the morning; 2. In the evening; 3. To and from work; 4. On the train; 5. Waiting for delayed appointments.
- E. Attentively—pay close attention to every word and phrase—all full of meaning.
- F. Mark your Bible—underline important passages, sayings of Christ, etc.
- G. Do not let seeming difficulties

[Continued on page 16]



# NEWS of the Churches

## WESTAKER CHURCH IN NEWFOLDEN TO NOTE ANNIVERSARY

Westaker Lutheran Church, Newfolden, Minn., will note her 90th anniversary in festivities on August 6 and 7. Lay Pastor Rodney Stueland, Buxton, N. Dak., a former pastor, will speak at a youth service on Saturday night at 8. On Sunday morning at 8:45, Mr. Harvey Dyrud of Newfolden will speak at a Norwegian service. Mr. Ed Mathison of Bagley, Minn., will give a testimony. He has served the Newfolden parish as an interim pastor. Another interim pastor, Rev. Hubert DeBoer, Thief River Falls, Minn., will preach at the 11 o'clock worship. At 2 o'clock, Rev. John P. Strand, AFLC president, will speak at the anniversary service. Other greetings will be given. Rev. Merle T. Knutson is pastor of the Newfolden parish.

## ADDITION DEDICATED, MORTGAGE BURNED AT BAGLEY CHURCH

The new addition to Grace Lutheran Church, Bagley, Minn., was dedicated on Sunday afternoon, June 5, and the mortgage on the church was burned.

At the morning worship service, the sermon was preached by Rev. Bruce

Dalager, Minot, N. Dak., a former pastor of the congregation. Rev. Mauritz Lundeen, local pastor, conducted the liturgy and was in charge of the service of Holy Communion which followed.

In the afternoon service of dedication, Rev. Francis Monseth, vice-president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, brought the message and officiated at the dedication. Pastor Dalager, Pastor Lundeen and the church council conducted the mortgage-burning. Neighboring pastor Ray Persson of Bemidji brought a greeting. Scripture readings were read by Grant Fischer and Milo Fultz. Miss Sue Oien read a history of Grace Lutheran. Mr. Palmer Friberg, chairman of Grace, gave the response following the mortgage-burning. Mrs.



Pastor Bruce Dalager, left, Pastor Mauritz Lundeen and members of the Grace Church Council at the mortgage-burning ceremony.

Alice Nelson and Mrs. Lundeen played the prelude. Pastor Lundeen gave the invocation. An offering to the building fund was received.



## REMEMBER WHEN?

Remember when, in carefree childhood work and play,  
Small things were ours and satisfied  
our childhood way?

The trees and meadows, rocks and  
hills and snow  
Were playgrounds for the faster and  
the slow.

And we first heard God's Word?

Remember when the years passed on  
on and youth became our lot?  
The childhood things forgot, we grew  
in act and thought,  
Just climbing on we sought for higher  
plane,

Our eye on some far distant goal to  
see or gain,

Yet recognized the law of God and  
man?

Remember when God called, "Come,  
dear one, unto Me"?

It almost seemed unfair, to leave all  
else to be

His servant here, there was so much  
to do.

Exciting things were on, and still He  
wanted you—

To follow Him in service here.

Remember when, in careless time,  
you slipped and fell?

Somehow just drifted on, without a  
guide to tell

Or show the way? Then light shone  
through the clouds of fear;

A soft voice spoke and seemed so very  
near,

"Fear not, I love you still."

Remember when you promised you  
would share

His cause as He gave strength, be-  
neath His care?

Then failures came; the fault was not  
in Him.

It seemed His voice was distant; your  
faith had grown so dim—

A MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Yet patiently He waited for some fruit.

Remember when we left behind the days of youth?

Our vision grew to see much more of truth,

The needs of others near and far, of body and of soul,

The agonizing cry of souls to reach the goal

Of heaven's peace and joy?

Remember when it all became so real and true:

This Savior came for helpless ones like me and you?

The level ground beneath the cross stood out so dear.

There, kneeling, broken, vision blurred by misty tear,  
Forgiveness, love and mercy met you there.

Remember, then, before the night there's work for you and me

Our time and talent and treasure are only a loan, to be

Used for His glory or lost to bring us shame,

When called to give account; all glory to the name

Of Jesus, King of Kings.

George V. Johnson  
Eben Jct., Mich.

**SOUL WINNER'S PRAYER**

Equip me for the war and teach my hands to fight;

My simple, upright heart prepare, and guide my words aright.

Control my every thought, my whole of sin remove;

Let all my works in Thee be wrought—let all be wrought in love.

O arm me with the mind, Meek Lamb, that was in Thee;

And let my knowing zeal be joined with perfect charity.

With calm and tempered zeal let me enforce Thy call;

And vindicate Thy gracious will, which offers Life to all.

O may I learn the eart, with meekness to reprove;

To hate the sin with all my heart, but still the sinner love.

—Charles Wesley



**THANK GOD FOR COUNTRY**

"I love my country and I am deeply ashamed of it." These non-complimentary words came from Dr. Robert Brown at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Kenya. Rick Monday, Chicago Cubs outfielder, snatched an American flag from two fellows who were about to burn it. The crowd of 25,167 roared to a standing ovation. After reading Dr. Brown's statement it is indeed refreshing to read of those who show respect for our flag today.

America has its shortcomings, yet we do well to think of some of its virtues, too. Pastor Karl Olsson, who immigrated here from Europe, wrote, "But I love America, because while she may be full of sins and problems she worries about them and keeps the light of intelligence and moral seriousness playing on them." John Reston, *New York Times* columnist, was asked to define the qualities of the American character that have enabled us to operate our Constitution successfully for so long. He replied,

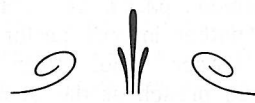
While we forget the sins of other nations toward us, let us never forget the great sacrifices made by Americans for us. A friend of ours spent several trying years in a Japanese prison camp during World War II. Finally the wonderful day came when she was set free. As she now tells of that unforgettable day, she says, "As I thought of the many men who had sacrificed so much for me, I felt so unworthy." Instead of being ashamed of our country, shouldn't we all thank God for her? And surely we should commit ourselves to God and His Son, Jesus. For, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."

—Einar Unseth

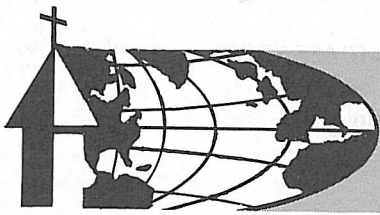
"One thing is that as a people, we have no memory. There is, for instance, no anti-Japanese or anti-German feeling in this country despite World War II."

The paramount reason for Jesus ever going to the Cross is the fact that God is love. He could no more stop loving than the sun could stop shining.

Edward L. Keller



ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS							
3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard							
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441							
BUDGET RECEIPTS							
February 1-June 30, 1977							
	Total Budget 1977-78	Current Budget	Received during June	Total Rec'd to date	% of Current	% of Total	
General Fund	\$ 72,680.00	\$ 30,283.30	\$ 6,458.77	\$ 23,330.28	77 %	32 %	
Schools	119,452.00	49,771.65	5,771.86	32,243.26	64.8	27	
Home Missions	75,000.00	31,250.00	4,852.38	20,519.74	65.6	27.3	
Foreign Missions	85,345.00	35,560.40	10,271.69	34,603.19	97.3	40.5	
Praise Fund	30,000.00	12,500.00	2,289.01	7,111.50	57	23.7	
TOTAL	\$382,477.00	\$159,365.35	\$29,643.71	\$117,807.97	73.9	30.8	
1976-77	\$395,649.00	\$164,853.70	\$27,020.29	\$ 98,286.08	59.6	24.8	



## WRC HOLDS CRISIS-COORDINATION SEMINAR

Searching for ways to increase the efficiency of evangelical disaster relief overseas, the World Relief Commission of Valley Forge held a three-day International Crisis-Coordination Seminar in Washington.

"Evangelical missions are increasingly being called upon to administer relief, and many have looked to WRC to give them support and direction," says Dr. Everett S. Graffam, WRC's Executive Vice-President. "The Seminar, informative in nature, was the first step in exploring how denominational and faith missions could voluntarily co-operate in meeting the needs of victims of disaster."

WRC works almost exclusively with and through most of the member missions of the Evangelical Foreign Missions Association (National Association of Evangelicals, WRC's parent organization); Interdenominational Foreign mission Association (faith missions); and World Evangelical Fellowship (Christian national organization).

WRC proposed to the 49 Board, denominational and mission executives at the Seminar that they consider selecting individuals who could be trained in relief procedures and who would act as crisis-coordinators in the event of a major disaster.

Three-quarters of the respondents to a follow-up questionnaire indicated their interest in participating in such a relief network. EFMA/IFMA/WEF represent approximately 16,000 evangelical missionaries, each one being a potential disaster-area coordinator.

World Relief Commission will prepare materials for an on-going study which it is expected will result in an effective, loosely-structured crisis network, benefiting hundreds of thousands of people in future trouble spots.

One day of the Seminar was spent in the Foreign Disaster Assistance branch of the U.S. Department of State. WRC, as an approved Department of State voluntary relief agency, has had a long working relationship both with the U.S. Government and overseas governments.

Seminar attendees had an opportunity to meet Government personnel and to understand U.S. humanitarian concerns and how these concerns relate to private agencies such as World Relief Commission.

For many years, WRC conducted food-for-work programs in many countries using Public Law 480 surplus foods supplied by the U.S. Now food supplies are too precarious for this type of generous sharing. However, the U.S. Does pay 90% of WRC's shipping costs through a freight reimbursement arrangement.

Seminar costs were covered by a major grant from the Pew Memorial Fund and a gift from Mr. Philip J. Baur, President of Tasty Baking Company.

## INSTITUTE OBSERVES ANNIVERSARY

Concordia Historical Institute held a special service of praise and thanksgiving to mark the 130th anniversary of its founding, the 50th anniversary of its incorporation and the 25th anniversary of its present building on Sunday, May 15. The service was held in the chapel of Concordia Seminary, Clayton, Missouri.

The speaker for the occasion was the Rev. Dr. Oliver R. Harms of Houston, Texas, who served as president of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod from 1962 to 1969. Dr. Harms' parish ministry began in Texas in 1926. From 1935 to 1959 he was pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Houston. In 1959 he was elected first vice-president of the Missouri Synod. Following his service as synodical president, he was a consultant to the Synod's

Board of Directors on stewardship matters and director of the Synod's 125th Anniversary observance.

Liturgists for the special service were the Rev. Lando Otto, Eureka, Illinois, a member of the Institute Board of Governors, Dr. Ralph Bohlmann, Concordia Seminary President, and the Institute Director, Dr. August R. Suelflow. A reception followed the service in Pritzlaff Hall on the Seminary campus.

The service recognized the 130th anniversary of the archives of the Missouri Synod which was founded in 1847. The Institute serves as the Department of Archives and History of the Synod. This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the dedication of its present facilities in 1952 on the Concordia Seminary campus.

This anniversary year will see the beginning of a building expansion program for the Institute which has been in the planning for a number of years. The present facilities have been filled to capacity for some time. The building addition will provide much-needed new space for stacks to house the vast collection on American Lutheran history, reference work, staff and museum facilities.

Congregations and individuals may become members of the Institute. Membership includes a subscription to the CONCORDIA HISTORICAL INSTITUTE QUARTERLY which is in its 50th year of publication. Further information may be obtained from Concordia Historical Institute, 801 DeMun Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63105.

(The Concordia Historical Institute maintains a complete file of *The Lutheran Ambassador* among its records—Ed.)

## NEW MATERIALS FOR DEAF BEING PRODUCED

Lutheran Friends of the Deaf announces the selection of Ms. Elizabeth Foster, Indianapolis, Ind., and

Rev. Louis Jasper, Bayside, N.Y., as developers of new religious materials for the deaf during the summer of 1977. The materials will be field tested starting Oct. 1.

Ms. Foster will write for the 5-8 yr. olds, New Testament—Life of Christ. Ms. Foster teaches at Indiana School for the Deaf and attends Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Indianapolis.

Rev. Jasper will write for 10-15 yr. olds—Old Testament. Rev. Jasper served as pastor to the deaf, New York City and missionary to the deaf, Hong Kong. He serves the Atlantic District as DCE for the Deaf and teaches at Lexington School for Deaf, Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Besides the new series, Lutheran Friends of the Deaf has available five additional workbooks for the deaf entitled, **John of Beverley**. The religious workbooks were developed by Mill Neck Manor, Lutheran School for the Deaf. The books are used by all major church bodies in the U.S. and in over 20 countries around the world. Several programs for the mentally retarded are also using the books.

Lutheran Friends of the Deaf was organized in 1947. The primary object of L.F.D. is the support of Mill Neck Manor. Other projects are the continuous development of religious teaching materials for the deaf child and adult and the placing into sign language the animated specials of Lutheran Television, "FREEDOM IS," "CHRISTMAS IS," and "EASTER IS."

**Religious materials can be obtained from Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, Box 12, Mill Neck, N.Y. 11765**

*(Continued from page 12)*

trouble you—impossible to understand all.

H. Obedient to God's Word—let our faith be directed by the Word of God. Believe the Word because God speaks to us through His Word. Walk according to this Word daily.

I. Memorize—store God's precious truths in your heart.

J. Definite plan—to receive the most from our Bible Study, we should have a definite plan to follow: 1. Read each Book in its proper setting and connection; 2. Know the plan and purpose of each book; 3. Setting of each

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book in the plan of God's Books; a. The Bible is one book having 66 books closely related to the whole purpose and plan of the book; 4. Outline as you read or use one to help you; 5. Find the key verse; 6. Use good Bible introductions, Bible commentaries, Bible concordance; a. Books for Bible study: "Search the Scriptures," "Key to the Bible."

### III. Methods of Bible Study

A. Repeated Method: 1. Select one book or a group of books—read and re-read it scores of times. "By repeated re-reading in the face of our practical problems a book begins to live in the mind like a magnetic current. To get the benefit of the Bible, one needs not a snapshot, but a time exposure." 2. Pamphlet: "How the Bible Became a New Book to Me."

B. Character Study Method: 1. Select a Bible character and try to discover his motives, hope, ambition, battles lost and won. Ex. Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Ruth, Peter, Paul, John, etc. 2. Select a Bible character most like yourself—study his experience with God and his life.

C. Subject Method: 1. Personal problems—purpose in life, friendships, anxiety over loved ones, financial perplexities, tempted to do wrong; 2. Problems of world's life—individual rights, freedom and law, duties of nations, the qualities of public leaders, the foundations of peace; 3. Spiritual subjects—salvation, redemption, atonement, justification, sanctification, faith, hope, love, peace, joy.

D. Book Study Method. 1. Study the Bible by each book and in so doing discover: a. Who wrote the book; b. When and where written; c. To whom addressed; d. The occasion for its be-

ing written; e. Study book as a unit; f. Read in one sitting.

E. Passage Method: 1. Re-read and memorize sections like the Sermon on the Mount, Beatitudes, etc.

F. Proof Method: 1. Prove Scripture by Scripture; 2. Find a key verse for a doctrine and prove it by other passages concerning the same subject matter.

G. Read the Bible Through Method: 1. Read the Bible through for what you will get out of it and not for the sake of having read it; 2. One can read the Bible through in one year by reading three chapters each day and five chapters on Sunday.

### IV. Why Should I Read the Bible?

A. Read the Bible to discover our sin and what God says about sin. 1. Look at ourselves as God sees us. 2. As we page through the Bible we see two persons: ourselves as sinful creatures in need of the second individual, Jesus Christ our Savior.

B. Read the Bible to give us a true repentance, acknowledgment of sin, faith.

C. Read the Bible to find personal salvation.

D. Read the Bible to find Jesus Christ: 1. He is the Way, the Truth, the Life; 2. Message of the Bible centers around Christ.

E. To know how to live for Him and to receive power to live for Him. 1. The Bible is the only weapon that can defeat Satan, the world, our flesh.

F. Read the Bible to know how to tell this beautiful and saving story to others.

G. Read the Bible because it is the most priceless Book in the world.

—Viola Trygstad

**Luther League Federation, LFC**