

June 1, 1976

# The Lutheran Ambassador



## LIBERTY AND THE SPIRIT OF '76

by Harrison  
(American, 20th Century)

A Bicentennial poster commissioned by and reproduced courtesy of the Center Art Gallery, New York, N.Y.

RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE PHOTO

# MEDITATION MOMENTS

## WHY LITTLE LOVE AND NO REVIVAL?

After the children of Israel crossed the Red Sea and while traveling in the wilderness, grievances loomed up among the people. Some were offended and felt that they had been wronged. Others were careless and either accidentally or intentionally stepped on someone's toes. This is human nature.

Moses, as the leader of these people, took it upon himself to listen to these quarrels, and to do what he could to establish and keep peace among the people (Ex. 18:13).

It seems that within the congregation of Corinth in the time of Paul, a similar situation prevailed (I Cor. 6:1-8). Some of the members were going to a civil court or judge, suing some other members of the congregation.

One senses that the motive for such action could have been to seek revenge or to reap a profit at the expense of someone else.

Paul severely rebukes this practice. He knew it would stunt the spiritual growth of the congregation and cause hatred rather than love to develop in the hearts of its members. This was very different from the way the children of Israel, under Moses, took care of their grievances.

Paul suggests that they adopt Moses' way and that a neutral party of mature Christians from within the congregation act as Moses did, by listening to all sides of the issue. The way of Moses and Paul is truly the Christian way to deal with such disagreements. This will cause love in-

stead of hate to generate in the heart. Now neither Moses nor Paul ever advocated that the offended party just forgive and forget without any hearing by a neutral party. They knew that when there are misunderstandings, and when all the facts are not made known, it is very difficult and oftentimes quite impossible for the offended to forget. Even Christians find this next to impossible. It is so much easier to forgive when such questions as the following are answered for us: Was the offense intentional or mere carelessness? Was the person who caused the offense seeking revenge? Was he seeking selfish gain? Did he know what he was doing? Does the guilty party know the full nature of the offense and what it cost the one offended? Is he sorry?

When the guilty party realizes the full damage of the offense, it is easier for him to say, "I am sorry," and to offer restitution. It is much easier for the one offended to forgive and forget when the guilty says that he is sorry.

Many times it takes a neutral party, such as Moses, or mature Christians, to help bring about this kind of peaceable settlement. "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" (Matt. 5:9). We do both the kingdom of God and the local congregation a great service when we help maintain peace and love within the congregation in this way.

Oftentimes after all is settled in this manner, the persons involved are

drawn closer to each other in a bond of love and fellowship than they ever were before. The way is again open for love to develop and grow in the congregation.

Could it be that one of the reasons we have party spirit, hurt feelings and people carrying hatred in their hearts toward another church member (even for years) is because these people have never had a chance to be heard (giving their side of the issue) or to hear (knowing all that was involved in the offense)?

In the days of Moses and Paul, they needed the Christian fellowship to help clear these offenses. Is the church of today failing its people in this? Does the church have a responsibility in clearing these offenses so love and peace can have free course? Could this be why we have such a limited revival spirit in our congregations today? Is it because there is much hatred and bitterness filling the hearts of the people that revival is blocked? Does the Christian congregation have responsibility in helping its members to grow in love and to be at peace with one another by being a clearing house for all offenses?

The psychiatrists of today claim that it is not good for a person to try to forget his grievances by burying them deep in his subconscious mind, which can cause serious problems to mental health. Neither does it seem that Moses and Paul thought this to be a good way.

Gerald F. Mundfrom

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# INVITATION TO THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

“We have a past to remember.” This is true as a nation. God has been good to us. We are at a crossroad today, however.

“We have a future to mold.” Ours is an awesome responsibility as we contemplate the future of our nation. The obstacles to peace and liberty are great. Divine intervention is needed. Unless Christian people place themselves at God’s disposal, the future is not bright. As a fellowship of free Lutheran congregations we are mindful of this as we meet in annual conference.

We have a fine past as a church fellowship also. We can have a glorious future. As we meet on the Suomi College Campus for our Fourteenth Annual Conference we praise God for His grace and blessing upon us in the past. We humbly beseech His forgiveness for our sins and commit our lives to Him that He might mold a blessed future. We pray for the guidance of His Spirit that all decisions may be pleasing in His sight.



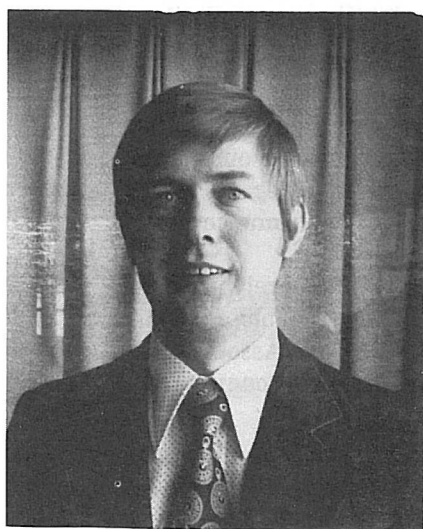
Let us all gather for blessed fellowship, for deepening commitment, for overflowing grace, as we come to the beautiful “Copper Country” for our Fourteenth Annual Conference, June 9-13. Fine facilities await us. Good preparations for our coming have been made by Maranatha Lutheran Church, Dr. James Gerdeen, lay pastor. Welcome in Jesus’ name.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Pastor John P. Strand  
President, Association of  
Free Lutheran Congregations

**THE GRADUATES OF  
FREE LUTHERAN  
THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY, 1976**



Ralph M. Rokke  
Home Town: Strandquist, Minn.  
Called to the McIntosh, Minn., parish  
(Mt. Carmel, Trinity and Calvary)  
To be ordained at the Annual Conference.



Rodger D. Olson  
Home Town: Tioga, N. Dak.  
Called to the Grafton, N. Dak. parish  
(Bethel and Aspelund)  
To be ordained at Zion Lutheran Church, Tioga.



Mauritz E. Lundeen  
Home Town: Brandon, Minn.  
Called to the Bagley, Minn. parish  
(Grace and Rice)  
To be ordained at the Annual Conference.

**LIVE CHRIST NOW!**

Christian youth, the Lord is calling,  
Consecrate your life today,  
Pledging Him your life-long service  
In His footsteps all the way.  
Live Christ now! Live Christ now!  
Yield your heart to Him just now.

Fields are white, the Lord is calling  
Workers for His harvest-field;  
Enter now, where He can use you,

Time and talent gladly yield.  
Live Christ now! Live Christ now!  
Not tomorrow, but just now!

Do not tarry, time is fleeting,  
Soon your life may here be o'er;  
Be a gleaner for God's garner,  
Bringing sheaves to yonder shore.  
Live Christ now! Live Christ now!  
Serve the Lord, but serve Him now!  
C. K. Solberg

**CHURCHES SPONSOR  
MISSION FESTIVALS**

Zion Lutheran Church of Willmar, Minn., sponsored a Spring Mission Festival on Sunday, March 14. Rev. George Knapp spoke at the 8:00 p.m. service. Mrs. Knapp and Carol were also guests.

Green Lake Congregation of Spicer, Minn., sponsored their Spring Mission Festival on Sunday, April 25. Pastor and Mrs. Abel and family (excepting David) were present at the morning worship service and the 8:00 p.m. hour.

What is the true Biblical doctrine of the Atonement? It is this: Christ was our Substitute; His sufferings and death were vicarious; He took our place; He endured the penalties of the law in our stead to spare us from enduring them.

L. S. Keyser

**ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS  
3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441**

**Budget Receipts**

February 1-April 30, 1976

	Total Budget	Current Budget	Received in April	Total Received	% of Current	% of Total
General Fund	\$ 82,600.00	\$20,649.99	\$ 6,408.31	\$12,073.15	58	14.6
Schools	128,249.00	30,062.23	9,924.09	16,739.69	55.7	13
Home Missions	72,000.00	18,000.00	5,324.67	10,047.50	55.8	14
Foreign Missions	82,800.00	20,700.00	4,179.97	10,191.34	49	12.3
Praise Fund	30,000.00	7,500.00	1,515.37	2,671.14	35.6	8.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$395,649.00</b>	<b>\$98,912.25</b>	<b>\$27,352.41</b>	<b>\$51,722.82</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>13</b>
1975-76	\$304,090.00	\$76,022.46	\$34,778.77	\$51,254.07	67	16
Dormitory Fund—	\$1,186.25					

# rites and usages in the church

by Rev. Amos O. Dyrud, Minneapolis, Minn.

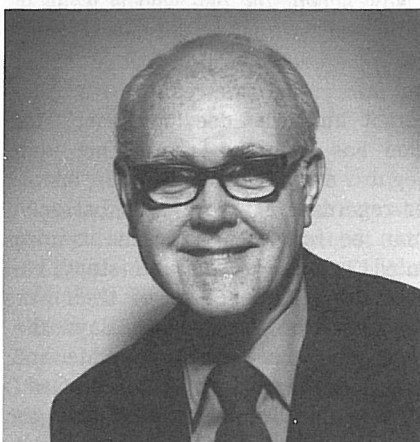
This article deals with Rites and Usages in the Church. In other words, it deals with human traditions in the Church.

The following is a direct quote of Article Fifteen as found in the *Book of Concord* edited by H. E. Jacobs: "Of Rites and Usages in the Church, they (the Augsburg Confession) teach, that those (Rites and Usages) ought to be observed which may be observed without sin, and which are profitable unto tranquility and good order in the Church, as particular holidays, festivals, and the like.

"Nevertheless, concerning such things, let men be admonished that consciences are not to be burdened, as though such observance was necessary to salvation. They are admonished also that human traditions instituted to propitiate (to appease) God, to merit (to earn) grace (God's love and protection bestowed freely upon mankind through His only begotten Son), to make satisfaction for sins, are opposed to the Gospel and the doctrine of faith. Wherefore vows and traditions concerning meats and days, etc., instituted to merit grace and to make satisfaction for sins, are useless and contrary to the Gospel."

## Justified by Faith

In the presence of God we are justified (pronounced righteous) for Christ's sake when by faith we receive Him as our personal Savior. It



Rev. Amos O. Dyrud is certain that this is the doctrine of the Gospel because the Bible, in Ephesians 2:8-9, says: "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man boast."

## Summary of the Gospel

The summary of the Gospel is the free grace of God through Jesus Christ bestowed on all those who believe in Him (John 1:17; 3:17; Romans 1:16-17; I Timothy 1:15).

## Work-Righteousness

It has always been and continues to be natural for human nature and reason to want to do something in order to earn favor with God, to want to work for one's salvation—in other words, to turn Gospel into a doctrine

of salvation by works. This mistaken concept had gained such a stronghold in the teaching and practice in the Roman Catholic Church in the medieval period that it took one of the most powerful spiritual movements in history (the Protestant Reformation) to turn the tide back to the Bible basis of preaching, teaching and ecclesiastical rites and human traditions.

## Rites and Usages are for the Sake of Good Order and Discipline

The Apology (or explanation) of the Augsburg Confession teaches that no Bible-centered ecclesiastical rite or tradition was instituted by the true and genuine Church Fathers with the design or purpose that it should merit the forgiveness of sins or righteousness, but they had been instituted for the sake of good order in the Church and for the sake of tranquility.

The true and genuine Church Fathers themselves had both rites and traditions, yet they did not hold that these matters were necessary for justification. They did not obscure the glory and office of Christ but taught that we are justified by faith for Christ's sake and not for the sake of these human services. They observed human rites for the sake of bodily discipline so that the people might know at what time they should assemble for worship, instruction and admonition. For the sake of example, all things in the churches should be done in decency and in order. The genuine Church Fathers had worthy reasons for maintaining good customs and rites and for these reasons we also conclude that it is right that good Church Usages be maintained. The Apology of the Augsburg Confession maintains that the chief service of God is to preach and teach the Gospel. Our sermons and teaching should be occupied with such topics as: Repentance of sin, the fear of God, the cross of Christ, faith in Christ, the righteousness of faith in Christ, the consolation of consciences by faith in Christ, the exercises of faith, prayer, the authority of Scripture, the authority of civil leaders and civil ordinances, the kingdom of Christ as the spiritual kingdom, marriage and the family, the education and instruc-

tion of children, chastity and love, and how every Christian should live a disciplined life, out of obedience to the command of the Lord in all religious, civil and political affairs.

### **Present Your Bodies a Living Sacrifice to God**

Concerning the mortification (humiliation) of the flesh (human nature) and discipline of the body, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession teaches that a true unfeigned mortification occurs through the cross and afflictions by which God exercises us (that is, when God breaks our will, inflicts the cross and allows trouble in our lives). In these we must obey God's will, as Romans 12:1 says: "... present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God." These are the spiritual exercises of fear and faith. But in addition to this mortification or humiliation which occurs through the cross (which does not depend upon our will) there is also a voluntary kind of exercise necessary, of which Christ says (Luke 21:34): "Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness (overindulging in food and drink), and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." And also, as Paul says in I Corinthians 9:27, "I keep under (I discipline) my body, and bring it into subjection..."

We keep in mind that these exercises in discipline are to be undertaken, not because they are services that justify to salvation, but in order to curb the flesh or our human nature lest overindulgence and anxiety overpower us and render us useless as servants of Christ and bring dishonor to His name.

### **Control Christian Liberty**

In conclusion, Article XV calls our attention to Paul's statements in Scripture which say that outward observances neither justify nor are necessary in addition to the righteousness of faith in Christ Jesus. Nevertheless, it teaches that in these matters the use of Christian liberty is to be so controlled so that we do not cause the weaker Christians to be offended, and who, on account of the abuse of liberty, may become hostile

to the true doctrine of the Gospel.

When we think or speak about the "weaker Christians" we do well to consider I Corinthians 10:12 "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

### **Put Brotherly Love Above Personal Freedom**

We need always to remember that when we have conscientious differences of opinion on minor matters, on matters which Scriptures neither command nor forbid, we must put the law of brotherly love above our personal freedom and refrain from doing many things, not wrong in themselves, if they hurt others.

It is good to prayerfully read and reread Romans 14 from which a few selected portions read as follows: "Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions... Let not him who eats regard with contempt him who does not eat... for God has accepted him... One man regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind... For we shall all stand before the judgment-seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God. Therefore let us not judge one another any more, but rather determine this—not to put an obstacle or a stumbling-block in a brother's way... So then let us pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another" (NASB).

### **MATERIAL CROWDED OUT AGAIN**

We regret that once again we have been unable to take care of all the material which we have on hand. A good many reports of WMF meetings are among this material we could not use this time. But we do promise to have it in print in the next issue, after the pressure of the pre-conference time is over.

Thank you for your patience.

### **LOCATIONS FOR MEETINGS DURING THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

1. The main conference meetings and services will be held in the White Pine room in Nikander Hall (not Wargelin Hall). Most of the committee meetings will also be held in Nikander Hall. The colloquy meeting is scheduled for Maranatha Church.

2. Registration will be in the Student Center. The cafeteria is in the Student Center. The dorm rooms are in the Student Center.

3. The library is in Wargelin Hall.

4. The WMF breakfast will be in Old Main.

5. The WMF dinner will be in the Student Center.

6. The Seminary corporation dinner will be Thursday at 5:30 p.m., in the Michigan Tech Union Finnish Room in Houghton.

7. The Mission Corporation breakfast will be in the Michigan Tech Union Friday A.M. at 7 a.m. The Missionary corporation meeting follows in the faculty lounge of the Michigan Tech Union (in Houghton).

8. The pastor's banquet will be Friday at 6:00 p.m., in the ballroom of the Michigan Tech Union, Houghton.

### **COUNSELLORS NEEDED FOR FOR FAMILY CAMP**

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father" (Col. 3:17).

Family Bible Camp will be held at Galilee Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn., from July 5-11.

Counsellors are needed for the girls. If you are interested in assisting in the camp program as a counsellor, please contact Mrs. Aini Myking, dean of girls, 2925 Hillsboro Avenue North, Apt. 713, Minneapolis, Minn. 55427.

The most essential requirement for a counsellor is that she be a Christian. She should be at least one year out of high school. If you have never been a counsellor at our camp, please have your pastor send a letter of recommendation.

# THE 1976 FOREIGN MISSION TOUR

By Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn.

## Part II

It was Saturday afternoon, Feb. 28th. We arrived by bus at Campo Mourao from Fos Do Iguacu. It was 3:00 p.m., and as there was no one to meet us from the Mission headquarters (the Bible Camp being in session, and they were shorthanded, because the Abels were on furlough in the States, and the Knapps also were in the States seeking medical help for their youngest daughter), we engaged a couple of taxicabs to take us to the Mission headquarters, to my surprise, two miles outside city limits.

When we arrived, Pastor Abel, being our guide, told us where to leave our baggage and directed us to the Dyrud home, where we were to eat our meals while staying at the Mission. We hadn't more than gotten seated for a lunch than Connely came from the Bible Camp, as it was swimming-time at camp and he could get away. We found Mrs. Dyrud's mother, Mrs. Myrtle Hove, at Dyrud's also, having come to visit her daughter and sick grandson. We were told that we could take our lodging in the Girls' Dorm of the Bible School, as there would be no school for at least two weeks. This was very satisfactory, as the Mission has a very good well with plenty of good clean water for both drinking and other purposes, also showers and lavatories for our convenience. For a whole week, in our travels, we dared not drink the water as there was much contamination in the water in Brazil. Hence, we bought our drinking water by the bottle at 30¢ per bottle, U.S. money. As we were all tired from all our travels, with a close schedule, we retired early Saturday evening, as we had a heavy schedule for Sunday.

Sunday morning, Feb. 29th, we arose early, as we had breakfast at 7:15 and were to start on our trip of 80 miles for our first service at 8:00. We had just gone about one-fourth mile when we met a large herd of cattle being moved to better pasture. They filled the roadway and both ditches for about two city blocks. Naturally, we had to stop until they

had all passed. We took some pictures of the whole herd and also some very good "close-up" pictures which turned out very well.

Our roads all that day were rough dirt roads, and very dusty, with red dust, the soil there being a deep maroon in color. If you think, in your own past, of the roughest road you have ever traveled by car, whether it be in Minnesota, North or South Dakota, or anywhere else, that road would be considered smooth compared to the road we traveled on all that day. I have, personally, traveled over 1,000,000 miles by car in my lifetime, but in all that driving my body has never taken such a beating as it did that day. The Mission Board does not buy cars for the missionaries; they have to buy and maintain their own cars, but they receive car allowances. But not enough, as they have a lot of driving and the roads are mostly rough, unpaved roads. Cars are expensive and gas is \$1.60 per gallon (U.S.) and tires last only about three months.

Missionary Dyrud had a Ford four-wheel-drive station wagon, with a top-carrier, where he carried two spare tires. He had also taken out the back seat and replaced that with two long benches, one on each side, to be able to take along more passengers. We were six that day including the driver, so three rode in the front seat, which had cushions; however, the one who rode in the middle was not too comfortable. We who rode behind had to sit erect and have our feet braced against the bottom of the seat opposite us and then hold onto the seat we sat on and hang on for dear life. Riding in that position for several hours in a stretch was not easy, but necessary. Some people in our country pay good money for chairs that vibrate, but these missionaries and their passengers get that exercise every Sunday, at least, when they travel to these out-stations. We also forded a small river twice on that day and when we were about 20 miles from our destination, we had a flat tire. Luckily, it happened near Aqua

Quente, or Hot Springs, where there was a shop that repaired tires. While we waited for the tire, we visited this hot spring, where hot water poured out of the ground; but they had it harnessed, so they piped it through a large cement swimming pool, where a couple hundred people, big and small, came to bathe in this mineral water, which supposedly had healing qualities. They also bottled this water as a medicine for "what-aills-you." We sampled it and it was not bad tasting.

When our tire was ready, we proceeded to our destination, the church in Alvorada. Although we were ten minutes late for the service, the lay pastor and his wife, who was the S.S. superintendent, insisted that we eat dinner first, which was waiting for us at their home. We did not need another invitation, as we were red from the dust and tired and hungry. After washing up and we pastors had changed into clean shirts, we ate our very tasty dinner and walked to the church two blocks away. The house was crude but everything inside and out was clean and the food delicious. The church was like a country school house for size, but was well painted and clean inside and out, and it was packed with worshippers. All the churches in Brazil are built by the people in that community. Our Mission Board has not one penny invested in any of the seven churches; they are all built and maintained by the local congregations. We do, however, help them obtain pastors through our Bible School and Seminary there and also pay some of the salary until the congregation is able to support itself.

At this place they only had a lay pastor, but he was one of the best, a very capable leader and speaker. And his wife, having a good voice, led the S.S. and taught them many songs by heart. They had no song books except the one the leader had and they had no organ. There were about 20 children present that day. The S.S. had the opening exercises that day and they sang several songs with gusto. After they had finished, they retired to the Sunday school room attached to the rear of the church, where they continued classes and the service was held led by the lay pastor, who called for volunteer Scripture and

prayer from the audience. About six men responded, reading Scripture, giving testimonies and closing with prayer. It was a heart-warming experience to hear them. Then the meeting was turned over to Pastor Dyrud, who spoke briefly and called on Pastor Abel, who spoke and then acted as interpreter for me, who was asked to bring a message. This was a unique experience for me, but they all seemed to receive a blessing from it. They did not understand what I said and when Pastor Abel translated my message, I did not understand him, but through it all God spoke to hearts, both mine and theirs. Mrs. Dahle and I also sang a duet and Pastor Dyrud translated the words of the song to the people. I was very much impressed by the sincerity of those people and their quick response when testimonies or prayer was called for.

After the service, the congregation was asked to assemble outside the church for picture-taking. Then they asked us to inspect their parsonage which they had built recently, in anticipation of getting a pastor in the not too distant future. It might be that one of the graduating class this year will be their ordained pastor. In the meantime, this lay pastor is doing a very good job.

After the service we were invited back to the place where we ate dinner for a refreshing drink of some kind of fruit juice. We were also asked to stop off at a farm for a brief visit on our way to the next service. It was a large farm, raising mostly soy beans, but also corn. They also had a sizeable orchard of oranges and other fruit trees, plus grapevines. We picked and ate some oranges, which were green in color, although they were ripe. They sent some fruit and vegetables along with Pastor Dyrud for the Bible School. There we were also served a light lunch and then proceeded on our way to our next service, about 40 or more miles away, in the town of Iretama. We arrived there before sundown and were treated to a very good supper by one of the Christian families of that congregation.

The evening service was at 8:00 and the lay pastor at this place was a colored man, who was a gifted leader

with a cheerful personality, and gave us a warm welcome. He led the meeting and called for testimonies and prayer and again the response was very heart-warming. Those people in all the churches which we had the privilege of visiting really put many of our AFLC home churches to shame. Often, in many of our AFLC churches, we have the sad experience of draggy meetings and slow response, people waiting for one another instead of an enthusiastic, "pop-corn" meeting.

This church is one of the churches which came into being after Pastor Abel, assisted by the other missionaries and the student body, put on some evangelistic meetings, using their tent (which by now has seen better days). God gave them a real awakening there. Many souls were saved and a congregation was later started by those who were saved. May our mission-interested people in our churches at the home base rejoice for the work God has been able to do through our missionaries. Several of our churches have been started as a result of those special meetings, using the tent, which now does not shed rain any more, but does shield the sun. They need a NEW TENT.

We were all amazed at what the Lord has accomplished in so short a time through these overworked missionaries. We should send out a new couple each year, as it takes about three years in the field before a new missionary is able to master the language enough to be able to do efficient work.

After the service at Iretama, we drove home, arriving at headquarters at 11:30 p.m., a 160-mile trip and two services. That was a full day. We were tired, but thankful to God for what we had seen and learned. As we traveled all day, we had tracts along and dropped some out the car window to those who were walking along those dusty roads and invariably they would stop and pick them up, and we would pray God to reach their hearts. There were hundreds of people walking, singly, or in couples or more. No cars, but an occasional truck, and men on horseback, or a two-wheel cart drawn by a mule. What a difference compared with us, when every teenager has, or wants,

his own car. The tract has the name of our Bible School and the address on it. This will have to be it for this time. Our next report will be about our week at our Mission, the buildings, and students, etc., plus present needs.

(To be continued)

#### EVANGELIST MOLSTRE'S SCHEDULE GIVEN

Evangelist-youth worker David Molstre has these appointments through July:

June 9-13—At the AFLC Annual Conference in Hancock, Mich. He will preach at the evening service on June 10 (WMF).

June 21-27—Minneapolis District Bible Camp

July 5-11—AFLC Family Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn.

July 11-15—Badger Creek and Oiland Churches, Badger, Minn., Gustav Nordvall, lay pastor.

July 21-25—Bethany Lutheran Church, Abercrombie, N. Dak., Dale Mellgren, pastor.



SOUTH DAKOTA

Wallace

Louis S. Anenson, 76, May 10, Calvary (Mr. Anenson was the father of Pastor Le Roy Anenson.)

#### SUBSCRIPTION PRICE FOR THE AMBASSADOR TO BE RAISED

Effective July 1, the subscription cost of *The Lutheran Ambassador* will be raised to \$4.00 per year. Increased costs have forced the change, authorized by the Board of Publications and Parish Education of the AFLC.



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# editorials

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## THE CAMPUS IS QUIET NOW

The question was phrased this way to the confirmand, "In Baptism water is important, but even more important is the \_\_\_\_\_." Now the answer was meant to be the Word, for, as we know, the water as it is connected with God's Word becomes efficacious. But the student, displaying a certain wisdom of his own, filled in the word "child" in the blank. Therefore, it stood, "In Baptism water is important, but even more important is the child." Yes, indeed, without subjects there would be no baptism either.

We have thought of this experience in the parish ministry now that school is out here at Association Free Lutheran Bible School, where our editorial office is located and where we share in the life of the school in a direct way. The physical facilities are here—the classrooms, the dorm rooms, the dining hall, the campus grounds. The faculty are here or within hailing distance. The Word of God and the textbooks are here. But without students, someone to be taught, there is no school.

Where so recently students were walking the sidewalks, studying outdoors on pleasant spring evenings, playing volleyball or softball, now there is seldom anyone to be seen. Where mealtimes made the dining hall a joyous,

if noisy, place, now there is only silence. The classrooms stand empty with only occasional reminders of the young people who so lately sat there hearing some subject explained. Dorm rooms and hallways are vacant now with only the cleaning girls to wander about them.

Graduation has been held. Thirty-three students have completed the work which our Bible School requires. They are off now to other things. God bless them and make them fruitful and useful for Him. Some of them see futures well laid out for themselves. Others are awaiting further direction, working at immediate tasks while they seek open doors. At any rate, we will miss them here next fall. They were part of the family and it is difficult to see part of the family leave.

The same is true of last year's juniors who won't be returning. There are some of those, 20 or more perhaps, who feel they must get on to other things. They have their reasons and who is to find fault with them, if they are sincere before God? Not everyone finds it possible to spend two years at Bible School. We are thankful for the one.

The prospects are good that next year's senior class will be a large one, maybe the largest to date. One reason is that this year's junior class was the largest ever. Proportionally, there should be more students returning for a second year.

How many new students will join the AFLBS student body in the fall? Only God knows that at this time. We do hope that many new people will come, from our church and beyond. We want them to come if they want to study the Scriptures in the setting we provide (evangelical, conservative, pietistic) and if they are willing to live under the discipline of the school. Encourage such prospective students to seek admission now.

In a few short months, come an early September evening, the dorm rooms will again be ablaze with light, where now they stand in darkness. For then the AFLBS family will be together, some new, waging the battle against loneliness and newness, others returnees, rejoicing at seeing old friends again. Then, in a matter of weeks all will be one, enjoying this place apart, dedicated to the searching of the Scriptures and the building up of Christian faith and fellowship.

Perhaps the Lord wants you to be a part of this.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CONFESSION

With Pentecost, the festival of the Holy Spirit, at hand, it is logical to remind our readers that the Augsburg Confession, which we are featuring this year, contains no article on the Holy Spirit.

If the Confession were being written today, there would most certainly be such an article for there is much debate about His work in our time. But in the time of Luther and Melancthon there was no real dispute on the work of the Holy Spirit with the Church of Rome and hence no article on that subject was deemed necessary.

Suffice it to say at this time that the chief work of the Holy Spirit is to take the words and teachings, and actions, of Jesus and bring them to our remembrance. He is also to "convince the world of sin and of righteous-

ness and of judgment" (John 16:8). We know Him, too, as the Agent of sanctification, but also as the One through whom we come to God (Explanation of the Third Article). The Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens and preserves.

There is more that He does, but this is what we call attention to on this eve of Pentecost, called by many the Birthday of the Church.

### FATHERS, GOD BLESS YOU

We have never forgotten the time when we saw and heard a small boy greet his father at a bus station in Iowa with the call "Daddy!" It must have warmed that father's heart. We hope it did.

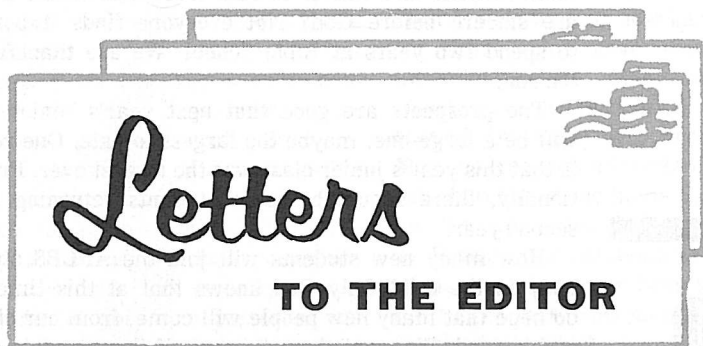
On the third Sunday of June each year we mark Fa-

ther's Day and honor the dads of our nation. Happy are those who have fathers to whom they can look up, who act as ministers of God in their own households. Fathers, walk with God so that you can fill the rightful place concerning your wife and children.

We recall the time a nephew said, as we were playing catch on a vacation trip, "I want to do all the things my daddy does." Of course, he had the right to feel that way. But what a responsibility for a father, to so live that life is worthy of imitation.

God bless you, fathers, who sincerely sense your responsibility and opportunity. Thank God for you. And, children obey your parents in the Lord for this is God's will for you.

Happy Father's Day.



### MEDICINE LAKE TOUR APPRECIATED

It was certainly a thrill for the Zion Congregation of Willmar to tour the AFLC headquarters, Seminary and Bible School last Sunday (May 2). All of us were blessed with the fine reception we had and praise God for the over-all fellowship the Association gives through our co-operative activities.

I am thankful to Mr. Roger Rasmussen, one of Zion's Deacons, for supporting this tour and for the fine cooperation given it by members of the congregation. I am certain that we will not forget the wonderful time we had together and want to thank Rev. Francis Monseth, Rev. Raynard Huglen and Miss Mary Rolf for their part in making it a worthwhile day. Also, a special thank-you to the Bible School students for giving their testimonies and leading us in a devotional time in the lounge of the new boys' dorm.

May I recommend such a tour to any of our congregations so interested. For some from Zion, it was the first opportunity to visit the head-

quarters of our church body. And, for others, we simply rejoiced once again in what the Lord is doing for our church. One of the Sunday School children told us that she planned to attend Bible School. We say, "Praise God," and would pray that the Lord would lead many youth to study at AFLBS and also that He would lead young men to study at our Seminary.

Rev. Dennis Gray  
Pastor of Zion, Willmar, Minn.

### APOLOGIES TO PASTOR KJOS

The WMF wishes to apologize to Pastor Howard Kjos and to all who were in attendance at the Friday afternoon session of the Winter Bible Conference for the disturbance caused and the awkward situation created when so many left the conference session to attend the WMF workshop.

It has been suggested that we start our workshop later. That, again, would create a similar problem. The women would then be coming in late to the evening session.

We shall make every effort to find a solution to this problem before our

next Winter Bible Conference. Perhaps the noon recess, which seems a little longer than necessary, could be shortened by one-half hour. We feel we need the time as scheduled to cover the work outlined for our workshop. The National WMF Executive Board will welcome suggestions to alleviate this problem.

Would you please put this apology in a future *Ambassador*? Thank you.

Mrs. Reuben Wee,  
Secretary, WMF

### WANTED

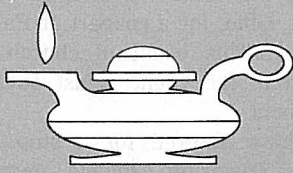
Used pews, pulpit, lectern, altar rail, other chancel furnishings, for use in Victory in Christ Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn. Contact Rod Kjersten, 1264 Frisbie Ave., St. Paul, Minn., 55109. Telephone 612-774-2502.

### LEM DEEPER LIFE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT ASSOCIATION SCHOOLS

The Lutheran Evangelistic Movement will sponsor a Deeper Life Conference or Camp at the Association Schools in Minneapolis, Minn., June 28-July 4.

Rev. K. C. Grundahl will be the Bible teacher. Rev. Kenneth Roufs, new director of Good News for Israel, will lead the Deeper Life hours each day. Evangelist Sterling Johnson will be the evening speaker.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Dormitory accommodations are available.



## SCHOOL NEWS

### SENIORS GRADUATE AT AFLBS, FREE LUTHERAN SEMINARY

A class of 33 seniors received diplomas from AFLBS and a class of three seniors from Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary received degrees at the commencement exercises held at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church on Friday, May 14.

Following the prelude by Miss Orpha Flaten at the organ, the large audience sang the hymn "We Praise Thee, O God." Allen Herset, Kila, Mont., gave the welcome on behalf of the Bible School class. Rev. Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, a member of the original student body at AFLBS and a graduate of the Seminary, read Scripture and offered prayer. The Choral Club sang "From Sea to Shining Sea" under the direction of Mr. Don Rodvold, director of music, Rev. John P. Strand, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations and part-time teacher at the Schools, gave the address.

Degrees and diplomas were conferred by Rev. Amos O. Dyrud, dean of the Seminary and acting dean of the Bible School. The Bible School Choir, directed by Mr. Rodvold, sang "O For A Shout of Sacred Joy." Dr. Iver Olson, retiring faculty member, pronounced the benediction before the recessional by Miss Flaten.

Members of the Seminary class are Ralph M. Rokke, Bachelor of Theology, and Mauritz E. Lundeen, and Rodger D. Olson, Graduates in Theology.

Members of the Bible School class are Arne Berge, Vickie Bjorgaard, Patricia Broden, Kendra Broten, Linda Butterfield, Cheryl Carter, Susan Draeger, Cynthia Dragseth, Patricia

Erickson, Charles Gryte, Paul Haagenon, Lori Hamann, Allen Herset, James Hoialmen, Mavis Miller, Judy Moan, Richard Moberg, Barbara Myhre, Keith Nash, Naomi Nash, Debra Nelsen, Randy Nelson, April Nygaard, Karla Nygaard, Kathryn Ostrand, Reuben Quanbeck, David Rudebusch, Karen Russum, Phil Schumacher, Susan Sorteberg, Anthony Stockman, Myrtle Thompson and Deborah Wire.

### SPRING BANQUET WAS ON MAY 8

Approximately 150 persons attended the annual spring banquet at AFLBS, held this year at Swiss Chalet restaurant, on May 8.

Vicki Haugen and Cary Dietsche played the prelude and chaplain Gordon L. Grage offered the table prayer. Dan Hackett was master of ceremonies.

In the program, David Grothe led in devotions after the audience sang "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty." Becky Johnson sang a solo and Cary Dietsche played a trumpet solo. The senior class prophecies were read by Gracia Stenberg and Ivar Berge. Lorilee Davidson sang a solo and Vicki Haugen played a piano solo.

The senior class will was read by Deb Nelsen and Reuben Quanbeck. Steve Kordahl sang a solo.

Guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Magne Olson, professor of history at Chicago State University. His topic was "Looking Ahead Reflectively." Dr. Olson is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Iver Olson.

The banquet theme was "If My People . . ." based on II Chronicles 7:14.

While everyone was dressed in spring finery for the banquet, the stu-

dent body had earlier elected to contribute excess funds in their treasury to Christian and charitable agencies rather than use them to reduce ticket prices for the banquet.

### JOTTINGS FROM AFLBS

The Choir sang at the three morning worship services at Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCA), Fridley, on Mother's Day, May 9. Pastor Huglen brought a brief meditation at each service. Rev. Arnold Stone is pastor of the congregation.

Kathy Ostrand, Ranier, Ore., and Sue Thundercloud, Milwaukee, Wis., are working in the dorms this summer, getting things ready for next fall.

A Gospel Team has been set up for summer touring in the AFLC. Members are Martha Haugen, Strandquist, Minn., Lorilee Davidson, Webster, S. Dak., Karen Russum, Grafton, N. Dak., Janell Kneeland, Ortle, S. Dak., Al Herset, Kila, Mont., and Duane Strand, Abercrombie, N. Dak. The Team will leave Minneapolis on June 5, making several stops before reaching Hancock, Mich., site of the AFLC Annual Conference.

In the closing days of the school year, many students made a last trip to a favorite ice cream place on Highway 12.

The Seniors had their class breakfast on May 14 at Perkins Cake and Steak on Boone Avenue. Pastor Hosch spoke to the group.

Add one more engagement to the list recently published. In the closing days of the year: Dave Russum, Grafton, N. Dak., former student, and Cheri Carter, '76, Lake Stevens, Wash.

The dates for Homecoming 1976 have been set. They are October 1-2. All former students of AFLBS are urged to reserve those dates and plan to be at the 10th annual homecoming.

### EASTERN CHOIR TOUR

The joy of the resurrection became the theme for the 33-member AFLBS Choir which left on Easter Sunday for its two-week tour. Along with director Donald L. Rodvold, Pastor Moland of the faculty accompanied the choir.

Newly remodeled Salem Lutheran of Radcliffe, Iowa, was the setting for the first concert. Spacious facilities

there helped to minimize "first night" problems.

Monday night the choir sang in DeKalb, Illinois, at Grace Lutheran Church. Rev. Gary Skramstad is the pastor of this fine church in the hometown of not only DeKalb seed corn but also Northern Illinois University.

Choir members got a taste of a large industrial city Tuesday as they traveled to Cleveland, Ohio, where Word of Life Lutheran warmly hosted the group. The arbitration concerning the rubber workers strike was going on in downtown Cleveland that night in the hotel where bus driver Barry Hagen stayed. We learned the following morning that the strike had begun at midnight. It was a joy to meet with this home mission work in Cleveland and get a picture of their work in the Kingdom.

Wednesday the choir traveled to Washington, D.C., with a two-hour stop in the Steel City, Pittsburgh, for lunch. Excitement rose as the group neared our nation's capital, as many anticipated seeing our government center for the first time, during the Bicentennial year.

After checking into the 4-H center in Chevy Chase and having something to eat, the group traveled to the airport to pick up Mrs. Hagen, the bus driver's wife, who traveled with the group for the remainder of the tour.

The drive through the downtown area that night gave opportunity to see the sights by night. Also, the choir sang (briefly) at the Jefferson Memorial before returning to their accommodations for the night.

Thursday provided a full day for sight-seeing. Mr. Emil Fossan, a friend of AFLBS who works for the State Department, was our gracious guide all day as we saw the Washington Cathedral, the Kennedy Center, the Capital Building and the Lincoln Memorial. It was a thrilling experience for the choir to sing two numbers in the magnificent Washington Cathedral, with its excellent acoustics. Half of the choir members remained downtown into the evening with Pastor Moland in order to see part of the Smithsonian Institution while others went their separate ways for the evening. Friday morning allowed time for a tour of the White

House before leaving for the Philadelphia area for the next concert. Many memories, and many pictures, will remain with all who had the privilege of being in Washington, D.C., in 1976.

Mr. Dan Antal hosted the choir in Wayne, Pennsylvania, which is actually the historic Valley Forge area west of Philadelphia. Christ Church of Valley Forge was the setting for the choir's message in song Sunday morning, but they also sang at several shopping centers and at a children's home while there. Time did not permit a trip into Philadelphia to see Independence Square.

Sunday evening the choir was hosted by Galilee Lutheran of Pasadena, Maryland, served by Rev. K. A. Anderson, former LFC pastor. Although we had some difficulty finding the church, a very warm and cordial welcome awaited us there. Some of the more fortunate went out for a boat ride on nearby Chesapeake Bay with their hosts on Monday morning. The Naval Academy at Annapolis was close by, but time did not permit a visit.

Despite some minor bus trouble, the choir arrived in Hudson, New York, at St. Mark's Lutheran in time for their concert Monday night. The congregation there, although in town, was basically a rural parish, so many of the group stayed on farms that evening. This historic town sits on the Hudson River and overlooks Sleepy Hollow, with the Catskill Mountains forming a caricature of Rip Van Winkle in the background.

Because the trip to Kingston, New York, covered only a short distance, Tuesday allowed some time for sight-seeing. Several historic mansions in the Hyde Park area, including those of the Vanderbilts and Franklin Roosevelts, provided interesting stops. In Kingston, the choir was hosted by Trinity Lutheran, a beautiful, old church with excellent acoustics. The city of Kingston was burned by the British in 1777. Four stone buildings which survived that fire still stand in the middle of the city and are still used for business and residential purposes.

Wednesday proved to be the longest travel day of the tour as the bus

logged 455 miles to Erie, Pennsylvania, where the choir sang at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

Thursday, after a picnic lunch on Presque Isle, which juts out into Lake Erie, the choir traveled on to Fremont, Ohio, for a concert at Faith Lutheran. This beautiful church is located in the country just outside of Fremont.

Friday allowed for a stop at the Sears Tower in Chicago, enroute to Lisbon, Illinois. Here all got a chance to view Chicago from the observation deck on the 103rd floor, the highest deck in the world.

The concert in Lisbon was at a large rural church, and again many of the group enjoyed rural hospitality in this productive farm country.

Saturday evening the choir was hosted by Faith Lutheran of Running Valley, north of Colfax, Wisconsin. The many familiar faces were welcome to the choir members, especially to those who were singing in their home church.

After worshipping with the congregation Sunday morning, and eating another delicious meal at noon, the choir was "homeward bound." The sense of excitement in the bus relayed the message that all were looking forward to getting back to AFLBS and the home concert at Medicine Lake that evening.

Perhaps allegorically, the bus ran out of fuel 100 feet from our destination of the music room. The "welcome home crew," however, helped to hand-carry the load the last "leg" of the trip.

The home concert was so very well attended as friends and family members joined together in welcoming home the AFLBS choir and praising God together in "His Truth is Marching On," the finale of every concert.

God used the choir in a real way in bringing encouragement to many Christians as they sang and shared in fellowship in the homes where they stayed.

The choir was very well received in every location, and the testimony for Christ which they have left will bear fruit in the years to come.

K.M.



**THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
of  
**THE ASSOCIATION OF**  
**FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS**  
June 9-13, 1976

Host:  
MARANATHA LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Chassell, Michigan  
James C. Gerdeen, Lay Pastor

The conference will be on the Campus of Suomi College in Hancock, Michigan

**Theme: "A Past to Remember—A Future to Mold"**  
**Conference Text: Deuteronomy 8:18-20**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 1976**

- 9:00 a.m. — The Conference committees meet for devotions, instructions, and room assignments in the classroom behind the auditorium, Room No. 10, Wargelin Hall.
- 8:00 p.m. — The opening service of the Conference with the sermon on the conference text by Pastor Richard Snipstead, Ferndale, Washington. Lay Pastor James Gerdeen, liturgist. The opening of the Conference by Pastor John P. Strand and the appointment of the necessary committees. Offering to the General Fund.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1976**

- 9:00 a.m. — Devotions  
Report of the Credentials Committee, always in order  
Election of the Nominating Committee for 1977  
President's Report  
Report of the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee, Pastor Kenneth Anderson  
Financial Report, Pastor Albert Hautamaki  
Report of the Budget Analysis Committee  
Report of the Nominating Committee, always in order  
Election of nominees for the Mission Corporation and the Schools Corporation  
Report of Committee No. 1
- 11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour. The prayer hours will be led by Pastor Fred Carlson, Blue Grass, Minn.
- 2:00 p.m. — Devotions  
Report of the Credentials Committee  
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 1  
Election of the Vice-President and Secretary of the AFLC  
Election of nominees to the Co-ordinating Committee

- Election of Committee No. 1 for the 1977 Annual Conference  
Report of the Dean of the Theological Seminary and the Acting Dean of the Bible School, Pastor Amos Dyrud  
Report of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Pastor Ernest Langness  
Report of Committee No. 2  
Election of nominees to the Mission Boards and the Board of Trustees (Schools)
- 5:30 p.m. — Meeting of the Seminary Corporation in the Finnish Room, Union Building, Michigan Tech University, Houghton.
- 8:00 p.m. — Mission Festival Service conducted by the Women's Missionary Federation. Message by Pastor David Molstre.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1976**

- 7:00 a.m. — Mission Corporation Annual Meeting in the Cafeteria in the Union Building at Michigan Tech University, Houghton. The business sessions will be conducted in the faculty Lounge.
- 9:00 a.m. — Devotions  
Report of the Credentials Committee  
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 2  
Election of Committee No. 2 for the 1977 Annual Conference  
Report of the Schools Corporation meeting  
Report of the Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board, Mr. Robert Knutson  
Report of the Chairman of the Home Mission Board, Pastor Herbert Franz  
Report of the Chairman of the Commission on Evangelism, Pastor Trygve F. Dahle  
Report of Committee No. 3
- 11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour
- 2:00 p.m. — Devotions  
Report of the Credentials Committee

Continuing discussion of the Report of Committee No. 3

Report of the Mission Corporation meeting

6:00 p.m. — Banquet for the pastors and their wives

8:00 p.m. — Worship service conducted by laymen of the church. The message will be given by Mr. Clifford Johnson of Esko, Minnesota. The service will be led by Mr. Ernest Miedema, Valley City, North Dakota. Offering to the Praise Program.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1976

9:00 a.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee

Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 3

Election of members to the Commission on Evangelism

Election of Committee No. 3 for the 1977 Annual Conference

Report of the Chairman of the Board of Publications and Parish Education, Mr. Kent Quanbeck

Report of the Executive Secretary of the Department of Parish Education, Miss Judith Wold

Report of the Chairman of the Youth Board, Mr. Roger Strom

Report of the Luther League Federation, Pastor Richard Anderson

Report of Committee No. 4

11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour

2:00 p.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Colloquy Committee

Election of members to the Board of Publications and Parish Education, and the Youth Board

Election of Committee No. 4 for the 1977 Annual Conference

Election of the Colloquy Committee for the

1977 Annual Conference

Report of the Chairman of the Stewardship Board, Mr. Robert Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wisconsin

Report of the Chairman of the Board of Pensions

Mr. Clifford Holm, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Report of Committee No. 5

Election of members to the Stewardship Board and the Board of Pensions

Election of Committee No. 5 for the 1977 Annual Conference

Reports of special committees

Election of the Budget Analysis Committee for 1977

Report of Committee No. 1 as the Committee on General Resolutions

8:00 p.m. — Youth Night at the Conference. The service will be led by Pastor Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The message will be given by Pastor Dale Mellgren, Abercrombie, North Dakota. Offering to Home Missions.

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1976

8:00 a.m. — Communion Service with the meditation by Pastor Gerald Mundfrom, Grafton, North Dakota. The service will be in Marantha Lutheran Church, Chassell, Mich.

10:00 a.m. — Worship Service with the message given by Pastor Julius Hermunslie, Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Offering to Foreign Missions.

2:00 p.m. — Ordination Service with the message given by Pastor John P. Strand, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Offering to the Schools

Closing of the Conference.

Conference Committee:

Pastor Dennis Gray

Pastor John P. Strand

#### OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

\*designates incumbent

**Vice-President** (1-year term)

\*Rev. R. Snipstead, Ferndale, Wash. (Having served three full consecutive terms, the incumbent must receive a ¾ majority on the first ballot to be re-elected.)

**Secretary** (1-year term)

\*Rev. Dennis Gray, Spicer, Minn.

#### NOMINATIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

\*designates incumbent

(Elections by respective corporations)

**Co-ordinating Committee**

(5-year terms)

\*Rev. Robert L. Lee, Valley City, N. Dak.

\*Ernest Miedema, Valley City, N. Dak.

**Foreign Mission Board**

(5-year term)

\*Robert Knutson, McVile, N. Dak.

(Having served two full consecutive

terms on the Board, the incumbent is not eligible for re-election.)

**Home Mission Board**

(5-year term)

\*Rev. Larry V. Severson, Wallace, S. Dak.

**Board of Trustees, Schools**

(5-year terms)

\*Rev. Ernest J. Langness, Ishpeming, Mich.

(Having served two full consecutive terms on the Board, the incumbent is not eligible for re-election.)

\*Raymond Jacobson, Minneapolis, Minn.

## ELECTIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

\*designates incumbent  
(All 5-year terms)

### Board of Publications and Parish Education

\*Kent Quanbeck, McVille, N. Dak.  
(Having served two full consecutive terms on the Board, the incumbent is not eligible for re-election.)

### Board of Pensions

\*Lay Pastor Melvin Walla, Fergus Falls, Minn.

### Youth Board

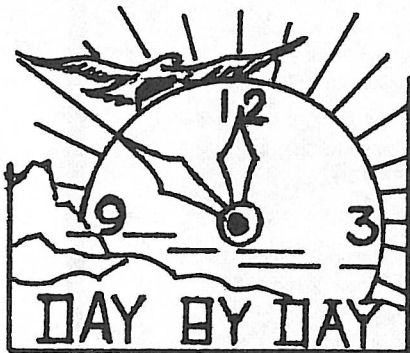
\*Robert Bilden, Bagley, Minn.

### Stewardship Board

\*Robert Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wis.  
(Having served two full consecutive terms on the Board, the incumbent is not eligible for re-election.)

### Commission on Evangelism

\*Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Culbertson, Mont.



### PENTECOST SUNDAY by Lars Stalsbroten

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me..." (Acts 1:8).

The body in which Christ began to do and to teach had now passed out of sight to give place to another body in which He would continue to do and to teach, namely His Church.

As Christ left, He seemed to be concerned especially about one thing, that His disciples might become effective witnesses. He is concerned about that today, too. He wants to equip us first. When the Holy Spirit's power is come upon you then you shall

be My witnesses. How concerned Paul was about being properly equipped. He says, when he writes to the Ephesians, Pray for all the saints; and for me—that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the Gospel.

How different it was with Peter when he opened his mouth on the day of Pentecost with boldness. Before he was such a weakling that he did not even dare to witness to a common working girl, but now he could bear witness to thousands with boldness.

I tell you, when you get a good dose of real old fashioned salvation by faith in Jesus Christ, and your soul is flooded with joy unspeakable and full of glory, you simply cannot keep it for yourself.

You might just as well try to tell the sun to stop shining, or tell the mighty rivers to stop flowing; or tell the wind to stop blowing; or tell the birds to stop singing; as to try to tell a real Scripture-filled, and Spirit-filled Christian to stop witnessing for his Savior. He can't be stopped. "Out of his belly (life) shall flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38).

Are you that kind of witness?

## BOOK REVIEW

Bernhard M. Christensen, *The Inward Pilgrimage*, Augsburg Publishing House, Minneapolis, Minn., 1976, paperback, \$3.50.

Dr. Bernhard Christensen's third book is in many ways a companion book to the second one, *He Who Has No Sword*. That is a book which stresses the active or "Martha" side of the Christian life while this one accentuates the contemplative or "Mary" side.

In *The Inward Pilgrimage* the author takes 16 spiritual classics, from Augustine to Bonhoeffer, describes the historical setting of each and comments on the meaning of the classics with accompanying well chosen excerpts.

I read the chapter on *Prayer* by O. Hallesby first, after reading the Prolog, because it is the one of the 16 classics with which I am most familiar. The historical setting is very help-

ful. The development of Pietism in Germany is traced, albeit briefly, and it is shown how pietism arose in the Scandinavian countries. The focus shifts to Hans Nielsen Hauge of Norway, whose influence moved Hallesby in his writing of his classic work on prayer. I know that anyone who is prompted to read *The Inward Pilgrimage* because of this review will appreciate Dr. Christensen's treatment of *Prayer* by Hallesby.

But there are other devotional classics you will enjoy meeting or renewing acquaintance with. Among these are *The Confessions* of St. Augustine, *The Book of Common Prayer*, *Pilgrim's Progress* by John Bunyan, and *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. And there are others, ten others.

Perhaps a pastors' conference of the AFLC several years ago had a part in the writing of Dr. Christensen's latest book. At any rate, he presented one or two lectures at that time on the very subject of devotional classics. Some of the thinking he shared with us then has no doubt found its way into *The Inward Pilgrimage*.

Who can debate the point that in this busy day there is a need not only for greater reading of the Scriptures, but also of the thinking and heart experiences of great Christian spirits of the centuries? *The Inward Pilgrimage*, by the former president of Augsburg College and Seminary, is a book, which is easily read and, if you are interested in this subject, and you ought to be, will speak to it in as helpful a way as you could wish.

—Raynard Huglen

## LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION PLANS SEMINAR

HIS Seminar for Youth (Helping-Inspiring-Sharing) will be held Sept. 4-6 at Grace Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, Bemidji, Minn. It is being sponsored by the Luther League Federation and is intended for all Luther Leaguers and advisors.

More information will be given later.

## WRISTWATCH FOUND

A man's wristwatch was found in the boys' dorm at Association Free Lutheran Bible School, Minneapolis, Minn., last summer. No one has inquired about it. Please notify Rev. Raynard Huglen at AFLBS if you have lost a watch or know of someone who has. Please give identification of the watch when you write.

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

Second-class postage  
paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

## Directory of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

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#### *Secretary*

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Spicer, Minn. 56288

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Thief River Falls, Minn. 56701

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#### *Dean of Free Lutheran Seminary and Acting Dean of the Bible School*

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#### *Secretary*

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