

October 5, 1976

# The Lutheran Ambassador



**THE LANE IN AUTUMN**

Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.

# MEDITATION MOMENTS

## SIN

In Psalm 51 David draws our attention to the terribleness of sin. There are four aspects relating to sin mentioned there.

One: (v. 4) **“Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned and done this evil in Thy sight.”** We may sin against our neighbor and against each other, but first of all every sin is always against God.

It is likely that David wrote this Psalm after he had committed adultery with Bathsheba and had Uriah killed. We might think that his sin was against these two people. But it was God who said, **“Thou shalt not kill!”** and **“Thou shalt not commit adultery!”** It is God who gave the Ten Commandments. David recognizes the fact that his sin was against God.

Every bit of jealousy, hatred or greed we have in our heart, every sinful thought we think, every lie or bit of gossip we speak, every sinful act we do, is first of all a sin against God.

Therefore, it is to God that we need to go first of all for forgiveness. It may also be a sin against our neighbor that we have committed and we may also need to seek his forgiveness. But if we go to God first, He will give us direction and calmness of soul with which to go to our neighbor if that is needful.

Two: (v. 8) **“That the bones which Thou hast broken.”** Does God break bones in order to punish us when we

sin? Did He break David's bones?

No, but the pain and torture of a guilty conscience can be compared to the pain and torture of broken bones. A broken bone will bring a sharp stab of pain when moved, thus restricting the movement of the body. Sin when brought to our remembrance will stab the conscience and torture the soul with guilt feelings. We may try to forget our sin by pushing it into our sub-conscious mind. But we don't go far into the day before something or somebody reminds us of that which is not good in our life. We are in torment. When we have unconfessed sin in our life, we tend to avoid those places or people who remind us of our sin. We dare not venture out for fear of being reminded of our sin. Like broken bones our movement is restricted.

A guilty conscience can be more agonizing and painful to the soul than broken bones are to the body. Many people are afraid to open their Bibles or come under the preaching of God's Word for fear of having their consciences pricked.

Three: (v. 11) **“Cast me not away from Thy presence.”** Sin can destroy the peace we have within and fill us with the fear of hell, of being separated from God forever.

From youth up David walked close to God and felt His presence and protection. But now, after sinning, he lost

that feeling of nearness. He had the fear of becoming eternally lost. And, truly, sin will cast us into hell unless we confess to God, as David did. Sin has this power.

Let us not underestimate the power of sin to destroy. When we confess to God, sin loses its power to destroy our soul, and we need no longer fear hell. God will then give us His peace.

Four: (v. 14) **“Deliver me from bloodguiltiness.”** David had the fear that since he had committed two grave sins (the sin of adultery, causing him to commit murder), his sin would ever increase and cause him to commit more and greater sin.

Sin is like that. It will grow within us if not confessed and recognized as sin. This is why we put criminals in prison. It is not so much to punish them, as it is to protect the public from their criminal ways.

When we confess our sin and let Jesus forgive us, the growth of sin within us is arrested. Oh, we still sin. As long as we have an old nature, we will sin. But confession of sin to God does help to keep this sinful nature in check.

God did forgive David. Psalm 103 is believed to be David's prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God because He forgave David's sin and again gave him His peace.

We, too, need to pray Psalm 51 if we hope to sing Psalm 103.

Gerald F. Mundfrom

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# 24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

**Editor's Note:** We regret that this guide to the 24-hour Prayer Vigil in our Church will not reach many of you in advance of the date of October 10. But it is printed here now in the hope that some of you will receive it in time, and for everyone it can be a guide to prayer needs and concerns in the future, too.

The WMF executive board voted to encourage a 24-hour prayer vigil of all AFLC congregations beginning Sunday evening, October 10, 1976. In obedience to II Chron. 7:14, let us humble ourselves and pray especially for our nation and for the coming elections.

Each congregation should have a prayer vigil chairman—pastor or layman—who will be responsible in seeing that someone is praying every hour during the 24-hour period. Make up a schedule and have the people sign it for the hour or hours during which they want to pray. As people come into the church to pray and meditate, have prayer passages and requests either listed on a large blackboard or printed for them to use as references. If the church is open all night, be sure that men are there during the hours from midnight to 6:00 a.m. If desired, lunch can be available in the kitchen for those who desire fellowship after their prayer hour.

Passages for meditation: Matt. 9:35-38; 26:41; Mark 11:24; Luke 11:1-13; 18:1-14; John 15:7; 16:24; Acts 1:24-26; 9:15; Romans 8:26-27; II Cor. 4; 6:1-10; Eph. 1:3-23; 6:18; Col. 1; I Thess. 5:17; II Tim. 2:1-20; Dan. 9:3-27; II Chron. 7:12-22; Jer. 29:13; Psalm 32; 51; 66:18; 91:15; Isaiah 58:9; 59:1-2; 65:24; James 5:16; I John 3:22.

Specific suggestions for prayer:

1. Pray for penitent hearts—deep conviction of sin—sincere confession of sin and glorious absolution of our sins in the redeeming blood of Christ. Confession of sin always begins with us (Ps. 32; 51; 66:18; Isaiah 59:1-2).

2. Pray for full, complete surrender of hearts and lives to the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9-10; John

1:12; Mark 11:24).

3. Pray for a personal faith in a personal God who comes to us in the Person of Jesus to meet every one of our personal needs in person.

4. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work mightily in our midst and in our lives.

5. Pray for a deeper sense of the worth of the human soul as recognized when we watch the Cross and see what God paid to redeem us and how much He thought we were worth.

6. Pray for a greater hunger and deeper need for the Word of God.

7. Pray that a mighty spiritual revival may spread throughout our nation—that in repentance of sin our people may turn back to God and to the causes upon which our country was founded.

8. Pray for our elections in all levels of government, that these important offices may be filled with men and women who will walk in obedience to the Word of God and who will stand up for its teachings.

9. Pray for our present national leaders, that they may have humility before God and a sense of dependence upon Him for wisdom.

10. Let us pray for the homes of our nation. Pray for Christian fathers and mothers. Pray for family altars in each home. Pray that parents who compromise and lead their children on the road to death and destruction may surrender to Jesus Christ before it is too late.

11. Pray for a Church reborn and reawakened by the power of the Holy Spirit so that this may be our finest hour of Christian service and sharing.

12. Pray for **your** own local church, your neighbors, your community, seeking God's guidance in finding His place of service for you individually and as a congregation.

13. Pray for the "forgotten men"—the veterans of other wars, the maimed men who fought for freedom and peace and who now spend their lonely days in disillusionment and pain.

14. Pray for a real burden for lost people everywhere.

15. Pray the Lord of the harvest, that "He would send forth laborers into His harvest" field. (Jesus gave us the prescription for fulfilling the Great Commission of spreading the Gospel. Our task as a church is to pray. We do the praying and God does the calling. But as He calls, we pray that those called will obey the call of the Master and go. His promise is: "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.")

16. Pray for our AFLC. Pray for our President, our Board members, our staff. Pray for the individual congregations and pastors throughout our nation. Pray for the homes and families.

17. Pray for our Seminary and Bible School. Pray for the teachers and workers, as well as the students, that the Word of Christ may dwell in them richly, equipping them for service wherever the Lord may lead them.

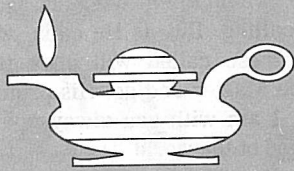
18. Pray for Home Missions. Pray for Pastor Elden Nelson, our Home Missions Director, that God will give him wisdom and strength for each need. Pray for each Home Mission congregation. Pray that as fields open to us, we might move into them, and then as our financial obligations increase, that we, as the family of God, will also increase our giving so that the work of the Kingdom is not curtailed or slowed down.

19. Pray for our Evangelist/Youth Worker, Pastor David Molstre, and his family. May our congregations and youth programs in each church be revived as well as souls saved as a result of our prayers and God's servant being found in God's will.

20. Pray for World Missions. Pray for our work in Brazil—our missionaries and their families, the national workers, our Bible School and Seminary there. Pray for those of the world who are hungry, homeless and forgotten. Pray that God will forgive us our sin of lack of concern for those in need. Let us be willing to share of our abundance with those near and far who suffer and endure for His sake and for the fulfillment of His plan and purpose.

\* \* \*

There is enough to pray about not only for one hour, but for 24 hours for each one of us.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## SALUTATIONS FROM AFLBS

An all-school hayride was held on Friday, Sept. 17. About 78 people participated in the ride which took place at Bunker Hills Park in Coon Rapids. One of the two racks got a flat tire and that group had a long wait in the dark before getting a ride back to the starting point. But their spirits weren't dampened. Back at school, refreshments were served and there was a get-acquainted game played.

The first youth rally of the year was on Sept. 18, Saturday. A large delegation from the Stacy-Wyoming parish attended. Rev. Donald Greven of Sedan, Minn., was the speaker and a ladies' trio from Medicine Lake Church sang. Rev. Kenneth Moland led the afterglow.

Rev. Chester Heikkinen of Morgan Avenue Lutheran Church was the first Monday morning chapel speaker. On the 27th, Pastor Monseth and three students led chapel and set the stage for rest home visitations which the students will make during the year. On Oct. 4th the guest speaker was Rev. Elden Nelson of Victory in Christ Lutheran in St. Paul.

Rev. John P. Strand, AFLC president, was the speaker at the opening joint chapel service of the school year.

Mr. Donald Rodvold, director of music, has announced the membership of the vocal musical organizations for the year. He has selected a 33-member choir, a 35-member choral club and a 24-member all girls' chorus.

Seminarian Ted Kennedy is the athletic director at school this year, replacing Pastor Moland.

Miss Solveig Larson is in the pro-

cess of selecting the staff for the school yearbook, *The Conqueror*. By next time we hope to be able to introduce the leadership of it.

Faculty members at the Schools are involved in deputation work this fall. It consists of visiting congregations where they are invited to preach at weekend meetings or Sunday services. To this date, Pastor Moland has visited Faith Lutheran of Running Valley, Colfax, Wis., Pastor Huglen has been at Garden City and Radcliffe, Ia., and Pastor Dyrud preached at Our Savior's, Zumbrotta, Minn.

Coming appointments will find Pastor Huglen at United Lutheran, Wyndmere, N. Dak., Oct. 8-10, and Pastor Dyrud at Eben Jct., Mich., on Sunday morning, Oct. 10, and at Ishpeming, Mich., in the evening. Pastor Moland will preach at worship services in the Valley City, N. Dak., parish, on Oct. 17. Pastor Monseth will be holding a series of meetings at Emmanuel Lutheran, Kenyon, Minn., Oct. 27-31. Pastor Hosch will visit Culbertson, Mont., Oct. 16-17, and Minnewaukan, N. Dak., in Nov. Pastor Monseth is scheduled to be in Tioga, N. Dak., Nov. 20-21. Please consult local papers for further details.

## Student Body Officers, First Quarter

President—Joel Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.  
Vice-President—Jeff Burmester, Maumee, O.  
Secretary—Deb Sunvold, Sacred Heart, Minn.  
Treasurer—Lorilee Davidson, Webster, S. Dak.  
Chaplain—Jim Hjelden, Minnewaukan, N. Dak.

## Social Committee

Peggy Broten, Roseau, Minn., Pam Gohrick, Federal Way, Wash., Cindy Forth, North Tonawanda, N.Y., Dale Kjos, DeLamere, N. Dak., Mark Kjos, Faith, S. Dak., and Dorothy Seaman, Kirkland, Wash.

## Youth Rally Committee

Renee Oscarson, Wahpeton, N. Dak., Dave Siekmann, Marshall, Minn., Kathy Quanbeck, McVillage, N. Dak., Jeff Burmester, Maumee, O., Sue Thundercloud, Milwaukee, Wis., and Joyce Albu, Belgrade, Minn.

## Homecoming Committee

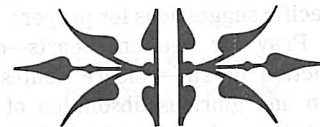
Deb Sunvold, Sacred Heart, Minn., Becky Johnson, Fertile, Minn., Miriam Johnson, New York Mills, Minn., Marilee Mortrud, Thief River Falls, Minn., Cindy Forth, North Tonawanda, N.Y., Mike McCauley, Webster, S. Dak., and Rod Johnson, McIntosh, Minn.

## Student Proctors, First Quarter

Girls' Dorm: 2nd Floor—Lorilee Davidson, Webster, S. Dak., Martha Haugen, Strandquist, Minn., and Christie Freeberg, Colfax, Wis. 3rd Floor—Pam Gohrick, Federal Way, Wash., Wanda Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn., and Deb Sunvold, Sacred Heart, Minn.

Boys' Dorm: 2nd Floor—Steve Holland, Livingston, Mont., and Mark Kjos, Faith, S. Dak. 3rd Floor—Mike Estrem, Kenyon, Minn., and Duane Strand, Abercrombie, N. Dak.

The boys' dorm chaplains are Dave Grothe, Thief River Falls, Minn., 2nd floor, and Jim Hjelden, Minnewaukan, N. Dak., 3rd floor.





## A DIFFERENT IDEA IN PASTORAL HOUSING

One of the trends today in parish practise is that more and more churches are getting out of the "housing business" and allowing their pastors the opportunity to become home owners.

This is the procedure that is followed in a growing number of our home mission congregations and other AFLC parishes, and when a survey was taken at one of our pastoral conferences, many pastors indicated that they would welcome such an opportunity.

The pattern which is followed in most instances is that the pastor receives a housing allowance, in addition to his regular salary, instead of a rent-free parsonage. The problem which sometimes arises is that, for many smaller congregations, the additional financial load would seem to be too much of a burden to the budget for such a step to even be considered.

Grace Lutheran Church, Valley City, N. Dak., had adopted a plan which may interest congregations and pastors within the AFLC, as a way to strengthen our home mission outreach, while also making it possible for the pastor to purchase a home if he wishes.

After Pastor Robert Lee expressed interest in such a step, Grace Congregation appointed a committee to thoroughly investigate the various possibilities, and to prepare a recommendation at the spring quarterly meeting.

As a result, the parsonage was sold to a member of the congregation and the proceeds of the sale were invested in the AFLC Church Extension Fund, from which they will be loaned by our Home Mission Board to other congregations as they begin or expand. It was important to many of the Grace members to know that the parsonage money would continue to be used in the Lord's work.

The interest which will be received from this investment is enough to

make up the main portion of the pastor's housing allowance, thus relieving the congregation of a difficult financial adjustment at this time. Also, these funds could still be available at some future time for expansion needs, as the congregation continues to grow.

What are the benefits of home ownership for the pastor? This question is partially answered by the rapid inflationary trends of the past few years. When a congregation gives her pastor this option, she is not only allowing him to benefit now, but also is providing for his future needs, such as at time of retirement.

Another part of the answer is evident to anyone who has lived in rental property: the satisfaction of home ownership, and "putting down roots" in a community.

Some ask if there are any advantages for the congregation. Yes, as many welcome the opportunity to be relieved of the parsonage decisions that have to be made, some of which involve considerable expense, as houses are remodeled and updated to suit the needs and wishes of one pastor after another. It is only too true that no one parsonage can meet the requirements and tastes of every pastor family, and at times such issues can become areas of real tension and irritation.

Such a change in parish practise is certainly not for every congregation. In some communities it would be difficult to acquire a suitable home: in others it would be difficult to re-sell one. Also, some congregations own parsonages which are an integral part of the church property, constructed on land adjoining the sanctuary, and sometimes even utilized for various meetings or classes.

Will there be such a step in the future of your congregation and pastor? As you answer this question, perhaps this information will help you to come to a decision that is right for all concerned.

(Other congregations that do not have parsonages: Lake Stevens, Minot, Minnewaukan, Fargo, Medicine Lake, Mpls., Faith, Mpls., Ishpeming, Bagley, Fergus Falls... and various AFLC Schools faculty members. Perhaps there are others.)

—Submitted

## AUTUMN LEAVES

The autumn leaves are falling,  
Once green, now old and brown;  
'Tis nature gently calling,  
Summoning each one down.

The leaves so lately shading  
The flowers down below;  
Today the blossoms fading  
As all things cease to grow.

The summer nest well-hidden  
Among the branches fair,  
Cold autumn's guest, unbidden,  
Has stripped them bleak and bare.

Though sad be nature's dying,  
In the Creator's plan,  
From what we view with sighing  
New life will spring again.

Like each leaf now so sere  
Drops slowly from the tree,  
The summons sure and clear  
Will come to you and me.

But Christ's resurrection power  
Shall touch our mortal clay,  
And from our dying hour  
Pass to a glorious Day.

E. I. Mork  
Bottineau, N. Dak.

## In Memoriam

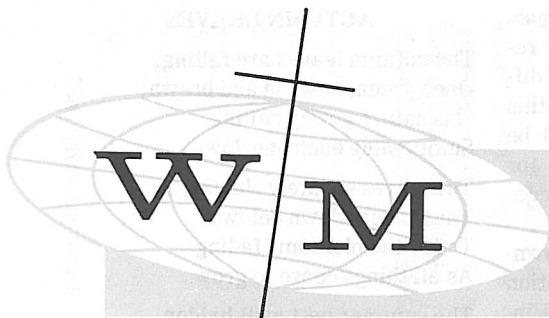
Key: The name of the town is the address of the deceased. Following that is listed the name of the deceased, age, date of death and the church in which he or she held membership.

### MINNESOTA

Thief River Falls, Minn.  
Helmer Skomedal, 63, Mar. 7, Our Saviour's  
Gordon Kaushagen, 59, April 26, Our Saviour's  
Clara Linstad, 83, June 3, Our Saviour's

### SOUTH DAKOTA

Wallace  
David Duus, 30, Aug. 9, Calvary  
Esther K. Tofte, 66, Sept. 7, Calvary



# WORLD MISSIONS

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST

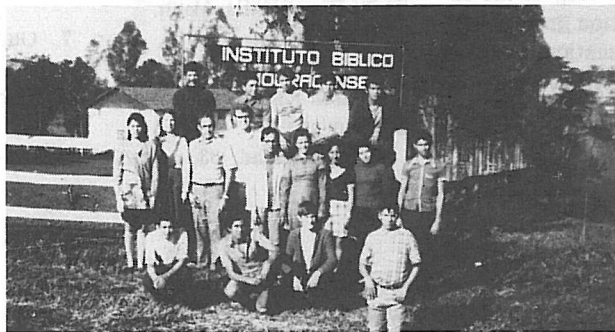
## BRAZIL BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS

Vacation always comes to an end; in some ways too fast, and in other ways not fast enough. With our Bible School back in session we have a good number of students studying who are mature and seeking to do God's will.

We have two young men who came some 1,500 miles to study here and they are doing a very fine job in their studies and personal evangelism. We have three young men who come from Ivaipora. These three have real musical talent, two play instruments and they all sing together.

We also have a tailor by trade who keeps the students' clothes mended and in order and who also helps a lot by remaking the clothes you send in boxes to Brazil. Many times the shirts and pants, etc., are too big, so he takes them in to fit the students.

Speaking of used clothing, our barrels are starting to show bottom and NO boxes of used clothing have been arriving. The students here are pleading with us to ask you to help us in this area. Please prepare boxes of used clothing from your churches and send them by postal service to our address in Brazil: be sure to mark "USED CLOTHING, NO MONETARY VALUE, RED CROSS," and we get them here in very good shape.



Part of the staff and students in Brazil. Priscilla Wold, Pastor Knapp and Pastor Dyrud are in the middle row.

Quilts are always special, as the nights in Brazil are cold. Each student is loaned a quilt to use and in winter an extra. When he graduates or leaves, he turns them in but after some years of use there is not much left for someone else to use. So we ask you to remember our mission in this service, too.

The teaching staff includes: Rev. George Knapp, Rev. C. J. Dyrud, Rev. Yeddo Gottel, Mrs. C. Dyrud, Mrs. Helen Knapp and Priscilla Wold. This staff always varies with the coming and going of missionaries. The Abels have been on furlough this past year and will be back at the end of this year.

We are so thankful to God for the new couples that are preparing to come to Brazil to help in the ever-expanding work of missions. Pray for the Dean Casseltons, Charles Kvanvigs and David Abels who have met with the mission board and show a desire for the work in Brazil.

In this article we would like to stress the need for a new kitchen at the Bible school. We have been cooking in one of the rooms in the boys' dorm. This is only temporary and the sooner we get the girls and the cook out of the boys' dorm, the better we will all feel, as outside talk does arise every now and then.



The three talented singers from Ivaipora.

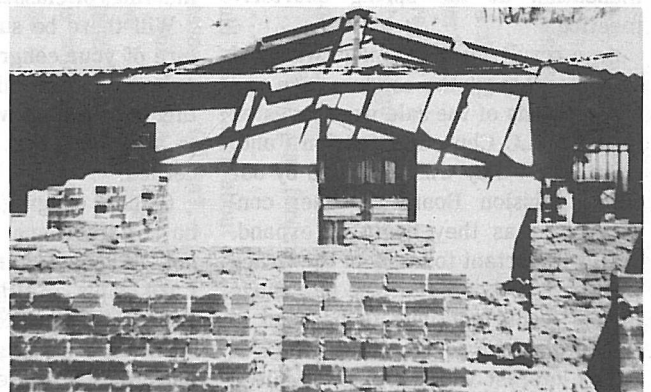
This new kitchen is to be added on to the new administration building that was completed a year ago. We have been working on the foundation, etc., with the students to give them service. We have been waiting in prayer that the Lord would open the door for this project. Now the Mission Board has approved this project and asks the churches, with Sunday schools, WMF and all to remember this in prayer that the Lord may bless this project and supply its needs.

The project will cost about \$8,000.00, depending on the time it takes to build and as the funds come.

We also wish to thank you all for your continued generous support of the student working fund that gives support and service to the poor students who study at the Bible school. It is by your continued daily prayers and unselfish support that God blesses the work here in Brazil.

Please continue to pray for the mission staff here on the field: the George Knapps, Yeddo Gottel, Priscilla Wold and the Connely Dyruds, who, Lord willing, will take a short three month furlough, Dec.-Feb., at the end of this year.

Joy in His Service,  
The Connely Dyruds



The new kitchen being added on to the administration building.



# EUROPE REVISITED

by Raynard Huglen, Editor  
Part III

## On the Home Island

Immediately upon leaving Jektavik on Stord Island, the smaller island of Huglo was in view. It was early evening and I watched intently as the ferry approached the place from which my father had emigrated in 1904 and I had visited nine years ago.

The island, about four miles by two miles in dimension, consists mostly of rock, but there are a few places where agriculture of sorts is possible and one of those is Nordhuglo where the store and post office are also located. And it was there that the ferry would dock at the kai or quay which was almost ready for use at the time of my first visit.

We rounded a point of land and approached the dock. I could see a small group of people waiting for me, the people I expected would be there, cousins and their wives and husbands. We exchanged our greetings. It was good to be "home." It seemed that it had only been two years I'd been away, rather than nine. We began the slope from the harbor. The surroundings were as beautiful as I'd remembered them. One hundred or so people live on the island. It is a place of peace and quiet.

I was again this time to stay at the home of cousin Reinert who lives on the home place. There my father had

lived in those years before leaving for America at the age of 17. Only once would he see it again, on a visit in 1921.

The next day was a day of getting re-acquainted with people and places. In sunny weather Reinert and his son Johannes drove me out past the bedehus (prayer house) to Haukanes and Tveit. We stopped at the cemetery, too, to see the old graves and the ones I hadn't seen before. Many of those new ones were of people I had met in 1967, including two cousins, an uncle by marriage and the long-time schoolteacher and boyhood kamerat (chum) of my father. Many memories. Many family ties represented by the gravestones there.

In the week I spent on the island of Huglo there were pleasant visits in the homes of relatives and bountiful meals to be eaten. There was the language hindrance, to be sure, the frustration of not being able to fully express myself. Sometimes something would be left only partially explained because to try to do otherwise seemed too difficult to attempt. I thought sometimes of the Apostle Paul's expression of how we now see through a glass darkly. Some of my failures in speech reminded me of that. There is a day coming when we shall be able to understand one another

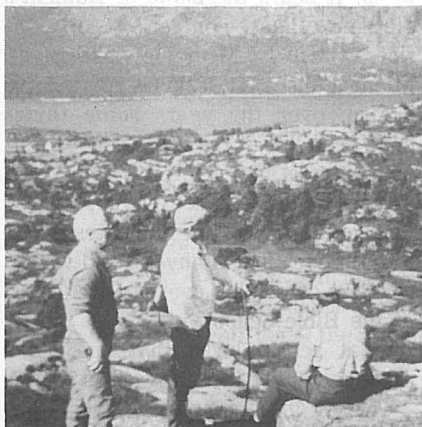
much better, by God's grace. And yet there were days when hardly an English word could be heard and we managed to work our way through it and communicate after a fashion.

## A Bedehus Service

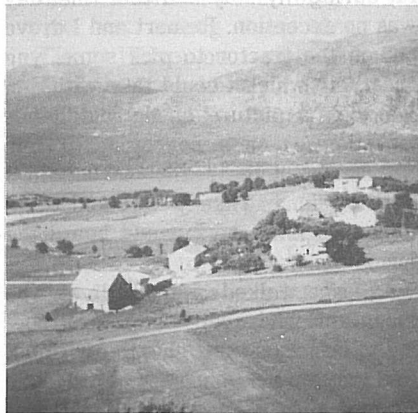
There was no parish service on the island the Sunday I was there and so I took a trip into the fjells (mountains) with my cousins Reinert and Bjarne. The weather was grand and it was possible to see great distances. We were joined by Erling T. and though he was older than any of us he was able to keep up and proved an interesting companion. When we reached the highest point, Varden, we spent some time viewing the world in every direction. Off to the southeast we could see part of the great Folgefonn Glacier. On the easier trip back and down we stopped now and then to eat blueberries.

That evening there was a service in the bedehus. They called it a *smaamøte* (little meeting). As a group of about 30 people, we met in a small fellowship room of the prayer house which had just been enlarged and was being readied for the farewell service by the retiring head parish pastor the next Sunday.

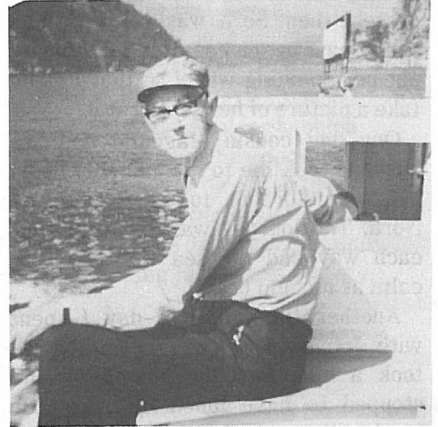
Five of my cousins were at the meeting which was much like those



My companions on the Sunday hike in the mountains.



The home farm on Huglo is shown in the foreground.



Birger T. was the pilot on our trip to Skorpo.

many of us have seen. One led the meeting and gave the main talk, another started the songs and a third made the closing remarks and led in prayer. I gave a brief greeting, pointing the friends to I Corinthians 15:58. It was a service of sharing and it blessed my heart to hear the warm and quietly spoken testimonies. Among those who shared were a son and daughter of one cousin. They have been missionaries in Ethiopia and it was my good fortune to find them both home on furlough so that I could greet them again. The young man, Bjarne T., wrote an article on his mission work for our Christmas **Ambassador** some years back.

Following the service the group made plans for the pastor's farewell and discussed what they might give him as a gift.

#### **An Interesting Visit**

One afternoon cousin Martha and I walked over to see 91-year-old Johanna Heggland, who was spending a while in her old home with a school-teacher son. She is a sister of Rev. O. J. Haukeness of Everett, Wash., who is known by some of our readers, particularly in Minnesota and Washington.

Of special interest to me was the fact that she and my father had "read for the minister" at the same time and were confirmed in October, 1900. She told how she and the three boys from Huglo had rowed across the channel each time they were to meet with the others for class on Stord. Also, she had been on the dock when Father left for America. For all I know, she and her brother in America may be the only ones left who were present then. So it was a special link to the past to see her. Her son brought out her spinning wheel so that I could take a picture of her seated at it.

One day cousin Magnhild and her husband took me to the island of Skorpo by motorboat to see her sister Nora. The journey was about an hour each way and the sea was about as calm as it could be.

Another time, on the day I spent with Johannes F. and his family, we took a hike into the mountains and stopped to have lunch by "the four birches," reputedly planted by Great Grandmother Valborg. It was a love-

ly spot. Then as we climbed up the rock hills, we had a fine view over the settlement of Nordhuglo, of the inland waterway between Bergen and Stavanger, called the Langenuen, and of the island of Stord.

#### **Leavetaking**

Had things changed much in nine years? Not all that much. But there are a few more cars, a few more conveniences. Norwegian homes are very nice and handsomely furnished with strong-looking, but attractive furniture. They have great windows in the newer homes. Carpeting isn't common. Nearly every home has a central hallway and doors leading from it are usually kept closed. I found even young couples building homes that in the U.S. would be expensive ones. I did not learn how the financing was handled.

Farmers in Norway face some of the same problems ours do here at home. It appears that the tiny farm will soon be gone, as a means of making a living. A man may keep his acreage as a sideline, as one of my cousins is doing, raising a few calves.

The son of one of my cousins is taking the plunge of expansion in dairying. He was in the process of building a barn with four silos, one on each corner, at the cost of approximately \$100,000 U.S. All of the islanders will be watching his venture with great interest, no doubt, for it is the largest single move in history there. He is the postmaster, too, and may have to give that job up as his farming operation expands.

The day came that I had to leave Huglo. The weather had been beautiful during my stay and that final day was no exception. Reinert and I drove out on the tractor to pick some **lyng** (heather) which I could take with me. We took a picture of the old ildhus (workhouse) on a nearby farm, one of the last of the really old buildings on the island. Then we walked down to the dock where I would board the ferry.

As we walked I looked at the mountains and over the waters, hoping to imprison the sights in my mind. And they do remain, very clearly. We stopped at the shop where Reinert and Bjarne build boats and I took several pictures.

They were at the dock, all those whom I would expect. We said our goodbyes. Who knows whether we shall meet again here? But in the tape-recorded greetings I brought back with me from them and other relatives, so often the thought was expressed that if we don't meet again here, or if we never meet (referring to my mother, brother and one sister, whom they haven't met), we will meet **heima** (Home) with God. It is a beautiful truth. We deeply believe it, by God's grace, and it sustains us.

The ferry slipped from its moorings. There were the waves of farewell. After a few minutes the harbor was out of sight as we rounded the point of land. But until we came to our landing on Stord I could watch that patch of green which is Nordhuglo against the background of gray rock.

(To be continued)

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#### **WILL ANYONE CLAIM THIS?**

For quite some months there has been a man's suit hanging unclaimed in the sacristy of Medicine Lake Church, Minneapolis. It is blue with striping in it and is possibly size 44 to 46. It bears the name of Habicht's clothiers. Please contact the AFLC office at 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis 55441, if this is yours.

Also, over the years some things have been left at the Bible School, perhaps in storage, but much time has elapsed. They cannot be kept there forever. A pair of men's skates is one item in question. If anyone still wishes to claim ownership over any items left at the Bible School, please let the office at school know that and make arrangements to secure what is yours.

The School cannot be held responsible for items left there year after year.



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# editorials

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## THREE CHINAMEN

Chinamen, that's what we called them, those men who ran the cafes in our small Saskatchewan town in the Thirties. It wasn't a term of degradation, but of fact. They were men who had come from China or were descended from such, likely the former.

The death of Mao Tse-tung has reminded us of something we intended to do at the time of the death of Chou En-lai. In fact, we intended to do that something at the very time we read that the Lord had called Dr. Peng Fu home. What we wanted to do was speak some word of tribute concerning that great Christian Chinaman.

And now we do that, although he passed away last year, against the backdrop of the deaths of two world-famous Chinese leaders, Mao and Chou. What a contrast

we have here. Two men with the mark of organizational genius, fashioners of orderly society, but at the terrible cost of human life and human freedom. And then one man whose life did not touch nearly so many, but who preached the love of Christ and whose life blessed people of every race.

We saw him a couple of times. He had such an expressive face and when he smiled his whole face was engulfed in it. A generation ago his name was common to Lutheran church people in America. In recent years it was not often heard, no doubt because his age did not permit him to visit the sending churches as before. But he was for a long time, for some of us all the time, the symbol of the Asian Christian.

Baptized by Norwegian Lutheran Church missionary Knut Stokke from America at the age of 15, Peng Fu was graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Shekow in 1916. He was elected president of the Lutheran Church in China in 1936 and in 1972 was elected honorary president of the Lutheran Churches of China-Hong Kong for life.

Our church has no direct involvement in the evangelization of Asia, and hence of Chinese people. We are the poorer for that. But let us carry the interests of Chinese evangelization in our hearts and pray for the Christian work being done among that numerous and vast people. And remember a great and good man who helped to stir American Christians to more consecrated effort to bring the Gospel of Christ to all the world.

He lives on, though he is gone, because he was in Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life. Mao and Chou built an empire, but for them, spiritually, all is lost.

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## PERSONALITIES

**Rev. Stephen E. Odegaard** has accepted the call to serve Spencer Creek Lutheran Church, Eugene, Ore., and will be taking up his work there shortly. He has been serving the Winger, Minn., parish (Dovre, Maple Bay and Union Lake) for the past several years. New address of Pastor and Mrs. Odegaard and family will be 86286 Pine Grove Road, Eugene, Ore. 97402.

**Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom**, Grafton, N. Dak., and family, will be moving to Nogales, Ariz., possibly yet this fall. In Nogales, he will assist Pastor L. C. Dynneson with the work at Triumph Lutheran Church and also conduct a bilingual Bible book mission to aid in the evangelizing of the area.

## MRS. MARIE HAGEN

Funeral services for Mrs. Marie Hagen, who died at 101 years of age,

were held in Oiland Lutheran Church, Greenbush, Minn., on August 23, by Lay Pastor Gustav Nordvall. She had passed away in Minneapolis, Minn., on August 18. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Mrs. Hagen was born in Norway. She was married to Syver Hagen in 1891. Six sons and four daughters survive her, among them Mrs. A. W. (Clara) Halverson, former member of Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, and now living in Phoenix, Ariz.

She is also survived by 28 grandchildren, 66 great grandchildren and 34 great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by four sons.

Blessed be her memory.

(Ed. Note: Mrs. Hagen was a one-time parishioner of my father's and was a long-time family friend. She was a truly remarkable woman who had a long and good life.)

## SHINE JUST WHERE YOU ARE

Don't waste your time in longing  
For bright, impossible things;  
Don't sit supinely yearning  
For the swiftness of angel wings;  
Don't spurn to be a rushlight  
Because you are not a star,  
But brighten some bit of darkness  
By shining just where you are.

There is need of the tiniest candle  
As well as the garish sun;  
The humblest deed is ennobled  
When it is worthily done;  
You may never be called to brighten  
The darkest regions afar;  
So fill, for the day, your mission  
By shining just where you are.

—Selected

God tempers the wind to the shorn  
lamb.

English Proverb

# Women For Christ

## BAGLEY CHURCH HAD CRADLE ROLL PROGRAM

Special guests at a cradle roll and junior missions program put on by the Grace Lutheran WMF, Bagley, Minn., were Mrs. Lionel Anderson and Ryan, left, and Mrs. Bob Dukek and Roberta.



The program included stories and songs for the children. For lunch we served a birthday cake, especially for the cradle roll members.

Rev. Mauritz Lundeen is now the pastor of Grace Lutheran Church.

Velva Nelson,  
WMF Secretary

## LANDSTAD CHURCH HONORS THREE WOMEN, THE MEMORY OF A FOURTH

Mrs. Roy Dahl, Mrs. Helmer Strandlien and Mrs. J. Harmon were given Honorary memberships in the Women's Missionary Federation at the August meeting of the Landstad Lutheran Church, Shevlin, Minn., Walter Beaman, lay pastor. They were given the WMF pins.

The late Mrs. Frank Fisher was honored through In Memoriam.

## GREEN LAKE CHURCH HAD CRADLE ROLL PARTY

Early this spring at Green Lake Lutheran Church, Spicer, Minn., we had our cradle roll party. We have 15 little ones enrolled at the present time, three of whom have entered our nursery department this fall. Our program was based around the story "The Lost Sheep," with a flannelgraph for the little ones given by Bev Flickinger and a short meditation for the parents by Pastor Dennis Gray. Following the program cake and ice cream were enjoyed by all.

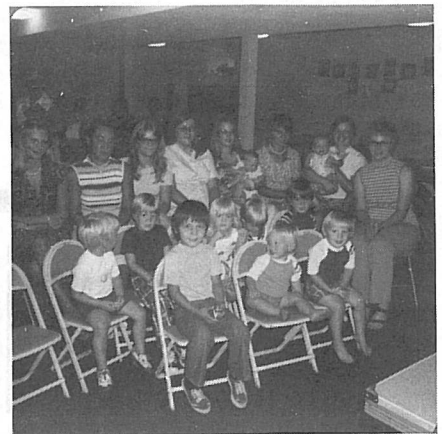
Sherlet Nelson



Left to right, Mrs. Anita Stulen and Scott, Mrs. Sherlet Nelson and Heather, Mrs. Lynette Olson, Wayde and Jeremy, Ryan Hegreberg, Chris Waltjer, Bertha Hegreberg, Mrs. Linda Nelson, Bradley and Darryl.

## CRADLE ROLL PROGRAM GIVEN AT ZOAR

Mothers and children who were present at the cradle roll program at Zoar Lutheran Church, Hatton, N. Dak., in August, are shown above. Left to right, they are Mrs. Kim Lykken and Shea, Mrs. Levon Bjertness and Ryan, Mrs. Darrel Mattern and



Shane, Mrs. Richard Lucke and Jennifer, Mrs. Tim Holte and Waylon, Mrs. Carlos Rodriguez, Sean and Broy, Mrs. David Thomsen and Samuel, and Mrs. Terry Snyder, Chad and Jon.

Rev. Orville T. Olson is pastor of the church.

Mrs. Gilmore Lee  
President

## THE FLOWER GARDEN

I have a lovely garden  
That my Lord prepared for me,  
And through the beauty of flowers  
His love for me I see;  
I love to watch them growing  
While their leaves and buds unfold,  
And the dewdrops and the sunshine  
Make them glitter bright as gold.

Our God Who clothes the lilies,  
And causes them to grow,  
Is surely fully able  
To care for us, we know.  
Our life is like God's flowers,  
Unfolding day by day,  
Until He takes us Home to Heaven,  
Forever there to stay.

Matthew 6:28, 29 and Isaiah 40:8

Mrs. Laura Norum  
Amery, Wisconsin



**COINCIDENCE**  
**II Kings 8:1-6**

Having witnessed the miracle of God's power, the home in Shunem surely must have rejoiced in their great and kind God. But continued joy in the Lord means continuous fellowship and obedience. In the midst of prosperity and plenty, what command was given? 8:1 . . . . . It would have been easier and seemingly more practical to wait until conditions would warrant a departure. But God's commands do not always make common sense. What does the woman of Shunem do? 8:2 . . . . . Vacating her home and leaving her land untended would mean that others could claim the title and her property. She returned in God's appointed time to find her home occupied by others. What was her next step? 3b . . . . .

8:4, 5 . . . . . How had God prepared the way for her? just when the king became interested in Elisha's activities, Gehzai was available for an interview. Of all the miracles Elisha had performed, which one did Gehazi choose to relate in detail? 8:5 . . . . .

Who made an appearance at this moment? 8:5 . . . . . How did the Lord reward the Shunamite for obedience to His command? 8:6 . . . . . Are any events in our life "accidents"? . . . . . What would disobedience to the command have cost the family in material possessions? . . . . .

. . . . . In spiritual experiences? . . . . . What is the Lord's continued promise to us? John 11:40 . . . . . Discussion: How would our attitude and actions be different if we accepted all things as having been permitted by the Lord to come into our lives?

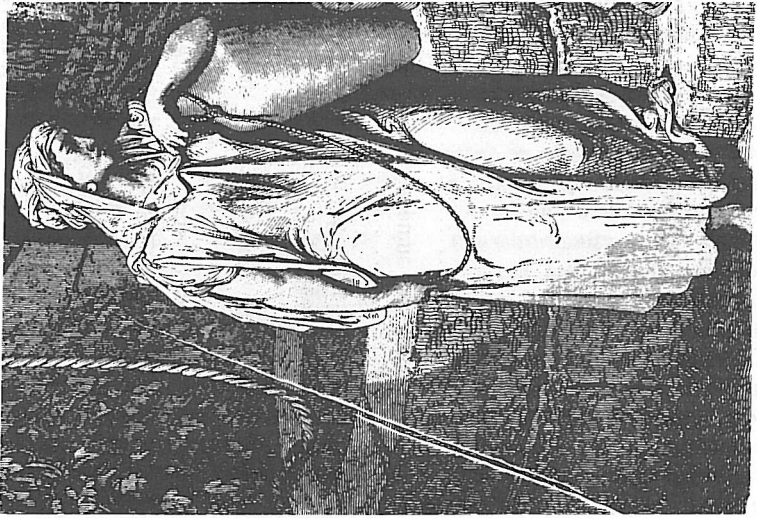
This concludes our study of "Profiles of Faith." We have observed in the lives of several that faith cannot be static. We must continually press forward in obedience to our Lord. "The final thing is confidence in Jesus. Believe steadfastly on Him and all you come up against will develop your faith. There is continual testing in the life of faith, and the last great test is death. May God keep us in fighting trim! Faith is unutterable trust in God, trust which never dreams that He will not stand by us" (O. Chambers). God grant we may have come a little closer to this kind of faith in our study of the "Profiles of Faith."

—Eula Mae Swenson

**WMF REMINDER**

Cradle Roll/Junior Mission is our project for November. This project pays one-half the salary of the Parish Education Secretary of the AFLC, subsidizes the Brazil Book Store and gives \$100.00 a month support to Priscilla Wold, who is our newest missionary on the Brazil field.

—Mrs. Robert Dietsche



*WMF*  
*Bible Study*

November, 1976

**THE SHUNAMITE**

**II Kings 4:8-37; 8:1-6**

Our trials can be God's great opportunities, but too often we look on them as great obstacles. We can recite: "We know that to them that love God all things work together for good" (Rom. 8:28), but does our life testify that we really believe it? Our attitude toward the trials and disappointments of life is a good test of our personal appropriation of the Lord's promises. The wealthy woman from Shunem is an example of one who knew joy and sorrow, prosperity and adversity. Study II Kings 4:8-37; 8:1-6, and notice her attitude and obedience as we see her—filled with compassion, accepting compensation, in the midst of a catastrophe, receiving consolation, witnessing a coincidence.

**COMPASSION**  
II Kings 4:8-10

What do you see in these verses that indicates this matron was sensitive to the needs of others?.....  
Do you think it was a hardship for her to provide Elisha this convenience? Why was she desirous to show Elisha this kind of hospitality? 4:9.....  
What example has the Shunnamite woman given us? Rom. 12:13; Heb. 13:2.....  
Is lack of hospitality in our homes usually due to inadequate provision?.....  
If there is a deficiency of hospitality in our homes, to what would you attribute the cause?.....  
Is entertaining to "pay back" a similar favor genuine hospitality?.....

**COMPENSATION**  
II Kings 4:11-17

Genuine hospitality has no thought of reward. Do you think the Shunnamite had considered her hospitality a means to some desired end?.....  
Women were lightly esteemed in those days and direct communication was seldom held with them by persons who had a character for sanctity (note John 4:27). Who did communicate with the woman for Elisha? 4:12.....  
Elisha was willing to use his influence on her behalf before the royal court. Did she need it?.....Why?.....What emptiness did exist in her life? 4:14.....  
Did she herself appear to make a request?.....What promise of compensation for her kindness to God's servant was given? 4:16.....  
What was her reaction? 4:16.....  
How was the promise fulfilled? 4:17.....

**CATASTROPHE**  
II Kings 4:18-31

The following years must have been blissful ones for this family. No

real need existed. No longer an emptiness haunted the home as the son grew from infancy to childhood. Occasionally, no doubt, Elisha would return to the hospitality of this God-fearing woman. They were good years. They were years of preparation for trials and disappointments to come. What happened to the child? 4:18-20.....Notice  
the mother's immediate action. 4:21, 22.....  
What does this indicate about her?.....  
Did she tell anyone about the tragedy? 4:23.....  
Explain her response to her husband's questioning. 4:23b.....

Why do you suppose she withheld the truth from him?.....  
What was foremost on her heart and mind? 4:24, 25.....It is suggested the trip to Mt. Carmel would have taken about six hours. Why didn't she send a servant with the message to Elisha?.....  
None of our homes are exempt from the sorrow the Shunnamite knew. What can we learn from her example during happy, peaceful days? Psalm 103:1, 2; 118:29.....  
What example has she given for us when trials come?.....  
To whom can we go? Psalm 50:15.....What can we do? Psalm 55:22.....What will we also find? Matt. 11:28a.....Was the Shunnamite willing to accept substitute help? 4:29, 30.....  
What substitutes may we be tempted to cling to in days of stress?.....

**CONSOLATION**  
II Kings 4:32-37

The miracle of restoration was not dependent upon Gehazi, a rod, or even Elisha. Who alone could restore life? 4:33.....  
What was the Shunnamite's reaction? 4:37.....  
Do you think the resurrection was a complete surprise to her?.....  
If she were in our midst today, perhaps her testimony would come in the words of the following references. Summarize the contents.  
Psalm 27:5.....  
Jeremiah 33:3.....  
Psalm 9:9.....  
II Corinthians 1:4.....



# NEWS of the Churches



## SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH CELEBRATES CENTENNIAL

The 100th anniversary of the Salem Lutheran Church, Radcliffe, Ia., was observed Sept. 3, 4, and 5, 1976.

Rev. J. G. Erickson was the speaker at the anniversary service on Sunday, Sept. 5, at 10:30 a.m. Pastor K. L. Anderson was the speaker at the 2:30 dedication service and Rev. Harold Masted brought the message at the closing 7:30 service.

It was during the latter 1800's that families started moving to this area from Illinois. When quite a number of families had settled here, a desire arose to have the Word of God preached among the people. On Jan. 11, 1875, a meeting was held at the house of Knut Syverson for the purpose of securing pastoral service. A committee of three was to negotiate with Rev. O. G. Jukam for temporary service. Since Rev. Jukam could not serve for reasons of health, Rev. John Tackle was called. Rev. Tackle accepted the call.

The membership in the congregation increased from time to time as

new people bought land. When it was not possible to retain Rev. Tackle as pastor, a call was issued to Rev. N. Christensen of Missouri. He accepted and began serving in 1879.

In 1882 the congregation acquired a cemetery which was later called "N. L. Greenwood Cemetery." Plans didn't materialize to build a church here so Ellsworth was chosen. In the spring of 1882 the building of the church began. It was dedicated in 1884.

The time for building a church in the eastern part of the congregation was postponed until 1886. This church was dedicated in 1888.

It was felt to be less desirable for a congregation to have two churches, so the congregation was then divided in two. These congregations took the names of East Trinity and West Trinity. Rev. Mikkelsen served from 1882-1893.

There were certain inconveniences with two congregations so the question was raised of a joint church building.

Trinity Congregation, in 1896, decided to build an addition to its church. When Nazareth Congregation

heard of these plans, they voted to move their church over to Trinity. The church, which since has been designated as the "Double-Church," was consecrated by Rev. Utheim.

In 1894 the West Congregation was incorporated under state law. Also a parsonage was built in Ellsworth.

At a joint congregational meeting of the East Trinity Congregation of the former United Church and Nazareth Congregation of the former Hauge Synod, held on June 17, 1917, Salem Lutheran Congregation was organized. Rev. J. J. Lee presided, and J. A. Berven was secretary.

Aug. 17, 1918, the church was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. The church was not insured so this was a total loss.

There was a general desire to have the church rebuilt on the spot at which the previous church had stood. There was also a general desire to establish a parish alignment with the Trinity Church in Ellsworth, Ia. A building committee was elected. They contacted the architect, Thorvald Thorson of Forest City, Ia. The contractors, Cammack and Son, Radcliffe, Ia. got the contract and built the church.

Rev. Carl J. Naglestad accepted the call to be pastor of Salem July 6, 1919. He served from 1919-56.

During the past twenty years the following ministers have served the congregation:

Nils Klungtvedt (1956-1962)

Harold Masted (Interim-1962-1964)

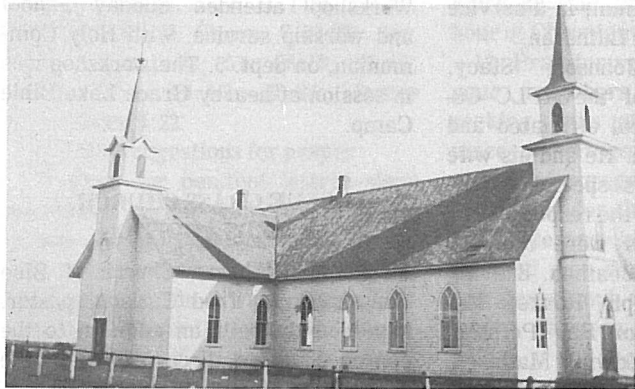
J. G. Erickson (1964-1968)

Kenneth Anderson (1968-1972)

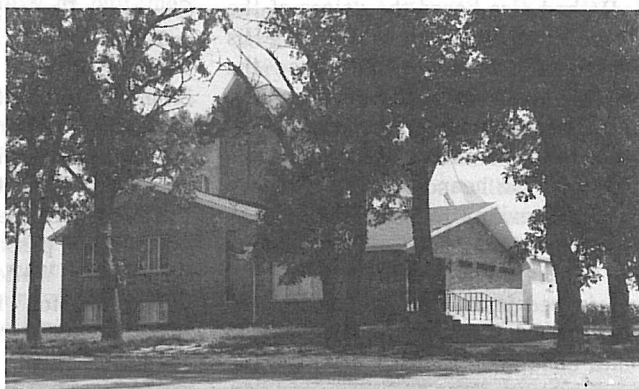
Hiram Jacobson (Interim-1972-1973)

Terry Olson (1973-

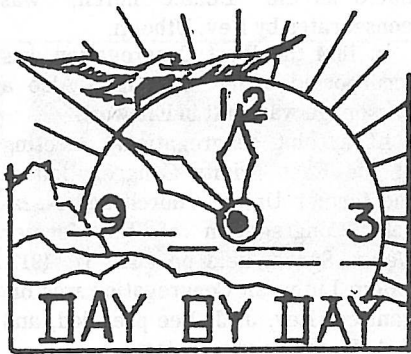
The new addition was started in 1975 and completed in 1976.



The Double-Church



Salem Lutheran with the new addition



**FROM REVILING TO  
FAITH**  
by Lars Stalsbroten

“And Jesus said unto him, ‘Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise’” (Luke 23:43).

Luke is the only one who tells us about the robber on the cross who turned to Christ in repentance and faith. Matthew, Mark and John tell us about the two malefactors crucified with Him. Only Luke tells us of the turning to Jesus of one of them. Matthew and Mark, however, tell us something Luke does not, namely, that at first both the robbers reviled Him.

What could have brought about this sudden change in the other robber?

He had first seen the amazing sight of a man submitting Himself to the brutality of crucifixion without any protest or complaint. This was the fulfillment of the prophecy of Isaiah 53:7: “He opened not His mouth —.”

Then he had heard Jesus pray: “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.”

He had also heard the voices of the rulers who were laughing at His Messianic claims, and also the soldiers mocking at His kingship. But the heavenly light broke through this gloom of ignorance and Satanic darkness and we hear a clear voice, one robber speaking to the other robber: “Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this man hath done nothing amiss” (vs. 40-41).

This was a clear testimony and confession of his own guilt and sin and

a declaration of the sinlessness of Jesus.

That is repentance.

Then he turns to Jesus and prays: “Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom.”

That was faith.

The blind, ignorant rulers looked upon Christ as a criminal.

The believing robber saw Him as the Lord and King of Glory.

Then comes the wonderful answer from the Lord: “Today thou shalt be with me in paradise.”

What is your testimony?

[Continued from page 13]

**AMERICAN FLAG DONATED  
AT SUNBURG**

An American flag and stand were donated to Sunburg Lutheran Church at Sunburg, Minn., on August 8 by Mr. and Mrs. Oris Ellingson in memory of Mrs. Ellingson’s parents, Clarence and Clara Hoff, who passed away April 24, 1962, and February 8, 1968, respectively.

Clarence Hoff was a World War I veteran and they had been long-time members of the church and active in the various organizations of the church.

Blessed be their memory.

Carl Hort is pastor of the congregation.

—Cora Tullis

**NEW PASTOR INSTALLED AT  
BAGLEY**

Rev. Mauritz E. Lundeen, ordained at the Annual Conference in Hancock, Mich., last June, was installed as pastor of Grace and Rice Lutheran Churches, Bagley, Minn., in a service on August 15 at Grace Lutheran.

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Stacy, Minn., a member of the AFLC Coordinating Committee, officiated and preached the sermon. He and his wife also sang a duet as special music. Pastor Lundeen gave the response.

Scripture passages were read by Lay Pastor Walter Beaman, Shevlin, Minn., Pastor Ralph Rokke, McIntosh, Minn., Pastor Ray Persson, Bemidji, Minn., Edwin Mathison, chairman of Grace, and Palmer Friberg, chairman of Rice.

Greetings were brought by Pastor Victor Dorn of Redeemer Lutheran Church and Pastor Milan Davig of Faith Lutheran Church, both in Bagley.

The closing prayer and benediction were given by Pastor Harold Hosch, a teacher of Pastor Lundeen in the seminary.

Pastor and Mrs. Lundeen are living four and one-half miles east of Bagley. They have seven children: Beata of California, Mary of Florida, Calvin and Marc of Brandon, Minn. (operating the family farm), twin boys, Richard and Paul, and Kari, at home.

**BEMIDJI VACATION  
BIBLE SCHOOL HAD  
GOOD ENROLLMENT**

Bethany Lutheran Church completed a successful Vacation Bible School in August with an enrollment of 80 children.

The congregation, served by Pastor R. S. Persson, invites all Association young people attending Bemidji State University and Bemidji Vocational to attend Bethany Church.



The VBS group at Bethany Church.

The Luther League Federation Workshop attended Sunday School and worship service, with Holy Communion, on Sept. 5. The workshop was in session at nearby Grace Lake Bible Camp.

**BLUE GRASS CHURCH  
BUILDS ADDITION**

Bethany Lutheran Church of Blue Grass, Minn., Fred Carlson, pastor, has recently built an addition to the church to solve three problems, the need of new steps, greater seating capacity and more Sunday School space.





Part of the work crew in the building project.



The completed building from the outside.

An addition 12 x 22 feet has been added to the main floor and basement and an enclosed entry way 12 x 15 feet. The stairs up and down are carpeted.

Our plans are to have the addition dedicated the later part of October.

Mrs. Ernest Thompson, Secretary



## CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

### HISTORICAL AND RELIGIOUS SITES FEATURES NEW FILM ON ISRAEL AVAILABLE TO ORGANIZATIONS

The Israel Ministry of Tourism is offering the Christian community a 22-minute film, "Israel, Past and Present," that has been enthusiastically received by many religious groups.

The film, a David Wolper production, is a travel piece which highlights religious and historical sites such as Jerusalem's Old City, Bethlehem, Masada, Nazareth and Galilee and contrasts them with the modern tourist areas like Tel Aviv, Israel's Sunshine Coast, and Elat on the Red Sea.

The film shows close-ups of Bedouin nomads in the Negev desert and cafe scenes in modern Tel Aviv; Christian pilgrims touring in an air-conditioned bus and Arab merchants riding on camels; Jews praying at the Western Wall in Jerusalem and Orthodox priests at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; vacationers enjoying a swim in the Dead Sea and archeology students unearthing relics from the past.

The film is done in such a way as to attract both the Christian pilgrim

and Jew to Israel. It shows that Israel's past is being carefully preserved while the modern Israel is a growing and progressive democratic society. Nowhere else, according to the Ministry, can the visitor find such a link with the past and his religious heritage.

### RVOG DIRECTOR URGES NEW AREA STUDIO ROLE

Uppsala, Sweden—(LC)—The Rev. Manfred Lundgren, director of the Radio Voice of the Gospel at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, said here that the station's area studios, located in various parts of Africa and Asia, should work to become more effective at "small scale media" or Christian communication on the local level, undergirded by a "new audience orientation."

Reporting to the meeting of the Lutheran World Federation Executive Committee here August 22-28, the station director also said that the unsettled political situation in Ethiopia poses some problems for the large short-wave and medium-wave broadcasting facility.

Mr. Lundgren, a Church of Sweden clergyman, said that the "pressure of uncertainty had created some internal frustrations and tensions at the

RVOG studios. Formal negotiations with the Ethiopian authorities are continuing, Mr. Lundgren stated, but said he was unable to draw fruitful conclusions as to the outcome of the discussions.

RVOG started operations in 1963 under an agreement with Emperor Haile Selassie. When the emperor's long rule came to an end more than two years ago, the station continued to operate while discussions with the new government took place.

Mr. Lundgren said that the area studios have in the past seen themselves as only "feeder studios" to the station in Addis Ababa. But it may be possible for the studios to become more localized, he said, adding, "The preoccupation with the 'mass media' concept has in my view had a negative effect on the area studios as creative media centers in the ministry of local churches."

What he termed "dramatic changes" in the RVOG broadcast area also calls for changes in the area studios, Mr. Lundgren continued. "Our audience is not the same as it was only a year ago and if we have the same audience, their situation is changed."

"What are the people of the Lebanon and the Middle East expecting from RVOG after all that has hap-

pened there?" the RVOG director asked. "What does it mean to be the Voice of the Gospel to South Africa at the present time? What is the message that we ought to broadcast to the Ethiopian people today?"

Mr. Lundgren said he advocated continuing discussions with the Ethiopian government and a "positive attitude to participation in nation building and relevancy in presentation," along with a "firm stand with regard to the objectives of RVOG as a Christian radio station."

**THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR**  
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