

May 6, 1975

The Lutheran Ambassador

BATTER UP

The warm winds of Spring bring the children back outside and every flat piece of ground becomes a baseball diamond.

RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE PHOTO



MEDITATION MOMENTS

QUENCH NOT THE HOLY SPIRIT

"Do not quench the Spirit" (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

In Luther's Small Catechism we read: "The Holy Spirit brings me to Jesus Christ, calling me through the Gospel, enlightening me with His gifts, sanctifies, and keeps me in the true faith."

Is it possible to quench this wonderful Spirit of God who has called us to salvation? To quench the Spirit is to extinguish in whole or part that power, strength, and fire within, which makes it possible to live the Christ-like life. When the Spirit of God is removed from the soul, then we are lost and separated from God. In *The Living Bible*, the verse reads: "Do not smother the Holy Spirit."

First, **Christians can quench the Spirit by neglecting the means of grace and prayer.** In one sense, we do not have to do anything in particular to quench the Holy Spirit. A lamp goes out when no oil is left. The fire dies in the stove when the fuel has been consumed. And the fire within us—God's Spirit in our hearts, will likewise be quenched when our spiritual life is no longer nourished. Spiritual life must have the Scriptures, the Lord's Supper and prayer, if the soul is to be healthy and happy. Paul writes in Colossians 3:16, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly." The Psalmist wrote: "Thy Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105).

Luther once said, "It is a shame

that the Bible is so lightly regarded." Christ our Lord was a student of the Scriptures. In His wilderness temptation, the Master used the Scriptures as His weapon against the Tempter. On the cruel cross the Lord quoted the Psalmist. Without using the Word, we will become spiritual Pigmies—undernourished, small, weak, and sickly in our spiritual living. Neglect of prayer is another way to quench the Holy Spirit. Christ said, "You have not, because you ask not." Prayer is the greatest but most unused power in the world today. Without a regular prayer life, Christians experience very little victory and joy. "Watch and pray," said Jesus. Prayer will keep the "fire burning." Christians are not to neglect the Lord's Supper. Lutherans believe in the Real Presence of Christ in Holy Communion. When was the last time you received Holy Communion? Luther said, "I so much need the comfort and strength the Sacrament gives."

Secondly, **Christians quench the Spirit by excusing sin in their lives.** The Holy Spirit strives to make "sin" sinful for us, but very often we do not see the "sinfulness of sin." When this happens, we are at peace with our Old Nature, rather than at peace with our New Nature which is in Christ Jesus. Nations and civilizations which have excused sin have been destroyed. Sodom and Gomorrah were cities which excused sin. Do you recognize sin in your life? Are you

honestly facing up to your sins, seeking God's forgiveness by true repentance? We quench the Spirit when we "sanctify sin" instead of "crucifying the flesh." Sir John Simpson, the Scottish surgeon, once said, "My greatest discovery is that I am a sinner, and that Jesus is a great Savior." Friend, is that your great discovery, too? Will you excuse sin, or will you repent of sin?

Thirdly, **Christians quench the Spirit by neglecting worship and the house of the Lord.**

Worship has always been an important part of the Christian life. The earliest Biblical history reveals that God's people have been a worshipping people. The Psalmist wrote: "O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker" (Psalm 95:6).

Jesus attended the synagogue because He knew that the worship of the Almighty God was an essential ingredient in one's religious life. Soon, the summer season of travel, camping, fishing and other outdoor activities will tempt us to avoid the House of God. Will you quench the Spirit by neglecting public worship this summer? The ancient church at Ephesus had grown cold because the fire of its faith had died through loss of worship. In your travels, will you take time to worship God with other Christians? **Quench not the Holy Spirit.**

—Dale R. Battleson

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Pastor Molstre Accepts Call to Evangelism and Youth Work

Pastor David C. Molstre of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, has recently accepted a call to full-time service as Evangelist-Youth Worker in the AFLC. His letter of acceptance states that he will enter upon his new work as of September 1, 1975. Thus the Lord of the Church has once again supplied a vital need for our work as an Association. Our congregations have expressed their desire over the past several years for someone to give full time to the ministry of evangelism and youth work. We are indeed grateful to God at this time for providing a humble and dedicated servant for this ministry.

Pastor Molstre enters this new and challenging position from a background of several years in the parish ministry. Having graduated from Free Lutheran Seminary (AFLC) in 1967, he served as pastor at Grand Forks and Grafton, N. Dak. Later he accepted a position as associate pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, during which time he also taught classes at Association Free Lutheran Bible School. His positions

at Grand Forks and Minneapolis included a radio ministry as well. He has served Our Savior's Lutheran parish at Thief River Falls, since 1971. Having been in constant demand as a speaker for Bible camps, conferences and evangelistic meetings, he comes to this work with considerable experience and deep personal concern for souls.

The idea of having a full-time evangelist in the Association is certainly not new. Much thought and prayer has been given to this over the past years and we have continued to seek God's will and direction. At our 1974 Annual Conference in Thief River Falls, the Evangelism Commission recommended that we call a full-time evangelist. A short time later, at the same conference, the Youth Board recommended we call a full-time youth worker. After considerable discussion in which a variety of alternate plans were suggested, it seemed appropriate to combine the two positions and to call one man to serve as Evangelist-Youth Worker. The combined position of Evangelist-Youth Worker, not a new concept in evangelism, can serve effectively for the present time, among other things closing the supposed "gap" that seems to exist between youth and adults. While this may be a temporary arrangement in the Association, we feel that for the present time it can serve us well. The greatest challenge to youth as well as adults is evangelism.

As the 1974 Annual Conference adjourned, a directive had been given to the Co-ordinating Committee, the Commission on Evangelism, and the Youth Board to carry out the conference request. Shortly thereafter, a meeting was called where the said Boards prayerfully went about their task. Several months went by and

numerous meetings were held but it was at our Winter Bible Conference in Dalton, Minnesota, in a meeting of the previously mentioned Boards, the name of Pastor David Molstre surfaced as the one who would receive the call. We now rejoice in the Lord's leading through all of this and praise God for answered prayer.

As Pastor Molstre begins his new ministry on September 1, 1975, we would assure him of our continued prayer support. He is not stepping out alone into this vast harvest field. We stand with him in fervent prayer and commitment, believing God for great blessings. The harvest is truly great and we know the dividends will be great as well as we seek to obey His call to **EVANGELIZE**. Many will be anxious to have Pastor Molstre come to their congregations for a series of meetings. Therefore, we would like to have you consider a couple of things. Many congregations plan their special meetings for spring and fall. Too much of this type of scheduling will make it impossible for one man to reach very far. We would encourage your congregation to consider alternative dates. Summer months, early winter, or even January might be times to consider. When making your contact with our Evangelist, please have two dates in mind, perhaps a first and a second choice. This will enable him to set up his itinerary with less complication. A schedule of his meetings will be carried regularly in **The Lutheran Ambassador**. Congregations which may desire special meetings this fall are encouraged to contact Pastor Molstre at once. His mailing address through the month of August is Box 275, Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701.

The Commission on Evangelism
The Youth Board, AFLC



ARE WE ALWAYS THANKFUL?

by Lyle Johansen, Virginia, Minn.

Are we always thankful? We rattle off many requests to God, but rarely take time to thank Him for His answers. Philippians 4:6 reads: "Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Certainly we must remember to give thanks, but what is thanks? Is thanks a small prayer before dinner rattled off without thinking—a small collection of words said day after day, so familiar you could repeat the prayer and do an algebra problem at the same time? Or a small item of thank-you slipped into a prayer because there was nothing else to say?

To some this is the extent of thanks God gets and even some who are more extravagant with their prayers offer ones lacking in meaning. The thanks they give is just a false front, but God cannot be fooled by false fronts. "For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

God sees through our false fronts and sees the true intent behind our thanks. I believe a person cannot be truly thankful for what God has done unless he experiences God's love for himself personally, through Jesus Christ. A person who is truly thankful will joyfully share in the work of the Lord. How much joy do you get from sharing in God's work? How willingly do you even come to church on Sunday, if you come at all? Must you drag yourself out of bed in the morning and grumble your way to church, waiting for someone to stick his head out so you can "bite it off"?

And once you get to church, do you sit attentively and sing joyfully, as commanded in Psalm 100, verse one: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord" and

pay attention to the Third Commandment: "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy"?

Do we really behave this way to show our thanks to God or do we slouch in our seats, gaze around the room and not even open the hymnal for the songs? Not only can our attending church show our appreciation but it helps our church. Perhaps you think you are not missed when you stay away but every empty seat is discouraging to the minister and the other members.

Do we live our thanks by giving our money? God gave His only Son to die an agonizing death upon the cross for us that we might be saved. Salvation is not of works, but a free gift, a totally 100% free gift from God that we can receive just by asking. Can't we at least give of our wealth to spread God's great love to others to show appreciation and to give thanks? If you really live your thanks you will say by your gift, "God, I love you!"

We live our thanks by giving our time and talents unto the Lord. If we really mean our thanks, we should take time to serve the Lord by duties in the church and by witnessing. "For, 'everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved!' But how are men to call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:13, 14).

Are we thankful enough for what God has done in our lives to be missionaries in our own community or around the world, so the lost may hear, so they may believe, so they may be saved? So they may experience God's love?, because God's love is really something to be thankful for.

(Lyle, son of Rev. and Mrs. Henry A. E. Johansen, gave the above talk at a Thanksgiving service in Virginia last fall.)

HOLY SPIRIT, COMFORT BLEST

Holy Spirit, Comfort blest,
In Thy care we safely rest,
Safer than on mother's bosom;
Let Thy word within us blossom,
Till in grace we are complete.

Holy Spirit, lest we fall,
Quicken us and guide us all
That we always, onward pressing,
Never from Thy hand digressing,
Keep the straight and narrow way.

Holy Spirit, when we grieve,
Let Thy comfort us relieve;
Should with kin no more we gather,
We in heaven have a Father,
Whom we never, never lose.

Holy Spirit, guard us well,
Lest our wilful hearts impel
Us to question God in blindness,
Him, whose every act is kindness;
Be His will forever done!

Holy Spirit, true and kind,
Help us always bear in mind
That our God will gladly hear us
And with grace be ever near us
When we pray in Jesus' name.

Adolph Langsted
(from Hymnal for Church and Home)

(Ed. Note: I received a copy of the above hymnal when I visited St. Peder's Church, Dannebrog, Nebr. This hymnbook was the one used by the two Danish Synods in America.)

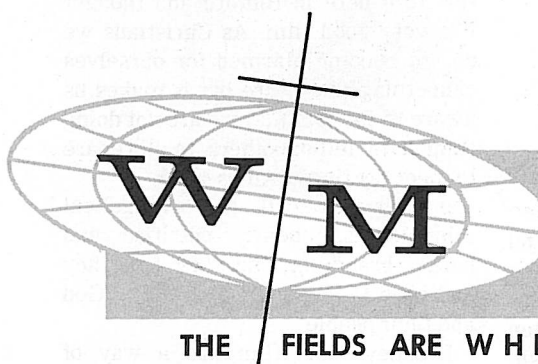


MRS. O. K. OSE, FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE WMF, PASSED AWAY APRIL 21

Mrs. O. K. Ose, the first woman to serve as the president of the Women's Missionary Federation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, passed away at Northwestern Hospital, Thief River Falls, Minn., on April 21. She died of cancer and had been hospitalized for several weeks.

A full obituary will be printed in the next issue of the *Ambassador*.





W M WORLD MISSIONS

THE FIELDS ARE WHITE UNTO HARVEST

A VISIT TO HERVEIRA by Mrs. John H. Abel

It was Friday afternoon and a house meeting had been scheduled for that evening in Herveira. Plans were to get an early start so that we could be there in time to have supper with Senhor Mauro and family. Our car was in at the mechanic's and was supposed to be out at ten o'clock but we didn't get it until four. Then, just before leaving, we had a flat tire, so by the time we were finally on our way it was five o'clock. We took a short cut which took us through wheat fields that were just ripening. It was a beautiful sight to behold, as the sun was setting in the west. Fortunately, there was very little traffic on the road, so we had a pleasant trip and it looked like we'd get there just in time.

Senhor Mauro had moved to a new farm place; we weren't really confident that we knew how to find it. We started on what we thought was the right road. It kept leading downward until we ended up at a brick factory. We were on the wrong road and there was no one around to give us information. Fortunately, we got turned around without the car dying out (the starter wasn't working). We decided to go back to town and try to find someone who could give us the right directions. In town, we met up with Severino who had been waiting

for us so he could show us the way. Praise the Lord!

When we arrived, several people came out to meet us and light the way into the house. As we entered the kitchen, we saw Dona Lurdes sitting with her arm stretched out on the table, tied with a rubber tubing and her husband was trying to find a vein for a prescribed injection by the light of a gas lantern. There was no lack of spectators as the whole clan of aunts, uncles, grandparents and grandchildren stood around to watch. I get a weak feeling at times like this, so I tried to divert my attention by bringing out the box of glasses we had brought along for Grandma Olinda to try on. Last May she was on her way to our ladies retreat in Umuarama and had gotten a pair of glasses that just fit. She was so happy that she could read her Bible again, but the glasses had broken and she wanted another pair. There wasn't much choice left as so many had already received glasses, but she finally found a pair that helped her see the words clearly and everyone had to have a look at Grandma's new glasses. The attempt to find a vein in Dona Lurdes' arm had been given up and everyone was ready to gather in the living room for the evening service. There was a time of singing, as everyone had a favorite song or chorus he wanted sung. Senhor Mauro and his daughter sang along with a guitar.

At the close of his message, John opened a time of prayer. A request was made for Dona Lurdes who has been a tremendous help to our work in Herveira, with her hospitality and help in the Sunday School. That day she had been to the doctor and found she was very anemic, principally because she had various types of intestinal worms. Now as I write this article, she has been to the hospital for treatment and last weekend was at our women's retreat looking and feeling much better.

We are happy to have Senhor Mauro, Dona Lydia and their family back in Herveira. They had moved further into the interior to homestead a larger piece of land, but there was much fighting going on in that area between squatters and those paid by land owners to get them off the land. At one time over 30 people were killed near them, so they never felt safe. They also missed not having a place of worship, so the Lord brought them back with a greater vision and desire to work for him.

We hadn't arrived in time for supper, so after the meeting we shared cups of sweet, thick, black coffee, said good-bye and were on our way, bouncing home over the dirt road. We were ready to call it a day when we drove into our home garage at 2:30 a.m.

Praise the the Lord that His grace is sufficient and each day is a challenge. Thank-you for your prayers; because by them the work goes on.

GOOD NEWS ON MISSIONARIES' HEALTH CONDITION

Some time ago news was received in the U.S. that Missionary and Mrs. Connely J. Dyrud in Brazil were both ill with infectious hepatitis and that Priscilla Abel, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. John Abel, and also in Brazil, was suffering from the same ailment.

A circular letter from the Abels received on April 23 brings the good news that Pastor Dyrud was already back at his school work before April 9 and his wife and Priscilla were doing well.

We rejoice that the illness did not cause greater inroads, to our knowledge.



Letters

TO THE EDITOR

ARTICLE ON THE LIVING BIBLE UNFORTUNATE

Your analysis in the March 25th issue of our **Ambassador** about **The Living Bible** was very unfortunate.

I shall not endeavor to write about it, but I like to call the readers' attention to another article on the same subject. It is Don Michel's article entitled "The Miracle of **The Living Bible**" in the **Saturday Evening Post**.

This man is basing his article on a personal interview that he had with Dr. Kenneth Taylor and he gives us a clear perspective of both the man, his family, and one of God's greatest miracles of our time—**The Living Bible**.

This project, which had such an insignificant beginning, has now an enormous business of \$29,000,000.00 annually. And the profit does not go into Dr. Taylor's pocket. The royalties from the sale of **The Living Bible** are used for missions and missionaries who are spreading the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.

Taylor himself said: "I am not the author of the Bible, God is, so He should get the royalties."

If it is too late to pick up this **Saturday Evening Post** at the news stands, I am sure you can go down to your city library and read it there. It is the April issue, and you find the article on page 58. If you have difficulty in finding it, let me know and I will send you a copy of the article.

It is kind of an embarrassing thing to refer the readers of our church paper to a secular magazine for spiritual enlightenment, but in this particular case it seems to be expedient. When you have read this article I am sure you will join the great throng

of millions who are praising and thanking God today for **The Living Bible**.

Rev. Lars Stalsbroten
Vancouver, Wash.

(Ed. Note: I was aware of the **Saturday Evening Post** article on **The Living Bible** before my own was published. The article by Don Michel asserts the publishing and distribution success of **The Living Bible**. What I wrote certainly didn't deny that fact, for, in the very first paragraph I called it "a very popular edition of the Bible." And because something is very popular doesn't make the task of raising questions about it any easier.

Mr. Michel tells how Ken Taylor came to begin paraphrasing the Scriptures and went on to do the whole Bible. It is a fine account, even a heart-warming one. Reader Stalsbroten refers to the fact that royalties from the sale of **The Living Bible** are being turned toward the support of Christian missionaries. Surely this is commendable.

My analysis (March 25) was an endeavor to show what a paraphrase is and how a free one like **The Living Bible** contains commentary right in the text in some instances. Furthermore, there is some evidence of theological bias, albeit well-intentioned. If potential readers of this work realize these things and take them into consideration, then there is little problem. But Mr. Michel in his **Saturday Evening Post** article made little or no attempt to discuss these things. His article was largely promotional in nature.)

"PROPHECY PANIC"

Ever since the Feb. 25th issue of the **Ambassador** came out the article "Prophecy Panic" has come to mind so often—at that time so many of us wondered, "Why an article like this?"

We had a great blessing from seeing this film here in Binford and thought it a very good film. As Christians we do not become alarmed for ourselves concerning the future but it makes us aware of the fact that we are not doing enough in telling others to "prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12).

Is this why all the evangelical ministers sat nearly petrified and hardly breathing; did they feel they had been falling short and failing God and their people?

I believe this film has a way of reaching the unsaved and those we are concerned for.

There is much that could be said here, but are we aware that many people hear only about the love of God and not about the wrath of God? Therefore, they believe everything is done and they don't have to do anything on their part to have salvation.

Time draweth near when man can work no more, so let us make use of the time we have to His glory.

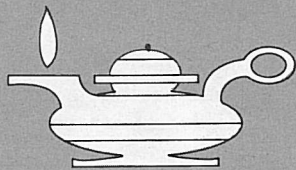
Mrs. Frank Oien
Binford, N. Dak.

(Ed. Note: Bernard M. Archer did not mention the name of any end-of-the-world films in his article "Prophecy Panic!" Reader Oien does not mention what prophecy film she has seen. Mr. Archer refers to these films in the plural. He may be aware of more of them than most of us are. The danger with prophecy films is that they deal with a subject where so much speculation can enter in and they may over-emphasize horror. We should be careful that the films used follow Bible teaching. Mrs. Oien's point is well taken that people must know of the wrath of God as well as His love. All man can do toward his salvation is to not resist God's love, but receive it.)

CHRIST'S AGONY MADE REAL

Last night while attending our local WMF meeting one of the ladies present was telling of an article she had read in **The Lutheran Amba-**

(Continued on page 10)



SCHOOL NEWS

Introducing Our Seminarians

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Ephesians 2:14: "For He (Christ Jesus) is our peace..." Thank the Lord that I read this verse, quoted in a book about salvation in Jesus Christ. I was lying on my bunk at a Bible camp, August 5th, 1949. After reading the verse, I looked up in the bunkhouse, empty of other fellows, and said, "I don't have to worry any more." Not being particularly worried at the time did not seem to make any difference. Something had happened within me. Later, I described the experience by saying that I had come to assurance of salvation. My parents had provided for my return to camp summer after summer for six years; the dividends will be paid throughout eternity.

My "Kaste-Todistus" (baptismal certificate) is my oldest evidence of church affiliation. I was a member of the Bovey-Trout Lake Lutheran Church (Minnesota) until adulthood, when I transferred my membership to another Suomi Synod congregation, Morgan Avenue Lutheran of Minneapolis, which has since joined the AFLC. At Morgan Avenue Lutheran, our family of four, Eldora, Rachel (10), and Paul (5) and I, have been in touch with the Sunday School, the church council, the mission committee, and special church services in various capacities. The years at Morgan Avenue Lutheran have produced spiritual and social development in our family.

Training at the AFLC seminary is a family project. In October, 1974, my employment as a programmer with a large computer manufacturer was terminated by the company. Our family's trust in the Lord never flagged, although I had many hours

in which to evaluate the past, which included a BBA degree in accounting at the University of Minnesota and 18 years of computer programming experience. At a time like that, a person's attitude toward his abilities seems to lack stability and his shortcomings come into sharp focus. Later, a fairly good job offer from out-of-town produced a challenge to my inclination toward seminary, for I had investigated seminary the day after hearing of my imminent release from work. The "job excuse" that I had for two to three years while contemplating seminary training, was relegated to a lower plane through those events. Although Rachel wanted to move out-of-town, she said that she thought that seminary was God's first choice for me. The decision was more involved and difficult than that, but without family cooperation the issue would have been in doubt.

The Lord has provided part-time jobs for Eldora and me and even a play-pal for Paul through Mom's baby sitting for a working couple. The high-activity schedule has stepped up the metabolism, but we have a peace about "being in school together." Since I started seminary, Paul has asked his mom to pray to have Jesus in his heart, somewhat like Rachel had done at about the same age. We ask your prayers for every seminarian and those close to each one. Family stability is really challenged by today's world.

I MUST LOOK UP AND BE THANKFUL

Writing under the title of "Introducing Our Seminarians" causes me to look both back and ahead as I write.

God has been so faithful and this gives one security for the future. As I think about God's leading in my life, I also must look up and be thankful. His grace is new every day.

I was a student at the Lutheran Bible Institute in Seattle, Washington, for two years (1970-1972). While at Bible school, I met my wife Kathy. We were married two years after our graduation. I'm thankful for those years of study in God's Word. Fellowship always seems so great at Bible school, so that made a good opportunity for further Christian growth. After Bible school, I returned to Minnesota and spent one year at North Central Bible College. The following year I spent at Fergus Falls State Junior College. While at college in Fergus Falls I had the opportunity to work at the State Hospital there. This was a new and interesting experience. The following year, I returned to North Central and graduated that spring. Through these years I'm thankful that God granted to me the desire to know and understand more about Him. His Word reveals Him in the Person of Christ. What a blessing in having opportunity to fellowship with a Person who can understand and fulfill our needs.

Coming to seminary is a point I never thought possible to reach. I must rest assured that Jesus prepared my way. Here, too, I am happy to find that God's Word is our foundation and faith in Christ is our emphasis. What a good year this has been here.

I am looking forward to my two remaining years of seminary and the opportunities of summer internship. While each day of life is new and different, God's Word remains the same. His promises are for us today! All in this world may become confused but Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Marlin Olson

SPRING PROMOTION DAYS A SUCCESS

Approximately 90 prospective students attended the spring Promotion Days at AFLBS, April 18-19. The largest delegation came from Valley City, N. Dak.

Activities began on Friday evening

when Lou Gronseth, representing the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, spoke to the prospective students and the present student body. Pastor R. Snipstead led the meeting and there was special music.

On Saturday morning after a brief devotional service, classes were taught at 9 o'clock in the subjects of I Corinthians and Psalms by Pastors R. Huglen and A. Dyrud, respectively. At 10 o'clock, Pastor Snipstead presented a class in Romans and Pastor H. Hosch one in Old Testament. These sessions permitted those visiting the School to get an idea as to what attending a Bible school is like.

The morning concluded with a mass choir rehearsal under the direction of Mr. Don Rodvold, the school's music director.

In the afternoon the AFLBS Conquerors stood off the challenge of the prospective students and won a closely waged basketball game at Plymouth Jr. High. Some very fine talent was shown by the high school group and prospects look good for future Conqueror teams.

A large crowd attended the evening service which was also the final youth rally for the school year. The speaker was Pastor F. Monseth, who has been the faculty advisor for the rallies. He spoke on the need for being ready for our Lord's return. Pastor Huglen led the service which also included musical selections by the school's Choral Club, Choir and a mass choir which contained many of the visiting students, too.

The youth rally was followed by refreshments and a time of sharing.

Many of the visiting students stayed over to Sunday and attended worship services at Medicine Lake Lutheran and other Association churches in the Twin Cities.

DEAN OF WOMEN RESIGNS

Mrs. Dan Hacking, the former Judy Erickson, has resigned as dean of women at AFLBS, effective July 31. She will devote herself full time to homemaking duties and she and her husband will live at Little Falls, Minn., where he is a teacher in special education. The couple were married last October.

Mrs. Hacking has been at AFLBS since 1973 and has also served as librarian for the Bible School and Seminary. During her time in that work the library has been completely reorganized, many additional books have been catalogued and the library has been moved to a new location, the former choir room in the church building.

No successor to Mrs. Hacking has yet been named by the Board of Trustees.

OTHER NUGGETS OF NEWS

Members of the youth rally committee this year have been Patty Broden, Fertile, Minn., Mark Kjos, Faith, S. Dak., Ruth Solheim, Everett, Wash., and Tony Stockman, Tioga, N. Dak.

The Senior Girls' Gospel Team visited Saron Lutheran Church, Roslyn, S. Dak., and United Lutheran Church, McLeod, N. Dak., the weekend of April 26-27. Mr. Mauritz Lundeen, assistant dean of men, accompanied the girls. On April 27, the Choral Club sang at Sunnyside Lutheran Church, Stacy, Minn., and St. John's Lutheran Church, Finlayson, Minn., then returned to school to present its home concert in the evening. Pastor Huglen represented the faculty at the three concerts.

The Choir made a mini-tour last weekend with appearances at Grace Lutheran Church, Bagley, Minn., New Luther Valley Lutheran Church, McVile, N. Dak., Bethel Lutheran Church, Grafton, N. Dak., and Roseau Lutheran Church, Roseau, Minn. The tour lasted from Thursday to Sunday. Travelling with the Choir was Pastor R. Snipstead.

Announcements

May 10—All School Banquet at Holiday Inn, downtown Mpls.

May 11—Choir Home Concert at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, 7:00 p.m.

May 16—Graduation Exercises for Seminary and Bible School, 8:00 p.m. Rev. R. Snipstead, dean of the Bible School, will speak.

BIBLE SCHOOL HAS AFFIRMED MY CONVICTIONS

As the Easter season has passed by

us once again I was reminded more than ever before that Christ suffered so much for me on the cross. By suffering and dying for me he made my yoke easy and my burden light. Matthew 11:29 says, "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls." This is what we do when we become Christians. We obey His first command, "Take My yoke upon you," and His second command is, "and learn from Me." This is why I went to Bible School, to learn more of Christ.

I am so very thankful for the sound Christian teachings I received at home from my Christian parents and also from my church. This gave me a firm basis on which to start Bible School.

Now that my two years of Bible School have almost passed, it has affirmed my convictions as a Christian. I know these two years were in God's plan for my life and I am thankful for them.

Diane Grothe
Thief River Falls, Minn.

REV. R. SNIPSTEAD RESIGNS AS BIBLE SCHOOL DEAN

Since the main portion of this Ambassador was prepared, word has been received that Pastor Richard Snipstead has resigned as dean of Association Free Lutheran Bible School to accept a call to be pastor of Triumph Lutheran Church, Ferndale, Wash.

He had served at Ferndale prior to coming to AFLBS in 1968. He has also served parishes at Saskatoon, Sask., and Greenbush, Minn. He is vice-president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations.

Needless to say, no successor to Pastor Snipstead has yet been chosen.

How intense must then the spiritual awakening be to be sufficient? Since, as has been said, the only aim and purpose of a spiritual awakening is to make the sinner willing to be saved, it is intense enough when the sinner is willing to let God save him.

—J. N. Kildahl

editorials

ESTATES VS. LEGACIES

We'd like to hitchhike on a topic suggested by the always provocative Dr. James P. Shannon in his column in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* (Sun., March 30). He, in turn, was commenting on something that had been written in *Time* after the death of Aristotle Onassis, Greek shipping tycoon, and better known as the husband of Jacquelyn Kennedy Onassis.

Time said that Mr. Onassis "left little legacy." Dr. Shannon, noting that the Onassis estate may go over a half billion dollars, but without wanting to judge the Greek billionaire, said, "What a devastating epitaph—for any of us. To leave no estate is not shameful. To leave no legacy is tragic."

Those are words to catch us up short, aren't they? If one can leave some provision behind for one's family, well and good, but there is no shame if it cannot be done or if the estate is meager. But it is **tragic** if a person leaves this life with no good put into the lives of others, no footprints in the sands of time, for which they will bless him.

It is possible for Christians to be too taken up with their estates, the size of them and how they shall be administered. Has there been as great concern for building life wisely and well upon the foundation, Jesus Christ? Are gold, silver, and precious stones being used or are the materials wood, hay and stubble, which will perish when tried by fire? Will they be saved themselves but have no works to show, no legacy to leave for others?

How may one leave a legacy behind? We are speaking in Christian terms. It seems to us that there are several ways this may be done. First, be a man or woman of the faith. "Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent'" (John 6:29). "And without faith it is impossible to please Him" (Hebrews 11:6a). Then, it is not enough to hold the faith, but it must be shared. There is a time to verbalize (put into words) faith. "Because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9). It goes without saying, although we say it also, that one's manner of living must agree with what is said if the testimony is to be believed.

Secondly, we build a legacy by being identified always with the cause of right and known as foes of evil. "He

has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (Micah 6:8). There is a need for enlightened Christian conscience in dealing with a multitude of problems at every level of society. One who has stood for the right against greed, oppression and corruption will be gratefully remembered by those who were their intended victims.

In the third place, the Christian life is made beautiful to others when it evidences the desire to gather others into the one true fold. When one has experienced something very good, should he not let others know? A legacy is left when there has been a heart wide open to the people of the world and when effort has been expended to make Christ, the Savior, known. This is the heart of love and it will be recognized by others.

Finally, a legacy is insured also by what one has done with his material possessions. No one "buys" his way into God's kingdom, but how a person renders his stewardship of possessions determines in a substantial way how his life will be viewed by others and whether they will bless God for him. He lives best who treats all he has as belonging to the Creator and therefore keeps no more for himself than he needs and wisely shares the rest with others. And in the final disposition of what has been his possession, humanly speaking, it is good if he has left word that some of that should go to God's work. In that way, too, "their deeds follow them" (Revelation 14:13).

God grant that every Christian be truly concerned that he leave a legacy behind him in this world. If that is done, he will have lived to the praise and glory of Christ's name, and that is to have fulfilled life's purpose.

YES, THERE IS A HOLY SPIRIT

Sometimes people facetiously ask, "Do Lutherans believe in the Holy Spirit?" They ask the question because we may not use the name of the Holy Spirit as often as some do.

But the answer is yes, we do believe in the Holy Spirit. He is one of the three Persons in the Triune God. And He has the great work of calling, gathering, enlightening, sanctifying and preserving the whole Christian Church on earth.

He came in a new and greater way to work among men after Jesus had ascended back to the Father. He has come to make the words and works of Jesus known. He is the Comforter, and Advocate, and Counsellor. His task is to see that Jesus, the Savior, is known.

Therefore, when Christ is preached and proclaimed and sinners are converted and Christian lives are built up, the Holy Spirit is active and the agent by which things happen in sinner and saint, even though He may not be mentioned as often as the Father and the Son.

But surely, among us, He is worshipped and glorified together with them, as the Nicene Creed attests. And at this season of Pentecost we testify that we could not even be Christians unless His good work had been done among us.

Yes, we believe in the Holy Spirit.

(Continued from page 6)

sador, and how it had really made Calvary real to her. I hadn't read it. So often, I think, we tend to look through our paper, reading the smaller articles and thinking we'll read the rest when we have more time. When I returned home I read the article found in the March 11 issue, entitled "The Crucifixion of Jesus," and written by C. Truman Davis.

Oh, I can only begin to tell you what that article did for me spiritually. It made me realize, maybe for the first time, the tremendous physical agony Christ went through on the cross. How He suffered!

We so often hear the Easter story and get used to the phrase "He suffered and died for my salvation." We take this so much for granted. Can we really comprehend the physical torment, not to mention the mental and spiritual anguish? Do we realize how truly thankful we should be for the perfect sacrifice made for us?

I had always thought of His suffering, but not, by far, in the degree it was. After all, He was God-man, and the suffering was different than if it were you or I who was hung on the cross. Was it? Yes, indeed, the mental and spiritual anguish was **much** greater than if it had been you or I, but the physical aspect would be as painful to Christ as it would be to us.

I never want to take the Passion Story for granted ever again and it is my prayer that God will make Calvary real to me daily. May we all have a truly thankful spirit for God's great executed salvation plan.

I want to say thank-you to the editor and contributors of **The Lutheran Ambassador**. I know that there are many spiritually fed through your articles. May God continue to guide and richly bless you.

Mrs. Martin Johnson
Badger, Minn.

SHEYENNE VALLEY BIBLE CAMP PLANS ANNOUNCED

The Sheyenne Valley Lutheran Bible Camp, serving all of North Dakota and eastern Montana, and other interested friends, will have its camp this year just outside of Devils Lake, N.

Dak., July 7-13. This Bible Camp will be in essence a "mini" camp of our AFLC Family Bible Camp, as it will be a family camp with separate sessions for different age groups. Our teaching staff consists of the following: Miss Judith Wold of the Parish Education Department will be in charge of the younger youth; Pastor Stephen Odegard, Winger, Minn., will be our teen speaker; Pastor Philip Featherstone, Colfax, Wis., will be our adult Bible teacher; and Pastor Jay Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn., will be our guest evangelist.

We are looking forward to a great time around the "Living Word—the Bible" and in Christian fellowship and you are asked to prayerfully consider attending.

Pastor Rodney Stueland

COUNSELLORS NEEDED FOR FAMILY CAMP

"And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and

he that reapeth may rejoice together" (John 4:36).

As has been previously announced, Family Bible Camp will be held at Galilee Bible Camp just outside of Lake Bronson, Minnesota, from June 30-July 6.

Due to the camp being moved up, the need for counsellors is urgent. Perhaps the change of dates will make it possible for some of you to assist in the camp program as counsellors.

The most essential requirement for a counsellor is to be a Christian. Counsellors must be at least one year out of high school. Please pray about this matter.

If you are interested in being a counsellor at our Bible Camp, please write to Miss Marge Benson or Mrs. Aini Myking, co-deans of women, at 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441, or Dale Mellgren, dean of men, Box 233, Abercrombie, N. Dak. 58001, as soon as possible. If you have never been a counsellor at our camp before, please have your pastor send a letter of recommendation.



The Choir of AFLBS will present its annual home concert on Sunday evening, May 11, at 7:00 p.m., at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn. The Choir, directed by Mr. Don Rodvold, has recently returned from a tour to the West Coast and another to North Dakota and northern Minnesota.

Christian's life? 10. _____ Give reason(s) for your choice: 11. _____

If the Spirit of God has put His finger on some specifics as far as you are concerned, perhaps you would like to share them here: _____

The truly beautiful woman is the one who has enthroned Christ in her heart and who allows Him to be, in her, the patience, love, understanding, forgiveness, and self-control she is so woefully devoid of.

WMF REMINDERS

Our project for May was the General Fund. This project helps WMF projects which do not reach their projected goals and is also used for promotional literature and administrative expense. For a more detailed listing of what this project covers, please read the information on this project that was included in your packets. Our General Fund is in great need of funds at this time, so please support it generously.

In June we have our Convention Offerings. Our offering for Wednesday, June 11th, is Church Extension. May I remind you again how vital this project is to the growth of God's Kingdom here at home. Thursday evening our offering will go to the Seminary Library. I wonder if we are aware of the importance of a good library to the growth and education of our Seminary students. May we each be willing to do our part in the training of our future pastors.

I pray that many of you women are planning to attend our WMF Annual Conference to be held at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Wednesday, June 11th. We encourage you to be there for the prayer service, which is from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. Our women's breakfast will be held Thursday, June 12th, at 7:00 a.m. All ladies are welcome. The evening Festival Service will be Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. We encourage you as women of the WMF to attend all of these services.

Mrs. Robert Dietsche, Pres.

WMF Bible Study



GOD IS FOR WOMEN . . . GOD IS FOR YOU

Lesson VI

GOD IS FOR YOU—HE WANTS YOU CLEAN

Ephesians 4:22-32 Colossians 3:1-10 Galatians 5:17-26

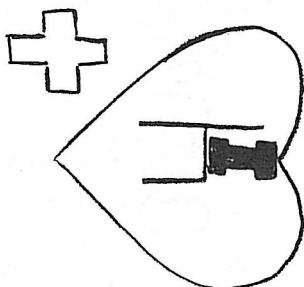
Memorize Eph. 4:32

Using these familiar illustrations (originating, I think, with Bill Bright of Campus Crusade) let us talk about THREE KINDS OF PEOPLE.

THE UNBELIEVER

This is the person outside of Christ, the non-Christian. He is in charge of his own life. Christ is definitely on the outside.

According to Galatians 5, list some of the things that just naturally emanate from from such a person's life:

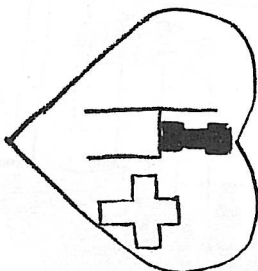


THE CARNAL CHRISTIAN

This designation is taken from I Cor. 3:1-3, where Paul speaks of babes in Christ. And Paul says the identifying trademark of such is "jealousy and strife."

This is the Christian who has asked Jesus to be his Savior, but insists on running things his own way. He allows Self to sit on the throne of his heart. Sometimes there seems to be no difference between the life of a carnal Christian and that of an unbeliever.

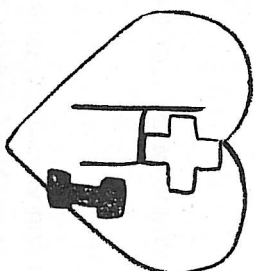
Result: jealousy, strife, self-love, anger, bitterness, unforgiveness, haughtiness, deceit, untruth, immorality, coveting, false witness



THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN

(Again, Paul's designation in I Cor. 3)

Contrary to the teaching in some circles, the really spiritual Christian is not the one who walks on clouds of ecstasy, or who speaks in unintelligible language. In I Corinthians Paul expressly "talked down" some of the gifts of the Spirit and encouraged Christians to seek "a better way"—the way of love and unity. The life of the truly spiritual Christian will express itself in the fruit of the Spirit of God as He lives in and through the Christian.



Result: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control

DOES IT SEEM STRANGE TO YOU

that so often in God's Word the Christian is admonished to stop doing the works of the flesh (Col. 3:1-10)? Why is it necessary for God to remind us 1. of this so often? _____

In Colossians 3 there are two lists of things to put off doing, in verse 5 and in verse 8. Would we today consider the first list to be "worse" than the 2. second? _____ Why might this be? _____

3. _____ What significance do you see in the fact that God through Paul seems to keep these two catalogs of things to be put off on the same level? Why would 4. God consider malice, for example, to be as dread a sin as immorality? _____

READ ROMANS 6:11-13

What insight do you gather from these verses into the problem of the Christian 5. who cannot seem to be rid of the failings of the flesh? _____

Did you notice the two-pronged thrust of these verses in Romans 6? What 6. are the two sides of this admonition? _____

Do you see the same two-pronged emphasis in Ephesians 4:22-24? How is 7. it expressed here? _____

What are some things the Christian is to "put off" doing? (Eph. 4:22-32) 8. _____

What are some things a Christian is to "put on" in order to be counted 9. as a spiritual Christian? _____

What is the burden of this passage, as far as the characteristics a Christian must display in her everyday living, with friend husband, with children, in the congregation, the neighborhood? Which verse would you choose as the one which most practically sums up the characteristics evident in the spiritual

SEMINARY SHORT COURSE TO BE OFFERED AGAIN THIS SUMMER

TO ALL PASTORS, LAY-PASTORS, AND INTERESTED LAYMEN

The Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary faculty will conduct a Short Course again this summer. The dates are July 28 through August 8, 1975. The courses which will be taught are as follows:

	Class periods
OLD TESTAMENT	
Selected Psalms by Pastor Amos Dyrud	10
NEW TESTAMENT	
Ephesians by Pastor John Strand	5
Acts by Dr. Iver Olson	10
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY	
Theology and Anthropology by Pastor Francis Monseth	15

In lieu of examinations, we shall assign papers to be written and handed in by February 1, 1976.

Expenses:

Registration fee: \$5.00

Room at the Bible School dormitories: \$1.50 per day
(bring linen and blankets as needed)

Books approximately \$20.00

Meals can be obtained in area restaurants.

Please let us know by July 1st if you plan to attend. We look forward to hearing from you. May God continue to bless the teaching and hearing of His eternal Word.

Contact:

Rev. Amos O. Dyrud, Dean
Free Lutheran Theological Seminary
3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

THE PERSECUTOR

by Sergei Kourdakov

price 1.50

The author writes his own story as one born in Russia and brought up and trained in Communism.

He did well in his training and when a young man in good physical health was placed in command of a special police force whose duty it was to persecute and arrest Christians.

His group was very cruel and brutal, but the witness of the persecuted Christians got through to Sergei, and finally he became determined to flee Russia in order to break the hold that Communism had on him.

He managed to escape to Canada, where he found Christ.

This is a very informative book in relating to the reader the workings, cruelty, and deceiving ways of Com-

munist in Russia and Siberia.

It also shows the power of God in being able to save to the uttermost.

It is well written, easy to read, and holds your interest.

Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom

THE MYSTERY OF PAIN

by Paul J. Lindell

price 1.75

Mr. Lindell, for many years the director of World Mission Prayer League, writes this book after realizing that he was dying of cancer.

He writes as one with a full heart, well acquainted with Jesus and His Word, and with a sure hope of eternal life.

Pain is defined in a broad sense, including all trial and any anxiety that a Christian may face.

The writer clearly defines what the Bible has to say about trial for the Christian, showing how it serves a purpose in fulfilling God's divine plan, and that He does work it all out for good.

This book helps the reader to realize that Christianity is something other than a continuous mountain-top experience. There are rivers to cross, and valleys to go through. The narrow road is not a paved road. Nevertheless, God gives grace for all that lies ahead. And the end result is great gain for the faithful.

This book is an encouragement to the Christian, especially to those who are facing sorrow, death, or some trying situation in life. It is a masterpiece in its own right, written by a dying man, giving hope to dying readers.

Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom

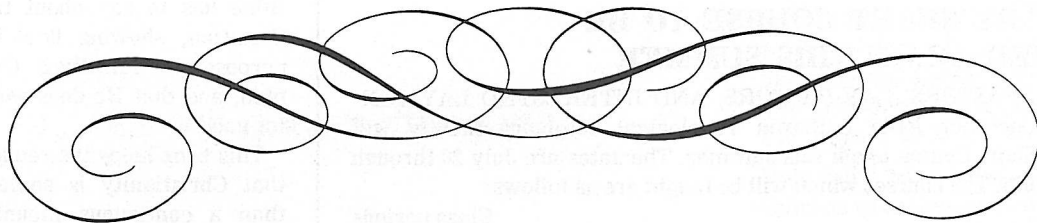
These books may be ordered from the Bible Book Mission, Grafton, North Dakota 58237. Add 18 cents postage. If you live in North Dakota, also add sales tax.

MORE WRITERS NEEDED

The Women for Christ page of the *Ambassador* is in need of more women who are willing to write for it. Mrs. Palmer J. Haugen, Portland, N. Dak., is in charge of securing writers for that page. Anyone interested in writing something of interest to women for that page is asked to get in touch with Mrs. Haugen, one of the vice-presidents of the Women's Missionary Federation. The zip code is 58274.

Note the worship of the newly converted person: he does not give much praise to the Holy Spirit, but he does glorify Christ; he dwells lovingly and gratefully on what Jesus has done for him both in His life and in His atoning death. Afterward he will get clearer ideas of the Holy Spirit's office and personality; but that will be more discursive, and not the first spontaneous assurance that comes in a Christian experience.

L. S. Keyser



RURAL KENYON CHURCH HOST TO WOMEN'S GATHERING

The Spring Rally of the Minneapolis District Women's Missionary Federation was held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, rural Kenyon, Minn., on Tues., April 8, 1975. Rev. Kenneth Moland was the host pastor. The theme for the day was "Christ for the World" and the theme song, "Christ for the World We Sing." Mrs. Irvin Hodnefield, district president, presided over the sessions. Music was provided by the Seminettes from Medicine Lake. Rev. Leonard Patzold, general director of the World Mission Prayer League, was the speaker for the day. He told how we cannot see others' darkness until Jesus sets us free by the power of the Gospel. Then we can hear His command to "Go" and bring the world to Christ.

Mrs. Marlin Benrud from Zumbrota led in a singspiration. The morning offering was received for Cradle-Roll and Jr. Missions and the afternoon offering for the General Fund. In his afternoon message, Rev. Patzold told of the many areas of the world where God is at work. We should ask God for these people. He raises up the people to go and He provides the means. There were 144 members and friends in attendance from 15 churches.

Mrs. Burton Boyum, Secretary

NOTICE OF MISSION CORPORATION MEETING

The Mission Corporation will hold its annual meeting on Friday, June 13, at 7:30 a.m., in the Boys' Dormitory of Association Free Lutheran Bible School, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Breakfast will be served in the School dining hall, beginning at 7 o'clock.

Pastor Eugene W. Enderlein
Secretary, Mission Corporation

ONLY JESUS CAN

Only Jesus can dry my tears
And drive away my foolish fears.
Only Jesus can soothe my pain
And wash away the crimson stain.

Only Jesus can give me joy and peace
And fill my heart with great relief.
Only Jesus can take my life
And free it from all guilt and strife.

Mabel Quanbeck

WEEP NOT FOR TODAY

Weep not for today, you know
'Tis but a passing minute.
Yet all the years we may hold
Are interwoven in it.

Weep not for today, but trust
In God for your tomorrow.
He will turn the bad to good,
And joy He brings from sorrow.

Marlene Moline

HE CALLS TO REMEMBRANCE

Yes, the Holy Spirit is a great reminder. Sometimes children who have been brought up in godly homes depart for a while from their early teaching; but in after years the Holy Spirit comes to them through the Word, perhaps in some providence, and pours His light into their souls; then the teaching of their parents and pastors revives, and they are won back to Christ; then perhaps the valuable lessons they learned in the catechetical class are recalled, and give them great help and comfort. We do not believe that such early instruction is ever in vain.

L. S. Keyser



ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS February 1—March 31, 1975

	<u>Total Budget</u>	<u>Current Budget</u>	<u>Received in March</u>	<u>Total Received</u>	<u>% of Current</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
General Fund	\$ 64,250.00	\$10,708.32	\$1,294.51	\$ 3,945.00	36	6
Schools	102,000.00	17,000.00	2,706.25	4,672.51	27.4	4.6
Home Missions	53,000.00	8,833.32	1,736.30	2,889.02	32.7	5.4
Foreign Missions	66,840.00	11,140.00	1,909.05	3,497.94	31.3	5
Praise	18,000.00	3,000.00	192.84	358.12	11.9	2
TOTAL	\$304,090.00	\$50,681.64	\$7,838.95	\$15,362.59	30	5
1974-75	\$264,200.00	\$44,123.34	\$8,576.67	\$18,379.78	41.6	6.9



CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

NEED FOR MORE DISCUSSION STRESSED AS LCMS THEOLOGICAL CONVOCATION ENDS

St. Louis—Although the special five-day Theological Convocation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod ended without full consensus among the 300 participants regarding doctrinal issues in the Synod, most speakers during the closing plenary session agreed that the meeting had been beneficial in creating a climate toward reaching such consensus and for maintaining unity in the Synod.

Five leaders of sectional meetings which met Thursday evening involving lay persons, parish pastors, teachers, college personnel and synodical officials felt that similar meetings should be scheduled in the future, that issues and terms under discussion should be sharply defined before they are considered, and that discussion and study of the issues in the LCMS should be continued at all levels in the Synod.

Synodical President J.A.O. Preus, a convener of the convocation along with the LCMS Council of Presidents and the Board of Directors, told the participants that he felt the convocation had accomplished a great deal. "What happened here needs to be kept alive and moved on through the efforts of all," he said. "We have grown together in our study under God's Word." Dr. Preus commented that he detected a great sense of loyalty to the Synod throughout the week. He also indicated that the president's report to the Synod convention at Anaheim, Calif., this July would contain comments and recommendations based on what had occurred during the convocation week. He also called for an extensive Bible study program in the Synod.

Speaking for the sectional meeting of synodical officials, Dr. Wilbert Griesse, also chairman of the Council of (district) Presidents, suggested that it may be possible for the council to suggest further action based on the results of the convocation at their meeting April 28. He thanked all those who participated and said that most church leaders had felt the week's discussions were positively aimed at understanding of the issues. He said that the district presidents had agreed to facilitate local discussions which would be modeled after the convocation.

Dr. Alvin W. Mueller, a member of the synodical Board of Directors, representing the sectional group of parish pastors, indicated that most of the clergymen at the convocation felt "cautiously optimistic" about its outcome. "What we have learned is that people with differences can work toward resolving those differences through such meetings."

"This is the start of the road toward reconciliation," stated Mr. Harry Barr, also on the Board of Directors, for the sectional meeting of lay people. Though he said that those he represented thought more time is necessary to effect reconciliation, most felt that the controversy should be solved to allow for extension of mission.

As representative of synodical teachers who met the evening before, Arthur Linnemann said that the prevailing thought of that group was that further discussion and attempts at reconciliation in the church should include total openness, dialog and honesty. "We need to stay together," he commented.

Dr. Theodore Janzow, reporting for the meeting of college professors, administrators and student representatives, said that although the goals of the convocation may not have been

fully reached, there is "...confidence that this is a step in the right direction."

Some participants in the final plenary session felt that the issues had not been accurately presented during convocation discussion. Others said that reconciliation in the Synod is not a realistic goal and that specific steps should be taken against dissenters, including action at the Anaheim convention.

Following adjournment Friday morning, convocation participants attended a service of repentance followed by communion. Although most participants attended communion, there were some who did not commune due to reasons of conscience.

Dr. August Bernthal, fifth vice-president of the Synod, delivered the sermon for the communion service, calling for a renewal of hope in the church. "We may have differences of opinion, but we are very much alike," he said. "God has promised to cast away the gloom, if only we will let Him. Let the gloom be gone. Christ will take care of His church."

THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

**A recent Paris survey showed that only one person in seven could name one of the four Gospels. Only one in 24 had ever opened a Bible! On the other hand, France has 6,000 fortune tellers, and 100,000 Frenchmen visit them every day! Only two per cent of the French population claim any Protestant connection, and only .4 per cent can be considered evangelical.

**To preserve the Bible in the event a nuclear holocaust wipes out a portion of the world, the United Bible Societies have stored away in fireproof

vaults a copy of each of the 1,549 Bible translations.

**** One million American children run away from home every year.**

****Twelve Christians were recently arrested during a worship service in Turkey for "planning to spread Christian propaganda." They were later released, but all their books and literature were confiscated, and several may be deported. Turkey is one of the countries most antagonistic to the Gospel.**

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR
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Minneapolis, Minn. 55427

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