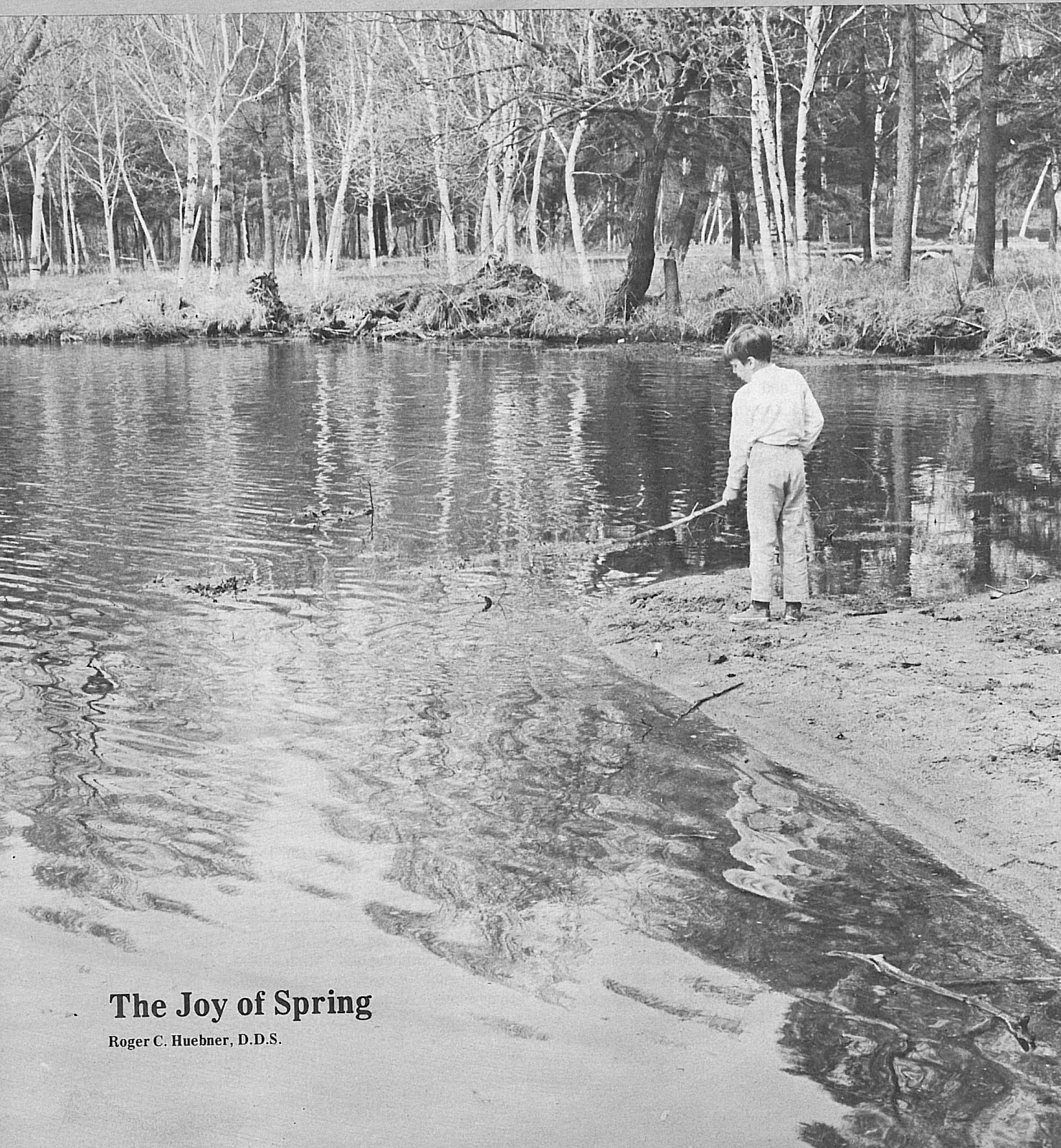


May 8, 1973

# The Lutheran Ambassador



**The Joy of Spring**

Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.

# MEDITATION MOMENTS

## HOW WAS YOUR FLIGHT?

This question is asked many times over each day as we come and go in the mobile world in which we live. The universality of this trend to travel was particularly evident to us as we became better acquainted with the Latin American way of life. The variety of ways to travel is a revelation in itself. But basically the question remains the same, did you have a good trip?

There is reason to ask this question beyond the courtesy of greeting someone or the small talk of conversation. Airplanes and automobiles crash. Traffic, weather and time are variants influencing travel. In Bolivia we always took into account the fiesta days and avoided traveling through certain areas because of drunkenness and the accompanying rowdiness. We, therefore, were warned and in turn warned others of certain known hazards.

This is true of the walk and way of the child of God. There are certain hazards and calculated dangers which he ought to avoid. Such avoidance will determine not only **survival** but **purpose** in the life of a child of God. This is not popular thinking today. Carnality in the church promotes ambiguity of God-desired ways to live.

On the other hand, the church continues to have some who are so busy building, as a pastor friend mentioned one day, "spiritual fences around themselves," that they would not dare to permit God's Word to really speak for itself when it says, "You are in the world but not of the world." We are not forewarned to be equipped with **self-righteousness** but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. The self-righteous cannot

come to the point anymore of realizing that he is wrong for, after all, he speaks for God. The problem is that he is speaking so much and so loudly that God cannot get a word in edgewise! The warning goes out by Jesus against the hypocrisy of the Scribes with their long robes (outward appearance), the oratorical gifts and seeking places of honor. Jesus attacked the bad leaven of the Pharisees. Their religion became an ego-centered, unbending, indisputable fact. Yet, when God's son, Jesus Christ came, they led the uprising to have Him hung because He threatened **their** system. Paul, in Romans 8, succinctly says, "... we are debtors, but not to the flesh to live by the standards set up by the dictates of the flesh." Then he gives us the answer to daily freedom in Christ, as he writes in verse 14, "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God." The Spirit of God will lead us, not in a slavish way, but to daily reality of Sonship.

Then there is a warning to the child of God to look out for spiritual sleepiness. There are too many coasting Christians. Paul again warns the Ephesian Christians to wake up and "Look carefully then how you walk! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the wise and witless but as wise, sensible, intelligent people, making the very most of the time—buying up each opportunity, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:15, 16, Ampl. Ver.).

It is so easy to rationalize what we **think** God would desire in certain situations until everything works out the way we **think** it ought to be. Donald Grey Barnhouse tells the Aesop-type story of the hunter and the bear. "As

the hunter raised his rifle, the bear called out, 'Can't we talk this over like two sober human beings?' The hunter lowered his gun. 'What's to talk over?' he asked. 'Well, for instance,' said the bear, coming closer, 'what do you want to shoot me for?' 'Simple,' grunted the hunter, 'I want a fur coat.' 'All I want is a good breakfast,' smiled the bear. 'I'm sure we can get together sensibly on this.' So they sat down to work out an agreement. After awhile the bear got up all alone. They had reached a compromise. The bear had secured his breakfast, and the hunter had on his fur coat." We become so convinced of the need of the agreement that the consumption of ourselves by the forces of evil (Satan) becomes painless. After all, a dead man does not cry out in pain. With reason the Scriptures warn about such conformity to the world in which we live. Paul says in Romans 12:1, 2, "... Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him. This is the true worship that you should offer. Do not conform outwardly to the standards of this world, but let God **transform** you **inwardly** by a complete change of your mind" (**Good News For Modern Man**). It is this daily transformation by God that keeps us on the same spiritual frequency with Him. Daily rededication to His cause makes sense of the causes created by iniquities and disasters in this world. Believe me, Satan and his forces are using these things to divert God's people.

Read Ephesians 6:10-12. Know your enemy and his purpose for you. Then know the living God and **his** purpose for you, in Christ Jesus.

Richard W. Gunderson

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# SOUNDS FROM SPACE

by Rev. Eugene Enderlein  
Minnewaukan, N. Dak.

Tarot cards in a home-order catalog...toy shops and department store shelves filled with fortune-telling games: Kabala, ESP, Ouija, Seance, etc....horoscopes in 1200 of the daily US newspapers.... CAN THIS BE AMERICA IN THE ENLIGHTENED 1970's?

Today we see a great resurgence of these things that are tied to the supernatural world of the OCCULT. The word "occult" means "hidden." People are attempting to determine or "read" the future by consulting these "hidden" methods. But God says, "The secret things belong unto the Lord our God..." (Deut. 29:29).

Why this sudden popularity of the occult? There are many contributing factors, some of which are: **First**, we live in an age of turmoil, of emotional anxiety and fear. Remember that the Lord Jesus gave this as one of the signs of the closing of the age and the nearness of His return when He said, "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth..." (Lk. 21:26). **Secondly**, this is an age of moral degeneracy and confusion; the absolutes have been abolished. Traditional values governing our behavior have been discarded, causing many people to feel like they are drifting on a sea of confusion without any place to anchor. **Thirdly**, the organized church in all too many instances has failed; it has not answered the questions that men are asking. In a time like ours when liberal theology is rampant, little room is given for the miraculous. Instead people's curiosity about these things is being satisfied through the occult with its supernatural mysteries. **Fourthly**, we have to consider man's basic curiosity. People are intrigued and drawn by the mysterious, the "unknown."



Rev. Eugene Enderlein

One area of the occult which is affecting many people, even many Christians, is the realm of astrology. ASTROLOGY is a word taken from two Greek words: "astra" meaning "star," and "logos," meaning "word" or logic and reason. Astrology actually means "the words of the stars" or SOUNDS FROM SPACE. To its unnumbered adherents, astrology has come to mean the INFLUENCE of the FORCE that the stars and accompanying heavenly bodies exert upon people's personalities and behavior, upon circumstances and even upon events that are yet future.

According to astrologers, if a photograph were to be taken of the heavens at the moment of one's birth, it would give them all they need to know to predict that person's life and destiny. A horoscope is this prediction of what the stars have determined for an individual's life. In astrology a person is not encouraged to consult his Creator, but rather to consult the stars and planets which move precisely through the heavens. A person is not encouraged to pray, but rather to consult the astrologer. One does not need to consult Scripture, but rather the horoscope.

## WHAT IS THE ORIGIN OF ASTROLOGY?

The ancient Chaldeans began to give the stars certain meanings, and we find record of this in some of the earliest writings known to man. They divided the heavens into twelve sections of the zodiac and said that the stars control the destiny of men. This grew into a flourishing religion and came to its height of glory in the Babylonian Empire. The astrologers and magicians were so much esteemed that every king in Babylon built giant observatories, called ziggurats, for these priests to observe the stars. Perhaps the great tower of Babel was actually a ziggurat, from which people hoped to surpass the power of the true God by reaching high into the heavens in order to chart the courses of the heavenly bodies and make predictions. In Genesis 11, we find that God had to destroy this effort and confused the languages of mankind so that evil would be restrained.

## WHAT DOES GOD SAY CONCERNING ASTROLOGY?

In Deuteronomy 18:10-12, He commanded, "There shall not be found among you any one...that useth divination or is an observer of times." God warned His people through Moses, "Beware lest you lift up your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun and the moon and the stars, all the host of heaven, you be drawn away and worship them and serve them, things which the Lord your God has allotted to all the peoples under the heavens" (Deut. 4:19).

Astrology was one of the lower forms of idolatry that had to be purged from His people, so God commanded, "If there is found among you within any of your towns which the Lord your God gives you, a man or woman who does what is evil in the sight of the Lord your God, in

transgressing his covenant, and has gone and served other gods and worshipped them, or the sun or the moon or any of the host of heaven, which I have forbidden, and it is told you and you hear of it; then you shall inquire diligently, and if it is true and certain that such an abominable thing has been done in Israel, then you shall bring forth to your gates that man or woman who has done this evil thing, and you shall stone that man or woman to death with stones. On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses he that is to die shall be put to death...so you shall purge this evil from the midst of you" (Deut. 17:2-7).

When King Josiah came to the throne of Judah he sent his servants to clean up the temple of the Lord, and the high priest found the Scriptures, the law of the Lord. King Josiah called all the people together to hear the word of the Lord and to lead them in a commitment of obedience to the Lord their God. Then he began cleansing the land of all forms of idolatrous worship, including those who promoted it. The priests of Baal and the astrologers were cast down and all books and instruments of worship were burned. (See II Kings 23:5.)

Through His servant Isaiah, God promised judgment upon the astrologers, the stargazers and monthly prognosticators. (See Isaiah 47:13, 14.) Isaiah challenged the people to see if any worth at all came from these astrologers. He told the people that they are as stubble, and in fact they cannot even save themselves from the power of the flame, let alone anyone else. We certainly see the truth of this in the book of Daniel. All the magicians and astrologers could not bring peace to King Nebuchadnezzar. Only Daniel, a faithful servant of the one true God, could tell the King his troubling dream and explain its meaning.

Astrology is a part of this present world system, or "cosmos." God commands His people, "Be not conformed to this world (cosmos); but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom. 12:2). Astrology is actually idolatry because these who are drawn into it are depending upon

its influence rather than upon God. God warns us through James, "Friendship with the world (cosmos) is enmity with God" (Jas. 4:4).

God warns Christians not to be drawn into low forms of worship because Christ has paid such an enormous price to set us free from these things! Paul writes, "Formerly when you did not know God, you were in bondage to invisible beings that by nature are not gods at all; but now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits whose slaves you want to be once more? you observe days, and months and seasons and years!... For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 4:8-11).

Astrology also has prophetic significance. In God's Revelation to John, he describes a woman riding a beast. John tells us that upon her forehead "a name was written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" (Rev. 17:5). This woman is symbolical of the false, pagan-type religious systems that will be prevelant at the end of the world, in fact so powerful that they will control the political empire of the world. What is this false religious system? It is summed up in one word, "Babylon." A study of Scripture and the origins of religions points clearly to the ancient cult of the Babylonian Empire: astrology, accompanied by idol worship and a drug culture.

Many people today think of astrology as a harmless pastime, but actually it is gilded paganism. From astrology has come the attitude that "it is written in the stars," or "whatever will be, will be." God's Word tells us just the opposite. Our destiny is not controlled by "fate" nor is it "written in the stars." Only God controls each person's destiny.

#### **HOW DO ASTROLOGERS PREDICT THE FUTURE?**

While it is true that many astrological writers merely make guesses at a person's future, not all can be dismissed so lightly. Some well-known modern seers have made amazing

predictions, and many have come true, such as the exact room in which Senator Robert Kennedy would be killed. The true child of God knows that Satan is very strong and his demons are working out detailed plans of evil. These demons can reveal these plans to those who open themselves to the powers of darkness. Of course, since neither the Devil nor his demonic helpers are all-knowing or all-powerful, they cannot predict just when the event will take place or if it actually WILL take place. Most likely they devise many evil plans whose outcomes are circumvented by the power of God and by praying Christians.

Actually astrology is not a true science, as astronomy is. This system is not even scientifically based on an accurate concept of the universe. The zodiac has actually shifted by an entire "house" (that is, by a full twelfth of the sun's apparent orbit) since 150 B.C. Yet astrologers go on making their predictions on outdated positions of the planets. Actually, astrologers have placed everyone under the wrong sign. Astrology is not a real science, but simply operates with signs, words and symbols.

#### **WHAT SHOULD THE TRUE CHRISTIAN'S ATTITUDE BE?**

The whole concept of guiding one's life by astrology is foreign to the message of the Bible. Instead we are told, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths" (Prov. 3:5, 6). The Bible says that in Christ alone "are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col. 2:3). Therefore, to believe in astrological influences and predictions is to rob Christ of His authority. Therefore, the true Christian should turn away from astrology and other occult influences and trust his destiny to the Lord Jesus Christ. His attitude should be, "My times are in God's hands. I will rely on HIS Word for my guidance." In His Word God forbids His children to employ any form of divination (Lev. 19:26b). Peter reminds us that the most reliable method of knowing the meaning of life and the future is the "more SURE word of prophecy" found in God's

*(Continued on page 13)*



# Blessed Mothers

By Rev. Elden Nelson  
Eugene, Oregon  
Proverbs 31:25-31

In 1914 the congress of our United States established the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day. However, Mother's Day is much older than that holiday we have observed since 1914, as we can see from our text; therein the writer states that "children arise up, and call her blessed" and "she shall be praised," indicating that mothers do deserve recognition. Of course, we must recognize the fact that God even commanded us to honor mother when He gave us the Ten Commandments, and so we pause on this day to pay tribute to Mother.

This thirty-first chapter of Proverbs points out some of the characteristics of a mother and wife, and certainly we are aware of some, if not all, of these characteristics in the mothers we have known. Verse 25 states that she has the strength to endure the trials of being mother, to hold the family together and, yes, even the physical strength to carry out her everyday duties. She must have the dignity of a woman in spite of the many situations she will often find herself in as a mother which, in themselves, are not conducive to that kind of dignity. Without wisdom she could not use the strength and dignity which she possesses to fulfill the many duties that she as a mother must perform. From early morning until late at night, she displays her ambition in caring and providing for those gathered as a family under her roof, and also for those of her own who have gone out to begin homes and families of their own. These are just some of the characteristics of a mother who cares for those whom the Lord has so graciously given to her.

In the study of Scripture we not only find characteristics of a mother, but we also find examples. We must admit that not all of the mothers found in Scripture are really worthy of the praise and blessing which children, and husbands usually give, at least

on Mother's Day. For the sake of comparison let us look briefly at two well-known mothers of the Old Testament. The first we want to look at is known as a wicked woman. She used her strength and dignity to achieve her own goals. Yes, Jezebel had at least some of the characteristics of a mother that we find listed in Proverbs 31, but we know that her aims were very misdirected and, as a result, her fate was a most terrible one. Not only did she have the characteristics of a mother, but she also had the children, which gave her the official title of mother, in spite of the fact that that title was not at all deserved. Those little eyes and minds of Jezebel's children followed what they had seen and learned from their mother. In I Kings 22:52, we read of her son Ahaziah, "He did evil in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the way of his father, and in the way of his mother," and in II Kings 3:2, we find that her other son, Jehoram, also "wrought evil in the sight of the Lord." And so, we can rightfully conclude that the wicked ways of this mother were learned and practiced by her very own children.

The second mother is one of whom we can find written no harsh words of criticism or condemnation. Hannah had the characteristics of a mother, but she had much more than just those of strength, dignity, wisdom, ambition, etc. In the account of Hannah in I Samuel 1-2 we find that she also had a sincere and deep desire to be a mother. Her desire was so strong and so deep that with tears flowing down her cheeks she asked God for a son. I'm sure that there are many women who have asked for as much, but I fear that there are few who have been willing to vow to the Lord as Hannah did: "Then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life" (I Samuel 1:11). Hannah kept her vow; when she had weaned Samuel, she took him to the house of the Lord and gave him to Eli, the priest, to serve the Lord all of his days. Of this child, we read in I Samuel 3:19: "And

Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him." What a contrast in the lives of these two mothers and their offspring.

Mothers must identify with either Jezebel or Hannah; without a doubt all mothers would, at least, want to identify with Hannah, but what about the lives of your children; with whom do they compare, Jehoram or Samuel? Was it coincidental the way Jehoram and Samuel lived their lives? I'm afraid not. I believe that Hannah had the key of true motherhood.

"A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised" (Proverbs 31:30). Hannah was that kind of a woman. Her strength was not in self, but it was in the Lord, and she had the confidence to bow in prayer and ask God by His strength to give her a son. That confidence was honor, not to Hannah, but to Jehovah, whom she loved and trusted. Her wisdom, too, was of the Lord. No mother can carry out her work, in a way acceptable to God and worthy of praise, without His wisdom. "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally" (James 1:5). Certainly, in this day, there is not a mother that can get along without God's wisdom: be humble enough to ask for it. Care was manifested in the life of Hannah as she made and brought a robe to Samuel each year, along with her yearly sacrifice. This act not only manifests her care, but it manifests her ambition or zeal for the Lord's work. She made herself available and busy for the Lord.

Perhaps we have come to the conclusion that this mother made a very noble sacrifice and, most certainly, she did. However, as we read on in I Samuel 2, we find that God continued to bless Hannah's life with five more children. Don't forget that she had been childless before asking God to give her a son. He blessed her far above what she had asked. In verse 28 of our text, we find it said of a God-fearing woman that "her children rise up and call her blessed." This is the reward a God-fearing mother receives on Mother's Day, and should receive every day from her children.

We, as children of God-fearing mothers, should be most careful to

*(Continued on page 12)*

## BIBLE SCHOOL YEARS WORTHWHILE

Two years at Bible School proved to me to have many more blessings than I expected. I didn't expect that being here I would have so many trying times or "down" times. But I found through these things that God helps us to trust Him more. And He has guided and strengthened me in my trials, ups and downs, and decisions which have come along.

What a blessing it's been to be able to be in God's Word and fellowship with other Christians every day. It's something that we can have only at a Christian school.

Being in His Word every day I've seen more of God's promises to me and His love for me. Also He has given me assurance of the special plan and purpose He has for me.

Although He didn't need to He has in a way "proven" Himself to me or else opened my eyes to understanding Him better: His faithfulness, mercy, love, patience, answers to prayer, ways He speaks to me and numberless other blessings.

Ephesians 6:17 says, "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God."

I need the Word of God to guide me in my Christian life, and I feel that the two years spent here were needful and worthwhile.

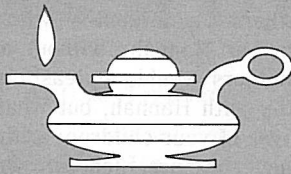
Mary Kvanvig '73

## PROMOTION DAYS AT BIBLE SCHOOL

The annual Promotion Days at AFLBS were held on April 13-14. Approximately 80 prospective and former students were in attendance. On Friday night a basketball game was played between the present students and the old grads. The current students won in a game whose second half proved a good deal longer than the first one. Informal fellowship rounded out the evening's activities.

Rev. R. Snipstead, dean of AFLBS, led the morning chapel hour on Saturday. Rev. Amos O. Dyrud and Rev. Harold Hosch, instructors at AFLBS, led the Bible studies at 9:45, giving the prospective students an idea of what classwork is like at a Bible

(Continued on page 11)



# SCHOOL NEWS

## FIRST SEMINARY SHORT COURSE

Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary is presenting its first Summer Short Course. It is for pastors, lay pastors and interested laymen. Laymen who are considering licensing as lay pastors in the church must attend the Short Course as a part of their requirement. Present lay pastors should take part in the Short Course if they are seeking renewal of their licenses. Ordained pastors will want to attend the Seminar for the enrichment it will give to their ministries. Dates of the Seminary Short Course are July 30 to August 10. The courses to be taught are as follows:

**ROMANS** ..... 1 hour (2 weeks)

by Pastor Laurel Udden

2 semester credits

**REFORMATION CHURCH HISTORY** ..... 2 hours (2 weeks)

by Dr. Iver Olson

4 semester credits

**METHODOLOGY OF SERMON PREPARATION** ..... 1 hour (1 week)

by Pastor Harold Hosch

1 semester credit

**PASTORAL THEOLOGY** ..... 1 hour (1 week)

by Pastor John Strand, Pastor Amos Dyrud

1 semester credit

In lieu of examinations, we shall assign papers to be written and handed in by February 1, 1974.

## Class schedule, July 30 through August 10, 1973

(Classes are held Monday through Friday each week)

7:45- 8:00 a.m. — Opening devotions

8:00- 8:50 a.m. — Reformation Church History

9:00- 9:50 a.m. — Reformation Church History

9:50-10:10 a.m. — Mid-morning break

10:10-11:00 a.m. — Methodology of Sermon Preparation (first week)  
Pastoral Theology (second week)

11:10-12:00 noon — Romans

The costs of the Short Course will be:

Registration fee: \$5.00

Room at the Bible School Dormitory: \$1.50 per day

(Please bring linen and blankets as needed)

Books approximately: \$10.00

Meals can be obtained in area restaurants.

Please pre-register by mail before July 1.

Address:

The Seminary Faculty

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.

Minneapolis, Minn. 55441



# Women For Christ

## Honorary Memberships, 1972-73

Special interest has been engendered in the Honorary Membership/In Memoriam project of the Women's Missionary Federation this past year. The funds received are being allocated for the housing of our missionaries when they are home on furlough. Pastor Connely Dyrud and his family are the first beneficiaries of this fund, and with the return of the George Kanpp family there will be additional needs to be met.

The following ladies have been honored with Honorary Memberships during the past fiscal year of the Women's Missionary Federation either by their local groups, friends or family:

Mrs. Russell Duncan	Fargo, North Dakota	Mrs. Elsie Farb	Cumberland, Wisconsin
Mrs. Chris Anderson	Wadena, Minnesota	Mrs. Albert Olson	Cumberland, Wisconsin
Mrs. Rena Schultz	Spokane, Washington	Mrs. Elmer Holland	Roseau, Minnesota
Mrs. Waino Raatika	Wadena, Minnesota	Mrs. Severin Halverson	Roseau, Minnesota
Mrs. Aslaug Sather	Spokane, Washington	Mrs. Emery Austin	Greenbush, Minnesota
Mrs. Marlow Martinson	Hampden, North Dakota	Mrs. Tyne Niemi	Cloquet, Minnesota
Mrs. Robert Kimber	Henning, Minnesota	Mrs. Mary Pouti	Cloquet, Minnesota
Mrs. Luther Moen	Henning, Minnesota	Mrs. Julia Seppala	Cloquet, Minnesota
Mrs. Clarence Johnson	Henning, Minnesota	Mrs. Myrtle Christianson	Colfax, Wisconsin
Mrs. Alma Eliason	Glenwood, Minnesota	Mrs. Edmund Faehn	Wallace, South Dakota
Mrs. Martha Jacobson	Broton, Minnesota	Mrs. Martha Larson	Shevlin, Minnesota
Mrs. Tillie Medalen	Sunburg, Minnesota	Mrs. Grace Ekre	Shevlin, Minnesota
Mrs. Mathilda Gunderson	Broton, Minnesota	Mrs. Grace Sharping	Pukwana, South Dakota
Mrs. Goline Noyes	Starbuck, Minnesota	Mrs. Theli Knudsvig	Buxton, North Dakota
Mrs. Clara Medalen	Sunburg, Minnesota	Mrs. Marie Dreyer	Spokane, Washington
Miss Inga Helland*	Oslo, Norway	Mrs. Clara Moe	Grafton, North Dakota
Mrs. Maybelle Holt	Fosston, Minnesota	Mrs. Alice Barto	Greenbush, Minnesota
Miss Marion Hellekson	Minneapolis, Minnesota	Mrs. Gustine Hermanson	Greenbush, Minnesota
Mrs. Arthur Tengwall	Sunburg, Minnesota	Mrs. Walter Enger	Tioga, North Dakota
Mrs. Arthur Reigstad	Sunburg, Minnesota	Mrs. Theodore Hoiland	Hampden, North Dakota
Mrs. Olaf Knutson	Sunburg, Minnesota	Mrs. Opal Undseth	Everett, Washington
Mrs. Sophie Spellman	Colfax, Wisconsin	Mrs. Petra Lee	Everett, Washington
Mrs. Helga Skurdahl	Fargo, North Dakota	Mrs. Lillian Forsberg	Everett, Washington
Mrs. Carl Blegen	Churchs Ferry, North Dakota	Mrs. Marilyn Christianson	Everett, Washington
Mrs. Bert Thorstad, Sr.	Thief River Falls, Minnesota	Mrs. Gladys Morton	Everett, Washington
Mrs. Elina Luikkonen	Minneapolis, Minnesota	Mrs. Forrest Swenson	Winger, Minnesota
Mrs. Marie Kyro	Minneapolis, Minnesota	Mrs. Sam Peters	Winger, Minnesota
Mrs. Mary Hanka	Minneapolis, Minnesota	Mrs. Robert Bursheim	Winger, Minnesota
Mrs. Robert Lee	Tioga, North Dakota	Mrs. Haldor Hegg	McIntosh, Minnesota
Mrs. Norma Shugrud	Bagley, Minnesota	Mrs. Bert Haagenon	McIntosh, Minnesota
Mrs. Nola F. Bruwer	Eagle Butte, South Dakota	Mrs. Grace Boen	Karlstad, Minnesota
Mrs. Russel Keckler	Eagle Butte, South Dakota	Mrs. Orden Fosse	McIntosh, Minnesota
Mrs. Charles White	Cumberland, Wisconsin	Mrs. Gunnie Ostenaa	McIntosh, Minnesota
Mrs. Edward Knutson	Cumberland, Wisconsin	Mrs. John Sundhagen	McIntosh, Minnesota
Mrs. Chris Mathison	Cumberland, Wisconsin	Mrs. Marvin Overdorf	Tioga, North Dakota
Mrs. Otto Thompson	Cumberland, Wisconsin	Mrs. Olida Johnson	Tioga, North Dakota
Mrs. Arthur Nelson	Cumberland, Wisconsin	Mrs. Laimi Pihlaja	Fargo, North Dakota
Mrs. Edward Brown	Cumberland, Wisconsin	Mrs. Marie Peterson	Ishpeming, Michigan
Mrs. Henry Solum	Cumberland, Wisconsin		Ishpeming, Michigan
Mrs. Edward Shields	Cumberland, Wisconsin		

\* Retired LFC missionary to Madagascar

## TRACTS

by Mrs. Albin Dalager  
Webster, S. Dak.

"Cast your bread upon the waters,  
for you will find it after many days"  
(Eccles. 11:1).

Christians have the only remedy for sin but still some of them fail to witness. "The harvest is plenteous but the laborers are few." Could we as "Women for Christ," the Women's Missionary Federation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, do more? We must go to the unsaved with the Word, for very few unsaved will come to us. The Gospel reads, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation" (Mark 16:15). There is one Christian service every child of God can do... tract distribution.

Tracts are wonderful, silent workers for Christ. They can go anywhere—many places you cannot go. They never tire, never quarrel, never lose their temper, never answer back and travel at little expense. They are not disillusioned by jeers, taunts, or scoffing. When a Gospel tract is put into a sinner's hand and it is the means to his salvation, it will start a circle for the Lord that will continue to widen. God multiplies the seed that is sown.

Tracts can be used in many different ways. They can be given in person or through the mail. Once delivered, a tract will continue to work. It will turn up time after time and faithfully deliver its message, always the same; often to people who have no other means of hearing about Christ and salvation.

A nice gesture is to insert tracts in your Christmas cards, get-well cards, birthday cards and personal letters. An appropriate tract could also be enclosed in your card of condolence to the bereaved. If you don't have the courage to hand them out personally, you could place them where they will be picked up and read. Places such as depots, doctors' offices, hospitals, etc., are good places to leave tracts, praying that they will find their way into someone's hands. They can also be left in magazines at these places. They are a silent witness when used in this way... a witness to proclaim to the

world that Christ died and rose again as the redemption for our sins.

Mr. J. Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission, was led to Christ by a tract, as were many of our best Christian workers. They in turn will continue to spread the Gospel through tracts, probably never seeing any results while on earth but praying they will in glory.

Whether we see results or not, tracts, as silent messengers, will continue their never-wavering ministry long after we are gone.

Sow thou with loving care, With steadfast faith and tears; Sow on in patient hope with prayer, Sow till the Lord appears.—Anon.

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## MY DAYS ARE NUMBERED

My days are numbered, that I know;  
I have not got so far to go.  
A rugged stretch of road, maybe,  
There still may lie ahead of me.  
But if my Savior holds my hand,  
I know I shall reach heaven's land.

The span of life allotted man  
On earth is three score years and ten.  
Those years I've passed, my strength  
seems spent,  
My tired soul is heaven-bent.  
I long to leave this world's discord  
And be forever with my Lord.

Thou God hast been my strength and  
stay,  
My Helper through the darkest day.  
When burdened with a load of care,  
I turned to Thee in earnest prayer.  
Thou gav'st me strength and hope  
and cheer,  
And took away all anxious fear.

Thy goodness, Lord, along life's way,  
Has followed me from day to day.  
So often, Lord, have I failed Thee,  
But Thou hast never once failed me.  
For all life's blessings, joy and pain,  
I give Thee thanks in Jesus' Name.

—Sina Molskness

(Ed. Note: This poem was read at Mrs. Molskness' funeral last fall. She was the mother of Mrs. Palmer Russum, Grafton, N. Dak., and grandmother of Vernon and John Russum of Grafton.)

## ROBERT DeBOER OF CALIFORNIA PASSED AWAY LAST MONTH

Mr. Robert James DeBoer, youngest son of Rev. and Mrs. John DeBoer of Villard, Minn., and brother of Rev. Hubert DeBoer, Thief River Falls, Minn., passed away in his sleep on Wednesday night, April 11.

Robert had made his home in a suburb of Oakland, Calif., for about 20 years and it was there that he passed away, leaving a wife to mourn his passing.

Pastors John and Hubert DeBoer flew out the following Friday evening to be with the family. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Shull, Anacortes, Wash., the only sister of the deceased, drove down to California to attend the funeral also.

## FUND FOR STOVE IN BRAZIL STARTED

When the Connely Dyruds (missionaries on furlough) were guests at the Minneapolis District WMF rally at Green Lake Lutheran Church, Spicer, Minn., in April, mention was made of the need for a commercial-type stove for the Bible School and Seminary in Brazil. The District WMF voted to send \$100.00 in trust to Mrs. J. C. Eletson, WMF treasurer, until the total amount needed, approximately \$500.00, can be raised. It is our hope that other district organizations will share in this endeavor.

Mr. Norman Haugen, Secretary Minneapolis District WMF  
(Ed. Note: The report of the District rally will be contained in the next issue of the **Ambassador**.)

## NEWS FROM ONTONAGON, MICHIGAN

A public address system for Redeemer Lutheran Church was dedicated on Sunday, April 1. The system consists of an amplifier, two microphones and two speakers. It is the gift of friends both within and without the congregation.

Pastor and Mrs. Karl Stendal made a quick trip to St. Louis, Mo., in March to visit their son David and his family.

Rev. Herbert Franz of Cloquet, Minn., was guest speaker at a series of evangelistic meetings at Redeemer Lutheran, April 1-5.



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# editorials

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## SITUATION CLOUDED

We are confused. To hear some people talk, with apparently reliable sources, the Christian Church in Russia and satellite countries is completely underground. Whatever may seem like organized Christian work out in the open is not true Christianity but a compromised facsimile.

To hear other people talk, with apparently equally reliable sources, there is genuine and sincere Christian work carried on in Russia and satellite countries with the permission of the government. Granted, there can be no public teaching of the young, but worship can be conducted so long as no attacks are made on the government in the preaching.

So, as we said, we are confused as to whom to believe. That Christians under Communism have been persecuted, no one can deny, or that many are imprisoned today for the cause of the Gospel of Jesus. On the other hand, we've heard some pretty convincing things about Christians living courageous lives, observed by the government, not having complete freedom, but some freedom to live their faith without molestation.

We are inclined to believe that there is genuine Christian faith and life also among those who participate in the openly public worship services and who try to live their lives under Communist government without going underground in respect to their Christian worship. They will not have the job opportunities that others have, to be sure, but they can get along. God will provide, even as He sustains those who do go underground and those who are being persecuted in more dramatic ways for their faith in Jesus.

Let us bear in mind the brethren who do not have it as easy as we do in following the Lord, all the time being mindful of the special temptations that come to us in our materialistically-oriented culture and which could cause us to lose our faith.

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### TABOR LUTHER LEAGUE PRESENTS PROGRAM AT WALLACE

A festive family night was enjoyed by the Calvary Lutheran Church of Wallace, S. Dak., on Sunday, April 15. Many people were present. The Tabor Luther League of rural Webster presented a very inspirational program in word and song. The choir

was directed by Mrs. Reuben Nelson. Rev. Howard Kjos is pastor at Tabor.

Miss Dongau Song was special guest of honor as she is leaving for her native New Guinea in early summer. She has spent the past school year with Mr. and Mrs. Norris Melland, former missionary teachers in New Guinea.

Pastor Larry Severson of Wallace was host during the social hour. Gifts

## PRAYER IN CHURCH

Should there be prayer in church? What an odd question. Of course, there should be. The next question is this, how much do we pray in church? The pastor prays quite a little and we pray some prayers together. Now, how much do we as individuals pray in church?

This whole question was raised when we had occasion to attend a service in a church of another Lutheran synod, which shall not be named, recently. As we waited for the evening service to begin, we noticed a number of people who upon entering their pews knelt on the kneelers and spent some moments in prayer. A few others were seated, but also in prayer. Families, young people, older people participated. It seemed a beautiful thing.

Of course, there is the ready objection among us, to whom this is quite foreign (people kneeling in prayer in church), that the whole thing is "Catholic" and is quite likely to be only show or form. And there may be form and ritual involved. It would be strange if they were wholly absent.

There could be some genuineness in the practice, too. One cannot tell from just looking on. The thought came to us, how much prayer is raised by Association people as they take their places in church on Sunday mornings or at other services? There may not be an Association church with kneelers in it, but are hearts being lifted to the Lord in prayer as one sits and awaits the opening of the service or meeting? There may not be as much of that as we'd like to think. And if not, why not? It ought to be a part of our being in church. We prayed before we left for church, one will say. Well and good, but the church among other things is a house of prayer. Jesus said that.

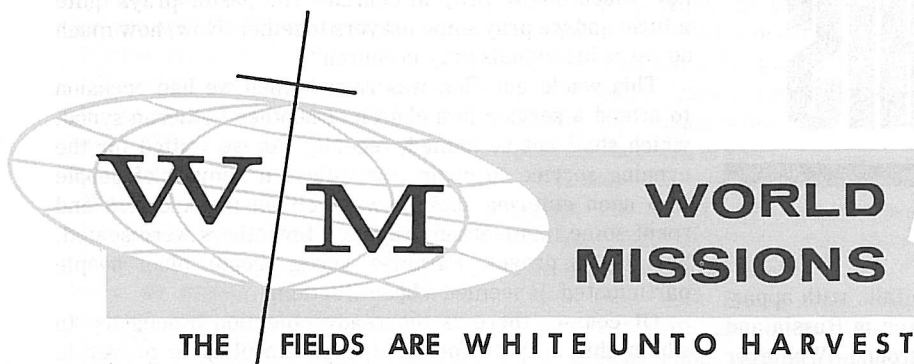
One other thing. We were struck by the sense of reverence in this particular church. Was it a genuine reverence or only one of training and atmosphere? We don't know. We suspect some of it was genuine. Reverence seems to come easier in a large, very churchly-type building, as this one was. In our churches we could learn a greater spirit of reverence. Sometimes only the beginning of the opening hymn ends conversation. This is not a good witness or good preparation for the beginning of the service.

We look askance at some of the breezy familiarity some popular religious groups reveal toward God. It turns us off. At the same time, as we hold to the availability of the Lord, His accessibility, let our lives and our worship show a quiet reverence for God who is exalted and who deserves our full adoration.

were presented to Miss Song by the Sunday School supervisor, Mrs. Dorothy Wibeto, from the WMF by Mrs. Emma Anenson and from the Family Night group by Arthur Wasland.

Dongau Song and Mrs. Melland responded with thanks, expressing the bonds of fellowship felt by the people of New Guinea.

—Emma Sakarison



## **"WHAT NEXT?"**

by Roger Ose

Within the next few weeks many of you will be graduating from high school or college. What next? For those of you who are thinking of serving overseas as missionaries, I'd like to suggest a few important qualifications:

1. **Call:** Be sure of your call. Ask God to show you His will every day. While still in grade school it's not too early to begin praying about God's will for your life. Date boys or girls who share your sense of call.

2. **Commitment:** Use your early morning hours for study and preparation for your day. If possible, begin each day with a time of private Bible study and prayer. Meet God before you meet man.

3. **Cooperation:** Lack of cooperation between missionaries can be a serious handicap to the Lord's work. Learn to get along with people who are very different from you. Once you are overseas you do not go where you want to go. You are placed. That means you have little or no choice in deciding who is your neighbor. Cooperate with him, whoever he is. And above all, have a kind word to say about him in his absence.

4. **Criticism:** Be willing to accept graciously any suggestions and criticism of your work. If the person who criticized you is right, then change. If not, then it doesn't matter anyway. Pray that the Lord would guard your words. If you must criticize somebody, do it to his face. First give him

one or two genuine, honest compliments. Then share your suggestion in love and kindness.

5. **Count the Cost:** Some missionaries are continually out of money while others (on the same salary) have a little left each month. Stay within your budget and you will avoid many troubles. Sometimes you may have to spend most of your monthly salary for items directly related to the work of the national Church. Give it gladly. It's the Lord's money, anyway.

6. **Creativity:** Learn to do without 90% of the recreation you now consider essential. We are living in a small farming town that has few recreational facilities outside of the Friday night soccer game. So we plan our own recreation. We sometimes go to the mountain near here to watch the sunset. Or we go down to the river to swim. Our boys can spend hours just watching our new baby chickens.

7. **Come Prepared:** Get all the education you can. College and Bible School are very important. If you are a teacher, nurse, or pastor, get the best possible preparation. World mission boards are looking for young people well-trained in special fields to assist growing national churches.

8. **Composure:** Roads out here are bad. Sometimes we have to wait two days by a river before the waters are low enough so we can drive across the bridge. Those missionaries having the quality of calmness under even very difficult circumstances are able to wait. Others get extremely tense and unhappy. Learn to relax. Patience is a virtue. Another thing we

learned fast was "Malagasy time." A service was scheduled for 9AM. The people came about 10 AM. The service began around 10:15 AM. An hour more or less doesn't seem to bother the Malagasy. So why should it bother us? Be flexible.

9. **Contentment:** Learn to do without things. Your baggage may arrive a month or a year after you do. Or it may never arrive. Don't make your happiness dependent on THINGS. In our little town we haven't been able to buy flour for a month, sugar for two months, or ripe tomatoes for three months. You just can't buy pizza and a malted milk here for any price. If you have to have "things," you better stay home.

10. **Cheerful Tithing:** Get in the habit of taking out the Lord's share before you pay your other bills. You'll be delighted to find out how much is left.

11. **Combined Effort:** The entire family is involved in missionary work. When someone comes and needs help just at mealtime, your wife must either wait with dinner, or feed the children without you. It's people that you came to serve. And they don't always come for help at times convenient for your family. On the other hand, the husband should be aware of the additional work required to keep a home going in a town where there are no TV dinners or hamburger stands. Just about every meal has to be prepared from scratch. The husband should help, particularly on washdays.

12. **Common Sense:** It's not a gift. It's acquired. If you want to take a valuable course in preparation for overseas mission work, I'd suggest automobile mechanics. When something is broken, fix it yourself. Common sense is the virtue that crowns so many other virtues.

13. **Choose Priorities:** What is top priority? Leading people to Jesus Christ and helping them to become participating members in a growing church comes first. Get your priorities straight.

14. **Conclusive:** When you start something, finish it.

(Ed. Note: Pastor Ose is a missionary in Madagascar. His parents are members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Thief River Falls, Minn. He has written for the **Ambassador** before.)



# Letters

## TO THE EDITOR

### MINI-SKIRTS, DRINKING AND ABORTION

We all know Mr. Paul Harvey. He is one of the most prominent and outspoken commentators of our time.

He asked the law enforcement officials in 50 states of our nation this very pertinent question: "Does the mini-skirt encourage sex crime?"

Ninety-two percent answered—"YES."

The world is telling us the truth about the awful consequences of this ungodly and improper way of dressing, but most Christian commentators, editors and pastors are completely mum.

I wonder why?

I never forget how my good friend, Dr. Ole Hallesby, spoke out about these things and the style during that time was not half as bad as it is now. He was not afraid to speak the truth, and the people listened for he spoke with authority.

Another report revealed that rape had increased several hundred percent since the mini-skirt was introduced. The woman who introduced this dress was not ashamed to tell the whole world what her purpose was. It is so filthy that it cannot be printed in a Christian paper.

A girl wrote to Ann Landers and asked, "Aren't there any decent boys left in the world?" In less than a year of dating she had not met one boy who didn't propose an immoral act, and one, about ten minutes after she got into his car.

I would have answered this girl: "Don't put all the blame on the boys: you are encouraging this very thing by the way you dress."

Is it possible to glorify Christ by your testimony when you encourage crime by your appearance?

Every Christian lady and girl

should insist that there should be a limit. If you want your testimony for the Lord to be consistent and effective, wear a dress of respectable length, otherwise your dress speaks so loud that we cannot hear your words.

#### Then, what about social drinking?

It is not the nine million alcoholics in our land who encourage our youth to take the first glass, but the social drinkers. And before long some of these young people are caught as drunken drivers killing someone on the highway. The social drinkers that induced the youth to take the first drink are just as guilty of murder as the one who killed somebody on the road.

Some church members, and even professing Christians, are indulging in this very thing. Some time ago I met a man, who was a member of the church council in one of the Lutheran churches, carrying a case of beer out of the grocery store. He became very much embarrassed. I said, you do not need to get embarrassed by meeting me, but what about God? He has seen this all the time.

It is impossible to influence people to become murderers and at the same time follow Jesus Christ who died on Calvary to save you from all sin.

Then we have abortion, legalizing the murder of innocent babies. Hundreds and thousands are murdered every year.

How is it that so few of our Protestant churches are not protesting?

Soon it will be legalized to do away with the old and feeble.

America is going pell-mell to destruction like Sodom and Gomorrah.

PRAY, PRAY FOR REVIVAL IN OUR CHURCHES AND IN OUR LAND!

—Rev. Lars Stalsbroten  
Eugene, Oregon

(Continued from page 6)

school. Don Rodvold, music director at the school, molded everybody, past, present and future students, into a mass choir which sang at the evening rally.

In the afternoon there was time for sightseeing and relaxation. One large group toured the IDS building in Minneapolis.

Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn., was the speaker at the rally in the evening. Special music was presented by the Choral Club, newly returned from its tour, the Gospel team which will be travelling this summer, and the mass choir.

The largest delegation to Promotion Days came from Grace and Zion Churches at Valley City, N. Dak., Robert Lloyd Lee, pastor.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sat., May 5—School Banquet

May 14-16—3rd Quarter Final Examinations

Fri., May 18—Graduation Exercises.

Rev. Jay G. Erickson, Ferndale, Wash., speaker.

### FAMILY BIBLE CAMP WILL TAKE PLACE JULY 9-15

Mrs. Aini Myking, Minneapolis, Minn., will serve as dean of women at the 11th annual Family Bible Camp sponsored by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, all of them held at Lake Geneva Bible Camp, Alexandria, Minn. Rev. Dennis Gray, Grafton, N. Dak., will be the dean of men at the camp which will be in session July 9-15.

All potential campers, of all ages, are reminded that it is necessary to have a report of a recent physical examination with you when you come to camp. Please take care of this.

Rev. Robert L. Lee, Valley City, N. Dak., has been announced as the evening speaker at the camp. Pastor Harold Hosch, Minneapolis, and Mr. Philip Haugen, Minneapolis, will teach the adult and youth Bible studies, respectively. Rev. Connely Dy-rud, Thief River Falls, Minn., will lead the mission hours.

Lay Pastor Gene Sundby, Greenbush, Minn., is dean of the 1973 camp.

# Why Worry?

by G. M. Trygstad

"Oh, how it worries me! It just makes me sick." How often we hear this expression. It may not always sound so serious, but it contains more truth than poetry.

Do **you** worry? You say, how can I help but worry? Here's my family, my business, and so many other things in a state of uncertainty. If I could only **know**!

Do you know what is the cause of worry? It is **unbelief**. The Bible speaks of unbelief as a cardinal sin. "Of sin because they have not believed on me" (John 16:9).

I wish to ask you another question. Do you believe God is almighty? And do you believe the Bible is His unailing word? You answer, "Why certainly I do." Then I am ready to try to convince you that **all** your worries are needless.

Will you please memorize this text, "Rejoice in the Lord alway." "Be anxious for nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:4-7).

How can you be anxious, and worry, when you are happy and rejoicing? "Be anxious for nothing," or "Worry about nothing." Look at the beautiful truth in Psalm 16:11, "**Thou** wilt show me the path of life, in thy presence is **fulness of joy**; at Thy right hand are pleasures forever more." In other words, **know** God and trust Him, and there will be no room for worry in your heart. If you fill a glass with water, surely you can get no more into it. If the Lord may fill your heart with His Holy Spirit, whose first fruit is, "Love, joy, peace" (Gal. 5:22), how can you get any worry into it?

**Get acquainted with your Bible!** "**Know the Lord!**" (Jer. 31:34). Memorize His precious, unailing promises, and when things seem to go wrong ask the Holy Spirit to bring out the right promise, and **cover** your

trouble with that. There will not even be a chance for trouble to come in. Listen! "And we know that **all** things **work together for good** to them that love God" (Rom. 8:28). Trust Him for that whether you understand it or not. Suffering, adversity, poverty; leave it to Him. "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31). "Have faith in God." "Whatsoever things ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:22, 24).

Again, let us read I John 5:14-15, "And this is the confidence we have in **Him**, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us; and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him." Please memorize these passages and see what they shall mean to you in your future life.

George Mueller of Bristol, England, was a man of faith. God put it on his heart to care for some of England's poor orphans. It was a venture of faith altogether. To read his biography is a marvelous stimulant for faith. I shall just mention two incidents. He had about three thousand five hundred children to care for plus all the personnel.

One evening they had no bread on hand for the next day. As usual they gathered to lay all matters before God in prayer, and the need for bread was not forgotten. During the night a baker friend could not sleep. He decided to bake a day's supply of bread for the orphanage, and send it as a gift.

Another early morning they had no promise of milk for the day. A large milk wagon came by and directly in front of the orphanage, one of the wheels broke down. Rather than let his supply go to waste he offered it as a gift to the children. Needless to say, both instances were taken as answer to prayers.

In conclusion let us repeat, "**Be anxious for nothing!**" "Casting **all** your cares upon Him, Who careth for you"

(I Peter 5:7). At **all** times rest assured that the **Lord** loves you above all others. He says: "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will not I forget thee" (Isaiah 49:15). "Delight thyself also in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass" (Ps. 37:4-5). "Let go, let God."

So now and for **all** time we leave our worries behind and keep looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. "He is yesterday, today, and forever the same."

"Go bury thy worries; the world has its share;

Go bury them deeply, go hide them with care.

Go think of them calmly when curtained by night;

Go tell them to Jesus, and all will be right."

—Courtesy, Tract Mission

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(Continued from page 5)

express our gratitude to Mother and to God for the love, care and fear of God that we have been told of at our mother's knee.

Mothers, does God by the power of His Holy Spirit so control your life today that your children will rise up and call you blessed? Maybe you are not that kind of a mother, but would like to be. It may mean radical change in your heart and life, but you are promised that change in II Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Yes, you may become a new mother, a new person. Christ **in you** is the key to true motherhood. Christ **in you** will give your children true reason to rise up and call you blessed.



## HAVE YOU MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS IN FERNDALE?

The time of the 1973 Annual Conference of the AFLC, to be held in Ferndale, Wash., is rapidly approaching. Reservations for lodging should be made at once if they have not been taken care of already. Please refer to the information given in the March 27 issue of the **Ambassador**.

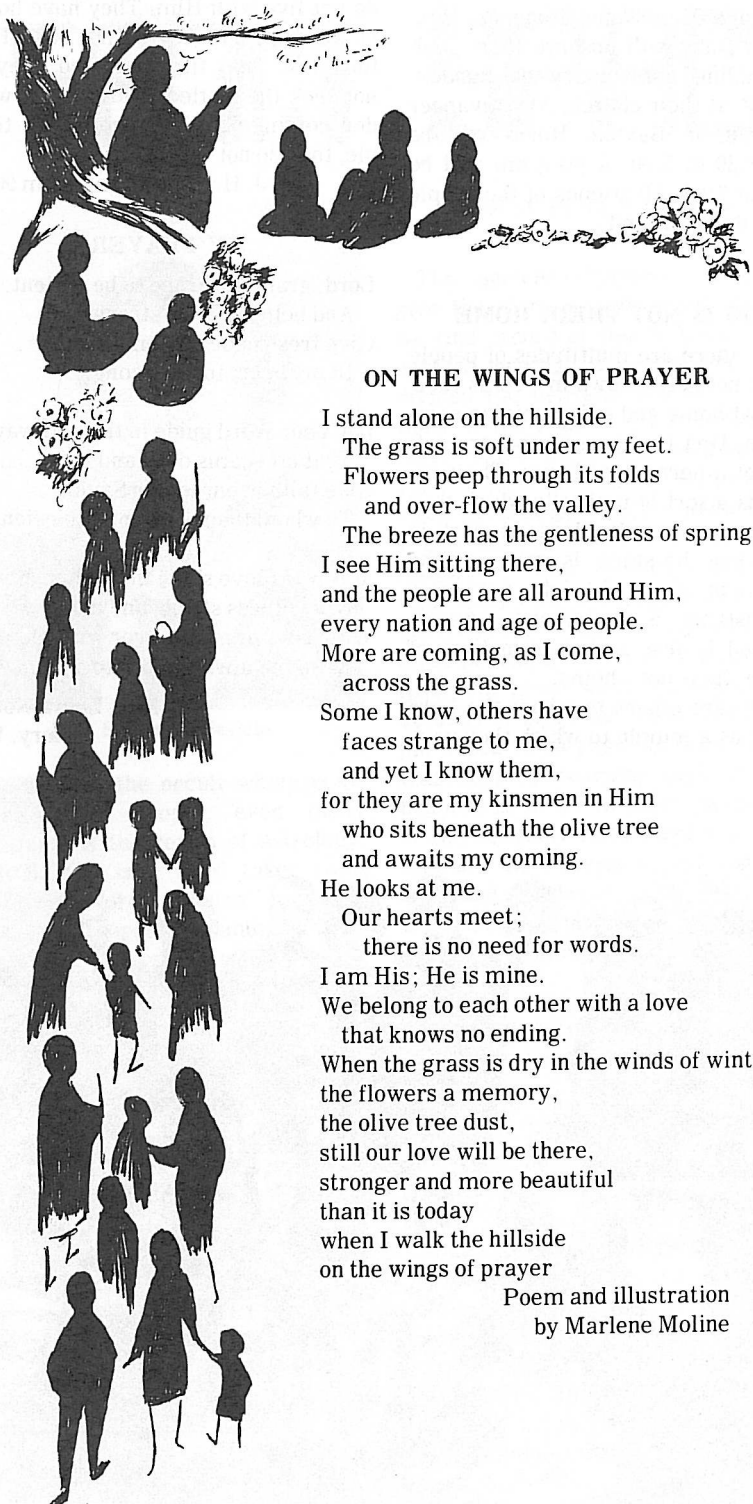
Accommodations in motels, hotel, campsites, cabins and private housing were available and some of that may still be available. For immediate information, contact Conference Housing Committee. c/o Gordon Pederson, 782 Malloy Road, Ferndale, Wash. 98248.

*(Continued from page 4)*

Word. (See II Peter 1:19.)

A minister who saw his mission to be that of fighting superstition had his horoscope cast for the sake of study only. He wanted to prove that it was mere superstition and deceit. Of course, he had to pay a large fee. He waited confidently for the horoscope to show its errors, but was amazed to see prophecy after prophecy being fulfilled. For eight years all the predictions came true to the smallest detail. Finally he realized that he had been caught in a dangerous situation. Demonic powers really were at work, and he, a true Christian, had willingly involved himself. Finally, he saw no other way of escape than repenting and asking God for His protection. He realized that he had sinned and put himself in touch with the powers of darkness. After his repentance he surprisingly discovered that his horoscope was now no longer correct. Evidently the demons were in league to convince him of the trustworthiness of OTHER means of knowing his future than of GOD'S GUIDANCE. This true example should be a warning to Christians that the powers of darkness are real. Those who willfully dabble in these supernatural areas can perish by them!

Those who trust in the Lord Jesus as their Savior can rejoice and take protection in the Scriptural promise, "GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU THAN HE THAT IS IN THE WORLD."



### ON THE WINGS OF PRAYER

I stand alone on the hillside.  
The grass is soft under my feet.  
Flowers peep through its folds  
and over-flow the valley.  
The breeze has the gentleness of spring.  
I see Him sitting there,  
and the people are all around Him,  
every nation and age of people.  
More are coming, as I come,  
across the grass.  
Some I know, others have  
faces strange to me,  
and yet I know them,  
for they are my kinsmen in Him  
who sits beneath the olive tree  
and awaits my coming.  
He looks at me.  
Our hearts meet;  
there is no need for words.  
I am His; He is mine.  
We belong to each other with a love  
that knows no ending.  
When the grass is dry in the winds of winter,  
the flowers a memory,  
the olive tree dust,  
still our love will be there,  
stronger and more beautiful  
than it is today  
when I walk the hillside  
on the wings of prayer

Poem and illustration  
by Marlene Moline

## GOLDEN WEDDING TO BE NOTED

Mr. and Mrs. Anton Rogenes, Buxton, N. Dak., will observe their golden wedding anniversary on Sunday, June 10, at their church, Ny Stavanger Lutheran, in Buxton. Hours will be from 2:30 to 5:00. A program will be given at 2:30. All friends of the couple are invited to attend.

## GOD IS NOT THEIR HOME

Now, there are multitudes of people who do not settle down in God as their spiritual home and enjoy abiding communion. God is only a temporary refuge, not a permanent home. Their religion is a sort of umbrella which they use in a storm. It plays no part in days when the storm is over, and the weather is calm and bright, and every circumstance is genial and comforting. God is just a shelter in time of trouble. He is not a home.

There are others to whom the Lord is only as a temple to which they periodically recur for stated and formal devotion. They pay visits to God. They do not live with Him. They have hours of worship, but they do not offer Him their life. They flirt with God, they do not seek the settled fellowship of wedded communion. They go to His temple, they do not live in His home.

—J. H. Jowett (on Psalm 90:1)

## MY PRAYER

Lord, grant me grace to be patient,  
And help me to be strong;  
Give fresh hope for tomorrow,  
In my heart today a song.

Let Your Word guide in the pathway  
That oft seems dark and long;  
Give faith in our loving Savior  
To whom thanks and praise belong.

May Your love shine through to others  
In a witness strong and true;  
With Your presence ever with me,  
Keep me always close to You.

Mrs. Laura Norum  
Amery, Wis.

## PERSONALITIES

**Rev. Hans J. Tollefson**, Eben Jct., Mich., sustained a heart attack during Holy Week and spent some days in the hospital in Munising, Mich. He is progressing well and will soon be back at his work.

**Rev. Forrest Swenson**, Winger, Minn., has accepted a call to serve the Tioga, N. Dak., parish (Zion, Beaver Creek, Norman, St. Olaf, Lindahl and Scandia) and will take up the work there some time this summer. He has been at Winger since 1969.

(Continued from page 16)

der debate in the Synod. The alleged mis-statement of issues "will tend to confuse rather than edify" the church, the CTCR stated.

When the faculty document addresses itself to the issues which the Commission contends are under debate—the inspiration, inerrancy, and authority of the Bible—its statements, the Commission suggested, depart from what the CTCR contends is the "Lutheran position" on those matters.

Citing "A Statement of Scriptural and Confessional Principles" which was prepared by LCMS President Dr. J. A. O. Preus last spring, the Commission stated "we believe, teach, and confess that all Scripture is given by the inspiration of God the Holy Spirit and that God is therefore the true author of every word of Scripture. . . ."

The faculty position, which suggests that certain biblical accounts may contain elements of myth, is reflected in "Faithful to Our Calling, Faithful to Our Lord," the Commission stated.

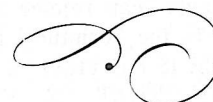
Thus the Commission asserted that the faculty document is not suitable "unless its serious inadequacies are pointed out."

"The document is useful only to the extent that it points up the fact that there are substantive differences within our Synod on important doctrinal issues," said the LCMS Commission.



NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED AT MINNEWAUKAN

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnewaukan, N. Dak., recently received twenty new members. A fellowship dinner was enjoyed by all as the new members were officially welcomed into Trinity's church family. Pictured here are Mr. and Mrs. Edroy Anderson, Keith and Kraig; Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Egge, Laurie and Darin; Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Herman, Randy, Reggie, Robyn and Rhonda; Mr. and Mrs. Donovan Herman, Rollie, Jodi and Jay. Not pictured is Mrs. Garry Thompson. Rev. Eugene Enderlein is pastor of the Minnewaukan Free Lutheran Parish.





# CHURCH-WORLD NEWS

## THE CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD

**\*\*The Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary, a U.S. Protestant religious order, will mail 50,000 printed protests of *Godspell*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and similar productions, which they contend "make Jesus look foolish." But other Christians have commended *Godspell* for being true to the Scriptures.**

**\*\*Fourteen tons of medicines and surgical supplies are being channeled to war victims in North Viet Nam by European churches.**

**\*\*Three hundred of the 400 prisoners in a Panama maximum security prison are now Christians. This resulted from a Scripture distribution effort begun four years ago by the Bible Society of Costa Rica and Panama.**

**\*\*Can America's television industry be persuaded to phase out violence, profanity, and sex? Christian women organized as Leadership Foundation are determined to try. They are now distributing millions of forms which viewers can send to stations and the Federal Communications Commission to protest objectionable programs (and compliment good ones). And an FCC official has assured the monitoring sisters, "We will listen." Write for forms to: Leadership Foundation, 4808 Cleveland Park Station, Washington, D.C. 20028.**

## DR. ALVIN ROGNESS TO RETIRE AS HEAD OF LUTHER SEMINARY

Minneapolis (LC) — Dr. Alvin N. Rogness has announced his intention to retire from the presidency of Luther Seminary at St. Paul after one more year. He said he plans to retire in June of 1974, when he will have completed 20 years in that position.

In an interview with Willmar Thorakelson, religion editor of the *Minneapolis Star*, Dr. Rogness cited the great growth in ecumenical relationships

which Lutherans have experienced since his youth, spent in "ethnic isolation" in Astoria, South Dakota.

When Dr. Rogness began his presidency at Luther, ministers were in short supply, sharply in contrast with conditions today.

The interests of students have changed during his years at the seminary helm, Dr. Rogness pointed out. In the middle '50s, he said, "there was kind of competitive scholarship afoot in the school." The 60's, he said, "brought us into the orbit of social change and the church's responsibility to political and economic movements."

In recent years, he said, the charismatic movement, with its emphasis on the search for religious experience, has been reflected in the student body.

Born in Astoria, S. Dak., May 16, 1906, Dr. Rogness graduated from Augustana College at Sioux Falls in 1927 and from Luther Seminary in 1932 and also studied at the University of Minnesota. Pacific Lutheran University awarded him a D.D. in 1949.

After ordination in 1934 by the former Evangelical Lutheran Church, now a part of the ALC, he served parishes in Minnesota, Iowa and South Dakota for 20 years before he assumed the presidency of Luther Seminary. He served as a councillor to the former National Lutheran Council, 1961-66. He is the author of several books.

## NIXON NAMES LCA LAYMAN FOR TOP HIGHWAY POST

Washington, D.C. (LC) — President Nixon has named a prominent Lutheran layman to head the Federal Highway Administration.

Norbert T. Tiemann, 48, a former Republican Governor of Nebraska, who last year completed a four-year term on the Executive Council of the Lutheran Church in America, was nominated for the top highway post by the Chief Executive in mid-April.

If confirmed by the Senate, the Nebraska Lutheran will succeed Mr. Francis C. Turner, who retired last June.

Mr. Tiemann was elected governor of Nebraska in 1966 when he defeated the Democratic candidate, Lt. Gov. Philip Sorenson, brother of Ted Sorenson, former White House aide to President Kennedy.

In his bid for re-election in 1970, Mr. Tiemann lost to Democrat J. James Exon, the present governor.

Since 1971, Mr. Tiemann has been vice president of an investment banking firm, First Mid America, Inc., with offices at the corporation's headquarters in Lincoln, Neb.

Prior to his election as governor, he was president of the Commercial State Bank in Wasau, Neb. He also served as mayor of Wasau for three terms.

Born in Minden, Neb., July 18, 1924, he is a graduate of the University of Nebraska and also attended Midland Lutheran College at Fremont, Neb. He served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946, participating in World War II campaigns in Leyte, the Philippines and Okinawa. Called back to active duty during the Korean action, he served with the U.S. Occupation Forces there from November 1950 to March 1952.

Mr. Tiemann is married to the former Lorna Lou Bormholdt of Wasau. They have three daughters and a son—Mary, 20, Norbert, Jr., 18, Lorna, 16, and Amy, 13.

The Tiemanns belong to First Lutheran church (LCA) in Lincoln, where the former Governor is a member of the congregation's pulpit committee.

## CONCORDIA FACULTY DOCUMENT HELD 'NOT SUITABLE FOR USE'

St. Louis (LC) — The Commission on Theology and Church Relations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



has declared a document prepared by the faculty of Concordia Seminary here "not suitable for use" in forums discussing the theological controversy in the 2.8-million-member denomination.

The Commission also recommended that the 1973 convention of the Synod "defer" any further implementation of fellowship with the American Lutheran Church, since, the Commission contended, recent discussions have not overcome what is called significant differences between the two bodies.

Before adopting the evaluation of the document "Faithful to Our Calling, Faithful to Our Lord, Part I," which was written by the Concordia faculty, the Commission considered

and then rejected a request from the LCMS Council of Presidents asking that it refrain from taking such an action.

The Commission stated that since the faculty statement had been distributed throughout the Synod, "it is therefore the Commission's judgment that we should carry out our decision to evaluate the faculty documents." It was noted that the Commission gave particular attention to the joint statements of the faculty (Part I) rather than to the statements of individual faculty members printed as Part II of the document.

The Commission said that the faculty document does not reflect a correct understanding of the issues un-

(Continued on page 14)

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