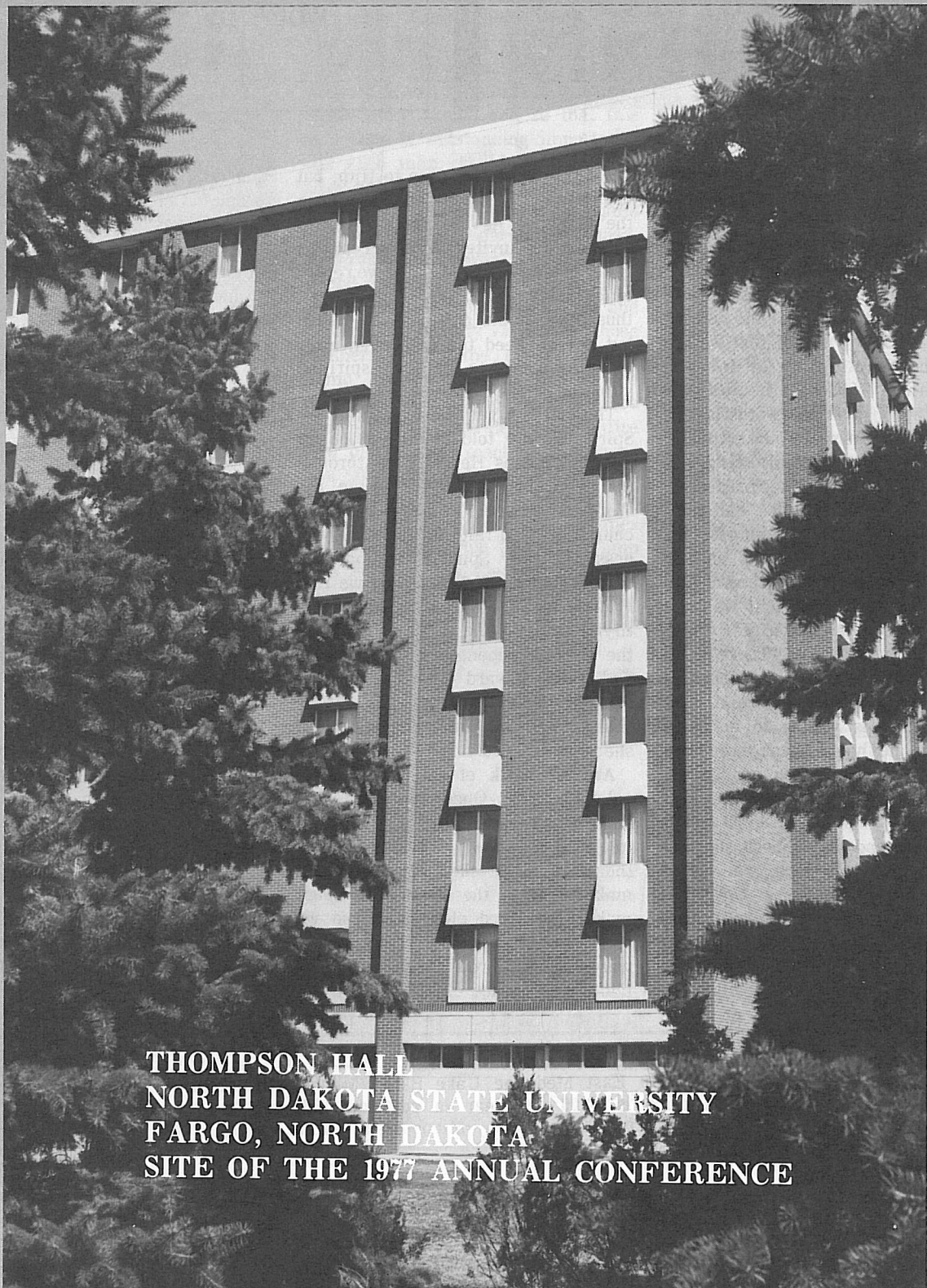


May 17, 1977

# *The Lutheran Ambassador*



THOMPSON HALL  
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY  
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA  
SITE OF THE 1977 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# MEDITATION MOMENTS

## WORK OF THE SPIRIT

"But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of Me" (John 15:26).

As another Pentecost Sunday draws near, we are reminded of the coming of the Holy Spirit. In our text we are told of the overall work that He would do—testifying of Jesus. Let us consider some of the basic works of this Spirit which Jesus said would come.

The first work we shall consider is His calling us. The Catechism asks, "How does the Holy Spirit call us?" The answer is, by awakening in our hearts a deep sense of sin, and by inviting us to accept the grace of God in Christ. Here we find that we must be made to see the seriousness of our sin before a Holy God. There must be more than a mere consciousness that we are by nature sinners. Almost every person is willing to acknowledge that he has sinned; but when the Holy Spirit awakens us, we see that because of sin we are lost and condemned. This same Spirit testifies of Jesus and His holiness, showing us our sin. As He does, we realize we have a need for Jesus. Until this deep sense of sin is awakened in us, we see no real need of turning to Christ. As Luther says, "I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in

Jesus, my Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel." As the Spirit awakens us, then He invites us to accept the grace of God in Christ. Then we repent of our sins and believe the Gospel, thus obeying the call. All are called but not all heed the call, even after being awakened to their real spiritual situation before God.

The call is a very basic work of the Spirit. We are told in the Catechism by what means He calls us—through the Word of God. Every time the Word is shared, whether it be in church or by a faithful Christian witness, the Holy Spirit is calling men to repentance. In Acts 20:21, we find Paul saying of His own sharing, "Testifying both to the Jews and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." The Word calls as it is shared, and we must be faithful in sharing this Word.

Another work of the Spirit is to enlighten us. Once someone has heeded the call, they have a need to be enlightened. Webster defines the word as to shed light on or to make clear to the mind. The Spirit makes the Word clear to us so we can understand it. It is as though we were in a dark room with very little light. We can see objects though not

clearly. When a brighter light is turned on, the objects can be seen much more clearly. So it is with God's Word. The Holy Spirit makes it more clear and plain.

Sanctifying the believer is also a work of the Spirit. Here we are renewed daily to be more like Christ. As we come to know the grace of God in Christ, more and more we let the new man, or Christ, appear. It appears in all our conduct. If we allow the Spirit to sanctify us, others will likewise be drawn to Christ. It is important not only to receive Christ but to live the new life. We cannot live by ourselves but must permit the Holy Spirit to do this work in us.

Finally, we consider the preservation work. How can we be kept true to Jesus and be sure of not losing the new life we have received? This is the work of the Spirit, but we must permit it to be done. If we turn from the Word and do not allow this work to be done in our lives, we will not be preserved in faith.

Ask yourself today if you have obeyed the call of the Holy Spirit and received Christ. Are you yielded to the Spirit so He can work these things in you?

M. J. Haara

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# The Fifteenth Annual Conference of The Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

June 8-12, 1977

Host Congregation: St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church  
1603 North Fifth Street  
The Rev. Philip Haugen, Pastor  
Fargo, North Dakota

The sessions will be held on the Campus of North Dakota State University  
Fargo, North Dakota

Theme: "We Are God's Workmanship"  
Conference Text: Ephesians 2:1-10

## AGENDA

### Wednesday, June 8, 1977:

- 9:00 a.m. — The Conference Committees meet for devotions, instructions, and room assignments in the Recreation Room, ground floor, Thompson Hall, NDSU.
- 8:00 p.m. — The opening service of the Conference with the sermon on the conference text by Pastor Dennis Gray, Spicer, Minnesota. The host pastor, the Rev. Philip Haugen, will lead the service. The opening of the Conference and appointment of necessary committees by Pastor John P. Strand. Offering to the General Fund.

### Thursday, June 9, 1977

- 9:00 a.m. — Devotions  
Report of the Credentials Committee, always in order.  
Election of the Committee on Nominations for the 1978 Conference.  
The President's Report.  
The Report of the Chairman of the Coordinating Committee, Pastor Wendell Johnson.  
Financial Report, Pastor Albert Hautamaki  
Report of the Treasurer of the Family Bible Camp, Mrs. Harold Erickson, New York Mills, Minnesota.  
Report of the Budget Analysis Committee  
Report of the Nominating Committee, always in order.  
Election of nominees for the Mission Corporation and the Schools Corporation  
Report of Committee No. 1

- 11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour. The Prayer Hours will be lead by Pastor Einar Unseth, Ortleby, South Dakota.

### 2:00 p.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee  
Election of nominees to the Mission Boards and the School Board.  
Election of the Vice-President and the Secretary of the AFLC.  
Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 1  
Election of Nominees to the Coordinating Committee  
Election of Committee No. 1 for the 1978 Conference  
The report of the Chairman of the School Board, Mr. Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minnesota  
The report of the Dean of the Theological Seminary, Pastor Amos Dyrud  
The report of the Acting Dean of the Bible School, Pastor Kenneth Moland  
Report of Committee No. 2  
The election of a Dean for the Bible School.

- 5:30 p.m. — The Seminary Corporation meets in the West Dining Center, NDSU.

- 8:00 p.m. — Mission Festival Service conducted by the Women's Missionary Federation. Message by Pastor Kenneth Moland.

### Friday, June 10, 1977:

- 7:00 a.m. — The Missionary Corporation meets at the West Dining Center, NDSU.
- 9:00 a.m. — Devotions  
Report of the Credentials Committee



Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 2

Election of Committee No. 2 for the 1978 Conference.

A report of the Schools Corporation meeting

The report of the Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board, Pastor Alvin Grothe

The report of the Chairman of the Home Mission Board, Pastor Herbert Franz

The report of the Home Mission Director, Pastor Elden Nelson

The report of the Chairman of the Evangelism Commission, Pastor Trygve F. Dahle

The report of Committee No. 3

11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour

2:00 p.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee

Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 3

A report of the Missions Corporation meeting.

6:00 p.m. — Banquet for the pastors and their wives in the Ballroom of the Student Union, NDSU

8:00 p.m. — Worship Service conducted by laymen of the Church.

The service will be led by Mr. Ernest Miedema, Valley City, North Dakota.

The message will be given by Mr. Ralph Peterson, Portland, North Dakota

Offering to the Praise Program.

#### **Saturday, June 11, 1977:**

9:00 a.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee

Continuing discussion of the report of Committee No. 3

Election of members to the Commission of Evangelism.

Election of Committee No. 3 for the 1978 Annual Conference

Report of the Chairman of the Board of Publications and Parish Education, Mr. Palmer Haugen

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

Report of the Chairman of the Youth Board, Pastor Rodger Olson

Report of the Luther League Federation, Pastor Richard Anderson

Report of Committee No. 4

11:30 a.m. — Prayer Hour

2:00 p.m. — Devotions

Report of the Credentials Committee

Report of the Colloquy Committee

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

Election of Committee No. 4 for the 1978 Annual Conference.

Election of the Colloquy Committee for the 1978 Annual Conference.

Report of the Chairman of the Stewardship Board, Pastor Edwin Kjos

Report of the Chairman of the Board of Pensions, Mr. Clifford Holm

Report of Committee No. 5

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

Election of Committee No. 5 for the 1978 Annual Conference

Reports of special committees

Election of the Budget Analysis Committee for 1978

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

8:00 p.m. — Youth Night at the Conference.

The service will be led by Pastor Rodger Olson, Grafton, North Dakota.

Pastor Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, Minnesota will speak.

Offering to Home Missions.

#### **Sunday, June 12, 1977:**

8:00 a.m. — Communion Service.

Pastor Philip Haugen, Liturgist

Pastor Philip Featherstone, Preacher

10:30 a.m. — Worship Service with the message by Pastor Eugene Enderlein.

Commissioning Service for Pastor Dean Casselton

Offering to Foreign Missions.

2:00 p.m. — Ordination Service, and/or closing of the Conference.

Message by Pastor John Strand.

Offering to Schools.

Conference Committee,

Pastor Dennis Gray

Pastor John P. Strand

## **GOING WEST IN '77**

**AFLC Luther League Federation Convention**

**July 12-17**

**Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Kirkland, Washington**



## CONFERENCE TIME, 1977

The significant truth, "We Are His Workmanship," is our theme as we gather in Fargo, North Dakota, for the 15th Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. This is a humbling truth, as well as a hopeful truth.

God has blessed the AFLC. This is no cause for human pride or glory. While at our conference we will be made increasingly aware of our growth and potential, we will become, I trust, even more aware of our God Who is working.



Rev. John P. Strand

There are tremendous challenges and temptations before us. Sometimes it is hard to distinguish between them; yea, as sinful people, we cannot. We need the Spirit of discernment so that God can lead aright. Our confidence is that we can do all things that are according to God's Will. We pray that we can distinguish between our desires and will and His. We pray that all that is not according to God's Will will fail. We desire only that which is of Him. What is of God cannot fail.

Meeting about the Kingdom of God, we experience blessed fellowship and inspiration. It is the privilege of all of us in our congregations to come to this conference. All congregations should be represented. All congregations should receive the blessings.

The facilities for the conference will be adequate. Preparations will be completed. Come, all things are ready. Come, praying and seeking. Our church-wide gatherings have always resulted in renewal and awakening for many. May this be true this year, too.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Pastor John P. Strand  
President, AFLC

# Letters TO THE EDITOR

## LET'S BE GOOD SPORTS

After reading the article Pastor Trygve Dahle wrote in the *Ambassador* on Stewardship (March 8), I was very much inspired and would like to express a few thoughts that came to my mind.

First of all, I want to say that I love my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and because of all God has done for us, He has the right to expect our complete dedication. We hear so much about Sports these days and I was thinking, can we stir up some interest in our Seminary, Bible School and missionary work? What about being "good sports" for Jesus, the most important cause in our life, to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

What if every member in our congregations would send an offering of \$100, more or less, according to what each can spare? Pastor Dahle mentioned that many suffered drought last summer, so some, even though they would have liked to give, didn't have the means to do so. But then again, some of us have been richly blessed and we can do more and we should be thankful to God for all the wonderful blessings we have received.

What could be better than to send an offering to help spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Let's see how busy we can keep our treasurer cashing checks.

Enclosed find a check for \$100 to the General Fund of the AFLC. Let's bring glad tidings to the Annual Conference in June, so let's get the ball rolling.

Oscar Raaen  
Erskind, Minn.

## FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

The other day I read Acts 26:18 and I Peter 1:4-8. What a wonderful day when Jesus opened my eyes to see my sin and turned me from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God. I received forgiveness from Christ when I asked Him to forgive

my sins and was set free in Christ to experience light and life in Him. What a wonderful, precious day that was, to experience the peace and joy that He alone can give.

And in I Peter it speaks of the "inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you." Isn't that precious? Rich indeed; riches that money cannot buy. And to be kept by the power of God. Oh, what a glorious day to look forward to, to see Christ face to face and be forever with Him in heaven.

May we never lose sight of the goal but press on, knowing Jesus will see us through. He will never leave us or forsake us if we remain faithful to Him in His Word, prayer and witness for Him.

And, oh, how we need Christian fellowship; that is so precious and strengthening. We are to occupy till He comes. Praying for you all.

Thank you to all who write in *The Lutheran Ambassador*. It is an inspiration and a challenge.

"He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God" (Psalm 40:2, 3a).

Mrs. Pauline Pope  
Wadena, Minn.

## PERSONALITIES

Rev. Elden Nelson, Home Mission Director of the AFLC, is concluding his work as pastor of Victory in Christ Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn., this month and he and his family will then move to Dickinson, N. Dak., where he will become the first resident pastor in charge of the new home mission work in that city. He will begin work there on June 1.

Their address will be—848 Senior Aven., Dickinson, N. Dak. 58601.



# THE BIBLE CAMP MOVEMENT

## IN TWO PARTS—PART TWO

by the late A. W. Dickhart

### II. WHAT SHALL WE EMPHASIZE AT OUR BIBLE CAMPS?

We are not here today to legislate concerning the work of our Bible Camps. Such a move would be very unwise. A movement so spontaneous in its origin and conduct as our Bible Camp movement would wither under any system of regimentation. But we can and should have clear in our minds what to emphasize at our Bible Camps, so that we may know what results to look for. May I suggest several point of emphasis in respect to which every pastor should be a helper and guide and counsellor to this valued and beloved child of the Church, the Bible Camp movement.

A. The first and primary need is the continuation of the emphasis on BIBLE camps. Sound evangelical education must continue to be the chief point of emphasis in all of our Camp life. Whatever the method used, whatever the personalities of the teachers and leaders, whatever the enrollment or equipment or location of the Camp, the Lutheran principle of "THE WORD ALONE, GRACE ALONE, FAITH ALONE," must be emphasized. Plain wholehearted teaching and preaching of the Word of God must underlie every class, every group, every cottage, every camp-fire, every prayer meeting. Prof. Carl B. Ylvisaker, Bible Camp worker in the Norwegian Lutheran Church, makes this pertinent observation in his valuable little pamphlet "An Ideal Bible Camp:" "Two dangerous tendencies bear watching. On the one hand, there is the temptation to emphasize the recreational and vacation aspects of camp life. The decline of the Y.M.C.A. camps, most of which have ceased to be a vital spiritual force, should teach us a lesson. On the other hand is the tendency to stress high-pressure methods and to promote a "hot-house" type of spirituality. It is disheartening to meet and deal with the backsliders coming

out of such camps. Our camps must steer a straight course between these tangents." The Bible emphasis in all its straightforwardness and beautiful simplicity is the golden way by means of which the greatest blessings of Bible Camp work are to be achieved.

B. The second point of emphasis which I would make is, "Have faith in the power of the Word of God." As Pastors and teachers and deans and song leaders and managers and camp workers of various kinds we must never feel that we are taking the place of the Holy Spirit. When we over-emphasize **ourselves**, human tricks or fancies come into the limelight and whatever work is accomplished has been by the power of man, and will not stand God's tests. But when we trust that God through His means of grace is going to produce the real results of Bible Camp work we are on a solid foundation. So let our methods and approaches and presentations and programs and schemes be only the means of permitting the light of God to shine through us into the souls that God wants to reach through us. So will there be showers of blessing "from the presence of the Lord." Says Dean S. M. Miller, whose experience in Bible Camp and Bible work is more extensive than that of most of us:

"Sometimes leaders are not careful and tactful in dealing with the spiritual problems of the very young. Some who would not use such methods in their home congregations become hyper-evangelistic in camp work. Let us have faith in the power of the Word of God. If with good teaching methods we plant that Word in the minds and hearts of youth, God will use it as a means of grace in their hearts and lives. Not all are ripe either in an individual interview or in a public session exactly to state their spiritual condition. By forcing confessions out of them we might be going ahead of the Holy Spirit. By all means, give them opportunity to ex-

press themselves spiritually. But let it be the natural result of the Holy Spirit's work in their hearts. After all, we teachers and preachers of the Word do not convict men nor convert them, not even lead them to Christian assurance. We have a part to play in teaching the Word, both to individuals and groups, but there is an inner work that the Holy Spirit alone can perform. Let us humbly recognize that and pray for His presence and activity."

C. The point of emphasis is the necessity of sound and healthy evangelism in our Bible Camp program. Our Lutheran Church has always emphasized a wonderful system of indoctrination, but has not always been as insistent that the individual souls be given an equal opportunity to realize the full fruits of the sowing of the Gospel seed. As a result, our Lutheran people with their background of Gospel teaching have been the prey of Reformed evangelists, who have brought these hidden facts of Bible knowledge into view as a spiritual crisis and experience, but at the same time have often convinced the individual that his experience is new and that the Lutheran Church was dead and could not bring about the spiritual thrill of this new discovery of the new life. Thus we have lost many of our members to the sects because we did not emphasize a healthy evangelism within our own Church. We know that many of our own Lutheran pastors have wonderful abilities as evangelists, with the grace to bring our people into a further step of spiritual maturity on the basis of the Word previously implanted in the hearts of our people. It is the duty and privilege of our Church to use such pastors who through simple but heart-searching Gospel preaching can be used of God to bring our people into the fruitage of spiritual maturity. What better chance could we ask for than the op-

[Continued on page 15]

## SCHOOLS CORPORATION

The Nominating Committee of the Annual Conference will present two (2) names for every vacancy on the Schools Corporation. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The Conference will then by secret ballot choose one person for each vacancy, sending the names of those persons on to the Corporation for decision at its annual meeting in June. Members of the Board of Trustees must come from the membership of the Corporation. Failure to be re-elected to the Corporation while serving on the Board automatically excludes one from further membership on the Board.

### Terms expire in 1977:

Rev. J. G. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.\*  
Rev. Dennis Gray, Spicer, Minn.\*  
Mr. Howard Johnson, Astoria, Ore.  
Rev. Howard Kjos, Roslyn, S. Dak.  
Mr. Howard Lieder, Phoenix, Ariz.\*  
Rev. Francis Monseth, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mr. Eugene Nesland, Thief River Falls, Minn.  
Rev. Orville Olson, Hatton, N. Dak.  
Mr. Kenneth Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.  
Mr. Wayne Pederson, St. Paul, Minn.

### Terms expire in 1978:

Mr. Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn.\*  
Rev. Ernest Langness, Ishpeming, Mich.  
Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.\*  
Dr. James Gerdeen, Chassell, Mich.  
Rev. Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Rodger Olson, Grafton, N. Dak.  
Mr. Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.\*  
Rev. Leslie Galland, Everett, Wash.  
Rev. Raynard Huglen, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Laurel Udden, Minneapolis, Minn.

### Terms expire in 1979:

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Stacy, Minn.  
Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, McVile, N. Dak.  
Mr. Raymond Jacobson, Minneapolis, Minn.\*  
Rev. Robert L. Lee, Valley City, N. Dak.  
Rev. David Molstre, McIntosh, Minn.  
Rev. R. Snipstead, Ferndale, Wash.

Rev. Bruce Dalager, Minot, N. Dak.  
Dr. Wayne Sletten, Faith, S. Dak.  
Dr. Iver Olson, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Philip Featherstone, Colfax, Wis.

## MISSIONS CORPORATION

The Nominating Committee of the Annual Conference will present two (2) names for every vacancy on the Missions Corporation. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The Conference membership will then by secret ballot choose one person from each vacancy, sending the names of those persons to the Corporation for its decision at its annual meeting in June. Members of the World and Home Mission Boards must come from the membership of the Corporation. Failure to be re-elected to the Corporation while serving on either Board will automatically remove one from membership on that Board.  
\*denotes World Mission Board member. \*\*denotes Home Mission Board member.

### Terms expire in 1977:

Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Thief River Falls, Minn.\*  
Rev. Herbert Franz, Cloquet, Minn.\*\*  
Mr. William J. Kangas, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mr. Leslie Kjos, Kalispell, Mont.  
Mr. Vernon Russum, Grafton, N. Dak.\*  
Dr. Wayne Sletten, Faith, S. Dak.  
Mrs. Roy Syverson, Tioga, N. Dak.  
Mr. Olve Willand, Ferndale, Wash.  
Miss Judith Wold, Thief River Falls, Minn.  
Rev. Ronald Knutson, Drummond, Wis.  
Mrs. Rodney Stueland, Buxton, N. Dak.

### Terms expire in 1978:

Rev. Fred Carlson, Sebeka, Minn.  
Mrs. Birdeen Holt, Fosston, Minn.  
Rev. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash.  
Mrs. Gene Sundby, Outlook, Sask.  
Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Culbertson, Mont.  
Rev. Kenneth Pentti, Bessemer, Mich.  
Rev. Gerald Mundfrom, Nogales, Ariz.  
Mr. Elmer Gravgaard, Spicer, Minn.  
Rev. Philip Haugen, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Mr. Soren Engevik, Eden, S. Dak.

### Terms expire in 1979:

Mr. Andrew Anderson, Radcliffe, Ia.  
Mr. Alver Christopherson, Grand Forks, N. Dak.  
Mr. Paul Flaten, Newfolden, Minn.\*\*  
Rev. Julius Hermunsle, Fergus Falls, Minn.\*\*  
Mr. John Arlen Johnson, Sacred Heart, Minn.  
Mr. Ed Mathison, Bagley, Minn.  
Rev. Elden Nelson, Dickinson, N. Dak. (after June 1)  
Rev. Stephen Odegaard, Eugene, Ore.  
Mr. Harry Rorvig, Dalton, Minn.  
Rev. Alvin Grothe, Astoria, Ore.\*

### Terms expire in 1980:

Rev. Trygve F. Dahle, Spicer, Minn.  
Mr. Ronald Willand, Ferndale, Wash.  
Mr. Kenneth Williams, Ishpeming, Mich.\*  
Mrs. Amos Dyrud, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mrs. Herbert Presteng, Grafton, N. Dak.  
Mrs. Esther Farrier, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Forrest Swenson, Tioga, N. Dak.  
Rev. Larry V. Severson, Wallace, S. Dak.\*\*  
Rev. Albert Hautamaki, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Frank Miller, Boscobel, Wis.

### Terms expire in 1981:

Rev. Richard Anderson, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mr. Joel Rogenes, Buxton, N. Dak.\*\*  
Mr. Melvin Gravgaard, Tioga, N. Dak.  
Rev. John Rieth, Kalispell, Mont.  
Mrs. Aini Myking, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mr. Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.\*  
Rev. L. C. Dynneson, Nogales, Ariz.  
Mr. Robert Knutson, McVile, N. Dak.  
Rev. Amos Dyrud, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Dale R. Mellgren, Abercrombie, N. Dak.

## OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

\*designates incumbent

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

\*Rev. Francis Monseth, Minneapolis, Minn.

**Secretary** (1-year term)

\*Rev. Dennis Gray, Spicer, Minn.

(Having served three full consecutive terms, the incumbent must receive a



¾ majority on the first ballot to be re-elected.)

#### **ELECTIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

\*designates incumbent

##### **Stewardship Board** (5-year term)

\*Mr. Arne Aanestad, Battle Lake, Minn.

##### **Board of Publications and Parish Education**

(3-year term)

\*Rev. Amos Dyrud, Minneapolis, Minn. (by appointment)

(5-year term)

\*Mr. Palmer Haugen, Portland, N. Dak.

##### **Youth Board**

(5-year term)

\*Mr. Roger Strom, Minneapolis, Minn.

##### **Board of Pensions**

(5-year term)

\*Mr. Clifford Holm, Minneapolis, Minn.

##### **Commission on Evangelism**

(5-year term)

\*Mr. Ed Mathison, Bagley, Minn.

#### **NOMINATIONS BY THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

\*designates incumbent

(Elections by respective corporations)

##### **Co-ordinating Committee**

(5-year terms)

\*Mr. Eugene Nesland, Thief River Falls, Minn.

\*Mr. Sheldon Mortrud, Thief River Falls, Minn.

##### **Board of Trustees, Schools**

(1-year term)

\*Mr. Howard Lieder, Phoenix, Ariz. (by appointment)

(5-year term)

\*Mr. Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.

##### **Foreign Mission Board**

(5-year term)

\*Rev. Alvin Grothe, Astoria, Ore.

##### **Home Mission Board**

(5-year term)

\*Mr. Joel Rogenes, Buxton, N. Dak.

#### **THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE 1977 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

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

Rev. Forrest Swenson, Tioga, N. Dak.

(Continued on page 16)

# The Best of Hallesby

## A SPIRIT-FILLED GENERATION?

"The Holy Spirit, whom God hath given to them that obey him" (Acts 5:32).

Our generation of Christians differs from preceding generations in many ways.

We are a hearing and speaking generation, a reading and writing generation, a capable and industrious generation.

But I do not know if there are many in our midst who would dare to say we are a Spirit-filled generation of Christians.

The realm of the unseen is distant and unreal to us, notwithstanding all that we read and hear and know about it. It impresses, captivates, and interests most of us only to a comparatively slight degree.

I gather this most clearly from the conversations I hear.

I am not now thinking only of the many empty and meaningless conversations about Christian themes. We speak of our work with fervor and enthusiasm. But as soon as the conversation turns to the hidden life it grows dull.

How rare it is to meet believers who live such a rich inner life with God that they need but open their mouths and let quiet, fervent words come from their overflowing hearts.

In our day we know very little about walking in the Spirit and overcoming the flesh. Wilfulness, craving for power, passionate love of honor, envy and slander are not only unconquered but oftentimes unacknowledged sins in Christian circles.

God gives the Spirit only to those who obey Him. They are not sinless folk, but they are such as permit themselves to be convicted of their sins. And who have a will to overcome them.

" 'Tis true, Thy plants are there;  
But, ah, how weak and rare! "

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# editorials

## UPDATING THE CHALLENGE

Early in the year (January 11), we took a look into the future in an editorial "The Association's Challenge." At that time we indicated that the Seminary class this spring might fill all our currently vacant self-supporting parishes. We foresaw the time rapidly approaching when the Association could have a surplus of pastors unless vigorous expansion could take place in Foreign and Home Mission work. We asked a number of the Boards of the Church to come to the Annual Conference next month with well thought out plans for the future of our work.

But now as the Conference nears, the pastoral shortage has widened, thus postponing the day when there could be an oversupply of pastors in the AFLC. This gives us more time to plan, but it doesn't give us the luxury of putting off our preparations for the future.

What has happened since January to change the situation? Apparently only two men will enter the parish ministry this summer from the graduating class and one of them hopes to go to the Brazil field eventually. A third graduate plans further study immediately. One active pastor has left the Association to join another Lutheran body. Another pastor will begin work at the Association Schools in September, leaving a vacant parish. The Home Mission director is leaving our congregation in St. Paul, Minnesota, to start the new work in Dickinson, N. Dak.

And so the situation is quite different than it looked

at the beginning of the year. But as we said, let planning go on apace, but carefully, in all areas of the work so that we utilize all the manpower we have and will have. Yes, it is still necessary (and always will be) to pray for more men for the ministry. And as they come, let us be ready to put them to work. We can do that now; may we be ready to do so in the future, too.

## THE \$100,000 DRIVE

In looking back at the results of the 1976 Annual Conference in Houghton, Michigan, in preparation for this year's conference, one comes face to face with the action which initiated a drive for \$100,000 over a two-year period to help reduce the indebtedness on the Schools.

That Drive has had a slow start. As of May 1, it had not reached one-fifth of the goal. Much remains to be done. There is always a lot of inertia to be overcome in getting a project going. Perhaps we are over that phase now and the second year will bring much greater results. We don't dare to mention that often the going is easier at the beginning of a drive because there is the emotional impetus from the decision that brought it into being, and then the enthusiasm wanes.

Our Schools do need this \$100,000. They need a lot more than that, but they need this \$100,000 now. The Annual Conference will add encouragement to this appeal, we are sure.

Another major conference action a year ago was the establishing of a training program for house-to-house evangelism by AFLC congregations. Nothing has been heard of that for a long time. It will not be an easy program to set up.

But whatever is done church-wide, it is good to know that a number of our congregations are working on witnessing and evangelism programs. And maybe that will be the most effective approach anyway, each congregation using the method that works best for it.

The important thing is, have the concern to reach out to others for Christ. And as was emphasized at the conference last year, let the outreach be carried out with an appreciation of the Lutheran understanding of the Gospel.

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

#### BUDGET RECEIPTS (February 1-April 30, 1977) (3 months)

	Total Budget 1977-78	Current Budget	Received during April	Total Received	% of Current
General Fund	\$ 72,680.00	\$18,169.98	\$ 6,335.75	\$13,161.64	72.4%
Schools	119,452.00	29,862.99	8,757.84	19,027.57	63.7
Home Missions	75,000.00	18,750.00	4,277.30	10,992.43	59.6
Foreign Missions	85,345.00	21,336.24	6,737.47	17,594.10	82.4
Praise Fund	30,000.00	4,500.00	1,856.33	3,333.50	74.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$382,477.00</b>	<b>\$95,619.24</b>	<b>\$27,964.69</b>	<b>\$64,109.24</b>	<b>67 %</b>
1976-1977	\$395,649.00	\$98,912.25	\$27,352.41	\$51,722.82	52.1%
Legacies	\$6,988.97				

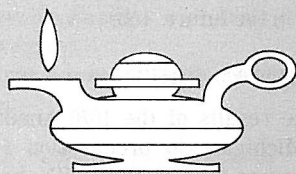
## In Memoriam

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

### SOUTH DAKOTA Wallace

**Halmer Wibeto**, 77, Calvary, Mar. 2  
**Oscar Bale**, 83, Grace Lutheran,  
Watertown, S. Dak., formerly Cal-  
vary, Apr. 5

**Soren Hjermstad**, 76, Calvary, Apr. 13



## SCHOOL NEWS

### LIMNINGS FROM AFLBS

Five members of the Gideon Society participated in the joint chapel service on Apr. 27. On May 4, Rev. Richard Gunderson, missionary to Bolivia, but presently working for the home office of the World Mission Prayer League, spoke at the chapel service.

At the Monday chapel services, Ed Scott, third quarter student from Sunnyside Lutheran, Stacy, Minn., spoke on May 2. He and his wife spent two years in Bangladesh. On May 9, Mr. Gus Hanson of the American Missionary Fellowship was our guest.

The Chapel Singers, under the direction of Mr. Don Rodvold, and Orpha Flaten, accompanist, made a brief tour, Apr. 28-May 1, with appearances at Scandia, Sedan; Bethany, Blue Grass; Sunnyside, Stacy; Victory in Christ, St. Paul; and Faith, Minneapolis, all in Minnesota. A full report on the trip will be given next time. Pastor Huglen was faculty representative for the trip.

The Mission Club sponsored a basket social on Mon., May 2. The fellows enjoyed much good eating from the baskets. Tad Spading, Kirkland, Wash., was the auctioneer.

The weather has been good for softball so far this spring and a lot of it has been played in spare time. The tennis courts have also had a good workout.

The student society has purchased a new foosball table for the recreation room. The old one is to be sold.

An all-school picnic was held on Sunday, May 15, at Mission Farms, a short walk from our own campus.



### PROMOTION DAYS DREW LARGE GROUP

The annual spring Promotion Days at AFLBS drew some 90 young people to the campus, April 22-24. The largest group, about 19, came from the Tioga, N. Dak., parish, accompanied by Lay Pastor Clifford Dyrud.

The home concert of the Concert Choir opened the weekend of activities. The Choir had returned that afternoon from its spring tour. A good audience of students, visiting youth, parents and other friends enjoyed the concert and the refreshments which were served afterward.

On Saturday morning classes were taught by Pastor Moland (Ethics) and Pastor Monseth (Bible Doctrine II), also to give an idea as to what Bible School classes are like. At 10 o'clock a number of students shared information on "What Is Bible School Like?" Kraig Lerud of Thief River Falls, Minn., student body vice-president, led the session. Mr. Rodvold conducted a Choral Club rehearsal at 11 and a number of guests joined it and practiced a song for the evening youth rally.

The afternoon was for free time, but there was the opportunity for indoor recreation at Plymouth Jr. High and outdoor recreation on the campus. Some visitors went sightseeing and shopping.

The evening service was a monthly youth rally. Pastor Richard Anderson of Rosedale Lutheran in Minneapolis brought the message. The mass choir and the new Ambassadors Gospel Team (for the summer of 1977) sang. Tad Spading, Kirkland, Wash., junior, led the after-glow.

The visitors were welcome at area

services on Sunday morning before leaving for home.

It is hoped that many of those in attendance at Promotion Days 1977 will return to AFLBS later as students, some even this fall.

### GRADUATION SERVICE SET FOR MAY 27

The commencement for 50-some seniors of the Bible School and three seniors from the Seminary will be held on Friday, May 27, at 8 p.m. The address will be delivered by Rev. Amos Dyrud, dean of the Seminary. A greeting will be brought by a Bible School senior. The Concert Choir and the Choral Club will sing, under the direction of Mr. Don Rodvold. Refreshments will be served.

### CONCERT CHOIR TOURED IN THREE STATES

Thirty-three choir members, director Don Rodvold, and Pastor Moland, acting dean of AFLBS, left Easter Sunday for a two-week tour in churches in the Upper Midwest.

Many memories of the warm receptions in churches and homes are cherished by all. Christian hospitality is still very much a part of our church fellowship. The Choir enjoyed much good food and gracious accommodations. Most importantly, though, the spiritual fellowship was a blessing. Opportunities to build and renew strong Christian friendships are always a joy.

Easter Sunday evening found the Choir at Faith Lutheran Church of Running Valley near Colfax, Wisconsin. The setting of that peaceful valley seemed appropriate for the close of a challenging Easter Day. On Monday the choir traveled a short distance to Cumberland, Wisconsin and the Section Ten Church. A special treat here was the number of youth who joined the Choir for the fellowship supper.

Because of necessary scheduling, the Choir returned to Minnesota Tuesday to sing at Hauge Lutheran of Kenyon. Here, four of the choir members were able to stay at home.

The Mason-Drummond parish was the setting for our meal and concert Wednesday night. Faith Lutheran of rural Mason stands as a fitting trib-





SENIOR CLASS, AFLBS, 1976-77

Bottom row, left to right, Sue Thundercloud, Rhonda Hettervig, Terry Rudebusch, Peggy Broten, Joyce Aasness, Janell Kneeland, Sheryll Myhrer, Carol Fugleberg and Joyce Albu; second row, Rita Ward, Wanda Holmaas, Karen Linvingood, Sherry Milton, Martha Manthey, Dawn Lerud, Rosalie Kopperud, Renee Oscarson, Sue Thompson, Robbie Lenning and Cindy Forth; third row, Lyle Helland, Martha Haugen, Joyce Lindgren, Dorothy Seaman, Carol Stulen, Pam Gohrick, Christie Freeberg, Deb Sunvold, Marilee Mortrud, Cathy Adrian and Juli Benson; fourth row, Steve Kordahl, Wayne Walker, Dan Larson, Dale Kjos, Loren Julin, Doug Johnson, Jim Hjelden, Jeff Burmester, Becky Johnson, Lorilee Davidson, Anna Oliver and Vrenda Bengtson; and, top row, Ted Hansen, Joel Rogenes,\* Rod Johnson, Glen Hodnefield, Mark Kjos, Joel Rolf, Cary Dietsche, Dave Grothe, Ivar Berge, Duane Strand, Mike Estrem, Jon Rognlie and Greg Johnson. \*no longer in school. Note: All those pictured here do not necessarily have enough credits for graduation this month.

ute to the value of historic preservation of a church building. Its original, hand-finished interior is so attractive.

The short drive on Thursday to Bessemer, Michigan, allowed time for an outdoor barbecue and recreation time at Ashland, at the base of Lake Superior. Our Savior's Lutheran of Bessemer hosted the concert that evening; many choir members got a good picture of the mining and logging topography and industry.

Friday found the Choir in the twin towns of Houghton and Hancock, in "copper country," so named for the copper mines. Both of these towns are "college towns" as well, hosting Michigan Tech. University and Suomi College, respectively. Maranatha Lutheran warmly hosted the concert, which was held at Suomi College.

Hope Evangelical Lutheran of Ishpeming hosted the Choir Saturday night and Sunday. Sugar Loaf "Mountain" near Marquette provided the needed challenge for physical exer-

cise. The panoramic view of the harbor and ore docks made the climb worth while.

Another delicious fellowship supper awaited us at Eben Junction at Calvary Lutheran. Many of the members of the congregation ate with the Choir, making it a good time of getting acquainted.

On Monday, the Choir headed back for Minnesota again, with St. Paul's of Cloquet as our good hosts. A former Choir member, Linda Moan, serves as parish worker there.

The concert Tuesday night was held in the auditorium of the McIntosh school, hosted by the McIntosh-Fosston Lutheran Parish. A unique opportunity the following morning allowed the Choir to sing for the entire student assembly at the high school.

Roseau high school was the scene for the Wednesday concert, sponsored by the AFLC churches in the Roseau area. A relaxing afternoon at the Broten farm, a delicious meal at the Rose

church, and gracious hosts, again made the day pleasant.

Thursday was an unusually busy day. The Choir sang at Northland Junior College in Thief River, then to an appreciative group of residents at a local nursing home, before their evening concert at Our Saviour's, our host church. The large attendance was an encouragement to a travel-weary Choir.

Friday brought the Choir back to AFLBS for their home concert. Rest stops were brief as each student anticipated getting "home" to friends and family. Three hundred joined with the Choir in the joy of "homecoming," and also the joy of the message "His Truth Is Marching On."

One final concert was presented at Rosedale Lutheran in Minneapolis the following Sunday. That night and the many other concerts have touched many lives, challenging, encouraging, uplifting. All has been done with the prayer that Jesus Christ may be glor-

ified through the Choir's witness.

Again, the Choir expresses sincere thanks to everyone who so graciously received them. May God bless the message that has gone forth, that His Kingdom may be built up to His glory.

—Kenneth Moland

### **SEMINARY STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM PLACEMENT FOR SUMMER 1977**

#### **First Semester Seniors**

John Koski is serving St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Finlayson, Minn., weekends

Paul Persson, Granite Falls, Minn.

#### **Middlers**

David Abel, Newfolden, Minn.

Jay Eberth, Roseau, Minn.

James Fugleberg, Minneapolis, Minn. (Medicine Lake Lutheran)

Larry Haagenon will attend North Dakota State University and possibly do some work in and around Fargo, N. Dak.

Jerry Holmaas may attend Wheaton College, Ill.

Bill Moberg is serving Faith Lutheran Church, Granite Falls, Minn., every other Sunday through May.

Philip Rokke, Houghton, Michigan

#### **Juniors**

LeRoy Flickinger, Leeds, N. Dak.

Gordon Grage will travel with AFLBS Summer Gospel Team

Jim Hoialmen, Duluth, Minn.

Ted Kennedy, Jr., Zumbrota, Minn.

John Kjos, McVile, N. Dak.

Paul Nash may go to our mission field in Brazil, S. A.

Arley Hartsoch began seminary the second semester and is available for placement.

### **Introducing Our Seminarians**

#### **THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT THE BIBLE**

I still call Minnewaukan, North Dakota, my home. Fond memories of my folks' farm still linger. Even

though I knew little about and had no concern for the things of God, I had a good childhood.

Through all of my Sunday School and confirmation years, I had never had a personal confrontation with Jesus Christ. At the time I graduated from high school, in 1967, I began to realize that life had to be more than a series of parties. I was lost but seemed to be getting more lost and more confused. I severed ties with my parents in spite of their faithfulness to me. I lost all concern about my college work and eventually I dropped out. By the spring of 1970, I had been thoroughly broken by my own rebellion.

God's Word came to me through a Billy Graham television crusade. I don't recall what the message was, but God met my needs. I wrote a letter that evening to Billy Graham. The time during which I waited for the promised literature was filled with anticipation and hope. After it arrived and I had read some of it, I felt as though I was reading a biography of my life. Then I realized that what I was reading had come from the Bible. I completed about three-fourths of the correspondence course, memorized some Bible verses and got into the habit of reading my Bible. I had no concept of Christianity at all, but there was something about the Bible that made me pack it in my suitcase even when I went home on weekends. I couldn't help but read it.

On one of those weekends at home, I went to the new Association church in Minnewaukan. That Sunday a Bible School Gospel Team sang and gave testimonies. Those young people had characteristics I had never seen in young people before. And I wanted what they had. So I sent in an application blank, was accepted, and spent the next year studying the Word of God at Association Free Lutheran Bible School. God "showed me great and mighty things" which I didn't know.

Being gripped by the commission, I made application for the Seminary. At the School Board's recommendation, I engaged in further undergraduate study at North Dakota State University. Before graduating, I went to work in Minot, North Dako-

ta, and later, in Bismarck, North Dakota, where I met Janice Larson, who later became my wife in December, 1975.

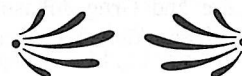
God led me back to Minneapolis, where I am now a second-year seminarian. The Lord has blessed both Jan and me in our preparation for the ministry.

"Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind... I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 13:13, 14).

Larry Haagenon

### **COOK WANTED**

A head cook is wanted at Association Free Lutheran Bible School to begin work about Sept. 1, 1977. Please send inquiries and/or applications to AFLBS, Attention: Mr. Harbo, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441.



### **HAVE YOU SECURED CONFERENCE HOUSING?**

Reservations for housing for the 1977 Annual Conference of the AFLC should be made now. The rooms at the University may be reserved through St. Paul's Church, host congregation. (See information in the April 19 **Ambassador**.) Any available rooms in private homes may be secured through the church also. Write: St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1603 North Fifth Street, Fargo 58102, or call 701-237-5555 in the mornings.

Reservations in hotels and motels should be made directly to the businesses themselves. The list of them is carried in the April 19 **Ambassador**.

Please notify the church about meals you plan to eat at the conference dining hall on campus. The correct address of the church is given above.

# FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION WOMEN'S MISSIONARY FEDERATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

**June 8, 1977**

St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church,  
1603 North Fifth Street      Fargo, North Dakota

Registration      9:00-10:00  
Prayer Service      9:00-9:30

Leader: Mrs. David Molstre, McIntosh, Minn.  
Prelude      Mrs. Paul Nash, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Singspiration  
Leader: Mrs. John Mundfrom, Fargo, N. Dak.

Devotions      Mrs. Russell Duncan, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Welcome      Mrs. Donald Olson, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Response      Mrs. Robert Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wis.  
Trio      Mrs. Clifford Iverson, Mrs. Lester Lalim,  
                 Mrs. Art Haakenson, Tioga, N. Dak.  
Bible Study      Miss Eula Mae Swenson, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Hymn Sing  
Business Meeting      Mrs. Robert Dietsche, presiding  
Vocal Solo      Mrs. Donald Olson, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Memorial Service      Leader: Mrs. Lois Oscarson,  
   Wahpeton, N. Dak.

Violinist: Mrs. Jim Hoialmen, Duluth, Minn.  
Offertory      HOME MISSIONS  
Announcements  
Closing Prayer  
Table Prayer

## AFTERNOON SERVICE

1:30 p.m.      June 8, 1977

Prelude  
Hymn Sing      Leader: Mrs. John Mundfrom, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Devotions      Mrs. Lavern F. Johnson, Tioga, N. Dak.

Music      McIntosh, Minn.  
Unfinished Business  
Solo      Ms. Maureen Holo, Dalton, Minn.  
Message      Home Mission Director  
                 Pastor Elden Nelson, St. Paul, Minn.

Hymn  
Offertory      HOME MISSIONS  
Greetings  
Comments  
Benediction      Pastor Philip Haugen, Fargo, N. Dak.

\* \* \* \* \*

## PRAYER BREAKFAST

For All The Ladies

Thursday

7 o'clock

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

1603 North Fifth Street

Fellowship Leader

Mrs. Philip Haugen

Fargo, N. Dak.

\* \* \* \* \*

## FESTIVAL SERVICE

8:00 p.m.      June 9, 1977

Prelude      "Christ, Our Sufficiency"  
Singspiration      Mrs. John Mundfrom, Fargo, N. Dak.  
Devotions      Mrs. Einar Unseth, Ortley, S. Dak.  
Ladies' Trio      Mrs. Clifford Iverson, Mrs. Lester Lalim,  
                 Mrs. Art Haakenson, Tioga, N. Dak.  
Message      Pastor Kenneth Moland, Minneapolis, Minn.  
                 AFLC Bible School  
Music      Men's Chorus, Valley City, N. Dak.  
Offertory      PRAISE PROGRAM  
Installation of Officers      Pastor John Strand  
                 Minneapolis, Minn.

Music      Men's Chorus, Valley City, N. Dak.  
Presentation of Honorary Membership Pins  
Benediction      Pastor John Strand, Minneapolis, Minn.

## BETHEL LUTHER LEAGUE ADOPTS TWO ORPHANS

Last summer you may have seen a group of young people on the highway between Culbertson and Froid (Montana). This was the Luther League of the Bethel Free Lutheran Church with their destination being the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Sunwall of Froid.

At a Luther League meeting one day last spring, it was suggested that the group raise enough money to sponsor one orphan child for one year at a cost of \$180.00. "So we began to pray that God would supply our needs,"

says Linda McMullen (Luther League advisor).

Philip and Hannah Sunwall told the group that they would donate an acre of land to the group for a garden and it was decided to plant corn and potatoes. The seeding began in "God's acre," then the hoeing of the "sinful weeds and finally the reaping." "God supplied our needs to overflowing," added Linda. Instead of \$180, we received \$476.05 for our harvest and this was enough to sponsor two children and give \$116.05 to help children that the missionaries in Brazil are working with (AFLC field).

—Culbertson (Mont.) Searchlight

(Ed. note: The children are being sponsored through the Christian Children's Fund and their names are Eni Nuraeni and Rosires Beleno Rivos. They live in East Java.)

## NOTICE OF SCHOOLS CORPORATION MEETING

The annual meeting of the Schools Corporation (Seminary and Bible School) will be held at the West Dining Hall, North Dakota State University, Fargo, N. Dak., on Thursday, June 9, 5:30 p.m. All Corporation members are urged to attend.

David C. Molstre  
Secretary



## NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

### A MINISTER'S MUSINGS



### GOOD MEMORIES

"Chester was kind." This is the way my father described a neighbor who had died. A wonderful way to be remembered! A lady from my former parish is now a senile resident of a nursing home. A recent write-up on that lady stated, "Gladys could always be seen taking angel food cakes and chicken hot dishes along with fresh eggs to anyone who was sick or needy, and to the new neighbors." What a wonderful way to be remembered!

All of us desire to be remembered. And all of us will be remembered. The important question is, "How will we be remembered?" Students in a university psychology class wrote their own obituaries and eulogies to be delivered at their "funerals." I wonder what they wrote. Undoubtedly they omitted their failures and sins, because all of us want to be remembered for the good that we have done.

The obituary for a friend of ours stated, "Arlene and her husband had an experience in their lives that will last them throughout eternity. Their first daughter, Patrice, died at the age of two, and because of this death the parents were introduced to the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior." This is the best memory that our loved ones can have of us.

The Bible says, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord henceforth. 'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, 'that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them.'"

—Einar Unseth

### GIFT OF FORMER MEMBER SPARKS CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS

A recent visit to Hope Lutheran Church, Sisseton, South Dakota, by a retired pharmacist from Choteau, Montana, and who had been baptized and confirmed at Hope, prompted a generous gift to the congregation and that, in turn, led to gifts from others toward improvements in the church.

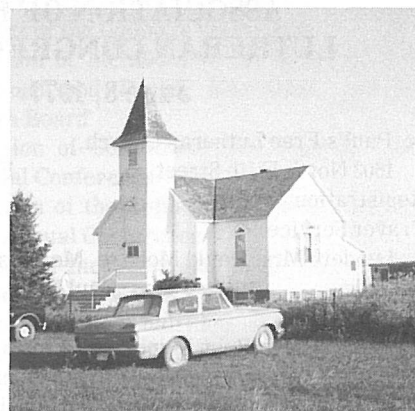
Ted Halvorson, the Montanan, left South Dakota before the First World War. He served in the U.S. Army from 1917-21. He was graduated from Montana University, Missoula, in 1925. He sold his pharmacy in 1971 when he retired. Mr. Halvorson was in the Army Reserves in the Second War and came out as a major.

His generous gift to the church treasurer, Kenneth Hove, was used to paint the church inside and out, including the basement and roof. Clayton Week gave another generous gift. Mrs. Alvina Iverson and Miss Ellen Nielsen donated materials toward improvement. The Ladies Aid members became involved in the work. Everyone had a part in beautifying our historical little country church which in 1973 celebrated its 75th anniversary.

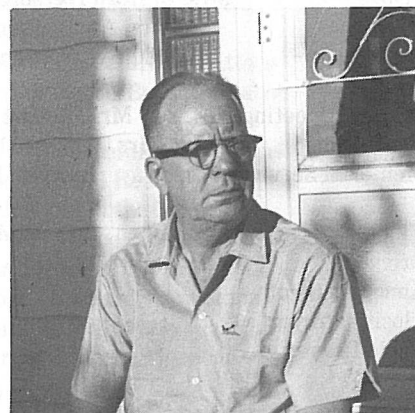
Hope is one of four congregations in the Lake Region Lutheran Parish (Buffalo Lake, Saron, Tabor) and is served by Rev. Howard Kjos of Roslyn. Much history has been written since 1898. The beloved and hard-working pioneers who founded Hope Church are no longer with us. Wouldn't it be heart-warming and earth-shaking if the big and expensive schools of today could instill in the hearts of some of their graduates the love and generosity for others that little Hope Church planted in the heart of Ted Halvorson? His gift touched off the spark which resulted in the extra gifts, improvements and beautification of our church.

Thank you, Ted, and all of the others,

Ellen Nielsen  
Sisseton, S. Dak.



Hope Lutheran Church



Ted Halvorson

### HYMNALS WANTED

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (AFLC), Fall River, Mass., would like to secure 10-20 copies of the 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, in good condition, at a modest cost and will pay postage. Please contact Mr. Gerard D. Blais, lay pastor of the congregation, at P. O. Box 241, South Station, Fall River, Mass. 02724.

### BRAZIL FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

The annual Brazil Club fellowship breakfast will be held on Saturday morning, June 11, between 7 and 9, during the Annual Conference of the AFLC. The breakfast will be served in the conference dining room.

Mrs. Raymond Jacobson

## Women for Christ

### PASTOR'S WIFE HONORED AT MORGAN AVENUE

Ruth Guild of Morgan Avenue Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota, presented Mrs. Chester Heikkinen, right, the WMF Honorary Membership Pin on February 13th at its' annual Silver Tea. Presenting the pin was Mrs. Verna Knowles, presi-



dent of the Ruth Guild.

Mrs. Heikkinen has been a loyal and faithful advisor of the women since she and Pastor Heikkinen came to serve Morgan Avenue Lutheran Church in 1952. Under her leadership the Ruth Guild has experienced many inspiring programs in Bible study; speakers from those in many areas of service for our Lord. There have been annual fellowship programs as Silver Teas, Mother-Daughter Banquets, Fall Festivals, Thankofferings and Preludes to Christmas. The ladies have had various projects such as sewing quilts and children's wear, making bandages and cutting greeting cards for missionary use. There has been child support given to orphan children. For all this we give glory to God.

—Corr.

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*(Continued from page 6)*

portunity of reaching our young people night after night with the heart-searching and heart-warming and light-bringing Gospel!

D. A fourth point of emphasis is our insistence upon high standards for

our Bible Camp work. High standards have already been set, but must be continued. The Camp committee to plan the Camp for next summer should be composed of those who pray and plan on this work as the highest possible privilege. Teachers and evangelists from outside of the District or Conference should be chosen with an eye to their ability to present the sound doctrine and the challenge of the finest type of life in Christ. Our Camp deans should be chosen from among those souls who love Christ and who love young people. The local pastors who assist in teaching and preaching in their own Bible Camp should realize that this is a duty of outstanding importance and each man should give his best after only long and painstaking preparation. The curriculum of the Camp program should be carefully planned, preferably to cover a long-range period of about three years, so as to avoid repetition from year to year and encourage a healthy variety for those campers who come every year to Camp. We must realize that in one week of Bible Camp work we are presenting the equivalent of an entire year of the Bible teaching and Christian fellowship and influence which is received by the young person in the average Sunday School. At all times we must realize that the Bible Camp is a child of the Church, and must be planned for and the work done in a manner worthy of the Church, the glorious Body of Christ!

E. A fifth point of emphasis must be upon the maintenance of the highest type of discipline at our Bible Camps. Says Dr. Miller on this subject:

"The leaders of these Luther League Bible Camps will have to watch discipline carefully if the Camps are going to accomplish the purpose of leading these young people into the knowledge of Christ in His Word.

"If very young boys and girls are going to be brought together into Luther League Camps, discipline will require more than a dean of men and a dean of women. In secular camps they have counsellors for every ten or fifteen boys and girls. Luther League camps will have to do the same if they are going to continue to

bear a good reputation. It will require one mature person for every ten or fifteen youngsters. And they will have to see to it that the rules are obeyed. Some secular camps have better discipline than some Luther League camps. Luther League leaders will have to pray and work for the best possible kind of camp discipline and reputation."

I would plead in this connection for a more personal interest by our pastors in the disciplinary problems of the Camp. The Bible Camp in a District should not be left entirely to the Camp committee. Every pastor should make it a point to attend and to act as counselor and guide for his own group of young people. What glorious opportunities for personal evangelism are incidentally given a pastor who watches over his young people at the Bible Camp! And may I plead especially for extra-good supervision by our pastors on Saturday nights at Camp. Somehow the spirit of this world prompts even our own young people to feel that Saturday night must be outstanding in some way and sometimes the worst violations of discipline come on Saturday nights, when the supervision is weak due to so many pastors and their wives having gone home to prepare for Sunday services. Unless there is a good spirit prevailing on Saturday evening, the Sunday services with their rich spiritual emphasis may become an anti-climax rather than a glorious culmination of spiritual victory.

F. My last point of emphasis is that we have a like harmony of purpose in our Bible Camps and our congregations. We must never expect of our Bible Camps what we are not willing to expect of our congregations. If the Word is emphasized in Camp, there must be a corresponding emphasis on the Word in our local congregations. If we expect awakenings of souls in Camp, we must be equally expectant of spiritual awakenings in our own congregations at home. If we expect the thrill of Christian fellowship at Camp, let us lay just as much emphasis on the thrill of Christian fellowship in our congregations. Says Dr. B. M. Christensen of the Lutheran Free Church,

writing in the **Journal of Theology** for September, 1941:

"On the other hand it may be remarked that a chief value of such a movement as the Bible Camps, which in recent years have become so numerous within the Lutheran Church in America, is just this, that they provide an effective setting for the release of otherwise untapped resources by the power of the Spirit working in and through the group. The effectiveness of Bible Camps is rooted not in the power of the Word alone, but in the power of that Word functioning in a setting that is especially favorable to its exercise. We may say further THAT A GREAT NEED OF AMERICAN LUTHERANISM TODAY IS TO CARRY OVER INTO THE ALL-YEAR REGULAR WORK OF THE LOCAL CONGREGATION SOME OF THE TECHNIQUES AND THEREBY SOME OF THE RICH SPIRITUAL VALUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SUMMER BIBLE CAMPS."

In other words, the Bible Camp is a child of the Church, and not a substitute for the Church. The Bible Camp emphasis is a part of the modus operandi of the Church, and not a class by itself. Our young people who hear us on Sundays throughout the year must hear from us just as vital a message then as they do from us when we are special speakers at Bible Camp. Our concern for souls at home must be just as keen as our concern for souls at Camp.

#### CONCLUSION:

The Bible Camp, the child of the Church, grows up to take its part in the family of faith and in the household of God. Not a problem-child or a curiosity or freak, the Bible Camp movement is with us as a natural-born and rightful member of our Church family. Let us rejoice in this stalwart and growing child of the Church. Let us favor this child with needed attention, prayer, help and guidance. Then with perfect confidence and naturalness let us look to this child, the Bible Camp movement, to continue as a blessing to her mother, the Church of Jesus Christ!

## THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee now if you have suggestions for membership on any committee, corporation, board or commission for which it must present names to the Conference. Committee members welcome suggestions.

#### MISSION CORPORATION MEETING

The annual meeting of the Mission Corporation of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will be held on Friday morning, June 10, at the West Dining Center, North Dakota State University, Fargo, N. Dak., beginning at 7 a.m. All members are urged to be present.

Rev. Eugene Enderlein  
Secretary

#### PASTOR MOLSTRE GIVES COMING SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

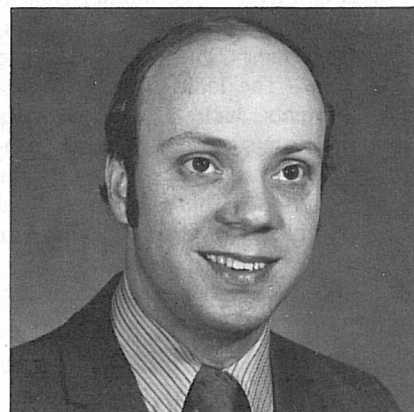
Rev. David C. Molstre, Evangelist—Youth Worker in the Association, gives the following appointments for the summer, at this present time.

June 27-July 3—Galilee Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn.

July 4-9—Family Bible Camp, Devils Lake, N. Dak.

July 12-17—Luther League Federation Convention, Kirkland, Wash.

July 24-28—Newfolden Lutheran Parish, Newfolden, Minn., Merle Knutson, pastor.



Pastor Molstre

Much prayer is encouraged for the ministry of evangelism-youth work which is being carried on by Pastor Molstre. Attend the services if they are in your area.