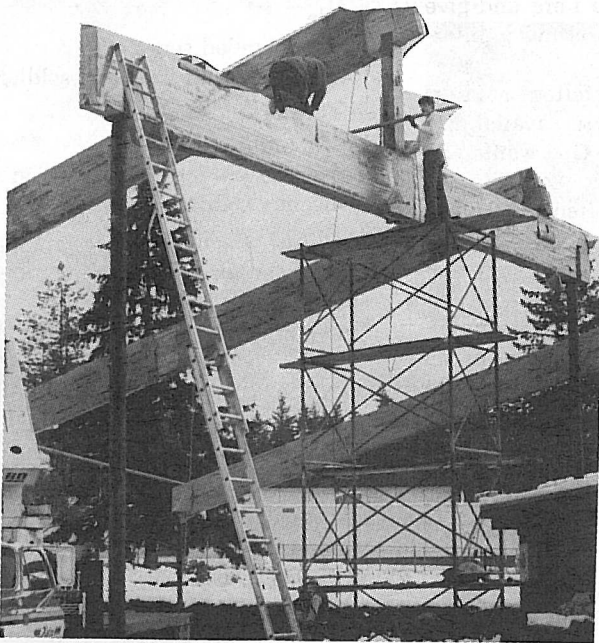


THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

April 15, 1980



CHURCH EXTENSION: FINANCIAL AID IN BUILDING

Sunday School Can't Do Everything p. 3
What is Church Extension? p. 5

AT THE MASTER'S FEET

Pastor Gary Skramstad



Wounded soldiers bleed

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Timothy 2:3).

The invitation is given. Believe in Jesus and your sins will be forgiven, your home will be heaven, your heart will be at peace, and your life will be lived more abundantly. This is all so true. But as we continue to search the Scriptures we see that babes in Christ are to mature. They are to live in a very real world without being of the world.

Part of that maturing process is realizing that the enemy of our souls desires that his kingdom grow and prosper. Satan wants you. So often we are exhorted in those sacred pages to flee, resist, watch and pray, and hear and keep. We are also made aware of the whole armor of God. Brothers and sisters, we are at war! Not with each other but with the devil and his forces. We must come to understand who this enemy is and how to avail ourselves of

the weapons and strength of Almighty God.

To every congregation, every body of believers, that desires to be used to extend God's kingdom, Satan will come with his lying and deceiving ways. He wants us to look at our fellow soldiers and fight with them. He wants us to see how some of them will shrink from duty. Others will fail to obey the commands of the supreme Lord and give others excuse to be lazy and indifferent.

Concern yourself, fellow soldier, about your faithfulness, availability and teachability. Yes, God wants you to be a "fat" Christian. Look at your spiritual structure as often as you look to see how many of those extra pounds have been added to your physical body.

Good soldiers fight the enemy wherever God places them. And in the battlefields of life we are exposed to danger. Soldiers can make the wrong move and hurt themselves. Out of fear they can run and fall. Soldiers are repaired for further battle. And soldiers can be hurt by the enemy. Wounded soldiers do bleed.

A few years back our family was engaged in very difficult turmoil. Our newly acquired son was being given first to us and then to his Vietnamese family. The situation changed constantly for over a year. It was hard. We cried and prayed. We yearned to hear a word of retreat. Our fellow soldiers came to our aid. They prayed and encouraged us. Now we look back at that "bloodstained" battlefield only to see that the Lord was watching over us all the time. He came with His healing and strength. And again we could learn afresh that all things work together for good to those who love God. One of those helpful soldiers who cried and prayed with and for us gave a special

use of her gifts that brought renewed strength. Thank you eternally, Irene Vesta, for your help during a battlefield experience. From her pen we read:

"How very joyfully I joined the group who sang
'Onward Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war . . .'
I did not look ahead to the day of battle
When wounded sore
I discovered that wounded soldiers bleed.

My wound was so deep
Yet no one saw the bleeding and hurt
Under my soldier's garb.

My heart so sick and sore lay open
Before the Lord, who one day long ago
Had borne my griefs and carried my sorrows.

So as the battle raged—I put my wounded,
bleeding life
Into His pierced hand.
And though I could not see His purpose
I humbly prayed
'Thy will, not mine, be done.'

Then as the 'balm of Gilead'
brought healing

To my wounded, bleeding heart
Until with peace within, I cried:

"Thank you, Lord, that I could be
your wounded bleeding soldier.'"

Dear friend, if we suffer with Him we shall also reign with Him. His grace will keep us in all the battlefields of life. Don't become depressed and discouraged. Don't become weary. Trust that the Lord looks after His soldiers and that it is by His stripes that we are healed.

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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**Pastor Dennis Gray,
Spicer, Minnesota**

Robert Raikes is generally credited with the founding of the Sunday School. In about 1780 he started one in Gloucester, England. Others had undertaken this before, but Raikes' work was the first to be well known.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the Sunday School movement. It has been instrumental in reaching and keeping countless children and youth in the Kingdom of God!

Our Sunday School today is different, of course, than the ones of Robert Raikes' day. Many of the children were uneducated and had to be taught the basics in addition to Christian teachings. Children spent long hours in the various factories and working at other work. 1780 was in the days of the Industrial Revolution and the climate was not too fruitful for organized "learning." Therefore, the Sunday School was organized to teach more than Christianity.

Today, we are really only involved in teaching Biblical and Catechetical instruction. Seldom are other subjects taught in the Church Sunday School. The teaching of the Bible and the Catechism is an unbeatable combination.

The length of our classes is extremely short when compared to the 1780s. Then they met all day with a worship service in the morning or in the evening. Our class time is usually about 30 to 40 minutes, depending upon the opening.

One basic reason for saying that the Sunday School is limited and cannot do the whole "job" is because we feel the main responsibility for spiritual instruction rests in the home.

A friend of mine from Montana, not a member of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, maintained that we should abandon the teaching of children and youth and begin to instruct parents and other adults. In this way the source of instruction would be the parents and the church would serve as a source for the instruction! This may be somewhat of a good teaching philosophy for the church to consider, certainly in part. Certainly it will be a good program for the Christians, but the breakdown will come as we try to

Two hundred years of Sunday School

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CAN'T DO EVERYTHING

include unsaved people! Then, too, some of our Christians do not attend Sunday School or Wednesday night Bible study!

What my friends states is true! We can right well think of additional ways to instruct adults, both those who are saved and those who are not saved. Yet, we do not wish to discontinue the Sunday School.

New life cannot always be put into the old molds or forms. More than likely we need to look into our adult instruction opportunities in the Kingdom! Are we making it exciting for adults? Do we know what our congregations need spiritually? If people are fed, they will become interested.

Maybe our pastors are teaching the old outlines they used in the previous church! We need to re-work and re-do our teaching outlines, men! Are we excited about the things of God? New material and new preparation makes things more fresh and exciting!

Sometimes our congregations are so demanding upon their pastor that he has little time for fresh, new preparation. He cannot study as he needs to study. He has little time for effective



Robert Raikes

planning for special events, Bible studies and the like. He needs time for new insight planning in order to have fresh approaches to adult education, let alone educating the children and youth! Sometimes the adult education "program" of the church is bogged down! If it is to have new life, we need to see to it that we are fresh and new!

The Sunday School, then, is just one effort in the congregation's total ministry. We are like a team of workers reaching others, seeking our own growth, maintaining our own faith through study and fellowship. WMF, Luther League, men's meetings, etc., are all part of the program of reaching both adults and teenagers. The Sunday School *cannot do it alone*; it cannot do everything.

Also, to be more effective, our Sunday School teachers need to be in the

SUNDAY SCHOOL . . .

Word of God and they need to know the Catechism, which is a basic statement of Biblical teaching. They need to know the basic teachings of the Lutheran Church. They need to know better methods for effective teaching. The Sunday School needs teachers who are committed to their calling! The Sunday School is only as effective as its teachers.

Before Raikes, Luther taught that, "It is also the duty of *every father* of a family to question his children and servants at least once a week and hear what they know or have learned of it (the Catechism or Biblical instruction) and when they do not know it, earnestly insist that they learn it." This was during 1528 and the following years when Luther wrote the Catechisms. So the concept of home instruction, which is as old as Deuteronomy 6:7-9 and before, was renewed by Martin Luther.

This Biblical concept taught by Luther does not, of course, rule out the Sunday School, V.B.S., confirmation, etc., which our churches provide. It does, however, tell us that our homes are the most important places of spiritual instruction.

"Seeing to it that a youngster is 'baptized and confirmed' is not enough!"

Far too often families leave the spiritual instruction of the children up to the Sunday School and the pastor. Seeing to it that a youngster is "baptized and confirmed" is not enough! Training a child begins in the cradle and may even go into adulthood and beyond. The gift of faith given in baptism will be lost unless the child is *taught* the Word of God, *taught* to pray, *taught* to confess sin, and more. This is first of all the responsibility of parents, then of sponsors, then of the local congregation!

There may be exceptions to this teaching in the home. "Where a father is unable alone to rear his child, he em-

ploys a teacher to instruct it; if he is too feeble, he obtains help from friends or neighbors; if the parent departs this life, he commits and delegates his authority and responsibility . . ."

So, there are individuals called to take the place of parents. The church is called, too, to take the place of the parent. Parents assign their responsibility over to the church to do *some* of the spiritual teaching and instructing. Especially is this true in instances where a normal family relationship is not a reality.

The Sunday School then stands as an arm of the Kingdom of God. It is an arm not only of the church, but is an arm of the family. It seeks to aid the family in its instruction of children. It does not take the family's place. The Sunday School must not take the family's place!

There is one certain general frustration in parish ministry. It is the adults who do not attend worship nor do they attend Sunday School. Also, there is the frustration of those who do not attend Sunday School yet worship with fair consistency. We know these families are probably not instructing their children in the home. If we could only see them attending *both* church and Sunday School. Then we could see a change in their children's response to the Lord!

If we could get more adults to attend and then really teach them the Word of God and the Catechism, the Lord would influence them and their homes to His glory! We would see real revival! Our homes would reflect the godliness where parents teach and live the principles of Christ!

Evangelism is the answer! Evangelism not only by clergy but mainly by lay people! Not social visiting but real evangelism effort!

The Sunday School is only part of the parish ministry! But, oh, what a

"The Sunday School . . . seeks to aid the family in its instruction of children."

*"Do not lay
up for yourself
treasures
on earth,
where moth or
rust consume
and where thieves
break in
and steal,
but
lay up
for yourselves
treasures
in heaven. . . .
For where your
treasure is,
there will
your heart
be also"
Matthew 6:19-21*

wonderful tool in the Kingdom! Praise God for the Sunday School and what it can do and does each Sunday. Thank you, Jesus, for every teacher and every student involved. Teach us, Lord, how to make it more effective in its teaching and outreach to adults and children. Amen.



Pastor Elden Nelson,
Executive Director
AFLC Home Missions

CHURCH EXTENSION

During the early years of the AFLC it became evident that small and newly organized congregations were in need of financial help in the building or buying of a place in which to worship and as a result the Church Extension Fund was established. The Missions Committee and later the Home Mission Board have had access to this fund and have made loans to congregations in need as they saw fit. This fund was set up as a revolving fund and is still so today; congregations receiving loans from the fund are expected to repay the loan along with a modest rate of interest, and so the monies are used over and over again to help new congregations get started. At the present there are eleven congregations with Church Extension loans.

The Church Extension Fund borrows money from individuals and congregations of the AFLC, and pays 7% interest on such loans. Also, the fund receives gifts and needs gifts in order that the fund maintain adequate equity and is not made up entirely of borrowed monies. At the close of 1979, Church Extension Fund equity amounted to approximately one-third of its total assets. Soaring interest rates paid by investment companies have had their effect on the number of new loans to Church Extension in the past months. Receiving 7% interest on monies loaned to Church Extension does not appear to be wise investment when the same money could be drawing better than 14% when invested elsewhere. However, we are mindful of the words of our Lord when He said, "Do not lay up for yourself treasures on earth, where moth or rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure

is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:19-21).

Yes, we realize that redeemed souls are the treasures of heaven and money used to win the lost for Christ is indeed a "wise investment."

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

During 1979 two new congregations were established; they are Grace Lutheran at Aberdeen, South Dakota, and Vancourver Free Lutheran Mission at Vancouver, Washington. Both of these groups are currently meeting for worship in temporary facilities, one in a motel and the other in a school. The Board of Home Missions now feels it is necessary for these two groups to secure more permanent places in which to worship. The only place they can turn to receive the financial help needed is to the Church Extension Fund. Requests for each project could easily be in excess of 50-75 thousand dollars. Right now there is not that kind of money available.

FUTURE NEEDS

It has been said that "Church planting is perhaps the most effective means of evangelism being used today." Spiritual and numerical growth are expected and usually realized when Bible-preaching, -believing and -living churches are planted. It is with this conviction that the Home Mission Board has set a goal of 30 new congregations for the next ten years. It is by faith that such goals were set and will become a reality. We do not have the kind of resources needed to reach such a goal except in Christ Jesus. God is able and we trust Him for our every need.

For this present year, it looks as though the Lord is opening the doors for at least two new works to begin this summer and perhaps a third by fall. It is very likely that every new congregation started over the next ten years will

be making a request for a loan from Church Extension. Will there be funds available? Yes, we believe that God does not open doors without having a definite plan for financing those new works.

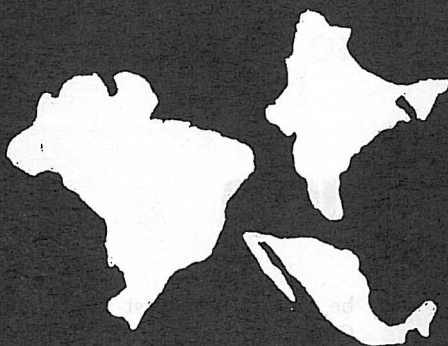
Without a doubt it is the people of the AFLC whom God wants to become a part of His plan for providing this great need. Church Extension cannot boast of high interest rates, but such an investment will be used in the work of winning the lost to Christ and such dividends cannot be compared with earthly returns.

We live in a strange age. How much time we have left to do His work, only God knows. It is very evident that the task is by no means finished. The AFLC must be ready and willing to enter the doors that open to us. Will you be a part? Would you ask God to show you what your part should be in the area of a gift or loan to Church Extension? Thank you for your concern and support in years past and for your continued concern and support in the days to come.

The Holy Spirit convicts

On the other hand, when an individual who seems to be a Christian and in reality is not worldly-minded is so well pleased with himself that he actually is more grieved over the sins of other people than over his own, the indications are that he does not belong to the branches which the Lord cleanses. For it is impossible that the Holy Spirit of God should dwell in a heart without finding anything to correct. The words of the Apostle are definite and final: "For if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons" (Hebrews 12:8).

—C. O. Rosenius, *A Faithful Guide to Peace with God*



WORLD MISSION NEWS

Welcome to the end of the world



by Priscilla Wold

I used to think that Campo Mourao, Parana (Brazil), was the end of the world. But I was wrong. Now I know better. Campo Mourao isn't the end of the world—Vilhena is! Vilhena is in the Amazon Basin, 1600 miles northwest of Campo. It's in the Territory of Rondonia, not even a state yet.

Missionaries George and Helen Knapp began our AFLC mission work in this city in mid-1977. And now that I got back to Brazil in January in time for our Annual Conference at Campo, I was able to meet the Knapps again, too.

I breathed a sigh of relief as the Conference approved of my going to Vilhena! The Conference also decided to send Castorina (a Brazilian girl and graduate of our Bible Institute in Campo) with me and we two will continue the mission work during the Knapps' furlough year.

Well, on Feb. 4, George, Helen, Castorina and I were finally off to our destination in the Amazon. We left Campo by bus, going north and thus closer to the Equator and, therefore, finding the air hotter and hotter with each mile. And also with each mile I was thinking to myself, "Just what are you getting yourself into, Wold?" After 22 1/2 hours on the bus, we finally got to a city named Cuiba; this is where our paved highway ended—also where civilization ends!

Going northwest from Cuiba to Vilhena, there are only dirt roads. And this time of year is our rainy season, which means the roads are mud and practically impassable. Therefore, we had to take an airplane the rest of the way. We boarded a small, 12-passenger plane which serves part of the Amazon Basin. Since we didn't fly at a very high altitude, we flew right through the clouds. It was raining and windy; thus our flight was very rough and we all felt rather sick. I began looking for my plastic bag. But Castorina suffered the most—this was her first flight. Poor girl, now she never wants to see another plane again.

But we made it to Vilhena. In fact, we made it in two hours, a trip that would take at least 24 hours by bus even when the roads are dry. When we got to Vilhena, it was raining, just like I felt! We had come 1600 miles from Campo where I had gotten to know so many people, and now I was homesick. No other American missionaries around here either besides the Knapps. I really felt like I was at the end of the world.

As I said, the Territory that Vilhena is located in, Rondonia, isn't a state yet; it's still a territory. You see, ten years ago Rondonia was still mainly jungle. Then a few people from southern and eastern Brazil started to move here to this unclaimed land. But the big breakthrough came in 1975 when,

"We had come 1600 miles from Campo where I had gotten to know so many people and now I was homesick."

as you may remember, we had that big frost in the State of Parana which killed many of the coffee trees (and drove your coffee prices higher). Well, because of that, many farmers in Parana decided to move up here, get free land and start all over again. (They get about 240 acres of land free from the government. Then after five years they just have to pay a small charge for the title.) Thus it has just been in these last five years that the Territory of Rondonia has really begun to open up. Before 1975 Vilhena was also just a small opening in the jungle (a wide spot in the road) but since then it has grown to be a city of about 10,000 people.

Karen Knapp Santos and I visited George and Helen here in '78 and even since then it has changed a lot. Many more stores downtown have been painted or varnished and some have new fronts. Many residential homes have also been painted and have electricity and running water. But, of course, there are still many which are primitive. Therefore many women still must go down to the nearby river to wash their clothes and dishes.

However, Vilhena is still growing. There are many more new houses than there were two years ago. You can still see the jungle past the edges of the city limits, but the jungle is farther back than it was before. Just two years ago the Knapps built our church here and they built it very near the edge of the jungle. In fact, they were wondering if they had built it too close to the jungle and too far from the center of town. But since then many houses have been built beyond the church and the jungle has receded even farther.

So Vilhena is growing but it is still a pioneer town; really a man's world. No paved streets at all in town. Not even the federal highway running past town is paved. And like I explained, there are many more houses now and many others under construction. But at the same time, many houses are empty—for sale or rent. People are coming and going, moving in and out all the time, getting land and moving out to their farms.

However, all this moving and instability presents problems for our church. We have only nine members

[Continued on page 8]

HENRY MARTYN
Missionary to India and Persia
(1806-1812)

a Page for CHILDREN



Surely it was a wonderful young missionary, who, dying at 31, after only six years of service, left a name that has been remembered and loved for (168) years. Wasn't his life worth living?

In the town of Truro, Cornwall, England, in 1781, lived a labouring man by the name of Martyn, who had risen to the place of chief clerk, in a merchant's establishment, by his own industry and business ability. Into this man's home came a baby boy who grew into a sensitive, proud, ambitious, and impetuous youth. He was so bright that he obtained a scholarship in St. Stephen's College, Cambridge. His only thoughts were of scholarship and fame, till his father's death made him think of higher things. When he was graduated with high honour, and seemed to have gained his highest ambition, he said that he had only grasped a shadow. He must find something better than self to live for. He intended to be a lawyer, but finally felt called to the ministry, and then to the work of preaching to the heathen. Reading about William Carey's work in India turned his thoughts in this direction, but it was the life of David Brainerd which influenced him most. The story of this devoted life given to work among the North American Indians, 50 years before this, led Henry Martyn to become a missionary.

When he was but 22, he offered himself to the Church Missionary Society to serve in India, and was accepted.

But it was three years before he could go out. First he served as a curate in a village parish, in order to have better preparation for work abroad. And then he had to wait for a license. In those days no one could go from England to India without a license from the East India Company. The last trial which came to this young missionary about to set out was saying farewell to the lady he dearly loved, as he must do, if he went so far away. But he loved his Saviour so much that he gave up everything, even the one he loved best on earth, and sailed away, to see her no more. There was no other way.

The ship in which the young missionary sailed steered her course towards Africa. Then it was that the passengers learned, to their surprise, that there were soldiers aboard, who, at Capetown, attacked the helpless people there. Mr. Martyn was horrified, but as soon as he could, went ashore and ministered to the 200 wounded men that he found in a wretched little hospital. At Capetown he met the old missionary, Dr. Vanderkemp, and asked him if he had ever been sorry that he left all to become a messenger to the heathen. "No," said the brave man, "and I would not exchange my work for a kingdom." Have you ever heard of a missionary who was sorry? I never have. They seem to be the gladdest people anywhere.

Arrived in Calcutta, May, 1806, the young missionary wrote of the place that "fiends of darkness seemed to sit in sullen repose in the land." It was very discouraging; but the brave heart trusted God the more, and began the work of overturning the idols of the heathen. At Calcutta he made his home with a missionary named Rev. David Brown, who gave him a beautiful pagoda to live in. The English people of the city were so charmed with the refined manners, bright mind, and lovely spirit of Mr. Martyn that they

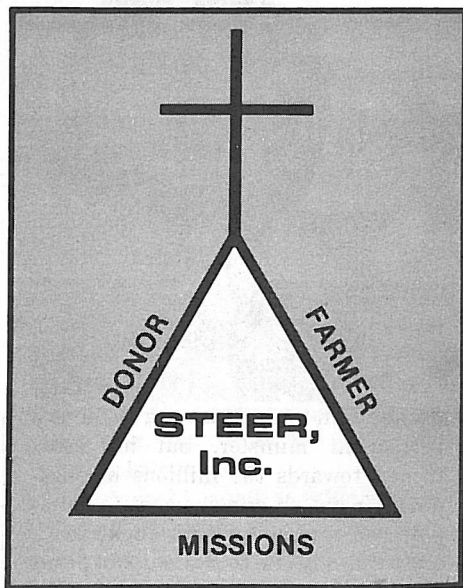
wanted him to settle among them as a permanent minister, but his heart turned towards the millions in darkness. He got an appointment to Dinapore, whither he went to labour as almost the only one to stand up for Jesus in all the multitudes that swarmed about him.

It was as an English chaplain that he had been obliged to go out at first, not as a regular missionary, but he took this way in order to get a chance to do missionary work. He began to study Hindustanee diligently, and in two and a half years learned to speak it fluently. He began a school and afterwards established five. He began to translate the Bible, and to prepare tracts to give to the people. His native version of the New Testament was highly approved, but his Persian version, made for circulation among another set of people, was much injured by the malice of the interpreter, who put in words of his own choosing, which the common people could not understand.

A friend of those days writes of the missionary: "I perfectly remember the young man as he came into our home. He was dressed in white, and looked very pale. His expression was so luminous, intellectual, affectionate, and beaming with love, that no one thought of his features or form. Character outshone everything. There was also the most perfect manners, with attention to all minute civilities, and he was remarkable for ease and cheerfulness. He was the humblest of men."

While in Dinapore Mr. Martyn heard of the death of his two sisters at home from consumption (tuberculosis), and the same disease began to show itself in him. He was ordered to Cawnpore, where he had a long illness. As soon as able to be out-of-doors, the missionary began to work again. He was so kind that he was soon known to a crowd of beggars who surrounded

OUR MEMORY VERSE: "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5



STEER, INC. benefits AFLC missions

Farmers, ranchers, do you know that you can advance AFLC World Missions by sharing in the ministry of STEER, INC.? The Board of World Missions of the AFLC urges you to get involved in the ministry of STEER, Inc. STEER is a non-profit Evangelical Livestock and Crop Missionary program. STEER is a service arm to missions around the world.

You may ask, how does STEER work? It is a three-way Stewardship

Program involving a Donor, the Farmer-Rancher, and the Mission Society. The donor could be any individual or group such as a business person, or church or church group, etc., that provides capital by purchasing a Steer Unit at \$450.00 or a Cow Unit at \$700.00 for an approved mission agency, in our case, the AFLC. Tax deductible receipts are issued to the donors, and the unit then becomes the property and management of STEER, Inc.

Farmers and ranchers are the key to the success of this ministry. They become God's stewards by providing without charge feed and care for livestock, or labor and machinery for seeding and harvesting crops. When a farmer or rancher agrees to become a STEER partner in behalf of missions, he is provided with funds to purchase livestock of his choice or to seed and harvest the crop of his choice. When the steer is sold or the crop harvested, the original investment is deducted and the gain is sent to missions. Since all livestock and crops are covered by an insurance program, the donor's investment can never be lost. Many farmers and ranchers are now using the STEER program because they have no cash investment involved. In this way they are able to give more to world missions without interfering with their giving in their local church.

Two animals have been placed within the AFLC to date, with profits to go to AFLC World Missions. The AFLC Board of World Missions urges AFLC farmers-ranchers to become involved. Further information may be obtained from STEER, Inc. Box 1236, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501, Phone 701-258-4911, or to AFLC World Missions, Box 275, Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701.

My new address at "the end of the world" is:

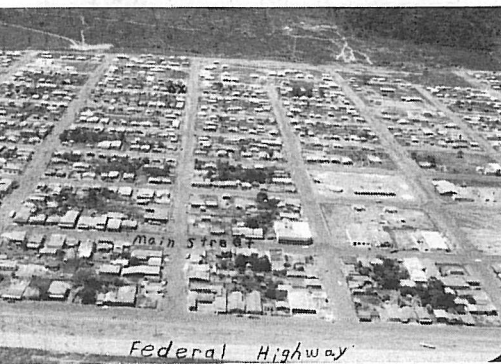
Priscilla Wold
C.P. 31
78950 Vilhena
Territorio de Rondonia
Brazil

BRAZIL . . .

(many others attend as visitors), but of these nine, six have already moved away to their farms. So pray for Castorina and me that we may have strength and love in reaching these people for Christ, realizing that our aim is not primarily church membership but souls for His kingdom.

Remember the people of Vilhena in your prayers, too. This is a desperately poor city spiritually. Spiritism is very strong here; there are about ten spiritist centers in this city, two of them right on the way to our church. Other false cults are growing fast here, too, including Jehovah's Witnesses, who are building their kingdom hall just about right in back of our church. Thus, there's much to pray about and much to do.

Now it's Friday, Feb. 22, and Castorina and I have been here two weeks already. This has given us time to get somewhat acquainted with the city and some of its people. This has also given us enough time to know that we can do nothing in our own strength here that will last. We realize that we are dependent on you for prayer support, for without your faithful support in prayer our efforts and message will be weak. We also realize that we must rely utterly on our Lord Jesus and His Spirit. This is *His* work so we will carry it forward. Praise Him! So pray for us and the people of Vilhena to this end. "For we (you and us) are laborers together with God" (I Cor. 3:9). All of us together!



An aerial view of Vilhena. The business district can be seen in the foreground, the residential area in the middle and the receding jungle in the background. The Knapps, Castorina and Priscilla live in the house marked "X" in the upper part of the picture. Pastor Knapp is building a home of their own next door.

HENRY MARTYN . . .

him when he went out. He arranged to have them come to him at a regular time once a week when he promised them each a small piece of money. In this way he gathered a company of about 500, who listened to his words after receiving his gifts. They were the lowest class and most wretched of the people. By and by he had to leave Cawnpore for his health, but went to Persia (Iran), there revising his Persic New Testament. Growing worse, he set out for England, but died suddenly at Tokat, several hundred miles from Constantinople.

Julia H. Johnston,
*Fifty Missionary Heroes Every Boy
and Girl Should Know,*
Fleming H. Revell Company

editorials

INTERCESSION

In reading Andrew Murray's daily devotional book, *God's Best Secrets* (Zondervan), it has been interesting to see the large amount of space given to the subject of intercessory prayer. Intercessory prayer is prayer on behalf of others.

Murray ranks it very highly: "Would not one say that this is the very holiest exercise of our boldness as God's children . . . ?" And again, "Christians need to realize this as their true nobility and their only power with God—the right to claim and expect that God will hear their prayer."

We hope to have others develop these themes for us more at a later date, but today we have been directed to at least raise the topic. And this much can be said, 'God's power to work in this world and to bless seems limited or let loose in proportion to the amount and sincerity of intercessory prayer being made by God's people: That is a very sobering thought.

The idea is this. The power of evil is abroad in the world and it is strong. God is able to defeat it and drive it back as Christian believers offer earnest prayer to Him in behalf of the spiritual welfare of others.

Now this intercessory prayer can be made alone and with other believers. It must be done first of all in the individual prayer closet. Then in the prayers of husband and wife and the family altar. Finally, it can be done in the small prayer groups of two or three and up to the church prayer meeting. Surely there is not enough of intercessory prayer. We refer to what was written recently about Dr. Martyn Lloyd-Jones of England (Apr. 1), how he said that revival comes down when ministers and deacons call for it through prayer and fasting.

We will have to agree that currently in the church, in the Association and beyond, the spirit and pace of our intercession is quite leisurely. And yet, politically, the world is sitting on a powder keg; morally, we are living near the brink; economically, everything could go to pieces. And all the time world population grows and outpaces the evangelization efforts of the churches. So there is great need for

more seriousness about all this. May it be evident not only in the numbers gathering for prayer in our churches, but in the earnestness of our appeals for others.

One more quote from Andrew Murray: "Oh, let us begin, as never before, to pray for our children, for the souls around us, and for all the world. And that not only because we love them, but specially because God longs for them, and gives us the honour of being the channels through whom His blessing is brought down. Children of God, awake to the realization of what it means that God is seeking to train you as intercessors, through whom the great desire of His loving heart can be satisfied!"

STILL ON HOLD

There isn't any "Life on the Edge of Town" feature this time. A couple of things combined to prevent it, lack of time and lack of inspiration.

The need to leave on Tuesday (tomorrow) for the Cities in order to be ready for the Bible School Choral Club tour limited the time available. As to inspiration, spring hadn't fully "sprung" yet on March 24, although we were having one of our nicest days. But the winter snow still remained for the most part and it would still be some time before field and garden work could commence or lawns could be raked and flowers planted. (By the time this is read, however, things could be quite different.)

Basketball and hockey tournaments have been held, all-star teams named and scrapbooks of memory filled. In the churches, Easter will be past when this issue come out, but the warm glow of the blessed season will linger in our hearts. Now we turn toward summer and the Bible camping season. We hope to have a lot of information about the camps in our May 27 issue. And we don't want to forget the Annual Conference in Valley City in June.

No question about it, spring will be welcome again this year. We are finishing what will certainly turn out to have been a five-month winter. That's long enough, although winter has its joys, too. But it will be nice to see the perennials poke through the dirt, to see the trees and bushes and shrubs bud and leaf out, to welcome the arrival of the birds, to see the river overflowing on the first stages of the water's journey to far-off Hudson's Bay.

Yes, springtime will be good. God's reminders will be everywhere then, too.

YOUTH

Broken Glass

She laid her head upon his broad shoulder and relaxed under the assurance of his strong arm. A soft smile played on her lips as she glanced down to admire the newly acquired engagement ring. She turned her head up to him, "I love you."

He stroked her soft dark hair and replied affectionately, "I love you, too." Their hands became entwined and the other young people at the Bible study fidgeted nervously. A tear rolled silently down Rhonda's cheek. It hurt her deeply to see her dear friend, Karen, so caught up in a moment of love. It wasn't that it was wrong to love someone (Rhonda could remember well the time she had loved a guy), but could it be right for Karen and Jon to be so involved with each other? Lately it had seemed that Karen grew farther and farther away from the friends she had once been so close to. All that seemed

important to her now was Jon. Even her Christian life seemed to be suffering. Rhonda glanced over at the two. "Can't you see, Karen!" she wanted to scream, "Can't you see how foolish you're being? What if Jon drops you someday? You won't have *any* friends. Or what if he doesn't?! You told me yourself Jon isn't a Christian. Would you marry him?!" but she sat silently upon the cold steel chair. Wasn't it obvious Karen would marry him? She'd already accepted the engagement ring.

Rhonda picked up the picture from her desk. They looked so happy, Karen and Jon. Karen's wedding dress, so pretty against her light complexion, and Jon, so charming in his tux. A tear splashed down upon the picture. That had been six months ago, only half a year. Rhonda's hands began to shake, the picture dropped to the floor, the glass shattered. Tears poured from her

eyes as she threw herself upon her bed and sobbed. Karen, her dear Christian friend Karen! "Why, God," she cried, "Why?" She wiped her tears and began diligently studying her Bible.

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?"

"And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" (II Corinthians 6:14-15).

Later, as she cleaned up the broken glass on the floor, she prayed that God would restore the broken marriage in Karen's life and that He would somehow draw her back into the precious fellowship of believers.



by Stephanie Krueger



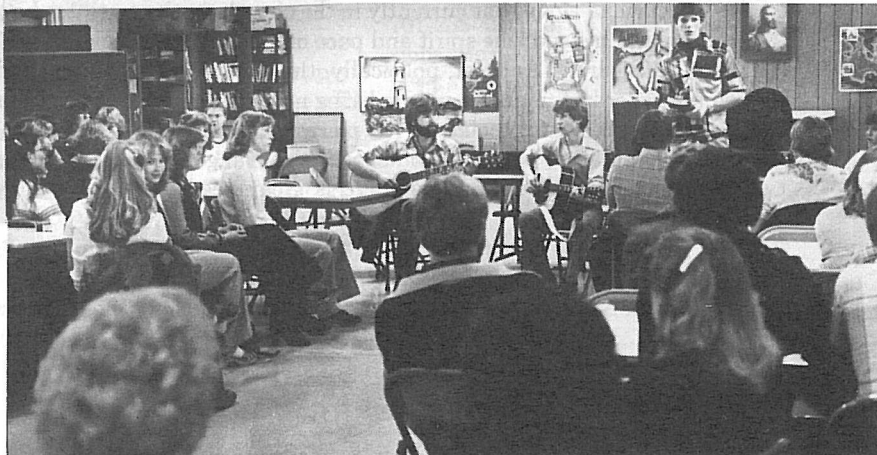
The 85 member mass Campus Days choir sang at the Sunday morning worship service at Medicine Lake Lutheran.

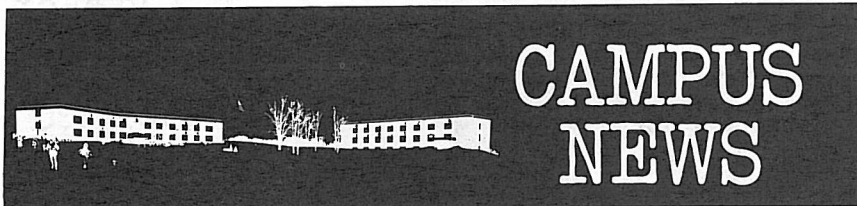
Campus Days '80

March 21-23 meant a trip to Minneapolis for nearly 100 youth and their sponsors. AFLBS hosted the weekend for the purpose of getting acquainted with young people throughout the midwest.

The Saturday night 'afterglow.'

Photos by Gene Vukonich





We are blessed, too

by Arlin Aasness

In a day when all too often the elderly are packed away and nearly forgotten in nursing homes, AFLBS students are experiencing the blessings to be had when ministering to the older people.

Isaiah 61:1a, 2b: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me . . . To bring good news to the afflicted; to bind up the broken hearted . . . To comfort all who mourn." This is the calling given to us for Christian service.

In the Bible School's nursing home visitation outreach teams, an attitude of a blessed service opportunity is formed in the students' minds. Visitation provides for each of us a way in which we can share our joy in Jesus in words and songs. And quite often, although sometimes unexpected, the residents of the homes are the blessings and we become the recipients.

Much is learned through the experiences. Oftentimes it is gratitude to God for the lives we have. "It's a blessing to serve God also when we can be thankful for our own health," related Brian Pederson, Mission Farms Nursing Home team.

"Nursing home visitation is a unique experience in which one can share his faith with the residents," said Larry Miller, Trevilla of Golden Valley Nursing Home group. How important it is to present Christ to those who have not accepted Him and to encourage the growth of all who have.

Bonnie Johnson, Texatanka Nursing Home team, added, "We like to go because we can sing the old Gospel songs with the people and they enjoy that so much." With singing, we lift the depressed spirits into a joyful state and then we can multiply that joy by sharing our faith with them through our testimonies. God does use these to open the cold, clenched fists of their hearts and to reach out and be warmed by the hand of God. "Even though the

men (at Mission Farms) seem kind of hard, it's a blessing when they do open up and share with us and give us the opportunity to share with them," commented Chris Dietsche after a Mission Farms visit.

Once the hearts have opened, the special blessings come. Many of the residents have a strong faith which they, too, need to share. Janeen Galand spoke for the Northridge Nursing Home group when she said, "We like to go because we like to sing and share with the people and also to have them share their testimonies with us."

The older and more mature Christians have much more to share with us than we have to share with them. "I think it's (visitation) neat because the people share their inspiration with us," added Diann Walker of the Redeemer Residence team.

Visitation is an activity that is worth anyone's time because of the growth it provides in both the residents of the



Darrel Haugen, Binford, N. Dak. and MaryAnn Herset, Kila, Mont.

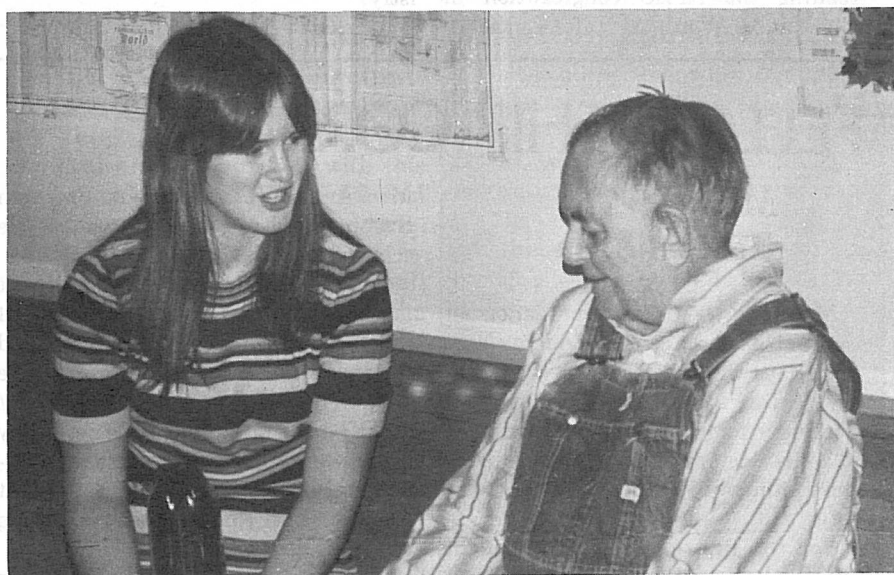
homes and each of us. The visitation we practice here at school should not be an end in itself. But may it be a training as we become a part of a local congregation.

Linda Triplett summarized the visitation ministry well when she exclaimed, "I never realized that older people could be so dear. They love Jesus so much!"

Calendar of events

Youth Rally (alumni night)	April 26
Home Choir Concert	May 11
Spring Banquet	May 10
Graduation	May 16
Home Missions Teams,	
Gospel Team training	May 28-31
AFLTS Summer	
Short Course	July 28-Aug. 8

Photos by Brian Pederson



Nancy Copes, Tioga, N. Dak., got acquainted with a resident.

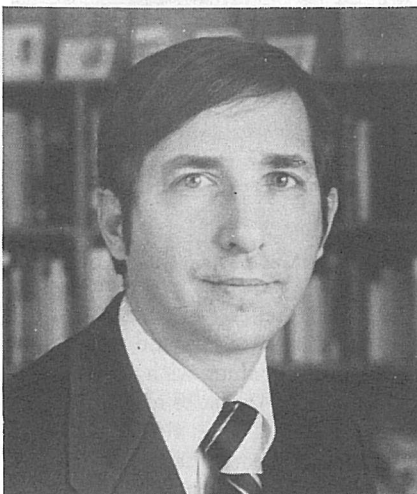
Introducing our senior seminarians

Mr. Gilbert Schroeder

As a youth I was baptized and confirmed within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and was a member of that synod until joining the AFLC congregation in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1977. I was raised in a Christian home, but it was not until 1971, when a friend from my congregation, who had just joined the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, shared God's plan of salvation with me that I came to Christ. It was then, at age 31, that I committed my life to doing whatever service God would have me do.

At the time I was saved, God placed in my heart a desire to serve Him in a full-time ministry, but He did not lead me into that service until some years later. The Lord opened up opportunities to serve Him as a layman within my own congregation, first as chairman of the Board of Christian Education and Sunday School teacher, and later as president of the congregation.

During 1976, my wife and I began attending the AFLC congregation in Cleveland, Word of Life Lutheran



Church, and joined in 1977. We joined the AFLC because we wanted to be within a Bible-based church body and have the assurance that other members, especially the clergy, stood on the Bible as the Word of God.

The Abel family visited our congregation and during their visit I shared with Pastor Abel my plans for attending a Bible school in preparation for a full-time ministry within my business profession. After consulting with him, God led me to apply to the seminary. During my first year at seminary God placed a desire in my heart to serve within the parish ministry, instead of within my business profession as first planned. My wife and I are now eagerly looking forward to this full-time ministry.

—Gilbert Schroeder

Is Man Religiously Inclined?

Acts 17:27

"I'm not very religiously inclined; so you might as well go to someone else." This was the smug response that a man gave me when I visited him. That statement has not escaped from my mind. Ever since that man spoke those words to me, I have been asking myself, "Is man religiously inclined? Does man have within himself a tendency to lean toward a power outside himself for help?" Just a few days ago a lady commented to me, "I love to talk about religion." Though she manifested little spiritual awareness, nevertheless she is surely religiously inclined.

Famous philosophers and authors have made some interesting statements concerning man's religious nature. Plutarch, a Greek essayist, said, "You may see states without walls, without laws, without coins, without writings, but a people without a god, without prayers, without religious exercises and sacrifices, has no man seen." Missionaries tell us that even uncivilized head-hunters and cannibals have some religious beliefs and practices.

God's Word makes it extremely clear that man is religiously inclined. In Acts 17 we have recorded for us Paul's marvelous message that he preached in Athens, Greece, 19 centuries ago. Paul

FELLOWSHIP CORNER

Memories of Roseau area

May I share with you dear readers an unusual experience I had in my student days which is fresh in my memory. I was sent out from Augsburg Seminary for my summer assignment to assist Pastor John Quanbeck during the summer of 1935 at Roseau, Minnesota.

For the first two months I taught Bible school and preached in the five churches of the LFC parish of Roseau.

Miss Anna Kveen, now Mrs. Freeman Sveom, assisted me in the Bible schools.

During the month of August I spent my time walking around to homes of members at Roseau, Greenbush and Wannaska. I sold subscriptions to *The Lutheran Messenger*, *The Folkebladet* and *The Friend*, a magazine edited by N. N. Rønning. I also sold various devotional booklets and I believe almost everyone I called on bought something or other from me.

One beautiful day as I was walking through the woods on a path towards

Wannaska, I had this unusual experience. As I walked along the winding path I sang songs such as: "Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this desert land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand." "Lead, kindly light, amid th' encircling gloom, lead Thou me on . . . I do not ask to see the distant scene, one step enough for me." Suddenly, I came to an abrupt halt. Right in front of me on the path stood a huge form. It was about seven feet tall, had antlers six feet in width, and probably weighed in the neighborhood of 1,400 pounds. Yes, it was a bull moose! And I guess he was as startled as I was. For a few moments we both



A Minister's Musings

Pastor Einar Unseth



found the Greeks to be so religiously inclined that the city of Athens was full of idols. There was even an altar erected "To the Unknown God." As Paul proclaimed the One True God to those Greeks he told them, in verse 27, that God has created all people "that they should seek the Lord." Therefore man is by nature religious. One person said, "In every search for an object of love there is a groping after God. The intense longing after human fellowship is feeling after God."

In view of this Biblical teaching that man is religious by nature, how are we to understand those people who claim that they are not religiously inclined? Dr. O. Hallesby, beloved Norwegian theologian, who passed away almost 20 years ago, gave an excellent answer to this question when he stated, "I observed that there were, indeed, irreligious individuals, but not irreligious peoples. I observed, further, that the irreligious individual is an artificial product found only among sophisticated and hyper-cultured people in divers periods, especially periods of decadence. I also saw that this artificial product was the result of the suppression of innate religious tendencies—"We are religiously inclined because God has made us so "that we should seek the Lord."

A man who succeeded in suppressing his religious tendencies during all of the 97 years that God gave him on this earth was Bertrand Russell, a brilliant English philosopher who wrote over 40 books. In his tragic book, *Why I Am Not a Christian*, he criticized Christ by stating, "There is one very serious defect to my mind in Christ's moral character, and that is that He believed in hell." He also wrote, "The whole conception of God is a conception derived from the ancient Oriental despotism. It is a conception quite unworthy of free men."

Extremely different was Dr. Hallesby. Though as a young man he lived as a religious heathen, he eventually became a consecrated Christian. Only three years after Bertrand Russell had lectured in London on "Why I Am Not a Christian", Hallesby wrote a wonderful book entitled, *Why I Am a Christian*. He summed up his reasons for becoming a Christian with this statement, "I did it to become a man. No matter in what situation I see Jesus, my conscience says, 'Verily, that is the way a man should be.'"

Here were two men in great contrast—one of them always suppressing his religious tendencies, the other one expressing them, seeking God, and

finding Him in Christ. What were the results of their actions?

Bertrand Russell, who rejected God completely, lived a life of fame but also of great unrest. Although he won the Nobel Prize for Literature, and although he was a champion for peace in the world, yet he failed miserably to experience peace in his own heart and life. Much grief was experienced by him in his four marriages and three divorces. Several times he spoke of loneliness. Once he wrote, "I have a very intense and spiritual loneliness. There are also in his writings many statements about his times of deep depression and desire to commit suicide. His pessimistic spirit was described in his statement, "My whole religion is this: do every duty, and expect no reward for it, either here or hereafter." No wonder someone called him, "England's wisest fool."

How different life was for Dr. Hallesby, who acknowledged his religious longings and turned to Christ to satisfy them. He said, "So I chose to follow Jesus. And God be praised now and forever for this choice! When I had made it, a quiet, peaceful joy descended upon my soul."

Yes, man is religiously inclined. God has made us to seek Him and to find Him through Christ. Have you acknowledged those religious tendencies in you? If not, won't you seek the Lord and feel after Him? If you seek Him with your whole heart, you will find Him, for God's Word says, "Though He be not far from every one of us."

stood still, gazing at one another. Neither of us seemed to fear the other. For no certain reason I happened to lift my portfolio containing the Bibles, books and magazine samples.

This action must have frightened the creature, for suddenly he leaped aside and disappeared in the thick brush, lumbered away and I saw him no more. There came over me a deep sense of God's mighty hand of protection and care for me. The moose needed no protection from me as I wouldn't harm any of God's creatures.

Through the years I have had many marvelous experiences of God's mighty power and love as a friend of God, though I have never since come up

against a bull moose. Now after many years serving the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I am retired and living in my early boyhood home. In the summer of 1939, on June 11th, Opal Olson of Moe Lutheran in Roseau and I were married. We have four daughters: Gloria, Miriam, Corrine and Naomi, and one son, Bryant. All are actively serving the Lord in various Lutheran churches and synods.

Perhaps some reader may remember me from the LFC days. It would be very interesting to hear from anyone and I will answer your letter. Please write to Rev. Kenneth A. Anderson, 3900 - 30th Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn. 55406. May the good Lord bless

all of God's people in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations. We include you in our prayers that God's Word may be glorified and have free course among us all. Amen.

—Rev. Kenneth A. Anderson



News of the churches

St. Paul, Minn.

Pastor Harvey Carlson of Grand Forks, N. Dak., will be the featured speaker for a conference on Bible prophecy to be held at Victory in Christ Lutheran Church from Sunday, April 20, through Wednesday, April 23. The conference will begin with the Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 and will continue each evening at 7:00 p.m.

Topics that will be dealt with include: the second coming of Christ, prophecies concerning the Middle East, signs of the end times, and current events and prophecy.

The Victory in Christ church building is located at 1695 Gervais Ave., in Maplewood, Minn., just northwest of the intersection of Highway 36 and White Bear Avenue.

Mr. James Gerdeen is student pastor of the church.

Binford-McVile, N. Dak.

Installation services for Rev. Wesley Langaas were held on February 24 in Bethany Lutheran Church, Binford, N. Dak., and New Luther Valley Lutheran Church, McVile, N. Dak. Rev. R. Snipstead, president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, conducted the installation.

Following the service in Binford, a dinner was served in honor of the new pastor and his wife.

The Langaases moved to the parish the first of January and are living in the parsonage in McVile.

Mrs. David Ekern
Binford, N. Dak.

Kalispell, Mont.

Pastor Eldon Nelson, executive director of Home Missions, visited the Flathead Valley of Montana the first weekend of February. On Sunday, Feb. 3, he officiated at the installation of Pastor Dale Mellgren at Stillwater Lutheran Church. A fellowship dinner followed the service. That evening he was at Faith Lutheran for the mortgage-burning ceremony. Monday evening the Stillwater Board and Building Committee had an opportunity to share building plans with him.

Sunday, Feb. 17, Pastor Kenneth Pentti shared a message at Stillwater during the morning service preceding his eight-day evangelistic mission here. A kick-off dinner was held for the building project. A scale model of the proposed church addition was on display. In the evening Pastor Pentti shared with the teens and young adults at a supper at Stillwater. Praise the Lord for his ministry!

The West Coast District WMF spring rally will be held May 6 in Kalispell. We ladies of Faith and Stillwater Lutheran Churches invite and urge you to attend and enjoy the good time of fellowship and share the rich blessings of our Lord as the program unfolds. Following the daytime program there will be a guided tour of the Conrad Mansion in Kalispell and an evening service at Stillwater. You will have a chance to see our building project and learn firsthand about the Home Mission work of our Association as it has begun in our little church. Make plans to attend now.

—Bonnie West

Ishpeming, Mich.

Youth Group has Toboggan Party

On Saturday, February 16, 16 youth from Hope Lutheran Church gathered for a tobogganing party at the winter sports area in Ishpeming. After nearly two hours of tobogganing in the cold weather, the group went to the church for a spaghetti feed and an organizational meeting. Our new officers are as follows:

President—Kurt Kaijala
Vice-President—Brian Pentti
Secretary—Becky Pentti
Treasurer—Kevin Hooper

Young Adult Group Outing

The young adult group of Hope held a cross-country skiing get-together on February 24. The group met after the morning services for a sack lunch dinner with a potluck dessert, leaving for the ski hill afterwards. A good time was had. The young adult group is active, meeting about once a month for some kind of activity and fellowship. We have about 15 young adults that regularly participate.

Nancy Langness
Secretary

Special Meetings to be held at Hope

Pastor Laurel Udden, director of the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement, will be conducting special evangelistic meetings at Hope Lutheran beginning on April 27 and concluding on May 1. We would ask for prayer as we anticipate these meetings that the Lord Jesus would be lifted up and glorified and that many souls would be touched and would receive Him as their personal Savior.

In Memoriam

SOUTH DAKOTA

Faith

Mrs. Natalie "Tante" Home, Nov. 4, 1979, Bethel

(Tante was the subject of one of the chapters in Harriett Erickson's book, *His Mysterious Ways*, the chapter entitled "Inga.")

Personalities

Rev. Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet, Minn., was the speaker at evangelistic meetings in Calvary Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, Minn., Mar. 22-26. Rev. Forrest Swenson is the local pastor.

Mission workers

The Board of Redby Lutheran Mission, Redby, Minn., is prayerfully seeking applicants for mission workers. Inquire of Mr. Ernie Engebretson, Clearbrook, Minn. 56634.



Medicine Lake Lutheran Church is sponsoring a teenage brother and sister from Laos. Joining their cousins, the N'hia Yia Hang family, at the Minneapolis airport on March 25, were several Medicine Lake members (L. to R.): Matthew Anderson, Mrs. Esther Larson, Mrs. Karen Anderson, Mrs. Leone Snipstead, Mr. John Rieschl, and Pastor Jay Erickson.

Drummond, Wis., ladies honored

At a recent meeting of the WMF at Drummond, Wisconsin, Mrs. Rose Anderson and Mrs. Agnes Lee were presented with Honorary Membership Pins. Gifts toward this WMF project of the AFLC are used for housing of missionaries home on furlough. There is a continuous drain on this fund, so we encourage anyone interested in honoring faithful members, friends or relatives to make contributions to support the project. Gifts toward In Memoriam are also accepted.

Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Lee were pinned by former recipients Mrs. Lillian Benson and Mrs. Grace Christian-son, respectively.

—Rosamond Lee



Laymen to meet

The Northern Lutheran Laymen's Society will meet on Sunday, April 27, 2:30 p.m., at Salem Lutheran Church, Wannaska, Minn. The text for discussion will be Revelation 12. All are welcome.

Art Joppru, chairman
Joe Jacobson, secretary

Eastern N. Dak. women to meet at Grand Forks

The spring rally of the Eastern North Dakota Women's Missionary Federation will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, on Saturday, April 26. Miss Judith Wold, executive secretary of the WMF, and Mrs. Eugene Enderlein, president, both of Thief River Falls, Minn., will be the speakers.

All ladies are urged to attend.

Mrs. Vernon Russum
Secretary

With our evangelist

Ontonagon, Mich.
Redeemer Lutheran Church
May 4-6
James Fugleberg, pastor

Dickinson, N. Dak.
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
May 18-21
David C. Molstre, pastor

Eben Jet., Mich.
Calvary Lutheran Church
May 24-28
Norman S. Tenneboe, pastor

Lake Bronson, Minn.
Galilee Bible Camp
June 23-29
Northwestern Minnesota District
Bible Camp
Camp

Osceola, Wis.
AFLC Center
July 6-12
Minneapolis District Bible Camp

Lake Bronson, Minn.
Galilee Bible Camp
July 21-27
AFLC Family Bible Camp
Bruce Dalalger, Dean

Dalton, Minn.
Kvam Lutheran Church
Aug. 24-28
Pastoral vacancy

Osceola, Wis.
AFLC Center
Aug. 29-31
Youth Leadership Retreat

Pray for the ministry of our evangelist-youth worker in these appointments through the spring and summer months.

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

BUDGET RECEIPTS Feb. 1 - Feb. 29

Fund	Total Budget	Current Budget	Received in February	% of Current	% of Total
General Fund	\$104,140.00	\$ 8,678.33	\$ 6,148.99	71%	6%
Schools	179,802.00	14,983.50	6,628.85	44	4
Home Missions	105,252.00	8,771.00	5,686.40	65	5
World Missions	156,636.00	13,053.00	5,146.36	39	3
Praise	36,407.00	3,033.92	599.05	20	2
TOTAL	\$582,237.00	\$ 48,519.75	\$24,209.65	50%	4%
1979-80	\$481,635.00	\$40,136.25	\$27,668.15	67%	5.6%

A FINAL VICTORY!

Earth's pulsing tremors fall asleep
'Neath winter's snow and cold,
Still resurrecting promise keep,
Emerging green and gold!

Life's stormy seas keep raging on
And worlds are torn apart—
Still I can rest assuringly,
There's Easter in my heart!

Hope springs eternal, for I know
That Christ has died for me,
Forgiving sin and conquering death,
A final victory!

Winnie Barnett
Wausau, Wis.

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