

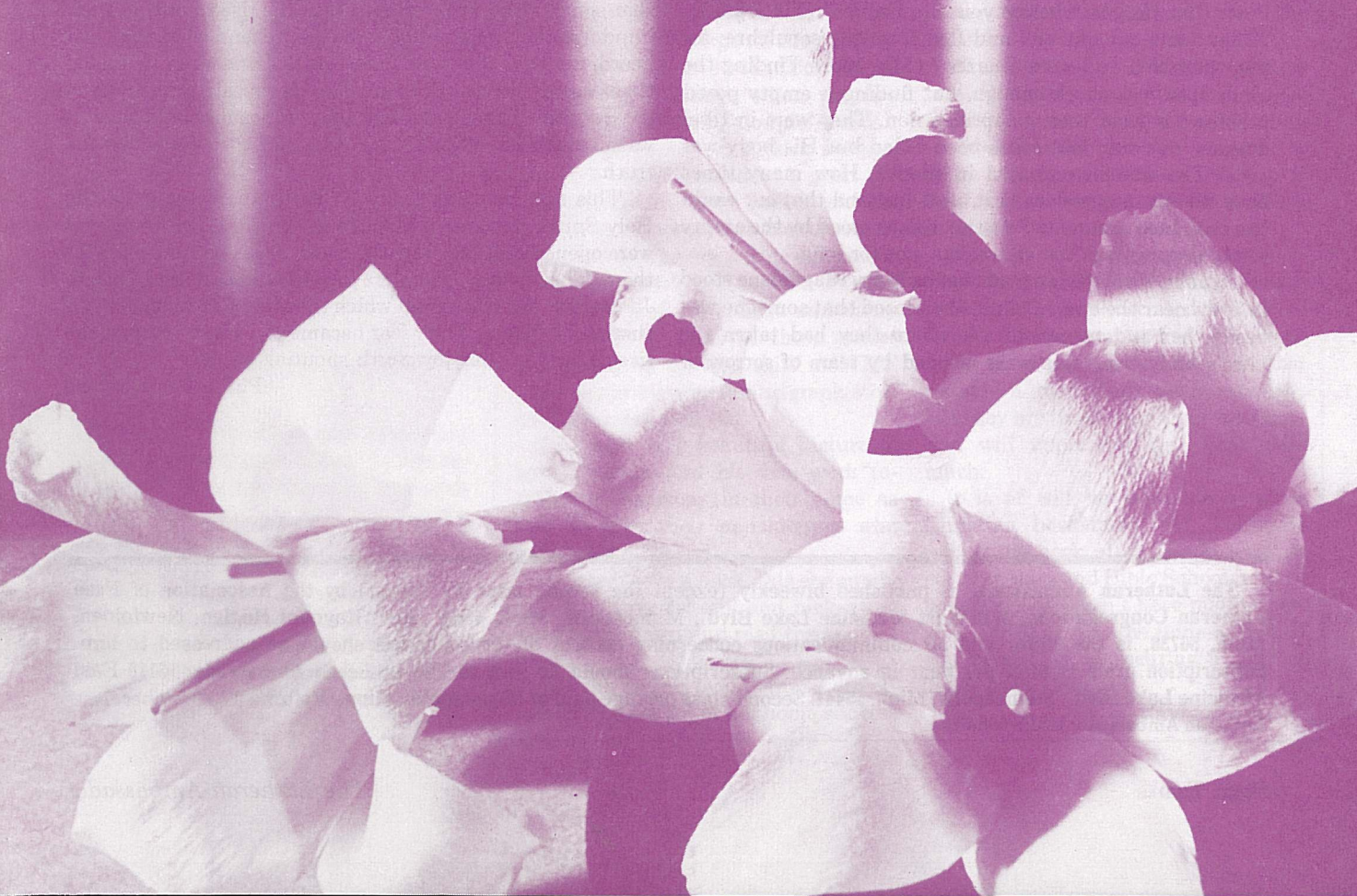
April 3, 1979

The Lutheran Ambassador

“ 'Tis the spring of souls today”

John of Damascus, 8th Century

RNS Photo



MEDITATION MOMENTS

Fear Became Joy

“Those who sow in tears shall reap with joyful shouting” (Ps. 126:5 NAS). As the followers of Jesus began a new week, the tragic events of the past days were foremost in their minds. The leader of their cause had been captured, falsely tried and put to death. They were fearful, even for their own lives. In Mark 16:1-8, we read about activities that first day of a new week. As the dawn breaks we find two women who were very close to Jesus coming to the tomb to anoint His body. As they walked, they pondered over what seemed to be an insurmountable problem, “Who will roll away the stone?” In life there are problems that we worry about, separating stones which rob us of true joy. Many of these stones are like the stone in front of the tomb.

But when they reached the tomb, they found that the stone had been rolled away. This caused even more anguish and then, to their dismay, they found that the tomb was empty. Someone had removed the body of Jesus. They saw a young man inside the tomb and were fearful, but listened as he said, “He is risen. . . . go your way, tell His disciples and Peter that He goeth before you into Galilee” (Mk. 16:6-7). “They went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed” (Mk. 16:8). Finding the tomb open was shock enough, but finding it empty posed problems beyond their comprehension. They were in total despair; not only had Jesus been killed but His body was gone. The women retreated in silence. How many times have we felt in ourselves that all is lost and that our world has crumbled around us? As the women stood by the empty tomb, despair was the victor, but not for long.

In John 20:11-16, we read that as Mary Magdalene stood in tears near the empty tomb, she sensed that someone was beside her and turned to ask where they had taken the Lord’s body. Her eyes were blinded by tears of sorrow or

unbelief for she did not know it was Jesus who had spoken to her. As Jesus called Mary by name, blindness left her and her sorrow turned to joy. New hope surged into her being.

II Cor. 5:17 says, “Old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new.” When the risen Lord becomes a reality to us, life takes on a new dimension. Jesus told Mary, in John 20:17, “Go to My brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto My Father, and to My God, and your God.” The time of sorrow was over, the time to shout was at hand. Mary obeyed the command to go and tell. Her tears were stopped; the anointing spices of death became the spices of new life. The answer to the question, where have you laid Him, became “He is risen!”

There were mixed reactions to the shouts of joy from Mary. Some rejoiced with her and received new hope and, as it is today, some doubted. In Luke 24:13-35, we read of two doubters. These two men were hurrying away from Jerusalem, bearing the heavy burden of the past days, sorrowfully discussing the events and even making reference to the fact that some of the followers had seen the risen Lord. In their blindness they were not able to comprehend what they had heard, nor were they able to recognize Jesus when He joined them on the way to Emmaus. As He revealed the truth of the Scriptures about Himself, they still could not believe. It wasn’t until He opened their eyes that they could see the truth.

This applies to us today. Without the eyesalve of the Holy Spirit, we remain blind to the truth. When their eyes were opened and they saw the truth, Jesus became alive for them. They made a complete turn around and went back to Jerusalem, the place from which they had fled in fear only a short time before. Their fear became joy. Have you met the risen Lord? Is your joy worth shouting about?

—Philip Featherstone

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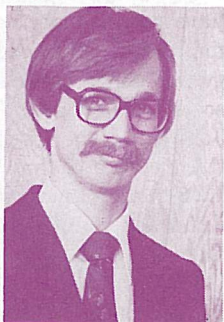
"And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, 'Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?' And no one in heaven, or on the earth, or under the earth, was able to open the book, or to look into it. And I began to weep greatly, because no one was found worthy to open the book, or to look into it; and one of the elders said to me, 'Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals' " (Revelation 5:1-5).

"And they sing a new song, saying, 'Worthy art Thou to take the book, and to break its seals; for Thou wast slain, and didst purchase for God with Thy blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. And Thou hast made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth' " (Revelation 5:9-10).

At first glance, a text from Revelation might seem to be an unlikely choice for an Easter meditation. Yet, this particular text tells the Easter story powerfully and beautifully.

Mankind is called to give an account to God. In the light of God's presence it becomes terrifyingly clear that mankind is diseased with a lust for power and pleasure. The sea of humanity lies as a cesspool before God, the stench of which burns in His nostrils. Because of its filth, mankind deserves the fate that awaits it, everlasting fire that consumes and consumes and yet is never satisfied. But, God would condemn no one without a hearing.

Is there one man from our midst who is noble enough and good enough to be



Rev. Philip Rokke

EASTER

Celebration of birth and life

appointed as our defender before God? To ask the question only emphasizes the inescapable truth that there is no one. Mankind is without a defender and without defence.

John wept at the hopelessness and the depravity of man. Indeed, we ought to weep with him. If we were called to give an account before God of the goodness of our lives, we would find that the offense against us that once seemed so worthy of indignation and revenge had been forgotten. Only our bitterness would be remembered. We would long for an opportunity to forgive and be forgiven, but the die is cast. Our indifference and neglect would terrorize us and we would be horrified at the evil within us. This is the experience that awaits many.

As God surveys mankind in search of one to make its defence, His righteousness is repulsed, and His justice says, "Destroy." But His love and mercy say, "There is a way." One of the elders said to John, "Stop weeping . . . the Lion . . . has overcome." The four living creatures and the 24 elders together said, "Worthy art Thou . . . for thou wast slain and didst purchase . . . men from every . . . nation."

Perhaps we can in some small measure understand or relate to God's indignation toward man, for whenever we are indignant, don't we say that we are righteously so? But who can even imagine such a love as this that God would come and live among bitter, self-seeking, covetous men for no other

purpose than their benefit? Not only did He live among us, and thus vex His righteous soul, but He yielded himself as an offering to God on our behalf. He

"It is not a birth out of nothing, but a birth out of ignorance and pain and darkness."

was the perfect High Priest who offered the perfect sacrifice that we might appear spotless and pure before God.

What is the significance of Easter? The clothes over which we spend our time and other resources don't change the course of our lives. Those legendary rodents that supposedly supply us with eggshaped lumps of sugar don't deserve our homage. On Easter we celebrate birth and life. The birth is not that of an individual but of all humanity of all time. It is not a birth out of nothing, but a birth out of ignorance and pain and darkness. It is not a life that is briefly clung to before it is forever lost, but it is an eternal life lived in the presence of the King of kings.

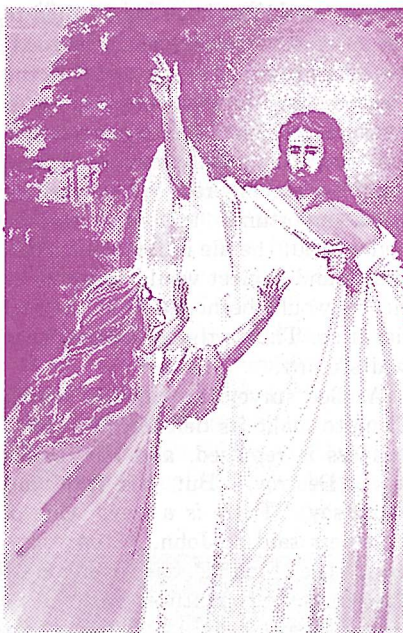
Jesus Christ, by his life, death and resurrection, has brought us from depravity and despair to God and great glory. This is our hope. How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? God is not obligated to provide alternatives from which we can choose a path to eternal life. He has provided the highest and the best. Nothing less will suffice. Could we ask for anything more?

The Lord is risen indeed

The physical resurrection of our Lord and His ascension into heaven seem to be the other item in the Apostles' Creed to which modernists object. As with the Virgin Birth, so with the physical resurrection, the record is complete, literal and reliable, in fact more so, if that be possible. Each of the four evangelists devote a chapter or more to recording these events. There was a modernist present in those days called Thomas Didymus who needed positive proof and he got it.

I presume that anyone who reads this should be perfectly acquainted with these chapters and so there is no need for me to quote them in full. Twenty-six short years after these events took place, some of the Christians who had never met Christ in person on earth began to doubt, as they do today, the physical resurrection and so Saint Paul presented all of the facts to them in a nutshell and then proceeded in the fifteenth chapter of his first letter to the Corinthians to prove the vital importance of these items of the Christians' faith and hope. I suggest you read again this glorious chapter in the inimitable language of Saint Paul. I quote parts of it but read the whole of it yourself. "I declare unto you the Gospel . . . wherein ye stand, by which also ye are saved . . . unless ye have believed in vain . . . how that Christ died for our sins . . . was buried and that He rose again the third day . . . that He was seen of above 500 brethren at once, of whom the great part remain unto this present . . . and last of all He was seen of me also, as one born out of due time. Now if Christ be preached that He rose from the dead, how say

some among you that there is no resurrection from the dead?" "And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith also is vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ whom He raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not." "If in this life only we have hope



in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." "If the dead rise not, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."

In the matter of the conception of Christ, only His mother Mary and Joseph knew the facts from the very beginning. Shortly thereafter she told, of what was to be, to her cousin Elizabeth, and she in all likelihood told her husband Zacharias, the priest, who also was to have a son in their very old

age and would be predisposed to believe Mary, as an angel had visited him. At the most, only four persons knew the facts surrounding the miraculous birth, at the time of His birth but more than 500 people knew Jesus died on the cross and saw Him alive after His resurrection. The Virgin Birth, the crucifixion, the resurrection and ascension are all factual events in the life of the Son of God, the foundation stones upon which the Christian faith is built. Take them out of the Gospel, claim they are legends, godly hallucinations, and what do you have? Nothing but the life and sayings of another Buddha, Confucius or Socrates, who drank the cup of hemlock, a martyr to his philosophy, just another such a one, admittedly propounding a more transcendent gospel of ethics, with prospects of an ethereal existence some may experience some day, somewhere, of which no one could be sure, if these mistaken enthusiasts are to be believed, telling us of an unknown God who first loved us and whom we should love and serve.

"... the resurrection and ascension . . . foundation stones upon which the Christian faith is built."

If the body of such a sinless and glorious character as Jesus returned to the dust to be eaten by worms, just as our sinful bodies do, then what hope would we have of any future life with His body in the tomb beneath the altar of a cathedral, just the major saint, worshipped by the millions, as it might have been if it had not risen from the tomb and returned to heaven. The guards at the tomb saw it was empty, so did the women, so did Peter and John and "The Lord is risen indeed" is the message of that first Easter morn. Five hundred more saw a recognizable Jesus and Saint Paul saw Him last of all.

I believe in the empty tomb and not in the emptied Gospel.

—P. Buchan

Rev. Martin E. Lundi

The days preceding every April 14th around my home were typical spring days in Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio. Every morning began before dawn for Mom and Dad as they spent these precious moments together over a cup of freshly brewed coffee. Brother Paul and I, the last two of seven children at home, sat silently eating our breakfast and getting ready to leave for school. Paul, in high school, was off early to help Dad do his morning janitorial duties at the

Anna Sophia Lundi, nee Turja, was the youngest of 21 children born to the Turja family in Oulainen, Finland. At the tender age of eight she left school to become a domestic in the home of a Lutheran pastor. Ten years later, on her way to join a sister in America, she was a passenger on the ill-fated Atlantic liner TITANIC. On some of the passenger lists her name is misspelled "Turgo," and she was listed as dead or missing on most lists after the disaster. Even her mother in Finland believed her lost until she received a letter from her daughter in the "new country" weeks after the sinking. In America Anna Turja married Emil T. Lundi, a high school custodian for 29 years and a faithful Lutheran who held almost every office available in Zion Lutheran Church, Ashtabula, Ohio. The couple was blessed with seven children.



Anna Turja (18) upon arrival in America

The floating city

high school. Me? I was still in grade school, and my mind was usually on roller skating in the streets, golf, or any of the other spring sports that emerged when the snow left the ground. But every morning, there was Mother, reminding us of the time, checking our clothing to see if we were properly dressed for school, and otherwise involved in getting us off for the day. She was usually in a happy, talkative mood. She would often playfully chide Paul that she had to wake him with a broom because he was so hard to wake up, and when he did, he would wake up swinging violently. We would laugh about that. On Mondays and Tuesdays, her traditional washing and ironing days, she would carry on conversations with us from the basement. If she wasn't talking to one of us, it was to her faithful companion, "Tuddy," our beloved English bulldog, "who did everything but talk," she insisted. Every morning brought a little bit of the same, except one. On the morning of April 14 of any given year that I can remember, there was a distinct and unusual silence at breakfast. It seemed that I grew up anticipating it, and welcomed the opportunity to hear once again the harrowing account of how "God delivered a poor young Finnish girl" from a watery grave.

The mood of the day was set for me when I saw anguish in eyes that were filled with tears. Mother would be sitting at the kitchen table and would ask, "Do you remember what day it is today?" "Yes, Mother," I assured her, "I remember." Then she would look down at folded hands and say softly, "But no one can truly understand unless they had been there themselves." Continuing, completely spellbound by the memories, she would recall events of that fateful day when more than 1500 people perished, and how she was one of about 700 who survived.

Those were days I shall never forget. They are also accounts seared into my memory from the time of my youth. Actual accounts which I took for granted, because I guess everyone in the Harbor knew that Anna Lundi was a survivor of the TITANIC, which struck an iceberg and sank on April 14, 1912.

During the early days of April, 1912, Anna S. Turja, 18, left her native Finland to begin a long journey to Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio, where she was to live with her sister Mary. On April 10, at Southampton, England, she boarded the TITANIC for her unforgettable trip. Mother always described the TITANIC as a "floating city." Even her third-class accommodations were magnificent to her. She shared a room with three others. There were two bunk beds, one on either side of the room. One of her roommates was a Finnish woman who was bilingual and took mother under her wing. The other two were a young mother and her baby.

Mother recalls that they had just gotten ready for bed and were not quite asleep when the ship hit the iceberg. She said the ship "shook and shuddered." But she added that she was not afraid, because she didn't know what had happened.

It was not until a while later that the brother of her Finnish roommate knocked on the door of their cabin to instruct them to dress warmly, put on a life preserver, and get on an upper deck because the ship had struck an iceberg! At that time, there still appeared to be no panic or confusion on the ship because most of the passengers were not yet aware of what had actually happened. Reluctantly, Mother dressed warmly, put on her life jacket, and followed her roommates as they left everything behind and went to the concert hall, where they stopped to listen to the orchestra perform.

Floating city . . .

Still under no sense of panic or danger, the women just sat and listened to the music. Then she said some members of the crew came in, stopped the concert, ordered everyone out on the deck, then locked up the concert hall doors.

Being at the distinct disadvantage of not being able to understand English, she could only follow the lead and advice of her bilingual roommate. Her roommate urged her to go up to a higher deck where "she would be safer." However, Mother felt chilled, so she decided to go to the lower deck, where more people were gathering. This decision turned out to be crucial in the events that followed. Most of the people on the upper deck above her drowned. She never saw her roommates again.

As she waited patiently for her turn to get into one of the lifeboats, she recalls that she saw the lights of another ship not too far away. Historians have since told us that indeed this was the liner CALIFORNIAN, which had shut down its wireless and did not hear the SOS and frantic calls for help from the White Star Liner TITANIC.

As mother stood there on the deck, a crew member grabbed her and literally threw her into one of the last lifeboats to leave the now sinking TITANIC.

I remember once asking her if she could recall the band playing "Nearer, My God to Thee," as is so often reported. "If they did," she replied, "I didn't hear it. I only remember the crying and the groaning and the screaming. Maybe some sang, I don't know. I really can't remember."

Now in the lifeboat hurriedly being rowed away from the sinking ship, she was in a situation which is most unforgettable to her. "The thing that haunts me most is the sound I still hear in my ears . . . the cries, screams, and pleadings of the people who were struggling in icy water, begging for help, then the silence." Mother stops talking at this point, slowly shakes her head, and cries silently for those they were unable to help.

She was happy now that she decided to dress warmly, because the night was bitterly cold. Her lifeboat was so overloaded that when she grasped the edge of the boat, the icy water was lapping at her fingers. She thought of the expert oar handling of the crew members and a calm, still night as the two key ingredients which kept them from capsizing into the icy waters.

She recalls seeing the lights of the TITANIC until almost the very end. Then she heard the explosion of the boilers, the gurgling sounds of the ship as it filled with water, and felt the diminishing waves caused by the sinking of the great ship lap against her lifeboat. As the crying of the dying and the living faded, they were exhausted there in the pitch black, yet clear, icy cold night.

As the night wore on, the lifeboats drifted further away from each other. The crew members were collecting anything that would burn, money, paper, extra clothing, whatever, with the hope of gathering the straying boats together.

Finally, after what seemed an awfully long and painful night, the dawn appeared. With the dawn, rescue. The Cunard liner CARPATHIA came to collect the strays. The CARPATHIA, already near capacity herself, took on the 700 survivors and brought them to New York. Bypassing Ellis Island, where all immigrants otherwise went to be processed, the survivors were taken directly to a Catholic hospital, where mother stayed a few days prior to boarding a New York Central train to Ashtabula.

About 1949, the harrowing experience was relived by mother. About that time, the movie "TITANIC," starring Barbara Stanwyck and Clifton Webb, was shown at one of our premier movie houses in Ashtabula. Mother was the guest of honor. It was her opportunity to view the first movie she had ever seen in her entire life. I went along to interpret for her, for you see, she still doesn't read, write, or speak English very well. When the movie was over,

mother was silent, and seemed dazed and physically weakened from the experience. One reporter said to me, "Ask your mother if it was realistic." I did. Mother looked up with tears in her eyes still silently crying for those whose voices have haunted her all her life, and in all innocent ignorance of the magic of Hollywood re-creations, said, "If they were so close to take those pictures, why didn't someone help us?"

"A woman of magnificent faith" she was once described by a newspaper reporter. Indeed, her entire life and lifestyle is directed through her absolute trust in Jesus Christ as Lord of her life. Today, at 84, she is still an amazing woman who has not only withstood all the trauma, disappointments, heartaches, and hurts that life can offer but has come through them all smiling victoriously and sharing with anyone who will listen how God has directed every step and event of her life for her good. Mother puts it this way, "I am thankful to God for guiding my life and protecting my life, before, throughout, and since the TITANIC was lost."

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Mrs. Lunde and son Martin, 1950



A PAGE FOR CHILDREN

Happy Acres



GRAMPS HAGLUND AGAIN

"Mr. Haglund came back to the Rest Home Friday," Mom announced as the family settled around the Sunday dinner table, "and Dad is going to bring him out here for supper today."

There was no cheering from the Johnson youngsters when they heard this news. For a moment, there was silence, then Mark groaned in dismay and Melissa pleaded, "Oh, let's not try any more to adopt him for a grandfather!"

Dad looked at the glum faces about him and said, "Mother and I have decided that since Mr. Haglund doesn't seem to enjoy having children around, we won't ask you to help us entertain him today. So, if you don't want to be with us and Mr. Haglund this afternoon, that's all right."

There were several big sighs of relief around the table. Then Ann said, softly, "I'd just as soon stay with you and Mr. Haglund."

Stephen stared at his sister in amazement, then exclaimed, "If you still think you can make a nice grandpa out of that guy, you must be sort of lady Job!"

That afternoon, when Mr. Haglund arrived, all the children except Ann were playing in the barn loft. Ann could see that their supper guest was about as grumpy as ever. When she set a large tin can beside his chair, he did

not say "Thank you," but only rumbled in this throat and squinted one eye in her direction.

Dad tried to talk about the weather, about the news he had heard on the radio, about crops—but nothing seemed to interest Mr. Haglund.

Then Mom asked him, "Do you have any relatives, Mr. Haglund? Any family!"

"I came from Norway when I was seventeen," said Mr. Haglund, very slowly. "All my people are there. But I had a wife. Three little ones. They were killed. All of them. In a railroad accident. Forty-seven years ago."

Ann saw the old man look out the window and far away beyond the wheat field of rustling green. She could see that it hurt—still—for him to talk about his wife and the three little ones that had been killed. She saw a tear sparkle in one squinting eye. His voice was raspy when he said, "My wife—she was a good woman. She went to church. My kids—they were so little. And they were killed."

Ann wanted to cry. She looked at Mom and knew her mother's tender heart ached, too, for this lonely old man with the bristly hair and grumpy ways. She heard Mom saying, gently, "Oh, I am so sorry, Mr. Haglund. Forty-seven years is a long time to be alone."

"Yes," said the old man, his lips tightening, "a long time."

That evening as the Johnsons and their guest seated themselves about the supper table, Ann sat beside Mr. Haglund. After praying for him for many days, her dislike for him had vanished. And now that she had heard his sad story, she wanted so much to help him in his loneliness.

Throughout the rather quiet meal, Mr. Haglund paid no attention to Ann, but somehow she felt certain that he did not mind having her next to him.

When he was ready to leave, he stood in the doorway and he looked first at Mom, and then straight at Ann, and said something that made her heart beat joyfully, "It is good to come here. I do not feel so alone—here!"

FAMILY DISCUSSION

1. Do you think that Mr. Haglund will learn to become a nice grandfather for the Johnsons?

2. What have Ann and Mom done to make him feel more friendly toward them?

3. When we know someone who is lonely, or someone who has trouble, what should we do? (Romans 15:1; Galatians 6:2; Hebrews 13:3)

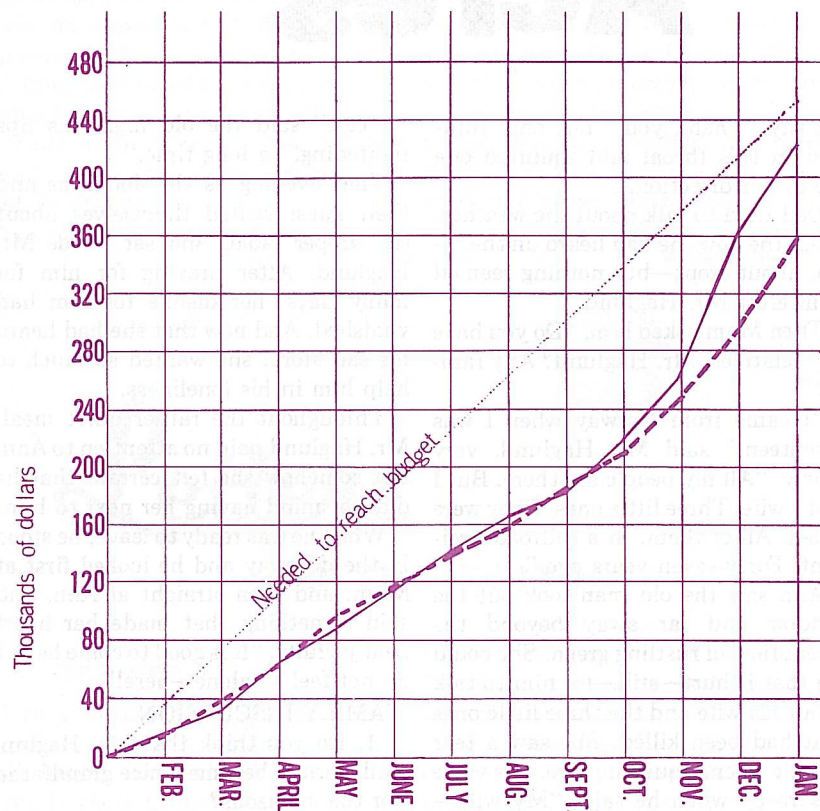
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Memory verse

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

Gratitude to God



AFLC GIVING
1977-78—; 1978-79—

The above graph gives a comparison of the giving in the AFLC for the last two years. It is interesting to note that the giving up through the month of November shows little difference in the comparison for the two years. The extremely fine giving during December and January enabled us to come reasonably close to reaching the budget this past year.

The graph clearly shows us that we need more of our giving earlier in the year if we are to reach our goals. We hope that our congregations especially will try to get gifts in earlier in the year.

We certainly do express appreciation for the generous support the Association has been receiving as indicated by the following figures.

	Goal	Received	
1977-78	\$382,477.00	\$358,363.00	93.7%
1978-79	445,332.00	421,720.06	94.7%

All of us in the Association certainly have cause for deep thanksgiving to God for His goodness to us again through another year. The final budget report shows that 94.7% of the budget goal was achieved. When we look back to November and realize that at that time we had received only 58.7% of the goal, we are moved to gratitude and praise to God. We are also thankful to God for the faithful support of our congregations and members in the AFLC, as well as to friends outside of the AFLC. It is only as God has laid the needs of the AFLC on your hearts that the funds have been made available. Thanks also to our faithful pastors who are the key men in keeping our common endeavors before our people.

We are now into a new year and the needs before us are even greater. We have a larger budget before us than the one we were not quite able to reach this past year. Our goal is \$480,635.00, or an increase of \$35,303.00 over last year, an increase of 7.9%. If the AFLC is to carry out the work outlined for its various Boards, all of these funds will be needed.

Our first urgency is one of prayer. How we need to look to God, trust God, and be obedient to God in this day. We believe God has raised up the Association for a purpose. Let us give ourselves to prayer that He might use us to carry on His Kingdom work as He would lead us and open doors for us.

We have included a chart, summarizing our giving for the past two years. It tells the story of the pattern of our giving. We have to somehow get more funds coming in earlier in the year. Regular monthly giving by the congregations could be of great help. Our Stewardship Board is concerned about what can be done to make it possible for the funds to be on hand for those "dry months" during the summer when our giving tapers off.

Thanks again to each of you for what you have done and also for what you will be doing in the days ahead for our partnership in the Kingdom work in our AFLC.

Pastor Richard Snipstead
President, AFLC

editorials

HIS RESURRECTION AND OURS

We believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus from the grave and in the coming resurrection. It is the belief in a day of resurrection which has given rise to the widespread custom of burying the dead facing east, the traditional direction from which it is thought the Lord Jesus will appear.

Long ago a lady of atheistic spirit in Hanover, Germany, decreed before her death that her tomb be made of solid masonry, secured by iron clamps and all of it to be covered with large stones. On her grave she had her defiant challenge to resurrection engraved. Lo and behold, after some time a little seed lodged in a small crevice in the tomb. Slowly, ever so slowly a tiny root from the seed extended and grew. At last the roots grew to such an extent that they moved the massive stones and broke open the impregnable tomb. The tree which grew from that tiny seed did in four generations, not four centuries or four millenia, but four generations, what almighty God was challenged to do in the promised resurrection. So absurd are the railings and rantings of puny man.

Long ago Roman soldiers, on orders from superiors, made the tomb of one Jesus of Nazareth as secure as they could, placing a large stone against the entrance. A guard was posted to ward off any foolish zealots who might come to steal the corpse by night.

But hardly a day and a half later the stone had been rolled away by strength more than human, the grave clothes lay abandoned and the soldiers could only make dazed attempts at explanation for the strange turn of events.

And Jesus, He who had been crucified, was seen again by His disciples, by hundreds in all, over the next almost six weeks. That He had risen from the dead was vivid testimony to the fact that He is the Son of God and that He is victorious over sin and the grave. As they went about preaching and writing, over the next decades, the apostles clearly showed the significance of Calvary and the empty tomb.

It is not saying anything new to *Ambassador* readers to state that the Christian Church is founded upon belief in the bodily resurrection of Jesus. After the crucifixion the rather small band of followers of the Galilean was totally dispirited. They lacked a leader and all purpose in life seemed gone. But assured that Jesus had risen, the early Christians wrote a marvelous chapter in spreading what they believed in, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are heirs of their dedicated work. Still others may yet bless us if we are faithful in evangelizing the world in our time.

Briefly, the benefits of the resurrection are these, in the words of the Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism:

1) "the resurrection assures us that Christ is the Son of God, and that He has conquered death and fully satisfied for our sins;

2) "the resurrection gives us power to arise from spiritual death, and to live a new and holy life; and

3) "the resurrection assures us that our bodies shall arise in glory on the last day."

These are themes which deserve more discussion and elucidation than we can give here today. Your pastor will preach on them on Easter Sunday and the following Sundays. Indeed, they will be the joyful burden of his preaching through the year.

As we extend our best wishes, yea, our prayers for a blessed Easter season, please remember, dear reader, that the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection are for those who do truly believe in Him as Lord and Savior. May your hope and confidence be so placed.

ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS

February 1, 1978 to February 28, 1979

Fund	Total Budget	Current Budget	Rec'd to Date	% of Total	% of Current
General Fund	\$ 90,775.00	\$ 7,564.58	\$ 5,271.54	5.8%	70%
Schools	150,105.00	12,508.75	9,768.28	6.5	78
Home Missions	85,000.00	7,083.33	3,036.39	3.6	43
World Missions	141,755.00	11,812.92	7,854.21	5.5	66
Praise Fund	27,000.00	2,250.00	1,746.73	6.5	78
TOTALS	\$494,635.00	\$41,219.58	\$27,668.15	5.6%	67%
1978-79	\$445,332.00	\$37,111.00	\$13,546.19		

Pakistan Practise

Oliver Lars Stalsbroten had just finished his three year residency of family practice at San Bernadino, Calif., when he made plans to start on a world tour, which he felt deserving of after years of hard work and study. That was in July, 1978. However, his plans were abruptly changed. In a letter from Dr. Bill Dahl, a medical missionary at Tank, Pakistan, who was due for furlough, an appeal was made for a replacement. Oliver took this as a direct call from God to give his first year of medical practice to the Lord. Although he made application for a visa to Pakistan at once, days, weeks and months went by and no visa.

In order not to waste time, Oliver

pursued his travels in Europe and also made an overland bus trip across Asia. When, as late as December, 1978, there was no visa in sight, he made application to go to a Lutheran Hospital in Liberia, Africa. But God's timetable never fails. In early January, the visa did come through. There could be no mistake. The door was open. So once more preparations were made to leave for Pakistan.

Oliver is now stationed at the Mission Hospital in Tank, under the World Mission Prayer League. We, his parents, covet your prayers for him and the entire hospital staff as he begins his practice in a troubled and needy world, that God may use him to His honor and glory. Thank you.

Esther and Lars Stalsbroten
Woodburn, Ore.

AFLBS choirs announce schedule

1979 CHORAL CLUB TOUR

Wed., April 4—Cumberland, Wis.

Thurs., April 5—Bessemer, Mich.

Fri., April 6—Ontonagon, Mich.

Sat., April 7—Eben Jct., Mich.

Sun., April 8—Ishpeming, Mich.

(a.m.)

Chassell-Pelkie, Mich.

(p.m.)

Mon., April 9—Amery, Wis.

Tues., April 10—Radcliffe, Ia.

Wed., April 11—Kenyon, Minn.

Thurs., April 12—St. Paul, Minn.

Rev. Raynard Huglen will travel with the Choral Club as representative of the Bible School.

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

Women's Lib

I have thought so much about this so-called "women's rights" today. I feel women have always had their rights in these United States.

Be that as it may, what is it (the movement) all about? I have concluded after much thinking, reading and viewing some TV talk shows, that it is a tool of the devil in these last days to try to dethrone the God of our universe, which can't be done.

When you think it through, what are these ladies saying? Isn't it, "We want our way, instead of saying 'Have Thy way, Lord?'" Isn't that just what Lucifer, Satan, said? "I will be like the most High" (Isaiah 14:14b). And God had to put him out of heaven. I think we as Christians have to be so careful we have no part in this work of the devil.

I truly believe that the devil knows his time is short to get people on his side, so he is working really hard these days. What has this to do with us as

Christian women? I feel that we as Christians must be so careful we don't even lean toward the devil's ways.

When you read back in the early days here in our wonderful country, much before most of us were born, who was the head of the house? Who made the important decisions? The man. Now women, even Christian women sometimes, too, want to run things. The Bible is full of information about a woman's relationship to her husband. But how many Christian women follow it? I know that I haven't always done it either, but it is a lonely road to walk. I have had all kinds of things said to me by Christian ladies when I mention that we should honor and obey our husbands, etc.

They say, for one thing, "Yes, but he is to love his wife." That is true, and probably most times he does, but these Scripture verses don't seem to be conditional to me. It says that women are to honor and obey whether the husband shows his love or not. That is my understanding of Ephesians 5:22-23.

Now I know this isn't popular and it is hard to do sometimes, even when your husband is a God-fearing man, as mine is. But God's Word is still there. I feel we have to be careful these days as Christian women not to fit into these drastic efforts of the devil to overthrow the place of the man as the head of the house, "even as Christ is the head of the Church" (Eph. 5:23).

I, for one, want to be able to say to my wonderful Savior and Lord, when I see Him, "I have done my best to obey Your Word." And I want to hear Him say to me, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Mrs. Arnold Jodock
Hatton, N. Dak.

(Ed. Note: In all fairness it should be pointed out, in response to reader Jodock's second sentence, that women in the U.S. have not always had the rights they enjoy today. There has been an advancement in their cause, apart from the present Equal Amendment controversy.)

1979 CHOIR TOUR

Sat., April 14—Colfax, Wis.
 Sun., April 15—Mason-Drummond,
 Wis. (a.m.)
 Virginia, Minn. (p.m.)
 Mon., April 16—Bemidji, Minn.
 Tues., April 17—McIntosh, Minn.
 Wed., April 18—Thief River Falls,
 Minn.
 Thurs., April 19—Grafton, N. Dak.
 Fri., April 20—Grand Forks, N. Dak.
 Sat., April 21—Buxton, N. Dak.
 Sun., April 22—McVile-Binford, N.
 Dak. (a.m.)
 Minnewaukan, N.
 Dak. (p.m.)
 Mon., April 23—Minot, N. Dak.
 Tues., April 24—Dickinson, N. Dak.
 Wed., April 25—Reva, S. Dak.
 Thurs., April 26—Faith, S. Dak.
 Fri., April 27—Valley City, N. Dak.
 Sat., April 28—Abercrombie, N. Dak.
 Sun., April 29—Fargo, N. Dak. (a.m.)
 Stacy, Minn. (p.m.)

Rev. Kenneth Moland, dean of the Bible School, will accompany the Choir on tour. Both groups are under the direction of Mr. Donald Rodvold. The Choir is a mixed group, the Choral Club an all-girls' group.

Unless specified otherwise locally, concerts will be in AFLC churches.



Kathy Johnson, left, and Diann Walker of the Choir.



For National Workers in Brazil

Support the Brazilian national workers in your prayers. Here are the names of some of them and their activities. Praise God for them and pray for them often.

Yeddo and Loiti Gottel and Daniel

Pastor at Lar Parana Church
 Teacher at the Bible Institute and Seminary
 Teacher at the Bible camps

Moacir and Laurita Fernandes and Magna

Pray that the Lord will encourage and direct Moacir in his participation in the church.

Support her as she serves as cook for our Schools.

Prayer and Praise

by Priscilla Wold

Carlos Roberto and Karen (Knapp) dos Santos

Carlos—student in the Seminary during the week

Weekends—in Campina da Lagoa where they are in charge of our new work

Oscias Camara

Manager of the Evangelical Bookstore in Campo Mourao

Dean of men and teacher at the Bible Institute

Hildibrando

Clerk at the bookstore

Needs your prayer support as he wants to study again at our Seminary

Cleodo

Completed three years at our Bible Institute and Seminary last December

Will spend his year of internship in Rondonia and work with the Knapps

Sebastiao and Pedro

These two fellows also completed three years at our Schools in December.

Pray that the Lord will direct as to where they should work during their year of internship.

Zelia

She completed her missionary course at the Bible Institute in December.

Support her in prayer as she takes the Child Evangelism course near Sao Paulo (Feb.-Apr.).

Pray for more national workers, both full-time and lay.

LUTHER LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

Ortley youth enjoy snow activities

Our Luther League held a winter party at the Arlo Kneeland farm. Three of us and Pastor William Moberg arrived late, having got stuck in a snowdrift. We walked over a mile back to Ortley and then took his other car to Kneeland's.

While the leaguers spent almost two hours snowmobiling, tubing and having small snowball fights, the adults were rescuing the car. They succeeded and we went inside for a few games of ping pong and two short games of an indoor version of fox and geese. All of us leaguers and other friends were involved in a race for survival and laughing about the way that our own friends had seemingly "set us up for the kill."

Following the games, we enjoyed a variety of hot dishes, salads, candies and a great recipe of punch. The food and fellowship filled us completely.

Dinner was followed by a time of devotions and prayer. Pastor Moberg shared with us, we discussed the reading, we sang a few songs accompanied by guitars and then had prayer.

Later we attended the holiday basketball doubleheader at Watertown, S. Dak., in which area high school teams played.

After the games we returned to Kneeland's for lunch and further singing and sharing. The party was enjoyable for all our leaguers. The fellowship and atmosphere only proved that God can use our lives and activities to His glory.

Ortley Luther League
Linda Hamman, Sec.

The work

The Biblical Test

In October of 1978, Carl Frederick Wisløff of Norway spoke at our AFLC schools in Minneapolis. Dr. Wisløff has stated that he applies a Biblical test to what he hears about the work of the Holy Spirit. "I take John 16:14 as criterion. I have learned to ask the crucial question: does all this glorify Jesus? Will Jesus' atoning work be glorified through this preaching and activity? Or will the charismatic personality be glorified? Very often this is the case. Whoever speaks much about the gifts and power of the Spirit without emphasizing the saving grace of Christ is magnifying himself instead of glorifying Jesus Christ! There is much preaching about the Holy Spirit today,

Minneapolis hosts

League convention set for July

The biennial convention of the Luther League Federation will be held in Minneapolis, Minn., at the AFLC Headquarters, July 10-15. Housing will be provided in the Bible School dormitories and the meals will be served on campus.

The evening speaker for the week will be Rev. Ralph Tjelta. Rev. Donald Greven will be teaching "Bible Truths" while Rev. Elden Nelson and Miss Priscilla Wold will have presentations on Home and Foreign Missions respectively. Rev. Kenneth Moland will present information concerning AFLBS and AFLTS (Bible School and Seminary). Mr. Don Rodvold will organize and conduct the convention choir. There will also be a Gospel Team from AFLBS sharing in the activities.

Plans for recreation are somewhat incomplete, but on Thursday, July 12th, we will travel by bus to the Minnesota Zoological Gardens at Apple Valley for the afternoon.

Cost for the convention, including the trip to the zoo, will be \$40.00 per person. Advance registration will not be required.

We are looking forward to much good fellowship in God's Word. Please begin praying and planning for your Leaguers to attend and be a part of our fellowship there. More information on the convention will be available at a later date.

The theme for the convention will be "For this is the will of God, your sanctification . . ." I Thess. 4:3a. To be sanctified means to be purged of sin and renewed in the image of Christ. Pray with us that God may bless our gathering in this way through the sanctifying power of His Word.

D.M.

Minneapolis district youth retreat

On March 17-18, ninety-eight teens and their sponsors gathered at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church for a weekend of Bible study, fellowship, recreation and inspiration. Mel Johnson spoke on Saturday night and on Sunday morning.

of the Holy Spirit

but very often this preaching is shallow and empty. You hear a great deal about the Holy Spirit, but too little of Jesus, His atoning work and His saving grace." Then Wisløff concludes, "You can be quite sure this is not God's Holy Spirit; this must be some other spirit. Because the Holy Spirit is one with the Father and the Son, the Holy Spirit will glorify Jesus!"

Our Confession

We summarize what we believe the Bible teaches about the work of the Holy Spirit in the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed: "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and

preserved me in the true faith . . ." This clear statement shows our utter inability to be saved without the work of the Holy Spirit. It also points out that we need the Holy Spirit in order to be kept as true Christians. First, let us consider how the Holy Spirit helps us in our salvation.

The Holy Spirit and Salvation

The Lord Jesus Christ, in His death for us on Calvary's cross, provided the forgiveness of our sin and the gift of everlasting life. We speak of what Jesus did for us on the cross as a "finished work." That means that everything has been accomplished by Jesus for our salvation. There is nothing that we can add to it. To try to add to what Christ has done by some good works

that we might try to do would be to belittle the completeness of Christ's sacrifice for us.

Yet, how is this salvation won for us by Christ to be received and applied? All of us by nature were born dead in trespasses and sins. We were born dead spiritually. We need to be made alive. This is where the blessed work of the Holy Spirit becomes so vital to us. It is the Holy Spirit who first of all awakens us to our lost condition, to our tremendous need. Jesus said that He would send the Holy Spirit for that purpose: "And He (the Holy Spirit), when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me. . ." (John 16:8-9).

(To be continued)

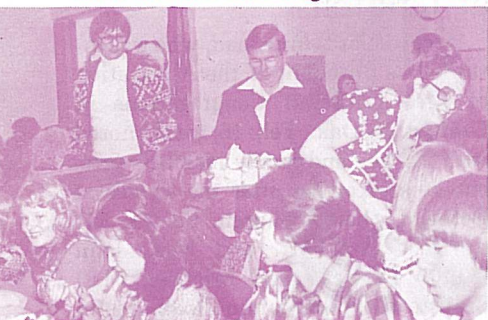
Pastor Francis Monseth

Love offering for pastor's son

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Dickinson, N. Dak., held a love offering on Sunday, April 1, for Andrew, the five-year old son of Pastor and Mrs. Elden Nelson. He has been seriously ill since February 3, spending several weeks in intensive care in a children's hospital in the Twin Cities, and still requiring indefinite hospitalization or nursing home care.

The congregation welcomes love offerings from individuals and other congregations toward this need and such may be addressed to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Box 843, Dickinson, N. Dak. 58601.

Needless to say, prayers for little Andrew are also encouraged. God is able.



Banquet night at the retreat



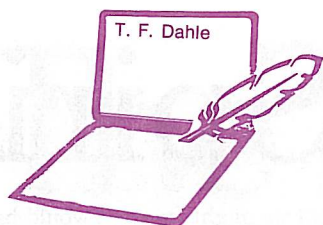
The Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary will be graduating six men this year. They are:

Gordon Grage
LeRoy Flickinger
Richard Bartholomew
John Kjos
Paul Nash
Ted Kennedy (abs.)

We are thankful for these new workers who are ready to take their places in the parish ministry. Gordon

Grage has accepted the call to serve Chippewa Lutheran at Brandon, Minnesota. The other men are available for call and their ordination this summer will be subject to having received and accepted such a call.

We know that these men will appreciate your prayers on their behalf in these last days of their preparation. They have many decisions to make, and many times the pressures are great.



Thoughts from Tryg

RESURRECTION APPEARANCES

"But now hath Christ been raised from the dead" (I Cor. 15:20). Strange as it may seem, although Jesus had repeatedly told the disciples that He was to die and on the third day rise, it did not seem to register. As early as the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus said: "No one taketh it away (My life) from me, but I lay it down of Myself; I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." After His crucifixion, death and burial, the disciples lost all hope. None seemed to remember that He had said, "On the third day I will arise."

Hence, very early, while it was yet dark, on the first day of the week, the women went to the tomb, not to see if it was empty, nor expecting to see Jesus alive, but to enbalm His body for permanent burial. They never dreamed of seeing Him alive. When they came to the tomb and found it empty, they ran to tell His disciples. Peter and John went to look, and found it as the women had said—empty. John saw and believed. Peter saw and wondered. Mary Magdalene, however, lingered, weeping. To her, two angels appeared, who said, "Woman, why weepest thou? Whom seekest thou?" Mary answered, "Because they have taken away my Lord." Then she turned around and saw Jesus, but she did not know Him. When He asked the same question the angels asked and she gave the same reply, He said,

"Mary." She recognized His voice, and exclaimed, "Master!" He told her not to touch Him as He had not yet ascended to the Father, but to go to the disciples and tell them that he had risen.

The next to see Jesus were the rest of the women. To them He said the same thing, "Go, tell My disciples, and Peter." Poor Peter. He had not seen Jesus to talk to since that terrible denial. What great sorrow filled Peter's heart. He was the next one to see Jesus. What a wonderful meeting that must have been! He always reveals Himself to those in deepest need. The sad part of it was that when all these witnesses told the rest of the disciples, they didn't believe them. Can we see ourselves in the disciples?

Thomas even went so far as to say, "I will not believe until I see the nail prints in His hands, and put my finger into that nail print." However, when Jesus came to their meeting through locked and bolted doors and said, "Thomas, come here," Thomas broke down, and cried, "My Lord and my God." Jesus then said, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are they who have not seen, and yet believe."

All the disciples were forced to believe and Jesus upbraided them for their unbelief. There is no historical fact better documented than the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, and still some people will not believe.

—Trygve F. Dahle

In Memoriam

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

MINNESOTA

Thief River Falls

Clara Quam, 91, Feb. 12, 1978, Our Saviour's

John A. Ness, 70, Feb. 24, 1978, Our Saviour's

Manvel Moe, 73, April 4, 1978, Our Saviour's

Emil Hellquist, 81, Dec. 23, 1978, Our Saviour's

Calmer E. Brenna, 78, Jan. 8, Our Saviour's

Goodridge

G. Walter Sorter, 71, Dec. 20, 1978, Reiner

NORTH DAKOTA

McVile

Mrs. Anton (Thea) Rorvig, 71, Mar. 11, New Luther Valley

Maynard Force tapes available

Cassette tapes of the Bible studies in Joshua given by Pastor Maynard Force at the Pastors' Conference in January are available through the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement, 13 S. 9th St., Minneapolis, Minn. 55402.

There are two 90-minute tapes which give all four of the studies, with two studies on each tape (one on each side). The tapes are \$3.00 each, plus 50¢ for mailing, so if both tapes are desired, the total would be \$6.50. They can be ordered, accompanied by check, from the above address.

Snipsteads honored at Grafton

Rev. Richard Snipstead, who was installed as president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations in Grafton, N. Dak., Feb. 16, was honored with his wife and family members present at a reception after the service at Bethel Lutheran Church. Shown, left to right, are, Mr. and Mrs. John (Anne) Presteng and Michael, Mrs. Snipstead and Benjamin Floan, Pastor Snipstead and Mark Presteng, and daughters Wendy and Gwen.



Rev. and Mrs. Peder Konsterlie

Rev. Peder Konsterlie was born in Willmar, Minnesota, on March 3, 1890. He attended school in Willmar and at Augsburg College and Seminary in Minneapolis, Minn.

He married Pauline Pederson of Benson, Minn., in July, 1917, and that fall they left for Kweiteh, China, where they served as missionaries for the Lutheran Free Church until 1940. He was Executive Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Lutheran Free Church from 1946 to 1960. He also served parishes at Ortonville, Minn., Menominee, Mich., and as visitation pastor at St. Olaf Lutheran Church of Minneapolis.

Rev. Konsterlie lived at Ebenezer Home, Minneapolis, for six years, where he passed away on January 22. His funeral was held at the Hanson-Nugent Funeral Home, Minneapolis, on January 25.

His wife, Pauline, passed away at Ebenezer on February 27, and her funeral was held on March 2, at the Luther Hall Chapel at Ebenezer.

Interments were at Sunset Memorial Park, Minneapolis.

An infant son, Stanley, passed away in China. They are survived by one son, Paul, and three daughters, Mrs. Don (Margaret) Bergerud, Dorothy Konsterlie and Beatrice Konsterlie; eight grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

Other survivors include a brother of Pastor Konsterlie, R. M. Konsterlie of Willmar, and two sisters and two brothers of Mrs. Konsterlie, of Benson, Minn.

(Ed. note: The Konsterlies were early LFC missionaries in China. In a sense they left their hearts over in that great land. Upon my last visit with Pastor Konsterlie, he did not respond to me at all, but one of the men seated at table with him, said, "He speaks in Chinese." Among the others, they are reunited now with some of those people to whom they gave a significant segment of their lives upon the mission field.)

Books for you

HIS MYSTERIOUS WAYS

At long last a book by one of our pastors' wives!

Congratulations are in order to Mrs. Jay Erickson, whose new book, *His Mysterious Ways*, should win approval from both pastors and lay people. Mrs. Erickson is a gifted writer and several of her stories have already appeared in church magazines. Encouraged by these publishers she has attempted to do what many dream about but never get around to doing.

Mrs. Erickson weaves her story from episodes experienced in the Lord's work as she and her husband travelled extensively in the Hauge Inner Mission, as well as serving congregations of the Association in South Dakota, Iowa and Washington.

As the title of the book suggests, each one of 22 chapters portrays how God did move in a mysterious way to perform His wonders. It is not in any sense of the word a "preachy" book but it does give one a sense of what a great God we have. Through all their experiences, including an earthquake, a flood and even a blizzard, when people's lives were in danger, God delivered.

There are some very striking answers to prayer which should be a great encouragement to every pastor and his wife. Mrs. Erickson has included portrayals of some very wonderful people whom the Lord led into their lives such as Charles and Nora, Inga and many more. In fact, some of these stories could well be used as skits at WMF meetings or even as flannelgraph stories in Sunday School.

The book is a beautiful picture of how a pastor and his wife work together in harmony in their home as well as with their parishioners, who really make the story.

If a cover sells a book, this one surely will. It is very colorful and makes one want to sit down and read the book at once.

You can do this by ordering it direct-ly from the author at her home address

at the price of \$3.00.

Mrs. Harriett Erickson
2345 Jonquil Lane N.
Plymouth, Minn. 55441

You will be glad you ordered it, not only for yourself but for your friends.

Mrs. Esther Stalsbroten

TALKS WITH CHILDREN

Talks with Children by Johan Lunde. Translated by Pastor O. J. Haukeness. 112 pages. \$2.45 paperback.

A few years ago, Pastor O. J. Haukeness, Everett, Wash., who celebrated his 91st birthday last month, translated a book of sermons for children from Norwegian to English. They had first been preached and then written down by the beloved pastor, Johan Lunde, from whose pen we also have the book *Light at Eventide* for the elderly.

Pastor Haukeness has done a fine job of translating this book. I know that it will be a blessing to all who read it, young and old alike, and to all the children who have it read to them.

When I visited the Haukenesses two years ago this coming summer, I was asked if I would assist them in getting the book published. This I was glad to do for a long time friend and relative. It has taken some time, but now the book is off the press.

Talks with Children consists of 25 chapters, each one setting forth a Bible truth, each one illustrated by one or more striking examples from life. To be sure, the stories come from another country a good many years ago now, but they are timeless in their meaning. You will appreciate this book very much.

It is or will be available in some Christian bookstores. Mr. Harbo is selling the book at the Book Nook at our Seminary and Bible School in Minneapolis, but doesn't have mailing service. Write to me, the undersigned, if you need help in securing a copy of *Talks with Children*.

—Raynard Huglen

EASTER TRIUMPH

Commit yourselves wholly to the risen Christ on Easter, the day especially appropriate for dedication to the Savior! Take your sins and weaknesses, lay them at the foot of the cross, hasten to the open grave, and there you will find newness of life, forgiveness of your transgressions, a fortifying of your faith, and the joy of assured salvation! For Easter, blessed Easter, is yours for life and death, with this triumph of trust: "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" Amen.

—Walter A. Maier

PRAISE THE SAVIOUR NOW AND EVER!

Praise the Saviour
Now and ever!
Praise Him all beneath the skies!
Prostrate lying,
Suffering, dying
On the cross, a Sacrifice;
Victory gaining,
Life obtaining,
Now in glory He doth rise.
Man's work faileth,
Christ availeth,
He is all our Righteousness.
He our Saviour
Hath forever
Set us free from dire distress.
We inherit
Through His merit
Light and peace and happiness.
Sin's bonds severed,
We're delivered,
Christ hath bruised the serpent's head;
Death no longer
Is the stronger,
Hell itself is captive led.
Christ hath risen
From death's prison,
O'er the tomb He light hath shed.
For His favor
Praise forever
Unto God the Father sing;
Praise the Saviour,
Praise Him ever,
Son of God, our Lord and King;
Praise the Spirit,
Through Christ's merit.
He doth us salvation bring.
Venantius Fortunatus
(from *The Hymnal*)

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

Second-class postage
paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

LORD, YOU AROSE

If I had been there, would I take
The easy way out and forsake You,
Lord,
You, Lord, as you knelt there to pray?
While Your chosen disciples slept
And for the sins of us all You wept,
Would I have the courage to stay?

Or like them, would I have been
scared;
Would You think that I never cared
That You carried my burden alone?
I shudder to think that I might
Have weakened and run on that night.
Who am I to cast the first stone?

Lord, forbid that I think I'm so strong
That I wouldn't have followed the
throng
That deserted You there in the
Garden.

Your life was the price that you paid
When my sins on Your shoulders were
laid
And Your blood was shed for my
pardon.

I rejected You so many years,
Unmindful of Your sweat and tears,
And my own way of life led to sin.
I called on Your precious name
And into my black heart You came;
You cleansed it and now dwell within.

I thank you for what you have done.
I'm glad to know that God's Son
Gave His life for sinners like me—
Though for that cause You were born;
You rose from the grave Easter morn,
From the bondage of sin I am free.

Verna L. Kammen
Badger, Minn.

BINFORD CHURCH TO HOST RALLY

The Eastern North Dakota District spring rally of the Women's Missionary Federation will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church, Binford, Rev. Kenneth L. Anderson, pastor, on April 21. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Miss Priscilla Wold, home on furlough from Brazil, will bring the afternoon message.

Mrs. Vernon Russum
Secretary

SYMBOL OF RESURRECTION

An army chaplain (in the First World War) tells of having bivouacked with his brigade upon an open field with nothing over him but the cold, cloudy sky. On arising the next morning, all over that field were little mounds like new-made graves, each covered with a drapery of snow which had fallen two or three inches during the night and covered each soldier as with the winding sheet of death. While he was gazing upon the strange spectacle, here and there a man began to stir, arise, shake himself and stand in momentary amazement at the sight. It was a beautiful symbol of the resurrection.

—Doran's Ministers Manual