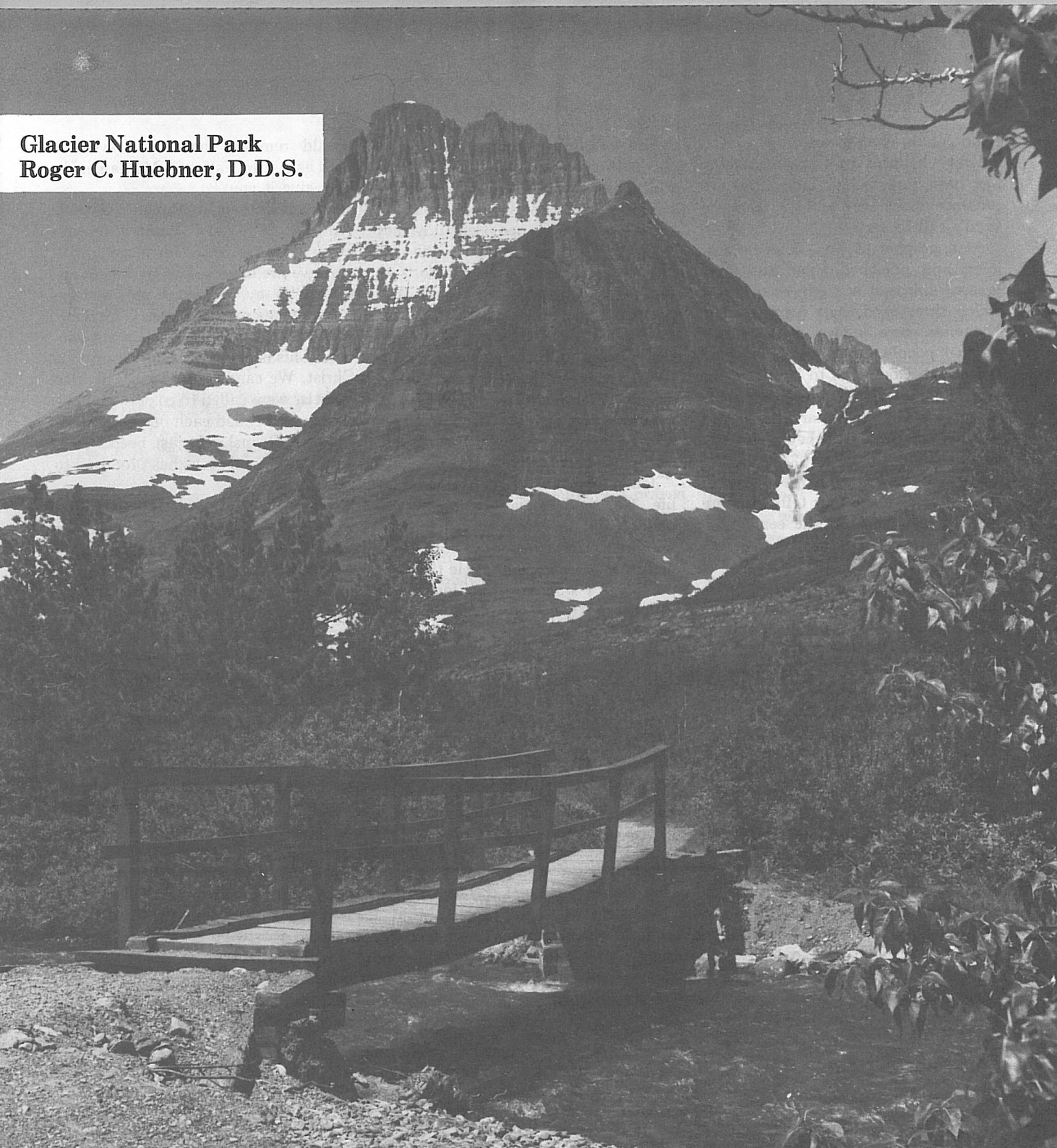


July 24, 1979

The Lutheran Ambassador

Glacier National Park
Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.



MEDITATION MOMENTS

Jonah Runs

Read Jonah, chapter one.

Every believer in Christ probably has been tempted to hide from the presence of the Lord and flee from the Lord's call to service.

As a prophet of God, Jonah surely knew and preached about the ever-present spiritual wickedness of Israel which threatened their survival. The Ninevites were known as a violent group of people. I'm sure as he received the call of God to go to Nineveh, his only thought was, "Suppose the people repent; will God then spare them? And if they are spared, will they eventually conquer us?"

Various miracles are recorded in these verses. Verse four tells us there was a great wind on the sea and a mighty tempest so that the ship was likely to be broken. It certainly was God's working in the lives of the heathen mariners when they came to Jonah while he was sleeping and said, "Arise, call upon thy God." We also have the testimony Jonah gives in verse 9: "I am an Hebrew; and I fear the Lord, the God of Heaven, which hath made the sea and the dry land." He certainly was identifying his God as "the Lord."

You will notice that in desperation the mariners inquire of Jonah as to what they shall do, in order that the storms may cease. He tells them to throw him into the sea. Certainly they hesitated to throw him into the sea, but at last when all their efforts to bring the ship under control fail, they prepare to do as they were directed. They cried to the Lord not to lay it to their charge. After throwing him overboard, the waters became calm, immediately. Their hearts were dark and ignorant of the mercy of God but they were responding to that mercy of God. God gave them deliverance.

Jonah found the mercy of God for his life. God had prepared, chosen, appointed and directed a big fish to swallow Jonah for three days and three nights. What a great miracle the Lord provided. I wonder what Jonah was thinking? Has God forgotten me? Doesn't He love me? I should have gone when the Lord wanted me to go.

I'm thankful and I'm sure you are thankful for the grace and the mercy of God. John 15:16 says: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit

should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in My name, He may give it you."

We are chosen instruments of God. We are told to "go." Those of us who know Jesus Christ as our personal Savior, we are expected to go. There are those who say, "I need to pray and see if God wants me to witness." We don't need to pray about if we should witness. This is a testimony of our love for Christ. We cannot run from God. The apostles were called to go out. God has chosen and called each one of us to go with the Gospel. We just need to ask for strength and Jesus has promised to give it to us.

We don't know exactly where God wants us to go. It may be to that person living in outward sin. It may be to that person who is difficult to love. It may be to that person of a different color or race. God loves them all. He is a universal Father. When Jesus says "GO" let's "go" with the message of salvation. Let's not run from God. We never can flee from the presence of the Lord. Psalm 139 is a perfect example of the all-seeing providence of God. Praise God for His watching eye upon us. Let's serve Him.

Leslie Galland

The Lutheran Ambassador is published biweekly (except the second issue in August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Rev. Raynard Huglen, Newfolden, Minn. 56738, is the editor and all communications concerning content of the magazine should be addressed to him. Layout design: Solveig Larson. Editorial Board: Mr. Clarence Quanbeck, Rev. Francis Monseth and Rev. Robert L. Lee. Subscription price is \$4.00 per year in advance. Subscriptions should be sent to **The Lutheran Ambassador**, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn. Volume 17, Number 15
Lutheran Ambassador USPS 588-620

The Annual WMF Convention found us in a rather different but very beautiful place, Big Mountain Ski Resort, near Whitefish, Mont. One could not help but feel the closeness of God in such a setting and thank Him for this beauty created for His creatures.

We are to be servants of God and in order to serve we must be obedient to Him. Josh. 24:24b: "The Lord our God will we serve and His voice will we obey," was our theme verse.

The opening prayer service was led by Mrs. Erling Brekke of Antelope, Mont. She read from Lk. 10:27, Rom. 12:1, Heb. 13:8 and Matt. 6:24, reminding us that we serve an unchanging God. If He is our treasure we will obey and serve Him. How do we reflect God's love to others? Can others see Christ in us? Just as the beauty of trees can be reflected in a body of water, so should we be the means of reflecting God to others. How good it was to hear the little prayer groups praying earnestly for specific needs.

Mrs. Robert West, Stillwater Lutheran, Kalispell, Mont., was the song leader for all of the WMF sessions. Mrs. Ed Fuller of Faith Lutheran, Kalispell, and Sharon Tutvedt, Stillwater, were the accompanists on the organ and piano. Mrs. Robert Rieth, Kirkland, Wash., favored us with a number of selections on the marimba during the sessions. Pastor Richard Anderson, Lake Stevens, Wash., also furnished special music.

Miss Hildur Nordin, Minot, N., Dak., gave the morning devotions. She read Ps. 19:1, "... and the firmament sheweth His handiwork." Josh. 24:15 stresses the importance of making a right choice—that of serving God, and Psalm 100 is a psalm of praise. May the Lord make us a blessing to others.

Mrs. Robert West welcomed us to the beautiful Flathead Lake area and requested prayer for Stillwater congregation, which will be calling a pastor of its own. She pinned corsages on Mrs. Eugene Enderlein, WMF president, and two of our missionaries, Mrs. John Abel and Priscilla Wold. These had been made and given by ladies from the West Coast.

Seventeenth Annual Convention

WMF Report

Mrs. Enderlein extended a Christian welcome to all and thanked the ladies from Faith and Stillwater for their hospitality and work in preparing for our convention. She gave a special welcome to Pastor Samuel Flores, Leon, Mexico, and called our attention to the beautiful handmade tablecloth which he presented to the WMF last year, a gift from the ladies of his congregation. Pastor R. Snipstead, our new AFLC president, and Pastor and Mrs. John Rieth of the host congregations were also given special recognition.

me? *God's word gives the answer.* Repentance is needed to turn to God. We must daily die with Jesus to be sanctified. God disciplines us with *love*. He cannot honor discipline in the flesh. How do we discipline our children? Is it a discipline of love?

Be submissive to God. This is humbling to our pride, but God commands this. *Obedience in faith is our only Christian right.* Jesus is our example. He was submissive to His Heavenly Father. He never questioned His Father.

"Success is obedience to the known, revealed will of God regardless of the consequences."

Mrs. Heinz (Marie) Klausli, Ferndale, Wash., led us in a very interesting Bible study, "A Successful Christian, Eternal Life," based on Josh. 24:24b and Heb. 11:8. Success is obedience to the known, revealed will of God regardless of the consequences. Man judges success by its consequences, but God judges success by our obedience. *God's love is not to be kept but is to be shared with others.*

Not one word of God has failed; why don't we believe it, study it, and live by it? Each one must choose whom he will serve. *This choice is important and urgent.* As we stand before Jesus, who is our mediator, two questions need to be asked and answered: "How have I served Him?" and "Have I been obedient to Him?"

As we study the Bible we should ask ourselves what it says to us individually. How can I be sure that Jesus lives in

We were challenged to make our choice now, today, and to recommit ourselves, by God's grace, to live dedicated lives regardless of the cost or consequences.

The annual business meeting was held at which time the proposed budget of \$48,000.00 was accepted for the year 1980-1981. The Nominating Committee for 1980 is Mrs. Bob Dietsche, Sand Creek, Wis., Mrs. Gary Skramstad, St. Paul, Minn., and Mrs. Donald Greven, Radcliffe, Ia. The 1980 Resolutions Committee is Mrs. Eleanor Johnson, Dollar Bay, Mich., Mrs. Jay Eberth, Chassell, Mich., and Mrs. Kenneth Pentti, Ishpeming, Mich. Mrs. Eugene Enderlein was re-elected president, Mrs. Grace Syverson, Tioga, N. Dak., second vice-president, and Mrs. Emil Hass, Jr., was re-elected treasurer. Mrs. Enderlein thanked the WMF for making it possible for her to

Theme verse: ***"The Lord our God will we serve,
and his voice will we obey."
Joshua 24:24b***



Seated, left, Mrs. Eugene Enderlein, and Mrs. Reuben Wee; standing, l to r, Miss Judith Wold, Mrs. Emil Hass, Jr., Mrs. Grace Syverson, Mrs. Ronald Knutson, former second vice-president, and Mrs. Arlo Kneeland.

Report . . .

accompany her husband to Brazil as our WMF representative, to visit the mission field. She will be sharing more about the mission needs and the work that is being done. Aren't we, as a WMF, happy that we are helping this project through our My Missionary For a Day, as well as sending gifts of clothing, etc.? The missionaries need our constant prayers as well as material goods and money. Don't forget to write to them. They need to know we are thinking of them and praying for them.

Our memorial service was led by Mrs. Solveig Hays of Everett, Wash. She read Psalm 116:15. We will some day be reunited with loved ones who have gone on before. A quote from John Bunyan's writing says, "... we'll find our loved ones waiting at the gate." Are we living our lives in

service and obedience to God so that we can be assured of this eternal reward? The memorial service is always a solemn one, yet there is joy in His grace and goodness, as special tribute is paid to those dear departed ones who served so faithfully and well while they were in our midst. In closing, while the organist played softly "Behold the Host, Arrayed In White," Mrs. Hays read a part of the song.

After partaking of a delicious salad luncheon, Mrs. Paul Bjornson, Valley City, N. Dak., led the afternoon devotions. She read our theme verse, Josh. 24:24b. We must obey first, then we can serve. She also read Jn. 3:13, II Cor. 4:5, and Phil. 2:1-18.

Pastor Stephen Odegaard, Eugene, Ore., was the afternoon speaker. He based his message on Josh. 24:15 and our theme verse, Josh. 24:24b. All of

our life we are called upon to make decisions. We must make them as individuals. Public opinion, good or bad, is very important in the way it affects our lives, yet no one can make our decisions for us. In Josh. 24:14, 15, the people were given the choice of serving false Gods or the true God.

God's great love has given us the opportunity of making personal choices. The husband is to be the spiritual leader of the family, but wives are to work with their husbands in this role. When Joshua stated, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord," it was a personal, individual decision. Your decision might not always be popular, but don't be a "fence-straddler" or "middle-roader." Your decision must be definite. Do not be conformed to the world. We need to take a solid stand for Christ.

Without exception, we must follow Jesus completely and at all times. Worldly advice falls flat. Only as we follow God's direction and guidance can we win. It is vital what God thinks of us. May the Holy Spirit convict each one, that our only desire will be to love, serve, and obey Him.

The offering for the afternoon was for the Praise Program, and \$2,042.58 was received. (This is not the total received as this does not include what has been and is being received through the mail. The total for our World Missions offering will also be different.) One hundred fifty-four women were registered.

Evangelism Today

THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN PREPARATION

1. **PASTOR.** Evangelism begins with the pastor. Direction and leadership come from him. The pastor sets the pace. The evangelism effort of a congregation is seldom more alive and aggressive than the concern and effort of the pastor. If he is not committed to evangelism, little preparation and little follow-up will hinder spiritual victories of any kind. It is not meetings

that we want, but a meeting with Christ!

2. **CHURCH COUNCIL.** In many congregations, the council is the governing body. Together with the pastor, the council should plan their evangelistic thrust about a year in advance so that all organizations of the church will be alerted to the special meetings and gear their programs accordingly. Noth-

Third in a Series

ing else should be scheduled during the week of special meetings. If those on the church council are dedicated, prayerful and enthusiastic, this spirit will spread to the rest of the church.

Many times the council will develop an evangelism calendar which will define the time for each activity involved with the crusade, such as: date to begin praying for the crusade; date when the first publicity goes out to the congregation and community; date when the first visitation of the community begins; date when counseling classes begin; and the date of follow-up.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Thursday morning, June 14, we held our fellowship breakfast. Mrs. James Fugleberg, Ontonagon, Mich., gave the devotions, using Jn. 14:15, 21, 23, 24, 31-35. Christ is the Vine. We must receive Christ into our lives in order that we may bear fruit.

Mrs. Enderlein shared a little about her trip to Brazil. More will be forthcoming as time and space permits. Greeting cards are needed. No packages are to be sent to the Knapps until further notice as they will soon be returning on furlough.

Mrs. Grace Syverson, Tioga, N. Dak., our newly elected second vice-president, brought a greeting from Is. 12:2, "Behold, God is my salvation." We welcome her as a WMF executive board member.

We had such a good time of sharing with so much openness and willingness to share what strength and grace God gives in every situation. If you missed the breakfast, we urge you to be with us next year. The fellowship was so encouraging and uplifting. Ninety-two ladies were present.

FESTIVAL SERVICE

Thursday evening, June 14, we held our festival service. Mrs. John Abel

gave the evening devotions. Her Scripture reading was from Lk. 24:45-53. God will open our understanding of the Scriptures if we ask. We must study His Word to know what it says to us. Matt. 28:19-20 is the Great Commission. We are to teach all nations; this is missions.

Pastor Leslie Galland, Everett, Wash., was the evening speaker. He based his message on Josh. 24:14-24 and Jn. 10:1-10. He challenged us with this very important question, "Can we truthfully say from our hearts that we are serving our God and obeying Him?" Our own homes are the greatest mission field, where we teach and set examples of serving and obeying God. It is of utmost importance that we teach these to the very young.

We look at alcohol, the drug scene, immorality, all so prevalent in our society. Seventy-five to eighty percent of young people graduating from high school have partaken in one or more of these. Are we admonishing our youth against such, willing to witness to the world by our lives, service and obedience to God? How many times have we broken the promise made at the baptismal font and again on confirmation day, to obey and serve God? As our family goes, so goes the nation. Are

we teaching our children this love for Jesus? Where is respect today? Are we really loving Jesus? As we look at America today, we can readily see that it is in "tough" shape.

We need daily communion with Him in order to receive His strength. How many of us can be called "Old Faithful" Christians?

Mrs. Robert Rieth, Pastor John Rieth, Mrs. Leslie Galland and Janine furnished special music during the service. Our evening offering was for World Missions and \$2,106.88 was received.

Rev. Snipstead installed our new second vice-president, Mrs. Syverson. Mrs. Arlo Kneeland, Summit, S. Dak., then presented Mrs. Ronald Knutson, our outgoing second vice-president, with a gift. She read Jn. 15:16. God has chosen us to bear fruit and has promised that whatsoever we ask in His name, He will give it.

Each one present was challenged to fully commit his or her life to Christ so that we may obey and serve Him. Can you and I say with Joshua, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord?" Are we on the winning team with Christ as our Captain?

Mrs. Reuben Wee, WMF Secretary

3. EVANGELISM COMMITTEE.

Often the Board of Deacons serves in this way, or else this committee can be elected. In selecting such a committee, it is imperative that these people are 100% in support of evangelism. It is not committees we need, but people who love the Lord and want to see souls saved.

This committee, together with the church council and pastor, should be in agreement concerning the person desired to be the evangelist for their week of special meetings. Prayer should be made before the call is sent to the man you desire. If God is not in the call, then all efforts will be in vain. Certain questions should be asked before you consider calling a man to be your special speaker: Is he a man of God? Is he

bold to speak out against sin? Does he call for repentance of sin as the most important step to salvation? Does he preach for personal decision (that individuals respond to God's call)? Does he emphasize a personal faith in and relationship with Jesus Christ? Does he stress sanctification and holiness of life?

There is too much shallow evangelism today. People are asked to make a commitment to Christ without first of all dealing with their sin. This results in many spiritual "stillbirths." Let us also seek a man who is not one to "pick raw fruit" by pressuring people to come to Christ by man-made manipulation instead of being drawn by the Holy Spirit. The Evangelism Committee should meet with the evangelist

and go over methods used in the local church as far as altar calls are concerned. An evangelist is not to use tactless methods which would destroy all of the work done for the crusade.

Each of the members in the Evangelism Committee could be assigned to serve as chairmen of the various crusade committees: prayer, counseling, visitation, follow-up, publicity, music and finance. These people will work together with the church boards, choirs, etc., in the preparation. This committee should enthuse every organization in the church about the crusade. They should endeavor to involve every group in the overall program of evangelism and make sure that all members of the organizations will be personally invited to attend the meetings.

Pastor Herbert L. Franz



Rev. Larry Haagenson
Sedan, Minnesota
Youth Bible Teacher



Rev. Wesley Langaas
Hampden, North Dakota
Evening Speaker

August 6-12

JOIN US AT CAMP

Family Camp, Galilee Bible Camp,
Lake Bronson, Mn

DAILY SCHEDULES

7:00 Rising bell and devotions
7:30 Breakfast
8:15 Staff Meeting
8:30 Camp clean-up
9:00 Bible hour
9:50 Recess
10:05 Choir (discussion period for
adults and teens not in choir)
10:50 Recess
11:05 Mission hour

11:50 Dinner Youth
12:10 Dinner Adults
1:00 Quiet time (Confirmation and
teens: can be used for discus-
sion with Counselors)
2:00 Recreation (swimming, soft-
ball, volleyball, horseshoe,
ping-pong, boating, art of
conversation)
4:30 Choir
5:30 Supper
7:00 Payer time for all ages
7:45 Evening service

9:15 Campfires and sharing time
10:00 Devotions
10:20 Get ready for bed
10:40 Lights out!

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

7:30 Rising Bell
8:00 Breakfast
9:30 Communion Service
11:00 Morning worship
12:15 Dinner

CAMP FACULTY

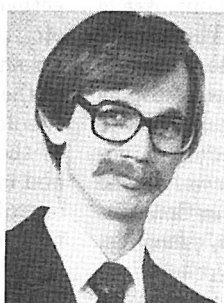
EVENING SPEAKER: Rev. Wesley Langaas
ADULT BIBLE TEACHER: Rev. Ralph Tjelta
YOUTH BIBLE TEACHER: Rev. Larry Haagenson
MISSION HOUR: Miss Priscilla Wold
CONFIRMATION: Rev. Philip Rokke
GRADE SCHOOL CLASSES: Miss Judith Wold
CHOIR: Mr. Donald Rodvold
ADULT PRAYER HOUR: Participating Laity

CAMP STAFF

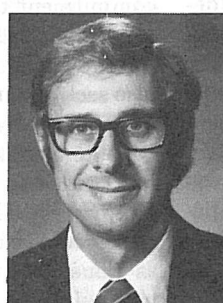
DEAN OF CAMP Rev. Bruce Dalager
DEAN OF MEN Rev. Philip Featherstone
DEAN OF WOMEN Miss Mary Rolf
MANAGER Mr. Robert Dietsche
ASSISTANT MANAGER Mr. Clifford Holm
SERVICE LEADER Rev. Bruce Dalager
REGISTRARS Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Arneson
CAMP NURSE Mrs. James Koch
TREASURER Mrs. Harold Erickson



Mr. Don Rodvold
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Choir Director



Rev. Philip Rokke
Reva, SD
Confirmation Teacher



Rev. Ralph Tjelta
DeKalb, Illinois
Adult Bible Teacher



Miss Priscilla Wold
Brazil
Mission



Happy Acres



THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TURNERS

"The Turners are going to make wonderful neighbors!" announced Mom as the Johnsons drove on their way to the Reynolds farm. "Mr. Turner has been a school principal all his life, and he's come here to retire because both of them have always wanted to live on a little farm. Both of them were born on farms in North Dakota. Mrs. Turner has been a piano teacher. They are Christian people, and they are coming with us to church on Sunday."

Ann and Melissa looked first at their mother, and then at each other. "Guess I sure wasted a lot of time being scared," whispered Melissa to her sister.

"Don't they have any kids to play with?" Paul inquired of his mother.

"Well, hardly," replied Mom. "They have one son. He's married and lives in Chicago. They expect him here for a visit this fall—during hunting season because he just loves to hunt pheasants."

"But even though the Turners don't have children your age, you'll have happy times with them. I think they are a delightful couple, and I'm just thrilled to have them as neighbors. You children will be interested to know that they are going to raise a few Angora rabbits, and they are going to have some goats because Mr. Turner prefers to drink goat milk. They are going to raise some pedigreed dogs, too."

All the way to the Reynolds farm, Mom and Dad reported happily about what they had learned about their new neighbors.

Somehow, Ann did not have as much fun as usual with the Reynolds children. She kept remembering the jailbird story, and she was glad when at last they were home, and Mom came tiptoe into her room to say goodnight.

"Oh, Mom," Ann whispered, "I wish I hadn't told that jailbird story!"

"Yes, I'm sure you do. But let's see what you can think of to help make it right."

"I could go over and apologize to the Turners."

"Do you think that would make matters right?"

Ann pondered a while, then said, "Maybe it would do more good if I went and told the Schramm twins the truth about the Turners—so they won't go spreading that jailbird story further."

So it was that when Mr. Johnson drove to town on an errand the next day, Ann rode with him as far as the Schramm farm. It didn't take Ann long to tell the twins and their mother that Mr. Turner was not a jailbird, but that instead the new neighbors were good and wonderful people. When she had finished, she said, "I hope you girls didn't go tell anybody else that jailbird story."

"Oh," said one of the twins, "we told Gertie Gordon and Patsy Smith."

The Gordons lived across the road from the Schramms. So Ann and the twins went there to tell the Gordons that Mr. Turner was not a jailbird but a respectable retired schoolteacher.

They discovered that Gertie Gordon had already told Sharon Oberholtz.

So Ann and the twins walked half a mile down the road to the Oberholtz farm. There they found that Sharon had told the jailbird story to Grace Lawler. And she had told it on the party line, and there was no telling how many people might have "listened in." To make matters even worse, Sharon had thought that she had heard that both Mr. and Mrs. Turner were jailbirds, and that was what she had told Grace.

Wearily, Ann and the twins trudged back to the Schramm farm so that Ann

would be there by the time her father returned from town.

As she rode home with her father, Ann told him how the jailbird story had spread, and how it had gotten worse with each telling.

Dad said, quietly, "Well, the next time you hear someone telling something like this jailbird story about someone you don't know, I'm sure you'll remember this little verse. 'Even so, the tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth' " (James 3:5).

FAMILY DISCUSSION

1. Next time you have a party at your house, try the gossip game. Write down a sentence. Then whisper that same sentence to the first person. He whispers exactly what he heard to the next in line. This continues until each person has listened once and then whispered. Then have the last person say out loud what he has heard. Read the sentence you had written down.
2. What does Mr. Johnson mean to tell Ann when he says, "Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth"?
3. Here are Proverbs that teach us about our tongues: Proverbs 12:18-19; 15:4; 21:23.

Reprinted from *Happy Acres* by Erling Nicolai Rolfsrud, by permission of Augsburg Publishing House copyright owner.

MEMORY VERSE

So the tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire. James 3:5 (RSV)

Women for Christ

Here are the final reports on the spring district meetings of the Women's Missionary Federation. They have been abbreviated somewhat for inclusion now.—Editor

Newfolden rally focused on the theme "Forward with Christ"

The Spring Rally for the Northern Minnesota District of the WMF was held on April 28, 1979 at the Westaker Lutheran Church of Newfolden with the Bethania WMF of the same parish as the hosts. Mrs. Ingvald Rokke, district president presided. In connection with the "Forward with Christ" theme, the key verse was taken from II Peter 3:18, "Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." Mrs. Gilman Stennes from Bethania welcomed the 93 guests.

Pastor Rodger Olson from Grafton Free Lutheran Church brought the morning message. He pointed out that "humanism," a popular philosophy which teaches that man can solve his own problems, clearly is failing.

Mrs. Harvey Carlson of Grand Forks was the Bible study leader for the afternoon. She encouraged the ladies to be growing Christians at home, work, and church.

Mrs. George Erickson, Roseau, Mrs.

"Revive us again" theme of WMF rally in Bemidji

The North Central Minnesota District WMF rally had as its theme "Revive Us Again," as it was conducted on May 5, at Bethany Lutheran Church, Bemidji, R. S. Persson, pastor. The theme was taken from Hab. 3:2b. The theme song was "Revive Us Again."

Devotions were given by Mrs. Jan Teil, Shevlin. Mrs. Bergit Goodman Bemidji, welcomed the ladies. Music

Fergus Falls hosted spring rally

The spring rally of the Southwest Central District WMF met on Tuesday, May 1, at Calvary Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, Minn., Forrest Swenson, pastor.

Mrs. Ted Aasness presided over the meeting and read the theme verse, Joshua 24:24b: "The Lord our God will we serve, and His voice will we obey." The theme song was "Living for Jesus."

Stan Holmaas, Newfolden and Mrs. Gus Nordvall, Ross, were the devotional leaders. Music was provided by Mrs. Cordell Wiskow, Poplar Grove Church, Strathcona, Mrs. Edsel Anderson and Mrs. Andrew Lindgren, Bethlehem Lutheran of Greenbush, the Erickson Family, Oiland Lutheran, Badger, Mrs. Barbara Johnson, Badger Creek Lutheran, Badger, Mrs. Marge Olson, Westaker and Mrs. Deborah Boen, Hegland, Strandquist. Mrs. Becky Melby, Badger, reported on the winter WMF workshop. Mrs. Nikunen, Roseau, took care of the Book and Gift Store.

Two new officers were elected: Mrs. Andrew Lindgren, Newfolden, Vice-President and Mrs. Farrell Erickson, Badger, Treasurer. The offering went to the Lake Bronson Bible Camp and the AFLC Seminary.

Mrs. Paul Flaten
Secretary

Mrs. Melvin Walla welcomed us on behalf of Calvary and Stiklestad WMFs. Renee Oscarson, Abercrombie, N. Dak., showed slides and talked of the youth trip to Brazil which she took in 1977.

Pastor Swenson brought us the Bible study from our theme verse and other verses. We were reminded that as believers God gives us certain talents and abilities. We are to use these to be witnesses for Him as we obey Him. He will work in and through us to do His will.

Mrs. Victor Berg, Willmar, Minn., led in Scripture and prayer and Mrs. Ernest Nash, Abercrombie, guided the prayer fellowship. The singspiration was led by Mrs. Jerome Stulen of Spicer, Minn.

The district choir was directed by Mrs. Doug Johnson of Sacred Heart, Minn., and sang "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." Other special music was sung by the ladies of Bethany Lutheran, Sebeka, Minn.

Mrs. Aasness was re-elected president and Mrs. Dennis Gray was elected treasurer.

Mrs. John Arlen Johnson
Secretary

Lake Superior women gathered at Cloquet

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Cloquet, Minn., hosted the spring rally for the Lake Superior District WMF on Saturday, April 28, Rev. Herbert L. Franz, pastor. There were 54 women in attendance.

The theme for the rally was "Stand Fast in the Lord," based on Phil. 4:1. Mrs. Rachel Tuura presided. A warm welcome was extended by Mrs. Gertrude Iwasko and Mrs. Jean Johnson, Cloquet, led us in Scripture reading (Eph. 5:19, 20) and prayer. Pastor Franz shared Col. 4:17 and pointed out that women have a ministry of serving the Lord.

The offering for the day was given to Church Extension. Miss Judith Wold, executive secretary, gave a very interesting and informative report on the various projects that are financed by

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued on page 12)

Lutheran Ambassador

editorials

THREE-YEAR CURRICULUM

The idea of offering a third year at Association Free Lutheran Bible School for persons interested in training in lay service in the church ought not be given up even though it met a resounding defeat at the Annual Conference last month.

To give the background, the resolution set forth by Committee No. 2 was this: "Since the Bible School is considering adding a third year to its curriculum, be it resolved, that the conference gives it support to this endeavor, which would provide training in Lay Ministries." The resolution was presented because of information in the report of the Dean of the School stating that some have suggested that AFLBS add a third year to its curriculum.

The Dean described the thinking which has been done on the matter in the Corporation meeting the evening before the vote was taken. There seemed to be good backing in that meeting for considering such a step, offering a third year to certain students, with the Bible School remaining a two-year school for graduation.

But then on Friday in conference session the idea was badly beaten.

The thought of offering some advanced training for persons desiring to serve as parish workers, youth workers, etc., is not new in our fellowship. To be sure there would be problems to be ironed out, but they aren't insurmountable. For one thing, students electing for a three-year program at the outset would have to have an especially serious purpose and not just seek to stretch a normal two-year course into three years. Also, if a student entered Bible School with the intention of going three years, but had to change his plans for some reason, would he then be able to complete requirements for graduation in two years? These are things to think about.

Would the addition of a third year to the curriculum introduce courses which would remove the distinctiveness of AFLBS as a "Bible school" and lead to movement toward junior college status? It wouldn't have to have that result at all. From our understanding of the situation, all offerings would be directed toward that which would train for service in the congregation and church-related agencies. Technical skills, if needed, would usually have to be learned at some other school, perhaps with the exception of music.

Certainly, AFLBS shouldn't become something other than a Bible school, but greater training for Christian service in itself would not lead to that.

We agree, faculty and staff salaries must not be sacrificed in order to expand school curriculum and that need not be done. It was announced at the conference that salaries have been upgraded very recently, at least some of them.

The Board of Trustees, we are sure, will keep on top of this situation.

A third year of curriculum would bring in additional revenue. Some of the extra teaching needed could be obtained on a part-time basis. Nothing should be arranged which couldn't be economically carried out.

So the no of our last annual conference mustn't be the final word on this matter. We foresee more opportunities in our church for parish workers, for instance. Why not train them in our own school?

THE OSCEOLA PROPERTY

Without having seen it, we can still agree that the Osceola radar base property which the AFLC is buying out of wills and annuities is a terrific bargain. The offer was too good to turn down and the delegates to the conference didn't. Furthermore, the 80-acre site and present buildings have many potential uses.

It would have been nice if an impending decision of this size (\$200,000 is still a lot of money to us) had been brought to the church's attention before the conference. Maybe the Co-ordinating Committee's decision to recommend purchase came so late that it couldn't be announced in the *Ambassador*. We don't know.

But it is a plea we've made before and make again now, to all agencies and boards, please make matters of import due to come before a conference known in advance of it. Then people can do some thinking and praying about them in advance.

Now this thought after the fact. And we just ask the question. Is it wise for the Association itself to purchase property which by necessity or, if you prefer, in practise will serve a region of the church most of the time and only occasionally serve the whole? That is, we see Osceola as a great thing for people and congregations living within 250 miles of it, but not nearly as serviceable beyond that.

The same holds true for the property at Lake Park, Minn., generously donated by the Lawrence Dahlgrens. There are problems in getting permits for development of that beautiful site as a camp and retreat and the whole project is in a state of limbo. And the AFLC has never really made definitive decisions about Lake Park.

But we have the same reservations there. Would it be better if the congregations and/or individuals in the natural regions served by these places held ownership and took the interest in the upkeep? Then they could offer their use to church-wide functions from time to time on a rental basis.

In miniature, we had a similar situation (and maybe it still exists) in the South Dakota District in reference to the district Bible camp. The congregations which were over 200 miles from Pickerel Lake were not as involved in its operation as those close by. They couldn't be expected to come those distances for work days and it was more of a problem for them to even make use of the camp as others did.

It is different with the Schools and church headquarters. They have to be some place, hopefully easily accessible, and they have to serve all. A camp and retreat center, a possible retirement community, these are another matter.

These thoughts for what they are worth. And they're not meant to detract from what we are sure are two excellent locations.

1979 Luther League Federation Convention

July 10-15

If you were not here . . . you missed . . . Pastor Tjelta, prayer times, a banquet, Bible studies, sharing, new friends, the zoo, Minnesota humidity . . . and more! Watch for more pictures and an in depth report on Sept. 4.



GO FOR IT!

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God" (Ephesians 5:1, 2).

The race is almost over. You are running stride for stride with two other runners. There is only one lap to go. You remember all the long hours of hard training, the lack of sleep, weariness, wanting to quit. You remember all the times you just about gave up trying to be the very best, but something kept pushing you, making you try harder, work longer, run faster than anyone else. As you come around the last turn the finish line appears in the distance. All that you've worked, hoped and sweated for is waiting just beyond that narrow tape, if only you cross it first. You can hear the other runners close by. You force yourself to go faster, even though your straining body is screaming in pain. You must be first! You must be No. 1! Now there are only 20 yards between you and the desire of your heart. Every thought, every movement is put into one supreme effort to win. Suddenly, you catch a flash of movement out of the corner of your eye. You watch in disbelief as another runner streaks by and snaps the tape just two steps in front of you. You cross the finish line and collapse on the ground, knowing what happened. The other runner had wanted it more.

In the field of athletics, the values and desires of a man's heart will determine his goals and accomplishments. If a man values a certain position, such as winning an Olympic gold medal, he will set his goals to accomplish that feat and gain the desired outcome. However, in between the time of goal-setting and the time of winning the medal will come many rigorous months of training and sacrifice. Only those with the greatest desire will attain the prize.

Now, instead of an athlete, picture this: a race is about to begin between

two contestants. Neither of the two knows when the race will end, but the one who is ahead when it is declared over will be the winner. The first contestant is named Satan. He has been training hard since the death of Jesus Christ, finding numerous ways to deceive and darken the minds of men. His desire to destroy mankind is like a consuming fire within him. He is ready. Contestant No. 2 is you. You alone know how thorough your spiritual training course has been, or how deep and strong the desire of your heart is to see men's lives washed clean by the blood of Jesus. The prize for winning the race is the souls of your closest friends who have yet to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The starter's gun sounds. The race begins. Who will win? Only you know the answer.

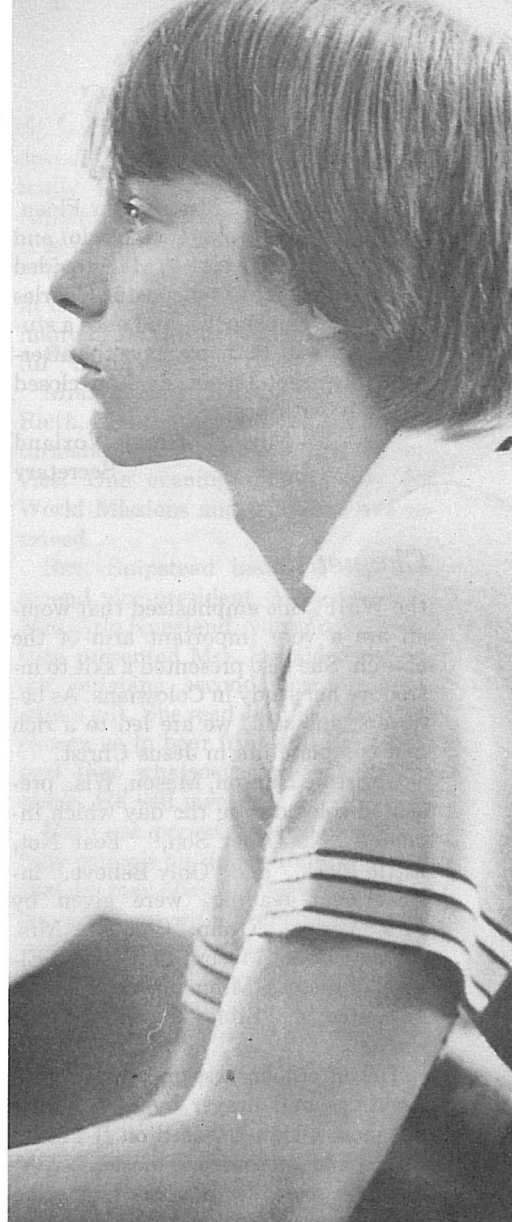
As followers of Jesus Christ, we have been called to be competitors. God has washed us with the blood of His Son and granted us to be His children. He has given us a goal, "Be like Me." He has given us access to unlimited power and blessing through the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus. He has given us minds capable of reasoning and thinking and He has given us His Word to guide and strengthen us in our race. This raises the uncomfortable question to those who are men and women enough to face it. Since we are granted all of this, why are we content to be as we are right now?

The world can be changed through Christians who will desire the things that God desires. Whether or not we actually believe that will determine what kind of an athlete we are in the training program of God.

Devotional Thought

Try this: Meditate through Ephesians 5:1-21 in this way

1. vs. 1—"Therefore be imitators of God as beloved children!"
2. Goal—God desires that I be



like Him, having the same desires, thoughts and attitudes as He does. May this be my desire also, in the name of Jesus!

3. 3-4 steps to carry out the goal.
 - a. I determine each morning to commit my desires to God's control.
 - b. I determine to ask forgiveness from Jim for my bitterness toward him.
 - c. I determine to encourage Rachel and help her in her walk with Jesus.
 - d. I determine to have a specific time daily to seek God's desires in His Word.

THEN DO IT! MAY GOD BE PRAISED IN ALL!

—Tad Spading

WMF RALLIES . . . Fellowship Corner

Bemidji . . .

a guest that day. Mrs. Karen Floan, Maple Bay Lutheran, (piano solo) and a group from the host WMF provided the afternoon's music. Pastor Charles Kvanvig, Minneapolis, and once a student pastor at Bethany, gave the afternoon message. Pastor Persson closed the rally with prayer.

Mrs. M. Jerome Voxland
Secretary

Cloquet . . .

the WMF. She emphasized that women are a very important arm of the church. She also presented a skit to introduce her study in Colossians. As believers, she said, we are led to a rich and complete life in Jesus Christ.

Christine Hanson, Mason, Wis., presented solos during the day which included "No Other Son," "Fear Not, Little Flock," and "Only Believe." Inspirational readings were given by Mrs. Verona Krohn, Cloquet, Mrs. Agnes Blaser, Mason, and Elenn Elness, Proctor, Minn. Rachel Tuura presented a "Bible search" on the theme.

The afternoon session opened with devotions and prayer by Mrs. Vilma Siltanen, Cloquet, based on II Pet. 1. Miss Wold presented a most interesting slide presentation of her trip to the Holy Land. Pianist for the day was Mrs. Martha Hill, Cloquet. The 1979 fall rally will be hosted by St. John's Ev. Lutheran of Finlayson, Minn. It was a great day of blessing for all who attended.

Aili Siltanen, Secretary

"I HAVE THE JOY, JOY—" (Psalm 103)

When I was a small child (my mother thought I was four or five), I used to stand beside the piano in the church when My Mother played for the congregational singing. I have always enjoyed music, especially the hymns of the church.

But there was one hymn that always bothered me as a young child. That was the hymn that spoke of the second coming of the Lord. It went something like this: "There'll be no dark valley when Jesus comes." I remember having the impression then that all the people in that little country church seemed to be sad when they sang that hymn.

And when I grew older and knew the Lord as my own personal Savior, I wondered about this. Why were these Christians unhappy at the most wonderful thing that could happen? Now

today I am one of those older ones and I see so much unhappiness in our churches, in myself, too, at times. I wonder what impression we are making on our children and young people and older ones, too, when they don't see the joy of the Lord on our faces and in our talk and actions?

The Word of God speaks a lot about suffering, persecution, etc., but it seems to me that it usually says to have joy in these things when they happen. We cannot do that without Christ doing it through us. But are we letting Him give us that joy in trouble?

I wonder if the unsaved are ever going to want that "so great salvation" we have if it doesn't seem to make us happy. Sure, times are bad, but our God is greater and He is still in control. Let us all praise the Lord for His goodness to the children of men.

Mrs. Arnold Jodock
Hatton, N. Dak.

"What Do I Get Out of It?"

by Rev. Howard A. Kuhnle,
Buffalo, N.Y.

"What do I get out of it?" is surely a contemporary question.

Yet, it's likely that the same question has been around in various forms since the time of Cain, then a young man (Genesis 4). After killing his brother Abel, Cain said to the Lord, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Cain could easily be imagined as saying also, "What do I get out of it?", after the Lord refused his offering of the "fruit of the ground." That would be in character especially when God accepted Abel's offering from his flock.

This question is often asked regarding religion when people hear an invitation to worship and when they are asked to perform some special work in a church. It is also asked in connection with many other activities, such as government, education, voluntary

health and welfare associations, service clubs and the like.

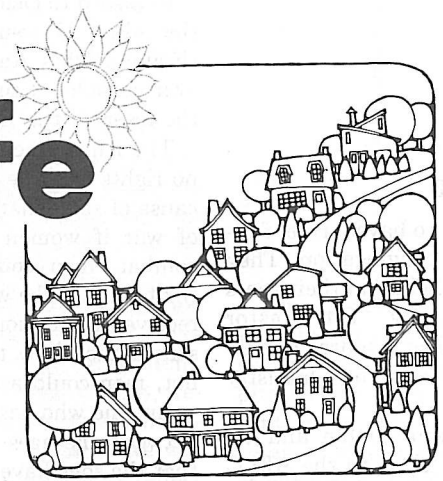
The question comes up in your daily work, although many people are content when they receive their pay. Some, on the other hand, never ask, "What do I get out of it?" or any other question. They merely exist. Moreover, I myself understand this question because I, too, have asked it many times. You see, the question fits in well with our modern age when there is great emphasis on money, property, standing, status, class-consciousness.

So, here are some suggestions. The president of a two-year technical college put it well, "It's not what you get out of it; it's *what you put into it*." For now I'm thinking of those who answer the question not so much with words as with the high example of their lives: dedicated parents, consecrated Sunday school teachers and devoted

(Continued on page 14)

Lutheran Ambassador

Life on the Edge of Town



Big Mountain

The days on Big Mountain (during the Annual Conference) were great ones. I stayed up there from Tuesday to Sunday. In that time I saw no current newspaper and saw no TV. Radios in a couple locations did bring in that touch with the outside world.

Nearly every day, perhaps every day, there near Whitefish, Mont., bears were sighted on the slashes above us. Several times a black bear and her two cubs were seen.

On Saturday afternoon I climbed a couple hundred feet above the ski village and could see the city of Whitefish below us, otherwise hidden by a wooded shoulder of the mountain.

Visits with Friends

When I did leave the mountain, it was with Rev. Ole Helland, a friend and distant relative. He took me to his home at Hot Springs. On the way we stopped to see Faith Lutheran in Kalispell from the outside and had something to eat in town.

Hot Springs is a pleasant community against high hills, arid-looking to the north and east, wooded to the west and south. There are hot baths there which attract some tourists.

We had a pleasant visit, Pastor and Mrs. Helland and I. He retired two years ago at the age of 78, and they

continue to live in Hot Springs and find opportunities for Christian service, she as the leader of a community Bible study and he as a preacher at occasional services and at a rest home in Kalispell.

The next morning he drove me to the summer farm home of Henry and Edith Jorgensen near St. Ignatius. I thoroughly enjoyed the smaller valleys through which we travelled. Mr. J. was superintendent in Medicine Lake, Mont., when I first came there and we've kept in touch since.

They have a lovely acreage running up to the Mission Range, which unfortunately was cloud-covered until we drove away the next day. Some of the farm is heavily wooded, but they have a small orchard and a vegetable and flower garden.

I enjoyed walks both days along the canal which parallels the mountains. It carries the clear, cold water of the melting snows. I thought I had seen wild roses until I saw those along the canal and roads of Montana. What profusion! Blackbirds piped me as I walked, warning all of this intruder to their domain. The first day I came upon three very large-looking gophers and of a darker color. Mrs. J. told me they were "rock chucks." You may believe what you will, but their dens or holes are in stony ground and a little larger than a gopher hole. I hoped to see one

of these creatures again, but never did and Mr. J. said that he had never seen one.

On Tuesday the Jorgensens took me to their home in Helena with a stop at Missoula for a medical appointment. Helena continues to be my favorite Montana city, perhaps because I know it best. The capitol surveys the city from the south and the Sleeping Giant still lies on the northern skyline. The sense of gold rush history exudes from Last Chance Gulch.

That evening they showed me excellent slides of a trip they took to Israel, Jordan, Greece and Rome. They were knowledgeable enough, too, to provide helpful commentary.

The return trip was by bus. I caught the main line out of Butte. As the second section, we were late out of Butte. Arriving in Billings after 1:30 a.m., we were told to leave the bus while it was being serviced. We must have been sorry looking as we trooped into the station which was filled with people. The first section was there and that included Mrs. L. C. Dynneson and Mrs. Norma Haag, who had been at the conference. We chatted again at the breakfast stop at Dickinson, N. Dak. By the way, the North Dakota Badlands continue to rank high among spectacular sights in any trip which includes them.

We Dedicated Memorials

On Sunday, July 1, a very special event took place. About 200 of us gathered at the Harvey Dyrud farm to dedicate a 6-ton native granite rock with bronze plaque as a memorial to Mother's home church, Folden Lutheran, five miles southeast of Newfolden, and also a handsome metalwork sign at the church cemetery a mile away. The latter was made by Morris Hansen.

The congregation and church are no more, but our group was remembering one of the earliest churches in the area (founded 95 years ago). It was simply a warm, wonderful and festive occasion. Mother's only living brother, A. O. Lee and wife, and one of her two sisters, Othelia Lee, came to be with us. A family gathering at our home afterward completed a never-to-be-forgotten day. God is good.

—Raynard Huglen

Letters

TO THE EDITOR

HIS PASTOR COMMENDS TRYGVE DAHLE

On confirmation day this year Pastor Trygve Dahle and his wife Anna made the rounds to all the confirmands and loving young people. He played ball with some of the youth of Green Lake Lutheran, Spicer, Minn., at one home.

We of Green Lake are happy to have Pastor Dahle as a member of our congregation. He contributes in many and varied ways, including some teaching, preaching and singing. Most of all, he is a source of encouragement to us all. His prayers on our behalf are brought by his love for Jesus and his love for us. As pastor of Green Lake Lutheran, I can say that "Tryg" is a real source of encouragement. It may

not always be easy to have former full-time pastors in a congregation. They have been "at the helm" in their years of full-time ministry. Yet, Pastor Dahle has never been a source of pastoral irritation during my ministry here in Spicer.

Hats off to Pastor Dahle and all others who stayed close to the AFLC during its beginning days. May Jesus bless your future years.

Pastor Dennis Gray (Ed. note: Arthur Arneson, also of Spicer, reports that two years ago Pastor Dahle was the oldest camper at the AFLC Family Camp at Lake Bronson, Minn., and six-day old Lydia Marie Balmer, daughter of the Donald Balmers of Thief River Falls, Minn., was the youngest. Art, the registrar, with his wife, calls for someone to top that record this year. But Tryg will be there, only this time two years older.)

GOSPEL TEAM VISITED CLEVELAND

On Sunday, June 17, our Bible School Gospel Team made up of five young people visited our church (Word of Life) to minister to us the Gospel of Christ in song. The day began with their participation in our morning worship service. After the worship hour the congregation ate the noon meal together, after which the team presented an hour-long program of Christ-honoring music. We especially commend them that their presentation drew our hearts to the words of the hymns sung, rather than to the singers.

To finish off their day, the team was invited to participate in an evening youth meeting of a Missouri Synod church by a youth leader who attended their afternoon concert.

The team is known as the Ambassadors. We recommend them to all our congregations. Thank God for youth who love and serve the Lord.

Emerson Anderson
Cleveland, O.

WOMEN WOULD BE LOSERS

In regard to Deloris Melby's letter in the May 29 issue concerning ERA (Equal Rights Amendment), has she ever considered that women would be the losers if the ERA were passed?

The Amendment simply states that no rights shall be denied a person because of sex. That means that in case of war if women were exempt from combat, men could claim the same right. Would she want her daughter to receive instruction from some Army sergeant on how to use a bayonet? If not, men could ask exemption, too.

Anyone who has sons and daughters between the ages of 18 and 25 knows that the sons have to pay a higher rate of insurance for the privilege of driving a car because they are more accident-prone. If ERA passes, the young ladies would be the losers.

When the Titanic sank in 1912, the women and children were put in lifeboats first. Most of the men drowned. This is common practise at sea, as it should be. Men are more expendable.

In certain areas of life, women have more rights than men. Where chivalry isn't completely dead men will give more honor to women than to other men. I Peter 3:7 says, "to give honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel." A Christian man will do this. The civil law should require the non-Christian to do it, too.

As a father of three daughters, I hope for their sakes that ERA is never adopted.

Erling Johnson
Burtrum, Minn.

(Ed. note: Members of an LCA congregation at Upsala, the Johnsons have sent six children to AFLBS.)

APPRECIATED ISSUE

I just wanted to express my appreciation for the June 12th issue of the *Ambassador*. The feature articles (on evangelism) were so interesting and gave so much food for thought that I've been recommending it to many people! I really think we need to be reminded to be effective witnesses through our daily lives.

Name Withheld
Roseau, Minn.

What do I get? . . .

teachers in all kinds of schools, honest civil servants, forgotten missionaries in far-off places, high-principled employers and employees, and courteous and understanding sales people.

My point is that it is possible to do things *for the sake of doing them well*—in the home, in the school, in the church, in the shop, store and office, in the course of your daily selling and even in the political work of the city, state and nation.

Now I know that this sounds terribly old-fashioned or to use an over-worked word—this idea is plain *corny*.

Yet there are some things, including spiritual truths, that never change—they may be as *old* as the everlasting hills, but they are *new* every day. So, here's the answer of the Master Himself to that question, "What do I get out of it?"—"Give to others, and God will give to you. Indeed, you will receive a full measure, a generous helping, poured into your hands—all that you can hold. The measure you use for others is the one that God will use for you" (Luke 6:38, Today's English Version).

Pastor Kenneth Pentti, Ernest Miedema installed

At the closing service of the 17th Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations at Big Mountain Ski Resort, Whitefish, Mont., two men were installed in special offices in the church, Rev. Kenneth Pentti, as evangelist-youth worker, and Mr. Ernest Miedema as director of development. The latter is a new position and will be a part-time job for the present.

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Stacy, Minn., chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee, led the service. Mr. Clifford Holm, Minneapolis, Minn., read Rom. 12:3-7 and offered prayer. Mr. Allen Herset, Kila, Mont., sang "I've Got a Friend," with accordin accompaniment. Rev. Raynard Huglen, Newfolden, Minn., read Matt. 28:18-20 and Eph. 4:11-15. Host pastor to the conference, Rev. John Rieth, sang

"Follow Close to Me." Following the recognition of Mrs. Pentti and Mrs. Miedema, Pastor and Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Lohman sang "My God Shall Supply All of Your Need."

Pastor R. Snipstead, president of the AFLC, preached the sermon, using the text II Cor. 5:14, 15. He said that he sensed a maturing in the Association and that future changes can be met by renewed dedication to Christ.

He went on to show that we are constrained by the love of Christ to 1) Prayer. We must depend on Christ for everything. The Holy Spirit will remind us of this if we give ourselves to prayer. 2) Giving. God can take even the little and produce a blessing, Pastor Snipstead declared. 3) Living. The call is to take up the cross and follow Jesus. We need to have our priorities right.

Taking part in the installation led by Pastor Snipstead were Pastors Trygve Dahle, Spicer, Minn., Eugene Enderlein, Thief River Falls, Minn., Edwin Kjos, Culbertson, Mont., Elden Nelson, Minneapolis, Bruce Dalager, Mentor, Minn., and J. G. Erickson, Minneapolis, representing various areas of AFLC work.

Both men responded with appropriate remarks and Pastor Snipstead closed the 17th Annual Conference.

Personalities

Rev. and Mrs. Elden Nelson and family have moved to the Cities from Dickinson, N. Dak. Their new address is 6940 Douglas Drive North, Minneapolis, Minn. 55429. He is director of Home Missions in the AFLC.

Fellowship Corner

I CAME TO ASSURANCE

As a child I attended Sunday School faithfully since I was three. I can always remember praying, especially when I needed help. I was serious when I took my confirmation vows. After graduation from high school in 1951, I went to work.

One morning a vein broke within one lung and caused severe hemorrhaging. My doctor took some tests and could not believe the results and had them sent out. His very words were, "You have TB and belong in a hospital." Not knowing how seriously ill I was, I walked to the hospital, much to the dismay of the doctors, who wondered where I went. The exertion caused more hemorrhaging. Praise the Lord! He spared my life for a reason. I was moved by ambulance to a sanitorium near Duluth where I stayed for 15 months.

One day I received a book entitled *Prayer* from a concerned Christian pa-

tient. I read it and prayed for healing. The answer I seemed to be receiving was "Wait." After nine months it was time for me to have surgery. I prayed much as I was very nervous and worried. A few days before surgery a most wonderful peace overflowed me and all fear vanished. I thanked the Lord for my very life.

In 1955, I returned to work. In 1960 I married a wonderful man. Listening to the radio one day, a pastor was speaking on the end times. I became very fearful and asked the Lord for forgiveness. I also believe I kept some things back. After many sleepless nights, I said, "Not this time, Lord," and I fell asleep. Then I was troubled with thoughts and words I did not want to think. I struggled and prayed.

"And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with *all* your heart" (Jer. 29:13).

Our daughter was born in 1963 and later my husband took a new job in which he was away from home during the week. I prayed, "Lord, help me to know for sure where I stand with You so I don't have to be so fearful." I read

from Heb. 6:4: "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened—" I stopped there and prayed, "Lord, what have I done?"

I later went forward at a Billy Graham movie and talked to a counselor. It was as though the Holy Spirit lifted me off my seat that night. I talked to my pastor, Harry Molstre. He told me that as long as the Holy Spirit is speaking I had not committed the unpardonable sin. I claimed the last verse he gave me, Mk. 11:24: "Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye shall receive them, and ye shall have them." My desire was to know for sure that my sins were forgiven. By faith I believed this promise to be true. The peace I received was beyond my reasoning. It felt like the very top of my head was missing, as, it had been so heavy and burdened for so long.

"This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes" (Ps. 118:23). Praise Him for salvation. Please be patient. God is not finished with me yet.

Mrs. George Hartman
Dalton, Minn.

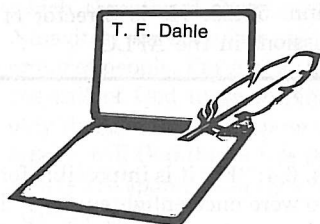
STARLIGHT

Long years ago, from out my childhood home,
I gazed with awe upon the silent dome
Where twinkling stars like golden
tapers gleamed
Through windows in my Father's
house, it seemed.
I prayed that some day even I might
come
To be with loved ones in that
heavenly home.
I've wandered far afield since then.
The night
No longer shines with that celestial
light.
The stars I see, but none that beckon
me

To yonder home where many loved
ones be.
Full oft, as shadows fall at eventide,
I mourn the joys that with my
childhood died.
So ran my dirge. . . . A voice called me
apart:
"Pray God to give you back your child
like heart."

I prayed, "O heavenly Friend, come
and restore
My childhood Eden as it was before."
The prayer was heard; and now the
starry dome
Is like a foregleam of my heavenly
home.

C. A. Wendell



Thoughts from Trygve

SOCIAL DRINKING

"It's nobody's business what I drink: I care not what the neighbors think or how many laws they choose to pass, I'll tell the world, I'll have my glass! This one man's freedom cannot be curbed; my right to drink is undisturbed. So he drank in spite of law or man, and then got into his old tin can. Stepped on the gas and let her go down the highway to and fro. He took the curves at sixty miles, with bleary eyes and drunken smiles. Not long till a car he tried to pass: then a crash, a scream and broken glass. The other car was upside down and nearly two miles to the nearest town. The man was clear, but the wife was caught and he needed help from that drunken sot who sat in a maudlin, drunken daze, and heard the scream and saw the blaze, but was too far gone to save a life by helping the car from off that wife. The car was burned

and the mother died, while the husband wept, and the baby cried. And a drunk sat by—and still some think, it's nobody's business what they drink" (Author unknown).

No matter what they call it, beer, wine, rum, whiskey, champagne or cocktail, it all has the same kind of alcohol. Alcohol is not a stimulant, it is a narcotic drug, an anesthetic. It numbs the feelings and makes one sleepy. It affects the sight and makes one see double. It also dulls the hearing, slows the reactions and makes one an inferior driver, while it gives one a superiority complex, thinking he is a good driver. Alcohol also is harmful to the body, causing cirrhosis of the liver and deterioration of the heart and other organs. Beer, and especially wine, are advertised as food, but that is not true. Beer is made of barley, sugar and yeast, all food products, but the process of fermentation destroys the nourishing qualities, so the finished product has no food value. Beer is 85-90% water,

4% decomposed vegetable matter, 4-12% alcohol, and is intoxicating. 3.2% beer is advertised as non-intoxicating, but it is. One beer is enough to make one an inferior driver and a hazard on the road. Beer ads are very misleading. They show happy young people, but drinks make the drinker lose his better judgment, stimulate the sexual desires and weaken the ability to resist. They never show the end result: broken homes and poverty. Don't let the beer ads fool you. Don't ever take your first drink and you will never become an alcoholic. Pray God for courage to say "NO," when you are offered a drink. You will be glad you did.

"Let your light so shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

Trygve F. Dahle
(Ed. note: Pastor Dahle once travelled in behalf of the North Dakota Temperance Society.)