

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

May 26, 1981

The Union graves at Andersonville, Ga. Knolan Benfield, Jr. RNS Photo



Even such is time, that takes in trust
Our youth, our joys, our all we have,
And pays us but with age and dust;
Who in the dark and silent grave,
When we have wandered all our ways,

Shuts up the story of our days.
But from this earth, this grave, this dust,
My God shall raise me up, I trust!

—Sir Walter Raleigh
found in his Bible

AT THE MASTER'S FEET



Pastor Kenneth Pentti

THE ABUNDANT ENERGY RESOURCE

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father" (John 14:12).

America suffers from a severe energy crisis. An exploding population has depleted many natural resources for fuel products. Oil companies continue the search for more oil, but at the same time plead with Americans to practice conservation. Almost each day's news reports report something about the energy crisis.

God's people can experience an energy shortage. When we depend upon human strength and knowledge, an energy crisis can develop in the church. God's people need to realize that God is present with His people as an unfailing supply of power for His people.

When the apostles heard Jesus speak of His death, there was an immediate panic. They thought that Christianity

was finished. But Jesus taught a greater ministry. He promised a continuous supply of energy in the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us notice the promises that Jesus gives of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit will be a personal presence. The personal presence of Jesus meant much to the disciples. Think of the times when Jesus was not present. When a storm arose on the sea, the disciples were alarmed, for Jesus was not present. His presence later strengthened these frightened men. Think of the frustration of the disciples who sought to heal a man's son while Jesus was on the Mount of Transfiguration. The personal presence of Jesus later made a difference.

Jesus promised a continued personal presence. "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever" (John 14:16). The word "another" comes from the Greek word which means "one of the same kind." This means that the Holy Spirit would be a presence to them of the same nature as Jesus Christ. The word "Comforter" means "someone callsus Christ. The word "Comforter" means "someone called alongside to help you." This says that the Holy Spirit will be alongside us throughout life to help us.

The personal presence of the Holy Spirit can revolutionize our churches. The Holy Spirit is not some impersonal force or energy. The Holy Spirit is a person who wishes to abide or live with us.

The Holy Spirit will be a helpful teacher. Jesus promised a continuous, helpful Teacher. "Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13a). Jesus taught the disciples many matters, but in some cases the disciples did not understand. The Holy Spirit would continue to teach. He would teach with regard to the instructions of Jesus.

After Jesus' resurrection, the Holy Spirit taught the disciples about the meaning of the cross and the universal-ity of the Gospel.

The helpful Teacher can revolutionize our churches. The Holy Spirit will emphasize no new fad but the applicable teachings of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit will be an authoritative guide. Jesus promised an authoritative guide for life's moral decisions. He said the Holy Spirit would "bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26b). He promised that the Holy Spirit would live in the believer and guide him into the likeness of Christ's character.

The person who obeys the commands of Jesus Christ will find guidance from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can lead a Christian in every circumstance of life. He can be an authoritative guide.

The authoritative leadership of the Holy Spirit can revolutionize our churches. There is a revolt against authority today. An energy crisis will develop when we fail to follow the Spirit's direction. Churches can be led in the right direction when they depend upon the leadership of God.

The disciples thought that when Jesus died there would be a serious decline. They predicted an energy shortage. Jesus assured them of greater works and greater power. After the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit came to abide with God's people. There was a great supply of energy for the young churches.

No congregation needs to suffer an energy shortage. God is ready to bless our churches today with His presence and power. Will we submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit?

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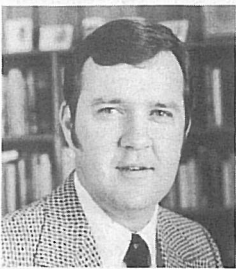
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by Rev. Curtis Emerson,
Valley City, N. Dak.

Is pentecost unique?

Acts 2:1-4: "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Pentecost, as one man said, is a time as unique as Christmas. Christmas brought us the birth of Christ whereas Pentecost brought us the Birth of the Church. We look back and probably agree with this man but let's stop and analyze. Was Pentecost really unique? Was Pentecost something that never happened before or will never happen again? Let's begin by looking at some of the workings of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.

Reference to the Holy Spirit occurs approximately 200 times in the Old Testament and in many of those references we find that He worked much in the same way as He did on the day of Pentecost. Let's notice from Judges 3:9-10 the story of Othniel. The children of Israel were being oppressed by another country and they prayed to the Lord for deliverance, which God gave, by filling Othniel with His Spirit. "The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israel, and went out to war . . . and his hand prevailed." It is interesting to note that Othniel was able to conquer the oppressors because of the Spirit of the Lord working through him. In much the same way we see that the Apostles didn't have the power to gain spiritual victory until the Spirit came upon them at Pentecost. Another

example is Gideon. Gideon was a very ordinary man, even fearful of heart, until the Spirit of the Lord took possession of him, Judges 6:34; then he became instrumental in the deliverance of his people.

Samson is another example of what happens when the Holy Spirit begins to work. In Judges 14:6, it says, "The Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him" and he tore the lion as if it were a young goat. There are even times in the

Holy Spirit worked in many of the experiences in the Old Testament.

We can also look at the way the Holy Spirit worked after the day of Pentecost in the New Testament and see again also that the Pentecost experience was not that unique. For example, the evangelist Philip, in Acts 8, was encouraged by the Lord to go out into the desert and when Philip went there he saw an Ethiopian eunuch who was reading from the Book of Isaiah. "Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot" (Acts 8:29). So Philip, under the influence of the Spirit, went over to the man and led him to personal faith in Jesus Christ. So we see, just like at Pentecost, the Spirit was working to direct Philip in the way he should go and what he should do. Also at the end of this story, in verse 39, we again see the Spirit working in a very unusual way when Philip was "caught away" by the Spirit and the eunuch saw him no more. Was he snatched away physically as some think or was the eunuch so taken up with his newly found faith that Philip was no longer important? That we don't know, but what we do know is that, as at Pentecost, the Spirit worked in a very unusual way.

Again, Peter, in Acts 10, was encouraged by the Spirit to go to the House of

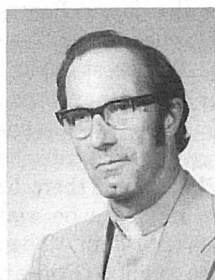
"Reference to the Holy Spirit
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Old Testament that one can see the powerful physical overtaking of the Spirit. For example, we look into Ezekiel's life, where the Spirit entered into Ezekiel and set him upon his feet (Ezekiel 2:2), or lifted him up (3:12), or brought him out into a valley (37:1). So you see the experience of Pentecost invading, empowering and directing was not that unique to Pentecost but rather it seems very much to be the way the



PENTECOST SUNDAY
June 7

It's a big job



by Rev. Richard Gilmore
Onalaska, Wis.

It's May and in May we think about mothers. Actually, we think about them all year but not in the same way. Most of the time we depend on them, ask for their help, expect them to be there to do everything that needs doing. But around the middle of May it's different. We stop to show our appreciation. At least for a day. We call the florist and hope that Hallmark has somehow expressed something we don't know how to say.

Why all this attention to mother? I suspect there are many out in the

Mother's place in the home

world who feel, "Poor Mom, she's worked so hard scrubbing floors and changing diapers; let's take a day to tell her we appreciate her." But that's not the reason given in Proverbs as to why "her children rise up and call her blessed."

The modern world's attitude about motherhood has come far from the Biblical concept. Very few realize today how important Mother's task really is. Of all the tasks given on this earth, I know of none that has greater fulfillment than building a home which is Christ-approved.

And it's not an easy task. We are surrounded by foreign, hostile, home-shattering influences which are out to destroy the family. We wrestle with "principalities and powers of the unknown darkness"

which use everything available to convince the world that the God-given family structure is out-of-date, unfulfilling and in need of change. If the Christian family is to blossom, it must do so in a field of weeds. And Christ must be the gardener.

The means are at our disposal. They're found in the greatest Family Training Manual ever written: the Bible. Building a Christian home is not accomplished by groping in the dark, but by traveling a well-plotted course by means of fixed navigational aids. They're all there in the Manual. The framework is found in Psalm 127: "If the Lord does not build the house, the work of the builders is useless." The Lord must be the superintendent of the home or those working on that home will find that it won't last. It won't stand the outside pressures. It won't produce strong, powerful, winsome Christians.

"After Pentecost

He is here
to stay, to
abide, to live
in these
bodies
permanently."

Cornelius, a Gentile, and preach the Gospel of Christ, and while Peter was speaking the Holy Spirit fell upon them in very much the same way as was done at Pentecost. Now we could come to a conclusion that Pentecost is not really that unique since many of the same things that took place at Pentecost not only happened before in the Old Testament but happened after Pentecost in the New Testament also.

On the contrary, we must not forget probably the most important reason for the Holy Spirit's coming. We can focus on all the other physical things that took place at Pentecost, the sound as of the rushing wind (which was common to the workings of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament) the tongues as of fire that rested upon their heads (an

act of cleansing and purifying) or the foreign languages that they were able to speak though they had never been taught those languages, but let's not minimize the essential purpose for Pentecost, or the thing that does make it unique, which simply is the abiding that He began at that time.

In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit would come and go as God wished. For example, Samson, who had the Spirit of the Lord "mightily upon him" found that same Spirit depart from him (Judges 16:20) when he disobeyed God at the encouragement of Delilah. Even King Saul, in I Samuel 16:14, when he disobeyed God found that the Spirit of the Lord had departed from him.

As we have said, the Spirit in the

Almost always the determining factor is the mother. The father, of course, is actually responsible for the home and family but he has a different function from the mother. Dad is usually gone most of the day. It's Mom whose example they see, whose words they hear, whose teaching they receive. The importance of the mother cannot be overemphasized. Love and training and discipline are all learned in the home.

So often we get mixed up. We think "raising" a child means teaching that child to dress himself and eat by himself and to take care of his physical needs and to get off to school on time. And when they're 18 our job is finished.

"... a child must not only learn to tie his shoes but he must learn respect for authority."

That's such a small part of the task God gave parents. The ultimate goal of Christian parents should be to produce a child who conforms to the will of God, a child who learns to experience the pleasure and satisfaction and fulfillment of living in God's will.

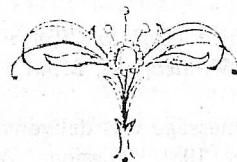
If this is to happen, a child must not only learn to tie his shoes but he must learn respect for authority. He must learn to accept responsibility. He must learn systematic giving to the Lord. He must learn obedience in a disciplined walk with the Lord. He must learn responsible use of his time. He must learn to treat his body as the temple of the Lord. And much, much more.

The job is enormous. Consider just one aspect—teaching respect for authority. If a child doesn't learn to obey in the home, he will not learn to obey the school or civil authorities. Nor will he learn to obey the Lord. The results of teaching just that one objective will affect the child all of his life. The model mother provides is the primary teaching method. So the mother must be all of these things herself before she can teach them.

The mother teaches the fulfillment of living in God's will by sharing her fulfillment and pleasure in her own life. That's a tremendous job. To mother falls most of the task of teaching love and then, in love, teaching each of the Biblical principles, then following through with discipline to guarantee the results.

This is Christian motherhood, something the world obviously doesn't understand. Only those who have experienced living the role with

“Thank
you,
Lord,
for Christian
mothers!”



the help of Jesus Christ can know the fulfillment and joy it brings. And what joy for her family! No wonder "her children rise up and call her blessed." No wonder her husband praises her and says, "Many women have done excellently but you surpass them all!" (Proverbs 31). A mother like this deserves honor not just on a day in May, or for the whole month of May, but every day of the year!

Thank You, Lord, for Christian mothers! And teach us as husbands and children to praise and honor them. They are truly a gift from You.

Old Testament did empower for service, and He did direct the Lord's people but He came upon and departed from these people as He was directed by God. But now after Pentecost He is here to stay, to abide, to live in these bodies permanently. Note I Corinthians 6:19, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple (abode) of the Holy Ghost, which is in you?" This abiding has taken place because of Pentecost. If Pentecost had never taken place we would still be working under the same operation that the Spirit used in the Old Testament. He would come and He would go as He was directed by the Father, but now He abides, He lives in our hearts to work with us from within.

I like that story of the little girl who

came into the house with a flower bud in her hand that she was trying to pry open so she could see the flower in full bloom. She was having a problem because the poor flower had been pulled and bruised and looked terrible. She finally looked to her mother and said, "How come when God opens a flower it always looks so beautiful and when I open it, it looks so terrible?" She paused for a moment and then a smile came upon her face and she said, "Oh I know, God works from the inside out." And that very story illustrates our spiritual life since Pentecost. God now works from the inside out because He has come to abide with each one who has come to personal faith in Jesus Christ. Philippians 2:13 says, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will

and to do of His good pleasure."

Is Pentecost unique? Maybe not in the *acts* of Pentecost but yes in the *facts* of Pentecost, because for the first time in the history of God's dealing with mankind, God through His Spirit lives within men and women, young and old, to lead them, guide them, empower them and bring them to faith in Jesus Christ, who alone can save and grant eternal life. Friend, if you do not have this eternal life, if your body is not the temple of the Holy Ghost, I want to encourage you to repent of your sins and shortcomings and allow God's Son, Jesus Christ, to come into your heart. Then His Spirit and the promise of life eternal, will be yours. Yes, Pentecost is unique. We now can have God's own Spirit living in us.

Opportunities for service in Home Missions

Acts 16:13-15; 25-34

by Rev. Ralph Tjelta
Minneapolis, Minn.

(This message was delivered at the February, 1981, Missions Week at Association Free Lutheran Bible School and Seminary. Adaptations were necessary for publication.)

The text that I have chosen for today is found in Acts 16:13-15 and 25-34.

Service to our Heavenly Father and to the Lord Jesus begins not across the ocean, in a strange land, in a radically different culture, and with hostile foreigners, but it begins right here, at home. We have no business living ordinary lives in such extraordinary times. Our business is to live as humble (and that is extraordinary in our day), servants (that, too, is extraordinary) of Jesus Christ (and He, too, is extraordinary). Our task may not be to bring the world to Christ, but it is our task to bring Christ and His message to the whole world, this mass of churning mankind, groping in the darkness of sin, plunging downward toward the gaping mouth of hell, to be damned forever. And I suppose that the very essence of hell itself will be the recollection of lost moments and mis-spent opportunities to get right with God. Therefore, I set forth the proposition that we spend some time today to see the importance and meaning of these three things—Opportunities, Service and Home Missions.

OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities are often overlooked.

A study of the New Testament shows that opportunity is the busi-

ness of the Church. And as the Church makes use of the opportunities before her the promise ever remains, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Opportunities are on every hand but people make use of the opportunities only as they view the world. Perhaps you have heard the saying about the optimist and the pessimist. The optimist sees the doughnut and looks for filling in the center. The pessimist sees the hole and looks for the bill. The realist sees the whole doughnut, pays the bill, and enjoys the doughnut. In the spiritual realm, we could say, the optimist looks at the world through the eyes of man's goodness, tries everything and accomplishes a little. The pessimist looks at the world through the eyes of man's badness, consequently tries little and accomplishes nothing. The realist looks at the world through the eyes of both good and bad, decides nothing can be done, and tries nothing. He concludes that things just are that way, always have been, and so the best one can do is to enjoy life as much as possible with its good and bad.

Serving the Lord starts here

The man of faith, on the other hand, looks at the world through the eyes of God and His Word, works according to the will of God and accomplishes according to the pleasure of God. He realizes that more things would be achieved if fewer things were regarded as impossible. He knows that God can change, and is changing, the lives of men, women, boys and girls, and so he goes on teaching, preaching, ministering, because he sees the potential in the grace of God rather than the actuality of things as they now stand. He sees God-given opportunities.

Opportunities are many times found in unusual places.

Notice the experience of Paul and Timothy. They wanted to preach in Asia, but the Holy Spirit said, "No." They wanted to go to Bithynia, but

again the Spirit said, "No." They went to Troas, but God said, "Over into Macedonia." The Apostles finally found their opportunities down by the river and in the prison. We desire to go to the places of the rich, but God has chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith. We desire the mighty; God desires the weak and lowly. We go to the self-sufficient; Jesus went to the needy. We go to the righteous; Jesus sought out the sinners. Learn from this that we must go to the places of God's choosing so that each of us can say, "I am here by God's appointment, in His keeping, under His training, and for His time."

Opportunities often involve peculiar circumstances, at least peculiar to human thinking.

Here we find Paul and his companion down by the river talking with a group of women about the Lord. How could that be the Lord's will? Wasn't it a man who appeared in the vision, asking for help? Not only did they talk with the women, but they actually sat down and preached to them. And then, after Lydia was converted, they went and stayed at her house. These certainly were strange circumstances. Yet we should not fail to see the commonplace involved in these circumstances. A small group of people gathered together for prayer. And to this receptive group Paul preached the Gospel. Thus God works, transforming the seemingly insignificant events of life into moments of Divine visitation.

Let us learn from this that our Heavenly Father is not the victim of circumstances. He is the arranger of circumstances. The early Christians did not only adjust to the situation, but through the grace and power of God working through them, they adjusted the situation. Circumstances don't make us weak or strong. They just reveal what we already are. May God grant that we would humble ourselves by His grace and would allow Him to work His might in and through us so that all the circumstances of our lives would be to His honor and glory, and showing forth His strength and salvation.

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Isabella Thoburn

Founder of the First women's college in India (1869-1901)

Imagine ten children in one family—five boys and five girls—would there not be lively and bustling times in that home? No doubt this was true of the Thoburn home, in St. Clairsville, Ohio, where devoted and godly parents reared this flock. The mother, especially, was a wonderful strong character who had great influence over her children.

The ninth child and youngest daughter but one, was Isabella, who was born in 1840.

There was nothing very extraordinary about her in her childhood, but she grew up to do an extraordinary work, and was well prepared for it by a very good education, and an experience in teaching, first, at the age of 18 in a country school, and later as a teacher in two different seminaries for girls. One characteristic should be noted especially. Isabella was most faithful and thorough in everything she did. She would not leave a thing till she understood it absolutely when a student, nor till she had done her very best as a missionary.

This young woman did not grow up with the thought of going to the foreign field, but when a great need caused the call to come, she was ready, and soon made her decision.

Dr. James Thoburn, first missionary bishop in India, who has(d) served there 50 years, was the brother who summoned his sister to the work abroad. He has(d) had a wonderful and heroic history himself, and at one time had the greatest baptismal service in India. But there was a time, after the death of his wife, that was so filled with difficulty and anxiety, because he was so unable to do anything for India's women, and was so weighed down with their needs that he wrote to his sister, asking her to join him in the field. This she did, in 1869, to minister to those poor degraded women, "Unwelcomed at birth, unhonoured in life, unwept in death." Oh, the pity of it all!

But you are not to think that it was an easy and simple thing for Miss Thoburn to go when called and ready. There was no society in the Methodist Church to send her. She might have gone out under the Women's Union Missionary Society of New York, but she longed most ardently to be sent by some organization in her own church, to which she was devotedly attached.

Just at this time of need, Dr. and Mrs. William Butler, founders of the Methodist Episcopal Missions in India, and afterwards in Mexico (heroic workers they), came home, with the wife of Dr. E. W. Parker, of India. These three talked to their Boston friends about the things that burned in their hearts, and at last a meeting for organization of women was suggested and appointed. With the day came a pelting rain, and but six women gathered to meet Mrs. Butler and Mrs. Parker, who spoke as eloquently as if to hundreds. Nothing daunted, the organization of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was formed by these eight brave women.

At the first public meeting it was made known that a missionary candidate was ready to be received. But there was little money in the treasury. Then a Boston lady sprang up and said, "Shall we lose Miss Thoburn because we have not money to send her? No! Rather let us walk the streets of Boston in calico dresses and save the money. I move the appointment of Miss Thoburn to India." The ladies cried out, "We will send her," and they did. So she went, and Dr. Clara Swain, shortly afterwards found and sent as a medical missionary, went with her.

From the beginning Miss Thoburn felt that the India girls and women must be educated, and as soon as possible began the school which grew into the famous Girls' Boarding-School and High School, and finally in 1870 into Lucknow Women's College. But the beginnings were feeble. Seven fright-

ened girls were coaxed in, and a sturdy boy set at the door of the room with a club to keep off any intruders who might venture to interrupt the proceedings.

To this school and to this remarkable teacher came, in due time, the high caste, gifted girl, Lilavati Singh, whose father's views of education were in advance of the times. Upon one of the enforced visits home in 32 years of service, Miss Thoburn brought this cultivated, charming woman with her. It was in 1898. She brought this "fragrant flower of womanhood from India's garden," as sweet as ever bloomed, in order to have her plead for money for the college buildings, \$20,000 being the quick response.

It was of Lilavati Singh that President Harrison said, after hearing her at the Ecumenical Missionary Conference at New York, that if *this one only* had been the result of all money sent for missions, it was well worth the whole amount.

Miss Thoburn was obliged to remain at home for some years, but they were not idle. She was for some time busily engaged with Mrs. Lucy Rider Meyer in Chicago. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer had begun their spreading work of deaconess homes and training schools. Miss Thoburn helped to "mother" the girls in training, and assisted in organizing the work later in Ohio, planning to introduce it into India. For this reason she became a deaconess herself.

The girls all loved Miss Thoburn dearly, and her work for and among them was a beautiful one. A little touch may show you that this strong and heroic character was "one of us" after all, in a way. She had an old terror of street cars in that day, and when crossing a track would run as fast as she could, in spite of her somewhat generous avoirdupois. She said that it always seemed to her when she saw one coming, especially at night, as if it threatened, "I'll have you yet, Isabella." (over, please)

Home Missions . . .

Opportunities mean direct involvement with people.

Notice the different types of people that were encountered by Paul, Timothy and Silas. There were the seeking, uncertain, prepared hearts of Lydia and the jailer. There were the listening hearts of the prisoners. There were the growing believers which made up these two households. There were the hypocrites, the masters of this poor demon-possessed girl, who claimed to be law-abiding, upright, religious folk of the community. The backsliding, lukewarm Christian and the self-righteous Pharisee could also be added to this group called Pharisees. There was also the bound heart, the defeated soul, this poor damsel who was led around like a dog from one sin-filled vomit heap to the next. There were also the hardened hearts, these masters and the magistrates who saw fit to punish the innocent rather than protect them because they themselves were filled with all unrighteousness. To these types of people we are sent by our Lord Jesus. Opportunity means people, involvement with all types, in all places, and under all kinds of circumstances.

SERVICE

God didn't save us to become sensations; He saved us so that we might become servants. H. Clay Trumbull once said, "Search the world over and the man you find the freest is the man who is a willing servant of Jesus Christ."

Service comes only from one who has a servant heart.

Only Jesus gives a servant heart. True service comes only from the heart of Jesus Himself, who said, "Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister. And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant. Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." This becomes possible only when that inner call of God stirs the heart of man, as it did with Paul (vs. 9, 10); then, and only then, will the outward assurance of God's call become ours.

Unless what's above you,
Controls what's within you,
That which is around you,
Will.

No person can be a true servant unless he takes genuine joy in the successes of those around him. Self-directed service equals nothing. Therefore, seek not power, personal gain or vengeance, even in the least degree. Men who do things that count, don't stop to count the things they do. It has been said that there are two types of people in the world, the "givers" and the "getters." The "getters" eat well, but the "givers" sleep well. "There are those who do things—and those who get the credit for doing things. Try to be in the first class. There's much less competition" (Rudyard Kipling). In summary, servanthood means simply this: signing your name to a blank sheet of paper and letting Christ fill in the rest.

"God didn't save us to become sensations; He saved us so that we might become servants."

The highest and greatest service which I can render to Christ is not that which I do *for* Him, but that which I allow Him to do *through* me. My service to Him is to see Him more clearly, love Him more dearly, and follow Him more nearly day by day. Remembering Christ's wounds should energize us to do His will and work. "The Christian who knows he is crucified with Christ has no ambition and so has nothing to be jealous about, has no reputation and so has nothing to fight about, has no possessions and therefore nothing to worry about, has no rights so therefore he cannot suffer wrong; he is already dead, so no one can kill him" (Leonard Ravenhill).

Service is committing oneself to the Great Commission.

Paul was in Macedonia because he was committed to carrying the Gospel to every person in the whole world. So, too, we must be totally committed, individually, to reaching the last and the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I have noticed that those people who do not want to commit themselves individually to the work of God always talk about what the "Church" should be doing. Congregations who don't want to do business with God on an individual congregational level always emphasize what the whole synod or association should do. Today we need to

[Continued on page 13]

Missionary . . .

Returning to India in 1900 for further devoted service, she was attacked with cholera, and went triumphantly Home in August, 1901, leaving a sorrowing multitude.

By and by Miss Singh was given large responsibilities as professor in Miss Thoburn's college, which she discharged with rare ability and devotion.

She came to America to beg help in enlarging the college buildings, but died in 1909 after a serious operation. Her loving friend, Mrs. D. C. Cook of Elgin, gave her body burial and memorial, and she sleeps afar from home, but unforgotten.

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

OUR MEMORY VERSE

"But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately" (Acts 18:26b, NAS).

**ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN
CONGREGATIONS**

Churches and Pastors
Addresses as of Summer, 1981

ARIZONA—Arizona District

Triumph Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1548 Patagonia Road, Nogales 85621

Pastor: Ted H. Kennedy, Jr., 1548 Patagonia Road, Nogales

ILLINOIS—Minneapolis District

Grace Lutheran Church, 1121 S. First St., DeKalb 60115

Pastor: Franklin Rutherford, 112 W. Milner Ave., DeKalb

IOWA—Minneapolis District

Salem Lutheran Church, Box 115, Radcliffe 50230

Pastor: Donald Greven, Radcliffe

MASSACHUSETTS—Minneapolis District

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1249 Rodman St., Box 241, Fall River 02721

Pastor: Gerald Blais, Jr., 539 Stafford Road, Fall River

MICHIGAN—Michigan District

Calvary Free Lutheran Church, Eben Junction 49825

Pastor: Norman S. Tenneboe, Box 158, Eben Junction

Hope Free Evangelical Lutheran, Box 83, Ishpeming 49849

Pastor: Paul Nash, Rt. 1, Box 48, Ishpeming

Redeemer Free Lutheran Church, Ontonagon 49953

Pastor: James Fugleberg, 801 Michigan St.

Maranatha Free Lutheran Church, Houghton 49931

Pastor:

Grace Lutheran Church, Pelkie 49958

Pastor:

Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Box 47, Bessemer 49911

Pastor: Gary Skramstad, 209 E. Gold, Bessemer

MINNESOTA—Northwestern Minnesota District

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Box 275, Thief River Falls 56701

Pastor: Leslie Galland, 404 Kendall Ave. S., TRF

Reiner Lutheran Church, Goodridge 56725

Pastor: Leslie Galland

Emmanuel Lutheran, Middle River 56737

Pastor: Leslie Galland

Westaker Free Lutheran Church, Newfolden 56738

Pastor:

Bethania Free Lutheran Church, Newfolden 56738

Pastor:

Hegland Lutheran Church, Strandquist 56758

Pastor:

Salem Lutheran Church, Wannaska 56761

Served by Mr. Paul Flaten, Rt. 2, Box 138, Newfolden 56738

United Free Lutheran Church, Greenbush, 56726

Pastor: Burton Rygh, Box 68, Greenbush

Badger Creek Lutheran Church, Badger 56751

Pastor: Gustav Nordvall, Star Rt. C., Roseau

Oiland Lutheran Church, Greenbush 56726

Pastor: Gustav Nordvall

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Greenbush 56726

Pastor: Raynard Huglen, Box 128, Newfolden 56738

Poplar Grove Lutheran Church, Strathcona 56759

Pastor: Joe Jacobson, Wannaska 56761

Norland Free Lutheran Church, Salol 56756

Pastor: 805 2nd St. NE, Roseau 56751

Rose Free Lutheran Church, Roseau (Parsonage address may be used)

Pastor:

Roseau Free Lutheran Church, Roseau (Parsonage address)

Pastor:

Spruce Free Lutheran Church, Roseau (Parsonage address)

Pastor:

MINNESOTA—North Central Minnesota District

Landstad Lutheran, Shevlin 56676

Pastor: Dennis O'Neil, Rt. 1, Box 224, Shevlin

Sell Lake Lutheran, Shevlin 56676

Pastor: Dennis O'Neil

Trinity Lutheran Church, Wilton 56687

Pastor: Dennis O'Neil

Bethany Free Lutheran Church, 1300 Beltrami Ave., Bemidji 56601

Pastor: Ray Persson, 1220 Minnesota Ave.

Calvary Free Lutheran Church, Fosston 56542

Pastor: Jay Eberth, Fosston

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, McIntosh 56556

Pastor: Walter Beaman, Box 287, McIntosh

Trinity Lutheran Church, McIntosh 56556

Pastor: Walter Beaman

Grace Free Lutheran Church, Box 119, Bagley 56621

Pastor: Mauritz Lundeen, Box 119, Bagley

Rice Free Lutheran Church, Box 119, Bagley 56621

Pastor: Mauritz Lundeen

Dovre Lutheran Church, Winger 56592

Pastor: Bruce Dalager, Rt. 1., Mentor 56736

Maple Bay Free Lutheran, Mentor 56736
Pastor: Bruce Dalager, Rt. 1, Mentor

Union Lake Lutheran Church, Winger 56592
Pastor: Bruce Dalager

MINNESOTA—Southwest Central Minnesota District

Sarpsborg Free Lutheran, Dalton 56324
Pastor: Merle Fagerberg, Interim

Kvam Free Lutheran Church, Dalton 56324
Pastor: Merle Fagerberg, Interim

Tordenskjold Free Lutheran Church, Underwood 56586
Pastor: Merle Fagerberg, Interim

Zion Free Lutheran Church, Dalton 56324
Pastor: Merle Fagerberg, Interim

Stiklestad Lutheran Church, Doran 56530
Pastor: Forrest Swenson, 225 Franklin Ave. E., Fergus Falls 56537

Calvary Free Lutheran Church, Ottertail Lake Road & Co. Hwy. 111, Fergus Falls 56537
Pastor: Forrest Swenson

Bethany Lutheran Church, Rt. 1, Sebeka 56477
Pastor: Fred Carlson, 810 7th S.W., Wadena 56482

Zion Free Lutheran Church, Wadena 56482
Pastor: Fred Carlson

Scandia Lutheran Church, Rt. 1, Sedan 56380
Pastor: Larry Haagenon, Rt. 1, Sedan

Crow Lake Free Lutheran Church, Brooten 56316
Pastor: Carl Hort, Box 66, Brooten

Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Brooten 56316
Pastor: Carl Hort

Sunburg Free Lutheran Church, Sunburg 56289
Pastor: Carl Hort

Zion Free Lutheran, 507 West 5, Willmar 56201
Pastor: Dennis Gray, 129 Lake Ave. N., Box 325, Spicer 56288

Green Lake Lutheran, Box 325, Spicer 56288
Pastor: Dennis Gray

Faith Lutheran Church, 310 8th Ave., Granite Falls 56241
Pastor: Roger Krueger, Rt. 3, Box 128A, Granite Falls

Chippewa Lutheran Church, Brandon 56315
Pastor: Gordon Grage, P.O. Box 36, Brandon

MINNESOTA—Lake Superior District

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 320 3rd St. S., Virginia 55792

Pastor: Henry Johansen, 404 3rd Ave. S., Virginia
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 106 10th St., Cloquet 55720

Pastor: Herbert Franz, 1301 Wilson Ave., Cloquet
Tamarack Lutheran Church, Tamarack 55787
Pastor: Herbert Franz

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Finlayson 55735

Pastor: Lyle Twite, 309 - 13th St., Cloquet 55720

Moland, Faith and Drummond Lutheran Churches are also in this district but will be listed under Wisconsin.

MINNESOTA—Minneapolis District

Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis 55441

Pastor: Jay Erickson, 2345 Jonquil Lane N., Minneapolis 55441

Rosedale Free Lutheran Church, 140 West 44th St., Minneapolis 55409

Pastor: Ralph Rokke, 5837 Pleasant Ave. S., Minneapolis 55419

Faith Lutheran Church, 3019 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis 55407

Pastor: Ralph Rokke

Morgan Avenue Lutheran Church, 240 Morgan Ave. N., Minneapolis 55405

Pastor:

Victory in Christ Lutheran Church, 1695 Gervais, Maple Grove 55109

Pastor: James Gerdeen, 1852 Flandrau St., St. Paul 55109

Hope Free Lutheran Church, Rt. 1, Co. Rd. 17, Wyoming 55092

Pastor: Wendell Johnson, 6633 227th Ave. N.E., Stacy 55079

Sunnyside Free Lutheran Church, 6633 - 227th Ave. N.E., Stacy 55079

Pastor: Wendell Johnson

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Kenyon 55946

Pastor: Kenneth Anderson, 317 3rd St. S., Kenyon

Hauge Lutheran Church, Kenyon 55946

Pastor: Kenneth Anderson

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1549 East Ave., Zumbrota 55992

Pastor: Robert Lee, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis 55441 (Interim)

Minnesota Valley Free Lutheran Church, Home Mission congregation being formed

Pastor: Ralph Tjelta, 4691 142nd St. W., Apple Valley 55124

MONTANA—

Bethel Free Lutheran Church, Culbertson 59218 (N.W. North Dakota and E. Montana District)

Pastor: Edwin Kjos, P.O. Box 574, Culbertson

Faith Free Lutheran Church, Brockton 59213 (N.W. North Dakota and E. Montana District)

Pastor: Edwin Kjos

Faith Free Lutheran Church, 405 Liberty St., P. O. Box 894, Kalispell 59901 (West Coast District)

Pastor: Richard Bartholomew, 98 Northern Lights Blvd., Kalispell

Stillwater Lutheran Church, 1401 Church Drive, Kalispell 59901 (West Coast District)

Pastor: Dale Mellgren, 1379 Church Dr., Kalispell

NEBRASKA—Minneapolis District

St. Peder's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Nystad Community, Dannebrog 68831

Pastor: David J. Sollitt

NORTH DAKOTA—Eastern North Dakota District

Bethany Lutheran Church, Abercrombie 58001

Pastor: Robert Lewis, Box 8, Abercrombie

United Free Lutheran Church, McLeod 58057

Pastor: Robert Lewis

St. Paul's Free Lutheran Church, 1603 Fifth St. N., Fargo 58102

Pastor: John Strand, 504 31st Ave. N., Apt. 8, Fargo

Lebanon Free Lutheran Church, Leeds 58346

Pastor: LeRoy Flickinger, P.O. Box 276, Leeds

Antiochia Lutheran Church, Churchs Ferry 58325

Pastor: Jerome Nikunen, Minnewaukan 58351

Trinity Free Lutheran, Box 95, Minnewaukan 58351

Pastor: Jerome Nikunen

Tunbridge Free Lutheran, Tunbridge (Rugby 58368)

Pastor:

Grace Free Lutheran Church, 202 N.W. 3rd St., Box 37, Valley City 58072

Pastor: Curtis Emerson, 1114 10th St. S.W., Valley City

Zion Free Lutheran Church, Valley City 58072

Pastor: Curtis Emerson

Zoar Free Lutheran Church, Box 282, Hatton 58240

Pastor: Orville Olson, 1027 E. Railroad Ave., Hatton

Valley Free Lutheran Church, Portland 58274

Pastor: Rodney Stueland, Box 163, Buxton 58218

Ny Stavanger Free Lutheran Church, Buxton 58218

Pastor: Rodney Stueland

New Luther Valley Lutheran Church, Box 215, McVile 58254

Pastor: Wesley Langaas, Box 215, McVile

Bethany Lutheran Church, Binford 58416

Pastor: Wesley Langaas

Trinity Free Lutheran Church, 3426 Chestnut St., Box 632, Grand Forks 58201

Pastor: Harvey Carlson, 1210 Chestnut St., Grand Forks

Bethel Free Lutheran Church, 1566 Hill Ave. S., Grafton 58237

Pastor: Rodger Olson, 1586 Hill Ave., Grafton

Aspelund Lutheran Church, Walhalla 58282

Pastor: Rodger Olson

Aadalen Lutheran Church, Fairdale (not presently in operation)

Zoar Free Lutheran Church, Hampden 58338

Pastor: Ragene Hodnefield, Box 125, Hampden

Zion Free Lutheran Church, Alsen 58311

Pastor: Ragene Hodnefield

NORTH DAKOTA—Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana District

Zion Lutheran Church, 221 North Main St., Tioga 58852

Pastor: Allen Monson, Box 546, Tioga

Beaver Creek Lutheran Church, Ray 58849

Pastor: Gilbert Schroeder, Box 1075, Tioga

Norman Lutheran Church (White Earth), Tioga

Pastor: Gilbert Schroeder

Lindal Lutheran Church, Tioga (not presently in operation)

Bethel Free Lutheran Church, 530 22nd Ave. N.W., Minot 58701

Pastor: Terry Olson, 1701 Terrace Drive, Minot

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Burlington 58722

Pastor: Terry Olson

Our Saviour's Free Lutheran Church, 229 3rd St. W., Dickinson 58601

Pastor: David Molstre, 818 Heart Drive, Dickinson

Calvary Lutheran Church, Bismarck 58501

Pastor: Einar Unseth, 1308 N. 2nd St., Bismarck

Emmanuel Free Lutheran Church—Home Mission congregation being organized.

Pastor: John Rieth, 1823 10th Ave. E., Williston 58801

OHIO—Minneapolis District

Word of Life Lutheran Church, 1460 Elmwood Ave., Lakewood 44107

Pastor: Emerson Anderson, 1501 Merl Ave., Cleveland

OREGON—West Coast District

Bethany Lutheran Church, 3432 Franklin Ave., Astoria 97103

Pastor: Alvin Grothe, 575 34th St., Astoria

Spencer Creek Lutheran Church, 86286 Pine Grove Road, Eugene 97402

Pastor: Stephen Odegaard, 86286 Pine Grove Road, Eugene

SOUTH DAKOTA—South Dakota District

Saron Lutheran Church, Roslyn 57261

Pastor:

Tabor Lutheran Church, Webster 57274

Pastor:

Hope Lutheran Church, Sisseton 57262

Pastor:

Buffalo Lake Lutheran Church, Eden 57232

Pastor:

Pukwana Lutheran Church, Pukwana 57370
Pastor: Philip Featherstone, Box 456, Pukwana

St. Olaf Free Lutheran, Chamberlain 57325
Pastor: Philip Featherstone

Bethel Lutheran Church, Faith 57626
Pastor: Ernest Langness, Box 423, Faith

Emmanuel Free Lutheran Church, Eagle Butte 57625
Pastor: Ernest Langness

Ortley Free Lutheran Church, Ortley 57256
Pastor: William Moberg, Ortley

Calvary Free Lutheran Church, Wallace 57272
Pastor: Wallace Jackson, Wallace

Slim Buttes Lutheran Church, Reva 57651
Pastor: Philip Rokke, Box 94, Reva

Grace Lutheran Church, 2010 S.E. Prospect Ave.,
Aberdeen 57401
Pastor: Roy Warwick, 802 11th Ave. S.E., Aber-
deen

WASHINGTON—West Coast District

Triumph Lutheran Church, Mt. View and Church
Road, Box 397, Ferndale 98248

Pastor: Ronald Knutson, 6117 Vista Dr., Ferndale

Calvary Lutheran Church, 26th and Rockefeller,
Everett 98201

Pastor: Parsonage, 1711 26th St., Everett

Elim Lutheran Church, Box 318, Lake Stevens 98258
Pastor: Richard Anderson, Box 318, Lake Stevens

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 11611 N.E. 140th
St., Kirkland 98033

Pastor: Ingolf Kronstad, same address

Olivet Free Lutheran Church, Spokane (not presently
in operation)

Home Mission Work being organized in Vancouver
Pastor: Charles Kvanvig, 806 S.E. 104th Ave.,
Vancouver 98664

WISCONSIN

Moland Lutheran Church, Rt. 1, Box 180, Mason
54856 (Lake Superior District)

Pastor:

Faith Free Lutheran Church, Rt. 1, Box 230, Mason
54856 (Lake Superior District)

Pastor:

Drummond Lutheran Free, Drummond 54832 (Lake
Superior District)

Pastor:

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1203 Park St., Boscobel
53805 (Minneapolis District)

Pastor: Larry Severson, 1203 Park St., Boscobel

Faith Lutheran Church, Colfax 54730 (Minneapolis
District)

Pastor: Hubert DeBoer, Rt. 1, Box 429, Colfax

Bethany Lutheran Church, Clayton 54004 (Minnea-
polis District)

Pastor: John Kjos, Rt. 1, Box 27, Cumberland
54829

Section Ten Free Lutheran Church, Cumberland
54829 (Minneapolis District)

Pastor: John Kjos

Amery Free Lutheran Church, Rt. 2, Box 359A,
Amery 54001 (Minneapolis District)

Pastor: Michael Brandt, 311 Montgomery, Amery

Christ is Lord Lutheran Church, LaCrosse (Minnea-
polis District)

Pastor: Richard Gilmore, 6633 11th Ave. N., Ona-
laska 54650

Bethany Lutheran Church, Rt. 3, Brodhead (Min-
neapolis District)

Pastor: Kenneth Thoreson, Rt. 3, Box 149C, Beloit
53511

editorials

AN ADVANCING CHURCH

The four to five hundred delegates who assemble at Medicine Lake in June (17-21) to discuss the business of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations will hear about a church fellowship which is advancing in many areas, on many fronts. May the greatest advances be in spiritual things: in souls won for the kingdom of God, in building living congregations, and in the deepening of Christian love toward fellow members of the fellowship and those beyond it.

We are a church soon 20 years old, but with roots in America as long and as old as the work of Lutherans in this still new land. This isn't the time to trace those roots, but let us only say for now that we are debtors to many. The AFLC did not arrive in October, 1962, out of a vacuum, but out of a variety of experiences and circumstances both rich and painful, and always with the potential for good.

The years have seen steady progress and growth. Anyone who has access to the information must admit this. Let us name a few indicators: from a small budget to one which will reach a million dollars in the next couple of years; from a church staff of no full-time personnel to a rather large one when you consider not only administration, but also Missions and Schools; from a church with no world mission to one which now has work in four countries; from a fellowship with no home mission work to one which has mission congregations in four or more states; from a church with no schools to one with both a Bible school and a theological seminary; from a fellowship built upon belief in the need for the evangelistic service, but with no evangelist, to one which employs a pastor in that capacity full-time.

These are all noteworthy gains. They are all possible, too, not only because of an undergirding of prayer but because our people have responded generously financially. And not only people of the Association, but other friends as well.

Now we have a large work to support. Our World Mission outreach requires much more than in the past. Home Missions has an ambitious program for expansion, but here there is the possibility of growing support for the whole work

as the mission congregations grow. Our Schools need continuing financial help, although increased enrollment in the Bible School would lessen the maintenance needed from the church. This year's annual conference must be very astute in determining how far and how fast we can go as a church and still be fiscally sound. Where does faith enter into the picture? A budget increase is dictated simply through the attrition due to inflation. The trouble is, as we decide on goals for 1982-83, we won't know how well we'll do on our \$800,000 goal for this year.

There are no problems in the women's work of the church. The Women's Missionary Federation just goes from one success to another. May the Lord continue to bless this work of aid to the whole program of the AFLC. The Luther League Federation, the young people's group, has never found the same cohesiveness, however. It has been harder for the districts to effectively organize and maintain an organization. Challenging biennial conventions have been held and one will be held this summer at Osceola, Wis. No doubt one problem in youth work is that it deals with an age group through which people are passing. They are in it for five or six years and then move on. We support the idea of a full-time youth director, counsellor, worker, whatever he would be called. The evangelist does this on a part-time basis now, but is limited in his movements by the schedule he must maintain as the evangelist.

Looking to the future, the next years will be crucial ones for the Association. We will have to "find ourselves" in a special way before our 25th anniversary comes around, in 1987-88. We live in a world which is growing more and more ecumenical-minded. The fashionable thing now is to cooperate on many levels, regardless of what theological understandings exist among those involved. We think the AFLC must address this situation in the next few years because we face these pressures and trends as well as anyone. At what points are we consistent with what we profess and where are we inconsistent?

But for the present, we stand on the eve of an annual conference, always an exciting time. This is a presidential year in the AFLC, a fact which adds special interest to our gathering together. Apart from that, no unusual decisions face us, to our knowledge. May the Lord lead in all decisions. It will be good to fellowship with one another. We will miss some dear friends from the past. The Lord bless their memory among us. There will be new friends to meet. Pray for our conference. Attend it if it is possible for you to do so.

CAMPUS NEWS

Choral Club tour WITH A VOICE OF SINGING

The Choral Club from our Bible School opened all its regular concerts on tour this year with M. Shaws's triumphant song, "With a Voice of Singing," and closed with Handel's rousing "Thanks Be to Thee." In between were other stirring renditions, such as "Rise Up, O Church" and "Unbounded Grace" and the more contemplative "Come, Ye Disconsolate" and "Friendship with Jesus."

Again this year, the seventh year in a row, it was my privilege to travel with the Choral Club on its spring tour. My tasks were to lead the group in their brief devotional sessions before con-

certs and give a meditation and greeting at each concert.

This year's Choral Club was made up of 21 girls and seven boys. For his 14th year Don Rodvold directed the group. He continues to make friends for AFLBS wherever he goes. I enjoyed being with Don and the fine group of young people. Don and I had many good chats on the bus and at lunch stops. When we passed through Fargo on our way to Sedan, Minn., Pastor John Strand joined us for our noon lunch.

We began our tour at Ortley, S. Dak., where I joined the others. The

largest crowd ever at Ortley Lutheran heard our concert and a sermon by their former pastor, Rev. Einar Unseth, of Bismarck, N. Dak. He was concluding a series of meetings that night. It was good to greet a large number of my former parishioners from Lake Region parish at the service.

After stops in Aberdeen and Eagle Butte we came to Faith, S. Dak., the next day. Following a delicious supper (they were all delicious), the Choral Club members and Faith leaguers took part in a Bible quiz and did pretty well. After Don and I had breakfast at Dr. Wayne Sletten's new home the next morning and a tour of his new veterinarian offices, we drove to Bismarck via Lemmon, S. Dak., and the interesting petrified wood park there.

This was my first visit to our home mission church in Bismarck. The church building is small, but adequate for this new congregation. For supper we all walked over to the Eugene Rath home for pizza, a very popular meal among the young folks. The Rathes will soon be opening a pizza parlor under the name "Romeo's Pizza." Their pizza features organically-grown ingredients.

Zion Church in Tioga hosted us for Saturday and Sunday nights. Saturday night we gave a concert at Scandia Valley Church, southwest of Stanley. It is a basement church and well kept up. One of the former pastors there is Rev. Hans J. Tollefson, now of Astoria, Ore.

On Sunday we were broadcast over Tioga's radio station, KTGO, in the Zion worship hour. At 3:30 we were at Beaver Creek Church near the Missouri River. It was interesting to know that three of the original 13 students at AFLBS came from that congregation. Beaver Creek has a fine new church and a striking heavy-beam cross stands to the left of the front door. Very impressive. The evening program was at Emmanuel, our home mission in Williston. The group, which will soon organize as a congregation, presently rents another church for its services.

Leaving Tioga Monday noon we drove to Minnewaukan via Dakota Square in Minot, where we had also stopped on Saturday. Trinity Church in Minnewaukan has to be one of the

Home Mission teams selected



BARNABAS I

Pam Jacobson, Binford, N. Dak.
Anders Macy, Hoodspott, Wash.
Joyce Strand, Abercrombie, N. Dak.



BARNABAS II

Becky Wall, Comfrey, Minn.
Brad Sorensen, Lake Stevens, Wash.
Priscilla Mundfrom, Osceola, Wis.



The Choral Club and Choir at the home concert, May 10th.

Association's finest buildings. There is a beautiful sanctuary, some Sunday School rooms, a library, kitchen and dining area, and more.

With not far to go to get to Binford the next day, there was time to bowl in New Rockford on Tuesday. This was a pleasant diversion. In the "one more game," Don Rodvold took the prize from yours truly for the highest game with a 183. That night at Bethany, Binford, N. Dak., we had another good audience. A good number of alumni were in the audience. We were happy with our turnouts throughout the tour.

On Wednesday there was the stop in Fargo for noon lunch at West Acres. As we drove there dust hung in the air and blowing dirt moved along the fields, a not uncommon sight this spring. A good group of AFLBS students joined us for the final concert at Scandia Church, Sedan. The church's pastor, Larry Haagenson, suddenly disappeared from the church before the concert to take his wife to the hospital for the birth of a baby. Some good-byes were said there before the main group of the Choral Club motored back to the Cities and others of us began the trip back to our homes, the students for the beginning of their Easter vacation.

I enjoyed travelling with the Choral Club and Don. Everything went well. People everywhere were so friendly and hospitable. The pastors are good promoters for our school. The Lord bless them all, pastors and their people. The young people in the Choral Club did a good job. Their faith, good humor and

willingness to work are attractive for Christ.

The members of the Choral Club are: Mark Heller, St. James, Margaret Hill, Cloquet, Ilona Iverson, Brooten,

Pam Johnson, Sacred Heart, Martha Mostad, Osakis, Dawn Nelson, Wanamingo, Mark Olson, Bloomington, Jeanette Rau, Fergus Falls, Julie Tester, New London, Mary Tollefson, Crookston, and Nancy Woods, Foss-ton, all in Minnesota; Nancy Copes, Tioga, Elsie Hoseth, Stanley, Wanda Jacobson, Binford, Jean Kjorstad, Williston, Richard Mickelson, Tioga, and Marlys Twedt, McHenry, all in North Dakota; Carrie Cornish, Lake Stevens, Lisa Eckrem, Mukilteo, Jeanette Hanson, Ferndale, Anders Macy, Hoodspport, Mike Wagar, Lake Stevens, and Kendra Wittmer, all in Washington; Priscilla and Stephen Mundfrom, Osceola, Wisconsin; Kim Rudebusch, Ortley, and Amy Sletten, Faith, both in South Dakota; and Curtis Munch, Culbertson, Montana.

Pastor Raynard Huglen

All alumni are invited to a fellowship dinner at 5:30 PM, Saturday, June 20, during the AFLC annual conference in Minneapolis. It will be held at the Jolly Troll Restaurant, \$5.25. Pastor Ken Moland, dean of AFLBS, sharing. John Mundfrom, president of the AFLBS Alumni Association, will present an update.

Summer AMBASSADOR team introduced



1981 summer AMBASSADOR team: LaVonne Torkelson, Wanamingo, Minn.; Keeley Wittmer, Ferndale, Wash.; Nancy Burslie, McIntosh, Minn.; David Fugleberg, Roseau, Minn.; Mark Stave, Wadena, Minn.; Stephanie Krueger, Granite Falls, Minn.; Brian Pearson, Grand Forks, N. Dak.; Mark Westlake, Chatham, Mich.; Jim Johnson, Bloomington, Minn.

Transform those disjointed WMF business meetings . . .

by Mrs. Rob Lewis
Minneapolis, Minn.

I'm sure you, as I, have attended some of the most informative, concise and well-planned WMF business meetings that any one could desire. You may also have struggled through some "not-so-informative," lengthy and disjointed meetings. Without writing an article on parliamentary procedure, I would like to share some hints that may eliminate some of the boredom from your WMF business meetings. Successful meetings depend on the attentiveness and cooperation of everyone present.

ASK GOD'S GUIDANCE.

Our God is the Father of order and a God of infinite wisdom. He will certainly help us if we earnestly seek His will in leading our meetings. It is so important to keep in daily touch with Him through personal devotions. It is through a close walk with God in Bible reading and prayer that He is able to teach us.

UTILIZE THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MAKE PLANS.

Much time can be saved at WMF meetings if all major planning is done ahead of time in a meeting of the executive committee.

FOLLOW AN AGENDA.

It is a great help to have your plans for the business meeting in writing. This will prevent forgetting any details and keep the business moving. A sample agenda might be:

Devotions
Secretary's report
Treasurer's report
Old Business

- 1.
- 2.
3. etc.

New Business

- 1.
- 2.
3. etc.

Adjournment

It is the responsibility of the leader to prevent unnecessary, lengthy discourses on old and new business! Occasionally a gracious reminder like: "We appreciate your comments, but we should try to steer our conversation back to our original topic" will be in order. Sensitive WMF members also have the responsibility of being alert to the needs of each other including the leader. Only through team effort can the Lord's work be carried on smoothly and effectively.

May God bless you in your WMF business meetings as you seek His guidance, and in the accomplishment of His plans. ☞

Eleventh annual ladies' retreat held in Brazil

The day of our ladies retreat we woke up to the sound of rain. My first thoughts were, "How will the ladies be able to come to our retreat now?" Then I remembered the verse which says, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Ps. 118:24).

Right then I turned the day over to the Lord and by noon the rain had let up. Here the roads can dry so fast because of the heat that by supertime those coming from the interior churches had arrived.

At 8 o'clock we started our 11th annual ladies retreat, held this year together with the Annual Conference of AFLC churches in Brazil. In all we had some 50 men and women to open our first session, after which the ladies were invited to Janet (Mrs. David) Abel's for tea and cake.

Bill and Mary Fewsett, fellow language school students from Sao Paulo were our guest speakers. They work much with family counseling and Mary gave some excellent studies for the women, while Bill had the evening session where everybody was together.

Our craft this year was painting on dish towels with tube paints. This the ladies thoroughly enjoyed, as they have never painted that way before.

We had 36 ladies registered with others coming off and on during the retreat. We were really praising the Lord for those who were able to attend for the first time. Meeting simultaneously with the Annual Conference, these women were able to come with their husbands.

As our time together came to an end with the noon meal, everybody had mixed feelings. Happy for the time spent together, studying and learning from the Word, sharing and fellowshiping together. And sad that the time had gone so fast, but looking forward with great anticipation to next year's retreat. ☞

Mrs. Connely Dyrud

. . . into effecient, effective,
and enjoyable sessions

Send all WOMEN'S PAGE news to Miss Solveig Larson, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Mpls., Minn. 55441.

HOME MISSIONS . . .

ask, what can I do, what would Jesus do, what would Jesus want me to do? World evangelism is the will of Christ. As a servant of Jesus it is the will of Christ, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else, at all costs, by and through His mercy, grace and strength. "A faith that can consent to avoid proselytizing among other faiths is not really faith at all" (J. Gresham Machen).

The time has come when we must say with Joshua, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." We cannot travel east and west at the same time. We cannot in the same moment clothe appropriately for the Arctic regions and the tropics. We must make our choice and ignore either the one or the other. We cannot be both refined and vulgar. We cannot be pure and impure. We cannot move horizontally and vertically in the same movement, onward in the companionship of the world, and upward in the companionship of the Lord. We too commonly believe that we can have two masters and that is possible to render service to both. We split up our life and divide our inheritance. We give a portion to Mammon and a portion to God. A woman lives a worldly life and wears a crucifix. A man makes money as he pleases but never misses the Sacrament. The home never hears the sound of worship, but the family Bible is always on the table by the window. "No man can serve two masters." The Lord demands our *all*. Abraham Lincoln once pointed out that no nation could endure half slave and half free. This truth applies to individuals no less than to nations.

Service costs—everything.

It cost Paul embarrassment, submission, mockery, grief, illness, false representation, the hatred of the people, beatings, prison, stocks and death. I marvel, and praise God, at how long we have been privileged to carry the Gospel forward in America without suffering and persecution. In fact, I sometimes wonder if the lack of persecution is a reflection of the lukewarmness of my heart and witness. Does not God's Word say that "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (II Tim. 2:12). Luther said, "For after you have become a Christian and

now have a gracious God and the remission of all your sins, both your past sins, and those which you daily commit, you will find that you must do and suffer much because of your faith and Baptism." Don't be surprised but what someday soon you will hear of adversity. But be assured of this, that, when it comes, we shall in a new and deeper way, understand the worth of men's souls, experience the strength of God, and come to know ourselves, the Lord Jesus, and victory as we have never known them yet.

Service calls men to the Gospel and faith in Jesus Christ.

All our efforts must be to this end, to proclaim, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." In one of her books, Catherine Marshall has written, "Christianity began as good news; we have permitted it to be diluted into good advice." We really don't have to know a lot, we just have to know a few things well.

HOME MISSIONS

Home Missions is you.

What, or should we say, who really is Home Missions? First, we need to realize that each of us is a part of Home Missions. Proverbs 4:23 states, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." If we are too busy to care for our own heart we are busier than God ever intended us to be. Great sermons, noble deeds and holy lives result from time spent in waiting on God. Strength, grace, and beauty begin where man brings his life into conformity with the Invisible rather than the visible—into communion with God through Jesus Christ. Lydia attended unto the things spoken to her. The jailer gave heed to the condition of his own heart when he asked, "What must I do?"

Home Missions includes your family.

Just why did God create the family? May I suggest this answer. God created the family to provide the appropriate ministry for each member unto the salvation of each soul. Many times people have asked me as their pastor or friend to go and visit a loved one. And many times they have concluded, "I just can't go." But you *should* go. Your loved ones know you. Christ will radi-

Personalities

Rev. Leslie Galland, pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church, Everett, Wash., since 1975, has resigned that pastorate to accept a call from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls, Minn., Reiner Lutheran Church, Goodridge, Minn., and Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Holt, Minn. He will begin work there on August 1.

Speaker at special services in Hope Lutheran Church, Ishpeming, Mich., was Rev. Wendell Johnson, Stacy, Minn., April 26-30. Local pastor is Rev. Paul Nash.

David Snipstead, who was injured in a motorcycle accident in March, has had a remarkable recovery from his injuries. He was able to leave the hospital two weeks after his mishap, with one leg in a cast and less than normal vision in one eye. David celebrated his 20th birthday last week, May 20.

Mrs. Myrtle Hove, mother of Mrs. Connely J. Dyrud, underwent surgery on a hip on January 30 in Grand Forks, N. Dak. It was her second such surgery on the hip. She has made a good recovery and is staying at the home of Mr. Helga Dyrud, mother of Missionary Connely Dyrud, near Thief River Falls, Minn. The mothers eagerly await the arrival home of the Dyrud family from Brazil in early July for a year's furlough.

ate most clearly through your transformed life. I know it's the hardest way, but I do believe it's the best way. Here is a word of encouragement to help you as you strive to reach your loved ones for Jesus. If you talk to the God you know about the men you know, you will soon find it isn't so hard to talk to the men you know about the God you know. What comfort and encouragement to read that Lydia and the jailer were used to reach their households. Be faithful to your family.

Home Missions involves your friends. Home Missions involves strangers.

The best Christian many people will ever see or know is you. May God grant that we will see these people as opportunities for service. ☩

Preparing for the conference

Home Mission prayer concerns

One of the unique characteristics of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations is its structure, and thus the part of congregations in the decisions made at annual conference. Every member of an AFLC congregation may have a voice and a vote during that decision-making week. Not every member is able to attend, but we trust that every member who spends time each day before the throne of grace in prayer is today praying for our Annual Conference. We realize that prayer is the best preparatory work for any task and so we are asking you to pray about some specific things to be decided upon at annual conference as well as decisions facing the Home Mission Board at their next meetings.



AFLBS campus, site of 19th Annual Conference

At Annual Conference there are at least two very important areas where decisions will be made. One is the election of new members to the Mission Corporation and the election of a member to the Home Mission Board. Pastor Larry Severson has served two terms and is not eligible for re-election. Also, Mr. Joel Rogenes and Pastor Richard Anderson will need to be re-elected to the Mission Corporation if they are to continue to serve on the Home Mission Board. Let us pray for the Nominating Committee in the work they have to do and that God's choice be made in these elections.

The second area is a very familiar one and that is in regard to budget. Inflation and ambitious goals require more funds. Please pray that our budget setting will be in line with what

Officers to elect

The following constitutional officers will be elected at the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, which will be in session June 17-21, at AFLC Headquarters and Schools, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn.

All nominations are made from the floor and at least two are needed for each office.

**designates incumbent*

President (3-year term)

**Rev. Richard Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.*

Vice-President (1-year term)

**Rev. David C. Molstre, Dickinson, N. Dak.*

Secretary (1-year term)

**Rev. Hubert F. DeBoer, Colfax, Wis.*

God wills to be done in reaching America.

Decisions the Board is facing are several and very important. First of all is the matter of new areas. There are many possibilities but the specific place and precise timing are vital. Pray that the Lord will give clear direction and much wisdom in the designation of new areas.

The second matter is the calling of pastors. The congregations at Chassell and Pelkie, Michigan, will be without a pastor after June 28. Pastor Jay Eberth has resigned, having accepted a call to Calvary Lutheran at Fosston, Minnesota. During the next month or so, a call will be sent to an AFLC pastor for the new work to begin at Jamestown, North Dakota. Please pray that God's will be known and obeyed on the part of the Board, the congregations and pastors involved.

A permanent place of worship is needed in several areas. Prices are high, but God is able to provide. At the present time the Board is negotiating on property in Vancouver, Washington, and Escanaba, Michigan. The group at Williston, North Dakota, is also prayerfully considering God's will in regard to property. Please join us in

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

DeKalb, Ill.—The Sunday School of Grace Lutheran Church put on a Mother's Day program on Sunday evening, May 3. Rev. Karl I. Stendal is interim pastor at Grace.

Bagley, Minn.—Dedication ceremonies for the addition to Rice Lutheran Church, Zerkel, were held on Sunday, May 17, at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Snipstead, president of the AFLC, was present for the occasion.

Minneapolis, Minn.—It has been decided by the board of deacons of Medicine Lake Lutheran Church that there should be a Sunday afternoon Christian Fellowship meeting on the second Sunday of each month. The meetings are informal and are led by lay members of the congregation. The first one was held on April 12.

Minnewaukan, N. Dak.—The daily Vacation Bible School at Trinity will be held May 26-30. Rev. LeRoy Flickinger of Leeds, N. Dak., has been helping out during pastoral vacancy. The new pastor, Jerome Nikunen, begins his work on June 1.

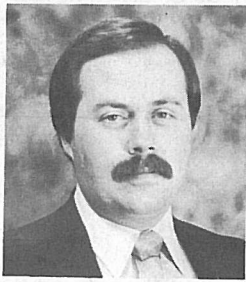
Bessemer, Mich.—A Gospel team from AFLBS was at Our Savior Lutheran on Friday evening, April 10. Pastor Robert Lee of the faculty was the speaker in the program.

Kalispell, Mont.—Leaguers of Faith Lutheran are taking odd jobs to raise money to attend the Luther League Federation convention at Osceola, Wis., in July.

Roseau, Minn.—The newly remodeled basement of Roseau Lutheran was dedicated on Mother's Day at 8:30 a.m. The Men's Club of the church served a breakfast to all mothers and daughters that day, too.

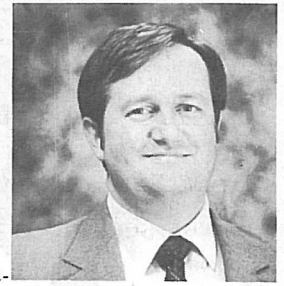
Holt, Minn.—A Mother-Daughter banquet was held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on April 10. Fried chicken was featured in the meal. A skit, "This is Your Life," was given by some of the young mothers. Ten women were honored at the banquet.

praying for these needs, remembering always the promise of God in Jeremiah 33:3: "Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."



Robert Lewis
Home Town: Edmonton, Alberta
Called to Bethany, Abercrombie,
N. Dak., and United, McLeod, N.
Dak.
To be ordained at the Annual Con-
ference

The 1981 Graduates of Association Free Lutheran Seminary



Franklin Rutherford
Home Town: Henning, Minn.
Called to Grace, DaKalb, Ill.
To be ordained at the Annual Con-
ference

In Memoriam

In was in 1963 that I first met Les and Lillian Kjos and their children Kristen, Randy and Sylvia of Kalispell, Montana. The Kjos family had earlier requested material I had prepared on the issues of church mergers and thus we had become acquainted through correspondence.

When these people knew that I would be going to the West Coast to work in the interest of the AFLC for a number of months, I was asked to stop en route and conduct a service in the Stillwater Lutheran Church. I then met the Kjos family and others that composed the small group that had begun meeting for services.

During the early winter of the next year, having received that second let-

ter of call to the Stillwater congregation, I concluded that the Lord wanted me to accept the call. Accordingly, I moved there in December 1964.

But the congregation had no parsonage, so the Kjos family invited me to live with them. Thus began a friendship that has continued over the years.

Soon I felt like a member of the family and thoroughly enjoyed it. A total stranger in the area, I needed much information and Les and Lillian gladly cooperated. Since Lillian, the housewife, had more time than Les, the active businessman, she would take time to tell me where people lived who were sympathetic toward the AFLC's ideals.

Before long it became apparent that Lillian was a consecrated servant of Jesus Christ. She wanted a Bible-based Lutheran-evangelical congrega-

tion. All their children later attended our Bible School at Medicine Lake.

As the Stillwater congregation enjoyed a lively growth, it was decided to build a parsonage. Les, who owns a large lumber yard and building supply store, supplied all the material at cost and donated much time working on the structure. And Lillian was enthused about the project.

During the last week of February, Les called, stating that Lil was seriously ill in the Kalispell Hospital. On March 2 she went home to live with Jesus.

Her memory will be blessed, we are certain. May the Savior comfort the bereaved. ✠

Pastor Karl Stendal
 DeKalb, Ill.

Thy Kingdom Come

God's Spirit

"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but prove the spirits, whether they are of God" (I John 4:1).

A sad experience that we often have in life is that many of those that we considered the best Christians can be ensnared by false, destructive spiritual doctrines and movements. If men stand forth who consider themselves spiritual-minded to a high degree, and who at the same time believe that they alone have found the whole truth, then many of those that one least expected it of, are entrapped.

The reason for this seems as a rule to be that these refined, soft souls are so fearful of making a mistake and thereby offending God that they do not dare to prove the spirits. In the next place, they have the wrong view that when a

preacher uses the Word of God, and with much mental energy bolsters his opinions with Bible passages, then he must be from God.

It would be no trick for a Christian to know that the spirit did not come from God, if the false teacher would have nothing to do with the Word of God, with prayer, and with Jesus. It is just there the deception lies: the false spirit appears in Christian garb. But that is also the reason the apostle asks us to prove the spirits whether they are of God.

How then shall one find out?

God's Spirit always makes a man small in his own eyes and poor in spirit. The Word about sin and grace, about salvation and atonement, is the highest note where the Spirit of God rules.

But he who makes his mind a judge of God's Word, and who believes that he is better than other Christians, he is ruled by a false spirit. God's Spirit makes us think humbly of ourselves, so that we always need help, and again and again seek Jesus as our only salvation.

Grant my mind and my affections
 Wisdom, counsel, purity,
 That I may be ever seeking
 Naught but that which pleases
 Thee,
 Let Thy knowledge spread and grow,
 And all error overthrow. ✠

Reprinted from *Thy Kingdom Come*
 by Ludvig Hope

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May—Church Extension Month

The Benevolence Promotion Calendar this month gives opportunity for the Church Extension Fund, its needs and our concerns.

Last fall the Home Mission Board conducted a drive to raise funds for Church Extension, and the response was good. Gifts, new loans and increased payments on existing loans increased the fund by \$168,000. The Home Mission Board is grateful to the men who helped carry out the drive and to the congregations and individuals that responded to the need with special offerings and loans.

With the additional funds received, financial help in the construction of new buildings has been granted to Amery Lutheran, Grace Lutheran at Aberdeen and Stillwater Lutheran at Kalispell. A total of \$116,000 has been loaned to these congregations.

At the present time the Home Mission Board has requests totaling \$190,000. Christ Is Lord Lutheran at Onalaska; Vancouver Lutheran at Vancouver; and the new work at Escanaba, have requested loans for property and buildings. Amery Lutheran is requesting more funds so as to be able to finish their building project.

In addition to the actual requests, groups at Burnsville and Williston could soon be making requests as they are looking for property and buildings.

Doors are opening and Home Missions is expanding. The goal of 30 new congregations in this decade, set by last year's annual conference, together with higher property and building costs require a steady increase in the Church Extension Fund.

Your help is needed by way of gifts and loans. A sacrifice on your part will help establish an AFLC congregation in another community and provide the opportunity of new life in Christ to people in that community. May our highest priority always be to proclaim Christ and His gift of eternal life.

YOUR CHURCH EXTENSION DOLLARS

**Where do
they go?**

Into the church Extension Fund—a revolving fund of the AFLC. Home Mission Board grants loans to new Home Mission congregations.

**What do
they do?**

Allow new congregations to purchase property and building for a house of worship.

**Will they
return?**

Yes, with interest to the Church Extension Fund. Home Mission Board reloans the money to another new congregation.

***Only eternity will reveal
the full return.***