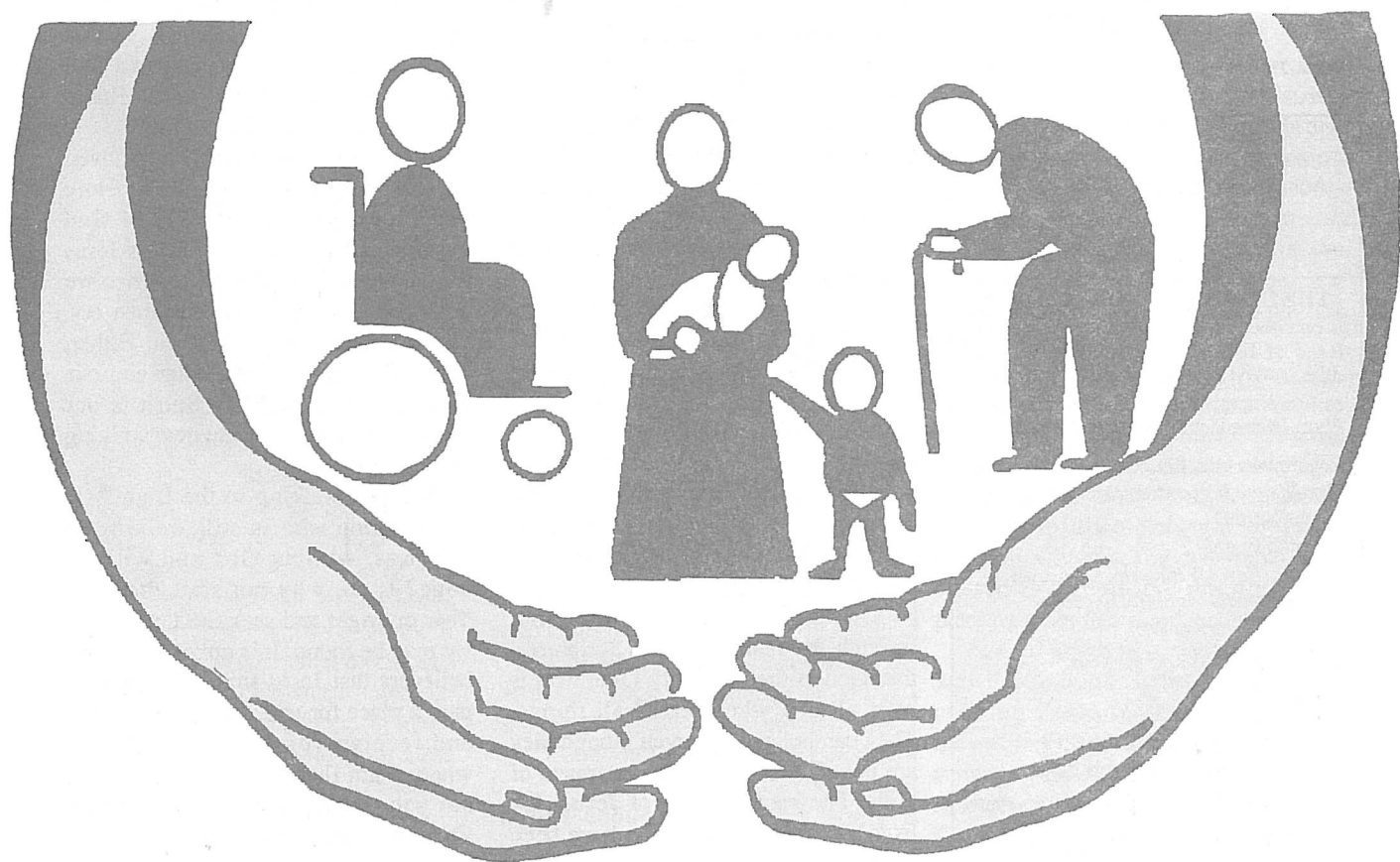


THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

January 8, 1991



THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

LIGHT on the WAY

meditations on God's Word

Cover artwork used by permission
from Lutherans for Life.

Volume 29 Number 1

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

is published biweekly (except for the first issue of July and the second issue of August) by the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441.

Rev. Robert Lee, Editor

Mrs. Wayne Hjermstad, Assistant to
the Editor

Editorial Board:

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Chairman

Dr. Francis Monseth, Secretary

Mr. Robert Knutson

Subscriptions: \$11.00 per year.

Write to:

The Lutheran Ambassador

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

All communications concerning contents
of this magazine should be addressed to:
Editor, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.,
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441.

Second-class postage paid at Mpls.,
Minnesota, and additional mailing office.

USPS 588-620 ISSN 0746-3413

Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Lutheran Ambassador, 3110 E.
Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis,
Minnesota 55441.

To be a Christian and to walk in the Light is an impossibility, except one has received the Holy Spirit. Romans 8:9 reads, "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is not in Christ (a Christian) if the Spirit of God is not indwelling in us. The indwelling Holy Spirit of God in us is the very proof that we are His children. That is why Jesus tells us in John 14:16-18, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you."

There are some who believe and teach that we receive the Holy Spirit some time later after receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. This is not true according to the Scriptures. In Ephesians 3:13 we read, "... in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." It is the Holy Spirit who gives us the assurance that we are the children of God. To try to be a Christian without the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives is impossible. God is a Triune God. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are one and cannot be separated.

Men can somewhat understand, through the reading of the Scriptures, that God is the Almighty One, who is over all and who created all things. They can believe this even though they are not necessarily true worshippers of Him. The same is true of Jesus, for from childhood many of us have been taught of how Jesus loves us and that He died for us. We can come to this knowledge, which is precious indeed. We can know much about God and Jesus Christ and still not know Jesus in a personal and living way. This knowledge comes only through the work of the Holy Spirit. We cannot know God as our Father and Jesus as our Saviour

Our Assurance

until the Holy Spirit has His way with us. John 14:26 says, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

First we need to become aware of the fact that we are sinners. This awareness is not a result of the sins we have committed, but comes through the Word of God, showing us that we are sinners by birth and we need a Saviour. When sin becomes exceedingly sinful, and the Holy Spirit creates in us a longing to have our sins forgiven and a desire to become a child of God, then the Holy Spirit points us to Jesus. How precious the words of Jesus become. "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Psalm 103:12 states, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." The Holy Spirit uses the precious Word of God to bring us to the Light, which is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. When we have received Jesus, we can then cry, "Abba Father," God is now our Father, Jesus Christ is our Redeemer and our advocate, and the Holy Spirit is our teacher and guide. We are now walking in the Light.

Are you walking in the Light? Or are you one who is still walking in darkness, without God and without hope? If so, why not start the New Year out right and seek the Lord while He may be found. It is only for the true believers that Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself; that where I am there ye may be also. let not your hearts be troubled." For all Christians the best is yet to come.



— by Rev.
Alvin Larson

For they have forsaken me and made this a place of foreign gods; they have burned sacrifices in it to gods that neither they nor their fathers nor the kings of Judah ever knew, and they have filled this place with the blood of the innocent. They have built the high places of Baal to burn their sons in the fire as offerings to Baal — something I did not command or mention, nor did it enter my mind.

So beware, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when people will no longer call this place Topheth or the Valley of Ben Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter (Jeremiah 19:4-6).

There was my dead son lying in his own placenta in an ice cream pail." Those were the words of a woman from northern Saskatchewan, my home province, after the staff at the hospital in Brandon, Manitoba, showed her her dead baby. She had made the choice of aborting her child because the doctors told her the baby would likely have water on the brain and spina bifida. The woman was advised by her lawyer not to take legal action, and when she wrote a letter of complaint to the hospital, the executive director said some changes would be made so that it would not happen again. Oh, the director was not referring to the abortion, for they will continue to kill babies there and put them in ice cream pails, but from now on they will try to make sure that women who have abortions are not ever shown their dead babies.

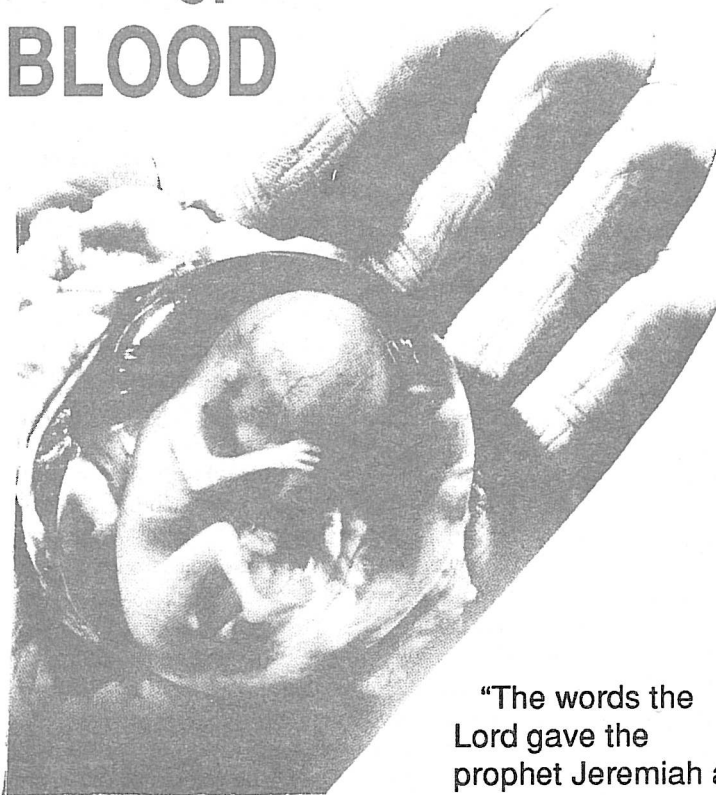
"On the counter sit a dozen or so clear plastic suction bottles holding cloth bags filled with the previous day's POC (products of conception). Inside each one the liquid formaldehyde is now stained dark red with blood. I'm told it's my job to open each bottle and examine the contents, then to prepare tissue for a microscope to verify a successful abortion. No one warned me this was to be my gruesome task, I thought in silent protest. Why should I have to look at them?

"I remove the bag from the first bottle and cut it open with scissors. In a bed of mulched and bloody tissue I immediately recognize tiny parts — human parts — arms, legs, intestines, rib cage, lungs, liver and heart — perfect parts ...

"I complete my task for that first day, as I will for the next 179 working days. At an average of ten per day, just 20 minutes work, I will dissect approximately 1,800 abortions. The popular argument of the age — that it is the right of a woman to do as she wishes with her own body — seems incomprehensible as I stare into the face of a dead child. Those mothers don't have to look. Even the abortionists needn't look."

This was the testimony of Lorraine Keess, a

A CRADLE OF BLOOD



"The words the Lord gave the prophet Jeremiah are just as applicable ... today ..."

registered nurse who worked at a pathology laboratory in the city of Calgary ("Western Report" November 12, 1990). After 179 days, she couldn't take it anymore, and quit.

The reports keep pouring in from throughout the nation concerning the slaughter of one of its weakest minorities. In all of the major centers across the land hundreds and even thousands are dying a painful death by poisoning, suffocation, and decapitation, within the confines of the back rooms of government funded institutions. The numbers keep mounting. The reality is bloody, and there is no end in sight. The nation has been transformed into a cradle of blood.

The words the Lord gave the prophet Jeremiah are just as applicable to our nations and world today as they were to Judah 2,600 years ago. The sacrifice of the unborn children today, like the sacrifice of the children in Jeremiah's day, is the result of paganism, which is the rejection of our Living Lord and His Kingdom for the worship of the false idols of our day. The idols of materialism, sex, pleasure, and money, often demand the sacrifice of the children before they will give the "fulfillment" that their worshippers desire.



— by Rev.
Alvin A. Pinno
Frontier,
Saskatchewan

Our Lord Jesus referred to Satan as a liar and a murderer from the beginning. The evil one has sold the world, our nations, and many false prophets and teachers within the institutionalized churches the big lie that children are not, as God's Word teaches, a gracious gift from the Lord, but rather an economic and social burden that we have to destroy. Our world, led by the prince of darkness, has declared war on children, particularly unborn children.

What are we to do in the face of this horrifying reality of Satan's destruction of the unborn?

Do we hide within the walls of our church buildings? Do we retreat to our own private and comfortable worlds? No, the option of a retreat from the world is not available to the follower of Christ.

First, we need to remember that our marching orders from the Lord are much broader than just opposing Satan's attack upon the unborn children. We have been entrusted with a commission of proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the Good News of His Kingdom to all people, and to teach them to observe all truths, that have been revealed to us by the Holy Spirit through the inspired and inerrant Word. As believers, we continue in daily repentance and daily seeking to love and serve the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, in order that the people around us might know that Jesus Christ is Lord, and come to glorify Him with their lives. This is our overall mandate and goal, and includes bringing the Law and the Gospel to bear on the reality of abortion.

To proclaim the Law of God to our nation and world is to clearly affirm, in word and deed, the reality that unborn children are living human beings created in God's image, and are protected by His commandment against murder.

To proclaim the Law is to be willing to oppose and confront those who, on the basis of secular humanism, deny the sanctity of the life of the unborn, and to warn of the coming judgment of the Lord upon them if they do not repent.

To proclaim the Law is to fight for legislation that clearly affirms and does not compromise the lives of the unborn, and once again makes abortion illegal.

To proclaim the Gospel is to clearly affirm, in word and deed, the sufficiency of the cross of Christ in dealing with the sin of abortion. It is to

share with women who have had abortions and with those who have performed and promoted abortions that Christ died to forgive their sin. If they are willing to cry out for His mercy and forgiveness, "God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9).

We must also reach out with compassion to support and help women in difficult circumstances who choose to bear their children.

Dear friends, the Lord calls us to proclaim the Law and the Gospel not only in words, "but in actions and in truth" (I John 3:18).

The kingdom of heaven is near! The day of the wrath of the Lord is near! The blood of 50 million unborn children a year cries out to the Lord for justice, and His justice will come quickly! When our Lord comes may He find us, as individuals and as a body of believers, busy with the task of sharing in word and deed His law and gospel with the fallen and lost world in which we live, to the salvation of souls and to the glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

(Rev. Pinno, a member of the Canadian AFLC, is the pastor of Bethel Lutheran Church, Frontier, Saskatchewan.)

SCRIPTURAL REVIEW OF LIFE ISSUES

Amniocentesis — Isaiah 45:9-10

Call — Job 10-8-12

Jeremiah 1:5, 20:17

Paul (Galatians 1:15-16)

Commandment — Exodus 20:13

Creation — Psalm 139:13-16

Ecclesiastes 11:5

Deadly Sins — Proverbs 6:16-19

Euthanasia — Deuteronomy 30:19

Forgiveness — 1 John 1:9

Handicapped — John 9:2-3

Exodus 4:11

Idolatry — Psalm 106:37-38

Innocent — Exodus 23:7

Original Sin — Psalm 51:5

Post-Abortion Syndrome

— Isaiah 49:15-16

Rape/Incest — Deuteronomy 24:16

Rescue — Proverbs 24:11-12

Right To Die — I Corinthians 6:19-20

Salvation — Romans 10:9-10

Matthew 28:19-20

Wrongful Birth — (See Handicapped)

Wrongful Death — Exodus 21:22-23

"No, the option of retreat from the world is not available to the followers of Christ."

ABORTION a Call to Repentance and Action

Abortion takes the life of one-third of America's and more than one-half of the world's new babies. Every abortion stops a beating heart and an active brain. While these simple facts are staggering, the church appears to be asleep on the watch (Ezekiel 3:17-19) and has grown cold (Matthew 24:11). What are we so busy doing that we continue unaware or unconcerned about this holocaust (II Timothy 3:1-5)?

I believe that the abortion crisis is first a call to personal and corporate repentance. Personal repentance is the process of realizing that you are misguided and need to redirect your life. At least 100 million Americans have been "personally" involved in a "decision of support" for the more than 25 million legal abortions since 1973. The need is clear. Many will try to redirect their lives by self-will, motivated by worldly sorrow, but God wills that we be redirected by a trusting faith in Jesus (II Corinthians 7:9-10). This personal salvation is God's first priority for your life (II Corinthians 6:2).

Corporate repentance is also needed for the church and for our nation. We should all know that most Protestant churches (even most Lutheran churches) take a public stand for the "right to kill" and even sponsor hospitals doing so (Romans 1:32). Our government has a public policy of defending the "choice to kill." Our media provides the inspiration to keep the satanic bandwagon rolling. The nation of Israel has often returned to God and been restored through public repentance (II Chronicles 7:14). We can, too (Revelation 2:4-5).

Along with personal and corporate repentance must also come the "works" of our faith (James 2:18). God commands us to "deliver those who are being taken away to death" (Proverbs 24:11). All should be involved in some aspect of the life movement ... supported by prayer.

1. **Education** is the focus of many organizations like Lutherans for life.

2. **Alternative** programs offer a real choice for the increasing number of women wanting to choose life for their babies. Every community needs to have well supported crisis pregnancy center, foster care, and adoption programs.

3. **Political Action** includes the difficult task of making the cry of the innocent heard among the many special interests ... beginning at the ballot box. National Right to Life has been a leading organization in this area.

4. **Social Action** includes all the tasks of keeping the issue of life in the public forum of debate ... including lunch table talk, letters to

WHEREAS, the 1977 Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations resolved to oppose therapeutic abortion as a means of birth control and to encourage each congregation to individual to protest in writing to their respective officials; and

WHEREAS, the 1978 Annual Conference resolved to continue to oppose the sin of abortion; and

WHEREAS, the 1980 Annual Conference reaffirmed the "conservative stand taken by the AFLC based on the Word of God and His Laws concerning the moral issues of our day;" and

WHEREAS, the destruction of millions of lives by means of abortion which began with the 1973 Supreme Court decision still continues; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations affirms that

a. the unborn children are persons in the sight of God from the time of conception (Job 10:9-10; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:41-44);

b. the unborn children stand under the protection of God's command against murder (Genesis 9:6; Exodus 20:13; Numbers 35:33; Acts 7:19; I John 3:15); and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage a clear witness on behalf of the sanctity of unborn life, including the support of responsible pro-life groups in our communities, such as "Lutherans for Life;" and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage prayerful support for the development of alternatives to abortion programs, providing compassionate help for those in need; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we boldly proclaim Law and Gospel, which alone can change the sinful hearts of men and women and turn them from sin to salvation.

—Adopted by the 1987 AFLC
Annual Conference

editors, and picketing. While many of these efforts require significant financing, your time will likely be a more valuable contribution.

Can the church or you remain silent any longer?

(Craig, a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Chillicothe, is the president of Heart of Illinois Lutherans for Life.)

THE STORY OF ONE WOMAN'S PRO-LIFE WITNESS

I wish it could be said that my concern for the rights of the unborn traced as far back as 1973, the year the Supreme Court legalized abortion on demand. However, it would take several years before I understood the serious nature of the issue. Although I became aware of the problem in 1970, it was not until 1982 that I became active in the pro-life movement.

It was in 1970 that the governor of New York signed into law a bill that legalized abortion in my home state. I have a vague recollection of observing the New York State Assembly in debate over this controversial issue. At the time, however, I hardly understood the moral and ethical implications.

As the years went by, I did come to realize that abortion is the willful

destruction of human life. The issue became clear to me in the summer of 1982 when my husband preached a series of messages on the Ten Commandments. His sermon on the Fifth Commandment really hit home, as he declared abortion to be murder. This message, with graphic descriptions of the methods and procedures of abortion, was the spark that ignited my passion for wanting to end the slaughter of the unborn.

My involvement in the pro-life movement was limited at first. However, opportunities opened and increased as I became a pro-life participant. Writing letters to the editor and to elected officials became a natural part of my involvement. I joined "Sanctity of Life" marches, picketed pro-abor-

tion politicians, attended state pro-life conventions, and shared in the behind-the-scenes phone calling. The ultimate thrill was the "Rally for Life 1990" last April in Washington, D.C.

Lately the focus of my involvement has shifted. The people I truly admire are the dedicated volunteers who staff the Crisis Pregnancy Centers. They personally involve themselves in the lives of confused young women. What these people do will perhaps accomplish more to save the unborn than all the letters, phone calls and marches.

I am still active in the pro-life movement. But my greatest involvement is demonstrating a pro-life attitude as a way of life, beginning at home. Educating my children on the sanctity of human life as well as the sanctity of marriage and sex is first and foremost. As I instruct them and instill godly values, they will carry these values into our communities and world.

—by Mrs. Richard (Susan)
Bartholomew
Glenwood, Minnesota

A Mother's Testimony

I Took My Place in a Picket Line

Have you ever taken the time to picket an abortion chamber? Just once? Five years ago I would have said no. But the Lord convicted and challenged my husband and me through people who were already directly involved, to be committed physically, spiritually and financially.

We went to Fargo's abortion chamber to picket with other concerned citizens. What an eye opener to actually see "real" people, "ordinary" people going into the "clinic"! This was not a pleasant experience emotionally, but it brought the reality of abortion up close — real close! We were encouraged as the picketers stopped for prayer and prayed for the women having abortions and for those involved in killing the babies.

Recently, I went back to Fargo's abortion chamber expecting to see the usual handful of people picketing but instead saw a lone woman a block away holding a sign. (She had been restricted from the premises.) How alone and helpless I felt walking solo in front of this so called "Health Clinic." I thought of how isolated each woman must have felt even in

the midst of others — many thinking this was the only "answer" to their situation.

In my hand I held vital information to give a pregnant woman an alternative to this deception, which destroys a human baby and scars the mother for life. This pamphlet included people and ministries who would help and support their decision for life. How ironic that I also held information on healing and forgiveness for women who came out of the "clinic" after having had an abortion.

Although I cannot picket on a regular basis, the Lord gently reminds me that abortions are still happening at an alarming rate and my responsibility is to share Jesus with others! When we neglect prayer, God's Word, and our responsibility to be an active citizen, we get callous and indifferent to sin and the needs of others. If you and I are "not willing that any should perish," then we will go beyond the comfort of our fellowship with believers to those who need Christ!

— by Mrs. Marlow (Renee) Nash
Colfax, North Dakota

FORGIVEN

One night while my mother tucked me and my little sister into bed, she asked us to kneel, fold our hands and say a prayer to God to help us in a difficult time. As she began to pray, I saw the tears running down her cheeks. **Who is this God?** I thought to myself. That prayer time was my introduction to God.

Life was not easy for Mother after my father left her three years earlier. Food was often in short supply. We felt isolated. Whoever this God was, apparently He made things better, and, although my mother seldom mentioned His name again, the memory of that night when we prayed stayed with me. The seed had been planted, but was not watered for many years.

My home situation did not seem to affect my early school years. Good grades came easily, and I even won third place in a national spelling bee.

My family was so proud of me, especially Ona and Opa (Grandma and Grandpa in Dutch). They were my strength and stability. Then Opa died, and I thought that God was terrible to take him away from us. Next Ona slowly killed herself with medication that she was not supposed to take.

I began to rebel. As a teenager, my regard for life was almost nothing. I ran with a bad crowd and acquired a felony juvenile record when I was only thirteen years old. Drug use soon followed, and I became sexually active.

My mother knew what was going on and tried to intervene. But I simply rebelled even more.

The night before my sixteenth birthday I tried to commit suicide by taking prescription medications. I felt totally unable to deal with anything, convinced that life as a teenager was the worst thing anyone could be. Then my boyfriend left me for another girl, and no drugs were available to ease the pain. I wrote a letter to God that night, asking Him to take my life. But He had a different plan, and my life was spared.

Finally I did drop out of school and moved out of my mother's house. Later I attended night school and received my diploma, and for three years I lived a very independent life and made a good living. However, it was then that I became addicted to "crank," a form of extremely potent "speed." Soon I could not cope with anything, with or without the drug. My father fortunately stepped into my life at this time and helped me get off "crank." It was the best thing he ever did for me.

At age 20 I decided that it was time to leave my home state of California and join the Air Force. I was to report for duty in six months, but, in the meantime, I became pregnant. I did not even know who the father was.

My only choice seemed to be abortion. I had no other answer. A friend at work confided that she once had one, and told me that it was really simple.

Three days later I was scheduled at the clinic. The morning of the appointment I awoke in tears. It dawned on me that I was going to take a life, and I got the shakes. But my friend took me to the clinic, and I do not remember too much more. Yet the memory of feeling a life being sucked out of me remains.

Complications arose, and I was back at the clinic in two days. Emotionally, I felt guilt and shame. But I always was taught not to look back when I made a decision about something. Just live with it.

I became even more promiscuous over the next few months, and spent money that I did not have. There was no intention in my mind of ever paying off my credit card purchases. I resigned from my job as an account executive two months early, and looked forward to the Air Force. It was a chance to get away from everything.

Military service was good for me in many ways. I was now drug free, and then the man came into my life who was to become my husband. It was in

Germany where we met. We fell in love, and soon I was pregnant again.

Another abortion seemed to be the only solution. The only obstacle was an Air Force regulation which forbade it. I visited a German doctor who recommended a clinic in Holland, but once again the so-called simple procedure was complicated by apparently unsterile instruments. I recovered physically with the help of pain killers and antibiotics, but emotionally we both tried to forget that we ever made that trip into Holland.

My time in the service was brief, however, since my husband soon completed his term. He was the first to accept Christ as His Saviour, and then, when I was 24 years old, Jesus Christ came into my heart! Finally we could together forgive each other and truly find God's forgiveness.

The four years after my last abortion were filled with extreme pain, as well as guilt and shame, to say the least. Sometimes I felt like those years were wasted, but now I know that they were necessary for me to willingly answer my Lord's call. He is my saving grace. He has given me life to start over again. He has given me a wonderful family, as our marriage has been blessed with two healthy children. I now have what I never thought possible, and I thank Him for these blessings every day.

It has been hard for me to write this. But I have a story to tell. I am sure that God has a plan for this article to reach someone who needs it. Perhaps it will save the life of an unborn child. If I had known the agony that goes with the taking of a life, I would never have had an abortion. Even now the feeling of emptiness sometimes comes over me, and I yearn for my other two children. But I rest in the confidence that they are in God's arms and that He is taking care of them for me.

It is quite strange to look back at how I was then and how I am now. It is even more wonderful to look into my children's faces. They are two of the reasons for me to go on in life. God knew this. He is gracious.

—by a member of an AFLC congregation.

Reflections on the 1989 Webster Ruling

Some pro-life advocates believe that a real victory was won for the pro-life cause when the abortion issue was referred to the states, each state making its own laws relating to this issue — either tolerating or opposing abortion.*

Perhaps it is somewhat of a victory compared to what it was, I hope so. God only knows. I fail to see it as much of a victory. It is like carrying water in a leaky pail with most of the water leaking out.

I am reminded of the divorce issue. At one time it was much harder in most states to get a divorce than it is now. However, one state, namely Nevada, had laws making it very easy to get a divorce. Many who wanted a divorce merely went to Nevada to get it. And this was legal. A Nevada divorce was recognized in every state

in the union. And by now, most states, if not all of the states, have made it much easier for anyone who so desires to get a divorce. No one need any longer go to Nevada to get a divorce.

Even if every state in the union, say all but one, made laws opposing abortion, that one state would soon become an abortion clinic or an abortion mill.

At one time these United States tried to maintain unity between the states with some states tolerating slavery and some opposing it. It took a civil war to settle this issue.

Surely a federal law, prohibiting abortion, a law which will cover every area of this land, giving legal protection for abortion to no one or to any area, is needed. Only a federal law will accomplish this.

It is God who said, "Thou Shalt Not

Kill." We believe God was referring to human life as He made this commandment. All knowledge and evidence available indicates that the new life within a pregnant woman is human, can feel, hear, move, have a strong desire to live, and will grow and develop if allowed to do so. Therefore, to kill this new life is nothing short of murder.

Surely God will not look favorably upon those who advocate abortion, and they will have to give an account to God for their action some day.

Does any mother have the right to choose to murder her own unborn baby? Certainly not! For any mother who carries within herself such a growing life has the God-given responsibility to bring that new life into this world and to nourish, protect, and train that life to be a God-fearing citizen of this world. Woe unto that mother who deliberately rejects that responsibility!

—by Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom
Osceola, Wisconsin

*Editor's Note: On July 3, 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a Missouri law banning abortions in public hospitals (*Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services*), opening the way for more states to restrict abortions through their legislatures.

The care of human life and happiness
and not their destruction is the first and
only legitimate object of good government.

— Thomas Jefferson

The Holocaust of the Helpless

4,000 a day,
Every day.
I didn't know,
You say.

But now
You do.
The response
Is up to you!
You must join your voice
and with others cry
"No more!

Let the little ones live!"

If not,
We know what will happen to the 4,000.
They will die as innocent victims, little lambs.
But what will happen to us?

Can we smell the smoke
And do nothing
And still remain human?
Christian!?

Is Christ not stronger than the devil?
Is He not powerful to forgive, to help, to
heal,
To give us tenderness,
Hearts of flesh
To love, to care?

He can save us from our inhumanity!
He can make us truly Christian!

—by Odell O. Kittelson
Newark, Illinois

EDITORIALS

A WOUND THAT WILL NOT HEAL

Abortion. An elderly friend informed me that it was once considered crude to even say the word in mixed company. But eighteen years ago the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Roe vs. Wade* that abortion was a woman's constitutional right, and the word has become a common part of our social and political vocabulary. Millions of women have chosen abortion instead of childbirth, and our nation seems more deeply divided than ever over it.

The friction will not fade away. The wound will not heal.

There seems to be no choice for the Christian who is committed to the authority of the Word of God. Our hearts ache for victims of rape and incest. Iniquity abounds, and our sin-sick world bears its awful scars. But we cannot escape the clear teaching of Scripture that speaks of life in the womb (Job 31:15; Job 10:8, 10-12; Psalm 139:13-16; Ecclesiastes 11:5; Isaiah 44:2; Jeremiah 1:5; Luke 1:44). The destruction of this life cannot be a debatable issue.

The AFLC stands on the side of life, including the lives of unborn children. Our annual conference has clearly expressed this commitment, but the individual Christian citizen is called to live it. Many are involved in local and statewide "pro-life" associations; some have stood in picket lines and participated in sidewalk counseling. Our Lutheran doctrine of the two kingdoms is not a defense for doing nothing.

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday is January 20. It is an opportunity for congregations to celebrate the gift of life, as well as to consider the current conflict over abortion. Some of the articles in this issue may serve as a resource for our readers as they struggle with the question of their own involvement.

A commitment to life includes much more than opposition to abortion. The explanation to our catechism reminds us that the fifth commandment has both a negative and positive application:

Thou shalt not kill.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do our neighbor no bodily harm nor cause him any suffering, but help and befriend him in every need.

A consistent commitment to life calls us beyond the politics and pickets to a more difficult and demanding task. The wound that will not heal is in the heart. People

need the Lord. A consistent message of sin and grace must be proclaimed by those in pulpit and pew. People need to see the love we proclaim in deed.

May we praise God for the gift of life! May it please God as His people celebrate and commit themselves to the care of life ... including the unborn, but not limited to them.

AMISH DOLLS AND BUDGET GOALS

Our family visited an Amish settlement several years ago while attending the LEM Family Bible Camp near Burton, Ohio. We were captivated by the old-fashioned clothing and the horse-drawn carriages. A number of shops featured shelves full of interesting craft items, including the fascinating Amish dolls.

An Amish doll doesn't have a face. It is blank where the features should be because of their interpretation of the Old Testament prohibition against graven images.

What do Amish dolls and budget goals have in common?

Sometimes a budget does not seem to have a face, either.

Studies suggest that the current generation of church members is less motivated in their giving than previous generations by traditional appeals to meeting the budget. Lyle E. Schaller, author and consultant, maintains that one of the contributing factors to the decline of the mainline denominations was a decision to ask members to give to a budget rather than to causes, with the result that many members began to channel their contributions to organizations that promoted a cause.

A cause is not a faceless budget goal. A cause is a need. A cause is ministry. A cause is people.

The budget of the AFLC is a cause. It has many faces ... missionaries and national workers in Brazil, Mexico and India, faculty members, staff and students at our seminary and Bible school, business administrators and book-keepers, custodians and cooks, pastors and printers, evangelists and editors.

The month of January is the end of our fiscal year. The various ministries of the AFLC are in need of your prayers and gifts. Look into the faces of our budget goals, and you will see that the need is not only to meet them but to exceed them.

Know someone who does not receive this magazine?

For only \$11 a year you can put someone in touch with AFLC family life.

Adoption, Not Abortion

A Mother's Testimony

I come from a large family, the third of twelve children. My roll in the Pro-Life Movement has been as a foster and adoptive mother. Between 1978 and 1988 we have fostered 36 children ... mostly newborns awaiting adoption. During the same period, we have also been blessed with four adopted children — our “keepers” — two of which have special needs.

I believe that God put us in this situation to give us an opportunity to serve Him. Life is not easy having to deal with special medical needs, but I know that God specifically sent each of our children to us. Both Faith and Brian would be considered worthless and thrown away by many in the world today. But they are both miracles and testimonies to God's grace and mercy. In spite of their very rough childhood, they have shown their love for life by

their “fight.” They are now eight and six years old and show us what life is really all about. God gave them life and only God should take it away.

It is my prayer that all of my children will grow spiritually to choose God and His desires for their lives. God bless all the girls and women who let the Lord see them through unplanned pregnancies and have given their babies to Him. God does fulfill the promise of Romans 8:28. “All things work together for good to those who love God.” My promise from God continues to be Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

— by Carol Berger
Chillicothe, Illinois

letter to the editor

ON TITHING...

AGAIN

I could not sit idly by without comment after I read Robert Maurer's article “On Tithing” in the October 18 issue. I must say a resounding amen!

God really touched my heart on tithing when I was attending AFLBS. One night, during an afterglow service, we sang the song, “Dear Jesus.” The verse that hit me went like this:

“Dear Jesus, Thou art everything to me, And everything I own I give to Thee. My wealth, My all, But most of all, Dear Lord, I give myself to Thee.”

It was during the walk back to the dorm that night that I realized I was not giving my wealth even though He had my life. From that point on I was determined, with God's help, to be faithful in giving Him His ten percent and more when He prompted. My husband and I agreed that we had to continue this throughout our marriage. This is not stated for a pat on the back but to glorify God because God has always upheld His promise to us that when we give to Him He will return it to us and in greater measure.

Luke 6:38, “Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over they will pour into your lap, For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”

Thank you, Robert, for speaking out. May we all heed the words that he stated which are a reflection of God's words to us on tithing!

Lori Crowell, Wichita Falls, TX

Deaths of Two Noted

Rev. Sterling Johnson died on December 2, 1990, at a Minneapolis, Minnesota, hospital following a prolonged illness. Funeral services were held on December 5 at Emmaus Lutheran Church, Bloomington, with Rev. Donald Richman officiating.

Born on November 5, 1920, in Jewell, Iowa, Sterling Robert Johnson was raised in Denver, Colorado, where he completed his high school and university education. His theological degree was obtained at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1945, after which he served parishes in Raymond, Washington; Ryles, Alberta, Canada; and DeKalb and Leland, Illinois. He also taught at LBI, Camrose, Alberta, and Faith Seminary, Tacoma, Washington.

Two of his years in Canada were spent in evangelistic ministry, and the Lutheran Evangelistic Movement called him as an evangelist in 1962, where he served until failing health forced an early retirement in 1984.

Sterling and Mildred (Morck) Johnson were married in 1943. He is survived by his wife and their children, David Paul, Daniel, Carol, and Gloria;

three grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Lucille Whiton.

Blessed be his memory!

Mrs. Elvera Hokonson, 82, passed away November 16, 1990, at the Bethany Home in Everett, Washington. She was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church in Everett.

Elvera Swanstrom was born on July 9, 1908. On October 22, 1938, she married Rev. Arvid Hokonson at Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

She then joined her husband in his parish ministry in Pukwana, South Dakota. Succeeding parishes where they served were in: Spokane, Bellingham and Everett, Washington; Silverton, Oregon; Faith, South Dakota; and Plymouth, Minnesota.

Mrs. Hokonson lived at the Bethany Home for nearly fifteen years. She was preceded in death by an infant daughter and her husband. She is survived by one son, Rev. Stephen, White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

A long-time friend, Solveig Hays, Everett, Washington, shares this about

Mrs. Hokonson: “Elvera was a remarkable person. Surely she was one of God's precious jewels. She was a tireless prayer warrior. She was known to invite transients into her parsonage kitchen and give them meals, haircuts, tracts and a cheery word from the Gospel. Her humor and patience were displayed as she bore painful arthritis for so many years. We rejoice in that now she is singing praises to her Father in heaven, free from pain and suffering. Blessed be her memory.”

The Good Soil

20. What do we learn about the Christian Life?

"... The fullest enjoyment of the fruitfulness of the Word is available only to those who interfere with it the least. But even in making that point, Jesus still hammers away at the sovereignty and sole effectiveness of the Word. Those on the good ground, He says, are those who simply hear the Word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirty, some sixty, and some one hundred fold. It's not that they do anything, you see; rather, it is that they don't do things that get in the Word's way. It is the Word, and the Word alone, that does all the rest."

from The Parables of the Kingdom
by Robert F. Capon

Next month we will study "THE GROWING SEED."

Hymn Suggestion: "Thy Word, O Lord, Like Gentle Dews"
(Concordia #84)

THE PARABLES OF JESUS

The Sower, The Seed and the Soil was apparently the first parable that Jesus told. Our understanding of this parable is basic to the understanding of other parables (Mark 4:13), indeed to the study of all scripture. For it deals with the preaching and teaching of God's Word, and how it is, or is not, received into the heart of man.

To prepare us for the study of The Good Soil, let us review some points from our January lesson, based on verses from Matthew 13, Mark 4 and Luke 8.

1. Who does the farmer represent?

What do the seed and the soil represent?

2. We remember that the Seed, by virtue of its source, is all good seed, capable of producing a bountiful harvest. What sometimes hinders this harvest from coming to fruition?

3. What type of people are represented by the hard soil?

Who is mentioned as being especially active here?

4. Why doesn't "rocky soil" Christianity endure?

5. Name those things that Jesus described as "thorns" in a person's life.

Why are these such a serious threat?

Re-read Matthew 13:8 and 23; Mark 4:8 and 20. Luke 8:8 and 15 for our study on The Good Soil.

6. What words are used to describe this person's response to God's Word? At your meeting, share from your various translations and versions.

7. Amplify on the phrases "understand the Word"

"accept the Word"

"hold the Word fast"

8. What resulted from the response?

9. In Luke 8:15, what characteristics of the fruitbearer are noted?

10. The Word always carries the potential to provide a bountiful crop. How do we account for the variation in crop yield when the seed was good and the soil was good? John 15:1-8

11. Whose ministry enables a person to understand the Word he hears, then to accept it in such a way that it becomes a part of him, and subsequently to live by that Word? I Corinthians 2:10, 12:3(par b); Romans 8:9

12. List the "fruit of the Spirit" which is the result of the Word taking root and growing freely in a person's life. Galations 5:22-23

13. Can there be fruit without seed? Make the spiritual application.

14. Refer to Psalm 1:2-3. What is this man's delight?

What is he compared to?

The bearing of fruit is not our concern, for, after all, the fruit is not of ourselves, it is "of the Spirit". The Seed grows silently, without effort on our part. (Mark 4:26-28) Instead of looking at ourselves, we need to look to Jesus.

15. What ought to be our spiritual goal?

II Peter 3:18

Philippians 3:12-14

16. No heart is "good" in its natural condition. Even this soil was not good as it was found by the Word. How does the human heart become good soil? Jeremiah 23:29

17. Is there hope, then, for the hard and indifferent, the shallow, and the worldly? What is God's promise in Ezekiel 11:19-20?

18. With what word did Jesus begin this parable?

What was His concluding sentence? Mark 4:9

Explain the purpose and meaning of His words.

Home Missions in the 1990s

What does the future hold? What will our world be like by the year 2000? We must always proceed with caution when trying to forecast the future, but there are several key signs worth watching in the 1990s. Cities will continue to grow at an alarming rate. Those with a population of 100,000 people or more will possibly reach 4,200 in number. Mexico City is projected to be the largest city in the world by the year 2000, with perhaps 32 million people. The world is changing at awesome speed. There are and will be many more open doors for the ministry of the Word of God in large and small communities during this decade.

Three words highlight the challenge before us in AFLC Home Missions for the 1990's. The first word is FOCUS, based on Philippians 3:13, "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do:

Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead ..." Paul's focus was "the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Everything he did in life was aimed in that direction. Everything else was "loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." This will continue to be the focus of Home Missions in the 1990's. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Our treasure is found in Christ and everything we do must be FOCUSED in Him.

The second word is FORGET. It is also found in Philippians 3:13, "Forgetting what is behind ..." The past is important. We can learn from past mistakes and the success God has given us, but the past must not hinder us in the present and future. Pride in past accomplishments can be a barrier. Pride in not admitting past failure can also be a barrier to the future. We must

not dwell on either one, but humble ourselves and move on in God's grace. God's forgiveness is our only avenue of FORGETTING and pressing on to the goal in Christ Jesus.

The third word is FORGING AHEAD, "straining toward what is ahead" (Philippians 3:13). What is ahead in the 1990s? We do not know, but we must keep moving forward step by step as the doors open and God provides for the needs of Home Missions. They will not be easy days and will require new commitment to God's work. Let us give ourselves to the work that God calls us. Let us draw encouragement from the African missionary David Livingston, who said:

"Lord, send me anywhere, Only go with me.

Lay any burden on me, Only sustain me.

Sever any tie but the tie That binds me to Thyself."

—by Pastor Allen Monson
Dickenson, North Dakota

Chairman, Home Missions Committee



Rev. Thomas and Patti Baker, Andrew and Hannah are pictured here after their Commissioning Service on December 2, at Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis. The Bakers expect to leave for Brazil later this month for their first term.

Montana Churches Reach into Mexico

"Mexico 1991 — Going into All the World" was the theme for a missions weekend on October 13-14 sponsored by Faith Free Lutheran Church and Stillwater Free Lutheran Church, both of Kalispell, Montana.

Special guests for the services were Pastor Ted Kennedy and Gabriel Mercado from Nogales, Arizona. The weekend was highlighted by singing in both English and Spanish and sharing the vision of mission outreach in northern Mexico, as well as praying for this ministry.

Faith and Stillwater congregations will be sending 30-35 of their members in February, 1991, to help complete a chapel for this pioneering work about 300 miles south of the border. The trip will begin on February 15 and conclude on March 2, and those involved will be doing evangelism as well as construction work,

distributing Bibles and tracts and participating in services.

The AFLC World Missions Committee now officially recognizes this new mission in northern Mexico, located outside the large city of Obregon, Sonora, which was organized by Gabriel Mercado with the support of Triumph Lutheran Church, Nogales.

There may be room for a few others on this mission trip, and interested individuals are invited to contact Rev. Steve Snipstead or Rev. Jeff Swanson.

The two Montana churches welcome the prayers of other AFLC friends during this time of preparation and for the trip itself, and encourages continual prayer for Gabriel Mercado as he faithfully ministers in northern Mexico.

—(submitted)

Personalities

Rev. Keith Quanbeck, Camarillo, California, has accepted a call to serve the Solid Rock Lutheran Church, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, effective in mid-January. He has served the First Lutheran Church, Camarillo, since his ordination in 1988.

New Pipestone, Minnesota Pastor Ordained



A service of ordination was held in Living Word Lutheran Church, Eagan, Minnesota, for Todd William Olson on Sunday, December 16, upon his acceptance of a call to Christ the King Lutheran Church, Pipestone, Minnesota.

Pastor Olson, a native of Fertile, Minnesota, attended Seattle LBI after high school graduation, and graduated from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. His theological studies were completed at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois (M.Div., M.Th.), and he recently concluded a colloquy program at Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Internship requirements were fulfilled at Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS), Northbrook, Illinois, and Living Word Lutheran Church, Eagan.

Todd and Sharon (Swengel) Olson were married in 1983, and are the parents of two children, Luke and Ben.

The family moved to Pipestone after Christmas, and he began his ministry there on January 1.

Rev. Joel Lohafer, Bruce, South Dakota, has accepted a call to become the pastor of Triumph Lutheran Church, Ferndale, Washington. He has

served Grace Lutheran Church, Bruce, since his ordination in 1988.

COMMITTEE CREATES NEW POSITION

The Co-ordinating Committee voted at their December meeting to appoint Mr. Ernest J. Miedema as the full-time Director of Development, and to secure a new business administrator. Miedema, who has filled both positions since 1979, will be freed for additional traveling to congregations for AFLC promotion and to counsel individuals who seek assistance in financial planning.

His new duties will begin February 1, 1991.

The committee also appointed its chairman, Rev. Leslie Galland, Eden Prairie, Minnesota, to serve as the interim business administrator beginning January 1, while applications are considered for the position.

What One Congregation is Doing

FOR THE LOVE OF CHILDREN

A Pro-Family Ministry Within the AFLC

—by Brenda Fischer
Farmington, Minnesota
Editor of FLC Newsletter

For the Love of Children is a ministry that has grown out of Minnesota Valley Free Lutheran Church in Lakeville, Minnesota. Our purpose is to educate families and encourage action and support for pro-life and pro-family issues. The work of this ministry is a response to the tremendous need for Christians to become actively involved in shaping the direction of our nation's future.

For the Love of Children is over two years old and began with three Christian friends meeting to discuss pro-family issues. As friends, we have a mutual burden for the survival of traditional family values. We also share the belief that only a movement of prayer and action within the Christian

community will turn back the tide of moral destruction and decay in this country. Our response to these convictions soon culminated with the planning of a church ministry proposal.

The vision for a pro-family ministry was welcomed at Minnesota Valley with a volunteer education team and leadership advisors. Our tasks are numerous. Within our congregation we frequently address issues through bulletin inserts, the church newsletter or announcements. For the Love of Children also sponsors a video library with children's and family videos as an alternative to video rental and TV. Along with the videos, we have established a very active education library with a continuing supply of Christian classics and newly released books. These books either provide encouragement for families or address pro-family issues.

Our major ministry outreach is a quarterly newsletter called, "The Family Messenger." We share this resource with other AFLC churches and individuals. In our writings we cover legislative updates with information on contacting representatives and news stories effecting Christians and pro-lifers. We have also provided analysis of issues such as humanistic and New Age education, sex and AIDS edu-



Rev. Dennis Gray was installed as pastor of United Free Lutheran Church, Greenbush, Minnesota, on October 21 by AFLC President Richard Snipstead. Pictured are the two pastors together with the church council (L-R): Ray Christianson, Charles Clow, Don Christianson, Gerald Dvergsten, Rev. Gray, Ron Jacobson, Rev. Snipstead, Ellis Waage, Gerald Berg, and Martin Johnson.

cation, government day care policies and many other pro-family issues. **For the Love of Children** helps families stay up-to-date by consolidating piles of information into a brief newsletter.

Within the church family we have the opportunity to share and discuss our role in confronting the various battles we face. We also have the fellowship and prayer support needed for the courage to protect our families and to go out into the world and fulfill the cultural mandate given by our Lord.

At Minnesota Valley, the struggle to preserve the Christian values we cherish has resulted in a great deal of action. Many have shared "The Family Messenger" newsletter with friends and family. Others have become involved in the pro-life movement and have attended rallies, written letters, or picketed businesses that support abortion. Also, a Public School Awareness Committee has been formed to address the many concerns within the schools.

This action can make a difference. Often destructive public policy and legislation are approved because the community was not informed. Letters, phone calls, and letters to the editor are steps to change.

Another blessing from Christian involvement in family issues is the amazing opportunities to witness our

faith and to stimulate interest among non-Christians.

Chuck Colson has said that, in order to reverse our downward trend, we must change the way people view things and we must reach them "one by one." We are a small ministry, but, for each person we touch, the potential is great for touching many more.

For the Love of Children's theme verse is: "For God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power and of love, and of a sound mind" (II Timothy 1:7). We ask your prayers for this ministry, especially that we humbly live out God's gifts of power in the name of Jesus, the approach of Christian love on every issue, and the discernment of sound minds.

Our ministry has been blessed by the participation of a number of AFLC congregations. We invite any individual or church not receiving our newsletter to do so. Churches may choose to receive enough newsletters to distribute one to each family at services or for a stack for your information table. We will send them out quarterly for the cost of printing and shipping. Individuals may receive a subscription for any donation. Write to **For the Love of Children**, P.O. Box 145, Lakeville, Minnesota 55044.

Illinois District Meets

Grace Free Lutheran Church, DeKalb, hosted the fourth annual meeting of the AFLC Illinois District on Saturday, November 10. Host pastor Harry Gimberg welcomed the assembly, and later shared a biographical testimony. The sessions were led by Bob Christian, Newark, district vice-president, and Cliff Jerde, DeKalb, opened the morning hour with Scripture reading and prayer.

Pastor Curt Emerson, Shakopee, Minnesota, who was conducting evangelistic meetings in the Brodhead-Janesville parish, served as the featured speaker in the absence of Dr. Steve Lombardo, whose illness led to a last minute cancellation.

AFLC Vice-President Robert Lee, who presently serves in the district, presented an update on our schools and missions, and Cliff Seldal spoke on behalf of the Association Retreat Center (ARC) as chairman of the board. Lay Pastor Mark Olson reported on the district youth ministries, highlighting a recent retreat in Morris with over 120 in attendance.

Video presentations from Janesville, Wisconsin, and Chillicothe, Illinois, acquainted delegates with the progress of these two home mission congregations, and Jim Boe, Ottawa, reported on the building program of Faith Lutheran Church. The convention discussed favorably the possibility of planting other new churches in the area.

Elected as the new district president was Pastor John Skeie, Morris, succeeding Pastor Dennis Gray, who moved to Greenbush, Minnesota, last summer. Merv Mathison, DeKalb, was re-elected to the office of treasurer. Those who continue to serve as officers are Bob Christian, and Pastor Mel Meyer, Norway, the district secretary.

The decision was made to continue to request a voluntary contribution from district congregations of twenty dollars per hundred members. It was also decided to seek a gift of one hundred dollars per congregation designated for district youth ministries.

News of the World

BOLIVIA — This South American Nation is witnessing a significant movement among evangelical Christians to amend the constitution by including a statement of religious freedom. Thousands of signatures are being added to petitions calling for an end to the favored status presently enjoyed by Roman Catholicism. President Pia Zamora, who addressed the first national presidential prayer breakfast last January, assured the evangelicals of his support. One of the leaders of this movement is Felipe (Philip) Kittelson, executive director of the Bolivian Association of Evangelicals. He is the son of former missionaries, Odell and Margaret Kittelson, members of Helmar Lutheran Church, Newark, Illinois.

NEW YORK — Richard John Neuhaus, prominent Lutheran spokesman, was received into the Roman Catholic Church on September 8, and is presently preparing to enter the priesthood. Neuhaus, a former Missouri Synod theologian who became a member of the ELCA, has publicly declared for several years that the separated existence of Lutheranism is no longer necessary or justified. His liberal theology was overshadowed in recent years by a conservative social/political agenda, and he has been a vocal critic of main-line Lutheranism.

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

Second-Class

INDONESIA — Evangelical missions in this populous nation of islands are facing a serious crisis, according to a news report in *Christianity Today* (11-19-90). The government of Indonesia, the largest Moslem nation in the world, has recently openly denied visa extensions to missionaries, after years of increasingly difficult regulations and delays imposed upon them. Reports of revival among some of the tribal peoples make this an especially urgent call to prayer, that the Lord would permit the door for Indonesian missions to remain open.

THERE'S STILL A CHANCE TO GET THE AFLBS 1991 CALENDAR!

In thankfulness for these enriching years of education and fellowship, we, the AFLBS Alumni Association, have compiled the first ever 1991 AFLBS Calendar. Hopefully, this can be an annual endeavor.

This calendar project gives us three wonderful opportunities:

1) It promotes AFLBS and familiarizes people with the campus and events taking place.

2) It can assist in providing grants available to Bible School students.

3) It gives each of us as Alumni and friends, the opportunity to be a partner in this ministry in the sale of these calendars.

These calendars are 12 months with beautiful color photos, inspirational Scripture verses plus contain all the major events happening in our AFLC Schools. They make great gifts and look good on any kitchen wall or office. The cost per calendar is only \$7. If you wish to order by mail, please add 50¢ per calendar for postage and handling and send to the address below.

Please send orders to AFLBS Alumni Calendar, Attn: Alan Arneson, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Plymouth, MN 55441.

1991 AMBASSADOR SCHEDULE

Here are the 1991 deadlines for *The Lutheran Ambassador*. All those who plan to submit material for publication during the year should pay special attention.

Monthly WMF Bible Studies will usually appear in the first issue of the month before they are used.

Please send all materials to: Editor, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441. FAX (612) 545-0079.

<i>Date of issue</i>	<i>Editor's deadline</i>	<i>Special emphasis</i>
January 8	December 14	Sanctity of Life
January 22	December 26	Healing
February 5	January 9	Revival
February 19	January 23	Lent
March 5	February 6	World Missions
March 19	February 20	Easter
April 2	March 6	Seminary
April 15	March 22	Evangelism
April 30	April 3	Mother's Day
May 14	April 17	Pre-Conference
May 28	May 1	Bible Camping
June 11	May 15	Father's Day
June 25	May 29	Patriotic
July 9	June 14	Conference Review
August 6	July 10	Parish Education
September 3	August 7	Youth
September 17	August 21	AFLC
October 1	September 4	Bible School
October 15	September 18	Reformation
October 29	October 2	Home Missions
November 12	October 16	Thanksgiving
November 26	October 30	Stewardship
December 10	November 13	Christmas
December 24	November 27	New Years
January 7, 1992	December 11	