

# THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

July 10, 1990

## AFLC Annual Conference review



Youth Board Chairman, Rev. Joel Rolf, President Richard Snipstead and Secretary Ronald Knutson.



Left:  
Conference  
prayer time.  
Right:  
Mrs. Helen  
Knapp, retired  
missionary  
to Brazil



# LIGHT on the WAY

## meditations on God's Word

### COVER:

Annual Conference 1990  
photos by S. Hjermstad

Volume 28 Number 14

### THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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## Entering the Lord's blessings

**A**fter the people of Israel were delivered from the bondage of slavery in Egypt and had received the Law at Sinai, God called them to go in and possess the promised land of Canaan. "See I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the Lord swore to your fathers — to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob — to give to them and their descendants after them" (Deut. 1:8). If the people of Israel were to experience God's perfect will for their lives it was necessary for them to obey the Lord and promptly enter into the land of Canaan.

In the book of Hebrews, the promised land of Canaan is a type or prophetic picture of salvation from sin (Heb. 3-4). The author of Hebrews calls us to enter into the "promised land" of salvation by faith (Heb. 4:11). While the promised land of Canaan signifies salvation, in a broader sense it also signifies the Lord's perfect will and plan for our lives. This will and plan includes our salvation, our growth in holiness, and the specific ministry or service that God calls us to as Christian believers.

While the Lord called the people of Israel to enter the promised land, we read in the books of Numbers and Deuteronomy that they refused to enter. Moses laments: "Nevertheless you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of the Lord your God" (Deut. 1:26; see also Num. 14:1-4). Why did the people of Israel refuse to enter the promised land? They refused to enter in because of unbelief (Heb. 3:19). As the people doubted the Lord's loving purpose, they also focused their attention on all of the problems and challenges in the land of Canaan. "The people are greater and taller than we; the cities are great and fortified up to heaven; moreover, we have seen the sons of Anakim there" (Deut. 1:28). We are often like the people of Israel. Unbelief or lack of faith in the Lord sometimes hinders us from moving on and entering into the blessings and ministries that the Lord has for us. When the Lord calls us to do a

new work or ministry, or to make a difficult change, we are tempted to focus on "the giants" and the "fortified cities" — the problems and obstacles we face.

Moses, in contrast to the people of Israel, looked to the Lord. While he saw the problems, he focused his attention on the Lord's almighty power. "The Lord your God who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all that He did for you in Egypt before your eyes" (Deut. 1:30). Moses focused his attention on the Lord's almighty power demonstrated in the great exodus from Egypt. He firmly believed that God's power was more than adequate for the difficult task ahead. Like Moses, we need to focus on the Lord and believe that His grace is sufficient for us as we move forward in His plan and work. We keep our eyes on the Lord and grow in faith as we seek the Lord earnestly in prayer, as we meditate on God's Word and promises, and as we continually remind ourselves that God's grace is sufficient for us.

The Lord calls us to look to Him and move forward in His will and plan for us — His "promised land." The Lord calls us to press on in faith in the pursuit of personal holiness and in the special ministry that He has for each one of us. He is calling us to press on in faith in the special plan and ministry of our own local congregation. He calls us to press on in faith in the work of our AFLC. Lost souls need to be reached with the Gospel.

May we seek to move forward and enter into the "promised land" of ministry and service that God has for us, for our local congregation and for our AFLC.



—by Rev.  
Mark R. Bateson



## Conference report

Registered delegates numbered 541 for the second largest AFLC Conference.

(L. to R.) Mrs. Trinna Tollefson, Astoria, Ore., Mr. and Mrs. Bud Haugen, Snohomish, Wash., and Mr. Herbert Presteng, Grafton, N. Dak.



## Pastor Snipstead re-elected at Conference

**R**ev. Richard Snipstead was re-elected president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations for three years by a majority of 84.3% on the first ballot at the church's Annual Conference in Bloomington, Minn., June 13-17.

Pastor Snipstead, 62, told the delegates in remarks he made in accepting re-election that this term will be his last. He said that he loves the parish ministry and had had some questions about accepting another term (his fifth). The president declared that he hasn't accomplished all he would like to do, and added, "I may not in three more years either." One area he cited for greater effort is in ministry to the church's pastors.

Pastor Snipstead is a native of Meeting Creek, Alta. He has served parishes at Saskatoon, Sask., Greenbush, Minn., and Ferndale, Wash. (twice).

He was dean of Association Free Lutheran Bible School for seven years.

The vice-president and secretary were also returned to office in the elections which used the ecclesiastical or Roman method of balloting for the second year. Rev. Robert L. Lee, Newark, Ill., received 83.1% of the vote and will be serving his sixth one-year term

as vice-president. Rev. Ronald Knutson, Canton, S. Dak., was re-elected secretary for his fifth one-year term by an 86.9% majority. Both decisions were on the first ballot.

Prior to these elections the delegates adopted the new voting system, which, as stated, had been used also last year. Under it the first ballot is a nominating ballot, although 75% will win for a candidate. Another feature is that an incumbent who has served three consecutive terms may remain on the ballot until the end, providing he meets vote tally requirements, but must eventually win by a 75% majority or be dropped from further consideration for that office at that time (see document elsewhere in this issue).

### Administrative Assistant

An issue provoking much discussion was a resolution to hire or call a man to be an administrative assistant to the president and who would give some attention also to the area of stewardship.

The day before, Thursday, a resolution to hire a stewardship director for the church had been delayed when a delegate raised the matter of getting an administrative assistant.

When the matter was brought up again on Friday morning, there were

conflicting ideas expressed. Some wondered whether the vice-president might be given more authority to help. Some felt that the idea of a stewardship director threatened the freedom of the local church. A good deal was said about stewardship being primarily a spiritual problem. Some testified to the benefit of programs emphasizing stewardship in the congregation with outside assistance. There were those who agreed that the president's office can use more help. One man said that more functions should be handled in the districts.

In the end, a motion to study the matter further was passed and it included study of whether or not the office of vice-president should be upgraded.

### Position Papers

A resolution under Home Missions called for the "Seminary Staff" to prepare a short statement on biblical inerrancy, divorce and remarriage, abortion, homosexuality, extra-biblical revelation, etc., and which would be available to the congregations. Two pastors questioned the advisability of such a project; another pastor felt the resolution needed to be more specific. The dean of the Seminary called atten-

◇



Lunch at the Conference provided some family time for the president. (L. to R.): Rev. Steve Snipstead, Kalispell, Mont.; President Snipstead; Karen Snipstead Floan and Gretchen; Mrs. Snipstead, Wayne Floan, Fertile, Minn., and grandson Matthew Westlake, Tucson, Ariz.



Mr. Clifford Johnson, Esko, Minn. and Rev. and Mrs. Herb Franz, Dollar Bay, Mich.

## REPORT

tion to the fact that a paper on homosexuality is available, but much work would be required to fulfill the resolution.

One pastor said that a listing of Bible verses on each subject would be helpful; another wondered if a committee could take care of the work. At the conclusion of the debate the resolution was defeated.

### Use of the Word "Lutheran"

A pastor from Michigan introduced a new resolution under Home Missions stating that a congregation receiving Home Mission support "must use the word Lutheran in its name." An amendment to add the word "Free" was quickly passed.

In a long and interesting debate, a

California pastor declared that the name "Lutheran" in initial door-to-door contact makes the task considerably harder, but there is no effort to hide the fact that the work is Lutheran.

A motion was offered to amend the resolution to read that use of "Free Lutheran" is *recommended*. One pastor observed that Home Mission congregations can be told what to do, but the amendment passed.

One layman felt that the use of the name Lutheran wasn't necessary in identifying a church. A man from California said that the name Lutheran in California is identified with homosexuals. A missionary in Brazil expressed the conviction that it is better to use the

name Lutheran up front and work from there.

Members of the Home Missions Committee told the Conference that the issue has been of concern to them and they have spent considerable time discussing it. The secretary of the Committee reported that they "request" that Home Mission congregations use the word Lutheran in their name. He also said that just the day before the Committee had passed a motion that in the future all new work is requested to use the word Lutheran even in a temporary name.

The California pastor said that the word "Bible" has always been used in identifying the new work. He said that they want to be agreeable. "We are at your beck and call."

The resolution passed, "recommending" the use of the words "Free Lutheran" in every Home Mission congregation name.

### Christian Academic Education

The single issue on Saturday afternoon which produced most comment was a motion offered by a lady delegate that encouraged academic Christian ministries in local congregations.

In response to a question from the Chair, she responded that she had in mind parochial or day schools. The motion was quickly amended to read "Christian academic ministries."



The woman offering the motion expressed declining confidence in public education. One pastor stated that the AFLC should start a Christian high school within ten years. A woman in day school work answered the sometimes spoken charge that children in church schools are sheltered from the "real world." "What is the real world?" she asked. Another lady set forth the need for more Christian teaching in the home. We should use the tools at hand, she said. A pastor spoke of 32 years in the day school work and said it is "doable." A university professor offered that it is important that if children are sent to parochial schools that they be Lutheran schools.

The motion passed.

#### **New Congregations, Pastors**

The AFLC welcomed nine new congregations into its fellowship in the past year and set an ambitious goal of growing to 500 congregations by the year 2000. At present there are a little over 200 churches. New congregations are: Stavanger, Garden City, Ia; Abiding Savior, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.; Hope, Rugby, N. Dak.; Middle Grove, Mekinock, N. Dak.; Grace, Floodwood, Minn.; Zion, Dexter, Minn.; St. John's Milford, Ill.; St. Mark's, Indianapolis, Ind.; and Shepherd of the Valley, Palmdale, Calif.

In addition, Home Missions groups have been organized. They are: Faith, Detroit Lakes, Minn.; Neighborhood, Murrieta, Calif.; and Wautoma, Wautoma, Wis.

The Conference thanked God for nine new pastors from the Fellowship Roster in the past year. Named were: Douglas Reitsch, Orville Hiepler, Craig Wentzel, Richard Long, Donald Richman, Jerry Holmaas, Melvin Meyer, Wesley Johanson and Wayne Hjermstad.

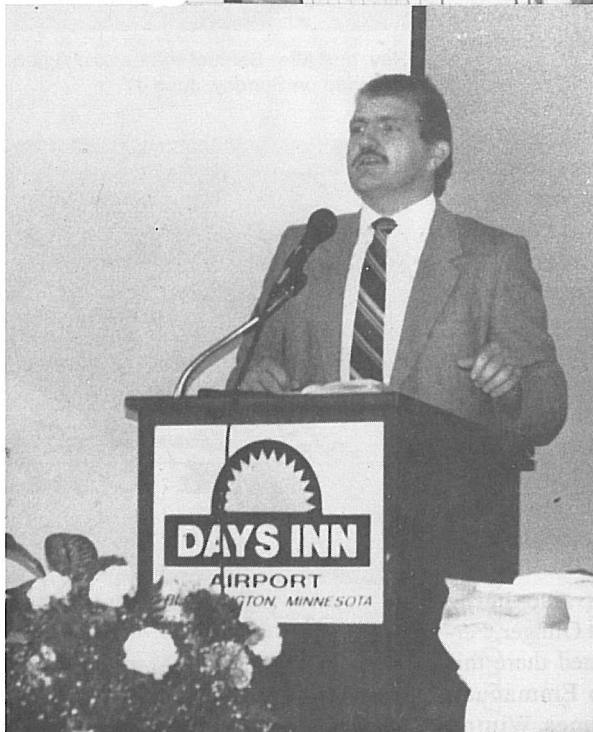
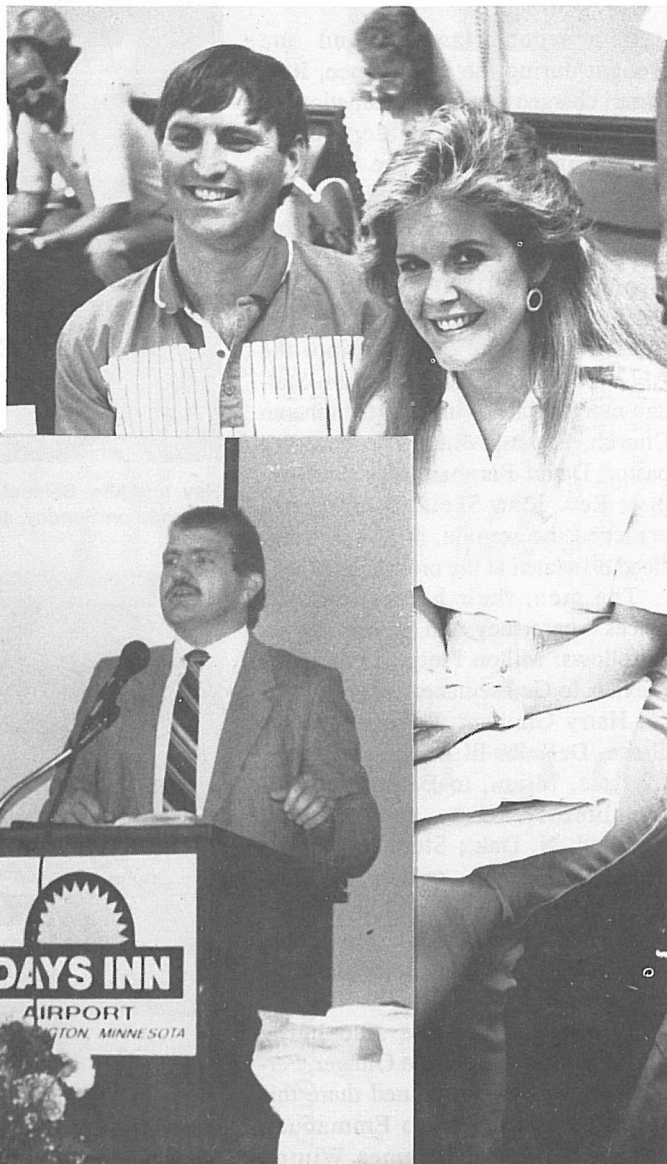
Added to the Fellowship Roster were: Gerald Peterson, Donald Voorhees and Joseph Schultz.

#### **Law Suit**

The Annual Conference was held under the cloud of a lawsuit brought against the Missions Corporation and Pastor Eugene Enderlein, executive director of World Missions, by the Bible Faith Lutheran Church of India

Delegates Kermit and Carolyn Berge, Laramie, N. Dak.

Mr. Richard Larson, Abercrombie, N. Dak., led the Thursday morning devotions. On Sunday he was one of five men ordained.



and Rev. B. Dao Dasari, former pastor in the AFLC.

The Association believes there is a division in the BFLC and at the request of a part of it has given financial aid.

A resolution was passed on Thursday afternoon which called for the establishment of a legal defense fund and the call for the church to make the whole matter a subject of prayer. Some contributions were made during the Conference.

In a resolution on Friday afternoon under World Missions, prayer support was expressed for the World Missions Corporation in the India problem. Time

was taken for small group prayer.

In discussion prior to that an Illinois pastor admonished the church not to enter into the lawsuit. It is against my conscience, he said. Mr. Ernest Miedema, the business administrator, declared that we have to answer the summons — and we have to pray. Pastor Einar Unseth, chairman of the World Missions Committee, said that there is no other way but to respond, and Pastor Snipstead informed the Conference that we have 20 days to answer the summons. To default could lead to a judgment against the AFLC of as much as \$1,250,000, he said. ◇



## REPORT

In a second lawsuit, and one brought during the Conference, Rev. Dasari charged personal defamation.

Because of the terrible cyclone damage in the area of the BFLC in Andhra Pradesh, not only did the delegates express support for the suffering and encourage financial aid, but a love offering of over \$1800 was given.

### Ordination

Five men were ordained into the AFLC's ministry in a service on Sunday morning at Living Word Lutheran Church, Eagan, Minn. The church's pastor, David Barnhart, was the liturgist; Rev. John Skeie, Morris, Ill., preached the sermon, and Rev. Snipstead officiated at the ordination.

The men, their homes, and the places where they will be serving are as follows: Milton Flores, Leon, Gto., Mexico, to Gethsemane, Celaya, Mexico; Harry Gimberg, Belmond, Ia., to Grace, DeKalb, Ill.; Richard Larson, Clarissa, Minn., to Bethany, Abercrombie, N. Dak., and United, McLeod, N. Dak.; Stephen Mundfrom, Osceola, Wis., to Bethany, Bluegrass, Sebeka, Minn.; and Lloyd Quanbeck, McVile, N. Dak., to Hope, Northome, Minn., and Bethesda, Mizpah, Minn.

Two other men are also being ordained this year. Steven Olinger, Ferndale, Wash., was ordained there this spring and is called to Emmanuel, Salmon Arm, B. C. James Winter, Coronach, Sask., is called to Bethlehem in Calgary, Alta., and will be ordained in Canada.

### Subscription Increase

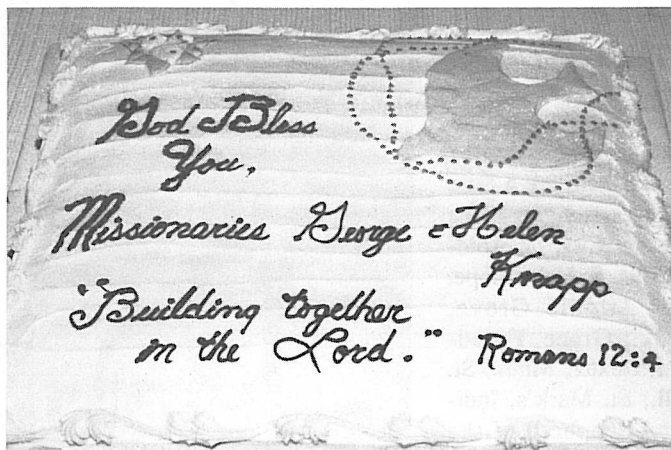
The Conference voted an increase in the subscription cost of the *Ambassador* of one dollar per year, bringing the total to \$11.00. This was the first increase since 1982. It will take effect Oct. 1.

### Editor, Knapps Honored

On Thursday evening following the Women's Missionary Festival service and after remarks of appreciation, Rev. Leslie Galland, chairman of the Coordinating Committee, presented Pastor Huglen with an envelope and card containing the news that he is being given a trip to the Holy Land in April,



Rev. and Mrs. Samuel Flores and Aglea Flores with her brother, Milton. Mr. Flores was ordained on Sunday, June 17.



The cake honoring Rev. and Mrs. George Knapp who retired from 31 years of mission service.

Carol Knapp.

1991 under Abiding Word Ministries, Rev. David Barnhart, director. Pastor Huglen is retiring after 27 years as editor of *The Lutheran Ambassador*.

Cake, coffee and kool-aid were served in the cafeteria of the John F. Kennedy High School afterward.

Honored later at the Conference were Rev. and Mrs. George Knapp and Carol, recently retired from mission work in Brazil. They were given gifts from the World Missions Committee.

### Registration

A total of 541 delegates registered for the Conference, 152 pastors and 389 lay people. There were three registered visitors.

This registration total moved the Conference into second place on the all-time list, surpassing last year's 525 at Minot, N. Dak. Topping the list is the 1987 conference in Thief River



Falls, Minn., when 654 attended the 25th anniversary conference.

### Next Year

One invitation was extended for the 1991 conference. It was from the Association Retreat Center, Osceola, Wis. The delegates accepted the invitation. The dates will likely be June 12-16.



# Conference elections

\*denotes re-election

## President

(3 years)

Rev. R. Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.\*

## Vice-President

(1 year)

Rev. Robert L. Lee, Newark, Ill.\*

## Secretary

(1 year)

Rev. Ronald Knutson, Canton, S. Dak.\*

## Youth Board

(5 years)

Rev. Joel Rolf, Radcliffe, Ia.\*

## ARC Board

(5 years)

Rev. Michael Brandt, Cloquet, Minn.

## Stewardship Board

(4 years)

Mr. William Buck, Sinai, S. Dak.

(Mr. Buck replaces Mr. Walter Peterson, Ishpeming, Mich., who resigned.)

(5 years)

Rev. Marlyn Kruse, Burnsville, Minn.

## Board of Pensions

(5 years)

Rev. Gary Skramstad, Osakis, Minn.

## Board of Publications and Parish Education

(5 years)

Rev. Wesley Langaas, McVie, N. Dak.\*

## Commission on Evangelism

(5 years)

Rev. Laurel Udden, Minneapolis, Minn.\*

## ELECTIONS BY CORPORATIONS

### Co-ordinating Committee

(5 years)

Mr. Michael McCarlson, Webster, S. Dak.

### Board of Trustees

(5 years)

Rev. Gary Jorgenson, Ottawa, Ill.

### Home Missions Committee

(4 years)

Mr. Robert Dietsche, Osceola, Wis.\*

(Mr. Dietsche had earlier been appointed to fill the term of Dr. Wayne Sletten, Faith, S. Dak., who had declined election a year ago to avoid dual board memberships.)

(5 years)

Rev. Alvin Grothe, Astoria, Ore.\*



Rev. Raynard Huglen, retiring *Lutheran Ambassador* editor and his sister, Mrs. Cordelia Agrimson, Richfield, Minn.



Mr. Cliff Seldal, DeKalb, Ill., and Mr. Robert Dietsche extend the 1991 Conference invitation to the ARC, Osceola, Wis.



from a pastor's study

## FORGIVENESS, CLEANSING, RESTORATION

**A** member of Congress of the United States government is under investigation of wrong doing. Some have suggested that he felt that he was privileged in his position and thus free to operate on or even beyond the fringe of ethics. A former drug addict who had become a Christian decided to mingle with those involved in chemical abuse with the idea of ministering to them. He believed that in his relationship with Christ he was above the temptings of the flesh, that the drug scene could not claim him again. At this writing he is not free from the ravaging effects of narcotics, perhaps never will be. Apparently both individuals have tested the laws of God and are finding them to be true. "Whatsoever a man sows, that he will also reap," writes Paul.<sup>1</sup>

Each generation asks, "Are the Ten Commandments valid for today?"

Some say, "No, they were for another time. It is impossible to draw up eternal laws for people in changing situations such as the technical age that we live in." Others have said that one cannot follow God's moral Law and remain competitive in business, citing that it is a "dog eat dog world out there." In His omniscience, God knew that even the children of those present at Mt. Sinai would question the applicability of His law. These were to be instructed that observation of the Law would result in God's blessing.<sup>2</sup>

As it was then, so it is now. We are to teach our children as well as our congregations that God's law is for all time<sup>3</sup> and is binding on all people, including those who are Christians.<sup>4</sup> As the member of Congress is accused of overstepping his bounds and sully the integrity of his peers, so, too, the erstwhile reformer has damaged the integrity of his fellowship of believers in his lapse from sobriety.

There are at least seven things that can happen when those who name Christ as Savior enter into sin.

1) Our joy and peace are destroyed. David prayed that the joy of his salvation would be restored.<sup>5</sup> When Peter realized that he had denied the Lord, he went out and wept bitterly.<sup>6</sup>

2) The assurance of answered prayer is thwarted.<sup>7</sup> Solomon observed that the person who disregards God's Law, that person's prayer is an abomination to the Lord.<sup>8</sup>

3) He causes the whole family of God to suffer. Joshua records that the entire nation of Israel suffered because of the sin of Achan.<sup>9</sup>

4) He becomes unclean in the sight of God. In the context of having the mighty promises of God, we are to "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord."<sup>10</sup>

5) Fellowship with God is broken. The psalmist's soul seems to ache as he remembers the former joy of entering the house of the Lord with other believers.<sup>11</sup> John reminds us that fellowship with the Lord and each other is restored and cleansing from sin takes place when we determine to walk in God's light.<sup>12</sup>

6) There is exposure to the unpleasant experience of God's chastening.<sup>13</sup>

7) There is a loss of rewards.<sup>14</sup> Paul warned that the building material that we use to build on the foundation of Christ is either combustible or incombustible and that God's fire will test the lasting quality of our work.<sup>15</sup>

There is forgiveness, cleansing and restoration with the Lord in confession of sin and repentance. It is much better to pray through and then claim the double promise of I John 1:19 than to endure the devastation that comes into our lives from sin unconfessed and unforsaken. Christian, return to Him today! Remember that judgment does begin in the household of the Lord.<sup>16</sup> And if the judgment does begin with Christians, "what will be the end of those who do not obey the Gospel of God?" Unsavory friend, come to Christ today!

<sup>1</sup>Gal. 6:7; <sup>2</sup>Deut. 6:20-25; <sup>3</sup>Matt. 5:18-20; <sup>4</sup>Rom. 3:9-19; <sup>5</sup>Psalms 51:12; <sup>6</sup>Matt. 26:75; <sup>7</sup>Psalms 66:19; <sup>8</sup>Prov. 28:9; <sup>9</sup>Joshua 22:20; <sup>10</sup>II Cor. 7:1; <sup>11</sup>Ps. 42:4, 5; <sup>12</sup>I Jn. 1:7; <sup>13</sup>Heb. 12:6, 7, Ps. 32:3, 4; <sup>14</sup>2 Jn. 8; <sup>15</sup>I Cor. 3:10-15; <sup>16</sup>I Pet. 4:17a; <sup>17</sup>I Pet. 4:17b.

Mr. David Borg, Cokato, Minn.  
Mr. Sheldon Een, Newark, Ill.  
Mr. Arthur Arneson, Spicer, Minn.\*  
Mr. Eldon Hermunsie, Wahpeton, N. Dak.\*  
continued on p. 13

## ELECTIONS

### **World Missions Committee (5 years)**

Mr. Randy Sommer, Chillicothe, Ill.

### **Missions Corporation (5 years)**

Rev. Ted Kennedy, Jr., Nogales, Ariz.\*

Mr. Kenneth Williams, Ishpeming, Mich.\*

Mr. Arley Hartsoch, Ray, N. Dak.\*

Mr. Eldor Sorkness, Sand Creek, Wis.

Dr. Lyle Mattson, Greenbush, Minn.

Mr. Robert Halvorson, Bloomington, Minn.

Mr. Philip Grothe, Thief River Falls, Minn.

Mr. Randy Sommer, Chillicothe, Ill.

Rev. Thomas Tuura, McIntosh, Minn.

Rev. Orville Hiepler, Valley Center, Calif.

### **Schools Corporation (5 years)**

Rev. Lyndon Korhonen, Cokato Minn.\*

Rev. Kenneth Moland, Kirkland, Wash.\*

Mr. Kenneth Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.\*

Mr. Dale Smith, Lake Stevens, Wash.

Mr. James Bjorgan, Minneapolis, Minn.

Mr. Loiell Dyrud, Thief River Falls, Minn.



## THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This is being written the day after the 1990 Annual Conference ended. Events of the past week are fresh in mind. The Conference was a good one. There were some good exchanges, all carried on in good spirit. We have attempted to describe the major news stories of the Conference in the article beginning on page 3. Some other news is presented also, including election results.

But due to the limited time available, some coverage must wait until our August issue (there is no second issue in July, remember?). We hope our readers will understand.

Days Inn, Bloomington, proved to be a good site for the Conference. We venture to say that most delegates wondered if that were so when they arrived after threading their way to the place through the construction area caused by the prospective mall to end all malls. Nor did the Inn interior look adequate at first contact, but it grew on a person and served us well enough.

If there were drawbacks, one would be that the assembly area was quite crowded and that kind of a situation discourages a visitor from coming in. Another would be the congested area for registration. The Kennedy High School auditorium was spacious and the kind that could easily absorb the visitor. It was interesting to see Emmaus and Living Word Churches and both have fine plants, including attractive and worshipful sanctuaries.

Many thanks to host congregation, Emmaus Lutheran, and her pastors, Donald Richman and James Ritter, for the excellent hospitality. Special mention goes to genial Bob Bogott of Emmaus for keeping on top of all details and keeping the Conference informed of opportunities and requirements.

Attendance was certainly good, the second highest in the church's history. Yet one has the suspicion that the number of congregations represented by lay delegates may have been down a little this year, but that won't be known for sure until the membership list of the Conference is released later this summer.

As we go forward as a fellowship we have some important things to pray about. We have some great challenges financially, too — the administration building fund, the legal defense fund, a budget goal that will take some doing and a call for expansion of work in several areas.

Onward, ever onward must be our motto, with Christ as Guide and Leader.

## ARTICLE XII

Every free congregation, as well as every individual believer, is constrained by the Spirit of God and by the privileges of Christian love to do good and to work for the salvation of souls and the quickening of spiritual life, as far as its abilities and power permit. Such free spiritual

## OUR PRESIDENT WRITES

### RESPONSE TO AN ARTICLE

There are a number of disturbing factors in connection with the article that appeared in the March 20 issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* under the heading "You have a free will" by Anonymous.

In the first place the article comes back to an issue that has received considerable debate in the AFLC and which should have been brought to resolution by the overwhelming adoption of "Principles and Practices of Evangelism" by the 1989 Annual Conference. I am deeply concerned that space was given in our church paper to an anonymous writer on such a sensitive issue. I am also concerned that the writer desired to express his opinion, yet did not have the courage to give us his name.

The Pharisees in John 9 "argued" with the man because he could not give them answers that corresponded to their theological understanding. Their insistence was "Give God the praise!" Their pride in their theology would not allow them to rejoice in the restoration of one who had been in so pitiable state. The final result was that "They answered and said unto him, Thou was altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out" (John 9:34).

We must guard against the spirit that meets the testimony of one who has found peace with God in Jesus Christ with

questions. Their testimonies may not always meet every criteria of the theological order of salvation. But surely we can rejoice that another name has been recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life.

From *Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration*, we quote the following. "Through this means (namely, the preaching and the hearing of His Word) God is active, breaks our hearts, and draws man, so that through the preaching of the law man learns to know his sins and the wrath of God and experiences genuine terror, contrition, and sorrow in his heart, and through the preaching of and meditation upon the holy Gospel of the gracious forgiveness of sins in Christ there is kindled in him a spark of faith which *accepts* the forgiveness of sins for Christ's sake and comforts itself with the promise of the Gospel. And in this way the Holy Spirit, who works all of this, is introduced into the heart."

The well-known Norwegian lay-preacher, Ludvig Hope, was a tremendous instrument in leading souls to Christ. I would also like to quote a few paragraphs from his book *Spirit and Power*.

"Do you want to be saved? Really now, do you?"

"Some cannot answer at all: others give a reluctant affirmative reply which is really the same as a negative. This

## EDITORIALS

ity is limited neither by parish nor by synodical bounds" (*The Fundamental Principles*).

If this Article sounds vaguely familiar it is because it resembles Article II and reiterates the very purpose of the Christian congregation, to be a living, witnessing, evangelizing body of believers.

In coming back to this point, the framers of the *Principles* drive home for us that the congregation, if it is living, can never be satisfied with the status quo, but must be daily about "the Father's business." That business is the evangelization of the world.

Georg Sverdrup, a member of the committee which drew up the *Principles* almost a hundred years ago, and believed to be its moving force, has written about the *Principles* in articles to be found in his *Samlede Skrifter i Utvalg*, Vol. III. From that we wish to quote the following three paragraphs:

"Christ's love reaches out to all; He would draw all unto Himself; He would gather all to His great feast. People even to the ends of the earth are the object of His love.

"The congregation can therefore not be without mission. That must go forward and widen. Its whole essence rests on the growth of God's kingdom; it is brought forward by mission and it is appointed to carry out mission. The one follows the other.

"And here mission is to be taken in its most common meaning, embracing those who are close at hand and those who are far away, that which is called home missions and Jewish missions and foreign missions. The point is to seek after the lost wherever they may be."

This is the burden of love which must lie upon our congregations these many decades later. We must confront the baptized lost and the heathen with the claims and love of

Christ. We must encourage the children of God in their walk with Christ, that it become a more beautiful, fruitful thing. And all of this must be done now, in this day of grace.

"As far as its abilities and power permit." Here is a recognition that all congregations are not the same. They vary in size, in talents, in other resources. It would not be fair or right to expect the same results from all, no more than we would of 200 individuals (roughly the number of congregations that we have). The Lord will judge faithfulness, according to the Parable of the Talents. Each congregation can give something to world evangelization. Those who pray can do that; prayer isn't dependent upon numbers. Full-time workers may be called even from small groups.

Finally, spiritual activity isn't limited by parish or synodical bounds. Although the congregations that became the Lutheran Free Church had painful experiences with some fellow Lutherans, Sverdrup allowed for the possibility of the churches finding opportunities for cooperation in God's work, and they should take them. There is no indication that he had in mind non-Lutheran churches at this point and so one shouldn't put words in his mouth.

In our own day the possibility is there for Lutherans to cooperate in some work with other denominations. But care should be taken. Does the preaching undermine the vital beliefs of Lutheran believers? Does the cooperation prove uncomfortable, even embarrassing? All of this should be taken into consideration, but this is quite another subject from that before us and so we conclude this series on *The Fundamental Principles*.

### SERIES CONCLUDED

Two and a half years ago, when we were to produce a 25th anniversary edition of the *Ambassador*, we were positive that somewhere in the past we had written a series on  
continued on p. 13

## PRESIDENT

Pilate-like indecision is the rock on which many souls have suffered shipwreck.

"Many ask the logical question if God is not able to save us against our will. After all, He is almighty. Yes, the Lord is almighty, but we human beings have been endowed by Him with a quality of nobility; this nobility is free will. If we lose this we are no longer true human beings, and God can easily save a stone as such people.

"This nobility and responsibility is ours; therefore you and I are to choose our future when God places the choice before us.

"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come'; whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely.

"The prodigal son said, 'I will arise and go to my father.' Paul said, 'To will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.'

"What is it to will? It is to discontinue resistance against God. It is to let Jesus save you. It is to let God do as He pleases with you. It is to place yourself in the arms of the

Savior with this one prayer, 'Here I am, Lord. Come what may, I want to be saved.'"

Anonymous will undoubtedly disagree with Ludvig Hope. My only response is that when you have led as many souls to peace with God in Christ Jesus as did Ludvig Hope, then I will recognize your right to criticize him.

The spirit of evangelism is fragile in any church organization and the AFLC is no exception. We cannot allow a demand for theological accuracies in the testimony of every lay person to stifle the warmth and zeal for the salvation of souls. God forbid that we reach the place where we are dead in our orthodoxy.

—Pastor Richard Snipstead

(Ed. note: The article to which Pastor Snipstead refers is reprinted on page XX of this issue for your reference. It was submitted by an AFLC pastor but was, to my knowledge, written by another person who remains anonymous. Pastor Snipstead has written at greater length on the subject in a paper, "Principles and Practices of Evangelism," sent to AFLC pastors. Anyone wishing to read that can contact his or her pastor.)



Psalms and Proverbs are excellent to use during your quiet time of Scripture reading, meditation and prayer. Many prayers will come to mind as you read. When praying about a specific problem, it is good to know some of the promises from God's Word. Then the promise is used in prayer. Look up the Scripture reference and find the promise(s) given.

Scripture Reference	Promise
Ps. 23:4	
Ps. 32:8	
Heb. 13:5b	
I Jn 1:9	
Ps. 91:14	
I Jn. 5:3-5	
Phil. 4:19	
Matt. 11:28-29	
I Cor. 15:57	
Jas. 1:5	
Rom. 8:28	

Some of the verses I claimed as I worked and wrote the Bible study were:  
 I Chron. 28:20 (*David was speaking to Solomon in this passage; I claimed the biblical principle.*)  
 I Thess. 5:24  
 II Cor. 1:12b

"When the glory of the Lord is our consuming desire,  
 then we are on praying ground."

— Unknown  
 — Lois Oscarson

# L I V I N G for J E S U S

## "Follow His leading' PRAYER

\*\*\*\*\*  
 WMF BIBLE STUDY  
 AUGUST, 1990  
 \*\*\*\*\*

If possible, read June 26th in *My Utmost for Highest* by Oswald Chambers. Read John 17 carefully and prayerfully. It is helpful to look at a number of different tribulations to take note of the chapter title and the subdivision titles for John 17.

*Thompson's KJ:* Christ, the Great Intercessor; Christ prayeth to the Father to glorify Him, to preserve His apostles, and all other believers.  
*Open Bible NAS:* The High Priestly Prayer; The disciples in the world, their future glory.  
*NIV:* Jesus prays for Himself; Jesus prays for his disciples.

1. In Jn. 17:1, 5, what is Jesus' purpose for praying?
2. What do you learn about Christ's glory in Jn. 1:14 and 17:5?
3. What takes place in our lives as we spend time in His Word, as we meditate and store up His Word? II Cor. 3:18
4. What should be our first purpose in prayer in light of the previous verses as well as Ps. 29:2?
5. In Ps. 107, find and record the verse which is repeated four times. Why should we focus on that verse?  
 Rev. 5:12: "*Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.*"
6. Praise and adoration not only glorifies Him, but it can also help us. It can change us and transform our attitudes. What command are we given in Is. 61:3?
7. What has David said that he will do, in Ps. 34:1? Take note of when he will do it.  
 Ps. 34:1-3 are good verses to memorize.

\*\*\*

In the NIV, the heading over Jn. 17:1-5 reads, "Jesus prays for Himself." Is it then in order to pray for myself following the time of adoration and praise?

8. To identify sin, write out the following verses.

Ps. 139:23-24 \_\_\_\_\_

Ps. 51:10-11 \_\_\_\_\_

Ps. 19:12-13 \_\_\_\_\_

9. In the following verses, what do you find regarding sin and prayer?

Ps. 66:18 \_\_\_\_\_

Jas. 4:3 \_\_\_\_\_

10. In the following verses, note the two parts: My part and God's part. Identify each.

I Jn. 1:9 \_\_\_\_\_

Matt. 6:14 \_\_\_\_\_

What are we told in Matt. 7:5a? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Record the promise in Ps. 103:12. \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*

12. *Thanksgiving*: Note the command in the following verses:

Phil. 4:6 \_\_\_\_\_

Col. 4:2 \_\_\_\_\_

*"Count your many blessings, name them one by one;*

*Count your many blessings, see what God hath done."*

The command to "Count your many blessings" is as true now as when the song was written. Take several minutes to record those blessings God has bestowed upon you. Throughout the day and the week add to the list. Encourage your family members to do the same.

Each time you find yourself burdened with a negative thought, by an act of your will determine to change it into a prayer of thanksgiving.

We need also to express thanks to those around us. Reflect on your spiritual growth. Is there one person that comes to mind who may have encouraged you along the way, one who said, "I have been praying for you?" Take time to call or write that person expressing your thankfulness.

\*\*\*

Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving. Add it to Supplication. The acrostic, *ACTS*, results. This is a good outline to use for effective praying.

Supplication includes intercession and petition. Intercession is prayer offered in behalf of another. God wants to use us. We are part of His total plan to evangelize the world and intercessory prayer is a necessity.

Halleby said, "To pray is to tell Jesus what we lack. Intercession is to tell Jesus what we see others lack. As far as my understanding of these things goes, intercessory prayer is the the finest and most exciting kind of work that is possible for men to perform."

13. Confession of sin (purity of heart) is one requirement for answered prayer. What are some additional personal requirements for answers to prayers?

Matt. 21:22 \_\_\_\_\_

Jas. 1:6a \_\_\_\_\_

I Jn. 5:14 \_\_\_\_\_

Earlier in this series, you have been asked to use a portion of Scripture and make it into a prayer for yourself and /or others. This is called Scripture praying. Prayers in the Bible serve as a guide for our prayers. Bible promises, when used in prayer, give us assurance that we are praying His will.

14. In Jn. 17, Jesus is praying for His disciples as well as for future believers. Write out a prayer for the lost (use a specific name or unreached group) using Jn. 17:3. If you have trouble forming a prayer based on Scripture, it is helpful to look at several translations for added insight into a passage.

15. In Jn. 17, the greatness of this prayer is beyond my finite comprehension, yet, there is much in its simplicity and brevity which is plain even to a new believer. Using verses 11 and 15, pick out one point from each verse and write a prayer for your loved ones (family, pastor, missionaries...).

How many of us shrink from praying in public (prayer meeting) because words don't come easily? Bonnie Barrow Thomas, speaking at a Billy Graham crusade prayer rally in Fargo, N. Dak., said, "Some of the greatest *hindrances* to prayer are good *prayer-ers* (people who pray). We feel intimidated."

16. To help us overcome the fear of praying in public, pick out several passages from the list below and write out prayers. At the meeting, divide into groups of three and pray (read) the prayers you have written out.

Use these verses to pray for children and teenagers in your church and community: Rom. 12:1-2; 13:14; 15:13; II Cor. 13:9; Lk. 2:52.

For workers in your local church: I Cor. 1:4-9.

For any individual or group of believers: Eph. 1:15-22; Phil. 1:3-11; Col. 1:3, 9-14.

For yourself or others: II Cor. 5:9; Gal. 6:9; II Pet. 1:5-9; Eph. 3:14a-21. You may add other references, or you may choose to use the given references to pray for someone else other than suggested.



## ELECTIONS

### Nominating Committee

Mr. Ralph Peterson, Portland, N. Dak.  
(END)

Mr. Dwight Jacobson, Dickinson, N. Dak. (WND-EM)

Rev. Ted Berkas, Wallace, S. Dak.  
(SD-N)

Rev. Raynard Huglen, Newfolden, Minn. (NWM)

Mr. Kenneth Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.  
(NCM)

Rev. George Knapp, Willmar, Minn.  
(SWCM)

Mr. Clifford Johnson, Esko, Minn.  
(LS)

Rev. James Ritter, Bloomington, Minn.  
(M)

Mr. David Blake, Ontonagon, Mich.  
(NM)

Rev. Keith Quanbeck, Camarillo, Calif. (A-SC-T)

Mr. Alfred Tollefson, Astoria, Ore.  
(WC)

Pastor David Murray, Massapequa, N. Y. (E)

Mr. Mervin Mathison, DeKalb, Ill. (I)  
**Committee No. 1 (Administration)**

Rev. Norman Dornquast, Weslaco, Tex.

Mr. Donald Jacobson, Binford, N. Dak.

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Cambridge, Minn.

Mr. Nelvin Botten, Arlington, Wash.

Mr. Robert Bilden, Bagley, Minn.

**Committee No. 2 (Schools)**

Rev. Harvey Jackson, Ishpeming, Mich.

Mr. Kermit Berge, Larimore, N. Dak.

Rev. Harry Gimberg, DeKalb, Ill.

Mr. Todd Westlake, Eden Prairie, Minn.

Mr. Randy Peterson, Tioga, N. Dak.

**Committee No. 3 (Missions)**

Rev. Paul Larson, White Earth, Minn.

Rev. Michael Crowell, Wichita Falls, Tex.

Mr. Carl Soyring, Esko, Minn.

Mr. Wayne Floan, Fertile, Minn.

Mr. Joseph L. "Skip" Milton, McLeod, N. Dak.

**Committee No. 4 (Publications, Parish Education and Youth Work)**

Rev. Lyle Aadahl, Upsala, Minn.

Rev. Lloyd Weiland, Randall, Ia.

Mr. Albin Haugen, McVie, N. Dak.

Mr. Ronald Willand, Ferndale, Wash.

Mr. Robert Halvorson, Bloomington, Minn.

**Committee No. 5 (Stewardship and Pensions)**

Rev. Lawrence Dymneson, Nogales, Ariz.

Rev. Lloyd Bjornlie, Winger, Minn.

Rev. Milo Gudim, Argyle, Minn.

Mr. Orville Qualley, Brockton, Mont.

Mr. Roland Meyer, Paxton, Ia.

**Colloquy Committee**

Rev. Emerson Anderson, Cloquet, Minn.

Rev. Philip Rokke, Minnewaukan, N. Dak.

Rev. Jerry Moan, Minot, N. Dak.

Rev. George Knapp, Willmar, Minn.

Rev. Robert Giles, Tucson, Ariz.

**Budget Analysis Committee (3 years)**

Mr. Richard Rasmussen, Monticello, Minn.

### NO AMBASSADOR NEXT TIME

There will be no second issue in July. To give you earlier coverage of the Annual Conference, we are printing early this month and omitting the scheduled July 24 issue. The next *Ambassador* will be dated Aug. 7 and will contain some more information from the recent Conference and more reflections about it.

It will also be possible then to bring you other news and material which couldn't be accommodated now.

*The Editor*

### YOU HAVE A FREE WILL?\*

Willingness comes from the Holy Spirit.

A lady argued with me that her salvation was her own decision. She said, "My conscience bothered me and I was afraid of God, but I fought against the idea. I tried to block it out of my life. One day I heard a sermon and a call to decision was given. Finally, I decided, 'Okay, God, come into my heart.'"

"You see?" she said, "It was up to me. I had to decide. I had to be willing."

I responded in this way: "So the barriers were finally overcome?"

She said, "Yes."

And I asked, "Who built the barriers, and who took them down? Why did you finally become willing?"

The answer was apparent: God overcame her unwillingness. God patiently worked, called, convicted until she was changed. Her willingness was achieved against her will. It was the work of the Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit had not done it, it would never have been done. In claiming credit for it herself, she was robbing God of His glory, and this she set her will to do. It bore sad fruit in her life.

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God...Who were born not...of the will of man, but of the will of God" (John 1:12-13).

—*Anonymous*

— Reprinted from the *Ambassador*, Mar. 20, 1990.

\*The question mark was inadvertently left out in the Mar. 20 issue. It should be there.

## EDITORIALS

the *Principles* such as has been done now. But try as we did, no editorials could be found. The memory can play tricks. And so it was that we attempted the task now.

It has been personally challenging and we hope of some value to you readers. We have tried to see the *Principles* through Georg Sverdrup's eyes. In so doing we realize that he wrote out of an historical situation not entirely like ours. And yet there are similarities, to be sure. The underlying thoughts and ideals of the *Principles* remain very applicable to our day. They need to be preserved and passed on to those

who follow us.

Let the final word be that of Sverdrup when he wrote concerning Article XII: "...we prize it highly to strive for the right goal, and we are always sure of this, that the day will come when all truth-loving souls shall see it clearly in the light of the Holy Spirit that no churchly work was more needed in the present time than the work for the congregation.

"That is the only work which defends against the danger of hierarchy on the one hand and the danger of individualism on the other. Let it go forward with power!"



# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to move briefly through some of the areas of outreach that require that "partnership in the Gospel."

Our joining of the hands of our congregations enables us as an AFLC to be obedient to the Great Commission in the area of both world missions and home missions. God has given us the precious opportunity to have a share in bringing the Gospel to many in Brazil, Mexico and India. Hundreds of souls pass on to a Christless eternity in these countries. We cannot claim that we have done what we could in bringing the Gospel to those who have never once heard of God's love in Christ Jesus. The disturbing realization must be ours that one day we will stand before Christ and give an account. What will we say in that day when we have "tightly clutched our little earthly store, nor sent thy messengers to some distant shore?"

Home Missions has been and still continues to be a very vital part of the life and growth of our AFLC. Today the opportunity of Home Missions is reaching into areas where we would never have dreamed that the AFLC would ever have the opportunity to minister. This is as it ought to be.

If our AFLC is to remain strong and able to continue to carry on an effective work in all areas of ministry, we must maintain a strong home mission outreach.

This week, I received word that St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Indianapolis, Ind., voted unanimously to affiliate with the AFLC. I want to share a little of the story that surrounds St. Mark's. It was originally a congregation of the Olive Branch Synod. In fact, the headquarters for the synod were located in their building. St. Mark's will be observing their centennial this summer. In recent years this congregation has mothered seven new congregations in their city. As it has given of its "lifeblood," though once a strong congregation, it now finds its numbers depleted. But the members are not discouraged. They want to press forward and continue to reach out to their community. Now they have asked for the opportunity to be a part of the part-

nership of congregations that forms our AFLC. May we rejoice with them and other new congregations in the opportunity that is given to us to join hands with them in a partnership that will strengthen and encourage their ministry in the place God has given them to serve. May the example of St. Mark's in beginning new congregations become a challenge to many of our congregations.

The partnership that exists between our congregations and our schools is not only an essential one, but also one that is very close. It is not hard for our congregations to realize why we need to support our seminary. Without the seminary we might very well reach a point where one day we would not have pastors. That message came through very clearly at our organizational conference at Thief River Falls, in 1962.

Most of our congregations have been reaping the benefits of the training that our young people have received at the Bible School. There is scarcely a congregation within our AFLC that does not have within its active membership graduates of the Bible School who are making positive contributions to the life and work of that congregation.

As the benefits from our schools are experienced by our congregations, we need to strengthen the partnership by increased financial and prayer supports for our schools.

An area of work of the AFLC that is perhaps more difficult for many of us to view as a "partnership in the Gospel" is the work of Parish Education. It, too, has been and continues to be a very vital part of the ministry of our AFLC. We know the importance of training and teaching our youth the Word of God. The importance of Word-centered and doctrinally-correct materials cannot be overemphasized. The partnership between our congregations and Parish Education needs to be strengthened. The potential of providing the materials is there. The resources are not. Parish Ed needs to be able to count on you especially at this present time.

*The Lutheran Ambassador* has made a tremendous contribution toward the building

## Conference election procedures

Ecclesiastical Ballot: for the election of AFLC officers.

1. The first ballot is the nominating ballot. Each voting member of the conference may place in nomination the person of his choosing.

2. Only persons whose names

appear on the first ballot are eligible for consideration on further ballots.

3. Any person receiving 75 percent or more of total votes cast on the first ballot is automatically elected. On subsequent ballots, only a simple majority of the total votes cast is required for election.

4. Incumbents who have served three or more terms must receive 75 percent of the total votes cast to be elected. Such an incumbent can remain in the balloting until two names remain. At this point the incumbent's name would be dropped unless elected by 75 percent of the votes cast.

5. All persons receiving 10 percent



and maintaining of the "partnership in the Gospel" in our AFLC. The paper has provided vital information and encouragement to the people and congregations of our body. Pastor Raynard Huglen has served as editor of *The Lutheran Ambassador* since the beginning. We want to thank Pastor Huglen for the faithful work that he has done. Now as he retires, we know that we can continue to receive from him the encouragement and wise counsel that he shared so willingly over the years. May God's richest blessings continue to be yours as you adjust to the changes of retirement.

Evangelism is the proclaiming of the good news of the Gospel with the intention of winning disciples for Christ and the Church. It is urgent that we as a body keep the message of sin and grace sounding forth clearly. The catalog of cults continues to expand considerably. Along with the Eastern religious groups, the New Age movement is becoming more widespread and influential. As we strengthen our "partnership in the Gospel" we shall find that the preaching of that Gospel will be our best tool to reach into the hearts filled with unrest and uncertainty. The Gospel is still the power of God unto salvation.

The new hymnal project for the AFLC is one that not only offers the opportunity of a partnership participation, but is one that will require a partnership response from all the people and congregations of the AFLC. In its preliminary stages at the present time, the new hymnal project will be one of the most important projects ever undertaken by our AFLC. We rejoice in the progress made. We rejoice at the prospect of having our own new hymnal. What a unifying factor it can be for our church body. We need to give the committee our complete support and encouragement.

Providing adequate facilities has been that of a partnership in the brief history of the AFLC. In a recent issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador*, we shared an article on how God has blessed those partnership efforts down through the years. No one can accuse the AFLC of squandering its resources in order to provide the necessary facilities.

Today the opportunity is being given to individuals and congregations to be a part of that continuing partnership to provide for a new administration building for the AFLC. The need is great today and that need will continue to increase. It has been most encouraging

to see the response. We trust that when the building has become a reality it will be a cause for joy that we have been able to have a share in the partnership that has made it possible.

### **In Memoriam**

Three faithful pastors were called home to their reward this past year.

Pastor Karl Stendal passed away on May 25, 1989. He had served in the Lutheran Free Church and was one who devoted much effort in helping to organize the AFLC.

Lay Pastor J. A. Grimstad passed away on January 3, 1990.

Lay Pastor Sidney Swenson passed away on August 31, 1989.

Blessed be the memory of these faithful Kingdom workers.

(The Special Events Section is omitted here.)

### **In Conclusion**

We have experienced a good year in the work of the AFLC. It has not been a year without trials or burdens, but we thank God for His all-sufficient grace that is always there. When the burdens grow great, His grace is always greater. I especially want to thank the members of the Co-ordinating Committee, with whom I have continued to work closely. Their wisdom, guidance and encouragement have been deeply appreciated.

Our prayer and concern is that for us as an AFLC our "Partnership in the Gospel" might be deepened and enriched so that all we do might be to the praise of His glory. We gladly commit the future into God's hands. Our prayer for the AFLC is penned so well in the words of Carl Rosenius.

O Shepherd, abide and care for us still,  
And feed us and lead us  
and teach us Thy will;  
And when in Thy heavenly folds we shall be,  
Our thanks and our praises  
we'll render to Thee.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Pastor Richard Snipstead*

or less of the total votes cast on the second ballot shall be dropped from consideration on the next ballot, except in those cases where only one nominee receives more than 10% of the votes cast; in such cases only the nominee receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped from future consideration. The person receiving the least number

of ballots on the third and subsequent ballots will be dropped from further consideration.

For all other elections:

Nominations will be presented by the Nominations Committee and may also be offered from the floor. A simple majority of votes cast is required for election.

On the second and subsequent ballots, the person receiving the least number of votes will be dropped from further consideration.

(This is the election procedure for future elections which was adopted at the Annual Conference last month in Bloomington, Minn.)



## 1991-91 BUDGET

Here are the budget goals for the AFLC in the next fiscal year as adopted by the 1990 Annual Conference. These are the amounts expected from the congregations and interested individuals.

General Fund.....	\$ 287,180
Parish Education .....	62,670
Schools.....	345,850
Home Missions .....	433,616
World Missions .....	373,715
Capital Investments.....	25,000
Association Retreat Center	20,000
Total .....	\$1,548,031

The goal for the current year is \$1,442,565.00.

## THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

Second-Class

## Personalities

**Lay Pastor Dale Finstrom**, who has served Zoar Lutheran Church, Hatton, N. Dak., for the past several years, has accepted a call to Maranatha Lutheran Church, Glyndon, Minn., and will begin his ministry there on Sun., July 15.

**Rev. Curtis Emerson** has resigned as pastor of the Home Mission congregation in St. Cloud, Minn., (Granite), where he has served since 1986, to accept the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Shakopee, Minn., and will begin his work there on Aug. 1.

**True repentance involves dissatisfaction with your repentance.**

—C. O. Rosenius

## Keep in the know!

You can't afford to let your *Lutheran Ambassador* subscription run out!

For only \$11.00 you can keep up on what is happening.

## LABOR DAY RETREAT

We'd like to introduce you to an activity at Association Retreat Center, Osceola, Wis., of which you may not be aware. This is the three-day Labor Day Camp, which complements the AFLC Family Camps held in July and August each year.

Now in its fourth year, the Labor Day Camp is sponsored by Hauge Foreign Mission, Inc. The camp is currently guided by a committee composed of Pastor Paul Larson (Bethel Lutheran Chapel, White Earth, Minn.) and Lenny and Michael Nelson (King of Glory Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, Minn.) Michael is a student at the AFLC Theological Seminary.

Pastor Donald Greven, Bible School Dean, is the main speaker for Labor Day Camp, 1990, and Pastor Ron Wik of Faribault, Minn., is the adult class teacher. More detailed information is in the camp brochure. If you would like this information, please write: Lenny Nelson, 16300 Hilltop Road, Eden Prairie, Minn. 55347, or call (612) 937-8941. When you write, be sure to include your name *and* address.

## Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

AFLC Benevolences - Feb. 1 - May 31

FUND	TOTAL BUDGET	REC'D IN MAY	TOTAL REC'D TO DATE	%* TOTAL
General Fund . . . . .	\$ 223,110.00	\$ 12,158.90	\$ 48,252.22	22
Schools - (AFLTS) . .	136,822.00	5,820.68	16,601.46	12
(AFLBS) . .	186,850.00	11,418.68	36,269.14	19
Home Missions . . . . .	433,616.00	30,387.64	111,137.30	26
World Missions . . . . .	366,197.00	17,463.77	58,792.19	16
Capital Investments . .	30,000.00	1,326.40	7,243.52	24
Parish Education . . . .	64,970.00	3,115.21	14,837.35	23
<b>TOTALS . . . . .</b>	<b>\$ 1,442,565.00</b>	<b>\$ 81,691.28</b>	<b>\$ 293,133.18</b>	<b>20</b>
1989-1990 . . . . .	\$ 1,308,281.00	\$ 70,140.23	\$ 250,234.25	19

\*Goal 33%