

# THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

July 17, 1984



Rev. and Mrs. Trygve Dahl



Rev. Herbert Franz led the prayer hour.



Mrs. Eugene Enderlein and Mr. Clarence Quanbeck

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE REVIEW

# AT THE MASTER'S FEET



*Lay Pastor Gustav Nordvall*

## Holy ground

I remember it well . . . a Sunday in early June, 1928. Four other young people and I stood in front of the congregation in the little one-room schoolhouse that also served as our place of worship. Pastor Albert Olson looked me straight in the eyes and asked the awesome question, "Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?" I responded with a feeble "Yes," almost afraid to commit myself to such a serious promise. In his sermon he'd said, "These young people know the way, if they will but follow it." To this day I am grateful to this man of God who so faithfully made plain the way of salvation to the little confirmation class.

I can truly say I had a good foundation to build my life upon, also

having parents who firmly believed in the teaching and principles of the Scriptures.

Soon the Great Depression came. Our family had little, but with hard work, there was always food and clothing. There were many reasons for discouragement. And what became of my Confirmation promises?

One night in October, 1933, I sat again in that same schoolhouse, listening to another man of God. His text that night was Matt. 27:22: "What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ?" When he confronted me at the close of the service, all my defenses crumbled. I was faced with what I felt was a now or never decision. This reawakening or conversion became a turning point in my life. I had a new desire to study the Word of God. "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

More than just writing about myself, I thought it in order to give a personal testimony of my own beginnings at the Master's feet as we begin our visits through this page.

The very words, "At the Master's feet," are awesome, even frightening. It is not the place for "natural" man.

I think of Peter. Our Lord had used his boat for a preaching place and then invited his newly called disciples to cast out their nets. When they drew them in, the boats were filled to the sinking point. Peter the fisherman knew he was in the presence of the Lord. "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man," he cried. It is uncomfortable for sinful man to stand in the presence of almighty, holy God.

When the Lord spoke to Moses from the burning bush, He asked him to remove his shoes from his feet for the place where he stood was holy ground. Holy is the place where man meets his God. It is the place of reconciliation. It is the place where we come to repentance. Repentance of our sin brings us forgiveness from a merciful and loving God. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

"At the Master's feet" also makes us think of learning. Let us join with Mary who was wiser than busy Martha, and longed to be in His presence.

Sitting at the feet of Jesus,  
O what words I hear Him say!  
Happy place so near, so precious!  
May it find me there each day!  
Sitting at the feet of Jesus,  
I would look upon the past;  
For His love has been so gracious,  
It has won my heart at last.

Sitting at the feet of Jesus,  
Where can mortal be more blest?  
There I lay my sins and sorrows,  
And when weary find sweet rest;  
Sitting at the feet of Jesus,  
There I love to weep and pray,  
While I from His fullness gather.

Bless me, O my Savior, bless me,  
As I sit low at Thy feet;  
O look down in love upon me,  
Let me see Thy face so sweet;  
Give me, Lord, the mind of Jesus,  
Make me holy as He is;  
May I prove I've been with Jesus,  
Who is all my righteousness.

### THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

USPS 588-620 ISSN 0746-3413

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, Minn. 55441.

All communications concerning contents of this magazine should be addressed to: Rev. Raynard Huglen, Editor, Newfolden, Minn. 56738.

Layout design: Mrs. Wayne Hjermstad.  
Editorial Board: Mr. Sheldon Mortrud,  
Rev. Francis Monseth, Rev. Robert Lee.

Send \$10.00 subscription to the LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441. Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

Postmaster: Send address changes to THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441.

Volume 22 Number 14

# Pastor Snipstead elected to third term

## Executive Officers

Rev. Richard Snipstead was elected to his third term as president at the Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations held at the church's headquarters, Minneapolis, Minn., June 20-24.

He was elected by voice vote as there were no other candidates nominated. The term is for three years. He was first elected in 1978.

Rev. Leslie Galland, Thief River Falls, Minn., was also elected to his third term as vice-president. The term is for one year. The other candidate was Rev. Wendell Johnson, Stacy, Minn., who is leaving the Co-ordinating Committee this summer after ten years.

The position of secretary will remain in the hands of Rev. Bruce Dalager, Grand Forks, N. Dak. He was unopposed and will enter his second one-year term on Oct. 1.

## Opening Service

The 22nd annual conference began on Wednesday evening, June 20. Rev. Kenneth Pentti, AFLC evangelist, preached the opening sermon on the conference theme and



Rev. Richard Snipstead

text, "Loyalty to Christ" (John 8:31,32). The theme in fretwork hung across the front of the chancel of Medicine Lake Lutheran Church throughout the conference to remind the delegates about where their commitment is to be.

Pastor Pentti, after establishing the twin guide marks of Biblical inspiration and personal commitment to Jesus Christ, declared what loyalty is not. It is not, he said, anything that I can do, but it is what Christ has done. Further, it isn't the Pharisaic spirit of self-righteousness, but dependence on Christ alone.

Positively speaking, Pastor Pentti declared, loyalty is based on the Word of God and that means that my loyalty to Christ is what He has given to me. The Christian is dead to sin through Jesus and raised to new

## Report on the annual conference

life through Him. Thus, self-trust and self-assertion are gone. Jesus is all.

## Clergy Roster

No major decisions were made at the conference, but some things were granted continuance toward a day of eventual decision.

After considerable debate a resolution describing how the clergy roster of the church shall be maintained was turned over to the Co-ordinating Committee for further study and a new report next year. It was a matter which the Committee had brought up this year of its own volition.

The only real disagreement and problem centered on how long a clergyman should be continued, if he should be continued, on the roster without call. The resolution was referred back to the Committee for further study. It was brought before conference on Friday morning. A new paragraph 3 under Section 3 then read, "A clergyman without call shall be continued on the Clergy Roster for a period not to exceed four years. This period of four years may be extended by decision of the Co-ordinating Committee."

That paragraph was then stricken by the conference in the belief that it tied the Committee's hands and would not enable it to act swiftly enough in certain cases where removal was dictated. But as a result the whole section on maintaining status was left quite decimated and a later conference action asked the Co-ordinating Committee for more study on the whole matter before next year's conference.

Up to now there have been no published guidelines for maintaining the clergy roster. The Committee is charged with the responsibility.

## New Building

The conference heard a report from the Facilities Committee about needs at the Schools and Headquarters. The committee told of two options. In one, the AFLC headquarters would vacate its present location in the church building and move into a new structure also serving the schools. The second option would leave headquarters as is with the new building serving only the schools as



The registration table: Andrea Kreuger, Debbie Beaman, Lori Krieger, Rev. Martin Horn and Gwen Snipstead. Conference photos by S. Hjermstad.

## CONFERENCE . . .

a classroom-library-administration building. Such a building, the conference was told, would approach one million dollars in cost.

Before the conference business session ended on Saturday afternoon, the delegates asked the Facilities Committee to do further study and report again in 1985.

### Hymnal Project

Another survey of AFLC congregations about their hymnal practises was authorized at the 1983 annual conference. That survey was reaffirmed by this conference although some nays were discernible in the voice vote taken.

The resolution speaks of "a new or revised *Concordia* or a supplement to the *Concordia*." It also calls upon the congregations, in the meantime, to become better acquainted with the "spiritual treasures" in *Concordia*.

### 1985-86 Budget

The annual Conference adopted the second million-dollar goal for the congregations. Because of the concern that budget goals are outstripping present reality, General Fund and World Missions pared their requests, bringing the total budget to \$1,109,978. The current year's goals are just over \$1,000,000. Here are the goals:

General Fund	\$213,910
Schools	287,239
Home Missions	271,233
World Missions	307,596
Praise Fund	30,000

### A Single Resource

The conference asked the Board of Publications and Parish Education to prepare and publish a booklet which would contain the various documents already existing which describe AFLC history and beliefs. It was felt that one volume (booklet, pamphlet) instead of the present several would be an asset in seeking to inform others about the Association.

### New Churches

The Association, through its annual conference, welcomed nine new congregations or new fellowships to membership. They are:

Living Faith, Tucson, Ariz.  
Atonement, Arlington, Wash.  
Christ, Devils Lake, N. Dak.  
Christ the King Fellowship,  
North Platte, Neb.  
Redeemer, Canton, S. Dak.  
Christ the King, Pipestone, Minn.  
St. Paul's, Stanhope, Ia.  
St. Paul's, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
King of Glory,  
Eden Prairie, Minn.

One congregation has been removed, Bethel Lutheran, Pelican Rapids, Minn. It had not been active for some years.

The total number of congregations is now 145.

### New Pastors

Twelve new pastors have been added to the clergy roster in the past year. They are:

Emerson Anderson  
Tom Baker  
Peter Franz

Edmundo Hassenteufel  
Martin Horn  
Michael Klenner  
Johan Koren  
Lyndon Korhonen  
Del Palmer  
Kerwin Sletto  
Tony Stockman  
Harris Van Someren

Four men were ordained into the ministry of the AFLC on Sunday afternoon at the closing conference session. They are Walter Beaman, presently serving at McIntosh, Minn.; Joel Rolf, McIntosh, called to Devils Lake, N. Dak.; Steven Kneeland, Cloquet, Minn., called to Kenyon, Minn.; and Franklin Cherney, St. Paul, Minn., called to Sebeka, Minn.

A fifth man, Ted Berkas, Kenyon, was ordained on July 1 and is serving at Granite Falls, Minn.

Five pastors new to the fellowship roster (a one-year probation period) were introduced to the conference. They are David Jaskiorny, David Skordahl, Lloyd Weiland, Harvey Jackson and David Barnhart. They come from other Lutheran synods.

The AFLC clergy roster contains 13 retired pastors and 12 not presently with call.

### Representation

Four hundred and two delegates were registered for the business sessions; 308 were lay people, 94 pastors. In addition there were 11 visitors, of whom seven were pastors.

The delegates and visitors came from 13 states, two Canadian provinces and Brazil.

Conferences are held in Minneapolis every third year. Three years ago 400 delegates and visitors were present. Six years ago 496 such were in attendance, the all-time high in the AFLC. That was the year a new president was chosen.

### Next Year

Only one invitation for the 1985 Annual Conference was extended. That was to the Association Retreat Center, Osceola, Wis.. The invitation was accepted.

The dates for that conference haven't been determined, but it will begin on either the second or third Wednesday in June.



\*denotes re-election

#### President

Rev. Richard Snipstead, Minneapolis, Minn.\*  
(3 years)

#### Vice-President

Rev. Leslie Galland, Thief River Falls, Minn.\* (1 year)

#### Secretary

Rev. Bruce Dalager, Grand Forks, N. Dak.\*  
(1 year)

#### Co-ordinating Committee

5 years  
Rev. Terry Olson, Fargo, N. Dak.

4 years

Rev. James Gerdeen, Chassell, Mich.

#### Board of Trustees (Schools)

5 years  
Mr. Kent Quanbeck, McVillie, N. Dak.

#### Home Missions Committee

5 years  
Rev. Gordon L. Grage, Brandon, Minn.



Mrs. Petra Lee, Everet, Wash.

## Elections at the conference

#### World Missions Committee

5 years  
Mr. Martin Bjornson, Valley City, N. Dak.

#### Stewardship Board

5 years  
Lay Pastor Roger Krueger, Fergus Falls, Minn.\*

#### Youth Board

5 years  
Mr. David Russum, Arlington, Wash.\*

#### Board of Pensions

5 years  
Mr. LaVern Thompson, Fergus Falls, Minn.

#### Commission on Evangelism

5 years  
Lay Pastor Lyle Twite, Cloquet, Minn.

2 years

Rev. Peter Franz, Minot, N. Dak.

1 year

Rev. Laurel Udden, Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Board of Publications and Parish Education

5 years  
Mr. Harold Voth, Minneapolis, Minn.

#### CORPORATION ELECTIONS

The following persons were elected by their corporations to membership after nomination by the Annual Conference on June 21:

#### Missions Corporation

5 years  
Mr. Paul Flaten, Newfolden, Minn.\*  
Rev. Alvin Grothe, Astoria, Ore.\*  
Mr. John Arlen Johnson, Sacred Heart, Minn.\*  
Mr. Owen Myhre, Abercrombie, N. Dak.\*  
Rev. Norman Tenneboe, Eben Jct., Mich.\*  
Rev. Ted Berkas, Granite Falls, Minn.  
Mr. Truman Rolf, McIntosh, Minn.  
Rev. Ernest J. Langness, Faith, S. Dak.  
Mrs. Gerald Knudsvig, Buxton, N. Dak.  
Mr. Donald Hansen, Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Schools Corporation

Mr. Don Carter, Lake Stevens, Wash.\*  
Rev. Bruce Dalager, Grand Forks, N. Dak.\*  
Rev. Philip Featherstone, Pukwana, S. Dak.  
Rev. James Fugleberg, Ontonagon, Mich.\*

Mr. Wayne Floan, Fertile, Minn.\*  
Mr. Raymond Jacobson, Wadena, Minn.\*  
Rev. Rodger Olson, Canton, S. Dak.\*  
Mr. Marlow Nash, Abercrombie, N. Dak.  
Rev. Frank Cherney, Sebeka, Minn.  
Rev. Emerson Anderson, Cleveland, Oh.

#### THE COMMITTEES FOR THE 1985 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

##### Nominating Committee

Rev. Bruce Dalager, Grand Forks, N. Dak. (END)  
Mr. Arley Hartsoch, Tioga, N. Dak. (WND-EM)  
Mr. Michael McCarlson, Webster, S. Dak. (SD-N)  
Mr. Donald Balmer, Thief River Falls, Minn. (NWM)  
Rev. Mauritz Lundeen, Bagley, Minn. (NCM)  
Rev. Gordon L. Grage, Brandon, Minn. (SWCM)  
Mr. Clifford Johnson, Esko, Minn. (LS)  
Mr. Dennis Christopherson, Amery, Wis. (M)  
Mr. Walter Peterson, Ishpeming, Mich. (NM)  
Rev. Ted Kennedy, Nogales, Ariz. (A)  
Rev. Ronald Knutson, Ferndale, Wash. (WC)

##### Committee No. 1-Administration

Mr. David Thompson, Brandon, Minn.  
Mr. Alfred Tollefson, Astoria, Ore.  
Rev. Amos Dyrud, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Rev. Michael Klenner, Pelkie, Mich.  
Mr. Duane Burchill, Valley City, N. Dak.

##### Committee No. 2-Schools

Rev. Lyndon Korhonen, Culbertson, Mont.  
Rev. Tony Stockman, Cloquet, Minn.  
Mr. Tonnes Pollestad, Cokato, Minn.  
Mr. Kit Kittelson, Eugene, Ore.  
Dr. Lyle Mattson, Milbank, S. Dak.

##### Committee No. 3-Missions

Mr. Leslie Kjos, Kalispell, Mont.  
Rev. Laurel Udden, Minneapolis, Minn.  
Mr. Leonard Swanson, Nogales, Ariz.  
Rev. Walter Beaman, McIntosh, Minn.  
Mr. David Thompson, Northwood, N. Dak.

##### Committee No. 4-Publications, Parish Education, Youth Work

Mr. Stanley Holmaas, Newfolden, Minn.  
Mrs. Orville Myron, Tucson, Ariz.  
Mr. Doug Beise, Cloquet, Minn.  
Rev. Richard Gunderson, Escanaba, Mich.  
Lay Pastor Roger Krueger, Fergus Falls, Minn.

##### Committee No. 5-Stewardship and Pensions

Rev. Wendell Johnson, Stacy, Minn.  
Rev. Philip Rokke, Lake Alma, Sask.  
Mr. Mike Rudebusch, Summit, S. Dak.  
Mr. Larry Olson, Tioga, N. Dak.  
Mr. Eugene Nesland, Thief River Falls, Minn.

##### Colloquy Committee

Rev. Wallace Jackson, Wallace, S. Dak.  
Rev. Mauritz Lundeen, Bagley, Minn.  
Rev. Leslie Galland, Thief River Falls, Minn.  
Rev. Harvey Carlson, St. Paul, Minn.  
Rev. Kenneth Moland, Minneapolis, Minn.

##### Budget Analysis Committee

3 years  
Mr. Norman Haugen, Murdock, Minn.

## Country style devotions

"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (Psalms 42:1).

Summer has come with its high temperatures. Now the gallon water jug is necessary equipment. When the farmer is working and sweating out in the sun he needs plenty of water to quench his thirst. And nothing satisfies like cold water on a hot day!

The dog gets thirsty, too. She comes panting to us, her tongue hanging out — a real pathetic picture of thirst.

Oh Lord, our souls get thirsty, too.

At times our very being pants for a closeness with You.

Oh refresh us, Lord Jesus.

AMEN

Mrs. Doris Stensland  
Canton, S.Dak.

---

# The President's Report

To the 22nd Annual Conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations in session at 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard, Plymouth, Minnesota, June 20-24, 1984.

Grace and Peace!

It is a joy to welcome you to the beautiful grounds of our AFLC schools and our AFLC headquarters. It is always a delight for our people to not only see the facilities that God has given us, but also to have the opportunity of spending time here. We know that God desires to bless His people as they meet here for conference these days. We trust that you may have come with a heart open for and desiring that blessing from God as we worship, pray and work together for the advancement of His Kingdom.

The staff and faculty are our hosts and we sincerely appreciate their fine efforts in preparing for this conference.

Our conference theme this year challenges us to "Loyalty to Christ." We in the AFLC are no different from God's people anywhere else. From the earliest history of the children of Israel, the people were warned of the danger of falling away from God.

"And it shall be, when the Lord thy God shall have brought thee into the land which He swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give thee great and goodly cities, which thou buildest not, and houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full; then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage" (Ps. 103:2).

Many are the voices that seek to call us away from following closely to our Lord in obedience to His will and His commission for our lives. We are not strangers to the allurements of the world, our flesh and the

devil that would lead us to forget God and His tender mercies. It is needful because of the weakness of our flesh that we be challenged again and again with the call of Jesus to us individually, "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me" (Matt. 16:24).

The words of the hymnwriter are apropos:

"Tell me the story often,  
for I forget so soon,  
The 'early dew' of morning  
has passed away at noon."

The early years of the AFLC were marked by fierce loyalty to Christ and His Word. We pray that this Conference may rekindle our commitment and loyalty to Christ.

As we gather for our 22nd Annual Conference, we are reminded of the many blessings which our gracious Lord has showered upon us as individuals, as congregations and as an association of congregations. We who deserve nothing are given much. With Job we must confess, "I am not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy servant" (Gen. 32:10). It is ours, as the explanation of the First Article declares "that He does this purely out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me; for all of which I am in duty bound to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him."

God's people are a joyful people. There are times when we must suffer affliction in this world. We experience sorrows that are common to mankind—sorrows that weigh heavily upon our hearts and minds. Yet as God's people, we have a joy that no man taketh from us. The joy of the Lord is our strength. It is the joy that comes from knowing that in Christ our sins are forgiven and that because "He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows" we can look forward to the future when there shall be no more sorrow. God's Word assures us that "the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be

compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Rom. 8:18).

## EVANGELISM

A number of reports have come to our office telling of spiritual renewal and revival in congregations. We rejoice in these reports and pray that this may be but the "sound of the marching in the tops of the mulberry trees." In his battles with the Philistines, God instructed King David to take up a position behind the Philistines, by the mulberry trees. They were to wait until they heard the sound of the marching. This was the sign that God's host was on the move, and that the powers of heaven were being thrown into the conflict to secure the overwhelming victory.

It is strange, but true, that the prevalence of lawlessness in the world and of deadness in the church is often an indication of impending revival. Said the Psalmist, "It is time for the Lord to work, for they have made void Thy law" (Ps. 119:126).

May God give us as believers a profound sense of dissatisfaction with our affluence, and our apathy. May God also give us a sensitivity to sin so that our hearts may cry out to God for spiritual renewal.

"I will pour water on him that is thirsty, and streams upon the dry ground" (Is. 44:3).

We must continue to stress the need for and give high priority to evangelism in our AFLC.

*(Continued on p. 8)*

---

"The early years of the AFLC were marked by fierce loyalty to Christ and His Word. We pray that this conference may rekindle our commitment and loyalty to Christ."

---

## Keeping a score card

Text: "Every one of us shall give account of himself to God" (Romans 14:12).

"What's the big idea," said Charles, when he and the other fellows reached their class room the next Sunday. Mr. Parker was there sitting behind a piece of cardboard, painted to resemble the bars of a bank teller's window, standing in front of him on the table. Above the window was painted the word "Teller."

Mr. Parker smiled as the fellows stood there with their mouths open wondering what it was all about.

"Tell us about it," continued Charles, who seemed to be the only one able to use his tongue.

"Wait until we get to the lesson," said Mr. Parker. "We're going to discuss banking and bookkeeping today. But let's sit down and get ready for the Opening Exercises now."

The boys could scarcely wait for the word before they slammed the partitions to and pulled their chairs around in front of the "Teller's" window, through the open part of which Mr. Parker did his talking.

"We discussed Bob Jones' sacrifice hit last week. Today I want to say something about training and keeping the score. Do you know what Bob told me the day after the game? That when he walked up to the plate and heard the crowd shouting 'Hit it out, Bob!' 'Knock it a mile!' that was just what he wanted to do. He thought what a wonderful thing it would be if he could land on the ball for a home run. While he was thinking of all the glory which would be his, he suddenly remembered to turn and look at the coach; and when he signaled him to sacrifice, Bob at first thought he wouldn't, and then he remembered he was only one of the team, and so he sacrificed and the team won."

"Wouldn't it be wonderful if every one would remember to turn to the great Coach and do just what He wanted them to do in the great game

of life," broke in Jim.

"Yes, but they don't," said Tom. "They forget."

"That's just the trouble," said Mr. Parker. "They forget. God wants to help every fellow play the game so the team can win, but too often we go out to get something for ourselves, forgetting to look at the Coach."

"Do you mean we forget to pray and to ask God about everything?" asked Tom.

"Yes," said Mr. Parker. "We must constantly be turning to our Coach for His orders. He wants to guide us. Do you remember the memory verse we had once—'In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths'?"

"How can we always acknowledge Him?" inquired Charles. "How can we always remember to turn to the Coach?"

"Now listen, fellows, let's come to that point. How can we remember to turn always to our great Coach? Do you recall the question Tom raised when our class had to stop last Sunday? What about our giving? God found out very early that man forgot His ownership and began to do as they pleased with everything they had, and so, way back, centuries ago, He made a rule to help men remember to turn to Him about the use of their property, their money. You know God's people, the Israelites, were farmers when they lived in Palestine, and God planned that the first-fruits—the first-born of the cattle, the first bushels of grain from the field, the first bunches of grapes from the vines, the first measures of oil from the olive press—should be given to Him."

"Was that the tithe you have been telling us about?" asked Jim.

"Yes, God required his ancient people to put aside for Him one-tenth of all that came from their fields. This is how they did it: *first of all*, before they took any for their own use, they measured out the tenth for God. And then, when they had mea-

sured it out, they *put it in a place by itself*. They did not put it into their own bin; they put it into God's bin and out of that bin then they could take of the Separated Portion and give to whomsoever God told them."

"Why, I see," said Charles. "That's the way God meant they should remember Him. Every time they measured the one bushel for God's bin, they would remember that all they had belonged to God; and they must thank Him for it, and inquire of Him how they might use it."

"That certainly was a great way to make them remember to look to the great Coach," broke in Tom.

"And that's the way He will help us to remember, too, Tom," continued Mr. Parker. "As we set aside regularly from all we receive a definite proportion, we will remember that God is the owner of all. And, fellows, we shall surely want to do at least as much as the Jews used to do. Really for most of us I think it ought to be more than the tenth, don't you?"

"What has this got to do with the training table and the score card?" asked Charles, who was still puzzling over the Receiving Teller's window.

"What made Bob remember to look at the coach?" asked Mr. Parker.

"That's what they had been doing all the time in practice," said one of the boys. "Every member of the team had been trained to turn to the coach and follow plans."

"That's what the Separated Portion does. It's the training table of the Christian steward, giving him practice in remembering to look at the Coach. Don't you see, every time we set aside our definite portion for giving, we remember God and we get the habit of asking Him what we ought to do."

"We've all agreed to set aside at least ten per cent of all we get," said Tom Smith. "What ought we to do with it?"

"Now we've come to this Teller's

## CHILDREN . . .

window stuff. I told you that when the Israelite of old measured out his first-fruits, he put the tithe into a bin by itself. I think we ought to do that with our Separated Portion. I've a little bank here, especially prepared for this very purpose. It's called 'My Giving Bank.' Every time we get our allowances or receive a gift, we will, first thing, put our Separated Portion in our banks."

Mr. Parker then gave each boy one of the banks. While they were reading the statements printed on the sides, Mr. Parker explained that out of the money in the bank they could take what they needed for their church envelope for the Sunday School offering and for any other charity.

"I'll say, that's putting IN into giving," said Tom, "I'm going to begin to put my Separated Portion in right now. Dad gave me my allowance of \$2.00 this morning; so here goes twenty cents. No! I guess I'll make it a quarter."

"Now, Tom, you ought to begin to keep score," said Mr. Parker.

"What do you mean?" asked Tom.

Then, Mr. Parker gave each boy a Junior Steward's Account Book,\* and showed the class how to keep an account of all the money received and how used. They were all anxious to get home with their banks and account books, so they could begin keeping the score of their stewardship of their money.

"Of course, every fellow will be doing different things with his money," said Jim, "but I think we ought to agree to bring our Account Books once in a while to have them audited. We're members of the stewardship team of this class, and it would be good to compare our score cards. Don't you think so, Mr. Parker?"

"That's a capital idea, Jim. Suppose we plan to bring them the last Sunday of every Quarter?"

"We must stop now, fellows, and before the bell rings let us all turn to our Coach for a moment, and ask Him to help us be good stewards in the use of our money, honestly and unselfishly, playing the game so that the team can win. Let us pray!"

## REPORT . . .

We continue to thank God for our evangelist, and for the way that God is using him. He and his family have gone through a time of real testing with the illness of his wife. We thank God for her improvement and continue to uphold them before the throne of grace. It is good to claim the promise that "all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to His purpose" (Rom. 8:28).

It is good to know that a number of our pastors serving congregations are spending some time in evangelistic services in other parishes.

---

---

### HYMN

*Sing and memorize—"Master, no offering costly and sweet"*

(Call particular attention to all stewardship implications in the hymn.)

Master, no offering

Costly and sweet,

May we, like Magdalene,

Lay at Thy feet;

Yet may love's incense rise,

Sweeter than sacrifice,

Dear Lord, to Thee,

Dear Lord, to Thee.

Daily our lives would show

Weakness made strong,

Toilsome and gloomy ways

Brightened with song;

Some deeds of kindness done,

Some souls by patience won,

Dear Lord, to Thee,

Dear Lord, to Thee.

To teach—That every one should keep an account of his money in order to proportion all of one's resources to all of life's interests and to encourage the practice of putting God first in the Separated Portion.

\*Where prepared Account Books are not available, the leader should help his group to rule off a blank book to use in their account keeping.

—Guy L. Morrill,

*Stewardship Stories*, Harper and Brothers Publishers.

## CAMPS AND CONFERENCES

Spiritual life in the Association continues to be enriched through the fine District Camps, Rallies and Family Camps, through various Retreats, and through the Mid-winter Bible Conferences. It is always encouraging and uplifting to be where God's Word is proclaimed.

We are thankful for those people who are willing to plan, organize and be involved in camps, retreats and conferences.

We are also thankful to God for the fine facilities that are made available for us and that are being developed for our camping needs.

## OUR AFLC SCHOOLS

Our Seminary was begun in 1964 and our Bible School in 1966. The people of our AFLC have come to love these schools. These schools are not a luxury. They are our source of Christian workers. The seminary is our primary source for pastors and our Bible School is an important feeder.

As a church we are grateful to God for the enrichment these schools have made to the life of our church. We praise God for the able and dedicated leadership our schools have experienced under Dean Monseth in the seminary, and Dean Moland in the Bible School. We pray for God's richest blessing upon Pastor Moland as he returns to the most important calling of all in the ministry of the Church, the parish ministry. We welcome Pastor Don Greven as he assumes the role of acting dean.

Another important reason for the effectiveness of the ministries of our schools is the unselfish dedication of faculty and staff to the goals of our schools. A unique oneness is evident as these people pray and work together.

A facilities committee continues to study the future needs of our schools and will report to this conference.

## MISSIONARY OUTREACH

Desiring to be obedient to Christ's command to go into all the world  
(Continued on p. 13)

---

# editorials

---

## REV. MARIUS HAAKENSTAD

The news that Pastor Marius Haakenstad had gone to be with the Lord came to us during the Annual Conference. A stalwart servant of the Master has gone on before.

To not a few of those who heard the announcement his name meant nothing. They had heard his name read as that of a pastor on the clergy roster, but it may not have registered with them. Some thought, yes, I've heard that name before but I really don't know anything about him. It's all very hazy. For others of us there was a personal relationship. 'Tis always so when we read or hear that someone has passed on.

For myself, I remember where and when I met Marius Haakenstad. The year was 1946 and I had come to Minneapolis fresh out of high school to attend Augsburg College. The day I arrived, or the next day, we met in the little shipping room of Messenger Press on Riverside Avenue. He was wrapping merchandise for shipment from the bookstore of the Lutheran Free Church and I was to help him. I found him a smiling, pleasant man with a real Norwegian brogue. He would have been 49 then and I was 18. He taught me how to wrap the packages correctly and get them ready for mailing.

We spent approximately five years together in the Augsburg community before he left to take his first parish. Sometimes we worshipped at the same church, Olivet Lutheran on 23rd and Franklin, where he and his wife Inga always worshipped. If Marius smiled easily, Inga did so even more readily.

Marius Haakenstad got into the world of higher education much later than most. He got his college degree at 49, his seminary diploma at 53. That says something about his determination.

The Haakenstads came to Thief River Falls, Minn., in time for him to be the host pastor for the organizing conference of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations in 1962. While still at Thief River Falls he would host the regular conference of 1966.

Rev. Haakenstad was a common man. He didn't know how to "put on airs" and I doubt he ever tried. In his later years of activity the conviction grew within him that there was considerable artificiality among those who professed Christ. That is not an easy burden to carry and to proclaim, but he shared that message when he could.

The last years for him and his wife together were not without trials as physical infirmities beset them. Some AFLC friends kept in touch with them. That must have cheered them a great deal. My last contact with the Haakenstads was several years ago by telephone. It was pleasant to hear those familiar, distinctive voices once again.

Now Pastor Haakenstad, Marius, has joined the host

which is gathering on that other side of Jordan. The weaknesses of this life are gone for them and they have seen the Lord whom here they knew through faith. May the Lord sustain his wife Inga in all the coming days and until they meet again.

—Raynard Huglen

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The first part of the President's message to the church is to be found in this issue. It will be concluded next time.

Almost four hundred people of the AFLC heard the message as it was delivered in person at the Annual Conference. Still others have since read it from the conference books brought home by delegates. But nevertheless it is good to make it available to our readers, too, as early as possible. (It will be available later as part of the published Annual Report.)

We commend the President's message to you. It is the one time in the year in which a president gives a "state of the church" address. President Snipstead touches on many aspects of our life together—evangelism, schools, missions, pastors' salaries, stewardship, Lutheran merger, and more—as well as conditions in the world and the U.S. in general.

This year he devotes more time than usual to the stewardship and finances of the church. This part of the message won't be printed until next time, but we can say that it is of interest that he points out how the five-year average of budget increases in the AFLC is running seven percentage points above the average increase in giving for those years. And he sees this as great cause for concern.

The list of special events—ordinations, installations, dedications, etc.—is not included because of lack of space. But we want you to read that when you get your copy of the Annual Report.

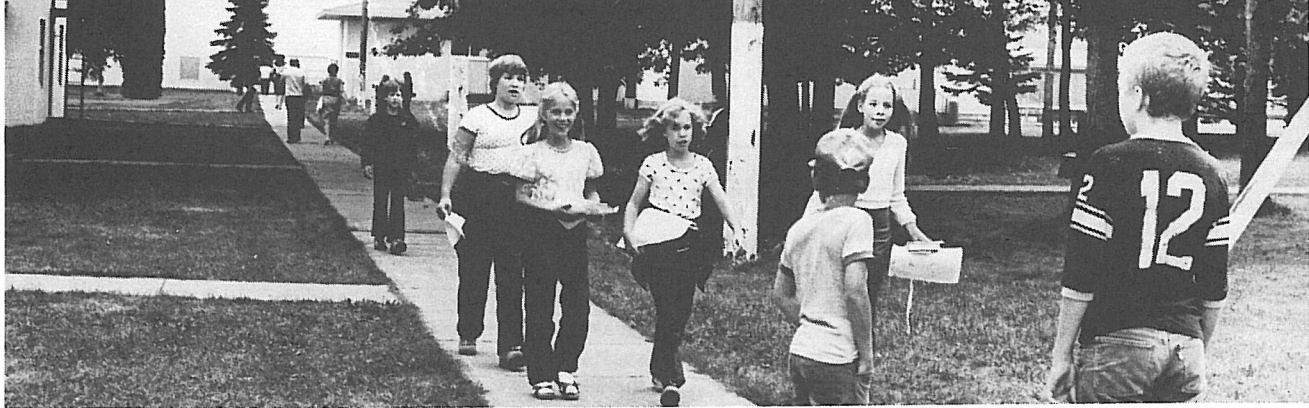
But read the President's message. Be informed. Hear what he has to say to our church.

## MORE NEXT TIME

Some years the schedule for preparing the *Ambassador* which carries conference coverage is very convenient. At other times it is anything but. This year is one of *those* times.

The Monday after was travel day. A parish emergency came up. And the deadline for us to get our copy in the mail was Wednesday. So we've had a minimum of time and are thankful for what we did get done before leaving for conference.

For now, though, just this word of explanation. No apologies really. Next time we will wrap up our conference coverage and editorialize on a few things.



## AFLC FAMILY CAMP

August 6-12

### DAILY SCHEDULE

(Monday Supper-5:30 p.m.)

- 7:00 Rising Bell and Devotions
- 7:45 Youth Breakfast
- 8:00 Adult and Children Breakfast
- 8:30 Clean Up
- 9-9:50 Bible Classes (all ages)
- 10-10:45 Adult Choir
  - Adult Discussion
  - Youth Discussion
  - Confirmation Discussion
- 11-11:45 Missions Hour (All older groups)
- 12:00 Youth Lunch
- 12:15 Adult and Children's Lunch
- 1:00 Quiet Time
- Choir
- 1:30-4:30 Recreation and Free Time
- 5:00 Youth Supper
- 5:15 Adult and Children Supper
- 7:00 Prayer Time (All ages)
- 7:30 EVENING SERVICE
- 9:15 Afterglow
- 10:00 Dorm Devotions
- 11:00 Lights Out

### CAMP FACULTY:

- Evening Speaker
  - Pastor Kenneth Pentti
- Adult Bible Teacher
  - Pastor Elden Nelson
- Senior High Bible Teacher
  - Pastor Michael Brandt
- Junior High Bible Teacher
  - Pastor Paul Nash
- Grade School Coordinator
  - Mrs. Kathy Murphy
- Choir Director
  - Mr. Cary Dietsche
- Missions Hour
  - Pastor John Abel
  - Pastor Elden Nelson

*Theme verse: II Chron. 16:9*  
*Theme song: "Living for Jesus"*

### CAMP STAFF:

- Dean
  - Pastor Donald Greven
- Ass't. Dean
  - Pastor Harris Van Someren
- Dean of Men
  - Pastor Ted Berkas
- Dean of Women
  - Miss Lavonne Torkelson
- Registrars
  - Mr. and Mrs. Allen Anderson
- Treasurer
  - Mr. Gary Modean
- Camp Nurses
  - Mr. and Mrs. Rod Kjersten
- Camp Editor
  - Pastor Gerald Mundfrom

### Remember These! Don't Forget

Bible, pen, paper, a good supply of bedding, towels, wash cloths, personal items, sporting goods and musical instruments.

### Health Certificates:

Law requires that any young person under eighteen must have a health certificate signed by a physician IF he attends camp without a parent or guardian. Ask your Pastor for a copy of this form or write to: Rev. Don Greven, 317 So. 3rd St., Kenyon, Minn. 55946.

Association Retreat Center  
Osceola, Wis.

### Location:

Crossing the St. Croix River at Stillwater, Minn., go east on Hwys. 35 and 64 to East Farmington. Turn east and continue for 2½ miles.

OR, take Interstate 94 from the east or west to Hwy. 35. Then go north on Hwy. 35 to East Farmington. Turn east and continue for 2½ miles.

### Camp Guidelines:

1. Do not bring radios, record players or tape players. Recorders are allowed to record sessions.
2. Shorts are for recreation only.
3. Dresses or skirts are to be worn in all sessions. Pant suits may be acceptable.
4. No bikini bathing suits.
5. No firecrackers or fireworks.
6. Rules for acceptance and participation are the same for everyone without regard to race, color or national origin.

### Costs:

- Camp Manager: Mr. Bob Dietsche
- Adults — \$35
- Teens — \$30
- Grade School — \$25
- Under 4 — Free
- Maximum Family Fee — \$130
- Recreational Vehicles — \$3.50 per day





# WMF BIBLE STUDY

## Lesson VIII The "I AMs" of Jesus

I AM THE SON OF GOD John 10:36

"Son of God" is a term used in the New Testament to show that Jesus was the unique Son of God, equal to God, and God's revelation of Himself on earth.

Although He did not describe Himself as the Son of God, He agreed that He was when others called Him that. When the high priest asked, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" He answered, "I am."

### I. THE SON OF GOD — HIS NAMES

1. In what article of the Apostles' Creed do we state our belief in the Son of God? \_\_\_\_\_
2. a) What two names are given to the Son of God in this article, as well as in John 17:3? \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Give the meaning of these two names. \_\_\_\_\_

b) What is Christ's work as Prophet? (Luke 24:19) \_\_\_\_\_

c) What is Christ's work as King? (Luke 1:33; Revelation 17:14) \_\_\_\_\_

### IV. THE SON OF GOD — HIS CHILDREN

15. How are the believers named after Christ (1 John 2:20 and Luther's answer to question 165 in the Explanation) \_\_\_\_\_

16. The Son of God shows His faithfulness to the believer. He is our all in all. Match the following:

- |                                       |                             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| _____ In life our Pattern.            | a) Romans 1:4               |
| _____ In death our Propitiation.      | b) Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1 |
| _____ In Resurrection our Pledge.     | c) 1 Peter 2:21             |
| _____ In Ascension our Preparer.      | d) 1 John 3:2               |
| _____ In heaven our Priest.           | e) John 16:7,13             |
| _____ In the Spirit, Present with us. | f) 1 John 4:10              |
| _____ In His Coming, our Perfector.   | g) John 14:2                |

17. a) It is not sufficient that we know all these things about Christ and hold them to be true. According to the Third Article and John 14:26, who must teach us to know Christ in a true and living faith? \_\_\_\_\_

b) What are some of the results of His presence in the life of the believer? (II Timothy 1:7) \_\_\_\_\_

18. In Matthew 17:5, His voice bears a message to all mankind saying: "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him." Have you heard His voice and accepted Him? Are we allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us to the fullest? In what ways are we responding (individually and collectively) to Matthew 28:19 and Mark 16:10? \_\_\_\_\_

**"IF YOUR CHRISTIANITY IS WORTH HAVING, IT SHOULD BE WORTH SHARING!"**

Suggested hymn for closing: "The Only Son from Heaven" (Concordia #114).

## II. THE SON OF GOD — HIS NATURES

To be the complete expression of God, Christ had to be God. To be seen and understood by man, He had to be human. Jesus Christ has a dual nature—He is the God-man. In order to begin understanding Jesus Christ, it is necessary to explore His diety and His humanity. Let us look at God's Word and our Catechism as we study His natures.

### A. HIS DIETY

3. Who is Jesus Christ? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How does Christ have divine nature? (Look at Luther's words in "What does this mean" of the Second Article.) \_\_\_\_\_
5. What does the Bible say about Christ being true God?  
John 10:30 \_\_\_\_\_  
John 3:16 \_\_\_\_\_

"The Son of God became the Son of Man  
that He might change  
the sons of men into sons of God."

(*Uncle Ben's Quote Book* by De Jong)

6. God is holy and man is sinful. To bridge the gap between God and man, God took the form of a man in Jesus Christ. Fill in the correct answer to complete the statements that Christ is divine. (the disciples, Paul, Peter, Jesus, John the Baptist, Christian, the angel Gabriel)
- Proclaimed by \_\_\_\_\_ before birth. (Luke 1:35)
- Pointed out by \_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:29, 34)
- Pronounced by \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 16:16)
- Perceived by \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 14:33)
- Professed by \_\_\_\_\_ Himself. (Luke 22:70)
- Preached by \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 4:15)
- Prime Article of the \_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:29, 34)
7. Read Hebrews 1:8-12. In the blank next to each statement below, write the number of the verse(s) that brings out the truth stated.
- Jesus is the Creator \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is unchangeable \_\_\_\_\_
- Jesus is eternal \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is righteous \_\_\_\_\_

## B. HIS HUMANITY

8. According to the second article of the Apostles' Creed, Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:18, how does Christ have human nature? \_\_\_\_\_

9. What does the Bible say about Christ being both God and man?  
John 1:14 \_\_\_\_\_  
Galatians 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_

10. How is Jesus' humanity seen in the following situations?  
John 4:6 \_\_\_\_\_  
John 4:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
John 11:35 \_\_\_\_\_

11. In Matthew 4:1—11, we have the story of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness.

- a) Jesus used the same phrase in each of His three answers to Satan. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_  
What does it mean? Ephesians 6:17 \_\_\_\_\_
- b) Jesus' answers to Satan are also written in Deuteronomy. Draw lines to connect them with the verses in Matthew.

Deuteronomy 8:3      Matthew 4:10  
Deuteronomy 6:16      Matthew 4:7  
Deuteronomy 6:13      Matthew 4:4

12. a) What temptations do you often face? \_\_\_\_\_  
b) How can you follow Jesus' example and arm yourself against this temptation? \_\_\_\_\_
- c) If we fail to overcome a given temptation, what promise can we claim in I John 1:9? \_\_\_\_\_

**"If you would master temptation, let Christ master you."**

## III. THE SON OF GOD — HIS WORK

13. How was Jesus anointed? (Acts 10:38) \_\_\_\_\_
14. According to the Word of God and Luther's Small Catechism Explained, Jesus was anointed and consecrated for a three-fold office: to be our Priest, Prophet and King.
- a) What is Christ's work as High Priest? (Hebrews 7:26-27; Romans 8:34) \_\_\_\_\_

## REPORT . . .

with the Gospel, our AFLC has maintained a strong emphasis on Home and World Missions. The need for this outreach continues to increase.

Though the response of our people in their support of both Home and World Missions has been good, we need to be challenged to greater efforts and sacrifices, if we are to be equal to the tasks before us. The tasks of evangelizing the world must be central in all that we do.

Pastor John Abel and his wife Ruby, who were instrumental in opening the first mission field for the AFLC in Brazil in 1964, are with us at this Conference. Additional workers for the Brazilian work has had Conference approval, but the financial resources have been lacking. Our vision of the need in that country needs renewal.

More detailed reports of our World Mission outreach will come before you under the Mission presentation. We would like to make only these additional comments. The work in Mexico and Paraguay shows good progress. With Rev. Dasari now on the field and directing the work in India, we are confident of a continued growth in our work in that country. All of it conveys one message to us as we think of the work on these fields. We are going to have to dig deeper if we do not want to hold the work back of reaching those who have never once heard the message of God's saving grace in Jesus Christ.

Opportunities have never been greater for the establishment of new congregations across the length and breadth of our country. We are glad for the new congregations being established this year. How satisfying it ought to be for the people of our Association to have a share in the blessed work of seeing Sunday Schools established and parents, perhaps for the first time, confronted with the saving Gospel of Christ. We could do so much more if we had the necessary funds and the qualified pastors were available.

Of nine congregations received into the AFLC since the last Annual Conference, four were congregations

established by our Home Mission efforts.

### PASTORS AND SALARIES

Our graduating class of seminary seniors numbers 11 men this year. With 12 completing seminary the year before, you might be led to conclude that the AFLC has finally solved the problem of the shortage of pastors. We wish that we could state that that is the situation.

Two of this year's graduating class are looking to service on foreign mission fields. The nine men available to fill vacancies in congregations should all be placed by the end of the summer. Present indications are that we will still have a number of vacancies after all the seminary graduates have accepted calls.

The change in the internship program, adding a full year to the seminary training, goes into effect next year. There will be no graduates from our seminary next year. The two graduating classes following that are comparatively small classes. The problem of the pastoral shortage is still with us. We need to continue to pray that the Lord of the Harvest will continue to send laborers into the field. Let us pray also that God will send to our fellowship men from other synods who are of like mind and spirit.

We do not want to forget that one of our pastors is serving full-time in the chaplaincy. Capt. Timothy Skramstad, with his family, is now stationed in Germany. That is a long way from home. Keep Chaplain Skramstad on your prayer list, and write to him when you have opportunity to do so.

Last January at our Pastors' Conference we conducted another salary survey. Sixty pastors participated in the survey. The results were rather gratifying. The results were as follows:

#### Average Cash Salary

- a) of all pastors, including housing, but excluding all other benefits . . . . \$16,488.00
- b) of all pastors when all benefits were included . . . . . \$18,050.00

- c) of pastors in a parsonage with all benefits included . . \$16,713.00
- d) of pastors given a housing allowance, with all benefits included . . . . . \$20,143.00

We are pleased that there continues to be a steady increase in the average cash salary paid to pastors in the AFLC. We commend our congregations for their concern that the material needs of the pastor and his family will be taken care of. We would at the same time urge those congregations who are well below the average cash salary, to look prayerfully at what they might do to provide an adequate salary.

### NEW HYMNAL

A report was presented at the last Annual Conference from the Hymnal sub-committee. The Conference approved the committee's recommendation that another survey be taken in 1985. People continue to ask about the status of a new hymnal or a supplement to the *Concordia*. I believe that our people in the AFLC have needed this additional time to consider and evaluate the importance of such a project. I personally believe that a new or revised *Concordia* would be a great blessing to our people and to our congregational life. It would eliminate the need for two hymnals in our pews, which besides being costly is also often confusing, particularly for visitors in our churches.

(To be continued)

### IN MEMORIAM

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

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

Ortley  
Mrs. Aili Swanson, 78, June 2, Ortley.

(Correction: In the In Memoriam notice in the June 5 issue, the name of the church to which the late Earl P. Davidson belonged is Tabor. We are sorry for the omission.)

# ...from the Conference Report

## THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Loyalty to Christ is demonstrated in our everyday life by our love to people and our love to our church. Jesus said, "As you have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." As our AFLC grows physically and spiritually, loyalty must be preserved and maintained. Holding fast to the Word of God assures us of that spirit of loyalty that is needed.

—Rev. Wendell E. Johnson,  
Chairman

## THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

The day and age in which we live is very frightening to people living outside of Christ's guidance and direction. As we look at the overall work in our AFLC there is much slackness to be seen. We don't want our churches to have *pews that are full of empty people*. There is a certain complacency among us. It is as if we in the AFLC feel that we belong to a solid Lutheran body and we have "arrived." Actually, we are living very dangerously if we refuse to take the "yoke" upon us. The past year we were able to make only 82% of our total budget, and that is not a healthy sign. We are getting numerous inquiries from other Lutheran congregations asking to become a part of our Association. They feel the AFLC is one of the last efforts for Lutherans to hear the true Gospel. God has given us this wonderful opportunity to preach the Gospel until the end.

—Ernest J. Miedema

## THE DIRECTOR OF THE ARC

We are making plans to go ahead with the remodeling of a barracks into six two-bedroom apartments. We think we can pay for the remodeling in about six years with the proceeds of the rental income. We have two or three prospects to rent apartments right now if they were ready. We

will also be able to offer a lifetime lease for an apartment to people who would like to retire at the ARC. We would like to see this restricted to folks who are AFLC members. We hope to have something in print by conference time.

—R. L. Dietsche

## THE DEAN OF THE SEMINARY

"Loyalty to Christ" is loyalty to His precious Word. It is manifested in whole-hearted commitment to the truthfulness of every part of God's Word. This loyalty is also demonstrated in desire to share this Word with one another. This "sharing" is not so much a great commission as it is a great privilege and opportunity. This is especially true as one recognizes that Christ's Word is pre-eminently "good news." It is news of forgiveness of sin; it is news of the gift of eternal life. How sorely our world needs this good news! AFLTS exists to prepare men to share this Word, that they in turn may help to equip others also. Dear brothers and sisters, pray that the seminary may grow in commitment to this great purpose. May our loyalty be seen in active and joyful desire to know Christ better and to make Him known!

—Rev. Francis Monseth

## WORLD MISSIONS COMMITTEE

Our Conference theme, "Loyalty to Christ," is indeed a challenge to each one of us as we endeavor to follow Him in His missionary enterprise. Jesus Christ is still calling for witnesses and supporters of the missionary enterprise to move out from His church to proclaim, to evangelize and to build His Church in all parts of His world. Today witnesses and supporters are urgently needed and wanted. Christ's power supply is still available to all who would be loyal to Him.

—Rev. Amos O. Dyrud, Chairman

## WORLD MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Missions requires more than just preaching the Gospel at people. The missionary enterprise must deal with all levels of human need. *But* top priority *must* also be given to the tragedy of the billions of people who are unsaved, unreconciled to the Father. Today five out of six non-Christians in our world have no hope unless missionaries come to them and plant the church among them. Every day 80,000 of these die without having any contact with a church that could make the Gospel understandable to them. For this reason we

## ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

### BUDGET RECEIPTS

February 1-May 31

FUND	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL REC'D TO DATE	% of TOTAL*
General Fund	\$ 193,152.00	\$ 51,695.70	27
Schools — AFLTS	267,484.00	54,221.72	20
AFLBS			
Home Missions	237,739.00	45,422.27	19
World Missions	274,720.00	54,201.21	20
Praise Fund	30,000.00	7,673.18	26
TOTAL	\$1,003,095.00	\$213,214.08	21*
1983-84	\$ 963,916.00	\$173,914.38	18

\*Goal 33%

must reaffirm that our mission strategy at home and abroad must concentrate on evangelism and church planting. All other ministries and good deeds should be balanced with this great effort so that maximum finding of lost sinners takes place

—Rev. Eugene Enderlein

## THE HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE

What is the mission of the Church? What is the mission of Home Missions? In many ways they are the same, that of preaching the good news of Jesus Christ. It is a message that offers forgiveness, peace and hope in a world that can offer none of these blessings.

Home Missions is different in the sense that it is in the Lord's business of planting new churches in places where the need is great and a door is open for ministry. This is a necessary work for our AFLC. It is also a work that needs much of God's direction and wisdom.

—Rev. David Molstre, Chairman

## THE HOME MISSIONS DIRECTOR

In Acts 2:47 Luke writes of the early church saying, "And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved." This is the first priority of AFLC Home

Missions: reaching out with the life-giving message of the Gospel so that souls may be saved. As we consider the high calling our Lord has given us, our prayer should daily be that we remain faithful to Him and that we continue in and according to His powerful Word.

—Rev. Elden Nelson

## THE COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

Hopefully, too, there will be available by conference time a tract "What's Wrong?", which includes the Ten Commandments — the Law. You see, what's missing in many modern Gospel presentations is the Law. People need to know they are sinners before they will see the need to be saved. Paul said, "I would never have come to know sin except through the Law," and he said, "I agree with the Law, that it is good" (Rom. 7:7,16). America has lost its bearings because it has lost its conscience. Abortions, porn, drugs, etc., witness to the degradation of our once great country. There is no fear, awe and reverence for God. There are no moral absolutes. America needs the Lutheran Church because the Lutheran Church has the Law and the Gospel. We need to preach the Law and the Gospel. Then the Good News will be Good again!

—Rev. James C. Gerdeen, Chairman

## THE AFLC EVANGELIST-YOUTH WORKER

*True freedom comes only through the Son.* "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Gal. 5:1 RSV). Christ grants to us freedom from the condemnation that sin brings because He has purchased us with His own precious blood (1 Pet. 1:18, 21). Christ sets us

✠

## WITH OUR EVANGELIST-YOUTH WORKER

Evangelist Kenneth Pentti announces these coming appointments in late summer and early fall. Pray for these services that the Lord may touch hearts and change lives.

### Osceola, Wis.

Association Retreat Center  
AFLC Family Camp  
Aug. 6-12

### Burton, O.

Luther Deeper Life Camp  
Aug. 18-25

### Arlington, Wash.

Atonement Lutheran Church  
Sept. 9-13  
Richard Anderson, pastor

### Lake Stevens, Wash.

Elim Lutheran Church  
Sept. 16-20  
Richard Anderson, pastor

### Cumberland, Wis.

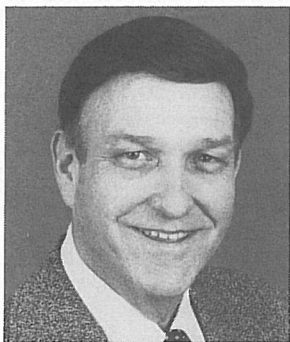
Section Ten Lutheran Church  
Sept. 23-27  
Pastoral vacancy

### Virginia, Minn.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Sept. 30-Oct. 4  
Henry A. E. Johansen, pastor

## TEACHERS NEEDED

King of Glory Christian High School, Eden Prairie, Minn. needs teachers for the school year beginning Sept. 10, 1984. The A Beka curriculum will be taught in a traditional classroom setting at the church for grades 8-12. Duties include teaching and some administration. Salary is negotiable. Applicants should consider the special challenges and blessings which accompany the ministry of starting a Christian school. Call (612) 934-1708 for applications.



## Dr. Martin to speak

Dr. Walter Martin will be the guest lecturer at the Summer Institute of Theology this year, speaking during the first week, July 23-26, on Cults and Isms. Founder and director of the Christian Research Institute, Dr. Martin is widely acknowledged as the outstanding evangelical authority on pseudo-Christian cults and the study of comparative religions in America.

In addition to Dr. Martin's lectures, other courses will be taught that week and the following one by regular seminary faculty at Association Free Lutheran Seminary, Minneapolis, Minn..

## CORRECTION

In the June 5 issue of the *Ambassador* the attendance at the North Central Minnesota District spring rally of the WMF was given as 47. It should have read 117.

## CONFERENCE . . .

free with a liberty which is instantaneously received. Christ grants us a freedom which lasts forever. The freedom that comes from Christ is received as a free gift to those who come to Him in the faith which surrenders (Rom. 6:23).

—Rev. Kenneth Pentti

### THE BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS AND PARISH EDUCATION

The Board members continue to be concerned over the fact that many of our congregations use non-Lutheran materials in their Sunday Schools. If we believe the Lutheran presentation of faith to be an accurate summary of Biblical teaching, are we not running the risk of losing our children by default when we use non-Lutheran instructional materials and methods? If we believe that Lutheran theology is the best theology to attain to Biblical, personal, balanced and mature, living Christianity, do we dare think that an opposing non-Lutheran theology could accomplish that end equally well? We think not, and still it happens. What a need we have, as pastors, teachers, and lay people, to be instructed in the truth and the seriousness of these things. What a joy it has been this past year to hear from several congregations that more and more of our members are seeing the need for using our Ambassador Sunday School series because they desire consistency in the spiritual training of their children and young people.

—Rev. Ralph Tjelta, Chairman

### THE YOUTH BOARD

As I have gone back and searched over the AFLC resolutions and youth work in the annual reports of the Youth Board, it has been greatly demonstrated, time after time, that the conference sees a need for a stronger youth ministry. This is not to say that our current Evangelist-Youth Worker is not doing his job. We appreciate everything Pastor Pentti is doing in our congregations by his faithful preaching of the Word, encouraging the youth and holding youth banquets and rallies wherever he has been able to do so. He also has been used at many Bible camps for which we are very thank-

---

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

---

---

Second-class postage  
paid at Minneapolis, Minn.

---

ful He has done a superb job for the time that he has been allotted to work with our youth.

There, however, seems to be an emphasis which calls for the office of youth worker and evangelist to be separate.

—Rev. Paul Nash, Chairman

### THE LUTHER LEAGUE FEDERATION

Another area of concern that we have been working on is to create a unity, a cooperation on the local level the youth groups. We are endeavoring at this time to set up a system whereby we can communicate with our district officers and local advisors or workers so that the continuity of ministry can somewhat be established. We have seen that there are some districts that do not have officers or regular retreats. If we can, we want to encourage these districts to work toward regular district gatherings, for it is so beneficial to our young people to meet together with others in their district.

—Rev. Curtis Emerson, President

### THE STEWARDSHIP BOARD

Our Board is committed to a grace-motivated, Gospel-centered stewardship approach. We seek to promote this emphasis within the local congregation, not merely to meet the AFLC budget, but because we see it as a matter of individual and congregational spiritual life and growth.

The *motive* for our stewardship is the glory of God and the good of others (II Corinthians 8:21). The

*measure* of our stewardship is Jesus Christ, giving Himself for our salvation (II Corinthians 8:9).

—Rev. Robert L. Lee, Chairman

---

### Northern Minnesota Laymen to meet

The Northern Minnesota Lutheran Laymen's Society will hold a meeting on Sunday, July 22, at Ny Stavanger Lutheran Church in Buxton, N. Dak., at 2:30 p.m. The text for discussion will be Romans 11. All are welcome.

Mr. Art Joppru, Chairman  
Mr. Joe Jacobson, Secretary

---

### Rev. Haakenstad dies

Rev. Marius Haakenstad, 86, Prescott, Ariz., retired AFLC pastor, passed away the week of the Annual Conference in June. He had been in failing health for some years. He is survived by his wife Inga.

A more complete obituary will be given next time.

Blessed be his memory.

---

### Personalities

Retired Lay Pastor Sidney Swensen has moved to Chicago. His address is Bethesda Home, Room 160, 2833 No. Nordica Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60634.

The new address for Pastor John Kjos and family is 10151 Cottonwood Street N.W., Coon Rapids, Minn. 55433, where he is available for pastoral supply. Telephone: 612-784-3675.