



THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

November 10, 1992



**LOOK
TO
THE
ROCK**

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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A Time To Pause And Remember

The pastures are clothed with flocks: the valleys are also covered over with grain; they shout for joy, they also sing (Psalm 65:13).

Thanksgiving is a time to pause and remember. It is a time to look around us and recall all the blessings God continues to pour into our lives. One of the purposes of thanksgiving is to awaken us to all the things we take for granted. By nature we are always in danger of taking things for granted, especially in our age of rapid change.

Our forefathers found it difficult to take even the simplest things for granted. They dug wells for water, planted trees or logged forests for firewood and grew crops for food. Today modern industry and technology provide all we need. Men and women hold jobs which produce goods and services for us. Today most all of us have all our needs and many of our wants met.

From time to time there are natural disasters such as Hurricane Andrew in Florida and Louisiana or the recent one in Hawaii. At these times we are reminded of how dependent we are on one another as well as the basic elements such as water, food, shelter and clothing.

The loaf of bread on the table is often taken for granted in our day. It has been bought at the baker's or the supermarket and beyond that we give it little thought.

Just then the season of thanksgiving comes upon us, causing us to pause and remember. We are shaken out of our "ruts" of complacency. Once again we are touched with the wonder of the ordinary and how God in His love is behind the scenes blessing our lives. The season of thanksgiving should put wonder and glory back into the everyday and commonplace as we pause to remember God and His mercies in our lives.

Thanksgiving has Christian roots. As we look at the life of our Lord Jesus in the Gospels, we see a man who

never took anything for granted. The Pharisees were always doing that. They took the lilies of the field and the little children for granted. Jesus came and changed all that. In the stories of the woman caught in sin, the mustard seed, the sparrow, the lost coin and the dirty little children, we see One who cared.

How good it is to know that Jesus never takes us for granted, either.

As we pause to remember, we see Jesus on the cross dying for the sins of each person. We are important to Him for time and eternity! You may feel very commonplace and ordinary. But to Jesus you are very special and wonderful, for He viewed all of creation alive with potential.

Another element of thanksgiving is to remember how dependent we are. We are dependent on God and each other. Our communion liturgy reminds us "We are all one bread and one body, even as we are partakers of this one bread and drink of this one cup." It is interesting that Jesus chose "bread" to teach of His dying love for us on the cross. We, too, need to care for one another as Jesus has taught us.

Finally, we pause to remember our utter dependence upon God. In an age of change this is one thing we are in danger of ignoring. With all our modern technology we can easily forget the fact that God ultimately supplies all our needs. We are entirely dependent upon Him. As we pause to remember this thanksgiving season let us also remember: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning," (James 1:17).



— by Rev.
Larry Severson

Thanks To God

Thanks to God for my Redeemer,

Who was sent to be our friend, teacher and guide,
To die on the cruel cross of Calvary
So through His shed blood we can be eternally saved.

Thanks for all Thou dost provide!

For shelter, food, clothes, transportation
For friends and neighbors, church and pastors
And all the "little" things that brighten our every day.
It is not only to receive the blessings
But to share with those who have less than we,
And tithing to the Lord, not just a small left over,
But to give of the first fruits.

Thanks for times now but a memory. Thanks for Jesus by my side!

For Mom and Dad who really wanted me and loved with all their hearts.
For Grandpa and Grandma, uncles and aunts to love and share Jesus with me,
For evangelists and pastors who came to the distant woods in years gone by
Wading through water, mud and snow to tell of Jesus and His love.
Many are gone now but their memory lingers.

Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime,

And that's my favorite time of year
When everything awakens and comes to life
The leaves, flowers, grass, warm rain and balmy days
Bring back all our song birds and all the small creatures of the wild,
Reminding us of the new life we have in Christ
When we surrender all to Him.

Thanks for dark and dreary fall! Thanks for tears by now forgotten,

Oh, the oft experienced long and dark days of our lives
The troubled times, illness, death and rebellion,
What would we do without the Lord
To cling to and leave our burdens there?
He answers prayer. He protects and provides,
Perhaps not always the way we want
But always the better way, His way.

Thanks for peace within my soul!

Forgotten are the tears we shed,
We rejoice in his care and keeping.
A smorgasbord of blessings is our every day,
For He has promised to be with us
Even to the end.

—Mrs. Alfred (Marion) Sonsteng,
Salol, Minnesota

(The author spent three years in bed with TB and at the age of 16 had to learn to walk again. She is an active member of Norland Free Lutheran Church and at 75, continues to daily bake for those in need.)

A dedicated Christian home is a bright light and tremendous blessing in any community. As Thanksgiving Day approaches, I am thanking God for countless blessings, including my Christian heritage. I especially like to sing "Thanks to God for my Redeemer."

"Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered.

Thanks for what Thou dost deny.

Thanks for storms that I have weathered.

Thanks for all Thou dost supply.

Thanks for pain and thanks for pleasure.

Thanks for comfort in despair.

Thanks for grace that none can measure.

Thanks for love beyond compare." (Stanza 2)

The following are some autobiographical highlights. As an infant, I was brought to the Lord in holy baptism with Pastor O.J. Malkewick of Watford City, North Dakota, officiating in his kind and fatherly way.

Very early I learned to fold my hands and pray the table prayer, together with my parents, two older brothers and sister. Since my mother was born in Norway and my father was born in Horace, North Dakota, a Scandinavian community, we used the Norwegian table prayer, "I Jesu Navn gaar vi til bord."

I shall be forever grateful for our summer Vacation Bible School and for my formal public education at the two-room school house. We were blessed with excellent, dedicated teachers who taught us all the basics.

At the age of ten I experienced an unforgettable spiritual encounter. My brother, Harold, had returned from a youth meeting where he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. He was aglow with joy. After he had shared his wonderful testimony with our parents and family, I ran out into the darkness of our farm yard, knelt under the clotheslines and earnestly prayed that I could have such joyful assurance. As I prayed, the Holy Spirit brought to my mind two passages of Scriptures. Matthew 11:28-30 says: "Come unto

Thanksgiving And Thanksliving

Me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you shall find rest unto your souls, for My yoke is easy and My burden is light." The other verse was John 6:37: "All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me, and he that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out." I knew that I had come and He promised not to cast me out, so I hurried back to the living room with my family, assured of my eternal salvation.

One of the highlights of our Farland Lutheran Church was the String Band/Choir of young people under the leadership of Mr. Melvin Walla, I loved playing the Hawaiian guitar, a gift to me from my brother, Alvin. He later drowned in a canoe accident just before my high school graduation. What sorrow and loss we experienced.

My mother, Signe Stenberg, was a singing mother. Our whole family, seven brothers and two sister, inherited her talent. My older sister, Elsie, and I enjoyed singing together as we took turns washing and wiping dishes. We sang several school songs, choruses

and hymns. Our first two-part harmony duet was "Silent Night." Later we mastered "Whispering Hope" and other duets. My younger sister, Lydia, joined us later and we enjoyed harmonizing as a trio.

As a young teenager, I had attended a Youth Bible Camp in the Badlands of North Dakota with Pastor Eugene Stime as the guest speaker. One glorious moonlit evening we were all enjoying a roaring camp fire under a star-studded sky. In the holy stillness of the great outdoors, Pastor Stime shared an unforgettable message based on Psalm 90:14, "Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days." One young fellow suggested that we sing "Silent Night" as a closing hymn that July evening. It seemed very appropriate, even in the middle of summer.

After I graduated from high school, a friend encouraged me to ride the bus with her to New York City where she assured me I could be gainfully employed by a cordial millionaire family on Fifth Avenue. I was one of ten domestic servants. I attended night classes at Hunter College. My sister,

"Thanks to God for My Redeemer."

Indeed, that does say it all. When asked to share from my heart some thoughts on the third stanza of this beautiful hymn, a flood of emotions filled my mind. I find it easy to speak of roses without thorns, of hope without despair, of joys without sorrows. But, that's not life. I pray that God might touch your hearts with fresh thanksgiving and comfort as I share with you what He has laid on my heart.

"Thanks for roses by the wayside,

Thanks for thorns their stems contain!"

As I write this article, we are just at the end of perhaps one of the most beautiful fall seasons ever in Wisconsin. The leaves have been virtually alive with color. Many have offered opinions on why this fall's color is so outstanding, but it strikes me that with all their beauty, the leaves are dying. Throughout our married life, I had the practice

In Life And In Death



**"Oh, satisfy us early
with your mercy, that
we may rejoice and be
glad all our days."**

Elsie, and a girlfriend, Ruth Thoverude, joined me in New York. The Lord led us to a fine Lutheran Brethren Church in Brooklyn where we were invited to sing duets and trios. This opened up an exciting door for us to travel one summer as a Ladies' Gospel Trio. We returned to New York for another year. Then the Lord led me to Augsburg College in Minneapolis,

Minnesota. Working my way through college was a good experience. I was blessed with excellent instructors. One of my favorite activities during my time at Augsburg was singing in the concert choir, directed by Professor Opseth. A daily highlight was the chapel service. We sang an unforgettable portion of Scripture based on Psalm 51:10-12, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit."

After my college graduation, I joined my family who had now moved to Seattle, Washington. Denny Park Lutheran Church became our church home. I became a member of the church staff. There I met my husband-to-be, Anders Mathre, who came to serve as student intern for a year. In 1944, Anders completed his last year at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He accepted a home mission call to Dawson Creek, British Columbia, after which we were married at Denny Park Lutheran Church.

We were blessed with two sons and two daughters. The parish ministry took our family to communities in Canada, Washington State and California.

We moved to Arlington, Washington in 1982 where we assisted at the new Atonement Free Lutheran Church, organized by Pastor Richard Anderson of Elim Free Lutheran Church. Later, student intern Steve Snipstead and his wife, Tracy, served for a year as my husband and I continued to assist in various capacities, also together with Pastor Frank Cherney and his family. My husband was promoted to his heavenly home on April 12, 1988. I continue to serve as organist and part-time secretary for our new pastor, Richard Long.

For all these tremendous blessings, I humbly thank God for His gracious love and faithfulness through the years.



—by Synnove O. Mathre
Lynnwood, Washington

*Mrs. Mathre continues to serve
God with a thankful heart in spite of a
struggle with crippling arthritis.*

of giving Jan a single rose from time to time. In our bedroom I have the roses she carried the night we were married, and the roses our sons gave us last December 17 for our 25th wedding anniversary. All the roses were beautiful, they were delicate, fresh. But, they didn't last. Their beauty fades quickly compared to many other flowers. So have been all the many joys we shared along the wayside of 25 years. They were meant to be savored, enjoyed, but not to be held forever. All the memories of "roses" are precious to me today, but it is what lies ahead that is the greatest source of thanksgiving.

And the thorns! Were it not for the thorns, there would be fewer roses. The thorns reveal how special the roses are. The thorns stand as guardian and protector over the roses. A rose wouldn't be a rose without thorns. There were the thorns that came in the loss of our first three

children by miscarriage during the first eight years of our married life. Then there were the roses of the two sons God gifted to us. There were the thorns, too numerous to mention, of eight years of living in the shadow of cancer. But, with them, God unfolded the most beautiful roses of our entire married life. The fragrance of a commitment to one another born out of trials left our family rich in thanksgiving.

Oh, dear friends, don't withdraw when God sends the thorns. They will contain the most beautiful of roses if you will only patiently wait until God allows them to bloom.

**"Thanks for home and
thanks for fireside,**

Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!"

This one is easier. During these past five months since Jan has been with Jesus, I have ◇

"Hope for tomorrow rests in His faithfulness in the past."

spent hours reflecting on God's goodness in the past. We were blessed to have good, stable homes in which to grow. God blessed us with caring parents who instilled their values in our lives. Our years together as a family were filled with books worth of cherished memories. During those times when news wasn't good with Jan's cancer, we would reflect again on the "hope" that remained unchanged in spite of emotional turmoil around us. Hope is indeed a refrain. It stands as the final thanksgiving ending to every hard stanza of life. It sweetens the bitter, eases the pain. As I look around, I can't see a wall in this home that doesn't bear the imprint of Jan in some way. Thankful? Yes, and far more!

"Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow, Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!"

It may sound strange to some of you, but there is in our sorrow a deep sense of joy. It's not joy in the normal sense one perceives it. It is the ability, given by God, to see beyond any immediate circumstance, and see His hand at work. The sorrow is in my not having the wife God so graciously gave me for over 25 years, our sons not having their mother. The joy is in all the memories and especially the knowledge that she is with Jesus, waiting! I can honestly say that during these past months, God has graciously given a "heavenly peace." In this old world so filled with unrest, it is after all, the

"Thanks for hope in the tomorrow, Thanks thro' all eternity!"

By the grace of God, these past months of sorrow and loneliness have sweetened our relationship with the Lord as a family. We have been more aware of God's desire and His willingness to be there to meet our every need. There are hard days — days when one doesn't care if a tomorrow even comes. There are days of deep loneliness, certain times when you think it's just all a bad dream, that you'll wake up and life will be normal again. But that won't happen. Our hope rests in all God has promised. "I will never leave you nor forsake you." It is the assurance that God goes before us, preparing His best for us, that moves us to thanksgiving. Hope for tomorrow rests in His faithfulness in the past. "As I was with Moses," God told Joshua, "I will be with you."



—Rev. John C. Rieth
Amery, Wisconsin

And, what a praise gathering that will be when we all gather around the throne and worship the "Lamb who was slain." Yes, it will be worth it all. God will be proven all He has promised to be for us here and now. Our sight now is the faith that He will keep His promises. Then we shall see as He sees.

As a final note, I would like to share one of the poems I read during my devotions recently. It is contained in the fifth volume of "Streams in the Desert," now titled "Words of Comfort and Cheer." It was written by Bishop Gilbert Haven after his wife's death.

His Answer

*Beside the dead I knelt for prayer,
And felt a Presence as I prayed.
Lo, it was Jesus standing there!
He smiled, "Be not afraid."*

*"Lord, thou has conquered death, we know;
Restore again to life," I said,
"This one who died an hour ago."
He smiled, "She is not dead."*

*"Asleep, then, as Thyself did say;
Yet Thou canst lift the lids that keep
Her prisoned eyes from ours away."
He smiled, "She doth not sleep."*

*"Yet our beloved seem so far
The while we yearn to feel them near,
Albeit with Thee we trust they are."
He smiled, "And I am here."*

*"Dear Lord, how shall we know that
they
Still walk unseen with us and thee,
Nor sleep, nor wander far away?"
He smiled, "Abide with Me."*

And that abiding is what Thanksgiving is all about. No matter what, in Christ, all that matters in life and in death is as near as His presence.

May Jesus, the great source of all thanksgiving, fill your hearts just now with His love and presence. Perhaps your home has been visited by deep sorrow and disappointment this year. The thought of thanksgiving is distant, near impossible. Please spend some time with the One who understands and longs to tenderly care for and comfort your heart. Thanks indeed to God for our Redeemer. His name be praised!!

A Tribute To Mother



A Reason For Thanksgiving

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:4-7).

I thank God for my mother, Elaine Klug. I do not say that flippantly or with an attitude of self-piety. I truly do thank God for Mom. My mother was first, and foremost, a child of God, second, she was a wife and mother, and third, she was a gifted singer and speaker. If there is a way to best describe Mom, it's that she lived in the Word. She always carried her New Testament with her, dog-eared and marked with dates and prayer concerns. Her concordance was in the same condition. She carried the Living Word, not just in her head, but in her heart. I'm not trying to say that Mom was an angel. She was 100% Norwegian and had the temperament to match! If she disagreed with you, you knew it. Yet, there was gentleness and love in the midst of turmoil.

Mom was old fashioned. Dad (Pastor Ray Klug) cared for his congregation and Mom cared for him and the children. Not just my two brothers, my sister and me, but also foster children and troubled teens who found their way to our door. She kept the parsonage immaculate, entertained committees and church women groups, managed to keep goodies stocked for after school snacks, and tucked us children in bed each night with a special lullaby. It was through these good night songs that she first shared Christ with us. She also had a rare sense of humor and loved a good practical joke. Even in the midst of her pain before her liver transplant, she joked about being "Big Bird" when my daughters (ages five and three) were frightened by her yellow color.

Mom had a beautiful voice and loved to sing. Somehow that doesn't begin to describe what happened when she sang or what the Holy Spirit accomplished through her. When she sang "The King is Coming," you fully expected Jesus to stride down the aisle of the church on the last stanza. One year at Valley Fair in Shakopee, Minnesota, the singer at the grandstand came through the audience looking for some one to come on stage and sing.

Mom ended up leading the assembly in a rousing version of "God Bless America." We'll never know the lives she touched at her many speaking engagements over the years. She shared her faith so simply that a child could understand, yet so deeply that adults were moved.

Mom **prayed!** She communed with God. Sometimes, as children, we would tell her she couldn't pray before school or she would make us late. It wasn't that she rambled on, it was just that she was talking to her best Friend and time wasn't important. If she said she would pray for you, she really did. I think that I will miss knowing that she is uplifting me in daily prayer most of all.

The week before God called Mom home, she told my father: "We taught the children how to live, I hope I can teach them how to die." I thank God for the privilege of being with Mom when Jesus came for her. My Dad, my sister, Debbie Jo, Mom's sister, Sherry, and I, stood by Mom's hospital bed and watched the peace settle over her face. When the doctor nodded, and we knew Mom was Home, Dad said: "The battle's o'er, the Victory's won!" and we sang "The Doxology." "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow?" At my mother's deathbed? **Yes!** Praise God for Mom's life. Praise God for her death and freedom from sickness and pain. Yes, we cry, but not for Mom. We grieve, but only for ourselves, for what we have lost. We rejoice in Mom's victory through Jesus. We give thanks for the years we were blessed by her presence in our lives.

This has been mostly a tribute to my mother, but the one to whom the tribute belongs is God. I have come to know the "peace that transcends all understanding" through Mom's death. These past two weeks I have felt wrapped in Jesus' arms and know His comfort. I know that because Jesus lives, my mother lives, and I will see her again in eternity. Now, **that's** a reason for thanksgiving!

—Rebekah Klug Bakken
Moorhead, Minnesota

Christopher Columbus

My grandfather gave me an unusual coin. The year minted on the coin was 1892. Christopher Columbus' inscription on this rare 50-cent piece marked the quadcentennial of this explorer. The coin alone empirically proves that previously our nation highly respected this Italian discoverer. At the Cathedral of Seville in Spain, I visited the alleged mausoleum of Christopher Columbus. (Some historians claim that Christopher Columbus' grandson transported his grandfather's remains to Santo Domingo). Looking back, I found it ironic that I may or may not have had the opportunity to travel overseas if it were not for this great traveler.

The quincentennial of the Christopher Columbus voyage is being **observed** this year (note I did not use the word "celebrated"). Many who follow the so-called "political-correctness" movement (which in 98% of the time is neither) deemed Columbus unfit, if not deplorable, to honor him. Many public school teachers desiring to uphold Columbus find themselves pressured to "revise" Columbus' character and history. "Politically correct" teachers and education organizations simply ignore parents' concerns about revisionist teachings of Christopher Columbus. The motion picture "Christopher Columbus — The Discovery," "1492," and the PBS broadcast of "Columbus — in the Age of Political Correctness," appear to depict Columbus as an insensitive conqueror. This list could go on.

When asked to write about this great contributor to modern society, I almost felt like the attorney who took the case that no other lawyer would touch. So what is the fuss all about? Perhaps Carol Hampton best summarizes the controversy from the opposite viewpoint: "Many white Americans



are wondering what could be possibly wrong with celebrating the quincentennial of Columbus' "discovery.' How can this be considered racism? Racism, according to a National Council of Churches definition, is 'the intentional or unintentional use of power to isolate, separate, and exploit others ... based on a belief in superior racial origin ...' Part of the problem of gaining racial justice for American Indians is that racism is perceived by many as solely a white-black issue. Those in power see history only from their own perspective, and that's the way they teach it ..." ("A Heritage Denied: American Indians Struggle for Racial Justice," by Carol Hampton. *Sojourners*, Jan. 1991. Pages 10-13).

It is after 499 years that we have finally discovered that Columbus was no discoverer, but a pioneer for slavery and oppression? Is it appropriate to change October 12 from "Columbus Day" to "Indigenous Peoples' Day" as some would have it?

Many miss the point and the contributions of Christopher Columbus. While Columbus was not a perfect human being, he made many fine contributions that impact the 20th Century society. Russell Shaw makes an excellent point by reminding us: "Obviously he was a man of great courage. 'Columbus' glory,' Victor Hugo wrote,

Observance or Celebration?

'lies not in having arrived, but in having weighed anchor.' But he was not driven by blind bravado. Columbus' motives in seeking a sea route to China and Japan were complex but included ambition on behalf of himself and his family, eagerness to advance the cause of his royal patrons King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, and a mystical conviction that he was God's instrument for spreading Christianity to new lands." (Russell Shaw, "Columbus and the Culture War — Critics Choose to See His Faults Instead of His Virtues," *Knights of Columbus — Columbia*, August 1992, pp. 7-10).

Christopher Columbus made contributions in trade and travel. Many blame Columbus for enhancing the slave trade. This accusation is not fair, since someone else would have traveled "the ocean blue" if Columbus did not make his voyage. Should the modern world castigate Columbus for the slave trade? Why not also blame the shipbuilders of the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria for slavery? Of course, I do not advocate slavery (except being a slave to Jesus Christ)! Let us remember that tribal peoples overseas practiced slavery among the other tribal peoples. Slavery, although not right, originated long before 1492. Columbus is not the author of slavery. Sinful human beings in general are either slaves or slave holders.

"Many miss the point and the contributions of Christopher Columbus."

Second, Columbus made contributions for medicine. Because of overseas travels, plants and herbs could be

retrieved for medical research and discovery. Columbus can be credited indirectly for advancing medical science. Do we hear of this contribution much today?

Third, Columbus opened doors to education. When explorers and later settlers came to the Americas, they brought in education, knowledge and learning skills with them. This does not mean that we did not learn something from the peoples of the Americas. The peoples of the early Americas have made fine contributions to the land and society also. But the European settlers did bring in math, writing, the press, certain fine arts, and other forms of education to the Americas. In a real sense, the critics of Columbus need to thank Columbus that they have the education and the academics to even make criticisms toward him. It is like the expression: "Don't criticize farmers with your mouth full."

Finally, perhaps Columbus' biggest contribution is his opening the doors of the "New World" for missionary endeavors. Often this point has become by Columbus' worldly critics as his greatest criticism. Yet Matthew 28:19-20 still stands: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you," (NIV). And grant it, while many medieval missionaries were corrupt, the Word of God remained (and still remains) pure. God, through the written Word, calls us to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to the whole world. Columbus in his journal even wrote: "November 6, 1492: 'I hold, most serene Princes,' the admiral says here, 'that having devout religious persons, knowing their language, they would all at once become Christians, and so I hope in Our Lord that Your Highnesses will take action in this matter with great diligence, in order to turn the church such great peoples and to convert them.'" (As taken from "Journal Columbus Kept Reveals Very Devout Man," *Twin Cities Christian*, June 25, 1992).

Columbus opened the door for the spreading of the Gospel of our Lord

The Catalytic Confrontations of Old Testament Worship

Sacrifices were to be an expression of worship and could not be offered by unchanged people! If they were, God rejected them because they did not constitute worship, (Isaiah 1:11-15).

Sometimes the change came before worship. Sometimes it came after. But God-pleasing worship was always accompanied, preceded or followed by deep (and sometimes traumatic) change in the worshipper.

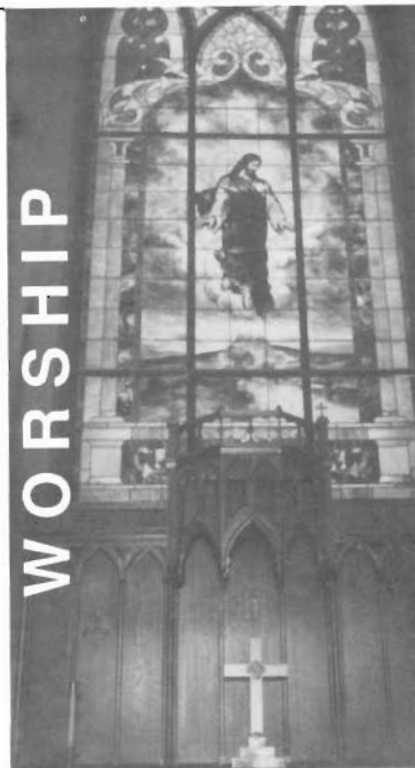
In **Genesis 22**, God tells Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. "Go and offer your son as a burnt offering," (v. 2, NAS). God said, "... burnt offering." When Abraham revealed his schedule to his servant, he said "worship," (v. 5) "stay here ... we will **worship** and return to you." In Abraham's case, the worship is evidence of a confrontation that had already changed him. He didn't tell his wife. He didn't tell his servant. This is a changed man!

In **Isaiah 6:1-6**, Isaiah tells us he "saw the Lord." The sight brought

and Savior Jesus Christ to many peoples. Also, many Europeans and other groups fled to America for religious freedoms. For this and the other reasons given, we need not be ashamed of Christopher Columbus. If Christopher Columbus can be blamed for whatever, then by the same token, he must receive credit for his positive contributions. October 12, 1992, is a day of celebration, not just observance.



— by Rev.
Todd Klemme
Wadena, Minnesota



forth **worship** expressed in **repentance**. He did not repent because he was looking at himself. He repented because he saw his God. He says, "I am a man of unclean lips." God agrees. In v. 7, the seraph announces "... your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for." His worship was a confrontation that changed him.

The three Hebrew boys in Daniel 3 were changed. Imagine their conversation when they got home the next day! They saw God and **worship** changed them.

Daniel was changed because of his worship in Daniel 6. **Worship changed him** because he was confronted by God's delivering power.

Elijah's public worship of God in I Kings 18 changed things dramatically and traumatically for him. He learned things about himself and God. What he learned **changed him!**

Worship will focus on what God is and will change what I am. It will be a catalytic confrontation!

— Sharon Torgerson
Mojave, California

For several years, the annual conferences of the AFLC have called for the development of a new hymnal. This new hymnal has been completely assembled by the hymnal committee. All that is left is the completion of the indexes, which is under way. The rest of the work needs to be

The New Hymnal — A Page Sponsorship Plan

done by professionals in the printing field. This will cost money.

If you would like to help get this book completed, you can do so financially in two ways. You can make donations toward the pre-press pro-

duction of the book (copyrights, typesetting, music engraving, editing, proofreading, design, promotion, and project management). And your congregation can prepare to purchase the hymnals in advance in order to make money available to pay for printing and binding costs.

The annual conference voted not to borrow money to produce the hymnal; therefore, all the funds we need must come in through donations and purchasing the hymnal in advance.

In order to see exactly what we need in a way that is understandable, the cost will be given per page.

Pre-press costs needed before the book can be printed: 930 pages at **\$84 per page**. Perhaps individuals, WMF's, Luther Leagues or other organizations would like to sponsor one or more pages of the hymnal. Some may wish to provide the funds for a number of pages as memorial gifts.

Printing, binding and some of the copyright costs will be covered by the sale of the book. **We will need many churches to purchase the books in advance to help us with these costs.**

We are hoping to sell the book at \$10 and no more than \$12 per book. Those who purchase in advance will likely get a discount price. We are not quite prepared to give you the final details. At this time you can be saving your money for your new hymnals. We will let you know as soon as the pre-purchase program goes into effect. **We must get most of our donations for the pre-press cost in first.**

We believe that this project will eventually pay for itself and even make a modest profit. Therefore, your gift toward the hymnal may eventually multiply into a source of income for future music and mission projects. However, we are not out to make money. We want you to get the best possible hymnal at the lowest possible price at the soonest possible date. We wait upon God's provision through whom He will.

Send your gifts to AFLC-New Hymnal, 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55441.

Gone

*Sunday night, so here I sit in our reclining chair,
Remembering ... the hugs and kisses that we used to share
Before our time was gone.*

*Sunday nights I cannot sleep 'cause that's the day you died.
I try to run from missing you, but there's no way to hide
The fact you've gone.*

*Every morning I wake up and look at where you lay
The afternoon you fell asleep that January day.
And ever since been gone.*

*Day and night, and night and day, you're always on my mind.
And life would make a little sense if only I could find
The reason why you're gone.*

*Once I couldn't shed a tear, not a little drop,
But now I cry at anything and don't know how to stop.
Come back! Please, don't be gone.*

*Birthday parties are for fun; that's what I used to think,
But yours is coming up this month; I might not sleep a wink
As long as you're still gone.*

*People say that God can heal every wound with time.
I hope He heals every wound. I hope he heals mine;
I've bled since you've been gone.*

*Someday — I can hardly wait, someday I'll be gone.
You and I will kiss again in heaven's shining dawn. —
My sorrow will be gone.*

October 4, 1992

Dedicated to Spencer Jonathan Unseth, our treasure in heaven. Spencer was born October 25, 1991 to Ben and Ellen (Quanbeck) Unseth. He died January 5, 1992, of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Another Unseth is due January 1, 1993. ©Benjamin Unseth

The Task

"Unless here in America literally thousands of new frontier missionary societies are founded in thousands of local churches, in most denominations, the Unreached Peoples will not be reached ... certainly not in our generation."

—D. Donald McGavran
Fuller School of World Missions

In a Christian periodical received this week, I found the following information: "The world is now home to nearly 5.5 billion people ... By 2025, the world's population should reach 8.5 billion." The spiritual tragedy is that the majority in the world are out

beyond the Gospel. Many have never heard the Gospel or even the name of Jesus. The Lord admonishes us to "lift up our eyes, look on the fields that are white (ripe) for harvest," (John 4:35).

The task of reaching out with the Gospel is the privilege and responsibility of all believers.

How many in our congregations are aware who our missionaries are and where they labor in the Kingdom's work?

Many congregations have found the answer to providing mission information and challenging to our people through a missions committee, even a committee of one in a smaller congregation. Our missionaries, your representatives in Brazil and Mexico, as well as our national workers in both countries and in India, need the support of all of our people. A mission representative or committee in your congregation could help in communicating these needs and concerns. Guidelines and resources in establishing such a committee are available from the World Missions office in Minneapolis.

Our financial crisis continues. In August our budget receipts were only \$13,949. The amount needed each month to meet our conference approved budget is \$34,143.

Paul A. Beals in his book, "A People for His Name," states the following: "Unfortunately, the purpose of our missions giving sometimes gets lost in the budgetary process. The whole matter of missionary support can become terribly mundane. We do live in a real world and must take a realistic approach to the total picture of Christian stewardship. But may the Lord preserve us from treating our giving like a tax obligation to Uncle Sam!"

Would you be willing to set a definite missions goal for your giving and provide on a regular basis? May we be found faithful in carrying the Good News of Jesus to all nations, people, tongues and tribes.

—Rev. Eugene W. Enderlein
World Missions Director

India Church Holds Annual Convention



In his report of the convention, V. Benerji Raju, president of the church writes:

"Our annual convention which was held at Amodagirepatnam (Chirala) from 5/10/92 to 5/12/92. During this period, we conducted seven meetings and a special women's meeting. We invited eminent speakers to our conventions. The first meeting was opened by our president. There were nearly 2,000 people gathered at every meeting to hear the Word of God. The main topic of the Gospel campaign was Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners! Many people appreciated the meetings and requested us to conduct these kind of meetings in the future also.

"We have provided free meals to those who came (from the) congregations and also from outside. We received your telegram and communicated to the people in the meeting. By God's grace and your prayers, the convention closed with great satisfaction."

To the AFLC he continues:

"Your love towards India's Gospel work is marvelous. Please pray for India because it is a ... nation filled with idolatry. Now slowly Hindus are coming forward to take Christianity as the Holy Spirit speaks to them.

"Please pray for us as we are praying for you daily. Please convey our best wishes and greeting to our fellow brethren."

1992 FLY Team Testimonies

Jeremy Vance —

I always wondered who the Abels and Dyruds were and what they were like as I sat in church and heard their names mentioned. Going to Brazil allowed me to meet them and work together learning about mission work. I also grew closer to the Lord and verses that had become old to me suddenly took on new meaning. I thank God for allowing me to go on the mission trip.

Becky Monseth —

I am so thankful for the way the Lord provided for both my sister Rachel, and I to go to Brazil. We truly saw the hand of God at work ... After seeing how some of the poorer Brazilians lived, I left feeling so grateful for what God has given me. Despite their circumstances, they seemed so content and happy. It was refreshing to see their enthusiasm and zeal for the Lord!

Heidi Hinderaker —

Who would have thought I would spend six weeks away from home in a different country for the summer? But I'm so glad that God provided the way. During our stay, I made lasting friendships ... My walk with the Lord grew considerably. He taught me many lessons. I thank God for the experience.

Sarah Sorenson —

... After being in Brazil, I know missionaries are needed. It was so wonderful to see all the things that the missionaries do. Before I went down there, I was a person who kept my faith to myself. I was afraid of what people would think if I professed my faith. But now I know that God will guide me through anything and that I need to rely on His Word and prayer (Deuteronomy 31:6).

Wendy Qualley —

Life changing. That is how I would describe my time with the Free Lutheran Youth Team to Brazil. We came back as new people.

Our trip was an adventure. We climbed mountains, saw three-inch cockroaches, explored a cave, were bitten by African bees, hiked through rocks, experienced unique foods and oh, we can never forget those 17-hour bus rides.

But it is not what we did there that made the difference. It is what we saw and learned. We saw poverty, hunger, sickness, spiritism and the hurting. We saw the souls that need Jesus Christ.

After being there, I am even more thankful for all that the Lord has blessed me with. All that I have belongs to Him. Since it is His, I want to use it in a way that will bring glory to Him. I want to give my life totally to the Lord to do whatever He asks of me. There are so many people that need Jesus Christ. I want to tell them. I pray that my eyes will always be fixed on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2).

Rachel Monseth —

Our 13 member team had the opportunity to work side by side with Brazilian youth in Vitoria, experience an exciting and cold week of camp in Campo Mourao and witness the changes that took place at the new ARCA in Curitiba.

Of course, I will always remember the cave we explored and the breathtaking waterfalls at Foz de Iguacu, but those become insignificant in comparison with the truly special events we experienced. For example, I remember the night we shared our testimonies with over 200 youth at a high school and afterward one boy came forward wanting to know Jesus Christ. I think of the night we prayed outside the house of a man who just recently had been freed of a demon. I can never forget the orphans and their hugs and smiles as they ran into my arms. And then there is the singing. Brazilians seem to sing at the top of their lungs.

Apply Now For 1993 FLY Team

The 1993 FLY Team is going to Mexico! The cost will be slightly more than \$1,000. Information may be received from Rev. Eugene Enderlein, World Missions Director or the Youth Resources Directors. Juniors and seniors in high school may apply.

The application blanks for the 1993 FLY Team must be received from the World Missions Department. Write to 3110 East Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55441 for your application form or for more information.

All applications should be in by mid-February, 1993. Team selection will be done shortly after that date. There is the possibility of a shorter trip of two weeks which would cost considerably less. Parents are also welcome to apply.

1992 FLY Team



Pictured left to right: Sonja Dahl, Katrina Schierkolk, Kellie Olson, Wendy Qualley, Ruth Gunderson, Mark Nessa, Heidi Hinderaker, Jeremy Vance, Sarah Sorenson, Terry Kjersten, Lars Dyrud, Becky Monseth. Not pictured, Rachel Monseth.

Memorial Fund Established At The Seminary

AFLTS is happy to announce the reception of a gift of \$10,000 to be used for student financial aid at the seminary. The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, have requested that a special fund be set up in the name of the late Rev. Fritjof B. Monseth who passed away in 1969.

As an early pastor and leader of the AFLC, Rev. Monseth served Grace and Zion Lutheran congregations at Valley City, North Dakota, for many years. He served the AFLC as its first vice president and also taught at the AFLC seminary and Bible School for a brief time before his death.

The donors are hopeful that interested people will add to the principal

amount so that the financial aid available for seminary students will continue to increase. The Board of Trustees is grateful for the concern to help students in this tangible way. They have invested the principal in the AFLC Church Extension program.

Additional gifts to this financial aid fund of any amount can be sent to the seminary and designated for the Rev. Fritjof B. Monseth Memorial Student Scholarship.



You won't want to miss it! AFLC Schools Christmas Concert. Dec. 13 at 4 p.m.

Lars Dyrud —

Our trip to Brazil was great. By the end of the six weeks, it was hard to come home. We learned much about the culture and language of Brazil, our churches and missionaries, the power of prayer and God's protection over His people. We worked on projects such as painting the boys' home in Vitoria, laid sod over a soccer field in Curitiba, helped Jonathan Abel move to Maringa and cleaned the Bible camp in Camp Mourao. This gave us a change to see what missionary life is really like. Throughout our time there, we also gave our program songs, skits and testimonies as well as doing some sight-seeing.

Katrina Schierkolk —

It was one of my biggest learning experiences. I learned a lot of things about Brazil and her people, about myself and more importantly, I learned to draw close to God in all situations.

Our FLY Team had many opportunities to work, witness and play. We cleaned a garbage lot to be used for a volleyball court, built, painted and stained walls at the ARCA and numerous other things ... This is not a very detailed account of my stay in Brazil. There really is no way to know or understand the way God is working or the way that He can use you in Brazil unless you go (Isaiah 6:8).

London, Minnesota, Home Mission Church Dedicated



Faith Lutheran congregation of London, Minnesota, dedicated its new church building on June 28. Pastor Eiden Nelson, our Home Mission Director, preached at both the forenoon and afternoon services. The church was filled for the first service and had an excellent attendance again for the second service. A wonderful dinner was served by the ladies of Faith Lutheran Church, with people eating both indoors and outdoors. Some of the people used a tent while others dined in the shade of a huge maple tree.

This dinner afforded the opportunity for Christian fellowship and for the members and visitors to become acquainted with one another. This was very important since a large number of visitors were present. A special joy for Pastor Unseth was having five of his boyhood friends and their wives in attendance that day. They had driven 140 miles for that special occasion. Another couple that came the same distance was Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Hodnefield of Story City, Iowa.

The newly dedicated church is 120 feet by 42 feet and seats 216 people. It was designed by Carlyle Greibrok and built by Donald Hanson, both members of the congregation. Though it is located in the small town of only 45 residents, it does draw people from a 25-mile radius. Thus several families come from Iowa, too.

Recently I was asked by a lady, "What draws the people to your church in London?" My prompt reply was, "The Word of God." Having dedicated our church to the glory of God, this 135 member congregation desires to proclaim God's Word, the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, to as many people as possible.

— by Pastor Einar Unseth
London, Minnesota

PEOPLE and PLACES

Rev. Laurel Udden, New Hope, Minnesota, began serving as a part-time pastor of Victory in Christ Lutheran Church, Maplewood, on November 1.

Chaplain Michael Crowell, Fort Hood, Texas, will travel to Kuwait before Christmas for a 60-day assignment with a task force from his base involved in "Operation Intrinsic Action."

Rev. Milton Flores, Celaya, Guanajuato, Mexico, will be united in marriage to Miss Chelo Ayala in St. Andrew the Apostle Lutheran Church, Leon, on December 27, 1992.

Eugene Nesland, Thief River Falls, Minnesota, resigned from the Pension Board, of which he served as chairman. His resignation was accepted by the board with regret as well as appreciation for his years of service, and **Rev. Gary Skramstad**, Osakis, Minnesota, was selected as the new chairman. The Co-ordinating Committee will appoint a new member to serve until the annual conference.

The Tenth Annual Convention of **Lutherans For Life** will be held November 13-15 at the Harley Hotel, Middleburg Heights (Cleveland), Ohio. The theme is "Choosing Life in a Changing World."

Alvin Sather, who completed a special lay ministry course at the AFLC Schools last spring, has accepted a call to serve as the lay pastor of Bethany Free Lutheran Church, Bemidji, Minnesota. Pastor Sather, who is from Greenbush, Minnesota, began his new ministry on November 1.

Waubay, South Dakota — "Meet the President/AFLC Vision Update" is the theme for a 2 p.m. area rally of AFLC churches on Sunday, November 3, at the Waubay public school cafeteria. Rev. Robert Lee, AFLC President, will be present to share a message from the Word of God and to discuss the goals and priorities of our church body. The afternoon activities will conclude with an "afterglow" providing an opportunity for members to share their own burdens and vision for the AFLC and the district.

letter to the editor

KEEP THE GOSPEL TEAMS COMING

The AFLC is a little bit like a quilt. Each church is a different square in this nationwide comforter. What holds us together — the Lord, definitely. And what tools does he use? The Bible, of course. And, the gospel teams flowing out of AFLBS.

The **Ambassadors, Barnabas, Majesty**, and other quality teams stir us up, develop church leaders, and help tighten the links of relationship which hold our various congregations together.

The team I've had the most contact with over the years is the Ambassadors. They, along with other teams, act as salt and light in our congregations; they go on to long-term service; and they tie us together. God used the Ambassadors to impact me heavily all through my high school years. Their music, the example of their character, their enthusiasm for following Christ and His Word — kept me moving forward with God.

Were their testimonies true? Just look at where yesterday's Ambassadors are today. A member of one of the two teams that helped me most is now a member of the Co-ordinating Committee. From the other team that

meant the most to me, four members are now pastors or pastors' wives. Does their present service confirm their selection as Ambassadors or are they in vocational ministry because of their experience as Ambassadors? That's an impossible question, but we can affirm that many Ambassadors continue in vital ministry throughout their lives.

Two nights ago I heard the 1992 Ambassadors. The Lord blessed me and challenged me through their music and conversation. And they strengthened "the ties that bind our hearts in Christian love." Gospel teams bind us together in a way that Christians from other churches cannot even understand. The AFLC is a community, more so than many bodies. There is a kinship, sometimes physical, sometimes only in Christ, that draws us together.

Talking with this year's Ambassadors was a little like going to a family reunion.

Please keep the gospel teams flowing. We need their stirring today. We will need their members' leadership ten years from now. And we need them to remind us that we are a family.

*Ben Unseth
Wheaton, Illinois*

In Memoriam

Elaine Shirley Klug, 55, passed away on September 29, 1992 at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha. She was born on June 27, 1937 to Lothard and Stella Jacobson in Gonvick, Minnesota.

Elaine was baptized at Oak Grove Lutheran Church, Gonvick, and was confirmed at First Lutheran Church in nearby Clearbrook. After graduating from high school, she attended the Lutheran Bible Institute, Minneapolis, Minnesota. On April 21, 1957 she married Raymond F. Klug. Together with her pastor husband, she lived in Edmore and Valley City, North Dakota; Blackduck and Glyndon, Minnesota; and Fairbury and Deshler, Nebraska. They also served the Red Willow and Park River Bible Camp in Binford and Park River, North Dakota.

Elaine was best known for her singing. She recorded two music albums and made regular appearances on "Party Line" at Fargo's WDAY-TV. She was soloist and speaker at numerous concerts, conventions, churches and Christian women's groups. She also served as choir director, organist, Sunday School teacher and church secretary in several congregations. Elaine was president of The AALC Women of Life from 1988-89. In 1967, she helped

THANKSGIVING TRUE OR FALSE

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, the psalmist wrote. Therefore, when we read in the Bible of a man who said, "God, I thank Thee," one might assume that this is a fine example to follow. But the Pharisee's thanksgiving (Luke 18:11) is a false one, for he fails both to confess his sinfulness and comprehend God's salvation.

"God, I thank Thee that I am not like other people ..." The thanksgiving of the Pharisee was mostly a proud performance for the benefit of others rather than a humble prayer to God. His goodness was based on a comparison of himself to others rather than on confidence in a good God.

True, thanksgiving begins not with a recitation of how good we are or how much good we have done, but with the prayer of the publican (v. 13): "God, be merciful to me, the sinner!"

May each reader discover anew the true spirit of thanksgiving by looking afresh at the Lamb of God, who graciously shows us ourselves and grants us His salvation.

BLIND MEN, AN ELEPHANT, AND EDUCATION

Several blind men were asked to describe an elephant, so the old fable declares. One of them grasped a leg, and told the others that an elephant is like a tree. Another took hold of the tail, and was sure that an elephant is like a snake. Still another touched the animal's side, and confidently announced that an elephant is like a wall.

The articles about educational options in a recent issue of *The Lutheran Ambassador* (September 1, 1992), and the responses of some of our readers to them, bring this story to mind. It is so easy for each one of us to be absolutely sure that we see the total picture on the basis alone of what

is happening in our home community. Yet the fact is that no one school system tells the whole story.

It is hard to imagine any doctrinal issue that would inspire as much wrath as our discussions on education seem to do. "The only people who are critical of the public schools are the ones who have never bothered to get involved in them!" "Thank the Lord for dedicated parents who care enough about their children to make the sacrifices necessary to send them to Christian schools!" "Home schooling is the only Biblical option for Christian parents!" "Humanist!" "Fundamentalist!"

Let's stop judging one another and start listening to one another. Our narrow range of experiences makes us all like blind men in a certain sense, and a complete and accurate perspective can only be achieved as we combine our insights and observations. Some of you who enjoy an open and cooperative school system in your community need to hear from others who have encountered hostility and prejudice ... and they need to hear from you, too. Parents who send their children to public or private schools can learn lessons in family life from those who educate their children at home.

Blind men need one another. Only when we join our perceptions of the legs, tail, and sides of the elephant with the other parts of the body will a true perspective of the beast begin to emerge. Only as all members of the Body of Christ learn to love and respect one another in spite of our differences will we become the witness to a watching world that our Lord has called us to be.

begin Lutheran camping for the mentally handicapped in eastern North Dakota. She lived to serve her family and the ministry of the Gospel through song, word and deed.

She is survived by her husband, Rev. Raymond Klug, Fairbury, Nebraska; two daughters, Rebekah (Mrs. Richard) Bakken and Deborah Jo (Mrs. Jeff) Alexander; two sons, Luther (Geri) and Daniel (Marna); and five grandchildren. Other family members include her mother, Mrs. Stella Jacobson, one brother and four sisters, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held on October 2, 1992, at Faith Lutheran Church in Fairbury and on October 4 at Faith Lutheran Church, Blackduck, Minnesota. Interment was at Lakeview Cemetery in Blackduck.

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

AFLC Benevolences - February 1 - September 30, 1992

FUND	TOTAL BUDGET	REC'D IN SEPTEMBER	TOTAL REC'D TO DATE	% TOTAL
General Fund	\$295,450.00	\$19,685.84	\$124,143.63	42
Schools - (AFLTS) . .	149,535.00	6,115.28	48,038.67	32
(AFLBS) . .	208,625.00	9,873.37	75,102.67	36
Home Missions	433,616.00	33,375.11	172,161.69	40
World Missions	409,715.00	30,215.64	196,514.02	48
Capital Investment . .	30,000.00	670.62	13,231.81	44
Parish Education . . .	84,385.00	4,124.40	40,649.29	48
ARC	20,000.00	286.74	5,018.41	25
TOTALS	\$1,631,326.00	\$104,347.00	\$674,860.19	41
1991 - 1992	\$1,537,681.00	\$75,501.15	\$616,697.30	40
Goal 67%				

WORLD WATCH

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

Second-Class

Oakland, California (EP) — In Korea, some 20,000 followers of a Christian sect have dropped everything to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ — an event the sect says will happen October 20 or October 28 at midnight.

Kim Jong-Oh, of the Shela Missionary Society, contends that Jesus never said that the date of His return would not be known, only that His followers would not know the exact day.

Miles away in Oakland, California, Harold Camping, a religious broadcaster and president of the 38-station Family Stations radio chain, knows that Jong-Oh is wrong. He calls the Korean date-setting "totally haywire." According to Camping's new book, Christ won't return until sometime between September 15 and September 27 of 1994.

Camping's self-published book "1994" was released in early September, and has already sold some 30,000 copies in markets where Family Stations has a broadcast outlet. Broader distribution is planned.

"We want to get it out into the market," Camping told EP News Service. "The book really is a warning to the world that Judgment Day is very close at hand."

Camping realizes that he's not the first to set a date for Christ's return, and that all who have come before him have been dead wrong. But he insists that his prediction is different. "All those date-setters, if you examine their work, have based it on a dream, or speculation or conjecture, but not solidly on the Scriptures. This book has nothing to do with dreams or speculations, it is simply going methodically through the Scriptures, finding the time references, and tying them into the calendar that develops out of that."

"If I'm wrong — and I'll be quite surprised because compared with other date-setters I've been very careful not to fudge or push on Scriptures — but if I should be wrong in that, and honestly it's always a possibility, no damage

Federal Judge Richard Kyle issued a summary judgement on October 29, 1992, dismissing all claims against the AFLC resulting from the India lawsuit. A complete report will be included in a future issue.

will be done because all it has done is cause people to face the question, 'What do I do when judgment comes?' If they are a believer they've asked the question, 'Have I been living to God's glory?' So I see nothing but good coming from it."

Yuba City, California (EP) — "Life Chains" involving over one million people were formed in approximately 900 cities in North America October 4, according to Royce Dunn, president of "Please Let Me Live," the pro-life organization that plans the peaceful protests.

Dunn's office had reports of Life Chains from 802 cities in the U.S., and approximately 100 cities in Canada, and his tallies indicated that over 985,000 people in the U.S. and approximately 85,000 people in Canada participated in Life Chain Sunday.

"It was clearly the largest grass-roots event in this half-century," said Dunn.

Early Conference Opportunity

You may travel to the 1993 AFLC Annual Conference, June 16-20, in DeKalb, Illinois, by chartered bus from Grand Forks and Fargo, North Dakota; Fergus Falls and Brandon, Minnesota. Depart Tuesday morning, June 15, arrive in DeKalb that evening. On the return trip, depart DeKalb Sunday afternoon, June 20, arrive home that night.

To reserve your seat, mail, this month, a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE), a note to indicate your city of departure, your phone number, and a check for \$70 to **Pastor Reuben Unseth**, 805 2nd St. NE, Roseau, MN 56751-1243.

Reservations will be honored in the order of date of postmark. Notice of confirmation of reservation, along with schedule details, will be mailed in your SASE by January 15.

The bus needs to be booked in early December to ensure availability. In the unlikely event that too few reservations are made, checks will be returned. Reservations are transferrable to another party, but at this rate, reservations are non-cancelable and non-refundable.