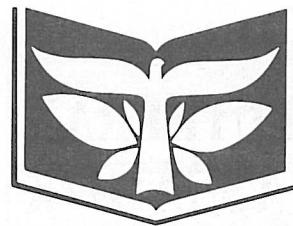


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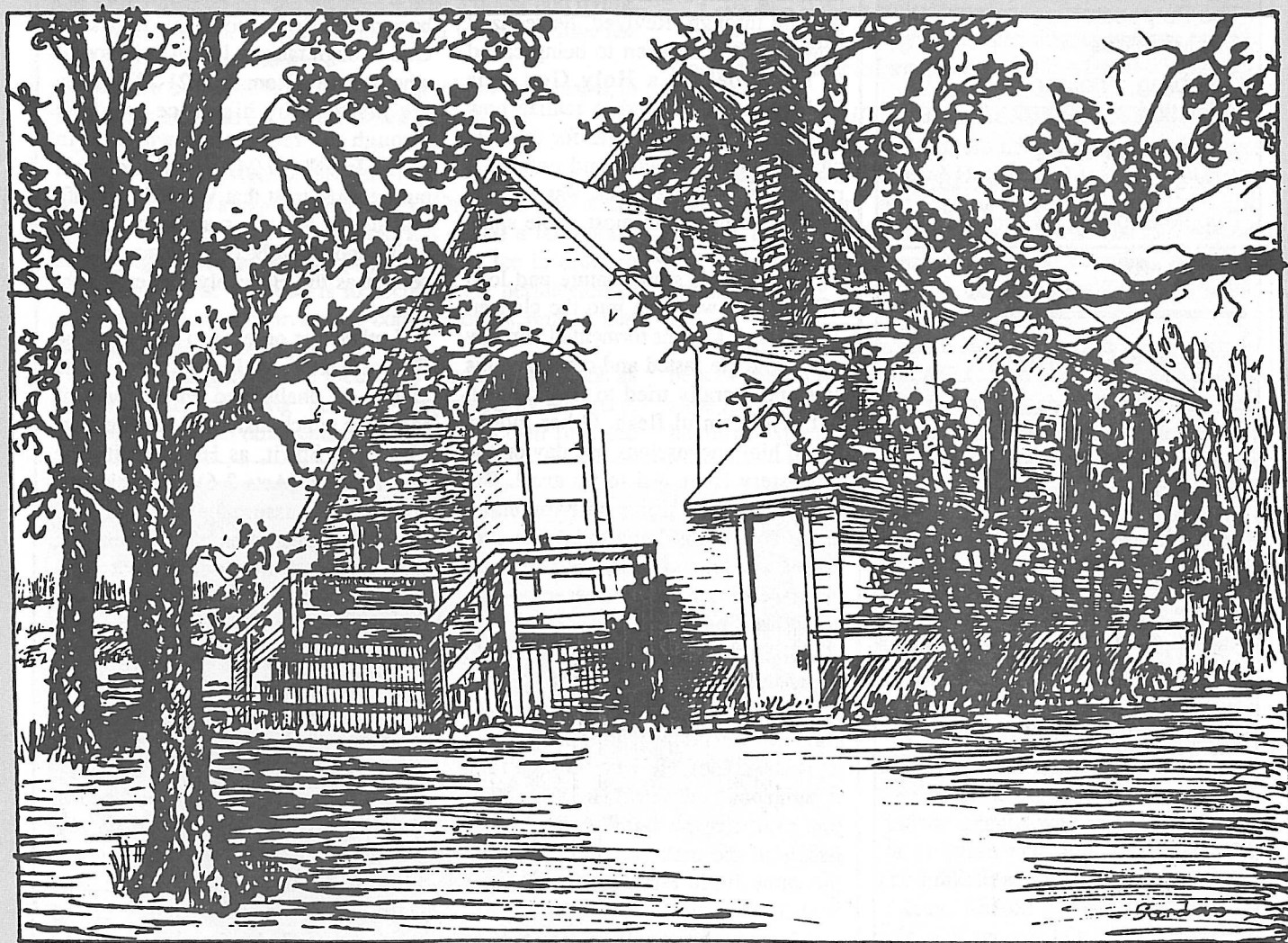
The Continuing Reformation

**Luther, A Conscience Taken Captive
by the Word of God**



**THE LUTHERAN
AMBASSADOR**

October 15, 1991



Satersdal Lutheran Church 1891-1991

Thief River Falls, Minnesota

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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Learning from the Reformation

Can it be true? One could hope not! A recent survey taken by a usually reliable source, reports that 60% of the Lutheran Churches in America today no longer believe in salvation by grace alone, but are resting on their good works for their salvation. Martin Luther would say to them: "Then, do not call yourselves Lutherans!" To be a genuine Lutheran there should be a following of the way Luther found to peace with God and salvation.

Martin Luther learned in bitter experience! While on a journey, he was knocked to the ground by a bolt of lightning from a thunderstorm he was passing through. Revived, he realized how near he had been to being called to stand before a Holy God, His Maker, and shuddered to realize how sinful and unready he was for that. He changed his life plans and entered a monastery. To be a monk was considered the highest and most noble spiritual work of the day.

But alas, his sinful nature and load of guilt followed him into the cloister. The guilt of his sins tormented him day and night. He fasted and confessed his sins and literally tried to flog the evil out of his sinful flesh. Other monks found him unconscious one day on the monastery floor. All to no avail. But Luther did one thing perhaps many Lutheran are not doing today: he continued to read and study his Bible and pray, pleading for an answer to how he could stand before God.

At last the Holy Spirit led Luther to the answer in Romans 1:16-18: "For in it (the Gospel) the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith as it is written, 'He who through faith is righteous shall live'" (RSV) or "The just shall live by faith" (AV). Others had tried the path he had come, with the same futile results. (See Romans 9:31-32.)

Most Lutherans will say they believe all the information they have been taught about Jesus, including the stories

about His death and resurrection. But that is mere knowledge, not faith. Faith always has to have an object. It must be faith in something or someone. Faith in Jesus is to trust Him for His forgiveness for our sins. Our guilt is gone and we receive a righteousness not our own, but Christ's. That alone will stand the test of acceptance with God. For those who would be saved by their own good works, the acid test is Jesus' words in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:48): "You therefore, must be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect" ... as perfect as God! No "doing the best I can," will suffice! We all come short! "But now the righteousness of God has been manifested ... the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe" (Romans 3:21-22). "They are justified by his grace as a gift through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus" (V. 24). Jesus paid it all, but we must trust that Word! In His life and death we are provided a new, white, spotless robe of righteousness, as perfect as the Heavenly Father is perfect.

Luther was ordered to appear at the Diet of Worms, the highest court of the day, to be challenged on this way of salvation which had made his life new. The Holy Spirit, as He did with the first apostles (Acts 2-6), gave him the courage and assurance to stand fast. Facing the greatest emperor on earth at that time and the Pope's most fearsome theologian, who charged him to recant these teachings, Luther bore witness. Standing on the Word of God as a Rock, his words were to shake the world: "My conscience is bound by the Word of God. Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise! God help me!"

Will now our Lutheran Church members give it up, and forsake the cry that came out of the Reformation: "The Word alone, Grace alone, and Faith alone?" It is the victory cry of the saints of God, who alone hold the assurance of peace with God!

—by Rev. Kermitt C. Grundahl



The Continuing Reformation

—by Rev. Gerald Peterson
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Four hundred seventy-four years ago, a devout, conscientious professor of theology nailed the 95 Theses on the door of a Wittenburg church. Little did he realize the worldwide impact that would be made by this single act. That day, October 31, 1517, has been known as the beginning of the Reformation.

For years the appointed Gospel text has included John 8:31-32, "If you continue in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free." Genuine followers of Christ are to dwell constantly in His Word. In the Word, God communicates Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth. When we come to know this objective Truth, we are set free. We are freed from the bondage to sin, death, and the powerful influence of Satan.

In Luther's Day, the Bible had fallen into disuse by the church. Bibles were not readily available. In fact, personal Bibles were frowned upon by the Church. Human traditions, superstitions, and ignorance led to an abuse of God's salvation through His Son by selling forgiveness through indulgences.

Today, while Bibles are readily available in the western world, they are rapidly falling into disuse. Growing numbers of people are disenchanted by the scholars who have denied the authority of Scripture and are distracted by amusements of every kind. Ignorant and lost souls are contented with their own man-made philosophies, explaining their beliefs with statements such as, "I don't know what the Bible says, but I think ..."

To recall the Reformation of yester-

day, one must include a call for a continuing Reformation today. We must follow the advice of Paul to Timothy, as he wrote, "Continue in what you have learned and been convinced of, ... from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" (II Timothy 3:14-15).

Though many of the Reformers did not have the word from infancy, they did have a real hunger to know truth. For instance, I understand that Martin Luther did not have the opportunity to read through the whole Bible until he entered the monastery at the age of 22. The Word was the means by which he received the amazing grace. Having attempted to be saved by works, what a blessing it was to read, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — so that no one can boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9).

In Psalm 19:7-8, there are four sentences that give an account of what God has purposed for His Word. The Word works, but we must constantly work the Word. What can we expect when we spend time in His Word?

1. *The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul.* Jesus Christ fulfilled the law, thus becoming the perfect sacrifice to atone for our sin. Time and time again, the Spirit has worked through the Word to bring people to a conviction of sin, a need for a Savior, and then the way of life.

2. *The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.* This divine testimony provides "the church's one foundation" which is Jesus Christ her Lord. So many people who believe

themselves to be wise in this world are fools when it comes to spiritual things. Like a little child, we are to believe and receive His testimony.

3. *The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.* By divine authority, His rules and principles are right and eternal. In a way, this might include what has been discussed in the Supreme Court hearings concerning the "natural law." When true truths (as Francis Schaeffer would say) are upheld, hearts rejoice.

4. *The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.* So many people lack discernment today. Most issues are placed in gray-shaded areas, because of the inability of the natural mind to grasp the will of God. It is necessary to search the Scriptures to truly be enlightened. "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light" (I Peter 2:9).

May the Reformation continue as we remain in His Word. Let our prayer be as Martin Luther wrote:

Lord, keep up steadfast in thy word,
Curb those who fain by craft or sword

Would wrest the kingdom from thy Son,
And set at naught all he hath done.

Lord Jesus Christ, thy power make known,

For thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend thy Christendom, that we
May evermore sing praise to thee.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife,
And lead us out of death to life.

Amen.

Rev. Gerald Peterson is pastor of First Lutheran Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He served congregations in Berkley and Oscoda, Michigan prior to accepting the call to First in 1987.

He and his wife, Karen, are the parents of two children.

Pastor Peterson and First Lutheran affiliated with the AFLC earlier this year.

LUTHER

A Conscience Taken Captive by the Word of God

If I profess with the loudest voice and the clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefields besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.



A woodcut of Luther's time shows the sale of letters of indulgence in a German market place. This practice particularly inflamed Luther.

Those ringing words of Martin Luther epitomize the spirit of the Protestant Reformation and are a reflection of his own life and ministry.

Again and again he found himself engaged in fierce conflicts; again and again he found himself hard pressed and battered by the foe. But by God's grace, the great reformer stood firm and boldly confessed Christ.

One well-known incident which clearly and dramatically illustrates Luther's confession of Christ took place on April 18, 1521.

What prompted Luther to take such a bold stand at that critical moment was his discovery several years earlier of a life-changing truth. One day, while sitting in his study, the future reformer had stumbled upon the great biblical teaching of justification by faith. For years he had struggled personally with the question of how he, as a sinner, could find peace with God. None of his searching and striving brought him any rest until that day, in this study, the Holy Spirit led him to peace, as he suddenly realized that he was saved through the perfect righteousness of Christ, imputed to him by grace alone. That joyous rediscovery could not be kept a secret; it had to be openly proclaimed!

As might be expected, the Roman Church would not tolerate such "heresy," and the hierarchy began to take steps to silence Luther. To make a long story short, the church finally pressured the German emperor Charles V to summon Luther to appear before the next meeting of the German Diet (parliament) to be held in the city of Worms and answer for his teachings.

Obedying the emperor's summons, Luther left Wittenberg on April 2, 1521, not knowing if he would ever return. Even though the emperor had promised Luther his protection, Luther's friends were deeply concerned for his safety and urged him to turn back. Luther pressed ahead, telling his friends that he was determined to enter Worms "even though there should be as many devils in Worms as shingles on the roof." On April 16, he indeed entered the city.

Late the next afternoon, Luther found himself standing before the Diet for the first time. The prosecutor, Johann Eck, fastened his eyes upon Luther and asked him two simple questions. First, Eck asked Luther to tell him whether or not the pile of books stacked on the table at the front of the room were his. Luther acknowledged them to be his, but he was so overwhelmed and fearful in the presence of such an impressive gathering that his answer could barely be heard. Then the prosecutor asked him whether or not he would now revoke the

heretical teachings they contained. Luther instantly realized that such a question struck at the heart of the gospel and had wide-ranging implications, and so he begged the Diet to give him more time to contemplate his response. The emperor granted a delay until the next day, but prosecutor Eck couldn't help sarcastically remarking that a theological professor (of all people) should have been ready to answer regarding his own theological writings.

Late the next day, Luther entered the council hall for the final time. Before him sat the emperor, German princes, church officials and foreign ambassadors. Outside the hall, thousands waited in the streets. Johann Eck repeated his second question. Luther replied that he could not summarily reject his books because some of them contained teachings which all accepted. Certain other of his books may have been harsh in their tone, Luther admitted, but he would repudiate their teaching only if convinced of his error from the Scripture. After a brief consultation, Eck ordered Luther to stop avoiding the question and give him a straight answer "without horns or any evasion." Luther, his timidity now gone, uttered in a clear voice those immortal words, "Unless I am convinced by the testimonies of the Holy Scriptures or plain reason (for I believe neither in the Pope nor councils alone, since it has been established that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), my conscience has been taken captive by the Word of God: I cannot and will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to act against conscience. Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen."

Sheer pandemonium broke out in the council chambers. Eck shouted out that Luther could not prove church councils had erred, but amidst the din, Luther affirmed his original statement. Some began shouting, "to the fire with him." Luther walked out of the hall, not to a martyr's stake, but with arms raised above his head in triumph, shouting, "I am through, I am through!"

Confessing Christ is never easy; it was not easy for Luther and it is not easy for us either. Only the power of God flowing through our lives enables us to stand firm in the heat of battle.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Stand in his strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you —
Ye dare not trust your own;
Put on the gospel armor,
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls, or danger,
Be never wanting there.



Dr. Craig Jennings graduated from Washburn High School, Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1973. In 1977, he received his B.A. in history from Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina. He continued his graduate studies in church history at BJU while teaching world history at the University. In 1982, he began work as writer-editor for the BJU Press. It was then that he co-authored and edited the tenth grade world history text, "World History for Christian Schools." Jennings also contributed several historical essays to two different anthologies. He received his Ph.D. in church history in 1985 from Bob Jones University. Later that year, he began pastoring Word of Life Lutheran Brethren Church, LeSueur, Minnesota. In 1990, he added to his congregational responsibilities by teaching part-time at the AFLC Schools. This past summer, Dr. Jennings, his wife, Laurel, and their children, Karen, 6; Brian, 5; and David, 2; moved to 9802 107th Place North, Maple Grove, MN 55369. He is now a full-time instructor at the Seminary and Bible School.

Dr. Jennings's special area of interest in church history is the first four centuries of the church. His hobbies include hymnology, singing, trombone, classical music and chess.

—by Dr. Craig Jennings
Maple Grove, Minnesota

In the ministry of a local church, it is possible to get sidetracked from the real focal point of the ministry. In the midst of much religious activity, we forget that the essence of the ministry is to **present Christ** to people. Too often we get in the way — our plans and our activities (which often are self-serving) become pre-eminent. The point of all ministry, and especially Christian Education, is to point people to Christ. Paul wrote in Colossians 1:38 that “Him (Christ) we preach ...” In Christ is the answer to all of life’s needs.

Consider this quote by Peter Bayne as he describes all that Christ brings to us:

“Christ has come, the Light of the world. He has come: the Revealer of the Snares and chasms that lurk in darkness, the Rebuker of every evil thing that prowls by night, the Still of the storm-winds of passion, the Quickener of all that is wholesome, the Adorner of all that is beautiful, the Reconciler of contradictions, the Harmonizer of discords, the Healer of diseases, the Savior from sin. He has come: the Torch of truth, the Anchor of hope, the Pillar of faith, the rock for strength, the Refuge for security, the Fountain for refreshment, the Vine for gladness, the Rose for beauty, the Lamb for tenderness, the Friend for counsel, the Brother for love.”

Satan would have you focus on anything or anybody except **Christ**. Too often we get sidetracked from Christ, from who He is and what He can do!

In our Sunday School classes, the prime directive we have is to present Christ. Some of the students may not know Jesus Christ in a personal way. They will need the convicting and drawing power of the Holy Spirit through the Word to point them to Christ.

God loves souls. He desires that “all men be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth,” (1 Timothy 2:4). The Lord wants to work through your life to reach people — especially children, teens, and adults, whom we encounter

in our Sunday Schools. Too often, Sunday School has been viewed **only** as a place of nurture for the saved, when Sunday School can be a place of reaching people for Christ.

Sunday School is also a place where people (young and old) can be nurtured in the faith and equipped to serve their Lord. One major facet of this nurturing is God’s Word. As people spend time in the Word, their souls are nourished and fed. That Word will establish and equip the believer.

Another major facet of this nurturing process is fellowship. People come to know Christ personally — but we don’t live in a vacuum or an individualistic environment. We, by entering Christ, enter into the family of God. That family represents a fellowship where we can know people are supporting us with the unconditional love

of Christ. As we are loved and supported, then we can reach out to others and point them to Christ. Thus we have come full circle — seeing Christ and pointing Him to others so others can see Him in all His fullness, too!



—Rev. Richard D. Anderson
Lakeville, Minnesota

Pastor Anderson, who serves the Minnesota Valley congregation, is a member of the Parish Education Board.

An object lesson from the desert

CHRISTIAN / TUMBLEWEED

One day as I was walking through the desert, I noticed the tumbleweed in its different stages. God inspired me with an object lesson for our Mission Sunday in Sunday School. First, I saw a little fresh green plant — a baby — and it reminded me of a new Christian — a new life — a babe in Christ. II Corinthians 5:17 says: “If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

Then I saw a tumbleweed that had grown and had many blossoms. The new Christian now is growing, learning, preparing to be a better witness to others. He has been reading and studying God’s Word, praying going to Sunday School, services and youth meetings where he can have fellowship and share. Also he attends Bible studies and Bible camp when possible.

Further down the sun-baked path, I saw a full-grown tumbleweed. It had died and was now loaded with seeds. There had been a constant dying. Like

the Christian, there should be a daily dying to self and sin throughout this earthly life, and becoming more and more like Jesus (Romans 6:11).

While standing at the tumbleweed, the wind came suddenly and rooted up the weed. It scattered the seed right where it was. Then I watched the wind blow the tumbleweed until I could see it no more. Seeds continued to fall to the ground and I wondered how many would actually grow. Matthew 13 came to my mind, where it tells about the different places and soils where the seed falls. So it depends on the quality of the soil it falls on, whether it will take root and bear fruit or not. Now if only one heart responds, and is saved, that soul should be nourished and grow and blossom and mature and in turn go through the same cycle. Who knows how many in turn will be saved through that witness?

The wind reminded me of the Holy Spirit in the Christian. Every Christian has the Holy Spirit, and without

STEER Inc. Director to be in Central Minnesota AFLC Congregations

Mr. LaRue Goetz, Executive Director of STEER, Inc., Bismarck, North Dakota, will be speaking in central Minnesota (including the Metro area) from December 7-15, 1991. He is specifically available to AFLC congregations or individuals who would like to learn more about the multiplied giving possibilities through STEER, Inc. To schedule a meeting or appointment with Mr. Goetz, contact Rev. Lyle Aadahl, P. O. Box 220, Upsala, MN 56384, or call (612) 573-4450.

*The torch of Christianity
may be lit in the church, but
it does its best burning in
the shop and in the street.*

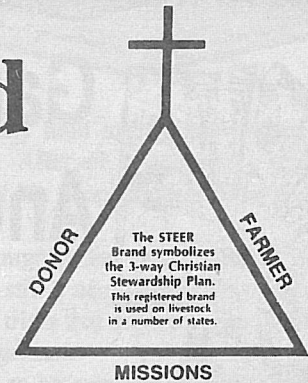
Him we can do nothing. I thought of Romans 8:9 and John 15:5. He is the Christian's guide and prompts him in his witnessing as well as to where he can serve best. But he always starts at home to family and neighbors before sharing Christ to the surrounding community and on to wherever he is called to go or stay. The Holy Spirit has promised to be with us wherever we are. The Christian should be a witness in his life, speech, actions and attitudes. We are called to be faithful in prayer for self and others; faithful in reading God's Word where we find help and guidance to continue growing and maturing while going forth sowing the precious seed.

As I walked back home, the wind continued to move tumbleweeds across the desert and the washes. So the Holy Spirit will continue to move the Christian to the highways and byways in obedience to Matthew 28:19-20.

"Pray ye, therefore, laborers into the harvest."

— by Constance Grothe
Tucson, Arizona

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Your Missionary Dollars are Multiplied through STEER, Inc.

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Gambling, Another Addiction

Just a few weeks ago, I witnessed a young man purchasing lottery tickets. He purchased \$50 of them out of money he has won from previous lottery playing. He was driving an old, beat up car which looked badly in need of repair.

Also, at the counter was a young lady who was holding a child. She was asking him the "ins" and "outs" of purchasing lottery tickets.

The Chief of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Loma Linda, California, says (and we would agree) that the newest major addiction of young adults is gambling. He researched over 2,700 high school students and found a large number of the students are involved in gambling. We can be certain that those young people who gamble can find others over 18 who are willing to purchase tickets for them. Then, too, there are other forms of gambling to which people of all ages can become addicted.

The lure is for big winnings and instant wealth without the tried and true ways of saving over a period of time. The stories of people who have become millionaires by winning in the lottery sell, we can be certain, many chances at winning.

Nothing beats the plan of savings

plus time. If you and I were to save a small amount, say \$10 per month or per week, we would soon have a very ample supply of money available for the new car or even a new home. Proverbs tells us we are foolish if we do not save our money. Nowhere in God's Word does the Lord sanction gambling.

Gambling is just as addicting to youth as alcohol. If you as a young person begin to drink, the chances of your becoming an alcoholic are greater than if you were older. No only that, you will become an alcoholic faster than older people.

When one of your friends begins to gamble, whether it is the lottery or something else, your friend should be warned of its addicting power.

It is necessary that Christian youth take heed of this matter. May you be challenged to work and witness among those you know, warning them about the dangers of gambling and telling them of the Lord Jesus Christ.

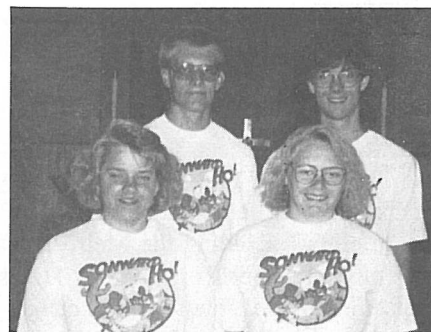
In your youth group, you must "program" somewhat more differently than in the past. Your programming must be more deliberate and your planning must be done really well.

You must challenge yourselves to program to meet the important needs of your members. You will lose your members if you do not deal with what they need for life. I would say it is teaching life skills.

While fun is a part of things, your goal for Luther League Ministry is to reach people for Christ and then to give them biblical, God-given life skills. Through these skills the Lord Jesus Christ can give them direction.

What do you think?

— Rev. Dennis Gray
Youth Resource Director



The 1991 Luther League team, *Cornerstone*. Pictured are: Lori Erickson, Badger, Minnesota; Tammy Carstensen, Byron, Minnesota; Jeff Matheson, Balsam Lake, Wisconsin and Jason Coyle, Nicolet, Minnesota. Jeff Dahl, Roseau, Minnesota, later replaced Jason Coyle.

Fall Youth Rallies

Eastern North Dakota

October 17-18

Grafton, North Dakota

"Reach Out in Love"

Speaker: Rev. Paul Nash

Warroad, Minnesota

South Dakota-Nebraska

October 19-20

Freeman, South Dakota

"The Lord My Rock and
My Fortress"

Speakers: District pastors

The catechism is the Bible of the layman, which contains the whole body of Christian teaching necessary to bring every Christian to salvation ... For that reason we should hold the catechism honorable and worthy and use it diligently among the youth, because in it has been gathered together all the true, real, ancient, pure and godly teachings of the holy Christian church.

— Martin Luther

What I Learned On My Vacation

Remember those first days back at school every fall, when your teacher would ask you to write a paragraph or two about what you did on your vacation?

We had a wonderful "holiday," as they say in Canada, but we are none the less happy to be home. Our circle tour took us 5,200 miles across Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa and Illinois. We saw lots, visited lots, and rested lots!

As we traveled, though, I began to realize a couple of things. First, everywhere we went we saw people with needs. Although we were on vacation, the Lord impressed on me, that Christians are never truly "off duty." Yes, we had put aside our regular church duties and day-to-day work for a few weeks, but there were always opportunities to see and be involved with people who had needs.

The second thing I learned on vacation was that the more I tried to avoid those needs, or demand complete "time-off," the more fatigued I became.

Again, the Lord impressed on me that being a believer and living that out, is a 'round the clock, 24-hour per day 365 day per year calling. Whether it is being sensitive to the needs of a hurting person staying in the same hotel, visiting with friends or family who are experiencing serious illness or turmoil, or seeing fellow believers struggling through difficult circumstances, the Lord wants us there, ready to be used, even on vacation.

The words of Peter came to mind more than once. "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (I Peter 3:15 NIV).

"... Christians are never truly 'off duty.'"

Our President Writes

The Role of a Minister

It is not surprising that a minister is usually held in high admiration and affection by the people of his congregation. After all, he is there to draw his people close to God. He shares the joys of his people. He is there to share their trials and sorrows.

There is also the danger of people in a congregation elevating their pastor to such a pedestal that they forget that he is still a man. As a human being, a pastor struggles with the same problems and trials that any of his people have. Sometimes for the pastor, they may even be greater.

Though a pastor's life and conduct ought to be exemplary, there are situations where a pastor is not allowed any type of mistake.

I have an article that appeared in *Pulpit Helps* a number of years ago. I do not have the author's name, but I want to share it with our readers. There is food for thought here.

My Minister — Right or Wrong!

I have a minister. Time was when he was a good minister. I pronounced him great. This I did because I liked him.

His sermons were wonderful — as long as I liked him.

His speech was passing fair — as long as I liked him.

He was a hard worker — as long as I liked him.

He was the man for the job — as long as I liked him.

In fact, I was strong for him — as long as I liked him.

But my minister offended me one day. Whether he knew it or not, I do not know. Since that day my minister has ceased to be a good minister — he is just an ordinary one.

His sermons are not so wonderful — since he offended me.

His speech is of no account — since he offended me.

His faults are more prominent — since he offended me.

He is not a hard worker — since he offended me.

He's not the man for the job — since he offended me.

In fact, I'm trying to oust him — since he offended me.

It is true, is it not, that many times our estimate of our minister is determined, to a large part, by personal likes or dislikes. Individual feelings color our judgment.

The relationship of a pastor to the people in his congregation is so crucial to the effectiveness of the ministry within the congregation. May God help us see others, and even our pastor, through the eyes of Christ.

— Rev. Richard Snipstead

No, our vacation wasn't spent ministering to countless numbers of people's needs, but it was a time to learn in the midst of resting. It was a good vacation of fun, travel, seeing new places, and having confirmed again, that believers must never take a vacation from their assignment of living and sharing Christ.

— Pastor Rob Lewis
Fkrom the West Lisbon
Lutheran Church Messenger
Newark, Illinois

Is there anything else that's
of more worth

As along life's way we plod,
Than to find some wandering
soul of earth,

And bring him home to God?

—Anon.

BOOK REVIEW

"My Experience with Clinical Depression" by Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom. Revised from author's earlier "Purged," 191 pages. Order from Mercy and Truth Publishers, Route 1, Box 503, Osceola, WI 54020.

In recent years, several denominations have noted the alarming rise in depression and mental illness, especially among their pastors.

Now a Lutheran pastor, who experienced two lengthy bouts with depression in trying to cope with the changing theology of this church, has written of his experience. He has examined the spiritual reasons for his illness, believing that God used mental illness to check his slide downward into modern liberal theology and eventually steered him out of his liberal synod into a more orthodox body.

Pastor Mundfrom first became ill during the early 1960s while serving in a difficult parish in western South Dakota. That time, he was treated at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Sioux Falls. Later he was hospitalized for a longer period in another V.A. facility at Sturgis in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Pastor Mundfrom vividly describes what it is like to pass through the never-never-land of depression, much like a traveler totally lost without any orientation in a dark night and a thick fog. He tells how, for a time, it became a major ordeal for him to do such simple things as tie his own shoes. He was always very tired, yet he could not sleep.

During those years, the larger Lutheran bodies in North America were headed in a more liberal and radical direction. Many pastors and laity alike felt stress, confusion, and anger over these trends. It was a very difficult time in which to be a pastor. "I greatly loved my church and had always thought of her as being one with Christ. But now I was not sure. There were teachings and ideas which distressed me. What was I to do? ... I now had no assurance that our church was true to God's Word." (p. 36.)

A Century of God's Grace



Satersdal Lutheran Church

In July of 1886, Pastor Elias Aas served eleven congregations in a 75-mile area. He made his home in St. Hilaire, because Thief River Falls was not yet a town. He had a great interest in teaching God's Word and the work of His Kingdom.

A group of families from Satersdal, Norway, settled north of Thief River Falls. Their lives were marked by much drunkenness and carrying on. It was to these people Pastor Aas ministered.

Worship services were held in the

home of Gunstein Skomedal and his wife. Dozens of people got converted at these meetings. A total abstinence society was organized at that time, as drinking continued to be a major problem among the farmers. Through conversion experiences and faithful study of the Word of God, it was reported that many of these farmers were able to quit drinking.

John G. Skomedal was confirmed in

Pastor Mundfrom tells how God marvelously led him through the long valley of the shadow and back home to his loved ones and his parish; how he was forced and tricked into resigning from his parish in South Dakota by a district official; how he finally was led out of the American Lutheran Church into a more conservative and pietistic Association of Free Lutheran Congregations; and how "God permitted the sickness in order to lead me back to the Christian beliefs and convictions I once had, which had served me well" (p. 36.) It is a gripping story which often finds the reader identifying with the author's plight, both with his depression (if one has had it or has a loved one struggling with it) and with his inner conflicts while trying in futility to harmonize one's conservative Biblical and Lutheran convictions with

today's various new theologies.

For the past several years, Gerald Mundfrom has had a personal ministry to individuals with depression as well as in writing and publishing, speaking on his experiences and sending out sermons on cassettes. (Write the author for a listing of available resources.) He has preached in two of this reviewer's parishes and I can testify of the help he has given to several struggling with mental illness.

If you have been looking for a way to speak Scriptural truths to persons afflicted with depression, or if you have experienced similar soul struggles in the area of personal Christian convictions vs. liberal theology, be sure to buy this book. It will tell you how to cope, and will be a blessing for you.

—Rev. Edward A. Johnson
Haysville, Indiana

1888. He learned Pontoppidon's Explanation of the Catechism on his fingers. Pastor Aas noted that there never again was a confirmation student like him.

Confirmation instruction was a priority with the pastors who served Satersdal. I remember my own confirmation instruction well. I memorized the entire "Luther's Small Catechism," and still recall many of those explanations.

Because the Satersdal Parish included six churches, we had services once a month, or every other Sunday. On the Sundays when we did not have church and Sunday School, dad helped us memorize Scripture. In that way, I memorized Psalms 1, 8, 19, 32, 46, 91, 103 and 150. I also memorized the entire Sermon on the Mount, John 1, and nearly the entire book of Philipians.

Special Meetings

A tradition at Satersdal was to have special meetings twice a year. Evangelist Eddie Berg came regularly for those meetings when I was a boy. His enthusiasm, humor, and practical stories, made an indelible impression on me. His family came along to our home at times for Sunday dinner when Eddie Berg served Satersdal Parish.

Conversions were a regular feature of the special meetings. In 1925, my uncle, Even Ose, was converted. He quit drinking. He went around to farmers he had cheated in horse trading and made right the bad deals he had done. He became a leader in founding the Mission House in Thief River Falls, and was instrumental in founding the Redby Indian Mission. He donated the ground to the Hauge Federation where the AFLC Seminary and Bible School now sits. To the last he was a generous person in supporting the Lord's Work.

Luther League

Once a month we had Sunday Night Luther League. It seemed everybody in the parish looked forward to these programs. The church would be packed on League nights. The women of the church at times competed to see who could come up with the best lunch following League. Mom used to buy town buns and big round store-bought bologna slices for these events.



The Connely Dyrud family.

Missions

Regular mission meetings were held at Satersdal. Lenorah Erickson from China and Taiwan came to speak and show slides and tell of the work.

Pastor Morris Vaagenes, Sr., served Satersdal Parish for a year in the 1940s. I remember him telling of the Malagasy custom of killing babies born on unlucky days. But, he added, "Malagasy mothers love their children just as much as you do." This custom stopped with the coming of Christianity.

My mom's uncle, Victor Swenson, from China, visited us regularly when he and Evodia were on furlough. Their enthusiasm for China was contagious. I remember how they told of the suffering in China during times of famine.

The Sands from Africa came to visit us. Mrs. Sand happened to comment one time how she bought a cake mix box in the store and took it to Cameroun in her luggage. One day she made a "store" birthday cake for her daughter, and all her children were delighted. She had also brought along two pounds of Crystal sugar.

A Sense of Call

Over and over again our pastors and guest speakers talked about the call of the Lord for service. It came as no surprise when five of the sons and daughters of the congregation went into full-time Christian service: Karen Moe Dalager and Betty Ose Valtinson married pastors; Gaylen Ose became a pastor and served in North Dakota and Minnesota; Roger Ose served seven years as a missionary in Madagascar, and is now a visitation pastor in Minneapolis; Connely Dyrud is serving as missionary in Brazil.

Centennial Celebration

On Sunday, July 28, Centennial Services were held in the morning and afternoon. Pastors Lynn Luthard and Silas Erickson preached in the morning. Sons and daughters of the congregation shared in the afternoon.

The speakers referred many times to the sense of call to full and complete dedication to a life in Christ. The centennial was a time to look back and reflect. But the greater emphasis was on looking to the future as faithful servants.

During the celebration, people were invited to print their names in the front cover of Russian Bibles that were on the table. Those Bibles were hand-carried to Moscow on August 1, 1991.

There were also centennial books, prepared by Loiell and Mary Dyrud. The historical information in those books reflects the life of a congregation with a mission.

The Mission Goes On

We gathered for encouragement and a look at the past. We gave thanks for those who had gone before. But we were reminded that we have marching orders to go forward. There is still a great need for young people in all walks of life willing to dedicate themselves completely to serving the Lord.



— Rev. Roger Ose
Minneapolis,
Minnesota

Satersdal, a member of the former Lutheran Free Church, united with Our Saviour's of Thief River Falls in 1959.

Two Negatives are Key to VBS Success in Oceanside, California

We have no place to meet, and furthermore, we have year-round school and only one-half will be available at any one time. The temptation for an eight-month-old mission church still in temporary meeting places (public school rooms) was to lie down and have a good excuse for dropping the idea of VBS.

Thanks to the Home Mission BARNABAS Team, the dedicated teachers and the enthusiasm of the leaders ... the prayer goal of 50 in attendance jumped to 105. We ended with 95 students and 15 workers as the final count. The AFLC Neighborhood Bible Church and Pastor Orville Hiepler are ecstatic over the response.

The local park served well as classroom and chapel, and became a preferred place over a building. Long after property and a building are available, this church will have VBS in the park. The "Sonward Ho" (pioneer western theme) material of Gospel Light, recommended by our AFLC, was especially appropriate in a park setting.

The year-round school forced this church to have two schools each day — one in the morning and the other beginning at 4 p.m. The hassle of carrying in tables, chairs, flannelgraph

board, etc. was multiplied by two. However, it turned out to be a blessing by giving more people daily jobs. It was necessary to put up and take down everything, including the road signs, after each school period. But the two schools each day gave parents and children who had conflicting schedules with one period, two from which to choose. The park setting augmented the great effectiveness of the puppet and singing ministry of the BARNABAS Team.

The joyous commitment of the teachers to teach in both sessions was almost equalled by parents who brought children to both sessions and even attended two last day programs. The daily refreshment table and the watermelon "bust" were handled by Mr. and Mrs. William Blaw, who are 80 plus years young. The school was without cost to all the children; however, the offering was almost \$500.

The missionary spirit of all the teachers and leaders rubbed off on many of the children. The children themselves brought 25 friends and neighbors to the school during the week.

Amery Free Lutheran Church is seeking copies of the "Great Hymns of the Faith" hymnal in good condition. At least 30 are needed. Call or write the church at the following address: Route 2, Box 359a, Amery, WI 54001; phone (715) 268-9124.

Chillicothe, Illinois—Our Savior's Lutheran held Vacation Bible School on August 5-9. Forty-four children from the church and neighborhood attended the morning sessions. Featured during the week were the Sonshine Station Puppets, led by Demetrius the Donkey, who helped the children understand Bible stories told from a newspaper story background. Headlines included: "Paralyzed Man Walks Again" and "Missing Son Returns Home." The week concluded on Sunday morning when the children sang and the puppets performed to a full church during the worship service.

Several congregations in the **Illinois District** participated in the area LEM conference September 15-18: Freedom-St. Petrie Parish, rural Ottawa, Pastor Paul Nash, speaker; Bethlehem, Morris, Pastor Ken Thoreson, speaker; Helmar, rural Newark, Pastor Rodger Olson, speaker; West Lisbon, rural Newark, Pastor Bruce Koester, speaker; Fox River, Norway, Pastor Tim Carlson, speaker.

Morning sessions were held in the Lisbon-Bethlehem Church, with Rev. Omar Gjerness as the Bible teacher, and Rev. Jack Aamot leading the Practical Hour. This conference was an especially unique one, as it included churches from four different Lutheran groups.

"The real measure of our wealth is how much we would be worth if we lost our money."



The BARNABAS team with Pastor Hiepler and children missionaries.



The watermelon bust at the Oceanside VBS.

Dalton, Minnesota—"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it," (Psalm 127:1).

The Zion-Sarpsborg congregation of Dalton is building a new church building on a five-acre building site on the north edge of the village.

The ground breaking ceremony was held on August 4, with Pastor Merle Fagerberg and chairman of the congregation John Halvorson officiating. Pastor Fagerberg quoted Scripture from Psalm 127:1 and Matthew 7:24-25 and reminded the congregation that the foundation (Christ) is already laid. Board members and officers of the various church groups each turned a shovel to break ground. Following the ceremony, a congregational picnic was held in the Dalton Park.

Construction of the new building has begun, and God willing, the building will be enclosed by the time cold weather sets in.

(Please note: The ground breaking ceremony was previously printed in *The Ambassador* as having occurred on Palm Sunday. However, a heavy snowstorm forced postponement, and the article had already gone to print. We apologize for this error.)

Received into membership at Zion-Sarpsborg Free Lutheran Church on June 23, were: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thompson and Justin; Mr. and Mrs. Craig Eggum and Tyler, James Mark; Mrs. Dwaine Miller, Justin and Wade; Sandra Hovland; Mary Bolstad; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Johnson; and Sandra Johnson and Brianna.

New members were also received into Tordenskjold Free Lutheran Church on June 30. They were: Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Moore, Brittany and Patrick; and Joe Thompson.

Fairdale, North Dakota—Aadalen Free Lutheran Church observed its 105th anniversary with a Norwegian and English worship service on August 11. Lay pastor Roy Mohagen gave a message in Norwegian and Rev. Bruce Dalager, Grand Forks, spoke in English. Several vocal and instrumental selections were presented. The congregation sang "Faith of Our Fathers" and "Kirken Den Er Et Gammelt Hus." A coffee hour followed the service.

Rev. David Keippela, 15200 18th Avenue North (Apt. 415), Plymouth, MN 55447, is serving as the interim pastor of Word of Life, Mankato, and Hosanna, St. James, Minnesota. His former parish was the Apostolic Lutheran Church, Hancock, Michigan.

Janet Gray, a recent graduate of AFLBS, returned to Brazil this fall for a second year with Paul and Becky Abel and family in Curitiba. She will continue to serve as a student missionary assistant, with special responsibilities as a teacher for the Abel children.



(Upper right) Rev. Michael Crowell, pastor of Christ Lutheran.

Wichita Falls, Texas—On September 7-8, Christ Lutheran enjoyed their first annual "MissionFest," an event to promote mission awareness. Pastor Jonathan Abel and his wife, Tamba, were the featured speakers. They shared on mission activity in the AFLC, the biblical basis for missions, communicating the Gospel, and the challenge of personal involvement in the cause of Christ. The congregation was blessed, encouraged, and challenged by these servants of the Lord!

In addition to the missions presentations, amateur radios provided by members of the local "ham" radio club allowed contacts with missionaries and fellow Christians in Germany, Japan, Guatemala, Mexico, Canada, New Zealand, and throughout the U.S. A highlight for the congregation was to hear Rev. Dan Giles make contact with us as he was traveling on I-94 near Menomonie, Wisconsin, enroute to Illinois for special meetings!

As the congregation looks forward to next year and another "MissionFest," the desire is that mission awareness would be an on-going concern in our AFLC ... not just a once-a-year emphasis. AFLC members throughout the states who made contact with us have determined to set up an "AFLC Missions Net" on radio. This will allow amateur radio operators to share a word on encouragement with one another and with our missionaries on the field, such as John Abel and Dan Giles. The "net" will meet at 6 p.m. CDT on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, with the following schedule for frequencies. If contact is not established on the "primary" frequency, after ten minutes we will move to the listed second and then to the third frequency. All operators with the AFLC are invited to join in!

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Primary	28.380MHz	21.410MHz	14.293MHz
Second	21.410MHz	14.293MHz	28.380MHz
Third	14.293MHz	28.380MHz	21.410MHz

"Net Control" for the initial nets will be N5JRF, Mr. Lester Dykes, Wichita Falls, Texas. Check in with us and share a word of encouragement for our missionaries and one another!

New Pastor Brings 'Maturity' to First Lutheran

Excuses are common in the Bible. Several accounts are told of people making excuses after being called to a task.

Moses, deferring to a speech impediment, asked that his brother Aaron be chosen instead.

Jonah jumped on a boat, and ultimately into a whale, to keep from having to warn Ninevah.

Isaiah's first response to the Lord was, "I am undone and of unclean lips."

The Rev. Walter Johnson had a good excuse, too.

For a lifetime, he had answered the call of the Lord affirmatively.

Three months after he retired from active pastoring in Shakopee, Minnesota, he received a request from the president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations to fill in as an interim pastor at First Lutheran Church, 380 Arneill Road, Camarillo.

His excuse, "I just retired. I need to fish. I need to ski."

But just as his Biblical mentors changed their tune, he soon answered as did Isaiah, "Here am I Lord, send me."

Walter's plan was to fill in until the search committee found a suitable replacement for the pastoral position vacated an January 6. "I came out to help until they got someone here."

According to Walter, during a meeting of the search committee, one of the members said, "I don't know what we're doing this for. Let's call Pastor Johnson."

"My first response was, 'I'm going fishing.' Then I said I needed to pray and talk to Marilyn," his wife, Walter recalled.

After prayer and discussion with friends and family, the Johnsons decided to accept First Lutheran's and what they believe to be, God's call to Camarillo.

"He mostly felt the Lord wanted him to lead them (First Lutheran's congregation) for a while," explained Marilyn.

During this interim period, Walter felt a real relationship had developed between him and his parishioners. "The reception here was exceptional. They are so much like our people back home" in the Midwest, said Walter.

Walter was born in Wisconsin and Marilyn hails from North Central Iowa. Walter grew up in a Norwegian family, whose parents often spoke their native language.

His faith in God grew during his teen years when he was diagnosed as having rheumatoid arthritis and spent a great deal of time in pain and on crutches.

After many unsuccessful attempts at treatment, Walter's father agreed to try an Indian remedy of herbs and roots.

"In three to four weeks, the pain stopped, and within six weeks, I was completely cured," said Walter, who believed the treatment was miraculous.

In 1950, Walter was ordained to the ministry where he began work as a youth minister in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Forty-one years later, he hopes to bring "maturity and experience" to First Lutheran.

"The experience I've had fit some of the needs of the congregation. I've had special post-graduate work with children."

The children are a large part of the Johnsons' focus. "The church is involved in very good education," explained Walter. "His one real love is young people. He's like a magnet," Marilyn said. It's a good thing; Marilyn and Walter share four sons and 12

grandchildren, "Six of each," Walter said proudly.

"Having the school close is a wonderful thing," she said.

Recently, she watched as her husband rollerbladed around the parking lot with several of the school students. "It was funny watching him circle around the parking lot," she said.

Walter's only disappointment since coming to Camarillo has been the lack of fishing holes.

He may not have reeled any in with a rod, but he's comfortable in his calling as a fisher of men. "My impression is that they (the congregation) are ready to see an expression of their faith, manifested in music, having groups come in or sharing their faith," said Walter. "On Sunday mornings I can see it in their faces."

And he is at home in Camarillo.

"It's unbelievable to have a pool and to sit at the side and squeeze oranges for juice," he said.

Marilyn said they rattle around in the beautiful five-room parsonage that she will put to good use using her Midwestern hospitality.

"I can't impress enough the reception I've gotten," exclaimed Walter. "If this is the way Californians are, I should have been here years ago."

— by Dee Reed

Camarillo Daily News Staff
(Reprinted with permission.)

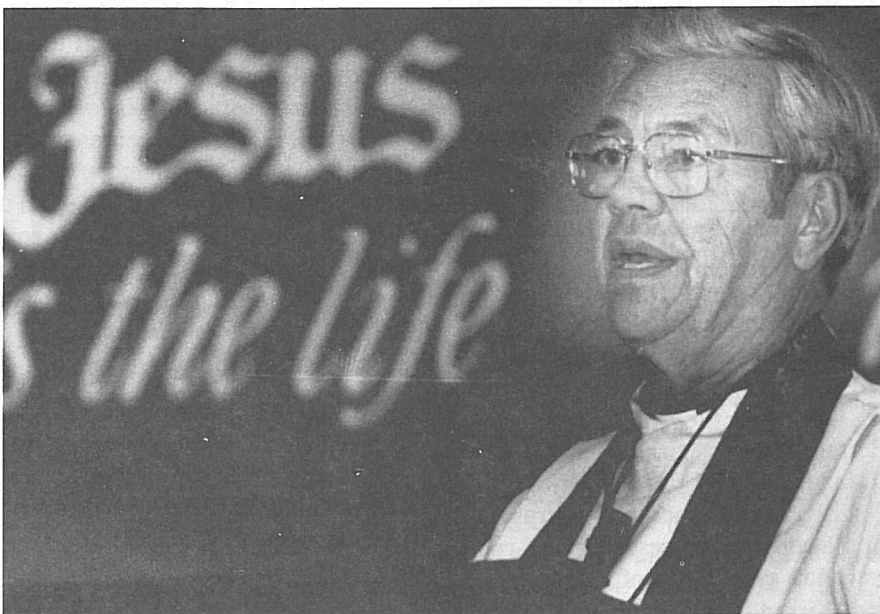


Photo by Larry Gund

DO AND DONE

The occasion was a Reformation Sunday evening service at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. The time was almost 30 years ago. An older pastor was preaching, and his text is long forgotten.

"There are only two religions in the world," he declared. "One says **do** and the other says **done**."

I was a critical young college student at the time, but my heart was warmed by these words in spite of myself. It was a "grace moment" for me as God's Spirit revealed the Gospel in renewed simplicity.

Do! The demands of the Law can be dressed in all sorts of religious raiment, but the message remains the same. "You shall ... You shall not ..." "Do this, and you shall live."

Done! The proclamation of the gospel can be presented through several scriptural themes, but the focus on the finished work of Christ must be central. "It is finished." "Come, for all things are now ready."

This is the Reformation rediscovery. We are saved, not due to our own doing, but through Christ's doing and dying. The **do** can only be properly emphasized when the **done** has been personally experienced.

May we be found faithful as we proclaim the Gospel in the present and guard it for the future generations!

SINGING STOLEN SONGS

Is your church singing stolen songs? There is a new document on display in our church. It's called a temporary copyright license, and we pay an annual fee in order to acquire one. The purpose is to secure legal permission to copy the songs and choruses for congregational singing that are not included in our hymnals.

Some congregations use their copy machines as much as their hymnals, producing "bootleg" song sheets by the score. Choir directors and other church musicians fill their files and

folders with stacks of illegally duplicated material, taking no time to consider the implications.

You may find fault with the motives of Christian musicians who threaten fellow believers with legal action for making copies of their compositions. You may also be reasonably confident that no one is ever going to come to your church and search through the cupboards and cabinets for contraband music.

But the law still stands, whether we like it or not ... and in spite of the fact that we may get away with flaunting it.

God's law still stands, too.

The poetry is not very memorable, but the message is plain:

*In vain we call old notions fudge
and bend our conscience to our dealing;
The Ten Commandments will not budge,
and stealing will continue stealing.*

Let's stop singing stolen songs.

(One Christian copyright licensing company can be reached for further information, by calling 1-800-234-2446.)

WALKING WHERE JESUS WALKED

The past and present editors of *The Lutheran Ambassador*, Pastor Raynard Huglen and myself, will have returned from in a tour of the Holy Land, the Lord willing, at the time this issue goes to press. The tour will be led by one of our pastors, Rev. David Barnhart, who has conducted many similar trips, but it will be the first time for us.

We will be walking where Jesus walked, due to the kindness of friends within the AFLC who have also made it possible for my wife, Gloria, to travel with us. Words can only begin to express our gratitude to God and to those of His



St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

Indianapolis, Indiana—St. Mark's Lutheran Church has been celebrating their centennial in 1990-91. They have now completed the year and in September will begin their 101st year.

On June 23, the congregation enjoyed a catered dinner. The service was signed, for the first time, for the hearing impaired. August 25, the last Sunday of celebration, was an annual "indoor" picnic, with lots to eat, games for children and door prizes for all. The Jubilation Singers also sang.

Rev. Harold Masted, Morris, Illinois, will serve as the interim pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Morris, while they are in the process of calling a new pastor.

The Last Word

The Lord is not slow to do what He promised, as some people think. Rather, He is patient with you because He does not want any to perish, but wants all to come to repentance. The Lord's Day will come like a thief ... since all these things will be destroyed think how necessary it is for you to continue living in a holy and godly way, as you wait for and earnestly desire the coming of the day of God ... (II Peter 3:9-11 Beck).

This text brings out some important truths about the mind and plan of God. First, God does what He has promised to do, but in His own time and way. Next, He is a patient God whose timing is not necessarily ours, for his ultimate goal is to save people. God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezekiel 18:23). A soul who passes from this life without Christ perishes eternally. This is a terrible thing, for "He does not want any to perish, but wants all to come to repentance."

Peter tells us that the Lord has planned a day when He will come like a thief (unexpected); evil will be eliminated and our present earth and atmosphere will undergo a drastic renovation. The Holy Spirit through the Apostle Peter advises us to wait patiently for this event and to earnestly desire its coming.

It is by faith that we wait patiently, and the proof of this faith is our continuing to live in a holy and godly way. Living for Jesus in these last days will have a double impact: First, it will help keep us from temptations that are in the world through lust. This world is full of appeals, and we are subject to them on every side. Some appeal to our materialistic desires, others to our sensual nature, for the devil knows how to "bait the hook." It is good to know that we have forgiveness and victory in Jesus. Secondly, by living holy and godly lives we will be shining lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation (Philippians 2:15). Our generation, as never before, needs our witness. But, remember, if we witness only by our lives we really witness only to ourselves. We need to

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

Second-Class

point to Jesus, giving the credit to Him for our peace and victory.

Last days living suggests five goals for every growing Christian:

1. Every Christian should be dedicated to the task of spreading the Gospel.
2. Every Christian should work from a foundation of prayer.
3. Every Christian should be an inviter.
4. Every Christian should learn how to clearly articulate the Gospel in love, for faith comes by hearing.

5. Every Christian should not only share the Gospel, but also his own life. Friendship and kindness are pre-evangelism and will prepare hearts to listen to the way of salvation.

Last days living means that the Lord should expect nothing less of us. Now the question is: Are you living in the light of Christ's return?

— by Rev. John H. Abel
Missionary-Evangelist

God's Word is Truth

There are many false prophets in the world today
Who are constantly leading God's people astray.
Their methods are subtle, not easy to tell.
Therefore it's important to know God's word well.

To be sure, there is violence of every kind,
But that's not exactly what I had in mind.
Violence is sin, of that there's no doubt.
It's the "wolves in sheep's clothing" I'm talking about.

They are slinking about, promoting "new light."
Confusing the people so "wrong" appears "right."
"New age," "new morality," are phrases we hear.
It's taking its toll, that's been made very clear.

God says, "Thou shalt not," that's what He meant
To dilute and pollute it was not His intent.
God's Word is Truth, of false prophets beware,
The Bible is Light, all the answers are there.

— Verna Kammen