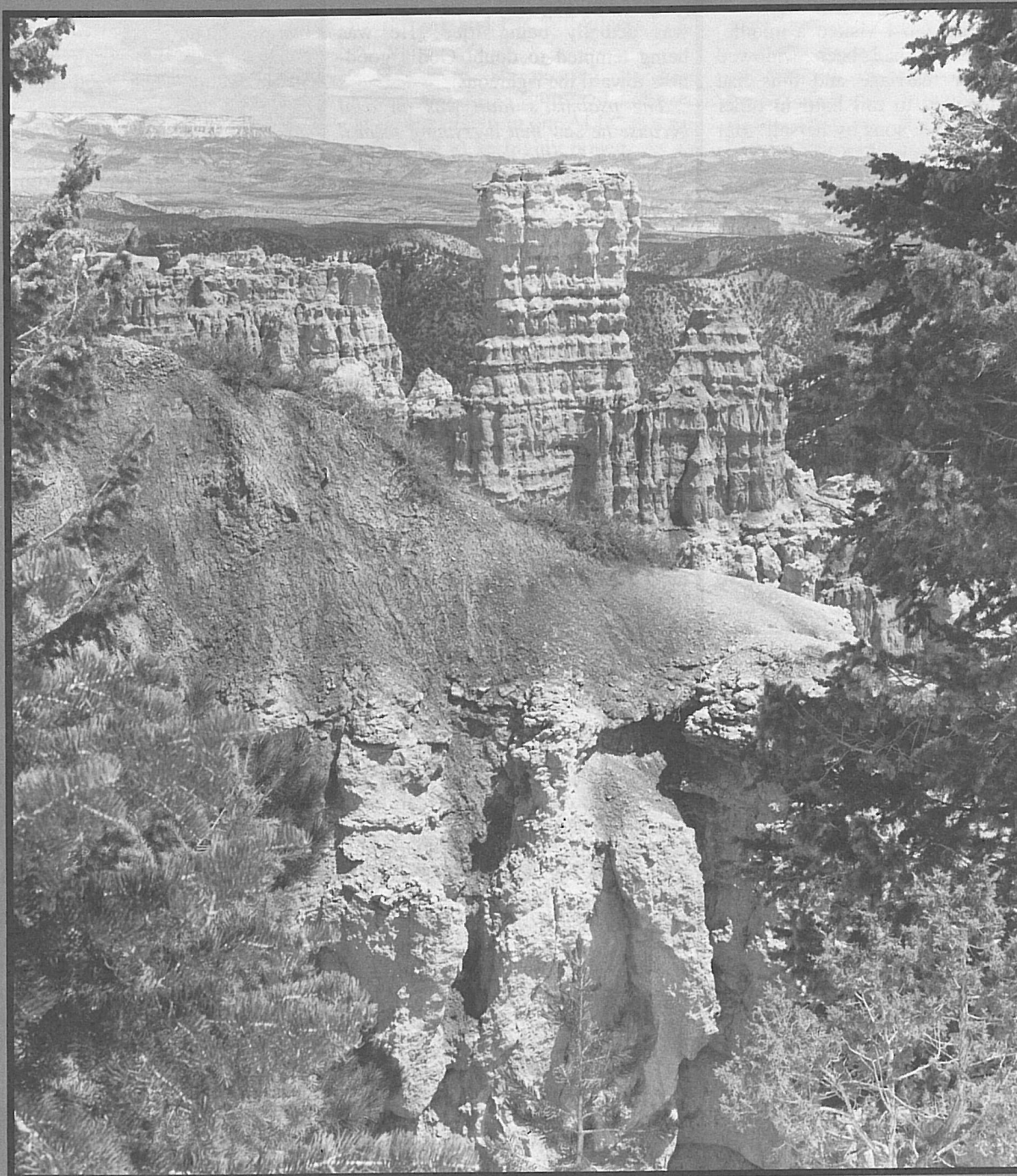


THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

September 10, 1985



Bryce Canyon National Park, Roger C. Huebner, D.D.S.

at the MASTER'S FEET

Faith on trial

Psalm 73

Some time ago I visited a middle-aged lady who had been widowed early in her marriage and thus had been compelled to toil hard in order to raise her three sons by herself. Her main concern seemed to be why God permits some people to have such a hard life even though they attempt to live a good life while He permits very ungodly people to have things go very easy for them. That lady was struggling with the idea that God is perhaps unjust in His dealings with men.

Her thinking is not unique, because man has often suggested that there is apparent injustice on God's part. Many believers have had their faith tested by this problem. Psalm 73 deals with this matter, namely, why should the godly have to suffer and the ungodly appear to prosper so very much. This problem had become so

great for the psalmist that his faith was actually being tried. He was being tempted to doubt God's goodness toward the righteous.

The psalmist's faith was on trial because he saw that everything seemed to go well for the wicked. In verse 4, he states that even death does not seem to be a fearful experience for the wicked. This is mentioned as the chief surprise. Usually we expect that in death a difference will appear and that the wicked will really be in agony. Most people think that a quiet death means a happy hereafter. However, the psalmist had observed that the reverse is sometimes true. Careless, unsaved people become so hardened that they deceive themselves and others into believing that death is nothing to fear. Thus their deaths appear to be peaceful. Job said concerning the wicked, "They spend their days in prosperity, and in peace they go down to Sheol." I, too, have on occasion been greatly amazed to see a person without Christ approach death with no obvious sign of fear.

The psalmist was puzzled also when he saw the prosperity of the wicked. Many ungodly people escape the tiring labors which most Christians have to endure in order to make a living. Their money comes to them without much effort. We know that Christ tells us that in hell there is inexpressible misery, yet here on earth people who rebel against God often possess all they can wish of earthly comfort. But some Christians are poor and afflicted even though they work hard. In verse 5, the psalmist says of the wicked, "They are not in trouble as other men are." His faith was being tried because of

this problem. Though he had tried to live for God (verses 13-14) he had come to think that his doing so was all in vain. Then God graciously came to his aid.

God revealed to the psalmist the true condition of the wicked. When he sought an explanation from God then God explained it (verses 16-17). Then he saw the final outcome of the wicked. He saw their terrible future of unending suffering in eternity. When the sinner dies, he is brought to the judgment bar of God and is consigned to everlasting hell. God has set the wicked in slippery places. To be in a prosperous condition without God is to be in a dangerous place. The ungodly easily slip and fall to their ruin. They are destroyed suddenly and completely. Despite their wealth and power, death hurries them away.

God reveals also the Christian's portion. He has the blessed assurance of being continually with God, verse 23. Now the psalmist realized that God is more precious to him than all the wealth, honor and peace which the worldling has. He now desires God more than all else in heaven and earth.

The psalmist's faith had been on trial over the prosperity of the wicked. If we are ever tempted to similar thinking, let us remember the evil end awaiting the wicked but the felicitous future awaiting the Christian.



by Pastor
Einar Unseth

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

USPS 588-620 ISSN 0746-3413

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

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

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

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

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

Volume 23 Number 17

WHAT ENCOURAGEMENT WILL DO

*a manifestation
of God's Grace*

by Rev. Gerald F. Mundfrom,
Osceola, Wis.

*"It is not easy to be a
Christian. He is in the
midst of a warfare."*

It is not easy to be a Christian! He is in the midst of a warfare! He could never make it in his own strength and ability but is ever in need of God's help or grace! And Christians can be a help to each other as they show concern and give encouragement to each other!

How very important and helpful it is, as a Christian, to continuously be reminded and reassured of God's great love, that Jesus died for us, that our sins are all forgiven, that God's grace is sufficient, and that heaven awaits us.

But that is not all! The Christian also needs to be recognized and complimented for the Christian good he has done and is doing, and be inspired by other Christians to continue on. He needs to be assured that his efforts are not in vain and that he is filling a very important gap in the Christian warfare. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).

If Christians, we do not only have an old sinful nature which will ever tempt us to give up the warfare and live for self, but we also have a new nature which is pleasing to Jesus. Matt. 5:16 says: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." The good works in this verse refers to those of a Christian, produced by the new Adam, making it possible for us to do that which is pleasing and acceptable to God.

And as the Christian lets his light shine revealing his good works, it is needful that other Christians notice this light and encourage the one who lets it shine by the good works he is doing.

There is a beginning of a Christ-like appearance brought about by the new nature in every Christian. Oh, the old Adam is also still present. How we wish it weren't so. This old Adam will tear us down if given a chance and prevent the new Adam from coming forth if not kept in check. But honest compliments and encouragement (not flattery) are food for growth to the new nature. It will inspire the new nature to continue to excel in good works. Therefore, how very needful it is that we give this kind of encouragement to each other as Christians. Even as we compliment each other on how nice we look in an outward way for the clothes we wear (which is also good and needful), let us even more compliment and encourage each other on how good we look inwardly when the new Adam shines forth. This also needs to be done from the pulpit.

We may not be able to do much toward solving their problem or to ease the warfare. (It is just as difficult to solve the problems of others as it is to solve our own.) But if we show that we care, it is like helping them with the heavy burden they are carrying, making it much easier for them to carry it. It is like taking some of the weight upon ourself. Prayer support from a concerned Christian means so very much to a heavy-hearted Christian.

But you say, "What about the old Adam? Shouldn't he be dealt with?" Yes, rightly so! However, this was the way those who came to see Job sought to help Job. In Job's case it was not the need. God rebuked these acquaintances of Job for the

way they ministered to him (Job 42:7).

We all struggle with such things as hatred, jealousy, envy and self-pity, especially when unjustly treated. These evil thoughts come to us through our old Adam.

We often hear sermons on how we ought to love more and hate less. We might tell ourselves that we are not going to feel jealous or envious and will quit feeling sorry for ourselves. But such thoughts continue to crowd into our thinking nevertheless, especially if we have been wronged in some way. And try as we will we can't seem to keep these evil thoughts out of our mind. Even if we crowd them into our subconscious, which is very harmful to our mental health, they continuously surface into our thinking and haunt us. They seem to come in like a flood and there is little in our own strength that we can do to stop them. Truly, we need to draw on God's grace to keep them from overpowering us.

But there is still another force, outside of oneself, which is very helpful when available. As Christians we need to make it available to each other. We need to encourage each other so that good thoughts, encouraging thoughts, can occupy the mind and inspire the heart. Then there will be less room in the mind for such thoughts as hate, jealousy, self-pity and all that is evil. We can be this kind of help to each other and especially to those who are weary and discouraged.

Even as there are two ways to keep the weeds down in a field, there are two ways to keep some sins from taking over in our life.

One is to make war on the weeds themselves. We can preach against hatred, jealousy, envy, self-pity and all evil thinking.

CONTINUE AS EVANGELISTS

“But as it is written, ‘Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.’ But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, Yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God . . . But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit

of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (I Cor. 2:9-12, 14).”

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, we are to continue on in bringing the Word of God before these precious souls who do not know the way of eternal life. The Lord has saved us to be His witnesses in a dark world of sin. Let us not enter into heaven with empty hands.

Paul’s solemn charge to Timothy makes us press on toward that high calling of God in Christ Jesus. “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ . . . Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of

season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall turn unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry” (II Tim. 4:1-5).

Paul encourages us to continue on as evangelists and we are to endure afflictions, just as he charged Timothy. There is no turning back in the work of the Lord, only a looking forward, enduring afflictions, for the

ENCOURAGEMENT . . .

The second way, and often a better way, is to plant good seed in the soil and fertilize it so it will grow and cover the ground, not giving the weeds a chance. We can best keep hatred and other related sins out of the heart by giving encouragement and inspiration to the new Adam to do good.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Phil. 4:8).

We know from Scripture that we have the seed of every possible sin in our heart. Much sin is subconscious and often we are not aware that we are sinning. Many of our sins are never brought to our attention.

We also know that when we confess our known sins with a repentant heart Jesus forgives all our sins, also those we are not aware of and have not confessed.

When we have good, encouraging thoughts to think about, many such sins as previously mentioned need never be brought to our attention. The encouragement received will crowd them out of our life and they will

“But then along comes a word of encouragement, sometimes from a source least expected.”

never become a problem. It is when no encouragement is given that they become a serious threat.

We may be quick to judge the person who complains a lot and who reveals symptoms of bitterness and self-pity in his heart. But perhaps this person has received little encouragement.

I can imagine what would happen to me if I received no encouragement either from God’s Word or from others, and if no one was praying for me. I know that I would not have that which is needed to stand up against the wiles of the evil one all by myself. Self-pity and all that goes with it would soon take over both in my mind and heart. There would be little to hinder or stop this from happening.

I need only to take a good long look at my own life and my past to see how a word of encouragement

can work wonders when given at the right time. There have been times when hatred, jealousy and self-pity have been a threat to me. But then along comes a word of encouragement, sometimes from a source least expected. I am reminded again that someone loves me! My spirits are lifted! I receive new hope! And all thoughts of self-pity and its evil companions quickly flee.

I do not wish to underestimate God’s grace in this, but somehow I believe encouragement received from others relates to God’s grace. God is using others to comfort and encourage me. Jesus has been able to do a work in someone else who in turn gave me encouragement just when I needed it. That, I believe, is pleasing to God.

Let us not only recognize the old nature which we all have, but also the new nature which God has given to Christians. Let us encourage this new nature which God has given to Christians. Let us encourage this new nature and the good it does so that it will be inspired to grow. Let us pray that this might be reflected in our preaching, stimulating the Christians to carry on in the Christian warfare as they leave the church.

**"There is no
turning back in the
work of the Lord,
only a looking
forward ...**

road is not going to be easy, the road is hard to travel.

Paul makes the charge before both God and Jesus, who shall judge the quick and the dead. We have a work to do, for soon the Lord shall return and then our work on earth will be over. Then, if we have done the will of the Father, we will hear those wonderful words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: enter into the kingdom I have prepared for you."

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men." "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

So let us sow to the Spirit and we will reap greater rewards, praise the Lord. "I can do all things through Christ Jesus which strengtheneth me" (Phil. 4:13).

We ought to pray to and praise God as did Paul and Silas when they were put in prison. They saw results from their work. When they prayed, the foundations of the prison were shaken and the prison doors were opened. And the jailor, when he heard this, would have committed suicide, but Paul and Silas, when they heard him ask, "What must I do to be saved?" cried unto him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." "And they spake unto him the Word

of the Lord, and to all that were in his house." We can thank the Lord God for the power of His Word. It was not Paul and Silas that saved the jailor and his household, but it was the Word of the Lord.

Dear reader: Do you know Jesus Christ as your Savior? If not, you can do as this jailor, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you, too, shall be saved, and then turn to the Word of God. Then will you have that eternal peace for ever.

The Bible tells us: "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin" (Rom. 6:12-14).

A question might be asked: Where do the members of your body lead you? When we think of our hands, feet, eyes and mouth, if they are leading us to sin, then we are to turn away from this. The Scriptures says "Yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God." Then sin will not have dominion over you.

Jesus said, "I am the Vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in Me, and I in Him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing" (Jn. 15:5).

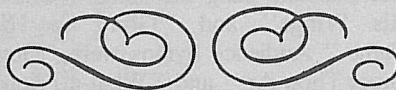
Dear friends, where will you spend eternity? Remember, "The wages of sin is death." This is that eternal death, the death where there will never be another change. But the gift of God is eternal life, life like it says in Revelation, where there will be no more tears, no more death, neither sorrow, no more crying, no more pain, "for the former things are passed away." Praise the Lord! Isn't this the place where you would want to be for all eternity?

If you have a sin question, please write to the Commission on Evangelism and we will try to help you, for Jesus' sake.

Lay Pastor Verle Dean, Chairman,
Commission on Evangelism

on temptations . . .

Dear brother, you cannot hinder the birds in the air from flying over your head; but you can prevent them from building a nest in your hair. In that self-same manner (as St. Augustine says) we cannot guard ourselves against temptations and stumbling; but with prayer and with the help of God we can prevent them overcoming us.



on sanctification . . .

They are called holy, not because they are without sin, or sanctified through works. On the contrary, they are sinners in themselves and are condemned with all their works, but are made saints with a sanctity which is not their own, but Christ the Lords's, which is given to them through faith and becomes their own.

— Martin Luther

REV. KENNETH PENTTI

Rev. Kenneth Pentti, AFLC pastor and, for the last six years, her evangelist-youth worker, passed away on Wednesday evening, July 24, in Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, Mich., from lymphoma, a form of cancer. He was 44 years old.

His funeral was held on July 27 in his home church, Hope Lutheran, Ishpeming, Mich., the city in which he made his home. The church's pastor, Harvey L. Jackson, officiated. The sermon was preached by Rev. Herbert L. Franz, Cloquet, Minn., a long-time friend and spiritual confidant. His former pastor, Rev. Paul Nash, now of Tioga, N. Dak., read Scripture and offered prayer. A greeting from Rev. Richard Snipstead, AFLC president, who was unable to attend, was read.

Mrs. Gerald Anderson was organist. Her husband sang the songs "Under His Wings" and "Glory to His Name." Audience hymns were "How Great Thou Art" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Kenneth William Pentti was born Sept. 15, 1940, in Ishpeming to Mr. and Mrs. Einar Pentti. He was baptized into Christ and confirmed in Bethel Lutheran Church, Ishpeming. He attended public schools and graduated from the high school.

He returned to faith in Jesus Christ as Savior at a Luther League rally in 1958. He was grateful to God for his praying parents, grandmother and faithful pastors who encouraged him in his Christian life.

Following graduation from high school he attended the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., for one year. During that time he became engaged to Dorothy Jean Hill of Negaunee, Mich. He was secularly employed for the next years and attended Northern Michigan University in Marquette.

On Sept. 7, 1963, he and Dorothy were married. Four children were born to their union.

Kenneth Pentti served as a lay preacher, filling pulpits in the absence of pastors for a few years and felt the call to full-time ministry for the Lord. Encouraged also by his wife,



he entered Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1970 and served two congregations during his seminary training, Redeemer Lutheran, Ontonagon, Mich., and Our Savior Lutheran, Bessemer, Mich. Upon graduation he became the pastor of Our Savior, serving until the summer of 1979 when he became the AFLC evangelist. He was commissioned for that work at the Annual Conference

of the AFLC at Big Mountain, Whitefish, Mont.

He is survived by his wife; a daughter, Rebecca, Minneapolis; three sons, Brian, David and Daniel, at home; his mother, Ina.; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were Kenneth Williams, rRW2Henry Peterson, Richard Schaulnd, Walter Peronto and Walter Peterson.

In addition to the AFLC Northern Michigan District pastors, other pastors in attendance at the funeral service were Rev. Albert Hautamaki, another former pastor of his, Rev. Philip Haugen, a seminary roommate, Rev. Elden Nelson, executive director of Home Missions, and Lay Pastor Verle Dean, chairman of the Commission on Evangelism. Mr. Ernest Meidema, AFLC business administrator, was also present.

Burial was in Ishpeming Cemetery.

Blessed be his memory.

(See the editorial "Rev. Kenneth Pentti" on page 9.)

from Evangelist Pentti's pastor

Pastor Ken Pentti was a fine friend to many people! He won many a friendship because of his concern for their spiritual life and where they would spend eternity. His preaching and his living were identical. His love for people came out in his preaching and in his fellowship. God has blessed his home congregations as well as the whole Association of Free Lutheran Congregations through his life. He had a fine sense of humor and a seriousness that brought people to the cross and to the place where Jesus could meet them in their need for Him. Not only will those who received the message of Jesus and accepted His salvation be eternally thankful, but through those people many other people will be blessed as time goes on.

Yet, in all of this remembrance, there real concern of Pastor Pentti

was that through his life and ministry people would see Jesus and not him. This he mentioned, when at his bedside just two days before his death, he spoke of the speaker, the message, and the place for the visitation and service. To God be the glory and with all urgency for the salvation of people.

For the human being, the word cancer brings many thoughts of disappointment. Yet, for the Christian, there is the new body awaiting and death brings that promise to reality. We were with Pastor Pentti in his struggle, rejoicing when things were going well, but concerned when the word was not good. He suffered more than we realize, I am sure. Sunday, July 21, he entered the hospital. He passed away on Wednesday evening at 6:30. There had been visitation with Pastor Pentti throughout that time. The family, of course, had been

from the parish papers

PARISH VOICE, Badger, Minn.

We mourn the death of our dear Ken Pentti. We loved him. Sometimes he jokingly would say it wasn't easy to love a Finn. We found it easy. Let's remember to pray for the family he leaves behind. Thank You, Lord for bringing Pastor Pentti into our lives, into our parish.

News and Notes, Faith Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

Our parish was one of the last places where Evangelist Pentti preached for a series of meetings. He was with us on April 14-17 . . . At that time he seemed healthier and to be feeling better than he had for several months. Nevertheless, even then, he seemed to sense that time was probably short for him.

We shall miss him. He loved the Lord and his enthusiasm and love for the Lord's work inspired many.

with him throughout the struggle and he was able to share with them his thoughts for their lives and future. He shared his testimony and the concerns for their salvation and walk with Jesus which were on his heart.

For those of you who have known Pastor Pentti much longer than I, you have much more to share with your own thoughts and with others. The words of Jeremiah 29:11 stood out in special focus in the latter days and weeks of his life.

"I know the plans I have for you, saith the Lord; plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you an expected end."

We here at Hope treasure the privilege of ministering to Dorothy, her family, and Ken's mother in the future. We thank you for your prayers and kindness in the past and in the days and years to come.

Pastor Harvey Jackson
Hope Lutheran Church
Ishpeming, Mich.

world missions

Summer youth team to Mexico

ASSIGNMENT: MEXICO! The call came to four willing hearts and they responded gladly. Terry Claus of United Lutheran Church, McLeod, N.Dak., Todd Schierkolk of Amery Lutheran Church, Amery, Wis., Priscilla Mundfrom of Victory in Christ Lutheran Church, St. Paul, Minn., and Naomi Monseth of Medicine Lake Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minn., traveled to Leon, Guanajuato, Mexico, in July to work with Pastors Samuel Flores and Daniel Giles, their families and the people of the Central Mexican Lutheran Church (AFLC).

"Sending a Summer Youth Team to Mexico is a definite answer to prayer," stated Rev. Eugene Enderlein, World Missions Director. "Our sisters and brothers in Mexico have prayed for two years for our youth to come. I see this as a real asset to our mission work. These young people will team up with nationals as they do door-to-door visitation and evangelism, teach Vacation Bible School, assist in youth services and work in our church."

These four young people also prayed for many months about this opportunity and waited for God's clear leading about the hoped-for trip. In many ways God confirmed

(continued on next page)

Betwixt and Between

Now there's an expression that could be misleading. The first word sounds like it might be related to Hallowe'en, and the second has its "we'en" also.

That expression describes the work in Foz do Iguacu right now. It was begun officially on the Sunday before Hallowe'en in 1984. It was soon "weaned" of its pastor when the Charles Knapp family returned to the U.S. for furlough. It is now "between" its first pastor and another resident pastor.

Pastor and Mrs. George Knapp are carrying on there during the interim period. Each weekend they make the six-hour bus trip, or four hours by car, to hold Friday evening, Saturday evening and Sunday services. Visits are made during the day on Saturday and Sunday. The youth meet Sunday afternoons and are studying for a Bible debate with the Bible School students at the end of June. Sunday night brings the return trip to Campo Mourao!

In January the Bible School team, along with Pastor George Knapp, held DVBS for a week with preaching services at night. Five adults were prayed with for salvation. The average DVBS attendance was 35.



Seated, left to right, Naomi Monseth and Priscilla Abel; standing, Rev. Eugene Enderlein, Rev. Dan Giles, Priscilla Mundfrom, Todd Schierkolk and Terry Claus.

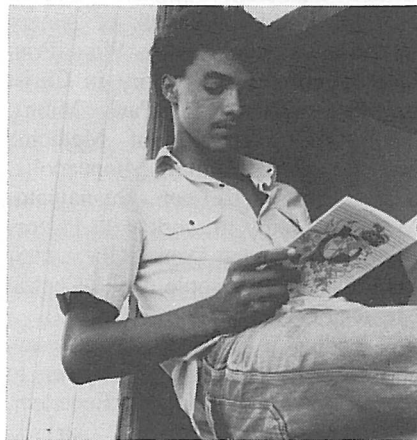
“ . . . the gift of God ”

My name is Jose Nelson Pereira. I was not born into a Christian home. Only when I was 18 years old did I come to know God. It happened like this:

One day I was sitting on the curb in front of the home of a Christian family. The nine-year-old son was singing a chorus and I was sitting there listening and liked it. His mother then came out and invited me to go to church with them. I said, “Maybe some other day.” A week passed, and I saw some of my friends going to church. One of them invited me to go along with them, so I had them

wait while I got ready and we went. That day I met many Christians. They started visiting my home.

Three weeks passed and I was invited to camp. I went and those four days were very good. On the second day I accepted Christ with the help of a counselor. I still had some doubts and soon camp was over.



world mission news cont.

When I got home I started attending the Free Lutheran Church and then had the assurance that God was living in me.

After a month I started working, but I was slack about studying God's Word and soon I lost my job. That was a lesson to me, and after that I purposed to remain steadfast in Christ.

After four months I received the invitation to study at the Bible School. I prayed, and one day as I was thinking about what I wanted to do with my life, I decided to come to study at the Bible School. I am happy to be here and after finishing here I plan to return home and finish my secular schooling so I can come back and study in the Seminary.

A Bible verse that is special to me is Ephesians 2:8: “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God” (RSV).

Jose Nelson comes from a family of six children. He is the third child and has two brothers and three sisters. Jose Nelson is from Vitoria, Espirito Santo, and became a member of the Free Lutheran Church there on February 24. During his year of studies here at the Bible School he is working in the Lar Parana Lutheran Church.

Jose Nelson Pereira

MEXICO . . .

the call to their hearts and overcame many obstacles. Needed funds were earned and gifts received from friends and congregations. The Luther League Federation gave a gift of \$100 to each member.

Pastor Enderlein commented, “I feel that the team was trained in several important areas and I am confident that their ministry will bear fruit.” Training consisted of Spanish and Cultural orientation by Pastors Daniel Giles and Eugene Enderlein, evangelism by Pastor Francis Monseth, Dean of AFLTS, and Christian Education methods by Mrs. Eugene Enderlein, instructor at AFLBS. Priscilla Abel, daughter of missionaries John and Ruby Abel and long-time resident of Brazil, challenged the team regarding the blessings of ministering to those of other cultures before she left for her new position as an elementary school teacher in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Both Priscilla Mundfrom and Terry Claus are graduates of AFLBS. Naomi Monseth and Todd Schierkolk plan to attend AFLBS in September. Other AFLC youth ministries include the FLY (Free Lutheran Youth) teams which have served in Brazil in the past, the Ambassadors, a musical ministries team of AFLBS students, and the Baranabas teams, composed of AFLBS students who assist Home Mission pastors and congregations each summer.

BRAZIL . . .

From this group, seven adolescents made the long bus trip to Campo Mourao for camp. They left Foz at 8:30 p.m., arriving in Campo at 2:30 a.m.! A layman, Bertolino Westphal, came with them and then caught the next bus, 3:00 a.m., back home, meaning no sleep that night! But the children all thank him for the effort because camp was well worth it!

For the youth camp, five young people came. Three made decisions at camp and are continuing faithfully, with a future goal of studying at the Bible School.

We are preparing the persons attending services for their profession of faith (confirmation). We hope by the middle of 1985 to have several as members of the congregation.

We ask you to praise God for this good beginning and continue to pray for those who are continuing faithfully in the Christian life, that they not be “betwixt and between,” but firm in this new life in Christ!

Pastor George Knapp

The Unconverted

It would not help matters if God let men into heaven unconverted. They would find no happiness in His presence there if they found none here.

John P. Milton

editorials

REV. KENNETH PENTTI

It doesn't seem that long ago that Pastor Pentti visited us here "on the edge of town," walking over one day while on an evangelism mission in Newfolden a year ago last spring. We had a pleasant chat and he had prayer with Mother before he left our home.

Now his work day in God's kingdom on earth is over, a relatively short work day. It is beyond our knowing why one man is granted 40 to 50 years of service, another a third or a quarter of that. All we can say is that our times are in God's hands.

But if Kenneth Pentti's period of service was quite short, he tried to do much in that space of time. The call to the ordained ministry came to him and he made the sacrifice of living away from his family for the required three school years. Most every weekend, if not all of them, he rode buses back to Upper Michigan via Duluth to serve congregations in Bessemer and Ontonagon and also visit his wife and children in Ishpeming. Then it was back to Minneapolis for the next week of classes. It was a gruelling schedule.

Following that, Pastor Pentti had six years as full-time pastor of Our Saviour Lutheran in Bessemer. They were good years. And when the AFLC needed an evangelist to replace Rev. David Molstre, it was quite natural that she turned to him, for he was widely accepted as having the gifts of an evangelist. There also he did his work well for he was an able speaker with a good deal of the prophet in him as well, and a compassionate heart. This fact is interesting. If I am not mistaken, he preached his last evangelical series to the Bessemer congregation he loved so much. That was in May.

I have been told that only two weeks before he passed away he and his wife Dorothy attended the district pastor's fellowship, at least in part, and he seemed to be doing well. But a staying of the results of his illness, for him, was not to be.

Kenneth Pentti must have wrestled with the Pauline conundrum during the months he lived with his cancer. "I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account" (Phil. 1:23,24). There was no fear of the beyond for his life was hid with Christ, but then there was his work as an evangelist here, and his wife, his children, and his mother, who had no other children. The summons came to leave and he has gone from us.

Quite likely his first major exposure to an AFLC activity was the Annual Conference of 1967 at Oak Grove Lutheran High School in Fargo, N. Dak., when he came as a lay delegate from his congregation. Now he leaves a church grateful for what he gave, and especially all those individuals who found peace with God through his ministry or help in the Christian walk.

Beyond his gifts of preaching and counselling (he

didn't feel himself much gifted for youth work, although he also bore the title of "youth worker" in the church), Kenneth Pentti was a friendly man, one who enjoyed a good laugh with the best of them, a man interested in people.

The sympathy of the Association and other friends goes out to Mrs. Pentti (Dorothy), Rebecca, Brian, David and Daniel, and to Mother Ina in their loss. Of course, it isn't the loss of those who have no hope, but loss nevertheless. May the Lord grant strength for every day.

Raynard Huglen

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

We don't want to let the summer go by without saying something by way of commendation of the baker's dozen (or so) of young people who have served the Association this summer through the Ambassadors Gospel Team, the Barnabas team and the Summer Youth Team to Mexico.

Here we have significant witness for Christ being made on behalf of three major areas of our work: Bible School, Home Missions and World Missions, respectively. How good it is that young people are offering themselves for outreaches such as these and also receiving training that will benefit them all through life and, in certain cases, direct lives into God's vocational choice for them.

As to the Ambassadors, let us say this. When we think of the coverage given by the various Ambassador teams over the years, few Association people on a day of judgment would be able to say they never knew what work Association Free Lutheran Bible School was doing or what it could offer. Add the witness of the Bible School choirs, choral clubs, chapel singers and Gospel teams and the evidence is even more overwhelming.

Always, the AFLC has realized the treasure she has in her young people. The passage of years has never diminished that realization but only increased it. As long as the Lord continues to give us these youth and they consecrate themselves to Him, the future will be bright with promise. May this be so.

Thank you, young people mentioned above, for your excellent and faithful service this summer. God bless you richly. And thanks to James Lyell Johnson for touring with the Ambassadors as adult chaperone and speaker. He has done his job well.

It is the biblical implication that a preacher has to do more than give the people just what they want. His is the task of penetrating the shallow optimism of the generation in order to bring men face to face with reality.

Gerald Kennedy



Letters to the editor

ON PREACHING AND CHURCHES

I wish to reply to the letter from a gentleman in Warren, Minn., in the *Ambassador*, June 4, "Preachers Should Practice." To me that letter is rather discouraging to men who have difficulty organizing their thoughts regardless of how much they study. Audiences prefer it that way but, some speakers just don't have that talent. To my way of thinking an organized sermon with a definite topic certainly is much better read than a rambling talk. I have listened to that type. This man had a "gift of gab" and could get up anywhere to give a sermon. Sometimes things were rather vague.

Then, we had a pastor for 20 years who during WWII was called to the USO to work with servicemen on their way to the war overseas. This man always read his sermons. One just didn't look at him but concentrated on the thought. That we still do regardless of who speaks. He was a

THE AMBASSADORS

What a blessing to know there are still beautiful, alive young people who love our wonderful Lord and Savior and aren't afraid to say so. This is my impression of our AFLBS Ambassadors (summer Gospel team).

I had the privilege of hearing them last night. It wasn't just their music (that was beautiful), but their testimonies of their love for Christ that so blessed me.

It is like being real thirsty on a real hot day, then to be given a real cool drink of good water, to be in their presence. And I felt they didn't lift themselves up, but they lifted up Christ.

Thanks, young people, and also you who have trained them in their homes, churches and Bible School!

Mrs. Arnold Jodock
Hatton, N. Dak.,

talented man in all phases of church activity and adhered strictly to Lutheran tradition. None of this ecumenical exchange for him. He was respected by the clergy and he respected them. Membership was growing under his supervision but he felt it was his patriotic duty to answer the call of his country.

The report in June Home Missions vitally interested me as Home and Foreign Missions came first with me in church activity. I want to commend the Lakeville, Minn., congregation for choosing a church building that looks like one. These quonset hut deals that architects come up with leave much to be desired. From a distance they look like they might be cattle or machine sheds. The inside takes on a place of worship. My suggestion is that I hope the Lakeville congregation will put up the com-

In memoriam

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

WASHINGTON

Everett

Mrs. Melvin (Thorand) Christian-
son, 79, Aug. 7, Calvary

munion rail near the first step as one goes to the altar. It is most embarrassing for a communicant restricted in movement to have to painfully try to go up and down steps even though one has an escort. Those who don't have that, just can't go. This sort of activity certainly doesn't enhance communion.

I note a number of mission congregations on the list. To them I will say, read Matt. 25:35-46. I feel that would help you decide how to build the altar area of a church. No one enjoys making a spectacle of himself.

Mrs. Paul Schilla,
Dickinson, N.Dak.

Women's Missionary Federation

In memoriam gifts

Louise Ferden, McIntosh, Minn.
Christine LePage, Mentor, Minn.
Owan, Doreen and Timothy Erickson,
Cameroun, Africa
Anna Urevig, Wallace, S. Dak.
Eddie Benson, Wallace, S. Dak.
Yngve Johnson, Webster, S. Dak.
Nina Wilke, Stanley, N. Dak.
Alma Benson, Bagley, Minn.
Julia Olson LaCombe, Bagley, Minn.

*Blessed are
those who die
in the Lord*



ASSOCIATION OF FREE LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONS

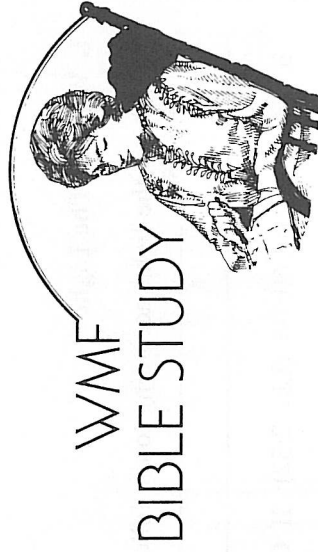
3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard
Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

BUDGET RECEIPTS

February 1-July 31

FUND	TOTAL BUDGET	REC'D IN JUNE	TOTAL REC'D TO DATE	% of TOTAL*
General Fund	\$ 213,910.00	\$ 13,674.48	\$ 84,069.99	39
Schools — AFLTS	108,041.00	4,074.26	25,956.59	24
AFLBS	179,198.00	7,858.87	46,019.67	26
Home Missions	271,233.00	11,010.97	66,805.48	25
World Missions	307,000.00	15,401.86	115,595.77	38
Praise Fund	30,000.00	682.77	9,820.99	33
TOTAL	\$1,109,382.00	\$ 52,703.21	\$348,268.49	31*
1984-85	\$1,003,095.00	\$ 43,604.54	\$327,422.22	33

*Goal 50%



VI. Walk With Him In White. Rev. 3:4,5.

Whom is this promise given to? _____

a. Our time on earth is a time of preparing for eternity. There is a time for sowing and reaping. Read Matt. 13:24-30, 37-43. Who sows the good seed? _____

The tares? _____

What is the result of the reaping: for the tares? _____
for the good seed? _____

(Gal. 6:7-9; Rom. 6:23, Hos. 10:12, 13a).

Those who have been washed in the blood of Jesus will walk with Him in white.

b. According to the following verses, what will bring joy and rejoicing in Heaven?

Jn. 4:36; Matt. 6:19-21; Dan. 12:3; I Thess. 2:19,20 _____

Are we walking each day with eternity in view and serving Him with its values in view? Do we love His appearing? Those who are faithful unto death shall receive the Crown of Life (Rev. 2:10b). I trust we will be able to say with Paul, at the end of our lives (however He chooses to take us) the words in II Tim. 4:7,8: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing."

Suggested Song: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

A CLOSER WALK WITH JESUS

LESSON TEN—WALK WITH ETERNITY IN VIEW

Eternity in heaven is for all those who have accepted Jesus as Savior for Jesus is the only way. Those who reject Christ face an eternity in hell, separated forever from God and the joys of heaven. Choose Jesus and eternal life with Him. As Christians, may we desire an ever closer walk with Him. As we walk with Him here in this life on earth we have our joys and sorrows (trials and temptations) and our labors, but it gives us joy along the way to know that we can look forward to the joy that awaits us in heaven, of being with the Lord through all eternity. What we have to endure here will be worth it when we see Him. We must keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and the joys awaiting us.

Read Heb. 12:1,2. What are we to do?

There are other walks mentioned in the Bible. We will consider a few more of them this month; they, along with all the rest we have studied so far, are all important for obedience as we walk with eternity in view.

I. Walk In The Light

Who is the light, according to the following verses?

- a. Jn. 1:5-7 _____
- b. Jn. 8:12; Is. 60:1-3 (Lk. 2:32); II Cor. 4:6 _____
- c. Eph. 5:8-14; Matt. 5:14-16 _____
- d. Ps. 119:105 (What is the light mentioned in this verse?) _____
- e. Rev. 21:23; 22:5; Is. 60:19 _____

II. Walk In The Spirit

How do we walk in the Spirit? Gal. 4:6; 5:16-25; 6:7,8 _____

III. Walk Worthy Of The Lord

In what ways can we walk worthy of the Lord?

- a. Eph. 4:1; I Thess. 2:12 (I Cor. 1:9) _____
- b. Col. 1:10
1. Rom. 13:13,14; Ps. 84:11; Phil. 1:27 _____
2. II Pet. 3:11, 14; I Jn. 2:28 _____
3. Jn. 15:16; Heb. 13:21 _____
4. Phil. 3:10; II Pet. 1:3-11; 3:18 _____

IV. Walk Circumspectly

What does this mean? Eph. 5:15; I Pet. 5:8,9 _____

How are we to Walk in Wisdom Toward Those Without?
Col. 4:5; I Cor. 10:32 _____

V. We Walk By Faith, Not By Sight. II Cor. 5:7

- a. What is faith? Heb. 11:1,6; Jn. 20:29 _____
- b. When will our faith be sight? I Pet. 1:3-9 _____

home mission news

Faith Lutheran Church, Granite Falls

In 1970 Rev. Herbert Franz, in his report as chairman of the Home Missions Board to the Annual Conference, wrote this: "We have some in our AFLC who pray but do not trust; so many who pray but do not speak; so many who pray but let someone else do the work." One little lady who has trusted, who has spoken, who has given, who has worked hard, and who has continued to pray down through the years has been Mrs. Inez Wee of Granite Falls.

Back in 1967 she and her husband Reuben were ready to move on from the store at rural Balaton, Minn., where they had held forth for 28 years, and where they had raised seven sons and one daughter, and from where Reuben had served ten years in the State legislature and been active in Sunday School work and as a lay preacher in the old ELC. Where then to turn to focus their concern? The Wees drove down to Augsburg College, from which Reuben had graduated years before, and upon advice from Dean Martin Quanbeck began conversations with Dr. Iver Olson about enrolling at the seminary at Medicine Lake.

When Reuben took up his studies, Inez pitched right in, working in the dining hall along with good friends Meredith Bursheim and Marion Hellickson. There was no dormitory then, only a large vacant lot out east, but ground was broken for the first dormitory that spring when Reuben finished seminary. During seminary days Reuben and Inez drove to Willmar and Granite Falls on weekends to hold confirmation classes and bring the message. Upon ordination at Conference in Cloquet, Minn., that June, the Wees moved to the Tioga parish where Reuben served as an associate to Pastor Robert Lee. Some wag referred to them as Tioga's "Lee and Wee Chinese Laundry."

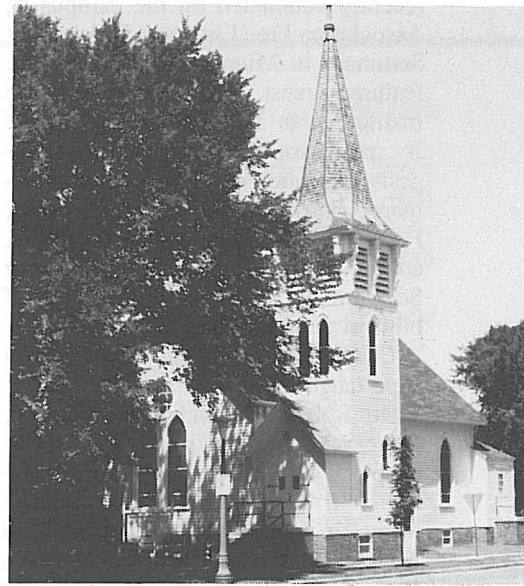
Pastor Wee was called to the work in Granite Falls in September of 1970. Not so tall in stature, but long in kindness and concern and "seelsorg," Reuben is remembered by many for his Bible messages, his love of music, his Friday afternoon visits and services at the Manor, his firm handshake, and his consistent invitation:

"Look to Jesus."

In June of 1974 Pastor Wee died during one of his Sunday morning services. Inez chose to stay on in Granite and continue to be a leader with the work here.

Over the years she has served as deaconess, confirmation instructor, Sunday School Superintendent, WMF president, typist and printer of the Sunday bulletin, janitor and cleaning lady, coordinator when the ladies of the church have been called upon to serve, loving grandma and hostess to many Bible School teams, and as a kindly praying encourager to nervous student preachers who have filled in at Granite - like Jim Johnson, Peter Franz, Charles Kvanvig, Paul Persson, Raymond Nelson, Bill Moberg, Marlin Olson, Marvin Haara, Roger Krueger, and Ted Berkas. Several have been the ladies in the community whom Inez has befriended, giving them rides to church and to Wednesday Bible study. Always she has had time to listen, to counsel, and to pray that the work at Faith Lutheran might grow and be a blessing to the people of this community. She never forgets a birthday and seems to be especially gifted in understanding and encouraging teenage boys, because after all she did raise seven special ones of her own.

Says Inez: "In looking back on my life, I realize that then and even



Faith Lutheran Church



Mrs. Inez Wee

now how weak my faith would like to get, but God in His mercy has kept me. 'His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness' (Lam. 3:22,23). I can always depend on Him and when I do His work in His way it will never lack His supply. I have been greatly blessed being in the AFLC. There is that closeness and genuine Christian fellowship that is so often lacking in a larger fellowship. The simplicity of our form of worship, the democratic way in which the Annual Conference business is conducted, the *guiding principles* of the AFLC by which we stand firm on the whole Word of God, are to be commended. I am thankful, too, for the fine Bible School and Seminary, the teachers and administrators who uphold the Word of God so faithfully. many good and new friendships were made during the five years that I served as secretary of the WMF board. Through the years I have been lifted up as I have brought to God in prayer trials, burdens and disappointments. He has been my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble (Ps. 46:1).

CAMPUS NEWS

More than 40 persons took part in the summer Institute of Theology recently conducted on the campus of Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary in Minneapolis, Minn. The featured guest instructor during the Institute was Dr. Walter A. Maier, Jr., professor of New Testament exegesis at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. His course, *Principles of Biblical Interpretation*, combined theological insights from Scripture as well as application of biblical texts on Christian living.

Other courses during the institute were taught by regular AFLTS faculty. Pastor Robert Lee conducted the course, *History of the Reformation*; Pastor Ralph Tjelta taught *Studies in the Minor Prophets*, and Pastor Francis Monseth led a study of *Christian Ethics*. A six-week *Introduction to New Testament Greek* was also held on the campus (July 15 - August 30). It was taught by Pastor Philip Haugen.

Among those in attendance was Pastor Bruce Dalager of Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, N. Dak., He made the following comments in reflection on his participation.

'Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and those who hear you' (I Timothy 4:16).

"The Christian Church has a

Summer institute emphasized supremacy of God's Word

pure, true teaching. It is the foundation of the apostles and prophets of which Christ Jesus is Himself the cornerstone. This Word of God can be interpreted in only one way - the way it interprets itself. It is not mysterious or hidden in darkness. It is a bright light, a clear revelation for all who will see it. At the Institute of Theology we saw, however, how those who approach Scripture with wrong emphasis eventually distort Scripture as a whole or abandon the faith.

The one who desires to rightly understand the true teaching is required to exercise both discipline and effort in studying God's Word. This will involve a repenting of his errors as he finds his natural reasonings contradicted by Scripture and a growing in grace and knowledge as the Word imparts new truths to him. He must ever reject the wisdom of man and bow in submission and acceptance before the wisdom of God in His Word.

"At the Summer Institute of Theology, the first I have attended, I was again reminded of the discipline and effort required of those who wish to be workmen approved of God. I

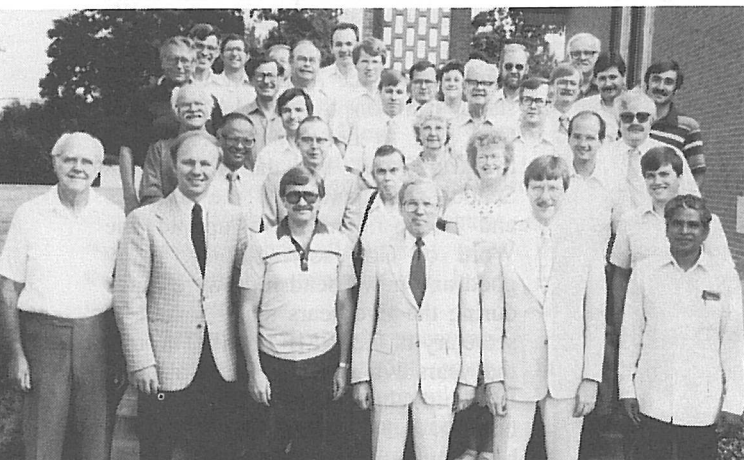
appreciated the high regard given the Word of God by the instructors. Because they paid close attention to their teaching my soul feasted and was refreshed. The fellowship was edifying though much, no doubt, was missed since I stayed off campus. Every AFLC congregation would benefit by having its pastor attend these seminars. Every pastor should be encouraged to attend."

The 1986 Summer Institute will be held July 28 - August 8. Plans are being made for courses in the area of evangelism and church renewal. Congregations are urged to encourage their pastors and other interested persons to attend all or part of the institute. The seminary remains grateful to Aid Association for Lutherans for their part in helping to fund the Institute program through grants to participants.

Witnessing in

First century Christians fully realized the importance of the message of salvation that Christ had commissioned them to preach to all nations. They proclaimed Christ to the crowds in the temple and from door to door, often suffering painful persecution. In Acts 5:42, we read, "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ."

Eighteen students from AFLTS prepared for door to door witnessing during the spring semester in the "Personal Work and Evangelism"



Summer Institute of Theology, first week.



The classroom.

Ground broken for Pipestone church



Rev. Richard Snipstead, left, and Rev. David Skordahl, the local pastor.

news of the churches

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the lands . . ."

So began our worship service on Sunday, July 14, the day of Dedication and Ground-Breaking for Christ the King Lutheran Church in Pipestone, Minnesota. We praise the Lord for His continued blessing and provision for us! ". . . His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations."

We were so pleased to have Pastor and Mrs. Snipstead with us. Their leadership in our ALFC is a gift from God to be highly prized. As we were rained out and had to run for cover at the ground-breaking, Mrs. Snipstead commented, "This is God's

shower of blessing on you. . . He sends the rain and the sunshine and causes you to grow." This statement was later echoed by a member of our own congregation, Mrs. Clarence Stavenger. We say, "Thank You, Lord!" Your lovingkindness is everlasting!

Although we do not have the total finances to construct our church building, we are beginning and trusting God to see it through to completion. Our plan is to build in two stages. We are beginning now to build a fellowship hall/sanctuary with a kitchen, restrooms and eleven classrooms around the perimeter, to the north will be an entry and offices. In years to come, a formal sanctuary will be added, also to the north. Most of the work will be done by eleven volunteer laborers.

As we begin this "House of God" we are mindful that God is building us, individually and corporately, into a "spiritual house." We are learning more of what it means to humble ourselves and be servants of God. As it says in I Peter 2:5, "You also, as living stones, are being built up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

We desire your earnest prayers.

Mrs. Cheryl Skordahl

Apple Valley

class taught by Pastor Francis Monseth. Weeks of evangelism study, Bible verse memorization and role playing came to a practical culmination when the class travelled to Apple Valley, Minnesota, on Saturday, May 11, to do canvassing for Minnesota Valley Lutheran Church.

The day began with a briefing session led by the congregation's pastor, Richard Anderson, and by Pastor Monseth. Following a time of devotions and prayer, the seminarians were armed with leaflets, surveys, copies of the Gospel of John, and other spiritual growth literature. The men went two by two into assigned neighborhoods surrounding the Minnesota Valley congregation's new building project and shared with the people about the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ and about the work of Minnesota Valley congregation.

At the conclusion of the time of witnessing, there was great joy as the men returned to the vans sharing the events of the morning. Some had opportunities to explain the way of salvation to seeking souls while others met the opposition of hardened and critical individuals. Many new contacts were made for future follow-up by Pastor Anderson and the congregation.

gation.

The joy and enthusiasm among the participants of this event indicated that all who were involved received a new zeal for sharing the Gospel with lost souls. The event was another witness that the fields are still "white unto harvest."

Thomas C. Olson, AFLTS
Coon Valley, Wis.

IMPACT aids AFLTS

Association Free Theological Seminary, Minneapolis, Minn., has recently received \$975 from Lutheran Brotherhood's IMPACT program, Inviting Member Participation in Aiding Lutheran Colleges and Theological Seminaries. The latest payment covers 13 gifts of Lutheran Brotherhood members made during the 2nd quarter of 1985.

The IMPACT program matches, at 75 cents per dollar, Lutheran Brotherhood members' gifts of \$25 to \$100 per year to Lutheran Institutions of higher education.

Since the beginning of the IMPACT program in 1979, AFLTS has received \$25,560 in IMPACT funds.

Kenyon, Minn.

A new Allen digital computer organ for Hauge Lutheran Church in Kenyon, Minn., was dedicated last March. The recital was played by Mark Hanson of Schmitt Music Company, Minneapolis, Minn. Hauge Lutheran is served by Pastor Steven Kneeland.

Ishpeming, Mich.

A five-room Sunday School addition is being built at Hope Lutheran Church, Ishpeming, Mich. The project is nearing completion and the edition is scheduled for dedication next month. Rev. Harvey L. Jackson is the pastor.

WMF Fall Rallys

Eastern N. Dak

October 5, 1985

St. Paul's Free Lutheran,
Fargo, N. Dak.

Speakers:

Pastor and Mrs. Charles Knapp

SW Minnesota

October 1, 1985

Faith Lutheran,
Granite Falls, Minn.

Speakers:

Pastor and Mrs. Wendell Johnson

9:30 a.m. registration

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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Personalities

Rev. Orville T. Olson completed his term of interim service at Bethany Lutheran Church, Brodhead, Wis., at the end of July. He and his wife will now be living in their Mesa, Ariz., home at 4444 Escondido. The Mesa zip code is 85206. It has not been revealed yet if Bethany has secured a resident pastor.

Rev. Johan Koren has resigned as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bessemer, Mich. His future plans are not known at this time.

New address for **Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Grimstad**, lay assistant in the Thief River Falls, Minn., parish, is 941 N. Main, Thief River Falls 56701.

Rev. Lars Stalsbrotten celebrated his 98th birthday on July 21. He is the AFLC's oldest living pastor. He and his wife now reside at Park Village, 2725 East Fir, Space 18, Mount Vernon, Wash. 98273.

Rev. and Mrs. Ralph Tjelta and family are now living at 9503 E. Sandpiper Drive., Blaine, Minn. 55110. Pastor Tjelta is on the faculty of the AFLC Schools.

Rev. Wayne A. Hjermstad resigned June 2, as pastor of King of Glory Lutheran Church (AFLC), Eden Prairie, Minn., effective August 2. He and his family have moved to Brooklyn Park, Minn. He plans on attending some classes at AFLTS and subsequently to await a parish call as God leads. Pastor Hjermstad served King of Glory for seven and one half years.

WORTH NOTING

This fact is worth noting: While some men have too high an opinion of themselves, and hence may be ambitious for place and position, others of more commanding ability may have too low an estimate of themselves, and hence, unless their friends recognize their merits, they may never do what they ought to do for God's kingdom.

L. S. Keyser

When one door closes another door opens. We often look so longingly, so regretfully upon the closed door that we fail to see the one which is open to us!

AFLC pastors in leadership of new organization

Rev. David Barnhart and Rev. Francis Monseth, AFLC pastors were elected to the Board of Directors of the new Lutheran Commission For Biblical Inerrancy at an organizational meeting held in the Emmaus Lutheran Church, Bloomington, Minnesota, on July 26th.

Rev. Monseth is the dean of Free Lutheran Theological Seminary, and Rev. Barnhart the director of Abiding Word Ministries and pastor of a new AFLC congregation in south Minneapolis.

Rev. Robert Lee, AFLC Schools' church history instructor, was appointed an advisory member of the commission.

The LCBI is a pan-Lutheran fellowship including members of the American Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church in America, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Synod, Church of the Lutheran Brethren, and the World Confessional Lutheran Association, as well as the AFLC.

The primary purpose of the commission, as declared in a mission statement approved by the selected

pastors and laity present, is to "affirm that God has indeed spoken and acted in creation and in human history and . . . that the autographs of this God-breathed revelation, the sixty-six canonical books of the Bible are indeed objectively inspired, infallible and inerrant in all their parts and in all areas to which they speak."

Future plans for the LCBI include the development of programs to reach and educate pastors and laity within the Lutheran Church concerning the crisis that has arisen because of the weak view of Scripture that affirms errors in the Bible. A newsletter, journal or paper will be published, as well as other educational materials, and a full-time executive director is to be secured as soon as possible.

MIMEOGRAPH AVAILABLE

A Gestetner mimeograph machine is available to a congregation for the asking from Grace Lutheran Church, Pelkie, Mich. If interested, please contact Pastor Michael Klenner, Box 18, Pelkie, Mich. 49958, or call 906-353-7317.