

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

September 20, 1988



Rose Lutheran Church, Roseau, Minnesota

1888 - 1988

**Gladness today
and forever**

p. 3, 4

**Mexico
update**

p. 6, 7

Bible Camp review

p. 7, 8

Youth conference report

p. 10, 11

LIGHT on the WAY

meditations on God's Word

Cover Photo
Roseau Times-Region Photo.

Volume 26 Number 17

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

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.

Rev. Raynard Huglen, Editor
Mrs. Wayne Hjermstad, Layout Design
Editorial Board:

Rev. Robert Lee
Dr. Francis Monseth
Mr. Sheldon Mortrud

Subscriptions: \$10.00 per year.

Write to:

The Lutheran Ambassador
3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

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

Second-class postage paid at Minneapolis, Minn., and additional mailing office.

USPS 588-620 ISSN 0746-3413

Postmaster: Send address changes to The Lutheran Ambassador, 3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd., Minneapolis, Minn. 55441.

God's requirements

Deuteronomy 10:12-21

"And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you...?" (v. 12).

The requirements of God, as revealed in His Word, present two startling realities. The first is the ever-threatening *responsibility* with which man stands accountable before his Creator. The second is the all-inspiring *possibility* which exists on account of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ. In fact, this is where Christianity is seen as the only realism on earth. Only the Church dares proclaim supreme and condemning responsibility as well as gracious and evangelical possibility.

Is not the denial of man's responsibility to God the distressing tragedy of our age and of every age? It certainly is the tragedy of the world, where those in authority are engulfed in chaos, seldom inquiring of God or consulting God's will. It is also the tragedy of the Church, where in many cases opinions and tendencies are discussed, and decisions and plans are made without seeking the will of God in His Word. And without doubt it is the tragedy of the personal life where self-sufficiency, self-direction and self-explanation blindly deny the responsibility of the human being to God. Norborg* is correct when he stated, "A personality may be deemed healthy-minded and valuable according to the strength of its sense of responsibility and duty as shown in every-day life work." To realize true human responsibility, therefore, it is necessary to recognize a higher responsibility, to God the Creator.

"...but to fear the Lord your God and love Him."

God's Word, then, reveals the eternal responsibility of the human life. But to be beneath such responsibility, without possibility, would lead to despair. So God reveals a gracious possibility. Yes, man is responsible to his Creator. But man is also called to a real, adventurous possibility in Christ. In fact, from beginning to end the Bible proclaims that God opens the gracious door of possibility to lost mankind. It is possible to have a meeting with Jesus. It is possible to have repentance and forgiveness of sins. It is possible to

receive new life. It is possible to be transformed by the power of God's Spirit in such a way as to have reverence and love in the heart toward God. And yes, it is possible to walk in His ways, keep His Commandments and even to serve Him.

"...and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

This, then, is the ministry of the Church, to witness of the possibility of salvation to the masses of the world. Sinners who have met Jesus simply give personal testimony to what Christ has done. This meeting with Christ has resulted in the creation of new life. Reverence and love have been implanted into the heart and have become the foundation of piety and witness. A desire to please Him and to serve Him has become the consuming passion. This new life continues to unfold into an activity of faith which says all need Him and must meet Him, even today. There are not four months until harvest, the fields are already white. And so this meeting with Christ sends the believer forth fully assured that the Great Physician is sufficient not only for Himself and the little flock but also sufficient for the sins of the whole world.

A question to you who call yourself a Christian. Do you see the possibility for your life? Do you see that Christ can rouse you from complacency, from the mechanical motions and taking of things for granted in your spiritual life? Christ meets you today with the possibility of joyful obedience and witnessing.

And you unsaved one. Do you see the possibility for your life? Do you see that Christ can make all things new? Jesus meets you today with the possibility of the forgiveness of sins and everlasting life.

*Sverre Norborg, *What Is Christianity?*, Augsburg, 1936.



by Pastor
Ralph Tjelta

IN THEE IS GLADNESS

*in both time
and eternity*

Philippians 4:4-5

One of Johan Sebastian Bach's most vibrant and joyful organ preludes is based on a chorale-hymn titled "In dir ist Freude," which translates "In Thee is Gladness." Beginning with a simple theme of but five notes, the composition repeats and builds until the music is exuberantly at one with the meaning of the words "In Thee is gladness." In fact, once the words are known, they simply cannot be separated from the music...and either words or music will always bring the other to mind. "In Thee is gladness...Amid all sadness...Jesus, sunlight of my heart...By Thee are given the gifts of heaven...Thou our true Redeemer art...Our souls Thou wakest...Our bonds Thou breakest...Who trust Thee surely, Has built securely...He stands forever...Alleluia!" The glad harmonies of Bach and the confident words of the chorale sing together of the joy found only in Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul writes of that same joy when he says to the people at Philippi, "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand" (Philippians 4:4-5 NKJ).

Real rejoicing comes from the mind and heart and not from mere emotionalism. Our rejoicing is to come from what we know of God's boundless grace through Word and Sacrament and not from feelings alone. And here I should note that what is said assumes that the reader knows Christ as his Savior and has been called by the Holy Spirit to salvation. With that understood, the grounds and occasions for rejoicing are beyond number. We rejoice at Christ's Incarnation according to the promise of old. We rejoice at His fulfillment of the Father's will by His perfect life, atoning death and glorious resurrection for our redemption. We can rejoice at the proclamation of the Gospel to a lost world. And to be sure, we rejoice in our own life in Christ...

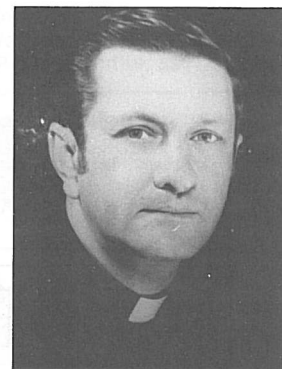
and we may even rejoice if called upon to suffer for the faith once delivered to the saints. Because our names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life our cause for rejoicing is endless. Christ has freed us from all those things of which our conscience makes us afraid.

How generous toward others we can be when we know God's own perfect generosity toward us, in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. We can more than afford to be forgiving and loving and kind even to those who would belittle our generosity, for the Lord is at hand. As His servants, we are in His care.

In Revelation, Jesus is called the One who is...and who was...and who is to come. It is a way of saying that Jesus is eternal, just like the Father and the Holy Spirit. It is also a significant way of affirming that our Lord Jesus is always with us, always near. There are no geographical or political boundaries to keep Him out. He is with the martyrs languishing in prison cells behind the iron curtain. He is with those who struggle to keep their faith amidst great ridicule or temptation. He is with the lonely, the forsaken, the troubled and the searching ones. He approaches the unbeliever with the concern of a shepherd seeking a lost sheep. And He is with us whether we are at work or at home, at leisure or worship. From one end of creation to the other, wherever men travel, from outer space to the inner depths of the sea, from dungeons to palaces, the living Christ is with His people. No joy is too great to receive His added blessing and no sorrow is too deep to receive His gentle comfort. "The Lord is at hand!" And be certain that we speak of the true presence of Christ the Lord. We do not refer to something weak and shadowy, as if someone would say, "I'll be with you in my thoughts." Those who have suffered greatly for their faith will not allow the Presence of Christ to be spoken of in such vague and lifeless terms. They affirm upon their very lives that the presence of Christ is real and that in His presence there is answered prayer, and comfort, and courage, strength and deliverance. We should know that also. The presence of Christ is meant to be that real for all of us. In fact, if it is not, we are missing the promise that Jesus set before His Church. He said to His disciples at His Ascension, "...lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." The Lord is truly near us in a very real sense.

"It won't be long now" must have been one of the mottoes of the early Church. They were certain that Jesus would come back for them at any moment. After all, had He not finished the work of redeeming the world? Were not God's prophecies fulfilled in Him? What could possibly be left except for Christ to return, according to His promise? Paul encouraged the Philippians

"Real rejoicing comes from the mind and heart and not from mere emotionalism."



by Pastor
Norman E. Dornquist
Weslaco, Texas

“...it is not the
whimper of a
polluted and
warring world
committing
suicide.”

with the words, “Rejoice...the Lord is at hand.” That, too, has been our hope reaching back nearly two thousand years. To be sure, much of the world has never shared this hope. False religions, skeptical minds and openly hostile men and nations have rejected Christ since the day of His birth. Yet He is the world’s only hope. Without Him there is only death and ultimate separation from God. His delayed return may well stem from God’s grace.

The preaching of the Gospel is being given yet more time. God reaches out to the sinner through the Word and the working of the Holy Spirit, still seeking the lost. The Good News is that Christ has indeed come into this troubled world and that He presently comes into the lives of believers and into the Church, and that He is coming again to finally set all things right. What are we doing in these days of God’s continued patience with a rebellious world?

Do we just long for Christ’s return? Or do we sense the urgency of sharing the message of salvation, an urgency that quickens with each passing day? We should “walk in wisdom toward those who are outsiders, redeeming the time” (Colossians 4:5). Then whether our Lord should return now, or whether in the wisdom of the Father the Lord Christ should delay for many years, we can steadily endure and confidently do our given work day by day, for the future is secure. We already know the outcome of history. And it is not the whimper of a polluted and warring world committing suicide. It is not the sun going dead like a burnt clinker, leaving the world to freeze to death in an endless winter. Nor is it any of those fanciful imaginings that include space ships and extraterrestrial wanderings.

All such ideas are vain and petulant refusals to accept the truth of the Bible. For on the last page of history we are told there is the face of Christ. He is coming back! All, both living and dead, shall meet Him whether they want to or not. His reality will be unchallenged, nor will anyone challenge His authority. His return will be devastating for the unbelievers, but filled

with joy for the faithful. The time to choose where one will stand is now.

It is both heartening and significant that gladness and rejoicing span both time and eternity. Today we can confidently affirm, “O Lord, in Thee is gladness!”, even as life around us continues to hold both joys and sorrows. In Christ we know that nothing can destroy our hope nor steal from our hearts the true meaning of our rejoicing. The things for which we most rejoice are already ours! Christ has freed all believers from the bonds of sin and death. He has taken away the judgments against His own. His presence is in our midst whatever our circumstances might be. And one of these days, perhaps sooner than we think, He shall return in glory. We will all be there. And those who have believed in Christ will sing songs of true gladness. And what is more, we can even sing those glad songs now, and they will not be out of place.

Biographical Sketch

Pastor Norman E. Dornquast was born April 20, 1933, in Owatonna, Minnesota, to Everett and Lynda (Standke) Dornquast. He spent his childhood and youth in that community. Upon graduation from Owatonna High School he attended Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, for two years and went on to graduate from St. Olaf College in 1955. He has a M. Div. degree from Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa, and is presently enrolled in a D. Min. program from Faith Evangelical Lutheran Seminary, Tacoma, Washington. Pastor Dornquast was ordained in 1959 in the American Lutheran Church. He has served ALC congregations in Minnesota and Texas and was a military chaplain for three years, serving one of those years in Vietnam. He has been pastor of Faith Lutheran Church of Weslaco, Texas, for the past 14 years. He and the congregation became a part of the AFLC in 1987.

GLORY BE TO GOD THE FATHER

Glory be to God the Father!
Glory be to God the Son!
Glory be to God the Spirit!
God Eternal, Three in One!

Glory be to Him who loved us,
Washed us from each spot and stain!
Glory be to Him who bought us,
Made us kings with Him to reign!

ROSE LUTHERAN

1888 - 1988

Rose Lutheran Church, three miles west of Roseau, Minn., is reputed to be the oldest congregation in Roseau County. Rose celebrated its 100th anniversary July 15-17.

Rev. John P. Strand, Remer, Minn., former president of the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, preached the sermon at the Sunday morning worship service. The centennial theme was "To God Be the Glory." Music was provided by the choir, swelled by visitors. A fellowship dinner followed.

The centennial, which had been two years in the making, began on Friday night, the 15th, when a packed church heard a largely musical program led by Steve Broten. The welcome was extended by Dale Anderson, president of the congregation. Birthday cake was served by the Luther League.

On Saturday the men's club hosted a picnic supper on the church grounds. The evening service was outdoors with the 30-voice choir singing from a flatbed truck. Peggy Johnson, Kendra Nash and Donna Broten sang "The Old Country Church." Former Rose pastor, Erling Huglen of Roseau, spoke and also read a poem which his father, Rev. R. J. Huglen, and also a former pastor at Rose, had written for the golden anniversary in 1938.

Former Rose pastor, Rev. Edwin Kjos, Fergus Falls, Minn., brought the



David Rykken, left, whose father served Rose Lutheran Church for 24 years, is pictured with Pastors John Strand, Erling Huglen, Larry Severson, Edwin Kjos and Forrest Swenson.

meditation at the service of Holy Communion on Sunday morning.

The concluding service of the anniversary was on Sunday afternoon under the theme "The First 100 Years." Mrs. Norris Fugleberg read the poem "1888-1988," a history of the church. Edna Kvien sang the Norwegian song, "Den himmelske gjest." Buddy Erickson read the written greetings from former pastors and others. The choir and audience sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" as the centennial program closed.

Rev. Larry V. Severson is the current pastor at Rose. Miss Delores Andol served as chairman of the centennial committee.

Rose Congregation was organized on July 16, 1888. In 1895, the congregation divided, with the eastern part forming a church in town, Moe. Another congregation also resulted, Melum, to the northwest, but that later merged again with Rose. The building of the first church was started in 1896. The present building was built in 1925-

27 and remodeling and other improvements have occurred at different times. The Ladies Aid was begun in 1892, the Luther League in 1915.

The following pastors have served Rose: K. B. Birkeland, 1888-89; Nils Askeland, 1891-1903; S. E. Odland, 1903-09; A. M. Arntzen, 1909-10; K. Gjesfjeld, 1910-17; R. J. Huglen, 1918-24; E.P. Dreyer, 1924-28; T. H. Quanbeck, 1928; J. T. Quanbeck, 1928-38; Student pastor John Stensvaag, 1938; A. C. Rykken, 1938-62; Erling Huglen, 1962-67; Edwin Kjos, 1967-70; Student pastor Michael Brandt, 1970-71; Jerome Nikunen, 1971-81; Student pastor Martin Horne, 1981; and Larry Severson, 1981--.

Rev. James Fugleberg, Ferndale, Wash., is a son of Rose Congregation and sent a written greeting for the centennial, which was read by his brother Tom at the Friday evening program.

Next time: Faith Lutheran Church of Running Valley, Colfax, Wis.

Horatius Bonar
(Service Book and Hymnal)

Glory to the King of angels!
Glory to the Church's King!
Glory to the King of nations!
Heaven and earth, your praises bring!

Glory, blessing, praise eternal!
Thus the choir of angels sings,
Honor, riches, power, dominion!
Thus its praise creation brings.

Glory be to God the Father!
Glory be to God the Son!
Glory be to God the Spirit!
God Eternal, Three in One.

Update from Aguascalientes, Mexico

Please receive our warmest regards in the Name of Jesus Christ, our "very present help in trouble." What a Savior!

In this article we're going to simply run down the list of our most obvious activities, giving you a glimpse of some of the things the Lord is doing through us in Aguascalientes. We ask you to pray for more souls saved and for God's blessing on each outreach, as the Holy Spirit leads you.

Sunday Worship: We have between four and eight people attending on Sunday mornings, representing five families. It's difficult for them to make this commitment because they know nothing about congregational life and are often held back by their unbelieving families. We have a delightful hour and a half of teaching, sharing and singing. We need a song leader!

Monday Night Prayer Meeting: Three faithful ladies join us in the chapel every Monday night for an hour of singing and prayer. Although we are few, it's a time of serious, concentrated prayer. They encourage us greatly!

Seeker's Study: On Tuesday evenings we open our home to all unbelievers who are interested in learning what the Bible is all about. Two or three come regularly, as many as six on occasion. It's a time to ask any and all questions in a non-threatening atmosphere and go to the Bible for answers. It's our favorite night! The people who attend are very open and responsive to the Lord. We're praying especially for the salvation of Jaime and his wife Silvia, and for two unmarried women, Lolis and Marta.

Prison Ministry: We were informed that two Americans were in prison here for drug dealing and needed an interpreter, so Dan was able to get into



The youth group. Missionary Giles is at the right.

the prison. Now he has a pass to enter any day at any time! We're hoping that the Lord will open up opportunities there for evangelism and Bible study. In the meantime, Dan goes every Wednesday to see Barbara and Harry, to help them with their practical problems and share the Gospel. Harry remains hardened, but Barbara is seeking.

Discipleship Study: On Thursday evenings we have four or five people — three women and two men, each representing a different family unit — for concentrated Bible study. We just finished the book of Revelation and are now looking at "What is the Church — and What is My Place In It?" It's very challenging for them! Pray especially

that Mauro will grow into a mature church leader. (You might remember reading Mauro's testimony in a recent *Ambassador*.)

Women's Bible Class: On Friday mornings, Dr. Chela, a local orthodontist, who is the strongest Christian in our fellowship, leads a class for women. She's doing a wonderful job! Right now, the focus is on new believers. Please pray especially for Angelica, Coni and Cheli. They have so many serious problems, but they have taken the first step. They belong to Jesus now! They need to grow in commitment to the Lord and His church. "More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee..."

Testimony from Brazil

I was born into a Roman Catholic family, where I was baptized and christened — a Catholic sacrament, and even today I'm not sure what it signifies. I went through first communion and grew up like other children.

When my parents separated, and not having a Christian foundation for my life, I had serious problems and frequently felt tormented by the absence of my father.

I give thanks to God for my grandfather because he was a man of faith, patience and love and was a great influence in my life. This de-

"I finally met God"

veloped in me a spirit of kindness and a searching heart for a God that wasn't cruel (as I had been taught in the church where I was baptized).

For many years of my life I sought God, but I didn't know where to look. I walked the paths of the world and even visited a Hare-Krishna temple, where the absurd was manifested.

Even though I lived a worldly life for many years, I felt the Spirit of God in my life, guarding me from the wiles of

Youth Group: Every other Saturday afternoon we open our home to teenagers. They play ping-pong, volleyball, sing and have a short Bible study. They also have a lot of fun! Our challenge is to be able to disciple the kids who are Christians while evangelizing those who are not. We need wisdom! Usual attendance is anywhere from six to ten.

Central Mexico is known for being closed to the Gospel and Aguascalientes is reputed to be the very center of Roman Catholic fanaticism. We concur! Therefore, we are not large in numbers, but the Lord continues to bring seeking hearts along our path. He has confirmed to us in His Word that we are "Phillips," sent down the desert road to bring the lone "Ethiopian Eunuch" to the Savior. Of course, the Lord has brought more than one, but the message is the same. We are here to seek out those whom the Lord has prepared for us.

Most of the people we minister to

come from very troubled, unbelieving homes. I overheard three of them talking one day before Bible study began about how difficult it was for them to come to the church. One had to oil her bedroom door ahead of time so that it wouldn't squeak when she slipped out. One had to lay plans for days in advance to do her marketing on Friday mornings so that she could slip quickly into Bible study on the way. It's so difficult to understand and be patient when growth and commitment seem to come so slowly, but we are learning that God has sent us to minister to just such as these.

It's a joy and a privilege to serve these people whom we have come to love. We thank each one of you for your prayers and your giving. You make it possible for us to bring the light and love of Jesus Christ to Aguascalientes. Frustrations abound — now that would make an interesting article! — but the Lord is teaching us to keep our eyes on Him. He is faithful!

— Debbie Giles

a week at Lake Bronson

Reflection, Rededication, Revival

Several weeks ago, an aunt from Colorado told me she was going to stop by on her way to Park Rapids. I had to tell her that Greenbush is not on the way to Park Rapids. In fact, Greenbush isn't on the way anywhere unless you're going to the Lake of the Woods or Winnipeg. So it is with Lake Bronson. Why would anyone want to take a week of prime vacation time and spend at such an out-of-the-way place as Galilee Bible Camp, Lake Bronson, Minn.? If you asked those who attended the whole week of Family Camp in July that question, you probably would have received many different replies.

Foremost were the teaching ministries of Pastor Joel Rolf in the morning and Pastor David Molstre in the evening for the adults, Pastor Kerwin Sletto for the teenagers and the miracle ladies of Buxton who managed and inspired the young "jumping beans" of the camp. Prayer hour and the Sunday morning service were led by Pastor Robert Koepp of Fosston. It's been said that these people said nothing that we haven't heard Sunday mornings in our home churches, but the impact of the message becomes so much greater when there's no rush to go back to that next scheduled event of life.

It was a treat to see families "sneaking away" from the camp for outings together in the afternoon. Our family spent two hours canoeing with Elkie (from Brazil) and Pastor David Abel, who shared with us during the missions hour. Our children no longer view Pastor Abel as simply a missionary but as a friend in Brazil. (They also decided Dad needs more practice canoeing.)

One can't reminisce on that week of camp without making favorable comments on the food and hospitality offered by camp managers, Don and Sonja Balmer, as well as the camp dean, Rev. Lyle Aadahl. Mrs. Ethel (Roy) Mohagen was honored this year for 25 years of satisfying hungry camp-

A prayer for missions

Dear Jesus, Thou who came as the Father's great Missionary, we pray Thee for our missionaries who have gone out in our stead. Bless them with a constant assurance of Thy love, Thy presence, and Thy supporting power. Give them wisdom and courage to speak the truth in love. Help them in times of discouragement to remember that their work is Thy cause. In times of danger teach them to trust in Thee. Open the minds and hearts of those to whom they speak, that Thy word of grace may not be resisted but be given entrance to do its saving work. And help us, O Lord, not to forget. We pray all in Thy blessed Savior name. Amen.

— by Martin Hegland

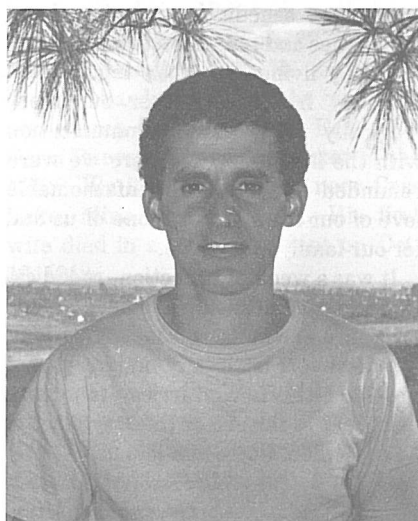
the devil, that were seducing me to destruction.

Last year I finally met God and was "born again" through the grace of our Lord Jesus, who rose again and gained victory over death, giving me eternal salvation.

Ephesians 6:11-17 are verses that speak to me and help me to grow and live in Christ victoriously. "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (v. 11).

— Edgard Rocha Mattos

(Edgard Rocha Mattos comes from Curitiba, Parana, and participates in the Free Lutheran Church there, where Paul Abel is pastor.)



NO LOFTY OPINIONS

Where a Christian is found who has no lofty opinions about himself and his own piety, there the fruits of the Spirit are most in evidence.

Ludvig Hope
(*Spirit and Power*)

EMOTIONS

To rely on the emotions is demoralizing; to shun them is stupid and impossible.

Paul Scherer, *For We Have This Treasure*, Harper and Brothers, Publishers

Wilderness Family Camp report

It is with joy and enthusiasm that I write this report.

I would like to thank Rev. Gordon Grage for being dean of the Bible Camp and Rev. Terry Olson for helping to get the camp schedule together. We had 15 camping units through the week, which is more than we have ever had. We thank God for the people who were there to spend the time with us around the Word of God and visiting

with each other. We had a real good time getting to know people we had never met before and getting reacquainted with those we knew before.

Rev. John Strand had the morning Bible Studies, Rev. David Molstre had the evening services and Rev. Paul Larson led the Sunday morning worship service. I would like to thank Eula Mae Swenson and Mabel Johnson from Fargo, N. Dak., for having the young people's classes and teaching them more about Christ and His love for us. Those who played the organ for us at the evening services were: Debbie Johnson from Fergus Falls, Minn., Kathy Johnson from Fergus Falls, Minn., Kathy Randall, Fargo and Sonja Trude, Alexandria, Minn.

We enjoyed special music from: Mr. and Mrs. Steve Jacobson, New York Mills, Minn., Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Dalgager, Grand Forks, N. Dak., and the Ambassadors from Brandon, Minn.

I would also like to thank the ladies from the different churches for providing the lunches after the evening services.

We have a shelter up now that keeps us mostly out of the weather, somewhat anyway, although Saturday evening we likely had the shortest service in the history of the AFLC because of rain and wind.

We have restructured the camp board. The members are: chairman: Norman Haugen, Murdock, Minn.; treasurer: Roland Peterson, Fargo; secretary: Lyle Narveson, Dalton, Minn.; George Hartman, Dalton, and John Arlen Johnson, Sacred Heart, Minn. We had dedication of the shelter and also installation of officers at the Sunday morning service by Rev. Grage.

I would like to thank the congregation of Faith Lutheran, Granite Falls, Minn., for the donation of *Concordia Hymnals*, coffee maker, microwave oven and lamps to the Wilderness Family Bible Camp.

Lyle R. Narveson
Secretary

The Wilderness Camp is in need of playground equipment. Please contact Mr. Narveson at Dalton, Minn., Rt. 1, Box 148-A, if you can help.



You're never too young to attend family camp! Five week-old Louis, son of Mark and Janet Norell, Butterfield, Minn. and seven month-old Elizabeth, daughter of Don and Eunice Berge, Fargo, N. Dak. camped at the ARC.

LAKE BRONSON

er's appetites in her special ways. One can't write of Family Camp at Lake Galilee without mentioning the absence of a special friend. Mrs. Sheldon (Delores) Mortrud went home to the Lord earlier this year and her presence was missed at this year's camp.

The weather was absolutely beautiful that week. Evening showers and moderate temperatures provided relief from the hot days of June and early July. A spectacular lightening storm moved through the area early Friday morning. As I watched its coming from our little camper, I couldn't help but think of the verse from Matthew's Gospel, "For just as lightening comes from the east, and flashes even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be" (Matt. 24:27).

The theme of the camp this year was: "One Life to Live," originating from Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and

the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me." This verse accentuates why it was so necessary for our family to spend a week in the out-of-the-way place of Lake Galilee. There we were away from the schedules, appointments, telephones and television sets that clog our daily living and often separate us not only from each other but more tragically from daily communication with the living Christ. There we were reminded again of the unfathomable love of our Lord for each one of us and for our family as a whole.

It was a week of reflection, rededication and revival as now we have moved back into our daily routines. Our family, however, is already making plans, provided the Lord tarries, to return next year to the out-of-the-way place of Lake Galilee. Come and join us.

Dr. Lyle M. Mattson
Greenbush, Minn.

EDITORIALS

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR

We have made it a practice to call attention to those who have served the limit of consecutive terms allowed as members of the standing boards, commissions and committees of the Association. And most every year now at least one person joins the select group of those who have done so.

That was the case this year, but we have failed to direct attention to it and for that we are sorry.

Rev. Ernest J. Langness, Ishpeming, Mich., completed two terms on the Stewardship Board this year. It is interesting to note that he lived in Ishpeming when he was voted to the board and now has returned there in retirement. In between he had a ministry of some eight years in Faith and Eagle Butte, S. Dak. Thus he brought the spirit and outlook of two quite different areas to the Board.

We say it again, the church owes a great deal to all who take membership on church boards and committees seriously, as Pastor Langness has done. It takes effort to get to meetings, considerable time and sometimes also financial cost. But a good number of people are willing to do this and we should all be thankful.

The Stewardship Board is very important. It keeps its finger on the pulse of that whole area of financial gifts to God's work. The ten years of Pastor Langness' stewardship showed great strides in AFLC giving. The next ten years will need to show every bit as much advancement.

Thank you, Pastor Langness, for your faithful work in the

stewardship of our church in the past ten years. God's continued blessings in your retirement and the opportunities you find now for further kingdom work.

PASTOR KNUTE JORE

Knute Jore. What good thoughts come as I think of that humble servant of God who stepped into the breach early in the AFLC history and became a lay pastor when there was so much need for that. He served, with wife Esther, at Brockton and Culbertson, Mont., and Spokane, Wash., finishing up with four years as visitation pastor in Thief River Falls, Minn. The calendar says he began all of this at about the age when most people retire.

I recall preaching one Sunday to the two groups they had in Montana. The work was still new and they didn't have the two fine church buildings the congregations have today. Work often starts small and slowly. One service that day was in the Anderson schoolhouse, the other in the house where Jores lived in Culbertson.

Knute Jore worked in Indian missions for 12 years and began that ministry when he was about 53 years old. Let that be a lesson to those who feel that 30 or 40 is too old to try a new venture.

Knute Jore was a warm-hearted man. His spirit exemplified the spirit of the Gospel of Christ — love. What a fine testimony his life and work were for the Association.

God bless his memory among us.

—Raynard Huglen



Pastor Knute Jore passed away

Mr. Knute Jore, retired lay pastor in the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, passed away on Tues., Aug. 9, in McIntosh, Minn. He was 89.

The funeral service for Pastor Jore

was held in Trinity Lutheran Church, rural McIntosh, on Aug. 12, with Rev. Tom Tuura officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Knute Jore was born Nov. 5, 1898, in Polk County, Minnesota, near McIntosh, to Knute S. and Anne Jore. He attended rural schools there, agricultural school in McIntosh and later farmed until 1946. On Feb. 22, 1922, he married Caroline Rolf. He served on several boards, including the creamery and church boards and the East Polk Farm Bureau. He was caretaker of the Minne-Wa-Kan Bible Camp near Cass Lake, Minn., from 1946-51. His first wife died in a traffic accident on Oct. 18, 1949.

On Jan. 1, 1951, he married Esther Zahl Messelt. They lived at the Bible Camp one year, served two years as missionaries to the Navajo Indians in Arizona and were missionaries on the Red Lake Indian Reservation, Minnesota, from 1954 to 1964. After 1964

he served as a lay pastor to AFLC congregations at Brockton and Culbertson, Mont. and Spokane, Wash. They moved to Thief River Falls, Minn., in retirement, but he was visitation pastor at Our Saviour's Lutheran there from 1975-79. The couple moved to McIntosh and Mr. Jore was a resident of the Mac Manor Nursing Home for the past five years.

He is survived by his wife Esther; a son, Kenneth, McIntosh; a daughter, Ardella Ostenaa, Citrus Heights, Calif.; seven grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; a brother, Henry, Fargo, N. Dak.; and two sisters, Lillie Jore, Fargo, and Clara Mattson, Fertile, Minn.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Caroline; three brothers, Salve, Olaf and Daniel; and three sisters, Thea, Tilda and Selma.

Blessed be his memory.

—Based on an obituary in the Grand Forks, N. Dak. *Herald*

QUESTIONS ON CREATION AND EVOLUTION

by Craig Gray
DeKalb, Ill.

Part III

(This article, in a number of parts, was written as a class assignment in a class called Creationism at Association Free Lutheran Bible School in the recent winter quarter.)

3) From comparative anatomy. It is common in nature to observe two plants or animals which look alike. An evolutionist would say this is an implication of a common ancestor. However, does likeness really imply relationship? Take, for example, a clock and an automobile. They both contain and use gears. But are they related? No, they are alike only in the sense that they have like parts. The designer of the clock thought it wise to use gears. He had no contact with the designer of the car. The evolutionist would have us think that since they have like parts they are related. This definitely is the same for nature.

4) From vestigial remains. Vestigial remains are certain parts of the human anatomy (i.e., the appendix, tonsils) that appear useless. Evolution believes they are reductions from a former larger study whose function may not be known. But are these remains (which can also be found in many animals) actually evidence of evolutionary changes that have occurred or are they organs for which no use is yet known? It has been discovered that the often-removed tonsils are more useful in than out. The appendix contains the same antibody forming cells. We may say that if organs as these are vestigial in the true sense, then "they are merely vestiges of one's former anatomy and not a hangover from a different species."

This series of doubts somehow gives evolutionists a firm assurance. How, I do not understand. If I were an evolutionist after seeing this evidence, I would think twice. It seems to take more faith to believe in evolution than to believe in creation.

What are questions we can ask to confound an evolutionist? This type of question is not hard to come by and is very effective in accomplishing its task. Some are as follows:

1) Where did life originate? Was it on another planet? If evolution is true, at some point living matter must have come from non-living matter. How did that happen? Is life originating today?

2) What about the gap seen between plant and animal life? How did it happen? Did a plant suddenly begin to breathe?

3) Where are all the missing links? Where is the fossil record of these links? There should have been millions, even billions, of these forms. Why hasn't even one been found?

4) What stopped evolution? Is it still happening today? Where are some true black and white evidences for its continuing?

5) What about human behavior? If humans are merely highly evolved animals, how do you explain morality? This type of thinking makes morals relative and supports works righteousness.

(To be continued.)

(A bibliography will follow the final installment.)

Youth conference report and other notes

FROM THE AFLC YOUTH BOARD

"For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth" (Romans 1:16).

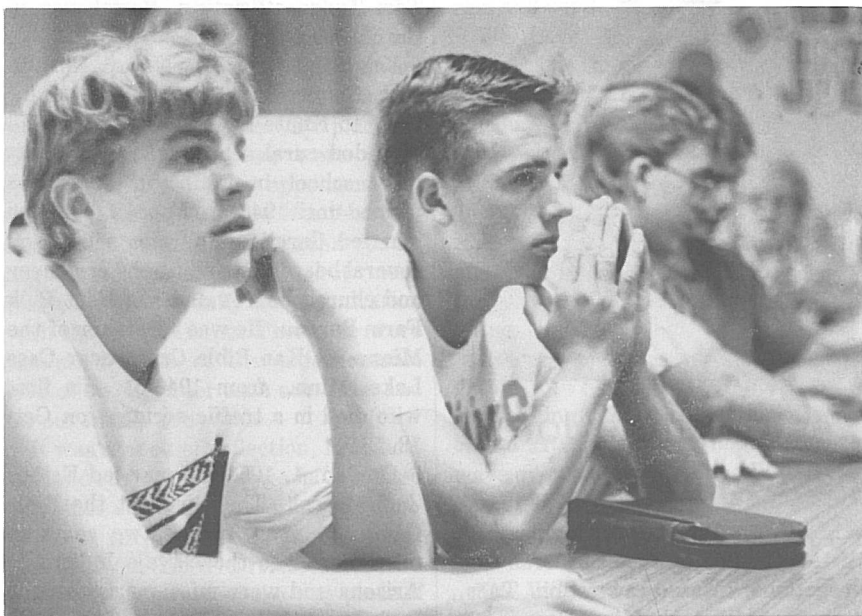
We rejoice in the 127 young people who attended the "Youth Evangelism and Ministries Conference" at AFLBS, July 24-27. Youth came from as far away as Tucson, Arizona, for three days of workshops on evangelism.

Luther Leaguers visited area nursing homes, passed out tracts on Nicolet Mall and learned how to plan for Luther League events.

Some of the youth received Jesus as their Savior; others rekindled a desire to be fully committed to Him and all were encouraged to bring their ideas, methods and renewed commitment back to their local congregations.

One Luther Leaguer shared how the conference had opened her eyes to the importance of "Friendship evangelism," telling those closest to you and

photos by S. Hjermstad



Curtis Skineke, Sisseton, S. Dak. and Kermit Nash, Colfax, N. Dak., listened as a team member shared at North Ridge Care Center. Nursing home visitation was a part of the conference.

whom you are personally acquainted with about what Christ has done for you. "If we really love them, we would tell them."

It was a joy to see the first Luther League Gospel Team, "The Servants of the Light," participating in the conference. They had just returned from a one-week tour of congregations in Montana and North and South Dakota. The AFLBS Ambassador Gospel Team also added to the conference.

Many of the attenders left Minneapolis with the desire to meet again at the Luther League Convention to take place in Vernon, British Columbia, Canada, July 17-21, 1989. Our host will be the Silverstar Resort located in the heart of the Canadian Rockies.

Along with many other excellent speakers and teachers, our Youth Resources Director, Pastor Dennis Gray,

was on hand to lead a workshop on the "Why and How of Luther League Evangelism." Youth Advisors attending the conference received many valuable helps and ideas.

Youth Advisors are contacting Pastor Gray regularly for Bible Studies, suggestions and advice for specific problems. The quarterly mailings sent out by AFLC Youth Resources have really been appreciated. These are packed with ideas on Luther League work.

Youth Advisors, if you are not on the mailing list, write to Pastor Dennis Gray, 112 West Milner, DeKalb, Illinois 60115.

The Youth Board and congregations have seen the impact and importance of this fairly new ministry. The 1988 Annual Conference passed a resolution to increase the position of Youth Re-

sources Director from quarter-time to half-time. \$6,000.00 was approved for this work. The Luther League Federation and the youth Board will be raising \$5,000.00.

Perhaps your congregation and Luther League could conduct a Youth Service with the offering going to our headquarters designated for Youth Work in our AFLC. The future of your work depends on you!

Sincerely,
Dennis Christopherson
Youth Board, Secretary

GOD'S REQUIREMENT

God's requirement is not merely that we shall desist from sinning; He demands also that we shall *love* God above all else, and our neighbor as ourselves.

Ludvig Hope
(*Spirit and Power*)

Couples retreat November 11-13

Last year Tracy and I attended the couples' retreat at the Association Retreat Center for the first time. It was an enjoyable and uplifting experience. The fellowship with the other Christian couples was encouraging and the private time we had together was rare and to be treasured. This year that time will be offered again and we encourage everyone to attend this year's couples' retreat at the ARC, Nov. 11-13.

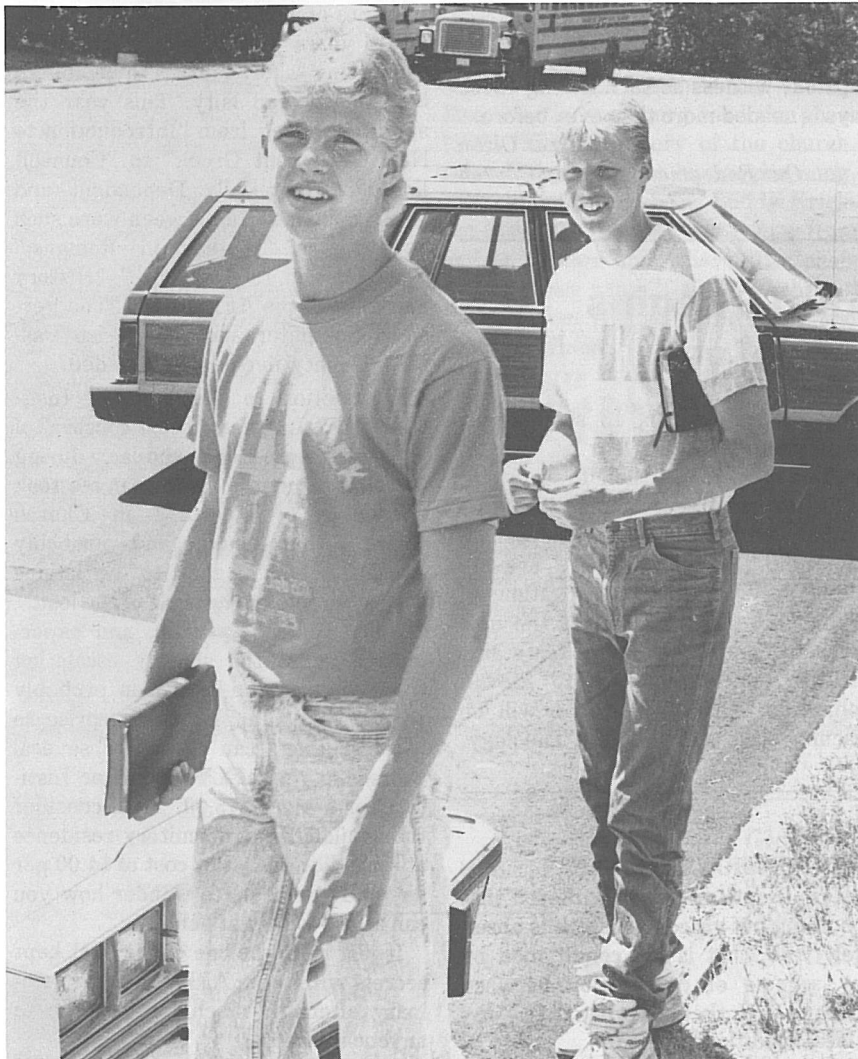
Our theme this year is "I Thee Wed." It will be a time of renewal and commitment. The cost is \$60.00 for Friday-Saturday evening or \$85.00 for Friday-Sunday noon. A pre-registration deposit of \$10.00 per couple is due by Oct. 15. Send your registration to Joey Berg, Rt. 2, Box 62, Howard Lake, Minn. 55349. For any questions call 1-612-286-5839 or 1-612-286-2240.

P.S. Our banquet Saturday night will include wedding music and readings. If you would like to be a part of it, please note it on your pre-registration so that we can plan our program.

We are looking forward to meeting you and growing in grace with you.

Kathy and Tracy Wolf
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Planning Committee.

The ARC is in rural Osceola. Wis.



Steve Kruse, Burnsville, Minn., and Scott Skogerboe, East Grand Forks, Minn., were set for some practical evangelism experience.

July 25 - Aug. 5, 1988

Summer Institute of Theology

Week #1, July 25-29

"... be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind. . ." (Romans 12:2).

Once again it has been my privilege to attend the Summer Institute of Theology at the Minneapolis campus of AFLC headquarters. This experience is much to be desired for any one who needs to be refreshed and renewed in the faith, who seeks strengthening of abilities in Christian service, and who wants the blessing of a time devoted to things of the Lord in an atmosphere of prayer, intensive study of God's word, and fellowship with like-minded believers.

Each Institute day began with devotions at 7:40 a.m., then came two hours with Pastor Tjelta in "Studies in Romans," followed by two hours with Dr. Monseth in "Introduction to Theology," and ended with two hours with Pastor Snipstead studying "History and Aims of the AFLC." God's Spirit blessed as these men shared their knowledge and insights on these and related subjects. The remainder of each day was used

mostly for required and suggested reading assignments, while meals on campus and at local restaurants provided a good time for discussion. Those attenders wishing to earn credit will continue working at home on assignments to be completed by February 1, 1989. These assignments each require serious study and the writing of a paper related to that Institute course.

As before when attending Summer Institute, I was impressed by the obvious devotion to Scripture. Thanks be to God that our Association seminary and Bible school are under the authority of God's Word for every aspect of faith and life. May God grant that we will be faithful to our calling as Bible-believing Lutheran Christians. Perhaps our witness as such during these days is needed more than ever before.

*Wilmar Olson
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Kirkland, Washington*

AFLTS begins school year

On September 9th, 13 seminarians settled into another year of classes. For five men, it was their first time to sit in on seminary classes. The five seniors are back after their year of internship. Currently, there are six interns serving AFLC congregations.

Mrs. Jeff (Lisa) Holman is the new librarian and seminary secretary. AFLTS also welcomes Dr. Steven Lombardo to the faculty. He will be teaching classes in Practical Theology.

UNCONDITIONAL GRACE

Here (Baptism) grace is offered that is nothing but grace because it is absolutely free; that is not conditioned by any scheme of cooperation between man and God; that is not limited by any ethical conditions in man.

*Adolf Koberle
(The Quest for Holiness)*

It's your seminary

Most of us think of a seminary as a specialized school exclusively reserved to turning out candidates for ordination to occupy the pulpits of our churches. That is, of course, the primary purpose of establishing and maintaining a seminary. But, at least so far as the Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary is concerned, a seminary can, and often does, provide an important ancillary need, instruction and training for laymen.

For instance, this year (1988) your Seminary conducted its 16th Summer Institute of Theology. In other words, for 16 years your seminary has been conducting "short courses" available to both clergy and laity. This year the subjects ranged from "Introduction to New Testament Greek" to "Counseling the Chemically Dependent and Their Families." In between were such subjects as "Studies in Romans," "Introduction to Theology," "History and Aims of the AFLC," and "The Personal Computer and the Parish Pastor." Twenty-five people attended.

In addition to the Summer Institutes, AFLTS offers "short courses" of interest to both clergy and laity during the winter months. Last year we took advantage of a course in Church Growth that could, and probably should, be invaluable to Christians with a burden for the souls of the lost.

Much is being written, and experienced, about the sharply escalating costs of education, which is probably why it is such a pleasant surprise to learn that one can enroll for several courses at the AFLTS Summer Institute for a mere \$15.00. Then consider the availability of dormitory residence at the ridiculously low cost of \$4.00 per day and you begin to wonder how you can afford to stay at home.

It just might be one of the best kept secrets within the AFLC that our seminary offers so much for so little to anyone interested.

*Truman C. Wold
Northwood, N. Dak.*

ASSOCIATION SEMINARY GETS FRATERNAL BENEFITS

Association Free Lutheran Theological Seminary, Minneapolis, Minn., has recently received \$1105 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 second quarter of 1988.

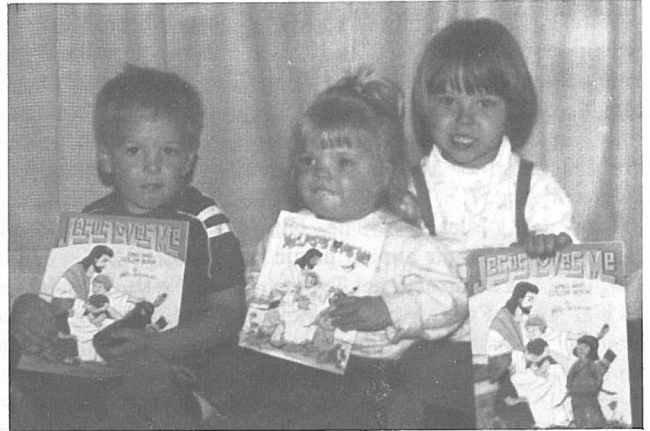
Since the beginning of the program in 1979, \$39673 in IMPACT funds has been received by AFLTS.

Also, AFLTS has been awarded a \$6130 grant from Aid Association for Lutherans. This year's grant will be used by the seminary for faculty development and to provide financial aid to seminary students and continuing education opportunities to Lutheran church professionals. Some of the funds will also enable the school to conduct a financial management seminar for seminary students.

Cradle Roll enrollment and graduation



Bethany Lutheran, Astoria, Ore.: Mothers and children honored were: Denise and Erland Fahlstrom, Sue and Jessica Boyovich, Lois and Melissa Grothe and Rose and Trinna Tollefson.



Buffalo Lake Lutheran, Eden, S. Dak.: Natasha, Clint and Tiffany Valnes were enrolled in Cradle Roll. They are the children of Gary and Faith Valnes.



Word of Life Lutheran, Mankato, Minn.: Kyra Schuster and Tad Fridgen were the first graduates of this new Home Mission congregation.

WMF OFFICERS OF CANADA



(L. to R.): Marie Throssell, Lake Alma, treas., Irene Gilbertson, Frontier, 2nd v. pres., Shirley Gettis, Vernon, v. pres., Dawn Johnson, Lake Alma, pres. and Dorothy Pinno, Frontier, sec.

Women's Missionary Federation

In memoriam gifts

Rosemary Klukken, Brandon, Minn.
Mrs. Gina Haugh, Bagley, Minn.
Mrs. Amy Evans, Bagley, Minn.
Mrs. Hazel Larson Rupp, Bagley, Minn.
Mina Lindgren, Shevlin, Minn.
Vandella Julin, Shevlin, Minn.
Helen Jacobson, Sebeka, Minn.
Margaret Miller, Dalton, Minn.
Alphid Eletson, Duluth, Minn.
Charlotte Nesseth, Kenyon, Minn.
Isabel Helstad, Roseau, Minn.
Knute Jore, McIntosh, Minn.
Dorothy Bosshard, Long Prairie, Minn.
Mildred Robertson, Ray, N. Dak.
Rex Beck, Buffalo, N. Dak.
Delores Mortrud, Fargo, N. Dak.
Otto Swanson, Pukwana, S. Dak.
Janice Toftee, Aberdeen, S. Dak.

*Blessed are
those who die
in the Lord*



IT'S

RECOMMENDED

Would your church women enjoy a retreat for Bible Study, prayer and fellowship? Seventeen ladies from Williston tried it and are anxious to do it again!



Ladies at their retreat from Emmanuel Free Lutheran, Williston, N. Dak.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

from here and there

Newark, Ill. — Family Mission Fellowship met on Aug. 14 with the program presented by "Under His Wings" from Morris, Ill.

Roseau, Minn. — The musical Espe brothers sang at the Rose Luther League on Aug. 7.

Eben Jct., Mich. — The King's Daughters held their annual picnic on Aug. 19 at the home of Janet Tyner.

Thief River Falls, Minn. — A local talent night made up the program for the Family Night at Our Saviour's Lutheran on Aug. 21.

Kalispell, Mont. — On Sun., Aug. 28, Faith Lutheran and Stillwater Lutheran held a joint worship service at Big Sky Bible Camp.

Reva, S. Dak. — The annual outdoor service for Slim Buttes Lutheran was held on Aug. 7 in the Reva Gap campground in the Slim Buttes. A potluck dinner was served following.

Tioga, N. Dak. — The Luther Leagues of Zion, Norman and Beaver Creek Lutheran Churches sponsored a picnic and beach outing at Smishek Lake Recreation Area on Aug. 14.

Ferndale, Wash. — A garage sale was held at Triumph Lutheran on Aug. 6. It was a benefit for the parsonage fund and funds were matched up to \$350 by Lutheran Brotherhood.

Cokato, Minn. — Gordon and Grace Magney of Serving Emergency Relief and Vocational Enterprises (SERVE) were mission speakers in Good Shepherd Lutheran on July 3. The organization they represent works primarily with Afghan refugees.

Minnewaukan, N. Dak. — A church picnic for Trinity Lutheran was held on Aug. 7 after the worship service. The potluck dinner was served at church.

Canton, S. Dak. — Former pastor Rodger Olson, his wife and family from Fergus Falls, Minn., presented a service of music at Redeemer Lutheran on Aug. 21.

St. Paul, Minn. — The Fall Missions Conference at Victory in Christ Lutheran was held on Aug. 14. Jan Tollefson of the World Mission Prayer League told about her work among Mexicans at 10:45. At two afternoon sessions, Missionary and Mrs. David Abel told of the work in Brazil.

Badger, Minn. — Rev. Ted Berkas, Granite Falls, Minn., preached at the services in Badger Creek and Oiland Lutheran Churches on Sun., July 10.

Dalton, Minn. — Youth from Zion Lutheran joined some from Our Savior Lutheran (ELCA) for a rafting trip down a river by Moose Lake, Minn., Aug. 22-23.

Faith, S. Dak. — There was a youth and family outing to the Mount Rushmore Waterslides for Bethel Lutheran, Aug. 5. The thought was that perhaps afternoon lunch would be eaten at Royal Fork restaurant after the rides.

Williston, N. Dak. — Rev. Jon Wellumson is to be installed as pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran on Sun., Oct. 16.

In Memoriam

Key: The name of the town was 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.

MINNESOTA

Roseau

Mrs. Isabelle Helstad, 93, Aug. 26, Spruce.

AALC TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL CONVENTION IN BLOOMINGTON

The American Association of Lutheran Churches will hold its annual convention Oct. 27-29, in Emmaus Lutheran Church, Bloomington, Minn.

The AALC is an outgrowth of the merger of the American Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Church in America and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, which took place on January 1 of this year. The AALC is an attempt to continue a church body operating under the same standards of the previous ALC.

Rev. Duane Lindberg is the presiding pastor or president of the AALC. The treasurer is Rev. James Minor of St. Paul, Minn.

The *Ambassador* will carry a report on this convention later.

Cokato, Minn. — Pastor David Hinrichs of Good Shepherd Lutheran spent a few days in bed after he "pulled" his back out at the congregational picnic in August during the games that were played.

Thief River Falls, Minn. — A Sunday School Workshop was held at Our Saviour's Lutheran on Sat., Sept. 17, conducted by Pastor and Mrs. Ralph (Katha) Tjelta. Mrs. Tjelta is the AFLC Parish Education Secretary.

Zumbrota, Minn. — Pastor Martin Horn, showed slides from his trip to Israel and Norway last spring to friends in Our Saviour's Lutheran. Following the presentation a generous offering was taken to be matched by Aid Association for Lutherans. The total offering was donated to Mt. Sion Lutheran, Kasson, for its debt reduction. Needless to say, the people of Mt. Sion are most grateful to the Lord and to Our Saviour's for this generous demonstration of love. — *Harriet M. Trygstad, corr.*

WLCA ANNUAL CONVENTION HELD IN OKLAHOMA

The 22nd annual convention of the World Confessional Lutheran Association was held July 6-8 in First Lutheran Church, Oklahoma City, Okla., Gerald Peterson, pastor.

"Catching the Vision" was the theme for the convention and the emphasis was on missions, outreach and church planning. The WLCA, which began as Lutherans Alert-National in 1965, heard Dr. Lloyd Nelson give the first message, in which he called upon his church to venture out in evangelism to the 17,000 "unreached people groups" located throughout the world.

Among other major presentors at the convention were Dr. Ben Song, Rev. David Williams, Rev. Vincent Will, Dr. Paul G. Vigness, editor of *Lutherans Alert-National*, Raymond Mansen, and Dr. Reuben Redal, long-time president of the WLCA.

Two chief resolutions of the convention dealt with world outreach and strengthening the family unit.

Newark, Ill. — Rev. J. G. Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn., is speaking in a three-day series of meetings which conclude tomorrow (21st) in Helmar Lutheran Church.

DeKalb, Ill. — Pastor and Mrs. Dennis Gray celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in an open house at Grace Lutheran on Sun., Aug. 7.

Williston, N. Dak. — Former pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran, Rev. John Rieth, his wife and family, Amery, Wis., were honored at a potluck supper on July 13. Afterward, Pastor Rieth gave a musical concert.

Bloomington, Minn.

Two pastors received special recognition during the worship service on June 5th at Emmaus Lutheran Church, Bloomington, Minnesota.

Rev. Clarence M. Hanson, former visitation pastor at Emmaus, was honored with a certificate marking the 60th anniversary of his ordination.

James Ritter, a 1988 graduate of Free Lutheran Seminary, was installed as the associate pastor of the congregation, beginning his first year of service.

Remembered by many readers of *The Lutheran Ambassador* for his years of service with the Zion Society for Israel, Pastor Hanson is considered a son of the Green Lake Lutheran Church, Spicer, Minnesota, where he was baptized by his pastor father. His first parish was Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Morris, Illinois, and he later served congregations in St. Paul, Minnesota, Thompson, Iowa, Estherville, Iowa, and Minneapolis, Minnesota.

A verse of Scripture that was shared by Emmaus' senior pastor, Donald Richman, especially for Pastor Hanson, was from Psalm 92: "They will still yield fruit in old age" (v. 14).

A verse of Scripture that was included in the installation service for Pastor Ritter was from Ephesians 4: "For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, to the building up of the body of Christ" (v. 12).

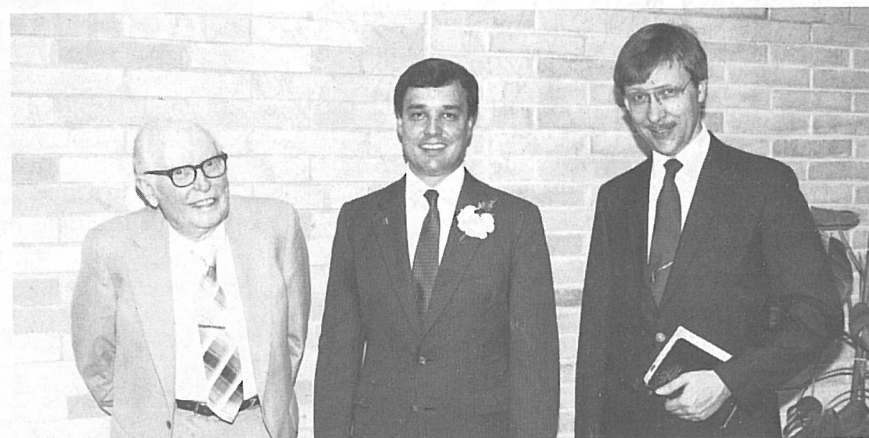
Two pastors, 60 years apart, united in one heart with a love for the Lord and His Word, and a longing that others would come to know Him and grow in Him.

One long life of pastoral ministry that has lasted for 60 years.

One new life of pastoral ministry that is just beginning.



McVie, N. Dak. — New members received at New Luther Valley Lutheran recently were, front row, left to right, Raymond Thara, and Angela Ruud; middle, Alan Twedt, Mrs. Gelaine (Donna) Tweed, Mrs. Bert (Genevieve) Jenson, Michael Thara, Karla Ruud, Robert Ruud, Mrs. Roger (Ruth) Quanbeck, and Mrs. Mark (Jane) Quanbeck; and back, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon (Ardis) Twedt, and Mrs. Eldon (Peggy) Ruud, and Pastor Wesley Langaas. Not pictured are Carol Maisel and Duane Twedt.



Left to right, Pastors Hanson and Ritter, with Robert L. Lee, AFLC vice-president, who officiated at Pastor Ritter's installation.

CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN BRETHREN CONVENTION HELD

"Faith For A Forward Thrust" was the theme of the 88th Annual Convention of the Church of the Lutheran Brethren at Tuscarora Inn, Mt. Bethel, Pennsylvania, June 12-15. Two hundred and sixty delegates, representing congregations in Canada and the United States, heard a report from its president, Rev. Robert Overgaard, that the membership rate of growth had increased by 3.8% during 1987, with giving to the denomination's ministries increasing by 16% during the same period of time.

The convention delegates voted to permit women to be delegates to the Annual Convention. A two-thirds majority was needed and the motion passed with four votes to spare.

A report on Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage was received from a theological commission appointed two years ago. The Synodical Council is preparing a resolution for the 1989 Convention based on this report. Currently, Lutheran Brethren pastors are prohibited from performing marriage ceremonies for persons who have been previously divorced and whose first spouse is still living.

Synod boards were expanded to give more grassroot involvement in the denomination's business and ministry. A Synodical Council of 21 members was created to replace the Executive Board. All ministry boards, including World Missions, Home Missions, Education, and Church Services will be responsible to the Synodical Council.

— Rev. David Rinden

PREACHING MISSIONS

Williston, N. Dak.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Jon Wellumson, pastor

Oct. 9-12

Rev. David Barnhart, Eagan, Minn.,

speaker

Vernon, B. C.

Living Word Lutheran Church

Gerald Gettis, pastor

Oct. 16-20

Rev. David Barnhart, speaker

Minneapolis, Minn.

Medicine Lake Lutheran Church

Laurel Udden, pastor

Oct. 16-20

Mr. Olaf Friggstad, Frontier, Sask.,

speaker

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd.

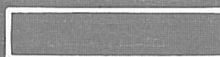
Minneapolis, Minn. 55441

Second-class

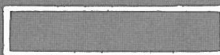


ACCEPT US, USE US

Merciful God,
Heavenly Father,
Give us grace
To do Thy will
Here on earth
As it is done
In heaven.



Make us holy
Through the truth,
That we may glorify
Thy name
In the world
By thought, word and deed,
Following in the footsteps of
Our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ.



Forgive us our sins
Through the merits
Of Thy Son,
Our Savior,
Jesus Christ.
And bless us,
As we need
Thy blessing. Amen.

Plant in our hearts
The Saving faith
In Thy Son
Jesus Christ,
Who has redeemed
All mankind
By shedding His blood
For the remission of sin.

Make us faithful
Workers together with Him
In the great task
Of bringing Thy kingdom
Into the hearts of men
At home and abroad.
Accept us,
And use us
As Thou canst.

Gerhard Rasmussen
(*Vesper Meditations*)