THE LUTHERAN AUGUST 2004 ANBASSA DOR



Encouraging Word

A Holy One for you

God is holy and to be feared, but He also has provided me with a Holy One to stand in my place. Jesus comes between my sinful self and a just God.

orgiveness is a basic concept to Christianity. I need it because, along with all humans, I break commands given by God. Without forgiveness, God's wrath toward sin is on me. With forgiveness I have salvation. And I know that forgiveness can only come through Jesus. It all seems very simple.

But here is how the matter of forgiveness plays out in my present discouraged state: I sit down and read my Bible, after which I think of my sinfulness and God's demand for perfection. I know I am so far from the mark. I pray in sadness, fear, and desperation, "Please forgive me for not thinking of You as much as I should, for feeling apathetic about my sin, for not reading my Bible more. I want to be the person You want." I end my prayer by asking God to do this "for Jesus' sake. Amen."

But in my heart I am waiting. Not waiting on God, but on myself. For myself to believe more strongly, to be contrite enough, to correct my behavior, to be the pure person, and then I could believe my sins are forgiven and feel good about it. Now I am only left with a feeling of heaviness and hopelessness and the thought, "You're not really forgiven." I'm in more desperate need than I was the hour before.

God in His Word tells a different story. Hebrews 9:28a says, "... so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people." It is *Christ* doing the work here to take away sins. Colossians 2:13-14 says,

"When you were dead in your sins ... God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the written code with its regulations that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross." What could be a better basis for forgiveness than that? Certainly it is not my own efforts to feel forgiven or to be sinless before I ask for forgiveness. That idea is pitifully fool-

While reading recently, Isaiah 43:15 seemed to clearly point to Jesus for me. "I am the Lord, your Holy One, Israel's creator, your King." Your Holy One. Isn't that beautiful? God is holy and to be feared, but He also has provided me with a Holy One to stand in my place. Jesus comes between my sinful self and a just God.

So there is real forgiveness for me, not because I'm trying to do better or because I feel a certain way or because I'm without sin to begin with, but from a source separate from me. I pray again, "Have mercy on me ... not for my works or who I am, but because of Jesus, my Holy One."

May the discouraged please know and believe that in the midst of discouragement over spiritual matters — while it is happening — there is a Holy One for you whose full holiness is yours. Do not fear. He is for you.

> — Karina Olson Faith Lutheran Minneapolis, Minn.

August 2004 Volume 42, Number 8



ELUTHERANAMBASSADOR

Editor

Pastor Craig Johnson craigi@teleport.com

Managing Editor

Editorial Board

Ruth Gunderson ruthg@aflc.org

Pastor John Mundfrom Oryen Benrud Pastor Jerry Moan Pastor James L. Johnson

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Sound Bites

From the 2004 AFLC Annual Conference

God is good, His love never fails, He is faithful, His Word is true, and we press on to build free and living congregations on this firm foundation.

— Pastor Robert Lee. AFLC President

We are thankful that He is faithful even in this generation. What a delight it has been to call upon our loving Lord and see His hand at work.

 Pastor Del Palmer. World Missions director

God was faithful to the past generation whom He used to begin the seminary in September 1964; He is faithful to us in this present generation, and He will remain faithful to all succeeding generations. Yes, great is His faithfulness!

— Dr. Francis Monseth, Free Lutheran Seminary dean

We know that the Lord is good in His very character. ... In creation and in redemption, His faithfulness is evident, and it extends to all peoples through all time.

> — Pastor Jason Holt. 2005 FLY Committee president

CONFERENCE REPORT By Pastor Craig Johnson, editor

Continuing Faithfulness

TO ALL GENERATIONS

he faithfulness of God was remembered and celebrated as the Association of Free Lutheran Congregations met for their 42nd Annual Conference June 16-20. The conference met at the Association Retreat Center in Osceola, Wis., under the theme, "To All Generations," taken from Psalm 100:5.

FAITHFULNESS AND WORSHIP

Previous generations have called the annual conferences the "spiritual powerhouse" of the church body. They are designed to be not primarily business meetings, but times when people from AFLC congregations gather to encourage each other and build one another up in the faith.

In an effort to do this, worship services are held each evening at the conference. Sessions always begin with Scripture reading and prayer, and break before lunch for prayer and at other times as well, as the Spirit of God leads.

FAITHFULNESS AND THE FELLOWSHIP

Pastor Robert Lee was re-elected to a fifth three-year term as president of the AFLC. He received more than 75 percent of the votes cast on the first ballot. Re-elected by similar margins on the first ballot were Pastor Elden Nelson as vice president and Pastor Brian Davidson as secretary.

Nelson has been serving as a part-time assistant to the president. Funding for the position has come from gifts earmarked for that purpose. The conference resolved to encourage congregations to "continue to fund this needed min-



ABOVE: Abby Fugleberg, a member of the AFLBS Ambassadors summer ministry team, helps out with the VBS program during the Annual Conference.

TOP RIGHT: Hazelle and Pastor Phil Featherstone look at an album while Pastor Alvin and Marcie Sather and Pastor Wes and Lynn Johanson catch up.

FAR RIGHT: Pastor Greg Schram and Ken Sletten chat outside the gymnasium, the site of the conference meetings.

NEAR RIGHT: Kathy Carlson, Amery, Wis., and Jeanette Benson, Upsala, Minn., during the WMF convention.







istry and take more responsibility for the travel expenses of President Lee and Pastor Nelson when they visit local congregations."

Regarding the executive positions, an amendment to the AFLC Rules for Work proposed last year would have made the office of vice president a full-time position with a term of three years. The amendment was defeated when voted on this year. Another proposed amendment to the Rules for Work would limit terms an individual could serve in the positions of president, vice president and secretary. This amendment will be brought up at the 2005 Annual Conference.

During the previous year, 14 congregations were added to the AFLC Congregational Roster. These include: Prince of Peace Lutheran, Kernville, Calif.; Living Hope, Elk River, Minn.; Dell Lutheran, Frost, Minn.; Christ Lutheran, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mt. Zion Lutheran, Loysville, Pa.; Tressler Memorial Free Lutheran, Landisburg, Pa.; Zion Evangelical Lutheran, Ashkum, Ill.; Holy Cross Lutheran,

Sarasota, Fla.; Golgotha Lutheran, Golden Valley, N.D.; Immanuel Lutheran, Zap, N.D.; St. Paul Lutheran, Dodge, N.D.; Peace Lutheran, Canal Winchester, Ohio; Salem Lutheran, North Branch, Minn.; and Ebenezer Lutheran, Humboldt, Tenn.

Removed from the congregational roster during the past year were: Faith Free Lutheran, Detroit Lakes, Minn.; Victory in Christ Lutheran, St. Paul, Minn.; Good Shepherd Lutheran,





Ponca City, Okla.; Word of God Lutheran, Brooklyn Park, Minn.; and Maranatha Free Lutheran, Willmar, Minn.

FAITHFULNESS AND FINANCES

Finances were a topic of discussion at various times during the conference. A lack of funding led to the ending of the position of director of development, held by Jon Galland. The conference encouraged members of the AFLC Coordinating Committee to find a permanent way to





TOP LEFT: ARC employees man the bar-b-que. **BOTTOM LEFT: Pastor Kris and** Paula Nyman, Beulah, N.D., sing at the pastors banquet. **NEAR LEFT:** Volunteers work on stuffing conference packets. ABOVE: Elaine Kohl speaks at the WMF convention.

fund the position. The conference also recommended "that the responsibility of administering and overseeing the development opportunities be given to the Stewardship Board." It also encouraged members of the Stewardship Board to more clearly identify and communicate the financial needs of the various departments of the AFLC.

Time was spent discussing the work and role of the AFLC Foundation and attempting to narrow and define the Foundation's purpose. The Foundation assists people in their current and deferred giving. Discussion was held as to how the funds given should be used and whether principal should be spent or only the interest gained from the funds.

During the consideration of the work of the AFLC Schools, finances were discussed as well. Thanks were expressed to God for the gifts received that enabled the new student center to be built on the campus. Debt on the building of approximately \$1 million remains along with some current operating debt. It was resolved "that we pray for God to provide the funds to eliminate the debt, balance the books and provide for additional men to teach His Word to our students."

The AFLC Home Missions Department shared about financial changes in their depart-

ment. The Church Extension loan program has been phased out. Thanks to God for His help in this process was expressed. "God has been extremely faithful to us in the area of finances," reported Pastor Paul Nash, Home Missions director. The department is looking at changing the program into a grant instead of a loan program. Already, one grant was given to Calvary Free Lutheran in Mesa, Ariz.

Needs in the Parish Education Department were shared. Pastor Phil Haugen, chairman of the Board of Parish Education, stated, "In order to balance the budget for 2005, and in light of estimated income, no monies for further printing have been budgeted for 2005. Therefore, monies for further printing in 2005 will have to come from gifts above and beyond the budget subsidy."

Regarding Parish Education finances, the Budget Analysis Committee in their report shared about concerns that new and expanding works have caused financial difficulties for "core works" such as the Free Lutheran Seminary and Parish Education.

FAITHFUL IN THE PAST

The conference marked the 25th anniversary of the AFLC's purchase of the ARC. A resolution thanked God "that many men, women, and youths have come to a personal relationship with

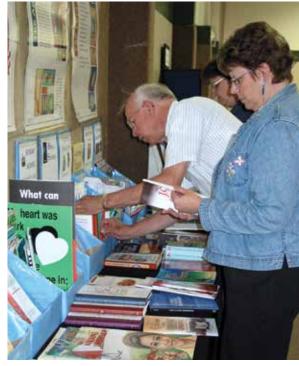












Clockwise from top left: Members of the Foundation Board meet. VBS was led by Hosanna Free Lutheran, Cumberland, Wis., and Timberland-Ringebu Free Lutheran, Barronett, Wis. Conference attendees look through educational materials. The Coordinating Committee meets with the Pension Board. Eric Westlake checks in conference attendees. Registration table at the WMF convention.



Pastors Raul Hernandez, Irapuato, Mexico, and Milton Flores, Celaya, Mexico, bring a greeting to the conference from Mexico.



Paul Slaamot, Pastor James Gerdeen, Pastor Leroy Flickinger and Pastor Jerry Nikunen chat outside the registration building.

Christ while meeting at the ARC."

The AFLC Bible school and seminary expressed thanks to God for the completion during the past year of Heritage Hall, the new student center. Seminary Dean Dr. Francis Monseth stated, "The greatest benefit [to the seminary] is the provision of a beautiful new library with greater accessibility to its expanding resources as well as greatly increased study space."

Pastor Jim Rasmussen, director of Evangelism, shared how the conference theme, "To All Generations," is the underlying theme of the "Passing the Baton" workshops the Commission on Evangelism has been presenting since 2002. "The key to Christ's Kingdom is to evangelize first in our homes, and then to all generations, daily and in all places."

FAITHFUL IN THE FUTURE

Confidence in God's faithfulness in the future was expressed in a number of areas. Pastor Kevin Olson, Youth Ministries director, shared regarding the September 2004-May 2005 teaching sabbatical he, his wife and three children will take in Tanzania working with the Waama Bible College. During the Saturday evening youth service at the conference the Olsons shared about expectations regarding the trip, prayer requests and needs and prayer for them

Future mission service in Africa is also being considered by seminarian Nate Jore and his wife, Rhoda. They were introduced by the World Missions Committee as missionary candidates.

President Robert Lee reported, "The AFLC

has received a grant from Thrivent for Lutherans to lay the foundation for a seniors' ministry emphasis." The conference approved "the appointment of a task force to provide initial leadership toward the goal of giving emphasis to senior ministry in the AFLC."

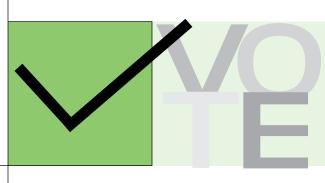
In the area of senior ministry, Pastor Kerwin Sletto, director of Institutional Chaplaincy, announced that a new large-print hymnal called "Hymns of Faith and Promise" is now available. It contains 200 favorite hymns from the "Ambassador Hymnal" and is cross-referenced to that hvmnal.

The conference passed resolutions encouraging teaching and preaching about the Ten Commandments as the moral foundation of law. It was reminded of resolutions passed at the 2000 conference that reaffirmed an "uncompromising stand on God's Word that marriage is instituted by God to be between one man and one woman." Another 2000 resolution reaffirmed "our love in Christ for every person including those involved in the homosexual lifestyle, while rejecting their lifestyle itself as sin." In June a resolution was passed supporting the protection of biblical moral values and opposing efforts to legalize homosexual marriage.

The conference registration totaled 433. The site for next year's annual conference is yet to be determined.



ELECTIONS





President

Pastor Robert Lee, Crystal, Minn.

Vice-president

Pastor Elden Nelson, Rockford, Minn.

Secretary

Pastor Brian Davidson, Hopkins, Minn.

Coordinating Committee

Pastor David Skordahl, Minn. (5 years) Pastor Gary Jorgenson, Durant, Okla. (2 years)

Schools Board of Trustees

James Rolf, Brandon, Minn. (5 years)

World Missions Committee

Pastor James Fugleberg, Fargo, N.D. (5 years) Pastor Richard Gunderson, Cambridge, Minn. (3 years) Dr. Lyle Mattson, Greenbush, Minn. (5 years)

Home Missions Committee

Pastor Alan Monson, Lakeville, Minn. (5 years) Pastor Rick Long, Arlington, Wash. (2 years) Willis Kettelhut, Deshler, Neb. (5 years)

ARC Board

Cliff Seldal, DeKalb, Ill. (5 years)

Stewardship Board

Jeremy Zeltinger, Jamestown, N.D. (5 years)

Youth Board

Jason Norlien, Amery, Wis. (5 years)

Commission on Evangelism

Gene Quist, Bloomington, Minn. (5 years)

FLAPS Board of Managers

Pastor Tom Tuura, St. James, Minn. (5 years)

Board of Publications and Parish Education

Jan Strand, Kenyon, Minn. (5 years)

Board of Pensions

Glen Espe, Thief River Falls, Minn. (5 years)

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Schools Corporation (5-year terms)

Pastor Lyle Aadahl, Byron, Minn.
David Anderson, Osceola, Wis.
Nathan Dalager, Argyle, Minn.
Joel Erickson, Oslo, Minn.
Wayne Floan, Plymouth, Minn.
Pastor Les Galland, Shakopee, Minn.
Tim Johnson, Maple Bay, Minn.
Ralph Peterson, Portland, N.D.
Paul Strand, Kenyon, Minn.
Pastor Jon Wellumson, Williston, N.D.



ARC Corporation (5-year terms)

Allen Anderson, Clear Lake, Wis.
Pastor Rich Carr, Minneapolis, Minn.
Paul Handsaker, Radcliffe, Iowa
Ernie Hilbert, Wheatland, Iowa
Pastor Rodney Johnson, Stanley, N.D.
Pastor Walter Johnson, Shakopee, Minn.
Penny Nash, Lidgerwood, N.D.
Brian Rice, Balsam Lake, Wis.
Curt Twedt, Fargo, N.D.
Pastor Wade Mobley, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Nominating Committee

Gene Finstrom, Buxton, N.D. — Eastern North Dakota Ron Jorgenson, Beulah, N.D. — Western ND-Eastern

Montana

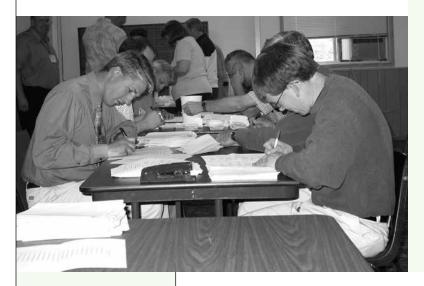
Solveig Hiermstad, Bruce, S.D. — South Dakota Pastor Don Norr, Proctor, Minn. — Lake Superior Chaplain John Rieth, Grand Forks, N.D. — Northwestern Minnesota

Glen Larson, Fosston, Minn. — North Central Minnesota Pastor Jim Johnson, Fergus Falls, Minn. — Southwest

Central Minnesota

Pastor Rick Larson, Fairbury, Neb. — Nebraska-Colorado Kermit Nash, Rogers, Minn. — Minneapolis Marlin Benrud, Goodhue, Minn. — Central Tri-State Erling Langness, Ishpeming, Mich. — Northern Michigan Pastor Gerald Peterson, Oklahoma City, Okla. — South Central

Vint Bruflat, Mesa, Ariz. — Southwestern Lois Grothe, Astoria, Or. — Pacific Northwest Art Wilson, Bethel Park, Pa. — Eastern Pastor Jeff Swanson, Newark, Ill. — Illinois



ABOVE: Jon Dryburgh, Grafton, N.D., and Pastor Todd Erickson, Apple Valley, Minn., count ballots.

TOP LEFT: Michele Mobley. Sioux Falls, S.D., Steve Walswick, Burnsville, Minn., Pastor Rick Long, Arlington, Wash., and Ken Sletten volunteer to help with the elections.

LEFT: Pastor Walter Johnson, Shakopee, Minn., casts his vote.

2005 CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

* Withdrew after elections

Committee No. 1 Administration

Pastor Dennis Gray, Newfolden, Minn. Pastor Tom Brock, Brooklyn Center, Minn. *George Hartman, Dalton, Minn. *Robert Knutson, McVille, N.D. Steve Engstrom, Minot, N.D.

Committee No. 2 Schools

Pastor Dale Mellgren, McIntosh, Minn. Pastor Wade Mobley, Sioux Falls, S.D. Ivar Berge, Fargo, N.D. Jon Dryburgh, Grafton, N.D. Phil Jensen, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Committee No. 3 Missions and Evangelism

Pastor David Hinrichs, Ortonville, Minn. Pastor Todd Erickson, Apple Valley, Minn. David VanHoveln, Milford, Ill. Jason Norlien, Amery, Wis. Kent Brockman, Duluth, Minn.

Committee No. 4 Publications

and Parish Education

Pastor Todd Klemme, Starbuck, Minn. Pastor Kent Sperry, DeKalb, Ill. Evonne Skramstad, Eagan, Minn. Kathleen Schierkolk, Prairie Farm, Wis. Linda Korhonen, Cokato, Minn.

Committee No. 5 Stewardship and Pensions

Jerry Nelson, LaCrosse, Wis. Greg Schram, Northwood, N.D. Joe Volz, Parker, S.D. Harold Erickson, Wadena, Minn. LaVern Thompson, Fergus Falls, Minn.

Missions Corp. (5-year terms)

Pastor Ted Berkas, Bloomington, Minn. Bill Buck, Arlington, S.D. Tom Caouette, Brooklyn Park, Minn. Wayne Deubner, Brockton, Mont. Pastor Dean Franz, Dollar Bay, Mich. Pastor James Gerdeen, Springfield, Mo. George Hartman, Dalton, Minn. Suzanne Hass, Zumbrota, Minn. Phil Jensen, Sioux Falls, S.D. Karen Knudsvig, Buxton, N.D.

Pastor Rick Long, Arlington, Wash. Lester Mickelson, Tioga, N.D. Pastor Jerome Nikunen, Bertrand, Neb. Pastor Greg Schram, Northwood, N.D. Paul Slaamot, Tioga, N.D. Ken Sletten, Duluth, Minn. Pastor Jeff Swanson, Newark, Ill. Jim Taylor, Pittsburgh, Pa. Enoch Thorsgard, Northwood, N.D. Pastor Craig Wentzel, Edmore, N.D.



rince of Peace Lutheran Church in Beulah, N.D., had been a small but faithful mission congregation in the AFLC. Members celebrated their 10th anniversary on Sept. 28, 2003. That same day Zion Lutheran, a neighboring ELCA congregation where I was the pastor, was taking its first vote to leave the synod. The vote to leave was only 58.6 percent, far short of the constitutional requirement of a two-thirds majority. I was in shock. I expected the vote to pass. Immediately, parishioners came up to me and asked what we should do. I simply said, "I don't

know." Several members said they were going to Prince of Peace and would not return to Zion. Others said they were going to other conservative evangelical churches in town.

At the time, Prince of Peace had a parish worker, Barbara Elmquist (now Gustafson), but no pastor. Members of the church lovingly welcomed all those who visited.

A couple of weeks after Zion's vote, members of Prince of Peace were having their fall Spiritual Life meetings. Pastor Paul Nash, the AFLC Home Missions director, and Pastor Jim Rasmussen, AFLC Evangelism director, were preaching at these meetings. Pastor Robert Lee, AFLC president, and Dr. Fran Monseth, dean of the Free Lutheran Seminary, were at an event in Minot, N.D., and came to Beulah for the meetings as well.

Because Pastor Lee and these other leaders were in the area, an informational

buildings to find an adequate space for the now-growing congregation. When they stopped at Jerry's Furniture, a sales woman approached and asked if she could help. Willy replied, "Yes, you can sell us this building." Her answer was a surprise. "The

meeting about the

AFLC was held in Golden Valley, N.D., about 20 miles west of Beulah. The three-point parish headquartered in Golden Valley was also struggling with its affiliation with the ELCA. Those three churches (Golgotha Lutheran in Golden Valley, Immanuel Lutheran in Zap, and St. Paul Lutheran in Dodge) are now a part of the AFLC.

About a week after this informational meeting, the group at Zion that voted to leave the ELCA met again to see if we could determine what direction to go. There were nearly 200 people present. An overview of various Lutheran bodies was given. Ron Jorgenson, president of Prince of Peace, made a brief presentation on the AFLC.

A ballot was passed out, and all but four votes were in favor of affiliating with Prince of Peace and the AFLC. Jorgenson came to the microphone and told us to be careful what we pray for. He said that for many years the people of Prince of Peace had asked God to grow their congregation. God was providing answers to that prayer in a big way.

I then resigned my call as pastor at Zion and began to pray about God's direction for my ministry. My desire was to stay with these people, but only if it was God's will. After two weeks, Prince of Peace voted to call me as their pastor. Still it wasn't clear to me what God wanted me to do, so I continued to pray. Through a series of events I sensed God's leading to move to Prince of Peace and affiliate with the AFLC.

For the past few years Prince of Peace had been renting a Southern Baptist church building. It seated about 100 people. Very soon the church was full, and it appeared that more were on the way. Our request to rent the school was approved for a time period of two to five months.

Willy and Ella Fandrich, who had come over to Prince of Peace, were driving around town looking at building is for sale, though it is not officially on the market," she said.

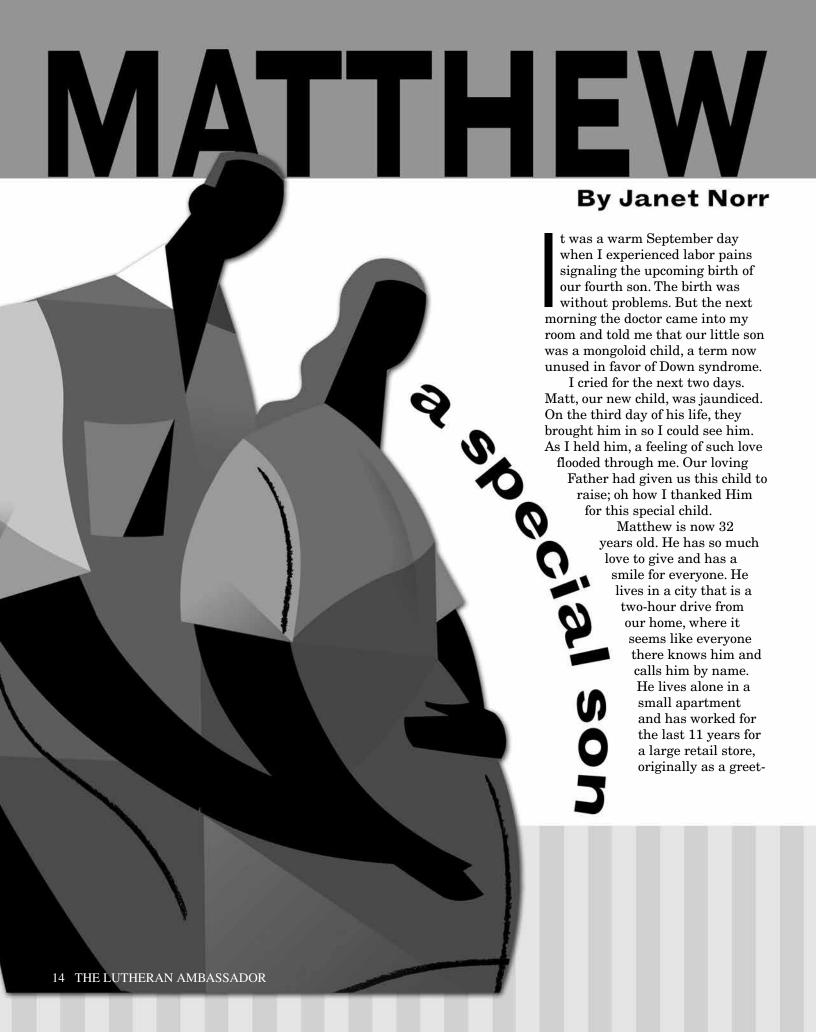
A group went to look at the building and, finding it to be more than adequate, with plenty of space and full of potential, we voted to purchase the property. After negotiations it came into our price range. We worked with a local bank on financing and received a drop in interest rates on the day of closing. We praise God for His provision.

March 26 — the time to move into what had been a furniture store — arrived. We sent out an email at 1 p.m. on a Friday afternoon; by 1:30 p.m. the place was buzzing with people. The entire building was cleaned from top to bottom — floors, walls, ceiling, and windows — by Saturday evening. This pace of activity didn't let up until Maundy Thursday, April 12, when we had our first official worship service. Actually, we had a prayer service the night before. We dedicated the buildings and the grounds around them to the mission and glory of God. We prayed that God would lead, guide and provide exactly what was needed for whatever would happen in each room. What a blessing to be recipients of God's provision.

God has graciously provided for our congregation in numerous ways. Pew chairs, office furniture, a slot on the local radio station and other matters have come from the hand of our gracious God.

God has provided and will continue to provide as we gladly stand on His inerrant Word. To God alone be the glory, great things He has done!

Nyman is pastor of Prince of Peace Lutheran, Beulah, N.D. He recently joined the AFLC's fellowship roster.



er until the position was eliminated. Now he works as a cart attendant, a rather difficult job for him, but he never complains.

Matthew has truly been a special son. He began his education at the age of 11 months and he opened doors here in our hometown for mentally and physically handicapped children, doors that were not open previous to his growing up. He was able to go through the grades and graduate from high school on schedule. Again, God opened doors of opportunity. During his senior year in high school, he was the assistant to the student manager of the basketball team. During halftime at home games, the coach gave him permission to shoot baskets by himself in the gym. Every time he made a basket, the entire crowd would cheer.

Matthew was involved in Special Olympics during his high school years as well. Although he was too short and heavy, he was selected as a poster Special Olympian for the international games held in Minneapolis in 1991. Along with the honor came the task of carrying the large flag in the opening exercises at the Metrodome. If those honors were not enough, Matthew was also voted "Male Athlete of the Year" for Minnesota. His claim to fame with the title was throwing out the first pitch at a Twins playoff game that year.

After high school, Matthew attended a vo-tech college. He graduated from a program that helped him become employable, and he still works at his first job.

All of these blessings have been God! We hang on to Exodus 4:11, "The Lord said to him (Moses), 'Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord?" We know that God makes no mistakes, no throwaway children. But God has a plan for our family. We just sit back and watch it unfold. Matthew draws attention wherever he goes, in a positive way.

There have been many trying and joyful times. In March 2002, Matthew joined his two brothers and their children tubing on a ski hill. Although fearful, Matthew was assured by his brothers. He started down the hill and almost immediately the tube took an alternate route, crashing into a steel support for the ski lift. Mat-

thew was rushed to the hospital in an ambulance, where he was diagnosed with no broken bones. But several weeks later, doctors found he had a broken femur, five broken ribs and a broken jaw. Because of the delayed medical attention, Matthew had serious problems with blood clots migrating to his lungs.

As I held him, a feeling of such love flooded through me. Our loving Father had given us this child to raise; oh how I thanked Him for this special child.

We feared Matthew would not live. My husband and I individually surrendered him to Jesus one day, not knowing the other's actions. That was the turning point in Matthew's recovery.

Matthew is back to work now and doing well. We are waiting on God for the next miraculous event in his life.

Norr is married to Pastor Don Norr, who serves Good Shepherd Lutheran, Virginia, Minn. She has written a book, "Matthew: A Gift of God," about raising a child with Down syndrome.

Just what is the national convention all about?

e gathered June 16-17 on the grounds of the ARC for the 42nd Annual Convention of the WMF. I've "retreated" many times to the ARC over the past 25 years, experiencing rest, refreshment, restoration, and renewal. What would this visit

Barb Gustafson Second Vice President. National WMF

hold for me? Would I experience healing, as our theme suggested?

My first WMF day was at the ARC back in 1983. I've looked forward to them each year. The days have been, as our conference is supposed to be, a spiritual powerhouse—a time when I experienced great encouragement. However,

over the last few years, I've found the "business" of our gathering taking more of our time and attention. I've longed for the conferences of old. This was a convention of healing for me.

Our praise team, led by Josh and Amy Skogerboe, helped get my focus on Jesus. Amy led in devotions and the memorial service and reminded us that our healing comes from the Lord. Although God may choose to use family, friends, or church to minister healing to us, we have to look to Him for healing. Amy shared how directly or indirectly the women of the WMF have touched the lives of praise team members. It was so encouraging to see this fruit right before our eyes.

Touching others—this is what WMF is about.

Pastor Steve Carlson, Dalton, Minn., led the Bible study on our theme, "Healing in His Wings." He encouraged us to pray for God to continue to develop in us the "covenant of life and peace." The Word this is what WMF is about.

We gave thanks for two faithful servants, Jan Galland (first vice president) and Elaine Kohl (secretary). They have served our WMF well. We greeted two new national board members, Lorilee Mundfrom as first vice president and Robin Jameson as secretary. Please pray for these women as they assume their duties in September. Service—this is what WMF is about.

We heard from Jonathan and Tamba Abel, who will soon return to Brazil to begin a new work in Maringa. We were greeted by Marcella Giles, who joined Home Missions' Southern Barnabas team. We were led in devotions by Pam Olson, who will soon be leaving with her family for Tanzania. We heard a moving report from Ellen Monseth and Rhoda Jore about their recent trip to East Africa. Missions—this is what WMF is about.

Brita Ylitalo shared with us openly at our luncheon about the healing she has experienced through brokenness as a mother. Sharing — this is what WMF is about.

The WMF took a stand, through a resolution, on God's definition of marriage. Taking a

stand—this is what WMF is about.

Much discussion was shared concerning the open position of Women's Outreach Coordinator (WOC). The women expressed a need to reach new and struggling WMFs in person. Many of our new congregations are in remote areas—hundreds of miles from another AFLC church. They need this personal contact. Making a difference—this is what WMF is about. Pray for the board as they begin the process of filling this one-quarter-time position.

The constitution was ratified unanimously. We will now have three-year terms and an advisory board. Working together until we reach harmony—this is what WMF is about.

Did I experience healing? Yes! This is what WMF is about.

TOP LEFT: LaVonne Johnson, Northome, Minn., chats with friends during a break. TOP RIGHT: Erika Johnson, Jennifer Wiechman, Amy Skogerboe and Tami Osweiler, from Living Hope, Elk River and Emmaus Lutheran, Bloomington, led the praise and worship.

MIDDLE LEFT: Pastor Steve Carlson, Dalton, Minn., led a study on "Healing in His Wings" during the Bible study time. MIDDLE RIGHT: Pat Olson, Spring Valley,

Calif., and Eunice Will, Springfield, Ill., catch up during a coffee break.

BOTTOM LEFT: Marilyn Kettelhut, Phyllis Nikunen, Bertrand, Neb., and Karol Frecks, Axtell, Neb., join in the praise and worship

BOTTOM RIGHT: Rose Carlson, Grafton, N.D., and Annabelle Eichhorst, Shakopee, Minn., share a table at break.







[World Missions] Brazil 40 years

Our joint prayers as an AFLC will continue as we get a greater vision of the fields white onto harvest.

n January 2006, the Brazilian AFLC church will celebrate its 40th anniversary during the Annual

Conference.

An open invitation is extended to all former missionaries and interested supporters who've prayed and financed this mission over the years. We are looking forward to this time of rejoicing and fellowship. There will be time for reflection as we look back at recommendations from past Annual Conference

reports. Time will also be spent on keeping our eyes on future goals in Brazil, including:



"So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers" (Acts 16:5). Our goal is to reach 40 AFLC churches in Brazil by 2019. The joint church-planting project, known as Primavera Project, helps the national pastors start more churches in their cities.

Bible school and seminary ministries

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer" (Acts 2:42). We have nearly 30 students this year. We are praying that the Lord would raise up 50 students in the coming years. The international missionary training center on the AFLC schools campus is being better developed each year.

Compassion ministries

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and wid-



ows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27). The Miriam Infant Home is growing. There are suggestions and prayers about opening more infant homes.

South American mission ministries

"He told them, The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field" (Luke 10:2). The tri-national mission vision (Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina) was approved by the AFLC World Missions at its conception. Doors are opening in Paraguay for our AFLC to enter.

Our joint prayers as an AFLC will continue as we get a greater vision of the fields white onto harvest.

> — Pastor Connely and Carolyn Dyrud Campo Mourão, Brazil



Motivated to Change

hat motivates you to change, to take action, to stop a bad habit or to start a good one? Is it a person, an article in a magazine, a Bible verse, a sermon, or some situation that has developed? Perhaps it's a medical condition that causes one to start eating proper foods, or an event that happened to your best friend that causes you to change your mind about something you thought you would never do. I encourage you to take a moment and try to answer these questions. Could the answer be the Holy Spirit working in your life?

This past month marked another milestone in the history of the AFLC. I believe the Annual Conference was an answer to prayer. As I watched those attending discuss the resolutions causing some change to take place, I could not help myself from remembering an event that changed my life and thousands of others. It was the day I went to Sunday school only to find the front doors of the church locked with a chain. I was 9 years old, and I wondered why God wanted us to change where we went to church. As I've matured over the years, God has given me a clear understanding why He changed where and how we worshipped Him. I am so thankful that Pastor Fritjof Monseth listened to the Holy Spirit and led his sheep to what is now the AFLC. Although it caused a great deal of changes in our lives, God has blessed us immensely.

Motivation and change can be good things. As a member of the Stewardship Committee, I am motivated to seek God's guidance and your help in understanding the needs of the AFLC — whether spiritual, emotional or financial — and effectively communicating those needs to the members of the AFLC. It seems that when the membership is made aware of a need, we change to meet that need. Sometimes, it comes at a cost that could be eliminated. Perhaps if we are more sensitive to what the Holy Spirit is telling us, we will take action that is beneficial.

Members of the Stewardship Committee are seeking your input on how we can better communicate in the AFLC, and we would welcome your suggestions. We are hoping to solicit the assistance of experienced individuals who would be willing to communicate the needs of the AFLC to congregations in their district on a regular basis. It is my prayer that God will send His Spirit to motivate us and cause change. Contact one of the committee members with your thoughts and ideas. May God richly bless you and cause His Spirit to work in your lives.

David Bjornson, Valley City, N.D.
 Stewardship Committee

[Stewardship]

As a member of the Stewardship Committee. I am motivated to seek God's guidance and your help in understanding the needs of the AFLC — whether spiritual, emotional or financial — and effectively communicating those needs to the members of the AFLC.

Pastor Dennis Gray, Newfolden, Minn., accepted a call to serve Alma Lutheran, rural Argyle, Minn. Gray is currently the pastor of the North Dakota congregations of Trinity Free Lutheran, Minnewauken, and Christ Free Lutheran, Devil's Lake, and will conclude his ministry there in August.

King of Kings Lutheran, Lew-

isville, Texas, has a new home. The congregation has rented a small chapel at 308 Mill St. in the heart of the city, and looks forward to an expanded outreach there. Pastor John Chandler travels to Lewisville once a month to minister to the congregation, and lay members conduct the services on the other Sundays.

Members of the Home Missions

Board received **Messiah Lutheran**, Champaign-Urbana, Ill., as a non-subsidized Home Missions congregation on June 16 during the Annual Conference. Pastor Jan Horne serves the fledgling fellowship, which meets in a Seventh Day Adventist church, on an interim basis.

Recent seminary graduates Olson, Anderson ordained

Pastor Brent Olson, a 2004 graduate of the Free Lutheran Seminary in Plymouth, Minn., was ordained on June 27 at Zion Lutheran, Tioga, N.D. Presiding at the service was Pastor Robert Lee. Olson serves as assistant pastor at Ruthfred Lutheran, Bethel Park, Pa.



AFLC President Robert Lee ordains Pastor Brent Olson at Tioga, N.D.

Karl Anderson, a 2004 graduate of FLS, was ordained June 20 at the AFLC schools chapel, Plymouth, Minn. Pastor Lee officiated at the service, with Dr. Francis Monseth, FLS dean, bringing the message. Anderson serves Our Savior's Lutheran, Argyle, Minn.

WMF seeks woman to fill WOC position

Do you have a stirring in your heart at the thought of speaking and sharing about Jesus? Do you sense the Holy Spirit's urging to lead group Bible studies? Have you caught the urgency for new AFLC women to become fully aware of what our Association has to offer and what they can supply? Does nurturing the women in our newer congregations draw you to intercession and involvement?

If your answer is yes, and if you can devote one-quarter time (with the possibility of growth in the future) to the women's outreach coordinator (WOC) ministry, contact National WMF President Cheryl Skordahl at (763) 497-5863, skor21@earthlink.net or click "president" at the WMF Web site www.aflcwomen.org. This is a paid position and may require some training. The need is great, "... pray for the Lord of the harvest to send out workers ..." (Matthew 9:38).



Former and current pastors along with building committee members pose inside Grace Lutheran's new addition, dedicated on June 13. Pictured are former pastor Norm Beighley, Pastor Wayne Hjermstad, Michael Cook, Robert Schwartz, Dean Skoglund, George Perry, former Pastor Eldon Thurow and Bryce Loomis.

South Dakota congregation dedicates new addition, celebrates 125-year anniversary

With the theme "Building for Eternity, members of Grace Lutheran, Bruce, S.D., celebrated the church's 125th anniversary on June 12-13, at the same time dedicating a new building addition. Covering more than 860 square feet, the addition includes three Sunday school classrooms and a handicapped bathroom.

Grace is the combination of three parishes, St. Petrie, Deer Creek and First Lutheran. The buildings were literally joined together to form Grace. However, that building burned down in 1969 and was rebuilt in the same year. Grace joined the AFLC in 1989, with Pastor Joel Lohafer serving as the first AFLC pastor. The church is currently served by Pastor Wayne Hjermstad.

Chaplains Conference at the ARC

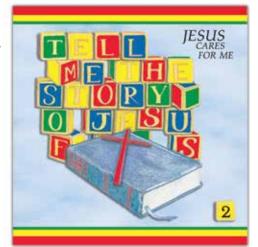
Special speaker coming from International Chapter on Police Chaplaincy

The annual Chaplains Conference has been scheduled for Sept. 28-30 at the Association Retreat Center in Osceola, Wis. Chaplain Stewart Nelson of the International Chapter of Police Chaplains, will be speaking on police chaplaincy. While the emphasis will be on police chaplaincy, chaplains from all areas of

emphasis are invited to attend. For more information, contact Pastor Kerwin Sletto at (815) 434-1130 or ksletto@theramp.net, Pastor Jerome Nikunen at (308) 472-1407 or nikunen@swnebr.net, or Pastor John Rieth at (701) 780-5300 or jprieth@ hotmail.com.

Free supplemental CD for AFLC congregations

A free CD for each AFLC congregation was made available at the 2004 Annual Conference. If you did not receive one, we encourage someone from your congregation to pick one up in the Parish Education office of the AFLC administration building sometime this summer. The CDs will be mailed out this fall to all AFLC churches that have not received their copy. Produced by AFLC Parish Education, this CD is one of a six-part series of Bible stories, music, and memory



verses correlating with kindergarten and grade one Sunday school curriculum and may serve as a helpful teaching tool in the classroom and home. Congregations are encouraged to consider giving one of these CDs to each kindergarten student to help reinforce Bible truths.

Additional CDs are available for \$9 each or \$7 each for five or more. Contact AFLC Parish Education for more information: write to 3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55441, call (763) 545-5631, or email parished@aflc.org.

Wisløff dies in Norway at 95

Scholar and author known for text on doctrine, ethics

Professor Carl Fredrik Wisløff, Th.D., died June 25 at the age of 95. Wisløff is best known as a Christian leader, Bible translator and expert in church and dogmatics history.

As a scholar Wisløff has written a textbook on homiletics (the study of preaching), two of the three volumes of the History of the Norwegian Church, and a one-volume survey of Martin Luther's Theology, as well as a number of other works. But it was primarily as a writer on edification that Wisløff came to be known and read, with record-breaking sales. Just after World War II he released "I Know In Whom I Believe." This book was written with maximum simplicity, with Sunday school students in mind. But it impacted both young and old throughout Christian Norway as an unusually profound, yet easy-to-read, textbook in both

doctrine and ethics.

Similarly, Wisløff's many sermon collections, devotional books and books of edification were also sold in enormous numbers, and continue to be diligently read by many.

In the wake of the reaction to the Bible Society's 1978 translation, a group of Free Church and organization leaders gave Thoralf Gilbrant, Arthur Berg and Wisløff a mandate to create an alternative, more accurate, Bible translation based on the old Norwegian Bible translations. After 10 years of meticulous labor, the result appeared in 1988 in the form of The Norwegian Bible. Many have suggested that this translation is perhaps the foremost theological contribution of Wisløff and his two colleagues to Norwegian Christianity.

> — Odd Sverre Hove "Dagen" newspaper, Norway

Olson family readies for trip to Tanzania

Pastor Kevin Olson, AFLC Youth Ministries director, and his family will leave Aug. 22 for a ninemonth teaching sabbatical in Tanzania. The Olsons will be based at the Waama Bible

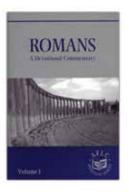


School in Mbulu, where lay pastors and church leaders are trained. Kevin will teach several classes, including some history and discipleship courses. Pam will also teach English courses and home school their children, Nathan, Andrew and Naomi.

The Olsons ask for prayer as they spend September in language training at Morogoro and begin teaching at Waama on Oct. 4. All travel expenses have been met, however, Kevin's salary with the Youth Ministries Department is being met through donations to the department. The Olsons also ask for prayer that God would open doors to the AFLC for future ministry in Tanzania. For more information, contact Kevin at AFLC Youth Ministries, (763) 545-5631.

Dust jackets available to those who purchased devotional

A new dust iacket is available at no cost to those who purchased the original blue hardcover of Volume I in the AFLC Heritage Series, "Romans: A Devotional Commentary." Stop



by the Parish Ed office in the AFLC administration building to pick up your free cover.

Communion set needed for schools

AFLC Schools is in need of a good, used communion set for services held at the campus and at local nursing homes. Please contact Laurie Nash at aflts@aflc.org for more information.

Mexican pastor in need of instrument

Ricardo Varela, an AFLC pastor in Jerez, Mexico, and professional bassoon player, is in need of an instrument. Valera sold his bassoon to buy a saxophone, thinking it would be more useful in the church. He now teaches saxophone (and other music courses) at the University of Zacatecas and has been asked to also teach bassoon beginning next semester. Neither he nor the university has an instrument for him to use. Since the churches are small and not financially able to support a pastor, Varela supports his family by teaching at the university, which enables him to be in the ministry. For more information, contact AFLC World Missions at (763) 545-5631.

Reformation Society meets at AFLBS, Horn special speaker

The Reformation Society of the Twin Cities held a meeting July 22 at Heritage Hall on the AFLC schools campus in Plymouth. The Society concluded its three-part series on "The Role of the Trinity in Salvation: God the Holy Spirit," studying Ephesians 1:13-14. AFLC Pastor Martin Horn of Hauge Lutheran and Emmanuel Lutheran, Kenyon, Minn., was one of the expositors.

The purpose of the Reformation Society is to unite church leaders and pastors with like minds and hearts for elevating the great doctrines of the Bible to bring about modern reformation.

Reformation Societies is a ministry of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals. The Alliance is a broad coalition of evangelical Christian leaders from a number of different denominations, including Baptist, Independent, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and Reformed. Learn more about the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals at www.alliancenet.org. For more information on the Reformation Society, call (651) 690-1815, or online at www.reformationsociety-tc.org.

AFLC memorials — June

AFLBS

Orlie Moland, Esther Hallberg, Burton Olson, Mildred Sunvold

AFLTS

Alvin Hamman, Becky Coobs, Mildred Sunvold, Ralph Shaulund, Jewel Carlson

Home Missions

Mrs. Dave Peet, Oliver Evenson, Dale Severson

Parish Education

Willaim Parker Sr., Deloris Noller, Terry Simons, Marge Bischoff, Ricky Roberts

Vision 2004

Raymond Rolland, Ralph Johnson, Kenneth Bolstad, Bob Sloan, Alvin Nordvold, Lois Wold

WMF

Esther Bohlman, Marion Henrickson, Scott Hemmingson, Myrtis Flaten, Trygve Heimdal

... in honor of

Youth Ministries

Ron and Ruthie Quick

Monseth readies for Bangkok trip

Dr. Francis Monseth, dean of the Free Lutheran Seminary, is preparing to participate in the 2004 Forum for World Evangelism. The conference, set to take place Sept. 27 through Oct. 5 in Bangkok, Thailand, brings together 1,250 representatives from around the world to examine trends and needs in evangelism.

Teams of 30 to 70 people will address 24 specific issues. Each group will include theologians,

pastors, researchers, educators and evangelists. Monseth will participate in a study group focusing on evangelism to Muslims.

The total cost of the trip, for travel, materials, registration and room and board is just more than \$3,000. So far, \$275 has been raised for this trip. To help support Monseth in the trip, contact Pastor Jim Rasmussen, director of AFLC Evangelism, at (763) 545-5631.

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations

3110 East Medicine Lake Boulevard Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

AFLC Benevolences (6 months) - January 1 - June 30, 2004

FUND	TOTAL Subsidy	REC'D IN JUNE	TOTAL REC'D TO DATE	% TOTAL
General Fund	\$288,771	\$23,479.11	\$148,852.17	52
Youth Ministries	54.024	4,939.73	34.020.44	63
Parish Education	82,062	5,800.53	40,710.09	50
Seminary	154,195	12,324.80	111,960.03	73
Bible School	264,089	47,839.23	152,158.53	58
Home Missions	287,115	18,662.51	117,973.42	41
Church Extension	24,576	2,242.65	7,418.19	30
World Missions	256,326	15,535.07	113,810.30	44
Personal Support	328,311	26,324.77	180,364.79	55
TOTALS	\$1,739,469	\$157,148.40	\$907,267.96	52
TOTALS 2003	\$1,740,325	\$109,097.12	\$763,586.97	44
Goal 50%	. , ., ., .	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	, ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	

The Evangelism Department received \$6,402.17 in June. The office of director of Development received \$25 in June.

[Editorial]

aithful overcomes

earful

columnist in Portland's "The Oregonian" newspaper recently asked his readers "to frame your fears and send me the photograph." He got a large albumfull of responses and enough mate-

rial for many a column.



Craig Johnson

Some of the ones he heard from say they are Christians, vet they are full of fear. In spite of the many times in Scripture God calls on us to not be afraid, fear is all-too-present in

the lives of Christians, and it also shows up in those times we get together.

The theme verse of our recent annual conference calls us to remember the faithfulness of God. "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations" (Psalm 100:5, NIV). A focus on God's faithfulness helps us overcome our fearfulness.

Finances are a frequent topic of conversation, and they can cause fear. We spent much time at our conference talking about financial matters. The Bible school and seminary have debt that must be paid off. Parish Education will not be able to print new material or reprint material currently in use unless funds come in. Health costs keep going up and we wonder how our health insurance plan for pastors and church workers is going to be able to carry on if trends continue. Cutbacks in other departments have been made as well. It's tempting to wonder and worry about our

financial future.

It is important to read financial reports. It is important to spend wisely, to plan well and not try to live beyond our means. We give thanks, though, that our reading does not begin and end with financial reports. We read of the promises of God. "And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19). "So do not worry, saving, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them" (Matthew 6:31, 32).

A look only at the financial reports would cause fear. Looking at the promises of God reminds us how He has been faithful in the past and will be in the days ahead.

Looking at society around us can cause much fear. During a session at conference there was discussion about attempts being made to legalize homosexual marriage. Comments were made about how "the homosexuals are marching in the streets." Fear was apparent. What will happen? What will they do next?

A few months ago a county in my state started issuing marriage licenses to homosexual couples. As I watched these people on the news lined up at the county courthouse, I didn't feel fear as much as sadness. These people, who are living in sin, are now thinking their guilt will be relieved if they get a document from the government saying what they are doing is legal. They may have a smile on their face, but they'll be terribly disappointed if they think a paper from the state will give them peace and make them right with God. I didn't see

A focus on God's faithfulness helps us overcome our fearfulness.

people who scared me, but people who Jesus loves and ones He wants to see repent and come to Him.

We don't fear whatever groups might be marching in the streets. We know God is faithful and His truth is marching on. He has said, "I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it" (Matthew 16:18). We do not run from people in fear, but we go to them with the message of hope.

Conferences are a time for looking back at what has happened and looking ahead at what is to come. If our view is only of ourselves, how faithful we have been and how faithful we need to be, then there is reason to be fearful. Instead, we look back and see how God has been faithful. As we look ahead and wonder about the future of our church body, we keep in clear view God's promise that He will be faithful. "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:21-23).

THE LUTHERAN AMBASSADOR

3110 E. Medicine Lake Blvd. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

[Building the Base] Know Peace

No God, no peace. Know God, know peace.

've seen this saying on bumper stickers. It's true! Knowing God as He really is (according to the Bible) makes a great difference in our lives. When I was on seminary internship in Brazil some years ago, the president of the AFLC in Brazil spoke about his concerns for his home country. He said many of their problems could be summed up in the words of Hosea the prophet, "... because there is no ... knowledge of God in the land ... my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge ..." (Hosea 4:1,6). This is true of America and other countries as well. It's also true of many individual lives. I think it's even true among Christians that lack of knowledge of God or wrong views of God negatively impacts our lives.

No one analyzes this better than A.W. Tozer in his book "The Knowledge of the Holy." Quoting Tozer:

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of

The low view of God entertained almost universally among Christians is the cause of a hundred lesser evils everywhere among us. A whole new philosophy of the Christian life has resulted from this one basic error in our religious thinking.

With our loss of the sense of majesty has come the further loss of religious awe and consciousness of the divine Presence. We have lost our spirit of worship and our ability to withdraw inwardly to meet God in adoring silence. Modern Christianity is simply not producing the kind of

Christian who can appreciate or experience the life in the Spirit. The words, "Be still, and know that I am God," mean next to nothing to the self-confident, bustling worshiper in this middle period of the twentieth century.

It is my opinion that the Christian conception of God current in these middle years of the twen-

tieth century is so decadent as to be utterly beneath the dignity of the Most High God and actually to constitute for professed believers something amounting to a moral calamity.

I think it's even true among Christians that lack of knowledge of God or wrong views of God negatively impacts our lives.

Therefore, friends, "... let us know, let us press on to know the Lord" (Hosea 6:3). "And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent" (John 17:3).

To know God in His majesty is to be in awe of Him. To know God in His holiness is to be humbled before

Him.

To know God in His grace is to find rest for our soul in Him.

To know God as He really is, is to love Him.

Dig into your Bible and really get to know God. As a secondary help I highly recommend Tozer's "Knowledge of the Holy" and J.I. Packer's "Knowing God."

Press on to know the Lord!

Pastor Jeff Swanson, Helmar Lutheran, Helmar, Ill.