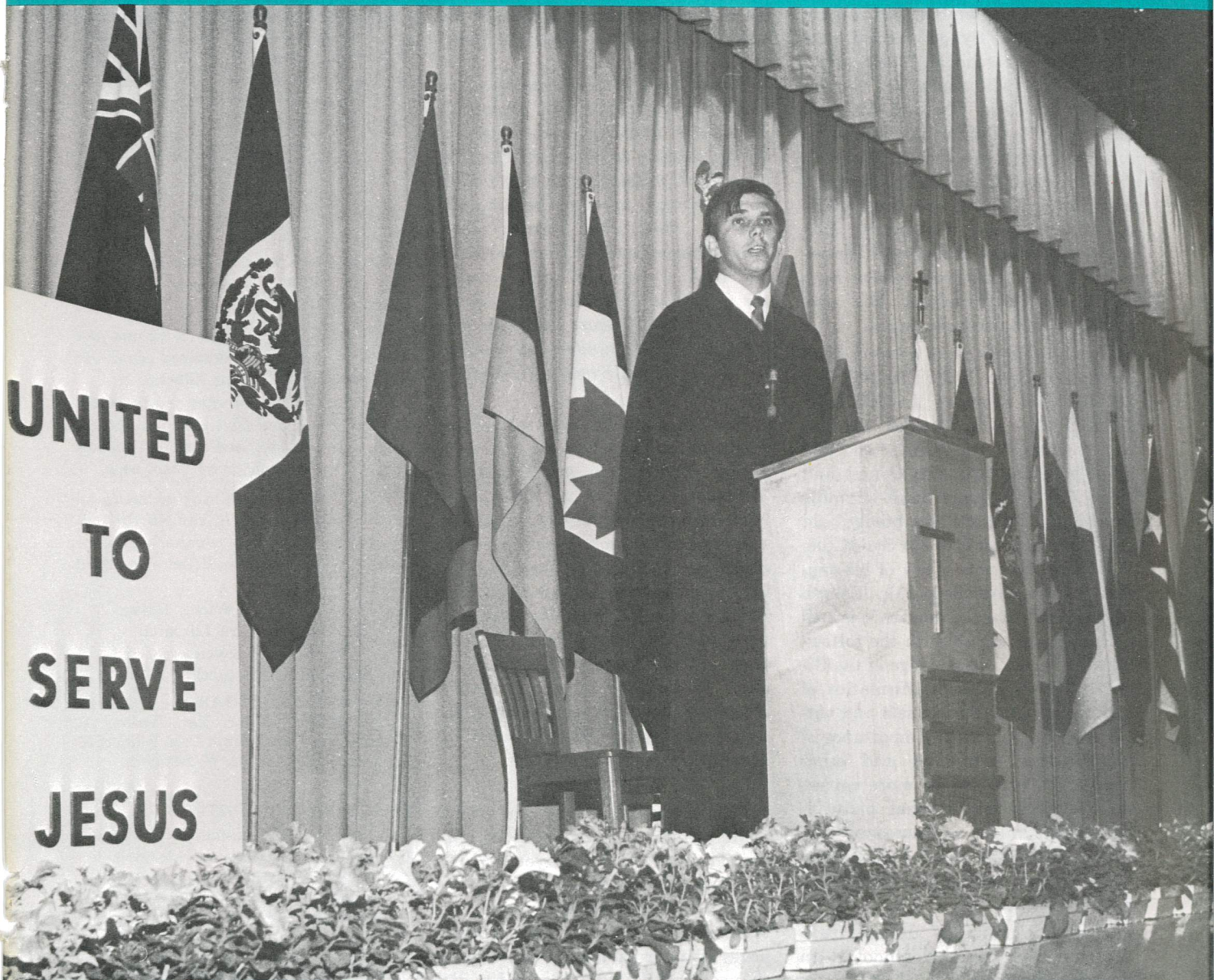


The Northwestern Lutheran

September 22, 1974



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Briefs by the Editor

Toward the end of August and the beginning of September, ten congregations of our Synod opened new Christian day schools. Their story, God willing, will appear in the November 17 issue. Two of the new schools are in California (Escondido and Riverside); one each in Michigan (Sebewaing), Minnesota (Stillwater), and Texas (Austin); and five in Wisconsin (Onalaska, Platteville, Shawano, Sheboygan Falls, and Watertown). Surely, these are exciting days for these congregations, the new teachers, and the new pupils.

Which reminds me of a recent book entitled, "How DIFFERENT are people who attended LUTHERAN SCHOOLS?" Milo Brekke, the author, surveys the Christian day schools of the Missouri Synod and comes up with some heart-warming conclusions, which undoubtedly hold good for the schools of our Synod too. Permit me to quote a few of his conclusions. He says (page 99): "Length of parochial school attendance is still definitely correlated with the following: 1. A greater knowledge of the Bible, 2. More consistent affirmation of traditional Christian beliefs and values that emphasize the importance of relationships with God and other people, 3. Increased or more consistent practices of personal piety, 4. Less Pelagianism, 5. Increased personal evangelism, and 6. Less anxiety over personal faith and relationships with God."

These conclusions demonstrate that the Christian day school is an important factor in the Christian upbringing of our youth. However, it is not the total solution. There is always the home. A Christian family life is most necessary if our schools are to achieve what we hope and pray they will. At best, our Christian day schools, Sunday schools, and Luther-

an high schools can only supplement the home. The home and the schools must never work at cross purposes.

Two articles in this issue relate to the history of our Synod. Pastor E. W. Waldek, in giving us an account of WELS mission work in the State of New York, mission work that is still in its infancy, takes us back to the day in 1831 when Pastor John Muehlhaeuser arrived from Germany and took up his work of preaching the Gospel in New York. It took almost another 20 years before he and his two friends founded the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod in Granville, Wisconsin.

The other article analyzes August Pieper's inspiring sermon at the 1894 Synod Convention in Watertown, Wisconsin. Many of our older members, and especially our older pastors, remember Professor Pieper as an eloquent preacher and an inspiring and exiting classroom teacher. God gave him many gifts, and the professor used them for our benefit. The account of this sermon is written by Prof. E. Fredrich of our Seminary. Professor Fredrich is among those who had August Pieper as his instructor.

If you regularly read the small print on the closing pages of *The Northwestern Lutheran*, you will notice that September and October are months in which many pastoral conferences are scheduled. These conferences give our pastors an opportunity to meet, to study together, and to discuss mutual problems in the interest of the kingdom. They are hours well-spent, and will be reflected in renewed enthusiasm in the pulpit, in the classroom, and in other congregational work. Your pastor needs spiritual priming even as you do.

*The Lord our God be with us,
as he was with our fathers:
let him not leave us,
nor forsake us. I Kings 8:57*

The Northwestern Lutheran

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THE EDITORIAL BOARD — Rev. Harold E. Wicke, Editor; Rev. Walter W. Kleinke, Assistant Editor; Prof. Wilbert R. Gawrisch; Prof. Armin W. Schuetze.

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THE COVER

Missionary Ralph Martens delivering the sermon at the opening service of the convention of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society, June 29, 1974. Pastor Martens is one of two WELS missionaries proclaiming the Gospel in Puerto Rico. (For more information on the LWMS convention turn to page 297.)

Editorials

Sermon In Stone A chap by the name of Von Daniken has written a popular book called "Chariot of the Gods," and NBC based a documentary film for television upon it entitled "In Search of Ancient Astronauts."

Both productions point to some of the remarkable wonders of the ancient world, such as the pyramids of Egypt, relics of the Aztec Empire, and Stonehenge in England. So astonishing are the mathematics, engineering, and technology involved, Von Daniken believes brilliant beings from outer space, astronauts from other worlds, must have come to earth to construct them.

It is an interesting theory. It is based upon a common assumption: ancient peoples were ignorant and primitive neanderthals and could not have displayed any genius comparable to us intellectual moderns.

That is an arrogant assumption, as any student of history, sacred or secular, can tell you, or as the pyramids still declare in silent but strong testimony. It is debatable whether today's impressive gadgetry and technology are really the wonderful "progress" that people keep calling it.

When modern man pronounces himself superior in wisdom and knowledge to anyone who ever lived before him, it is easy to *assume* that he is also above the old Scriptural standards, that the homely Table of Duties no more applies in this enlightened age, that the Word of God must be reassessed and updated to appeal to his advanced intellectualism.

Not so, said Prophets and Apostles in Old Testament times and New. In every age true wisdom begins with humility, before men and above all before God. "For the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

John Parcher

A Breath of Fresh Air The press, current literature, the entertainment media, and other reflectors of current manners and morals reveal the increasing influence of godless philosophies as a guide for living. These philosophies, if they can be dignified by the use of that term, are held up by those who espouse them as sources of enlightenment, proofs of progress, the key to human happiness, and the eventual salvation of mankind.

Concurrently, contempt is heaped upon Bible-believing church people, virtuous women, obedient children, faithful spouses, law-abiding citizens, honesty, industry, integrity, the work ethic, and most other virtues subscribed to, if not uniformly practiced, by the rank and file of American people in days gone by.

In refreshing contrast stands a statement made earlier this year by Gerald R. Ford, then vice-president of the United States. He said, "It's the quality of the ordinary, the straight, the square that accounts for the great stability and success of our nation. It's a quality to be proud of. But it's a quality that many people seem to have neglected." This comes as a breath of fresh air amid what is fast becoming a stifling stench in the national atmosphere.

Centuries ago the Book of Proverbs set forth the axiom, "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." This proverb has the inspiration of God as well as the witness of history to attest to its validity.

Accordingly, the country will not be kept strong by means of the devious philosophies and moral arrogance of fornicators, adulterers, perverts, parasites, home-wreckers, hopheads, hedonists, atheists, lawbreakers, and the like. Quite the contrary, if God's Word is to be believed and if any lessons are to be learned from history.

Under the influence of God's Word a reemergence of "the ordinary, the straight, and the square" could contribute immeasurably to the health and strength of the country we love. Christians of our nation are praying for it.

Immanuel Frey

Tarnished Goals In his resignation speech former President Richard M. Nixon quoted President Theodore Roosevelt's praise of the man in the arena "whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood — and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly." Then President Nixon added, "I pledge to you tonight that as long as I have a breath of life in my body, I shall continue in that spirit."

He dwelt on this thought in his last public addresses as President. His ideal was the man who sets his goal for himself and then pursues it intensely. In spite of obstacles and setbacks, he doggedly drives forward to achieve his purpose. Bruised, battered, his head bloody but unbowed, he does not yield to foe or fate.

President Nixon cherished and strove to embody this ideal, but it led to tragedy. Some of his goals were wrong; and even where his goals were rightful, he did not always pursue them with principle.

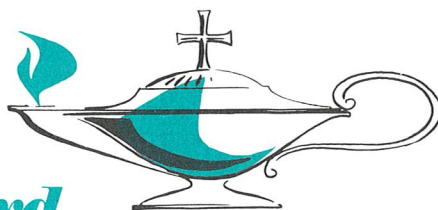
It is not only men in high places who have goals in life. Common people, too, set goals for themselves; not empires, but more modest achievements. A college education for one's children, a respected profession, owning one's own home, financial independence for retirement years, travel, a business of one's own, an office in the community — these are goals of many of our people.

The tragedy of our 37th President reminds us all to consider our goals and our pursuit of those goals. Are they worth spending time and energy for? Do they cost too much?

The pursuit of a worthy goal may be blameworthy. If the family is pushed aside in order to achieve the goal, the wife neglected or the husband demeaned, the church

(Continued on page 306)

Studies in God's Word



James — A Course in Concrete Christianity

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting (James 1:1).

What's a book like James doing in the New Testament anyway? At first glance we might wonder. For in quickly reading through its 108 verses, we find no direct mention of the great doctrines of the Christian faith. There is no mention of the Christmas manger, the Good Friday cross, or the Easter garden. Some even think James chips away at the central doctrine of Justification by Faith and therefore avoid his letter.

However, there has been no mistake. James' letter belongs in the New Testament, we soon discover, as we read it through more carefully and in the light of the whole New Testament. Other New Testament books outline the great themes of the Christian faith; James writes about living that faith. Other books teach Christian doctrine; James seeks to stimulate Christian life. Other books answer the question, "What does it mean to believe in Jesus Christ?" James answers, "What does it mean to be a dedicated disciple, a committed Christian, in the world of daily life?"

Such instruction is timeless and is for us. As we go out of the doors of our churches where we have heard the Gospel of salvation, we need to let James speak to us about living that Gospel in a very real world of suffering and sorrow, pain and problem, living and dying. We need his letter as a **Course in Concrete Christianity**.

By A Christian

We don't know as much as we would like about this James. All we

are told is his name and that he was a "servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ." Perhaps the author was a man of some position in the Church and assumed that his readers would know him. Many scholars have adopted this view and identified James as the half-brother of the Lord. This James had not been one of the twelve disciples. It appears he did not believe in Jesus until after the resurrection. Then he became a pillar in the Early Church, having great influence among Jewish believers.

What James was is more important than **who** he was. He described himself as a "servant (actually, slave) of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ." Here was a man whose heart and will were humbly obedient and whose life and all were completely committed to Jesus Christ, his God and Lord. Here was a Christian.

Our lack of knowledge about James does not affect the words he wrote. When we take our doctor's prescription to the pharmacy, it matters little what the druggist's name is. The important point is that he fills the prescription just as the doctor prescribed it. So with this book. Who James was is not nearly as important as the **Course in Concrete Christianity** which he wrote as the Holy Ghost inspired and prescribed it.

To Christians

James wrote to the "twelve tribes which are scattered abroad." This was the technical term for the Jews who were scattered throughout the Roman world of the first century. He was not writing to all Jews, only to

the Jewish Christians who scattered out from Jerusalem. He was writing to brethren, ones who had shared in the new birth (1:18), had the crown of life reserved for them (1:12), and were waiting for the Lord's return (5:7). Here was a child of God speaking to other redeemed, restored, forgiven children of God.

Life wasn't easy for those Jewish Christians. They struggled under the pressure of persecution from without and the problem of personal sin from within. So James wrote to offer complaint against their worldliness, comfort in their sorrows, and counsel for their lives. What he had to say is of value to all Christians. His words need repetition today lest Christians, like branches losing touch with the Vine, become fruitless and ultimately lifeless.

About Living Like Christians

James' letter has been called the "Epistle of Practice." And so it is. From beginning to end it presents an urgent demand for reality in religion, or we might say, for **Concrete Christianity**. His words are painfully practical, urging his readers to match profession with performance and creed with conduct. "High talk and low walk" were no more in place among the Christians of his day than today.

We dare not misunderstand James. He's not promoting Christian living as a means of earning heaven. That Jesus Christ has done once for all. What he is saying is that those who are filled with and fueled by Christ's great love will live like Christians. Though James seldom mentions the Savior by name, yet we soon see His bright light shining on every page and His love moving behind every admonition.

Each generation likes to think that the questions it asks and the problems it faces are new. Our study of James will show again that though problems may vary in shape and size, yet little more than the calendar separates the twentieth-century Christian from the one of James' day. The need for **Concrete Christianity** is everywhere evident today.

R. Lauersdorf

Change in Writers

Prof. Paul E. Nitz — When Pastor Paul Nitz early this year accepted the call to the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary at Mequon to teach in the fields of Old Testament and Pastoral Theology, he relinquished his position as writer for *Studies in God's Word*. Both aspects of his new assignment were evident in what he wrote for the readers of *The Northwestern Lutheran*. Many of his texts — in fact, the majority — were taken from the Old Testament. At the same time, his discourses were always filled with a real pastoral concern for his readers.



Paul E. Nitz

Professor Nitz is a man who truly loved the pastoral ministry. He served at Faith Lutheran, Tacoma, Washington, from 1953 to 1961, at which time he accepted a call to Centennial Lutheran in Milwaukee. For the last three years he had been associate pastor at First Lutheran in La Crosse.

We express our deep gratitude to Professor Nitz for his contributions to *Studies in God's Word*. He began writing for this column in 1968. We pray that God will bless his work as he continues to study God's Word with his students at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf — Taking Professor Nitz's place as writer for *Studies in God's Word* is Pastor Richard E. Lauersdorf. A Watertown, Wisconsin native, Pastor Lauersdorf was born 40 years ago last month. He received his schooling at St. John's Christian Day School, Watertown, Northwestern Prep, Northwestern College, and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, graduating from the latter in 1960.

Pastor Lauersdorf brings 14 years of pastoral experience to his new task. From 1960 to 1963 he was pas-

tor at Our Saviour's, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, at that time our only mission in Canada. He then became pastor of St. Matthew's, Ontario, Wisconsin, and in 1968 added St. John's of Kendall as an additional charge. Since 1969 he has shepherded St. John's Congregation at Jefferson, Wisconsin. He has a deep interest in missions and since 1968 has been a member of the



Richard E. Lauersdorf

Executive Committee for Latin-American Missions. He puts his interests in this order: reading, golfing, MISSIONS. In this issue he begins a discussion of the Epistle of James. We look forward to his contributions.

Pastor Lauersdorf is married to the former Charlene Baumgarten. They are the parents of three children, one daughter and two sons.

LWMS

Eleventh National Convention

"Spread, Oh, Spread, Thou Mighty Word" was the theme of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society's 11th National Convention held June 29, 1974, at the Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton, Wisconsin, and hosted by the Paperland Circuit.

The many excellent displays, relating to Synod's various mission fields and the LWMS, provided visual information throughout the day. They tended to make each mission field seem more "real" and brought into sharper focus the purpose of the LWMS and the convention: **United To Serve Jesus**.

Guest Speakers

The guest speaker for the opening service, Missioner Ralph Martens, Guayamo, Puerto Rico, reminded the delegates and guests that the Lord is determined to have His Name known. In Biblical times He did it through mighty deeds and through men such as Moses. When His people became indifferent, He permitted the Babylonians to enslave them. After 70 years, He brought the repentant to their own land again. In a similar way God shows us mercy day by day in His Word. In Jesus, God has revealed His judgment against sin and

has shown His undying mercy. Except for this message, we too would be in darkness. Now He uses us to proclaim His Name to all the world. It was a perverted Gospel that entered Puerto Rico in 1493, but through our missionaries today God is bringing the true Gospel to them. Within two years we expect to open a Bible Institute in Puerto Rico which will train Sunday-school teachers and evangelists to help Missioners Martens and Flunker to proclaim the Word. For this we are grateful.

Synod President Oscar J. Naumann addressed the afternoon workshop concerning the Synod's objectives and the problems faced in entering different mission fields, from Apacheland, our first, to Colombia, South America, our newest. Through

His Holy Spirit God has given us individuals in Apacheland, India, Japan, Africa, Hong Kong, and Mexico, who now preach to their own people. Most importantly, God has enabled us through the years to stand foursquare on Scripture.

Business Session

Mrs. Clarence Millett, LWMS president, presided at the business session. Considerable discussion preceded the delegate vote postponing action on the proposed organization of an intermediate level in LWMS. The motion to raise the annual membership dues from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per congregation was carried, as was the proposal to clarify the objectives of the LWMS.

Membership was confirmed for 46 new congregations, bringing the total to 595 LWMS member congregations.

Three new circuits were organized during the past year and one existing circuit was divided, bringing the number of circuits to 37. Present at the convention were 1065 delegates and guests from 14 states and Canada. Represented were 35 of the 37 circuits.

Pastor Marvin Radtke, vice-chairman of Synod's General Board for Home Missions, accepted \$7,468.75 on behalf of the Home Missions Canvass and Survey Fund, and Pastor Harold A. Essmann, chairman of Synod's Executive Committee for Latin American Missions, accepted an equal amount for the World Missions Furnishing and Equipment Fund for South America from the 1974 Mission Box offerings. Delegates voted the \$1,690 morning offering to the Church Extension Fund.

The following were elected as officers: Mrs. Robert Meister, Denver,

Colorado, vice-president; Mrs. Sam Ivascu, West St. Paul, Minnesota, secretary; Mrs. Frederick Mutterer, Fox Lake, Wisconsin, Spiritual Growth Committee laywoman; Pastor Marvin Radtke, Eagle River, Wisconsin, pastoral advisor; Pastor M. E. Otterstatter, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Spiritual Growth Committee pastor.

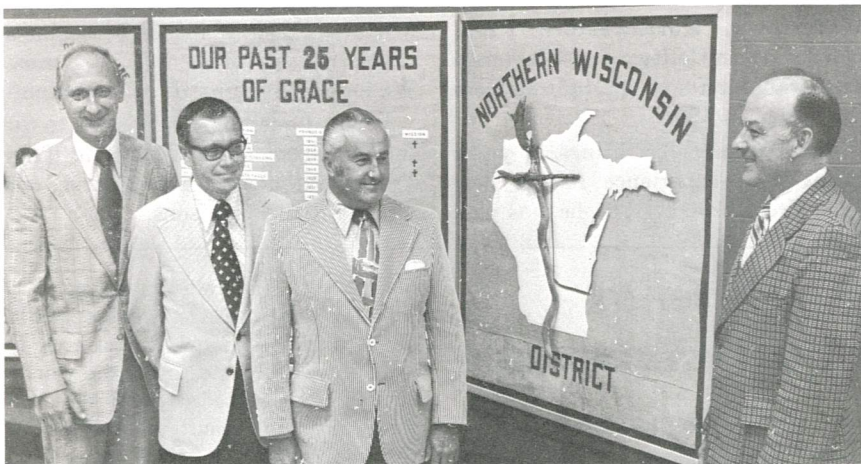
Pastor R. Lauersdorf installed the newly elected officers and Pastor Radtke conducted Vespers, keynoting the 16 flags representing our mission fields. Pastor Harold Essmann presented the newest flag, that from Colombia, South America. Commentary on each mission field as its flag was presented provided lasting memories and will inspire the LWMS to work ever more zealously.

Mrs. Enno Knief
Convention Reporter

NORTHERN WISCONSIN DISTRICT CONVENTION

August 5-7, 1974

Paul H. Kolander



District Officers (left to right): Pastor Carl Voss, president; Pastor Martin Janke, 1st vice-president; Pastor Clarence Koepsell, 2nd vice-president; and Pastor David Worgull, secretary.

"Grace! 'Tis a charming sound, Harmonious to the ear." And Grace we heard, again and again, at the 29th Biennial Convention of the Northern Wisconsin District from August 5-7, 1974. Its sound was heard at the opening service at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Manitowoc, as the Rev. Waldemar Zink spoke of "Our Thanksgiving for 125

Years of God's Grace" on the basis of I Corinthians 1:4,5. Its sound also filled the auditorium of Manitowoc Lutheran High School where 344 delegates assembled for the convention sessions. There before them in large letters was the convention theme: "MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE."

Reports of Grace

In his President's Report the Rev. Karl Gurgel pointed to the Address and the first two Petitions of the Lord's Prayer as the Savior's Very Own Picture of Wondrous Grace. District commissions and boards reported that by God's grace wondrous things are happening. A new school was opened during the biennium at Calvary, Sheboygan. Two new schools will be opened this fall, one at St. Paul, Sheboygan Falls, and the other at Divine Savior, Shawano. Also in the past biennium the Lord permitted both Calvary and Divine Savior Congregations to reach self-support. Grace Congregation of Wau-pun experienced the same blessing. Mount Olive Church of Suamico, north of Green Bay, was granted mission status and was privileged to install its first pastor, the Rev. Keith Kuschel.

Essay

Delegates were privileged to hear Professor Wilbert Gawrisch of our Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary speak on "The Lord's Word Concerning The Last Day." The speaker dwelt on the certainty of the end of all things, the signs of the end, and the proper preparation for it. In speaking on this

latter point the essayist stressed Christian education as the key for arming our children against the temptations of the world. In waiting for Christ's return on the Last Day we are to be sowers of the Word, not sky-watchers.

Resolutions

Joy and gratitude for God's blessing of Grace upon the work of our Synod found expression in many floor committee reports. Several of them directed the delegates to increase their mission efforts. Noting that inflation is making inroads on the Synod's budget and that there is urgent need in these latter days to "Tell His Wonderful Deeds," the delegates resolved to urge our District congregations to exceed their 1974 commitments substantially.

There were some differences of opinion on the wisdom of implementing a teacher-training program at Northwestern Preparatory School. A resolution which questioned the necessity of such a two-track program was, however, defeated.



Northern Wisconsin District Synod in Convention.

In the field of evangelism a resolution encouraged the use of the "Talk About the Savior" manual for training lay witnesses "as the beginning of a continuing effort to equip the pastors and members to carry out personal evangelism in a sin-darkened world." The convention, however, advised against establishing the office of a full-time Coordinator of Evangelism.

Memorial Devotion

On the last day of the convention a special service was held in memory of those pastors and teachers who were called into the eternal joys of heaven during the past biennium. Pastor Walter Hoepner spoke words of comfort on the basis of Luke 10:20. We should find our greatest joy in the assurance that our names are written in heaven. Visiting elders read obituaries for Pastors Marlyn Schroeder, Arthur Gentz, John C. Dahlke, and Teacher William Kuether. The latter three were summoned to their heavenly inheritance only a few days before the convention.

New President

President Karl Gurgel declined nomination for a third term as head of the District. Elected to fill this office was the Rev. Carl Voss of St. Mark Congregation in Green Bay. The first vice-president is the Rev. Martin Janke. The Rev. Clarence Koepsell was elected second vice-president. Pastor David Worgull was re-elected secretary. A rising vote of thanks was given to Pastor Gurgel for his faithful services.

Before the delegates headed for their homes, the outgoing president expressed the wonderful joy that permeated our convention as it offered us an opportunity to thank God together for 125 years of Grace. He urged us to continue in God's Word, assuring us that it is a living Word. The convention adjourned with the singing of "Lord Jesus, Thou the Church's Head."

Grace Notes

"GRACE" and "Gratitude" come from the same Latin word, a word that means "pleasing." When God bestows on sinners His unmerited GRACE, He is giving them that which alone can make them pleasing in His sight. When our hearts are filled with His GRACE, we are pleased to respond with gratitude and appreciation for something we have not merited.

The GRACE of our Lord comes to sinners through the Gospel in Word and Sacrament. When the founders of our Synod, 125 years ago, began their work among us, they brought that Gospel message. God has seen fit to preserve it to us. This we as a Synod have not merited, for we have often been slow to respond to God's prompting. It is GRACE that His Word is still being preached in our pulpits, that our children are still being baptized in the name of the Triune God, and that the Holy Supper is celebrated in our midst. And that's a good reason to rejoice as we celebrate 125 Years of God's GRACE.

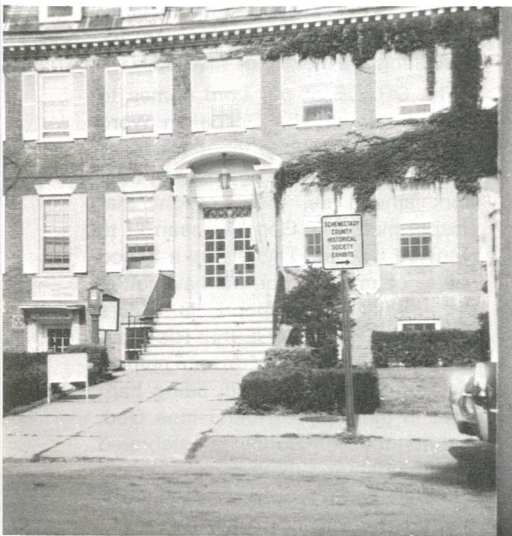
In doing so, we join our early pastors and fellow believers. Back in 1857, our Synod's first traveling missionary, Pastor Gottlieb Fachtmann, traveling north from Fond du Lac, came to places like Neenah, Hortonville, and New London. Describing one of his Sundays, he wrote: "I was busy from 9 A.M. till 5 P.M. There were about 40 communicants, 120-130 hearers, who partly had to stand in front of the school and under the windows. After the service we celebrated the Lord's Supper. Then I still had to baptize 11 children."

The GRACE of God was active 117 years ago and was received with gratitude. May that be the story of 1974-75!



Story of WELS missions
in New York State

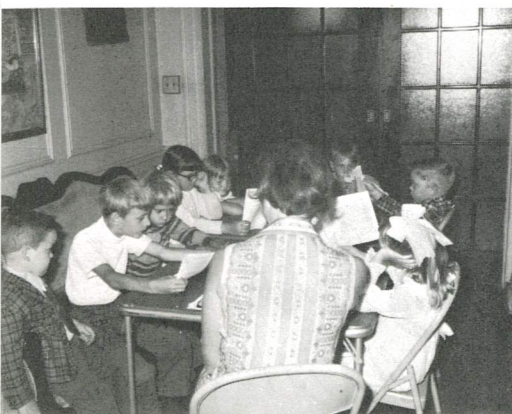
EXCELSIOR: Ever Upward



YWCA, Schenectady — Meeting place for King of Kings Church.



King of Kings worshipping the King.



Sunday school class

For those growing up or living on the East coast, it is hard to believe that anything important to the welfare or pleasure of mankind could originate outside New York State, much less come from a western dairy state way beyond where all the real action is. Not even if it would take 125 years.

Yet our omnipotent and omniscient God did just this. He has blessed not only the East coast but all our United States in bringing His grace to those lost souls searching for the truth about a Savior whom they can fear, love, and trust above all else. It has taken 125 years for the Wisconsin Synod to reach back to New York where its roots originally touched.

Excelsior

Most people know New York State as the country's leading manufacturing state with the largest city and port; as the headquarters of many of the world's greatest national corporations, including the United Nations; and as the financial capital of America. New York State has a population of eighteen and a half million people.

Actually, rich and rolling farmlands make up most of the state's land area. The 559-mile-long Dewey Thruway makes travel easy throughout the state which is not densely populated outside the New York City metropolitan area.

When one thinks of this tremendous down-state area with a population of 10 million, and of New York City with a population of eight million souls, the state's motto, "Excelsior: ever upward!" reminds us of our Synod's concern for these and other souls who need to look upward to our Savior Jesus Christ. St. Paul urges the redeemed, "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your

hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1).

Our task in getting these eighteen and a half million souls to look upward to Jesus Christ began over 125 years ago with an evangelical concern for the souls of German immigrants. Coming to America in the 1830s, they landed at New York or Baltimore and traveled west through New York State. They usually traveled from New York to Albany by railroad and then used the new engineering marvel of the age, the Erie Canal, completed in 1825. It took seven days to travel the 363-mile canal to Buffalo.

In 1831 Pastor John Muehlhaeuser was sent from Germany to America as the first missionary for the Langenberger Mission Society to serve the new German immigrants in New York City. Later he was to go up the Erie Canal to Rochester.

While in New York City, Pastor Muehlhaeuser made contact with two other Mission Society missionaries, William Wrede and John Weinman. These three men worked together in New York till in 1848 God called them separately to Wisconsin. There each man became identified with congregations in the Milwaukee area. In 1850, these men and their congregations joined together and founded our Wisconsin Synod.

King of Kings

Within 1,000 feet of the same Erie Canal in Schenectady, 125 years after Pastor Muehlhaeuser left New York, the first WELS mission congregation in the state of New York called its first resident pastor. He was called to continue in the same work of serving souls with the same saving Gospel which was proclaimed in New York by the founders of our Synod.

On All Saints' Eve (Halloween), 1971, a church service was held amidst the doorbell ringing of "trick or treaters." This was the setting of the first exploratory service of what, in a year's time, would be the Schenectady mission of the WELS, to serve the capital region of Schenectady, Albany, and Troy.

Recognizing the need for a conservative, Bible-centered Lutheran

church in the area, a WELS family in Schenectady enlisted the aid of their pastor, the Rev. Paul Kelm, of Faith Lutheran Church in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, about 60 miles away. As a result of newspaper advertisements and personal witnessing, six families attended the first exploratory service. God, working through the faith and vision of just one dedicated WELS family, set in motion the circumstances that would draw others to the Gospel who in fellowship with Christ and each other were then to plant a congregation in this virgin territory.

For over a year the congregation and Pastor Kelm took turns traveling on alternate Sundays between Pittsfield and Schenectady. Neighboring WELS pastors, Karl Gurgel and Frederick Knueppel of Connecticut, also took turns in conducting services and holding Bible classes. (These neighbors were a good three hours away!)

When it became necessary to seek larger quarters, the exploratory services were moved to the Holiday Inn of Albany where two Sunday-school classes were begun for six children. Also an adult Bible class. As God blessed the mission by adding new families and an attendance in the thirties, the weekly services were moved to still larger quarters, the Woman's Club in Schenectady.

Mission status was granted to the group in November, 1972. The Rev. Erich W. Waldek was installed as the first resident pastor at a special service at the mission's current meeting place, the YWCA in Schenectady, by the Rev. Walter Beckmann, one of the founders of the Colonial Conference of the Michigan District. He called attention to the historic nature of the occasion, the mission being a first for WELS in the Empire State.

Canvass work has been conducted throughout the life of the mission by the members of the congregation and with the help of summer vicars. *Talk About the Saviour* visits were begun by trainees. Mid-week Lenten services were held in the newly purchased parsonage in Scotia. The members of the mission all labored in portable circumstances, many traveling 40 minutes to two hours to attend meet-

ings, confirmation classes, and services. Presently the congregation is in the process of purchasing three acres of land just north of Schenectady off the Northway, a major federal artery in the area leading to the Adirondak Mountains.

The mission was formally organized this year. It chose as its name "King of Kings Lutheran Church." God has graciously given us 74 souls and 52 communicants.

Confessional Reasons

Most of the members of King of Kings Congregation were Lutherans who had become concerned about the growing loss of pure doctrine and about the spreading liberalism in their own church bodies. They were seeking a confessional Lutheran church where they and their children would be taught only that proclaimed in the Word of God. They desired a church where the central doctrine of Scripture, that a man is saved solely by the grace of God alone through faith in Jesus Christ, would be clearly confessed and taught in the pulpit and classrooms and practiced consistently by its members.

Pastor Waldek, who grew up on Long Island, had a similar concern and left his former synod after organizing and serving missions in the Lutheran Church in America as pastor for 15 years. He joined the Wisconsin Synod in 1969 for confessional reasons and after serving at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Sterling Heights, Michigan, returned to his native state. He has organized mission congregations on Long Island and in Rome, New York, as well as in Virginia.

Thus, both the pastor and most of the members of King of Kings Lutheran sought out WELS as a haven of God's truth and as a launching site for propelling the pure Word of God among lost and starved souls in danger of abandoning God's truth and losing the faith. However, King of Kings Church has been established primarily to reach the many unchurched who are moving to the suburbs and ex-urbs and can so easily move away from or neglect the Savior in this rich and prosperous state.

Other Mission Activity

Other mission activity in the state began with Pastor Gary Baumler who was called in 1956 to serve New Brunswick, New Jersey, and the neighboring New York City area. While the mission was finally established in East Brunswick, exploratory services were held sporadically in the New York City area. This year, under the Rev. David Pagel, pastor of the newly organized mission, Triune God, of Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, biweekly exploratory services have been started at the Pickwick Motor Inn in Nassau County, the heart of the five-million population on Long Island. With the support of four families, and with attendance in the thirties, God is blessing our opportunity to serve the metropolitan area with His pure and complete Word.



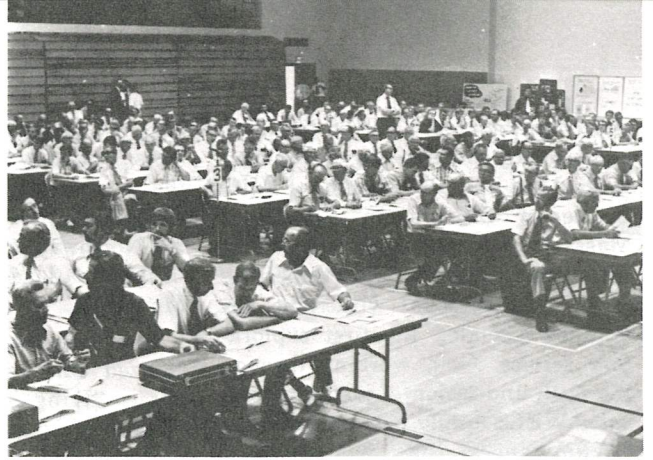
Long Island Mission.

Exploratory services have also been authorized for two other cities along the route of the Erie Canal — Syracuse and Rochester, the third and fourth largest cities in the state. With the Lord's continued blessings, more opportunities for spreading the Gospel are being given us and we are now able to offer the pure Word of God and the fellowship of a confessional Lutheran synod to those souls looking upward for the Savior Jesus Christ, the King of Kings.

Erich W. Waldek



Opening Communion.



Convention in Session

Minnesota District Convention

The twenty-ninth biennial convention of the Minnesota District of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod met on the campus of Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota, on July 23-25, 1974. Three hundred thirty pastors, teachers, and lay delegates from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri gathered there to be about the Father's business.

The convention opened with a Communion service held in the chapel-auditorium of the College. Pastor Perley Kurth of Stillwater, Minnesota, addressed the assembly on the basis of II Corinthians 5:17-20, using as his theme: "The Christian's Joyful Response to God's Divine Grace." He emphasized how gracious the Lord has been to our Synod for the past 125 years and how all of us should respond to Him in humble and fervent gratitude as we continue to proclaim the name of Jesus in this sinful world. The offering received at the opening service was designated for the Grace 125 Thankoffering.

The first working session of the convention was called to order by President Gerhard Horn of Red Wing, Minnesota. In his report President Horn also spoke of the merciful grace of God. He stated: "God forbid that we should ever lose sight of this grace. May our pastors and teachers proclaim it without ceasing and may our people never grow weary of hearing it! Without this grace all other gifts and blessings of God would be vain and useless."

As the convention proceeded, elections were conducted. The result of

the balloting was that all District officers were reelected. They are: Pastor Gerhard Horn, president, Red Wing; Pastor Gerhard Birkholz, 1st vice-president, Litchfield; Pastor Paul Hanke, 2nd vice-president, St. Peter; and Pastor Warren Henrich, secretary, Delano, Minnesota.

New Conference

Various reports were given during the convention which reemphasized the grace of God toward our District efforts in the past and our confidence in His abiding love in the future. Among the good news was the announcement that our District now has 19 missions served by 16 missionaries. Noting the expansion of our District's work in Missouri and Iowa, the convention formed a new conference named the Iowa-Missouri Conference. In connection with the District mission efforts, considerable discussion was held concerning Synod support of institutional missionaries. In the area of evangelism, the District advised the Synod that it should not establish the position of a full-time Coordinator of Evangelism.

Essay

A high point of the convention was the presentation of an essay entitled: "The Clarity of Scripture as It Affects the Message of the Church (with Application to the Creation Account)." This essay was presented by Prof. Carl Lawrenz, president of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. President Lawrenz stated: "It is obvious, of course, that it is the world-wide impact of the unscriptural theory of evo-

lution which is making the creation account of Scripture, also what it says concerning the nature of the creation days, a current practical problem. What is really vital, however, is whether in facing this problem we really cling to the clarity of Scripture. For if in reading the creation account of Scripture and what it says about the creation days, we are willing to leave the truth of the clarity of Scripture out of consideration and forget all about it, then we no longer have any assurance that we will be ready to hold on to the truth of the clarity of Scripture when other truths and statements of Scripture are being contested. Hence, nothing less than the Gospel itself is finally at stake."

Appeals

Two cases of appeal were brought before the convention. In the case of one, a five-man committee was elected to review the matter. In the other, a Commission of Review previously appointed by the District president upheld the actions of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hope, Minnesota, the visiting elder involved in the matter, and the praesidium of the District.

Finally, the work of the convention being finished, the delegates joined in adjournment in the singing of the Common Doxology: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

D. Begalka

SERMONS THAT MADE CHURCH HISTORY



Fire Before, During, and After the Sermon August Pieper Preaches in Wisconsin's Hour of Need

In a Synod anniversary year it would be strange not to include in this series of articles at least one that featured a significant sermon in Wisconsin Synod history. Which should it be? A likely prospect for the selection would be the sermon Bading, second president of the Synod, preached on the Confessions while being ordained at his first congregation at Calumet by Muehlhaeuser, the Synod's first president, and after the two had disagreed about the need of a full ordination pledge to the Confessions. Unfortunately, no copy of that sermon is available.

Attention therefore is focused on a sermon preached by August Pieper at a special Synod meeting at Watertown, Wisconsin, on August 22, 1894. The preacher was then pastor at St. Marcus, Milwaukee, but is best known in our circles as professor at the theological seminary from 1902 to 1946, though unable to carry on in the classroom after a fall and fracture in 1941.

Trial by Fire

The main concern of the special Synod convention and of Pieper's convention sermon was the loss of the main building at the Synod's college at Watertown. Struck by lightning on July 31, the building was gutted by fire. Only the walls were standing when some 100 members of the Synod assembled at Watertown at the call of President Philip von Rohr to consider what should be done in this emergency. In 1974 the trial might seem like a routine matter of rebuilding as quickly as possible. Fourscore years ago the problem and solution was much less simple.

Granted, only \$12,000 would be needed for rebuilding, exclusive of insurance monies and gifts from the community. However, that sum

represented about half the annual Synodical budget. Translated into our fiscal language this amounts to some \$3,000,000. A major depression had begun the year before, and was reaching its height in the summer of 1894. The Synod's financial resources had already been strained because of the building of the Wauwatosa Seminary in 1892-1893. There were Synodical debts. All in all, the need at Watertown was a matter of great concern, enough to cause the issue of the only extra in *Gemeindeblatt* history.

By the end of the first day of the special convention the Synod was ready to resolve to replace the lost building, but the resolution did not come without some reluctance and some wrangling about the feasibility of utilizing the old walls in the structure. Some at the convention were obviously still faint of heart.

Burning Pulpit Eloquence

That evening at a "well-attended" St. Mark's service, Pastor and Board Member Pieper preached on Isaiah 27:6-9. He posed the theme question: How are we to regard this visitation of the Lord? and offered the twofold answer that it was not a malevolent rejection of the Synod or its work but rather a chastisement unto righteousness.

Reference to the Bible words "in measure" and "he stayeth his rough wind" enabled the preacher to point out the difference between the total punishment God can send and this limited visitation, bad as it was, but in which other buildings were spared and no lives were lost. Hearers were reminded that they were God's people and were doing His work. Standing on the Lord's sure promises they could trust that He was not rejecting them.

Then the preacher urged that the visitation be made a cause for earnest self-examination and renewed dedication. Was the Synodical work always properly motivated by the Gospel? Was it being carried out with all diligence and faithfulness? These questions were directed to officials of the Synod and the school, to pastors and to teachers, and to all congregation members. A truly repentant Synod was assured that also in its case the Word would be fulfilled: "He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud and fill the face of the world with fruit."

Hearts Aflame

The sermon had its good effect. The next morning the convention willingly gave its building committee a free hand in carrying out the proposed venture and even allowed it to include in the project extensive remodeling of the president's house. Appreciating the previous night's message, it resolved that Pastor Pieper's sermon be printed in the *Gemeindeblatt* so that more Synodical members might be reached by its eloquent words of examination and encouragement.

Despite the difficulties previously mentioned, the 1894 Northwestern building program was successfully carried out. What was requested and promised in the convention sermon came to pass. Next spring the college's new building was dedicated free of debt. The school and the Synod emerged from the trial strengthened for the work of preaching the Gospel.

Almost half a century later, when classroom discussion turned to Isaiah 27, Professor Pieper could still movingly describe the sermon preached in 1894 at Watertown, and even at that late date hearts were moved by what was said.

History repeats itself. In subsequent trials and undertakings the correction and comfort of God's Word have enabled the Synod to carry on with His blessed and saving work. It will not be otherwise with the special ventures of the current anniversary observance.

E. C. Fredrich

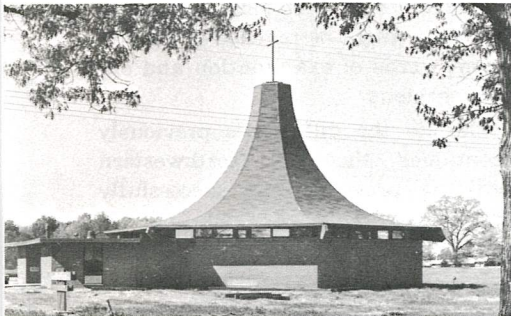
The Members of St. James Congregation

Portage, Michigan

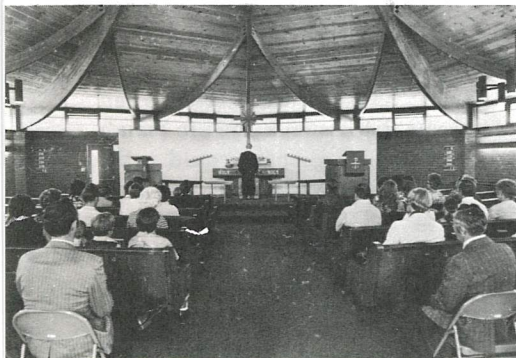
share with us what it
means to have a church.

A church dedication involves more than the completion of a building project. It also involves the people who rejoice in the grace of their God in giving them a place in which to worship and serve and hear their God. In this report on the dedication of the new church of St. James Congregation in Portage (Kalamazoo), Michigan, we let the people, the members of St. James, speak on what it means to them to have their own church.

What does a new church mean? For one mother it means a per-



Seven-sided church edifice.



St. James Congregation
at worship.

manent congregation in Portage: "I lived on an army post for two years, where there wasn't any Wisconsin Synod church. To take Communion

meant a ten-hour trip back to my home congregation. I found out how much I had taken my well-established congregation in Wisconsin for granted. I doubt whether my family would have made Kalamazoo their permanent home if it wouldn't have been for St. James. It has made this city a home for me." Another parent writes: "In many ways a parent is involved in bringing up children in the pathways of God. As a mere human I cannot tell for certain that they will continue along the pathway. I feel that a church building can help in some small way to keep young people more aware of their God." His daughter answered his concern with this comment: "Having a church of our own makes me feel closer to God; I really feel as though He is present when we are all gathered in such a beautiful church."

Other members of the congregation spoke of the unity of faith which a church building symbolizes. "The fact that the people of the congregation were all so involved with the construction of the building makes me see the faith that everyone possesses, and this makes me feel that we are really all one under our Father."

Several members reminded us that a church building brings a greater atmosphere of worship than do the temporary facilities which serve mission congregations. One girl wrote: "We are now in our own church and not in a school building, where at each holiday there were [secular] trimmings hung everywhere in the place we worshiped. Because of such things, a person can lose the feeling of being in church."

The convenience and beauty of the new church do not distract the members of St. James from seeing the pur-

pose of the building. "Through God's help we have achieved a part of our goal. Now our efforts can be directed more away from ourselves and toward spreading God's Word to others." One girl summed up the realization of many: "That day of dedication was to let us know the feeling of being in a church building of our own, and to make us remember that the building itself is not important. It's all in the people. It's up to the people of the church to make the church. Sure, we have a church building; but what good is it unless we have people to carry out God's will. Now that we have a building, we can't just sit around; we have to go out and bring others to our church."

On a day of dedication there is much thankfulness. A congregation is thankful to God for His faithful help. It is thankful for the Synod's assistance through the Church Extension Fund, and for its concern that this and other churches be built to spread God's Word and to glorify Him. It would have been impossible for St. James to build its church without the help of the whole Synod. The massive investments needed today for land and buildings make mission congregations very dependent upon the support of a large number of people, the support of a whole synod.

St. James' new church was designed by Duane Anderson, the former Synodical architect. It is one of three churches with this design — the others are in Escondido, California, and in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota. The seven equal sides of the church form a very wide nave, so that there is seating for 160 people in only six rows of pews. In addition to the large nave, which can seat up to 275 people (part of the nave is now set aside for Sunday-school and fellowship use), there are service areas with kitchen, sacristy, and pastor's office.

The services of dedication were held on June 2, 1974. The congregation's pastor, Fred Toppe, conducted the morning service of dedication, and Pastor Daniel Gieschen, chairman of the General Board for Home Missions, preached for the afternoon service of celebration.

Fred Toppe

Pastor Theodore H. Albrecht
1884 - 1974

The burial service for Pastor Theodore H. Albrecht was held July 12, 1974, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Lake City, Minnesota, where he had served as pastor for 47 years. Pastor David Gosdeck, associate pastor at St. John's, conducted the service, and Pastor Herbert Muenkel of Zumbrota, Minnesota, delivered the sermon, using Revelation 19:9 as his text. Committal was in the church cemetery.



Pastor T. H. Albrecht.

Theodore Henry Albrecht, the son of Pastor George W. Albrecht and Charlotte nee Mueller, was born in Woodville, Wisconsin, August 7, 1884. He was instructed and confirmed by Pastor John Bading in St. John's Lutheran Church, Milwaukee. He studied for the ministry at Northwestern College, Watertown, and at the Lutheran Seminary, then at Wauwatosa, Wisconsin.

On August 1, 1909, he was ordained and installed as pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Crivitz, Wisconsin. On May 4, 1910, he was united in marriage with Minna Eifeoldt at Winona, Minnesota. The Lord blessed their marriage with five children, one of whom died in infancy. When his father's health failed, he was called in 1910 to assist him as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, East Farmington, Wisconsin. In the following years he organized Grace Congregation at Nye, Wisconsin, and Trinity Congregation at Osceola, Wisconsin.

In November, 1922, Mrs. Albrecht died. A few months later Pastor Albrecht accepted a call to St. John's Lutheran Church, Lake City, Minnesota, and was installed April 15,

Direct from the Districts

Arizona-California

Former Pastor Dies

Even though Pastor Walter Gieschen had "retired" in Albuquerque, New Mexico, almost 20 years ago, yet he continued to serve the Lord up to the time of his death. Pastor Gieschen was, in fact, quite instrumental in helping our first WELS mission in New Mexico to become established in Albuquerque.

Prior to his retirement to Albuquerque, he served congregations in Goodrich, Milwaukee, Green Bay, Crandon-Argonne-Hiles, Clayton-Greenville, all in Wisconsin, and Douglas-Warren in Arizona. Pastor Gieschen served actively in the ministry until 1955.

He was called to permanent rest in the Lord on July 15, 1974, at the age of 75. He is survived by his wife, Ermgard, three daughters, 10 grandchildren, a brother, and a sister. Memorial services were held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Albuquerque, and at Grace Lutheran Church in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Interment was at Lakeview Memorial Park in Oshkosh. Both services were conducted by the Rev. Wayne Vogt.

1923. He served this congregation until his retirement in July, 1970, thus concluding 61 years in the holy ministry. For a period of five years, 1923 to 1928, he also served Emmanuel Lutheran Church in West Florence Township near Lake City. He was instrumental in the establishment of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church at Wabasha, Minnesota.

The last year of his life he lived at The Lutheran Home for the Aged, Belle Plaine, Minnesota. There he fell asleep in his Savior on July 9 at the age of 89 years, 11 months, and 2 days.

Pastor Albrecht is survived by two sons, Pastor Egbert Albrecht and Curtis Albrecht; two daughters, Dorothy, Mrs. Ralph A. Goede, and Irmgard, Mrs. Harry G. Olson; 14 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb."

Pastor Ralph A. Goede

The text for both services was Romans 8:38-39, a text selected by Pastor Gieschen himself. As the text states, death does not separate the believer from his Lord. Pastor Gieschen has been temporarily separated from us, but he is already now enjoying the perfect love of the Lord.

Dakota-Montana

Reaches Self-Support

St. Paul's of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, recently reached the status of self-support. Of special joy to the congregation is the fact that since September, 1973, it has been worshiping in its own church facilities at 610 South Dakota Avenue. Formerly it had conducted its services in a Seventh Day Adventist Church building.

Pastor of St. Paul's Congregation is the Rev. Thomas Schmidt. Both the congregation and its pastor welcome visitors and especially appreciate the referral of names of possible members. Pastor Schmidt's address is 607 South 1st Avenue, Sioux Falls, SD 57102.

District President Helps First Lutheran of Gary, SD, Celebrate 50 Years of Grace

Fifty years of God's grace were gratefully acknowledged by the members and friends of First Ev. Lutheran Church, Gary, South Dakota, on Sunday, July 28, 1974.

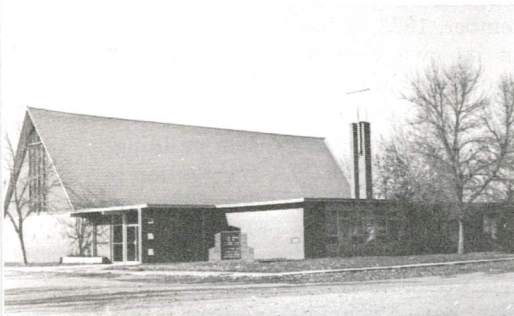
In the morning service, Pastor A. P. C. Kell, president of the Dakota-Montana District, addressed the worshipers on Genesis 28:17. The theme of his sermon was: "The Proper Channels of Our Joy for a God-pleasing Anniversary." In the afternoon service, a former pastor, the Rev. William Lange of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, preached on "Fifty Years of God's Grace," basing his exhortation on First Corinthians 1:4-9. The combined Junior and Senior choirs of the congregation sang for both services.

First Lutheran was organized in 1924. Its first pastors were the Rev. Herbert Lau and the Rev. Donald Rossin of Altamont, South Dakota. A year later, the Gary congregation decided to call its own pastor. Since 1925 the following pastors have

served the congregation: F. C. Reuter, H. E. Rutz, Wm. Lange, H. A. Hempel, R. Reede, G. Eckert, W. Steffenhagen, Gerald Geiger, and W. H. Allwardt. Since May, 1971, the pastor of First Lutheran also serves Trinity of Hendricks, Minnesota.

St. John's at Tappen, ND, Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary

More than 500 people gathered at St. John's, Tappen, North Dakota, on Sunday, July 14, 1974, to express their joy and gratitude to God for 50 years of blessings bestowed on the congregation. Two former pastors of the congregation were guest speakers in the two jubilee services.



Prof. Loren Schaller of Manitowoc Lutheran High School, Manitowoc, Wisconsin, who served St. John's from 1948 to 1951, was the morning speaker. He based his message on Joshua 1:1-9: "The Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." In the afternoon, Pastor Reuben Kettenacker of Marshall, Wisconsin, who served the congregation from 1944 to 1948, spoke on Revelation 3:11. He exhorted the hearers to hold fast to the pure Word of God.

St. John's was organized in January, 1924, and became self-supporting in 1942. During the past 50 years St. John's had dedicated two houses of worship and two parsonages. Pastor of the congregation is the Rev. R. W. Kloehn.

LUTHERAN COLLEGIANS FALL RETREAT

"ECOLOGY AND THE CHRISTIAN"

Date: September 27-29, 1974.

Place: Camp Mt. Morris, Wautoma, Wisconsin.

Host: Milwaukee Chapter of Lutheran Collegians.

All Lutheran Collegians members are invited, as well as area pastors and young people of the congregations who are of college age. A \$15.00 charge covers room and board. If interested, reply immediately to: Elizabeth Wensch, 915 Georges Avenue, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

(Submitted through District Presidents)

Pastors:

Bartz, Thomas L.

2102 E. Harbor Ave.
Toledo, OH 43611

Berger, Frederic K.

21 N. Peach St.
Hart, MI 49420

Lange, Prof. Gerald L.

3417 N. 53rd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53216
Phone: (414) 871-4873

Meier, Norbert R.

125 Dunbar Ave.
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Morris, Wallace E.

100 Bayou Woods Drive
Angleton, TX 77515

Otto, Robert G.

1313 P. St.
Aurora, NE 68818

Priebe, David E.

71 Glen Park Drive
Ottawa, Canada
K1B 3Z1

Stelter, Edward F.

1813 28th Street
Two Rivers, WI 54241

Sullivan, Paul E.

1350 Arrowhead Rd.
Grafton, WI 53024

Teachers:

Dais, John W.

Clatonia, NB 68328

Fillner, Douglas K.

2285 Skyline
Muskegon, MI 49442

Hahn, James

Route 1 Box 129
La Crosse, WI 54601

Halldin, David C.

600 East Broadway Apt. No. 6
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Lau, John J.

1267 CTH "PH"
Onalaska, WI 54650
Phone: (608) 783-2171

Nolte, John P.

Mtd. R. 1, Box 158A
Lake Mills, WI 53551

Runke, Harold

630 Sixth St., Box 46
Nicollet, MN 56074

Schmeling, Daniel

9833 Audelia Rd., Apt. 1052
Dallas, TX 75238
Phone: (214) 341-3359

Sievert, James M.

7870 Magnolia Ave., Apt. 61
Riverside, CA 92504
Phone: (714) 785-1475

Uttech, Fred.

8916 W. Nicollet Ave.
Bloomington, MN 55420

Wachholz, Paul E.

1714 W. Mequon Rd. 112N
Mequon, WI 53092

CHAPLAIN E. C. RENZ

HOME ADDRESS

6501 Gau-Bischofsheim
Bahnhofstrasse 92
West Germany
Telephone: 06135-3249

MAILING ADDRESS

398-12-3568
Box R
APO NY 09185

ORDINATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

(Authorized by the District Presidents)

Ordained and Installed

Pastors:

Bartz, Thomas L., ordained and installed at St. Andrew,

Toledo, Ohio, on July 7, 1974, by E. Bickel (Mich.).

Berger, Frederic K., ordained and installed at Our Saviour,

Hart, Michigan, on July 21, 1974, by M. Ahlborn (Mich.).

Frederich, Edwin C., Jr., ordained and installed at

Faith, Russell, Kansas, on July 14, 1974, by D. Plocher,

and installed at St. Paul's, Stockton, Kansas, on

July 14, 1974, by G. Eckert (Nebr.).

Otto, Robert G., ordained and installed at First Ev. Lu-

theran, Aurora, Nebraska, by J. Plitzuweit; and in-

stalled at St. Mark's, Sutton, Nebraska, by G. Eckert,

both on July 28, 1974 (Nebr.).

Priebe, David E., ordained and installed at New Mis-

sion, Orleans (Ottawa), Ontario, Canada, on August

4, 1974, by T. Pfothenhauer (Mich.).

Commissioned

Pastor:

Cox, Raymond G., commissioned as Missionary to Cen-

tral Africa in a service at Good Shepherd's Lutheran

Church, West Allis, Wisconsin, on June 30, 1974, by

A. Mennicke (SEW).

Installed

Pastors:

Meier, Norbert R., installed in New Mission, Fairbanks,

Alaska, on August 4, 1974, by D. Zietlow (PNW).

Teachers:

Collyard, Leonard L., installed at St. Matthew's, Wino-

na, Minnesota, on August 4, 1974, by A. Mennicke (W.

Wis.).

Dais, John W., installed at Zion, Clatonia, Nebraska, on

August 4, 1974, by J. Wille (Nebr.).

Fillner, Douglas K., installed at Grace, Muskegon,

Michigan, on August 4, 1974, by M. Ahlborn (Mich.).

Hahn, James, installed at St. John's, Route 1, La

Crosse, Wisconsin, on July 28, 1974, by F. Werner (W.

Wis.).

Lau, John J., installed at St. Paul's, Onalaska, Wiscon-

sin, on August 4, 1974, by J. Mumm (W. Wis.).

Runke, Harold, installed at Trinity, Nicollet, Minnesota,

on August 18, 1974, by R. Polzin (Minn.).

Schmeling, Daniel, installed at Calvary, Dallas, Texas,

on July 14, 1974, by W. Diehl (Ariz.-Calif.).

Sievert, James M., installed at St. Paul's, Riverside,

California, on July 21, 1974, by A. Habben (Ariz.-

Calif.).

Uttech, Fredrick, installed at Bloomington Lutheran,

Bloomington, Minnesota, on August 11, 1974, by M. L.

Liesener (Minn.).

Wachholz, Paul E., installed at St. John, Mequon, Wis-

consin, on August 11, 1974, by R. E. Pope (SEW).

APPOINTMENTS

Pastor William Bernhardt, 550 Idylwood

Drive, Salem, Oregon 97302, has been appointed

Pacific Northwest District reporter for *The*

Northwestern Lutheran to take the place of Pas-

tor David Bode who recently resigned the post.

Pastor Arthur Valerio has been appointed

visiting elder for Eastern Washington.

Teacher Arnold Goodger and Mr. Ronald

Husemann have been appointed to the District

Evangelism Commission.

G. Frey, President

Pacific Northwest District

You are invited to rejoice with St. Paul Lutheran Church, Tomah, Wisconsin

A Servant of Christ for 100 Years

Synod and Mission Sunday, October 6, 1974

St. Paul Congregation served by

Sharing Christ for 100 Years

Services at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

Guest speakers: President O. Naumann and Pastor Ethan Kahrs.

Rededication Sunday, November 3, 1974

St. Paul Congregation resolves to

Continue Building on Christ

Services at 8:30 and 10:30 A.M. and 2:30 and 8:00 P.M.

Guest speakers: President C. Mischke and Pastor Roderick Luebchow.

Seminarian Robert Gerke will serve as liturgist.

Pastors O. Heier and K. Gast

Editorials

slighted, professional or vocational obligations short-
changed, the price paid for achieving the goal is too high.
There can be no real joy that the goal has been attained if
it has been gained at the expense of others.

In setting goals and in pursuing them, a child of God
will heed what love and duty require of him or her. A
modest goal achieved with integrity gleams more brightly
than a higher goal that is tarnished because part of the
purchase price has been at the expense of faithful service
to God and to one's fellowman.

Carleton Toppe

STUDENTS INFORMATION

Parents and pastors are reminded to send the names of their young people who attend secular or non-WELS affiliated colleges to the *Special Ministries Board*, 3521 W. North Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208. Please include all pertinent information: name, age, name of university, name and address of dormitory or apartment, phone number, grade in school.

You may also send this information directly to one of our campus pastors. The names of colleges and universities served by WELS campus pastors are listed in *Yearbook 1974*, pages 42-44. Represented are 32 states and the District of Columbia.

AUDIO VISUAL AIDS

"THE WELS FOUNDATION" (FS-60-WSF)

1974 20 min. 3 3/4 ips T & cassette color

Describes the services of the WELS Foundation, Inc., and gives advice on estate planning, making a will, how to invest in annuities, life agreements, and how to make gifts of stocks, real estate, life insurance, etc., for benefit to the donor as well as to the Synod for its work. Produced by the WELS Foundation, Inc.

"FISHERS OF MEN IN THE LAND OF 10,000 LAKES" (S-FOM)

1974 25 min. S & T & M color

The story of the missions of the Minnesota District-WELS. Additional sets of slides are now available. Order only from Audio Visual Aids, not from the District Mission Board.

Order From:

Audio Visual Aids
3512 West North Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES

DAKOTA-MONTANA

WESTERN PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: October 1-2, 1974; 10:00 a.m. Mountain Time.
Place: St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran, Rapid City, South Dakota (R. Strobel, host pastor).

Preacher: D. Krenke (F. Brand, alternate).
Agenda: Review of Walther's *Law and Gospel*; D. Dengler; The Pentecostal Movement and Lutheran Theology; R. Krueger; Obadiah; L. Wiedrich; Mission Outlines; C. Lindemann; Financial Support of Church Projects through Grants from Business Organizations; D. Krenke; I Timothy 5: P. Heidrich.
R. Pless, Secretary

MINNESOTA

REDWOOD FALLS PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: October 1, 1974; 9:00 a.m. Communion service.
Place: St. John, Vesta, Minnesota; P. Schlenner, host pastor.

Preacher: E. Schulz; alternate, P. Werner.
Agenda: Exegesis of I Timothy 3:8-16; L. Hohenstein; Exegesis of Passages on Marriage and Divorce; E. Schulz; A Study of the Conclusion of the Commandments in Luther's Large Catechism; C. Henkel; Conference Business.
L. Hohenstein, Secretary

NEBRASKA

CENTRAL PASTORS' CONFERENCE

Date: October 1-2, 1974; 9 a.m. Communion service.
Place: Grace, Oskaloosa, Iowa; W. A. Wietzke, host pastor.

Preacher: M. Weishahn (R. Schlieve, alternate).
Agenda: Exegesis of Romans 3:1-20; A. Domson; Formula of Concord, Article XII; M. Weishahn; Isagogical-Exegetical Study of Hosea 13:9-14:9; J. Enderle; Difficulties in Administering the Sacraments to Non-Members; W. A. Wietzke.

Note: Please announce intentions concerning meals and lodging to the host pastor.

M. Weishahn, Visiting Elder

NORTHERN WISCONSIN

DISTRICT MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

Date: September 23-24, 1974, noon to noon.
Place: Trinity, Minoqua, Wisconsin; E. Kock, host pastor.

Communion Service: Monday evening.
Preacher: J. Trapp (C. Siegler, alternate).
Agenda: Continuation of essay: "Are Some Cases of Mental Illness Possibly Demonic Possession as it is Described in Scripture?" L. Winter; The Work of the N. Wis. District Missions; "The Use and the meaning in Scripture and the Application Thereof of the Words *euaggelizoo*, *euaggelion*, and *euaggelistees*"; R. Christman; Conference Business and Election.
C. J. Siegler, Secretary

SOUTH ATLANTIC

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Date: September 23-25, 1974.
Place: Nashville, Tennessee.
Communion Service: 7:15 p.m. on September 23; R. Busch, preacher.

Agenda: Elections; Exegetical Study of Daniel: K. Peterson; Sermon Study: R. Waack; "The Practice and Principles of Separation of Church and State in Old and New Testaments"; R. Stadler; "The Scriptural Concept of the Term 'Fear of God'"; round table discussion; Study of the Preface, Article I, and Article II of the Augsburg Confession and the Apology; questions of casuistry.
R. H. Stadler
chairman pro-tem

FLORIDA PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: September 24, 1974; 9 a.m. Communion service.
Place: Faith Lutheran, St. Petersburg, Florida; J. Anderson, host pastor.

Preacher: R. Wendland.
Agenda: Exegesis of I Timothy 6:11-21; R. Litke; Isagogical Comments on the Book of Judges; J. Lawrence; The Confessional Position of the Baptist Church; M. Goeglein.
John F. Vogt, Secretary

WESTERN WISCONSIN

MISSIONARIES' CONFERENCE

Date: September 23-24, 1974.
Place: Wisconsin Lutheran Chapel and Student Center, 220 West Gilman, Madison, Wisconsin; host pastor, Rev. Wayne Schmidt.

Opening Communion Service: Monday, September 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

Preacher: D. Bitter, Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin.
Essayist and Discussion Leader: H. E. Wicke, Editor of *The Northwestern Lutheran*, "Guidelines for Receiving Lutherans."

Note: Missionaries, Board Members, and area Pastors encouraged to attend!

R. Scharf and D. Rutschow
Program Committee

SOUTHWESTERN PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: September 24, 1974; 9 a.m.
Place: Faith Lutheran, Reedsburg, Wisconsin.
Preacher: M. Nommensen (alternate, W. Paustian).

Agenda: Ephesians 4; G. Moldenhauer; A Study of the Term "Israel" and the Prophecies Concerning It; W. Paustian; How the Church Can Guide the Home in the Training of the Young; K. Gast; Liturgy Study as Recommended by the Committee of Our Synod; H. Winkel.
T. Kuske, Secretary

NAMES REQUESTED

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Please send names of any WELS members or prospects in the Charlotte, N.C., area to Pastor John Guse, 6723 Formosa Drive, Columbia, S.C. 29206.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS

St. Mark Ev. Lutheran Church has changed its time of Sunday worship to 9:00 a.m. with Bible class and Sunday school following at 10:15 a.m. St. Mark is presently worshipping at "The Guest House," located at Emerson and Linden Streets. Please send names of any WELS members or prospects in the Twin-City area and/or of any WELS students attending Illinois State University or Wesleyan University to Pastor Steven Staudé, 1011 Sheryl Lane, Normal, Illinois, 61761. Transportation to church is provided.

EXPLORATORY SERVICES

GREELEY, COLORADO

The Colorado Mission District Mission Board is conducting exploratory work in the Greeley, Colorado, area. Our WELS group there has chosen the name Shepherd of the Hills Ev. Lutheran Church and is renting the chapel of Our Savior's American Lutheran Church, 1800 21st Avenue, Greeley, for services. Worship is held each Sunday at 7:15 p.m. Anyone knowing of prospective members or students at the University of Northern Colorado is kindly asked to call or send pertinent information to: Pastor Lawrence Retberg, 4610 Hogan Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521 (1-303-493-3999).

TIME AND PLACE

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILLINOIS

Bethlehem Ev. Lutheran Church of Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, is now conducting services in its own house of worship at 312 W. Elm Street, Urbana. Bible class and Sunday school meet at 9:30 a.m., and the worship service is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Raabe, Jr.

SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA

Hope Ev. Lutheran Church, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, is now conducting its Sunday worship at 7:00 p.m., with Sunday school at 6:15 p.m. The place of worship is the Spanish 7th Day Adventist Church at 19th Street and 11th Avenue. For more information contact Pastor Louis Sievert, Box 606, Batesland, South Dakota 57716 (Phone 605-288-1999).

NORTH ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI

Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, the WELS mission in North St. Louis County, is conducting Sunday services at 9:00 a.m. at the Trio Restaurant, 7900 N. Lindbergh Blvd, Hazelwood, Missouri. Please send addresses of interested families in the St. Charles and Hazelwood, Missouri areas to Pastor Peter Berg, 1830 St. Catherine St., Florissant, Mo. 63033 (Phone: 314-837-7489).

FORT SILL, LAWTON, OKLAHOMA

WELS civilian and military visitors and residents in the Fort Sill/Lawton area are invited to attend Communion services held the last Sunday of each month at 3:30 p.m., Sheridan Road Chapel, Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. For more specific information and direction contact: Major Carl B. Eggleston, 524 L. N. Lauman Ave., Ft. Sill, Oklahoma 73503, Telephone: (405) 351-3137.

FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

St. Peter Ev. Lutheran Church of Fort Collins, Colorado, has moved to its newly completed church facilities located in South Fort Collins at 4610 Hogan Drive. For worship service information please contact Pastor Lawrence Retberg, 4610 Hogan Drive, Fort Collins, Colo. 80521 (1-303-493-3999).

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

St. Mark's Ev. Lutheran Church, a WELS mission, is now worshipping at a permanent facility, 824 America Ave. (the former 7th Day Adventist Church) in Bemidji, Minnesota. The time of service is 9:00 a.m., with Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. As of Nov. 1 and through March 31, the time of service will be 9:30 a.m., with Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. For more information contact: Pastor Lee Vaccarella, 1209 Bemidji Ave., Bemidji, Minnesota 56601 (Ph. 218-751-6334).

Treasurer's Report

PREBUDGET SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCE

Seven months ended July 31, 1974

	Subscription Amount for 1974	7/12 of Annual Subscription	Subscription and Pension Offerings	Per Cent of Subscription
Arizona-California	\$ 284,176	\$ 165,769	\$ 169,864	102.5
Dakota-Montana	198,690	115,903	100,240	86.5
Michigan	1,013,283	591,081	537,580	90.9
Minnesota	1,050,611	612,856	626,389	102.2
Nebraska	204,415	119,242	119,201	99.9
Northern Wisconsin	1,140,109	665,063	636,130	95.6
Pacific Northwestern	75,950	44,304	45,515	102.7
Southeastern Wisconsin	1,374,223	801,630	751,365	93.7
Western Wisconsin	1,320,560	770,326	725,852	94.2
South Atlantic	52,870	30,841	29,018	94.1
Total — 1974	<u>\$6,714,887</u>	<u>\$3,917,015</u>	<u>\$3,741,154</u>	<u>95.5</u>
Total — 1973	<u>\$6,416,873</u>	<u>\$3,743,174</u>	<u>\$3,622,944</u>	<u>96.8</u>

CURRENT BUDGETARY FUND

Statement of Income and Expenditures

Twelve months ended July 31, 1974 with comparative figures for 1973

	Twelve months ended July 31			
	1974	1973	Amount	Per Cent
Income				
Prebudget Subscription Offerings	\$6,856,236	\$6,300,848	\$555,388	8.8
Pension Plan Contributions	93,583	95,594	2,011*	2.1*
Gifts, Memorials and Bequests	77,075	54,751	22,324	40.8
Earnings from Fox Estate	98,530	52,558	45,972	87.5
Income from NWPH	—	—	—	—
Other Income	10,810	2,588	8,222	—
Transfers from Other Funds	81,263	14,346	66,917	—
Total Income	<u>\$7,217,497</u>	<u>\$6,520,685</u>	<u>\$696,812</u>	<u>10.7</u>
Expenditures				
Worker-Training — Expenses	\$3,900,191	\$3,467,648	\$432,543	12.5
Worker-Training — Income	1,614,212	1,467,285	146,927	10.0
Worker-Training — Net	\$2,285,979	\$2,000,363	\$285,616	14.3
Home Missions	1,258,647	1,040,837	217,810	20.9
World Missions	1,168,019	965,571	202,448	21.0
Benevolences	817,933	814,853	3,080	.4
Administration and Services	523,154	454,468	68,686	15.1
Total Operations	\$6,053,732	\$5,276,092	\$777,640	14.7
Appropriations — Building Funds	219,076	248,284	29,208*	11.8*
Appropriations — CEF Program	802,347	789,076	13,271	1.7
Total Expenditures	<u>\$7,075,155</u>	<u>\$6,313,452</u>	<u>\$761,703</u>	<u>12.1</u>
Operating Gain	<u>\$ 142,342</u>	<u>\$ 207,233</u>		

Norris Koopmann, Treasurer & Controller
3512 West North Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Note: Future cutoff dates of PBS receipts in the Synod's Post Office Lock Box are as follows:

For the month of:	Cutoff Date
September	October 7
October	November 7
November	December 6
December	January 7

HYMNS FOR THE 125th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

The Commission on Worship has been asked to produce a suitable hymn (text and/or tune) and an anthem for the 125th Anniversary Service to be held in all of the WELS churches on Pentecost Sunday, May 18, 1975. We therefore ask our members who may be able to produce a hymn text and/or tune, or a suitable choir selection for this occasion, to submit such to the undersigned before December 1, 1974.

Prof. Martin Albrecht
11820 N Luther Lane 65W
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092

BEMIDJI STATE COLLEGE STUDENTS

Attention Bemidji State College students! You are cordially invited to worship with St. Mark's Congregation, Bemidji, Minnesota, at 824 America Ave. (the former 7th Day Adventist Church). The time of service is 9:00 a.m., with Sunday school at 10:00 a.m. As of Nov. 1 and through March 31 the time of service will be 9:30 a.m., with Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. If transportation is needed or more information desired, contact Pastor Lee Vaccarella, 1209 Bemidji Ave., Bemidji, Minnesota 56601 (Ph. 218-751-6334).

INVITATION

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Auxilliary

Women who are members of Wisconsin Synod congregations or of a congregation in fellowship with it are invited to the second annual Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Auxilliary meeting on October 5, 1974, at the Seminary in Mequon, Wisconsin. The meeting will begin with a service at 10:00 a.m., with registration during the preceding hour. A noon luncheon will be served in the Seminary dining room. Included in the business meeting will be a progress report on projects completed and the selection of new projects. An information program about the Seminary and its work, and a tour of the buildings will complete the days activities at about 4:00 p.m.

Reservations should be made by September 14, 1974. These, together with the \$3.25 for registration and the luncheon, are to be sent to the corresponding secretary: Mrs. Wm. Fischer, 120 N. Eastmoor, Brookfield, Wisconsin, 53005.

Publicity Committee

DMLC LADIES AUXILIARY

The Dr. Martin Luther College Ladies Auxilliary Fifteenth Annual Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 9, 1974, at the College in New Ulm, Minnesota.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m., and will be preceded by a coffee hour from 9:30 to the time of opening. The order of business will include election of officers, selection of projects, campus tours, and a program by students. Closing is set for 3:30 p.m.

All women of Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod congregations are invited to attend.

OSHKOSH STUDENTS

The WELS Campus ministry in Oshkosh has headquarters at the Wisconsin Lutheran Campus House, Wisconsin and Amherst Sts. Services in chapel at 12:00 noon on Sundays, with informal Vespers each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact Pastor Robt. Christman, 1721 Ohio St., Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901; Phone (414) 235-0957.