

The Northwestern Lutheran

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Briefs by the Editor

The work of God's Church revolves around training workers to preach and teach, extending the home base, and then carrying the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the world. This issue of *The Northwestern Lutheran* touches on all of these bases.

Concerning the need for workers in the church, that is, for pastors, teachers, and missionaries, note the editorial on "Post-Recruitment Sunday" (page 115). We need to do more than just read it; we need to respond to it. Our future pastors, teachers, and missionaries are the sons and daughters in our family circles. The Lord is looking not only to the pastors and teachers to persuade them, but also to you fathers and mothers.

Training and educating new workers for the church, as well as Christian laymen, is one of our major tasks as a church body. It is dealt with in the above editorial, but also in articles like that on page 120: DMLC's Midyear Graduates; on page 121: Fox Valley Lutheran High School's 25th anniversary; and on page 122: the anniversaries recently observed at Northwestern Lutheran Academy in Mobridge. Related would be the obituaries on page 125, a solemn reminder that pastors, teachers, and missionaries do not live forever. Sooner or later we all need replacements. Will your sons and daughters and ours be ready to take our place?

The two articles that regularly lead you deeper into God's Word touch on the same matter. In *Studies in God's Word* one of the paragraphs calls to our attention that in the Early Church "individual congregations, and members within those congregations, privately supported traveling missionaries." *Mining the Treasure of God's Word* also speaks of "the spread of God's Word over all the earth." Thus the writers of God's Old and New Testaments had the same concern we have. In fact, God's Spirit taught it to us through them.

Home Missions comes in for a great

deal of attention in this issue. The front cover and page 118 tell us about a new mission which has just dedicated its house of worship in a corner of Texas new to WELS. The same page tells about WELS' Lutheran Collegians canvassing in Minnesota. Page 119f. brings the concluding portion of the mission discussion pursued at a recent Colonial Conference meeting. It's eye-opening! Page 124 informs us that the first WELS congregation in Arkansas has been organized and that another mission has broken ground for a chapel in Illinois. These are almost monthly occurrences, and a real joy!

With a home base flourishing, our church body can also extend its help and support to missions and fellow Christians throughout the world. The progress in the Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden is one that warms our hearts. The dedication of St. Peter's Chapel in Raneå near the Arctic Circle (page 123) was an act of faith in more ways than one. The members and pastor of this congregation for confessional reasons stepped out of the State Church of Sweden. That meant saying goodbye to many a friend and coworker. And it meant digging deep into one's own pockets. But they were ready. The site was a gift from a couple who are members. The remodeling was the work of all members. Estimated to cost at least 200,000 Swedish crowns (\$44,000 US), the remodeling came to only 20,000 crowns (\$4,400 US) because the pastor and members did all of the work. The only out-of-pocket cost was for materials. There is no doubt that the members of St. Peter's Congregation will deeply appreciate their new house of worship. Their own time, effort, and talent are represented in it — a gift from God and a gift to God.

Our fellow Christians in Sweden, the teachers and students in our training schools, our fellow members in Arkansas, Texas, Illinois, in the Colonial Conference, and wherever else they may be, look to us for prayers and support. So does our Lord!

*The Lord our God be with us,
as he was with our fathers:
let him not leave us,
nor forsake us. 1 Kings 8:57*

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The Cover

The congregation in Weslaco, Texas, was formally organized in 1973 with the name Abiding Savior. WELS "Winter Texans" both help and are helped by this congregation 150 miles from its nearest WELS neighbor. See page 118 for details on its dedication.

Editorials

Post-Recruitment Sunday Last Sunday (unless *The Northwestern Lutheran* reaches you well in advance of its publication date) was Recruitment Sunday in many of our churches. Considering the shortage of pastor-training students at Northwestern College, such recruitment awareness emphasis is needed. All of us must become more concerned about rebuilding the enrollment at Northwestern, else the number of parish vacancies in the 1980s may reach crisis proportions.

We had recruitment Sundays (they were called Manpower Sundays then) in the 1960s. Why were they discontinued? Were they "too successful"? There is some reason to believe that we felt they were. By the end of the 1960s and at the beginning of the 1970s, the graduating classes at Dr. Martin Luther College (not including the midyear graduates) numbered in the 150s and 160s. The enrollment at Northwestern College climbed from 192 in 1963-64 to 298 in 1968-69 and was still at 290 in 1973-74. In the mid-1970s Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary was graduating 55, 61, and 59 candidates per year for the ministry. There was some concern about an oversupply of pastors.

After this year the flow of Northwestern College students to the Seminary will slack off considerably; the Seminary enrollment will decline; there will be fewer pastoral candidates to assign in the 1980s.

The need is there. Will the Lord of the Church supply that need? He has promised to answer our prayers for more workers in His kingdom. We relied on His promise yesterday; we remember the outpouring of blessings we gathered in as His promise was fulfilled. His promise is just as good today. But He is counting on us to pray for those needed workers and to seek out and encourage our youth for service in His kingdom. Recruitment Sunday brought the message. Now it is ours to work as well as to pray.

Carleton Toppe

One of the Forgotten Sins Dr. R. C. H. Lenski in his commentary on the Epistle to the Ephesians makes this interesting remark: "A Catholic priest states that during his long years of service all kinds of sins and even crimes were confessed to him in the confessional, but no member of his church ever confessed himself as being covetous."

The priest's experience, which has no doubt been duplicated in the experience of many of our pastors, is all the more remarkable when you consider that 20 per cent of the Commandments are directed against this sin.

Yet the sin of covetousness is not isolated or uncommon. The nation's courts of law complain of overwhelming case-loads. A recent report states that 170,000 new cases were introduced in federal courts in 1976 in addition to a backlog of 160,000 cases. Nearly two million cases were introduced in state and local courts in the same year. Medical costs spiral, fueled at least to a degree by astronomical malpractice suits. The cost of automobile insurance follows the same trend. Could greed be a factor?

People, at least those who have any regard for God's Commandments, readily identify stealing, murder, and adultery as sins, but the Ninth and Tenth Commandments are easily overlooked. God, however, not only designates covetousness as sin; He equates it with idolatry. Ephesians 5 mentions the "covetous man" in the same breath with the "whoremonger" and the "unclean person"; and concerning the covetous man it adds parenthetically, "who is an idolater."

Covetousness can well be labeled one of the forgotten sins. We need only look in our own hearts for verification. Therefore we need all the more to heed our Lord's admonition: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth . . . but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" — not forgetting that "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Immanuel Frey

66 Hours, 58 Minutes He said, "Let there be . . ." and we read, "And the evening and the morning were the first day." Thus God established what has become known as the 24-hour day. Everyone has them. Time to work, time to laugh, time to rest, time to play — the gift of time.

The Rev. Don Taggart had been curious for years how long it would take. Taggart is the young pastor of the Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church in Pontotoc, Mississippi. Together with eight young volunteers he set out to discover the truth — to find out just how long it would take to read *aloud* the entire Bible from Genesis through Revelation. They used a King James Version which covered 1,834 pages. It took them 66 hours and 58 minutes.

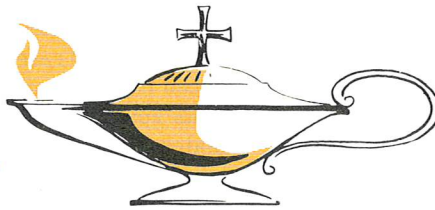
To God's people His urgings to "Search the Scriptures" can often seem a monumental task — so monumental, we stop before we even start. Now reading the Bible from cover to cover is not necessarily the best way to read God's Word, but perhaps, just perhaps, its volume is not as great as our archenemy would have us believe.

For the sake of discussion, let's say it took them 67 hours. Now the Lord has given each of us 168 hours each week. We could, if we were so inclined, read the entire Bible in one week's time, work a 40-hour week, sleep eight hours each night, and still have five hours left over.

Scriptural illiteracy has become so rampant among God's people it poses a serious threat to their lives. When the truth is not known, error takes its place. When the "Sword of the Spirit" goes unused, we become the defenseless prey of every wind of doctrine. No people have had

(Continued on page 125)

Studies in God's Word



Epistles from John

Included in our Bibles are three Epistles from the Apostle John. While there are some dissimilarities in the three letters, so that John's authorship of the last two has at times been questioned, yet the Epistles also have some remarkable similarities to each other and especially to the Gospel of John.

It is noteworthy that in none of the four writings does the Apostle call himself by name. In the *Gospel* there are thinly-veiled references to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved." *First John* does not follow the usual letter-form and hence there is in the opening verses no mention of the author or recipients. It is, however, a true letter, as is apparent when John states, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not" (I John 2:1a). *Second John* and *Third John* have the usual letter-form, but there the author calls himself simply "the elder." Though John does not call himself by name, yet the language and the mode of addressing his readers in all four documents is so similar that it is certainly the easiest explanation to say that they all came from the same hand.

John the Elder

The general consensus of early church history is that John was the only one of the Twelve who did not suffer a martyr's death. After Paul's death in the midsixties and before the destruction of Jerusalem (70 A.D.), John moved to Ephesus and for the next 30 some years served that church and the surrounding area of Asia Minor. At the turn of the century, as an old man, John could affectionately refer to his members as "little children."

As the sole survivor of the original Apostles, he could refer to himself as "the elder" without adding his name.

First John is presently being treated in a parallel series of *Studies in God's Word* (Oct. 16, 1977, to Jan. 8, 1978, with continuation to follow). We therefore turn our attention to the other two Epistles.

Second John

As was noted above, the content of this letter is not totally different from the First Epistle. John is still voicing a strong warning against false teachers when he writes: "Many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh" (II John 7; cp. I John 4:2,3). The deceivers no doubt were the same as those warned against previously, men who denied that Jesus Christ was true God and true man, united in one person.

John writes this letter "unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth" (II John 1). While the letter could be addressed to an individual, the context seems to suggest that the reference is rather to a church. Note the closing greeting where John states, "The children of thy elect sister greet thee" (13). That has the ring of believers (children) in one congregation sending greetings to their fellow believers in another congregation. Also, if there has been trouble in the congregation, accompanied by the loss of members, it would be understandable to have John say, "It has given me great joy to find some of your children living by the truth" (v. 4, NIV).

Notable in the letter is John's warn-

ing not to aid false teachers. "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house," he urges, "neither bid him God-speed, for he that biddeth him God-speed is partaker of his evil deeds" (verses 10 and 11).

Third John

Third John is most helpful in explaining this stern warning. There was in those days no "synod" to carry on a mission program. Individual congregations, and members within those congregations, privately supported traveling missionaries. *Third John* is addressed to a certain Gaius whom the elder commends: "Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers (missionaries), even though they are strangers to you. They have told the church about your love" (verses 5 and 6a). Apparently Gaius had been taking Christian missionaries into his home and was thus supporting Gospel outreach. To have housed false teachers would have made him a "partaker of [their] evil deeds" (II John 11).

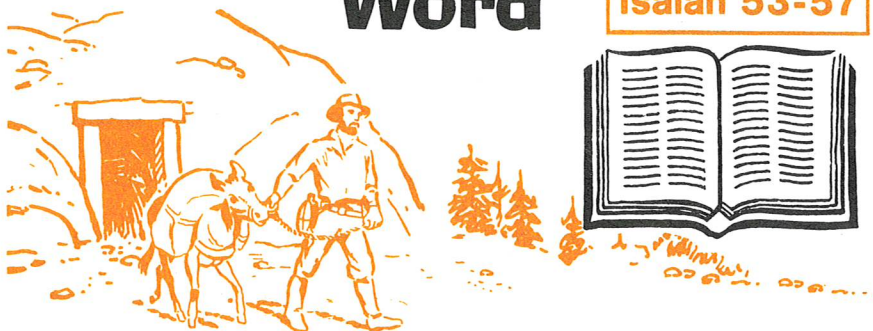
A Letter of Introduction

Third John is seemingly a letter of introduction borne by a traveling missionary, a Demetrius (verse 12) who is coming to Gaius. John urges Gaius to continue his former kindness. "You will do well to send them (missionaries) on their way in a manner worthy of God. It was for the sake of the Name that they went out, receiving no help from the pagans" (vs. 6b,7, NIV). Apparently these missionaries followed Paul's policy of accepting no support from the people whom they were trying to win, but looked rather for support from those who had already tasted the Gospel's sweetness and could reflect their appreciation for it.

It will be evident that in principle nothing has changed from apostolic times. Missionaries going out in the Name are still the believers' responsibility. They are our representatives and our voice to the lost. As surely as we have come to know the Gospel truths, so zealously will we want, by our prayers and our gifts, to support those who preach in our stead. Supporting them joins us to Gaius and makes us sharers in John's commendation to all "fellow helpers of the truth."

Armin J. Panning

Mining the Treasure of God's Word



Isaiah 53-57

BY JULIAN G. ANDERSON

As preparation for your work today keep in mind that in Isaiah 49-57 we are digging in the main vein of the Old Testament, for these nine chapters deal exclusively with the promised Savior, called here "the suffering Servant of Jehovah." Here we see Him walking the road that leads through deep humiliation and sufferings to the heights of exaltation and glory. And today we begin work in the greatest and richest chapter of the Old Testament, so far as our Messianic study is concerned.

Isaiah 53

To get a proper picture of this remarkable chapter first hi-lite all the third-person-singular pronouns (he, him, his) beginning at verse 2, except for the first "he" in verse 10b, which speaks of God the Father. Hi-lite also "My righteous Servant" in verse 11b. When you're finished, you can see most clearly from all your little colored words that the Lord Jesus is indeed the exclusive subject of this chapter, since all these pronouns refer to Him. The first 11 verses describe His sufferings in great detail, and verse 12 speaks of His subsequent exaltation and glory.

What is described here is the amazing story of God's plan for our salvation, and Isaiah expresses his own amazement in verse 1 as he prepares to tell the story. The theme is announced in verses 2 and 3, which picture Jesus' humiliation and rejection by the world

of men. Note the words "despised," "rejected," "sorrows," and "grief."

Then the whole plan of salvation is set forth in verses 4-6. To get the full impact of this story take a contrasting color and hi-lite the words "our griefs" and "our sorrows" in verse 4, "for our transgressions," "for our iniquities," "our peace," and "we are healed" in verse 5, and "of us all" in verse 6. This is the essence of God's plan of salvation, namely, that His Son should suffer and die *for us* and make atonement *for our sins*. This is what we call the vicarious, or substitutionary, atonement.

Verses 7-10 tell the story of His sufferings (verse 7), His death (verse 8, underline or hi-lite the last phrase, beginning "for the transgressions . . ."), and His burial (verse 9a). A very important part of God's plan was the absolutely perfect innocence and righteousness of the Savior, set forth in verse 9b. Remember that this was all written 700 years before Jesus' birth!

The newly discovered manuscripts from the Dead Sea caves, which are 1,000 years older than any used prior to 1947, have a text which is far clearer and therefore more likely to be the true reading for verses 10b-11a, beginning "when" to "shall." It reads, "He who makes His soul a trespass offering shall see His seed, and shall prolong His days, and Jehovah's purpose shall prosper in His hand; and He shall see His soul far from trouble and shall be sated with His knowledge. My righteous Servant shall (justify many . . .)." This

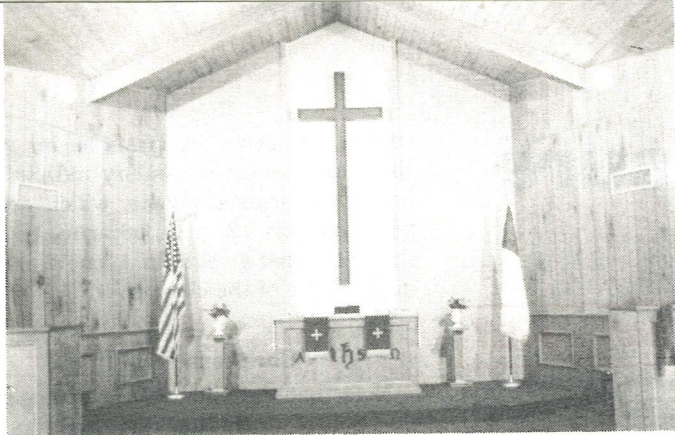
summarizes Jesus' work and begins to speak of His subsequent glory and exaltation, the counter-theme, which appears in verse 12. Note, however, how the last phrase gives a final echo of the main theme of the chapter.

Chapters 54-57

Note that these four chapters begin on a note of joy (hi-lite "sing" and "fear not" in verse 4). This spirit prevails through the whole section, in which the theme is the exaltation and triumphant reign of Christ and His people, the true Israel. The key words of the section are peace, righteousness, justice, and joy, which describe this reign of the Messiah (hi-lite these words as you come to them in 54:13,14; 55:12; 56:1; and 57:2 and 19). Notice also the references to the universal nature of the Messiah's kingdom in 54:5b, 55:4,5 and 56:6-8, and the growth of His kingdom in 54:2,3 (underline 54:5b; 55:4,5; 54:2,3). The King's majesty is depicted in vivid colors in 57:15a, but He is not pictured as a cold, unapproachable monarch, but as a loving and merciful Savior (57:15b; underline the whole verse). In the same way His absolute holiness is pictured in 57:16-18, but coupled with His love and mercy in verses 16 and 19. The reference in 55:3b to the everlasting covenant established through the Son of David echoes the previous promise made to David in II Samuel 7:12-16 (underline 55:3b). Chapter 55:1,2 and 6-9 is a passage which should be underlined, pondered, and memorized. It sounds forth God's gracious invitation to all penitent sinners to enter into His kingdom. Chapter 55:10,11 is another such passage, speaking of the saving power of God's Word and describing the spread of that Word over all the earth. The beautiful heavenly metaphors of 54:11,12 remind us of Revelation 21:18-21.

Next mark the Lord's words of warning to the people of the world to beware of the soul-destroying errors and activities of the false prophets, and their godless religions in 56:9-57:10. The section closes on this warning note (57:21, underline), exactly as the first section did (48:22).

Finally read Philippians 2:5-11, which is the finest commentary ever written on this wonderful chapter.



Weslaco,
Texas

Dedication at Abiding Savior

It's not trite and boring to say that there was great joy on January 22, 1978, at 599 S. Mile Six West Road (Westgate Drive), Weslaco, Texas. It was and is an outstanding event in the life of a mission when after seven years it dedicates its first worship facility.

We ask you, the readers of *The Northwestern Lutheran*, to share our gratitude and happiness as we share with you the fact that "gates of righteousness" were opened in this remote tip of Texas. Pastor Vilas Glaeske, secretary of the Texas Mission District Missionary Board and pastor of Christ the Lord Ev. Lutheran Church, Houston, used "Gates of Righteousness" (Ps. 118) as the theme of his dedicatory sermon. Pastor Walter A. Diehl, present shepherd of this flock, appreciated the opportunity of leading his members in praising God for His goodness.

The simple building is 70 feet by 41½ feet. Its four-foot eaves are designed to protect the walls from the summer heat. Built on a slab, it features laminated trusses and tongue-and-groove decking. Though only 19 feet in height, its clear ceilings with cove lighting give an appearance of much greater spaciousness. The chancel furniture was built by Mr. Howard Knab, elder of the congregation, and the symbols in the church were made of walnut by Mr. A. L. Lee of Trinity Congregation, Temple, Texas. The exterior has a simple white steeple surmounted with a four-foot cross.

Of course, it isn't the building itself or its furnishings that are the real reason for thanksgiving in Weslaco, Texas. "It is the Word of the Lord," as members like Mr. and Mrs. Edward

Ziebarth, who recently observed their 62nd wedding anniversary, would tell you. An elder of the congregation, Mr. Ziebarth at the age of 85 recently served as a delegate to the Texas Delegate Conference. The Bible Study periods at church are his special delight, since he reads the Scripture in Polish, German, English, and Spanish. Though troubled with poor eyesight, Mrs. Ziebarth is still able to run her own household. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ziebarth are present in services without a fail. They add their thanks to that of all the other members.

Others rejoicing with the membership of Abiding Savior are the many "Winter Texans" who attend services at Weslaco. They come from the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Iowa. On a recent Sunday they swelled the number of worshipers to 142. Because of their faithful attendance, this congregation of 50 souls averages a winter attendance of 100. Abiding Savior is a WELS outpost 150 miles from its closest WELS neighbor and 250 miles from the next two. For the "Winter Texans" it's church-home away from home.

Abiding Savior Congregation thanks the Wisconsin Synod for the loan of funds to erect this church in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. May the Lord continue to bless His Word in this House of God!

L C Christmas Seminar

On December 27, 1977, about 40 young men and women gathered at Dr. Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minnesota, for the Lutheran Collegians Christmas Seminar. These 40 came from as far away as Florida, Texas, California, and Washington. Of course, most of them were from Wisconsin, Minnesota, and South Dakota.

Prof. Darvin Raddatz of DMLC led the opening service, using Acts 4:19,20 as his text. The seminar participants were reminded that they should try to be more like Peter and John when they answered, "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." They are not to let the pressures of the world make them hide their Christianity.

The next day the group made practical use of Professor Raddatz's advice.

Some of the collegians went on a canvass-witness at Jordan, Minnesota. The others went on a canvass-survey at Alexandria. At the end of a long day of canvassing, the collegians discussed their experiences and cold feet over some hot chocolate.

The third day of the seminar was spent in listening to several very interesting and informative lectures. Mrs. Felizardo Valenzuela, a former member of a mission congregation in Antigua, told the group about some of the problems of spreading the Word in that Caribbean Island culture.

Then Prof. Thomas Kuster talked about the language of evangelism. He warned against using trite, theological words when talking to the unchurched because they may not understand the meaning. Finally, Pastor Roth dis-

cussed the special problems connected with witnessing in the inner city.

On the final day, Pastor Richard Stadler talked about witnessing to family and friends. In the evening the members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church Evangelism Committee from Jordan, Minnesota, talked with the group about how they dealt with the unchurched people of their community.

The Lutheran Collegians Missions Committee would like to thank everyone who made this seminar possible. Special thanks to the AAL for making it possible to bring several youth from great distances. We would also like to thank Professor Raddatz for his services during and before the seminar. Finally, we also thank Mr. Alfons Woldt and the Special Ministries Board for their support and guidance.

E. Vogt
Missions Committee

WELS Missions — How They Grow and Mature

Part II

Two weeks ago Pastor Pfothenhauer began his report on the Colonial Conference held at Virginia Beach, Virginia, on January 17-18, 1978. (See page 105.) The conference undertook an in-depty study of the stages in the growth of a mission. Last time you read about "Planting the Seed" and "Putting Down the Roots."

Reaching Out to Others

Under the able questioning of Pastor D. Scherbarth of Rumford, Rhode Island, panel members Pastor E. Waldek of Clifton Park, New York, and Pastor D. Schaller of King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, shared their experiences and insights in reaching out into the community with the Gospel.

Lay people and pastors (yes!) sometimes experience difficulties when they share the faith with their fellow men. Cotton-mouth and "foot-in-mouth-disease" are common maladies of the inexperienced evangelist. Also, our inability to gauge the success of our efforts makes the task a difficult one. Often, results are a long time in coming. Such disappointments discourage further efforts. Our Old Adam is quick to suggest reasons why evangelistic work should be postponed indefinitely.

Pastor Waldek spoke of "delivering a message from a concerned soul, and of being willing to be a 'fool' for Christ." When is an evangelism call a success? When a Law/Gospel message has been delivered.

Commenting on lay involvement in evangelism, it was noted by Pastor Waldek that "not everyone is able to go door to door." Preparation for a witness call requires that we ask ourselves, "What are my blessings as a Christian?"

Pitfalls of evangelism were listed: 1) Presenting the Gospel without first presenting God's Law. 2) Expecting too much too fast. 3) Not striking while the iron is hot. 4) Not leaving the door open for future visits.

Pastor Schaller has been successful in motivating his people to conduct a community canvass. After a period of preparation and thoughtful planning, 50 per cent of the members of his church showed up for a canvass-meeting.

What are the ingredients of a good canvass blitz? "The pastor must be 100 per cent in favor; the pastor's attitude is all important," stated Pastor Schaller. In this way the defeatist attitude sometimes encountered with canvassing can be overcome.

Although only one call out of a hundred showed signs of promise, Pastor Schaller's flock was out in force for a second round of ringing doorbells!

The Congregation Matures

Pastor Walter Beckmann of Falls Church, Virginia, discussed the growth and maturing of a mission congregation. "The emphasis in our congregations at all times must be on preaching the Gospel and teaching God's Word."

The new congregation need not immediately begin offering a full program of organizations, activities, and social events. "Except for the essential program of preaching and teaching, it's best to let most programs come from

grass-roots pressure when the group is ready for it," counseled Pastor Beckmann.

Many people are reluctant to commit themselves to membership in a congregation with temporary facilities. A loan from the Synod's Church Extension Fund enables the new mission to construct a basic worship facility with square footage to accommodate realistic growth for its foreseeable future. A large, well-appointed building does not necessarily insure growth. In fact, growth may be retarded if it appears that the little mission has overbuilt and now is seeking membership in order to retire a substantial debt!

Pastor Beckmann, whose congregation operates a Christian day school, suggested that "when a congregation does begin to plan for a day school it should consider how this will affect its participation in the mission work of the Synod. When a mission congregation plans a school, it should at the same time plan a definite program and timetable for self-support."

Growth in finances necessitates periodic review of the congregation's financial program. This includes long-range timetables and milestones which will

(Continued on next page)



Pastors David Scherbarth and Dan Schaller enjoying a snack

see the congregation going off salary-support and interest-subsidy from the Synod.

Growth in numbers is expected in a parish even as we expect a child to grow. A checklist to examine factors in growth, or the lack thereof, was provided: 1) Has neighborhood growth leveled off or changed drastically? 2) Is relocation a consideration? 3) Is it time to begin a spin-off mission in a newer area? 4) Is it time for a change in the pastorate? 5) Should a dual parish be considered?

The Colonial Mission District extends almost a thousand miles north-south, from the Province of Quebec to the State of North Carolina — a vast area of responsibility! Our accountability could be better met, it was suggested, by dividing the conference into Mission Awareness Groups. Congregations located in geographical clusters would investigate the need and feasibility of beginning new missions in their own region.

The Mission Congregation As a Member of WELS

The relationship of the mission congregation to its parent body was spelled out by Pastor Norman Berg, executive secretary for Home Missions of the WELS.

By providing loans to acquire property, parsonage, worship facility, and a pastor, the members of the Synod cooperate in giving birth to and in nurturing the new community of believers. Every effort, on the part of the lay people and the clergy, needs to be directed toward building up and maintaining healthy attitudes within the Synodical relationship. A cheerful outlook by the pastor towards his ministry was listed by Pastor Berg as the "crucial ingredient" for a successful ministerial recruitment program.

Membership in the Synod, under God, enables congregations to guard Bible beliefs from the intrusion of error. The WELS is vitally interested in proclaiming Christ's saving Gospel throughout our country and into all the world. Who will do it? "The primary agent is the congregation and its individual members."

Pastor Berg challenged the conference to educate their congregations to seek to meet the goal of having 50 per

cent of all money offerings go toward benevolences (outside purposes).

Participants were reminded that "the pastor's deep-down attitude towards the WELS and its representative organizations and officers is the most powerful agent in assuring a response which is healthy and productive for both the mission and the WELS." "Our Synod is a blessing of God to be appreciated, nurtured, assisted, protected, prayed for," Pastor Berg concluded.

The Mission Pastor Grows

"We grow in our ministry as we cultivate a right spirit and good work habits," stated Pastor Carl Pagel of Baltimore, Maryland. "The pastor must learn to deal with disappointments. They are sure to come. How the pastor learns to cope has a lot to do with his productivity and growth in the ministry."

"What are your objectives in the ministry?" asked Pastor Pagel. "What do you hope to accomplish in 10 years? In five years? By the end of this year?" Failure to plan was cited as the cause for many ministerial frustrations. "Without a good (work) plan much time will be wasted on reacting to crisis situations and wondering what to do next."

A good self-image and a healthy self-confidence are important for making the best use of one's gifts. "To have a good self-image, you'll have to learn to forgive yourself. Don't dwell on past mistakes. We have a forgiving and a merciful God! He is the God of the second chance. Jonah blew his first assignment, but was given a second chance and became a successful missionary. Peter denied his Lord, but was given a second chance and became solid as a rock. St. Paul once thought as a child and spoke as a child, but he learned to put away childish things."

The subject was given a fitting conclusion by Pastor Pagel: "We must learn to see ourselves as God's redeemed children, saints who have been sanctified with the blood of the Lamb and the power of God's Holy Spirit, ambassadors of the King, heirs of heavenly mansions, and most of all soldiers in the army of our victorious Savior protected by the power of His mighty Word from all the assaults of the old evil foe!"

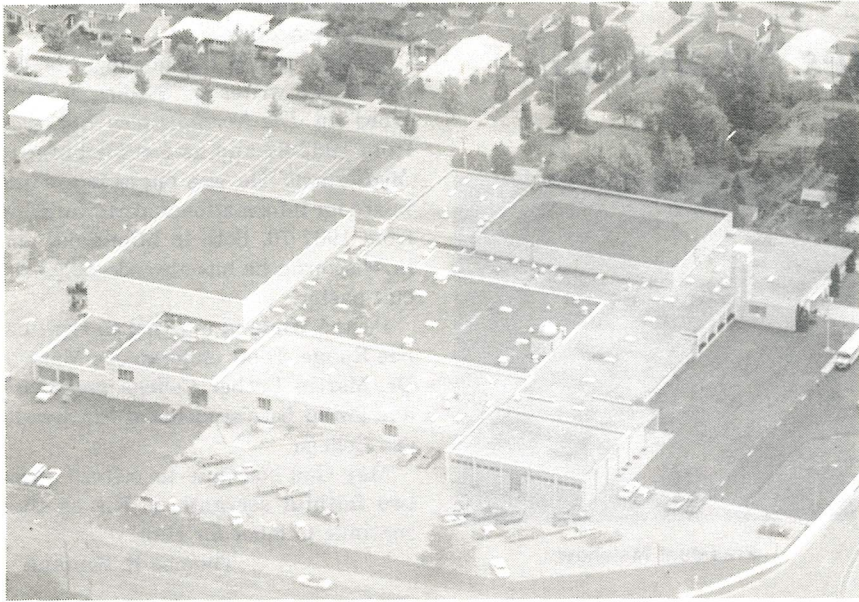
DMLC Midyear Graduates

Fifteen midyear graduates of Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minnesota, received Bachelor of Science in Education degrees in a special service on Thursday, January 19, 1978. Pastor Conrad Frey, president of Dr. Martin Luther College, delivered the sermon. The liturgy was read by Vice-President Lloyd Huebner, and the degrees were conferred by Vice-President Arthur Schulz. The service was followed by a reception for the graduates, their families, and their friends held in Luther Memorial Union.

The 15 midyear graduates are: Bruce Braun, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; J. Gary Cox, New Ulm, Minnesota; Fonda Fischer, Watertown, Wisconsin; Ruth Kitzerow, Woodland, Wisconsin; David Lepke, New Ulm, Minnesota; Merry Lervold, Fair Oaks, California; Linda Meyer, Oak Creek, Wisconsin; Thomas Mulinix, Maumee, Ohio; Margaret Petermann, St. Paul, Minnesota; Bradley Pleuss, Manitowoc, Wisconsin; Valora Schulz Reid, New Ulm, Minnesota; Jane Rodmyre, Eagan, Minnesota; Judy Sachs, Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota; Kathy Schoen, Green Bay, Wisconsin; and Doris Nolte Winkel, New Ulm, Minnesota.

Eight of the 15 were given the following assignments by the Synod's Assignment Committee. They are: Bruce Braun to Zum Kripplein Christi, Iron Ridge, Wisconsin; J. Gary Cox to St. John's, Sleepy Eye, Minnesota; David Lepke to Emanuel, New London, Wisconsin; Bradley Pleuss to Mt. Olive, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Merry Lervold to St. Paul's, Columbus, Ohio; Margaret Petermann to the Apache Mission, Peridot, Arizona; Judy Sachs to Centennial, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and Kathy Schoen to Reformation, San Diego, California.

The following were also recommended for Synod certification as secondary teachers: LaVonne Dieckman, Monroe, Wisconsin; John Johnson, Jefferson, Wisconsin; and Martin Sponholz, La Crosse, Wisconsin.



Present Campus

Fox Valley 25 Years Old

When Mary was told that she would be the mother of Jesus, her reason told her that such a birth was impossible. The angel Gabriel responded with the powerful words: "For with God nothing shall be impossible." Certainly Fox Valley Lutheran High School's 25 years of existence should lead us to confess: "Yes, with God's help nothing is impossible!" We can say this without qualifications since through the Lord's direction our area Lutheran high school continues to fulfill its purpose, that is, to train our young people in the Christian faith and at the same time to provide a good education.

Fox Valley's history began in the early 1940s as the possibility was explored of organizing a Lutheran high school for the Appleton area. One of the first meetings conducted to investigate this endeavor was held in March 1946. In May 1948 a constitution for the formation of a Lutheran High School Association was adopted. A major step toward the actual erection of such a high school was taken by the association at a special meeting in July 1948, when it voted to purchase 15 acres of farmland for \$1,200 an acre.

However, it was not until June 1953 that the hopes of starting the high school actually materialized. At that time the old Jefferson public school,

erected in 1884, became vacant and was made available. It was decided to begin classes in this building in September, only three months away. On September 13, 1953, an Opening Day Service was conducted and Fox Valley Lutheran High School became a reality.

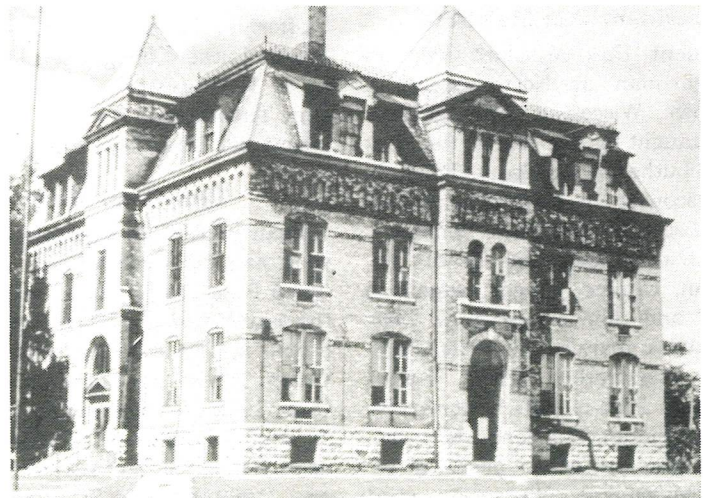
Yet, many people at the time must have seriously wondered whether this Christian high school with its eight students in ninth grade and 400 Association members residing in five counties would ever grow into an established

four-year institution. Twenty-five years of existence have answered those first doubts. With the help of God nothing is impossible. In April 1954 the Board of Regents called the Rev. Harold Warnke as principal, a position he faithfully occupied until his retirement in 1974. Under God's guidance, the student body grew. By the time the new facilities on Oneida Street were dedicated on November 17, 1957, the student body numbered 278 with a faculty of nine full-time and two part-time teachers.

The interest in Christian secondary education continued. As a result, additional classrooms were built in 1965, allowing Fox Valley to accommodate 500 students. Yet, even that addition was not sufficient to meet the demand for a solid Christian education at the high-school level. In 1976, the representatives of the 30 churches comprising the Fox Valley Lutheran High School Federation voted to expand the facilities by adding more classrooms, office space, and a new gymnasium. The aim was to accommodate up to 750 students. The \$1.3-million project was dedicated on October 2, 1977. Presently, 650 students are being instructed by 34 teachers. The Rev. Wayne Borgwardt is principal.

May the Lord continue to allow us to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the Christian students entrusted to our care! We know that He can, "For with God nothing shall be impossible."

Eugene M. Baer



Jefferson Public School

Mobridge Celebrates 50 and 50!

No, it's not some secret formula for a soft drink, but a 50-year pause much more refreshing. The first 50 stands for the 50th anniversary of Northwestern Lutheran Academy, Mobridge, South Dakota. Its chosen anniversary theme is "A Tree Planted by the Rivers of Water." These words of Psalm 1, describing a child of God, in a very apt way also apply to Northwestern Lutheran Academy. Standing beside the waters of the Missouri River and the Oahe Reservoir, Northwestern Lutheran Academy has grown as a flourishing tree. The Word that is preached in its halls and classrooms brings forth wholesome fruit in the hearts of its students.

The second 50 stands for the two 25-year anniversaries of the ministries of the Rev. Dan Malchow, president of the Academy, and of the Rev. Paul Wilde, dean of students at the Academy. Who can count the ways God has used these men during each of their 25 years in the ministry! In a special service held at the Academy on October 30, 1977, guest speaker Rev. Gerhard Birkholz spoke on John 8:31,32. He urged his hearers to praise the Lord for His steadfast love so clearly evidenced in the existence of the Academy and in the work of His servants. The worship service was followed by a reception in the Academy dining hall.

President Dan Malchow

President Dan Malchow was an eight-year-man at Northwestern in Watertown, Wisconsin. After graduation he taught for one year at the Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. In 1953 he graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. His first assignment was Trinity Ev. Lutheran, Eugene, Oregon, which he founded and then served until 1955. The next five years he taught at Northwestern Preparatory School, Watertown. From 1960 to 1964 he served St. John's Lutheran, Caledonia, Minnesota, and then was senior pastor at St. Lucas, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, until 1968.

Since 1968 he has served as presi-



President Malchow



Dean Wilde

dent of Northwestern Lutheran Academy. In this capacity he also serves on the Synod's Commission on Higher Education.

Members of his family include his wife, Ruth, nee Korthals; his children, Carol (Mrs. S. Berg), Garden Grove, California; Louise and Helen at Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm; Philip at Northwestern Lutheran Academy; Timothy and Kathy at home; and his mother, Mrs. Clara Kuehl Malchow.

Dean Paul Wilde

Dean Paul Wilde was also an eight-year-man at Northwestern. He graduated from the Seminary in 1952. In the past 25 years he has served Christ's people in five different states of the Union: Trinity Ev. Lutheran of Tiffin, Ohio (1952-54); Bethany Ev. Lutheran of Saginaw, Michigan (1954-60); St. John Ev. Lutheran of Hancock, Minnesota (1960-65); and St. Paul Ev. Lutheran of Lake Mills, Wisconsin (1965-70). Since 1970 he has served as

dean of students at Northwestern Lutheran Academy.

He has served the members of the Synod as a writer of "Studies in God's Word" in *The Northwestern Lutheran* from 1963-67 and as a contributor to *Meditations*. He was chairman of the Board for Information and Stewardship from 1967-70. Both in Minnesota and in Wisconsin he has also served as circuit pastor.

Pastor Wilde is married to Cynthia, nee Runge. Their children are Mary at Dr. Martin Luther College and Mark and Philip, both students at Northwestern College.

May God continue to refresh these two faithful servants of His as they continue to labor for Him!

Thomas R. Schmidt

CLOSING EXERCISES AT THE SYNODICAL SCHOOLS

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Mequon, Wisconsin

Closing Concert — May 30 at 7:30 P.M.
Graduation Service — May 31 at 10:00 A.M.

Northwestern College Watertown, Wisconsin

Alumni Meeting — May 16 at 3:00 P.M.
Alumni Luncheon — May 16 at 5:00 P.M.
Commencement Concert — May 16 at 7:30 P.M.
Graduation Exercises — May 17 at 10:00 A.M.

Dr. Martin Luther College New Ulm, Minnesota

Alumni Meeting — June 1 at 4:00 P.M.
Commencement Concert — June 1 at 8:00 P.M.
Graduation Exercises June 2 at 10:00 A.M.

Northwestern Preparatory School Watertown, Wisconsin

Commencement Concert — May 16 at 7:30 P.M.
Graduation Service — May 17 at 1:30 P.M.

Martin Luther Academy New Ulm, Minnesota

Commencement Concert — May 31 at 8:00 P.M.
Graduation Exercises — June 1 at 10:00 A.M.

Michigan Lutheran Seminary Saginaw, Michigan

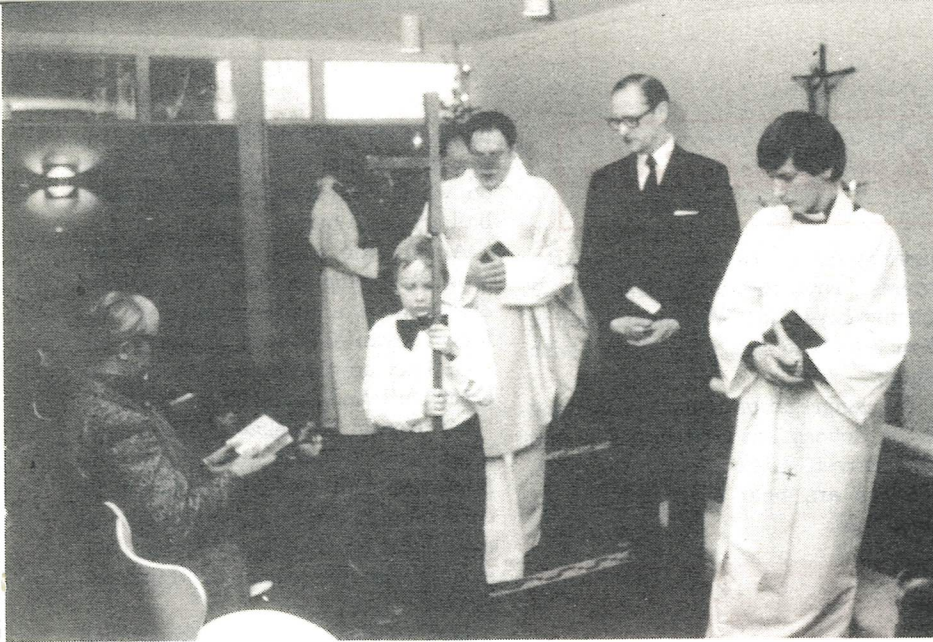
Commencement Concert — May 26 at 7:30 P.M.
Graduation Exercises — May 27 at 10:30 A.M.

Northwestern Lutheran Academy Mobridge, South Dakota

Commencement Concert — May 24 at 8:00 P.M.
Graduation Exercises — May 25 at 10:30 A.M.

PASTORS' INSTITUTE

A Pastors' Institute will be held at Luther High School, Onalaska, Wisconsin, June 12-16, 1978. Prof. Richard D. Balge will present a series of lectures on St. Augustine's "City of God." Prof. Wilbert Gawrisch will present an exegetical study of "Eschatological Prophecies and Their Misinterpretations." A fee of \$15.00 is requested of each participant. The sessions will run from 9:00-11:45 a.m. daily. If you plan to attend please send your registration to: Pastors' Institute, Luther High School, 1501 Wilson St., P.O. Box 129, Onalaska, WI 54650.



Dedication

St. Peter's Chapel Dedicated Near Arctic Circle

When St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of Råneå, near the Arctic Circle in northern Sweden, was organized late in 1976, Pastor Lars Engquist and interested laymen remodeled the basement of the Engquist home as a place of worship for the new congregation. At the time it was believed that the remodeled area, which had a seating capacity of between 50 and 60, would serve the needs of the congregation for some time. Besides, the Engquist living room was available for any overflow. The remodeled area also served the congregation as a fellowship hall.

However, the space soon proved too small, and other solutions had to be considered. Borje and Eda Larsson, a couple who had followed Pastor Engquist out of the State Church and who were among the first communicant members of the new congregation, provided the answer. Owners of a large apartment building which housed a TV dealership on the first level, they graciously offered the use of this space to the congregation. Since the building was ideally located in the center of town, this was indeed an answer to prayer. Plans were immediately drawn up to remodel the space as a place of worship and as a fellowship hall. During the long summer days, Pastor Engquist together with members and friends of the congregation worked long evening hours to remodel the area.

Later in the evening, the ladies of the congregation always provided refreshments for the workmen.

The materials for the remodeling were largely paid for by a loan from the Church Extension Fund which the Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden had established with the help of the Wisconsin Synod. Because of the willing services performed by both pastor and people, no money was expended for labor costs.

The new place of worship, known as St. Peter's Chapel, was dedicated on December 11, 1977, to the glory of God for the proclamation of His Word in truth and purity. St. Peter's Congrega-

tion was joined on that day by members of the congregations in Piteå and Skellefteå. The new chapel was crowded beyond capacity; more than 200 were in attendance. Alvar Svensson, pastor of St. James in Piteå, and Gunnar Bystrom, pastor of St. Andrew's in Skellefteå, assisted at the dedicatory service, as did two laymen, Tore Tanersjo and Albin Nordstrom, who read Scripture selections. Pastor Engquist writes about the new place of worship that "it is everything we could wish and pray for."

Encouraged by the action of the Råneå congregation, St. James in Piteå has now purchased a building, which the congregation plans to remodel for a place of worship. St. Andrew's in Skellefteå is making similar plans.

Encouraging news also comes from Norway. In Avaldsnes, near Stavenger, Ole Brandal until recently was a salaried lay preacher of the Norwegian Lutheran Laymen's Mission, a group within the State Church of Norway which earlier this year sent a gift of 10,000 Norwegian crowns to the WELS mission in Africa. He has now resigned from his position in the mission society and from membership in the State Church. This represents a tremendous sacrifice on his part and has made it difficult for him to support his family. He hopes to organize a small congregation in Avaldsnes and to establish fellowship with the Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden. Before too many years, the Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden may well become the Lutheran Confessional Church in Sweden, Norway, and Other States.



Fellowship

Direct from the Districts

NEBRASKA

Reporter Richard Kuckhahn

First WELS Church In Arkansas Dedicated

King of Kings Lutheran Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, was officially organized in early 1978 as the first Wisconsin Synod church in the state of Arkansas. The first church council was installed on March 5.



First Church Council: Top: L. Hawkins from Jones Mill, F. Bailey from Conway, Pastor A. Schmeling, R. Estes, N. Little Rock. Bottom: O. Wells, W. Runge, and G. Ragan from Little Rock, and T. Aderman from Benton.

Pastor A. L. Schmeling, Nebraska District Missionary, moved to Little Rock last July. In November, 1977, mission status was granted to the small group that gathered around Word and Sacrament in Little Rock. Today the group numbers 57 souls, of whom 43 are communicants. Twelve children are enrolled in the Sunday school. A Ladies' Fellowship group meets once a month.

Members of the congregation are scattered throughout central Arkansas. Motivated by a love for the Gospel, many of the families drive 50 to 75 miles regularly to attend church. They come from places like Searcy, Malvern, Hot Springs, Jones Mills, Benton, and North Little Rock, besides the Little Rock area itself.

Those who have had the privilege of sharing the work of starting a new mission know the unspeakable joy it is to see the Gospel at work as new fields are opened.

As this group looks forward to purchasing a site and building a chapel, it is aware that these tremendous bless-

ings have come their way through the interest, support, and enthusiasm of the members of our Wisconsin Synod in their efforts to share the Gospel with others.

The congregation is now worshipping at the Holiday Inn located at I-30 and 65th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. Services are held every Sunday at 10:00 A.M.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

Reporter Robert Kleist

Groundbreaking In Crystal Lake, Illinois

Reformation Sunday, October 30, 1977, will always be remembered in the annals of Lord And Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake, Illinois. It was on that day that the congregation broke ground for its church and fellowship hall.

About 90 worshipers attended the brief groundbreaking ceremony, which was held at noon on the church property. The church property is on the northeast corner of U.S. 14 and the North Ridgefield Road, about halfway between Crystal Lake and Woodstock, Illinois.



Building Committee: K. Schaefer, R. Brick, Pastor Mueller, and G. Berndtson.

Richard Wm. Mueller, pastor of Lord And Savior, conducted the groundbreaking service and turned over the first shovelful of dirt. Lord And Savior's Building Committee also assisted in the service, breaking ground as appropriate Scripture passages were read. One of those Bible verses was Psalm 127:1: "Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain who build it." The worshipers then crossed Highway 14 for a fellowship dinner in the

home of the August Marquardts. It is the Marquardts who donated the land on which the church and fellowship hall are to be built.

Among the guests present at the groundbreaking service was Girard Zimmerman, a representative of William Tonyan & Sons of McHenry, Illinois. They are the contractors who will erect Lord And Savior's new facilities.

Mr. Gerald Vanselow of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, designed the church and fellowship hall and will supervise its construction. He is the architectural consultant for the Home Mission Division of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod.

God willing, Lord And Savior will dedicate its new church home in the late summer of 1978. In the meantime, the congregation continues to worship in the George Krepel home at 4311 Route 176, about 1/2 mile east of the junction of Routes 176 and 31. Sunday morning worship services are conducted at 10:30, with Sunday school at 9:15. Guests are always welcome. The presence of guests from sister congregations gives strength to our budding congregation, as their voices join ours in hymns and in prayers.

Michigan-Ohio Super Rally

The members of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society in Michigan and Ohio are planning their fourth super rally for May 10, 1978. It will take place at St. Luke Lutheran Church, Vassar, Michigan. Hosting the rally will be the Michigan Thumb Circuit.

Arrival time is set for 10:00 A.M., with opening devotion at 11:00 followed by the business meeting. The afternoon session will feature Pastor Leonard Koeninger as guest speaker. He will present a lecture and display on the work being done by our Synod in Southeast Asia. The ladies will also have a freewill offering, proceeds of which will be used to further the mission work in Southeast Asia. The closing devotion is scheduled for 2:20.

All LWMS ladies in Michigan and Ohio are urged to set aside May 10 to join in this Christian fellowship. It promises to be an inspirational day for all.

With the Lord

Pastor Otto P. Medenwald 1894 - 1978

Otto Paul Medenwald, son of Karl and Bertha nee Luebke Medenwald, was born in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, on March 31, 1894, and baptized and confirmed by Pastor Gotthold F. Gruber in St. Peter's Evangelical Church.

A graduate of Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin, he completed his work there in 1915. He then attended the Theological Seminary at Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. Shortly after his graduation from the Seminary, he was ordained as a pastor in the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod. He faithfully served parishes in Terry, Montana, and in Amery, Clear Lake, and Viroqua, Wisconsin. For a number of years he also worked in the library at Northwestern College.

Pastor Medenwald's marriage to Adela Wendt took place on September 30, 1919. She passed away on June 30, 1970.

Survivors are his adopted daughter, Eunice Mary, Belle Plaine, Minnesota, two sisters-in-law, Josephine Schumacher and Leona Wendt, Watertown, Wisconsin, and a number of nieces and nephews.

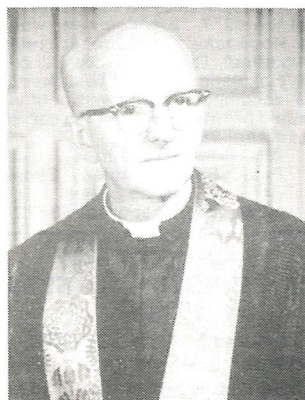
After his years in the ministry, Pastor Medenwald lived in Watertown, Wisconsin. Later he went to live at the Lutheran Home for the Aged at Belle Plaine, Minnesota. It was there that he passed away on February 22, 1978, at the age of 83 years, 10 months, and 22 days.

He had retained his membership at St. Mark's Lutheran Church of Watertown, Wisconsin, where his pastors conducted the funeral services on February 25. On the basis of II Timothy 4:7,8 Pastor Myron Kell reminded the hearers what a blessed privilege it is for one who has "finished his course and kept the faith" to look forward to receiving the crown of righteousness which the Lord won for him at Calvary. Pastor Henry Paustian served as liturgist and officiated at the committal.

May the Lord continue to grant workers to His Church of the same humble and cheerful spirit that characterized this servant of the Lord!

Pastor Kenneth W. Vertz 1908-1978

Early Saturday, February 25, 1978, the gates of heaven opened for Pastor Kenneth W. Vertz of Owosso, Michigan. He was born 69 years earlier on September 7, 1908, to John and Theresa (Broecker) Vertz in Mishicot, Wisconsin. His preparation for the full-time work of the Christian ministry included schooling at Northwestern Preparatory Department and at Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin, from which he graduated in 1931, and concluded with his graduation from Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary three years later.



Pastor K. Vertz

His entire ministry, which began in 1934, was spent in the Michigan District, where he served congregations in Hale and Detroit before going to Salem Ev. Lutheran Church of Owosso in 1946. Respiratory illness brought his ministry there to a close on March 5, 1975, when he preached his last sermon after faithfully serving the congregation for 30 years. During those years, God enabled him to bring many souls to a knowledge of their Savior, while enjoying the fellowship of brethren in the ministry and gaining the respect of the community.

At the funeral service, a classmate and neighboring pastor, the Rev. Hans Schultz of Chesaning, used the words of Matthew 25:21 to remind his hearers that for the child of God death is but the way of entering the perfect joy and never-ending life with the Lord of heaven.

President W. Zarling of the Michigan District spoke of the blessings God had provided the Synod and the District by means of the talents He had given Pastor Vertz. For several years Pastor

Vertz served as a member of the District Mission Board and two terms on the board of the Martin Luther Memorial Homes, Inc. Pastor Vertz also served as a contributing editor of *The Northwestern Lutheran* and was the founder and long-time speaker of the Owosso Lutheran Hour.

Survivors include his wife, the former Helen Schwacke, to whom he was married on January 18, 1936; a son, the Rev. Karl J. Vertz of Livonia; two daughters, Mrs. Lyle (Lynette) Rowell of Grand Marais and Mrs. Robert (Carol) Campbell of Corunna; seven grandchildren and a sister. All of them look forward to the joyous reunion of the saints in heaven.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth."

R. P. Mueller

Editorial

(continued from page 115)

such ready access to the Word. No people have so neglected it. We claim it to be the norm and standard for our lives and yet, so often relegate its study to our pastors and teachers.

The Bible is the vehicle of God's grace by which He would make and keep us as His own, a vehicle through which He brings life to light. Graciously, He has also given us time to use it.

Ronald Heins

Installation

Pastor Theodore A. Sauer
will be installed as
Executive Secretary of the
Board for World Missions
at 7:30 P.M. on Wednesday,
April 26, 1978, at
Atonement Lutheran Church,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

NOTICE

The next regular plenary session of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for

April 24-25, 1978.

Business to be acted on is to be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Board, with copies to be furnished the Chairman of the Board, no later than ten days prior to the meeting date.

Norval W. Kock, Secretary
Board of Trustees

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES

MICHIGAN

COLONIAL PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: April 18-19, 1978.

Place: Peace Lutheran Church, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania; D. Schaller, host pastor.

Preacher: P. Schweppe; R. Balza, alternate.

Agenda: Article 10 of the *Augsburg Confession*, "The Lord's Supper"; D. Schaller; The State of the Soul after Death: K. Arndt; Exegesis of Hebrews 8:6-13, with special emphasis on the word "Covenant"; K. Kappel.

D. Scherbarth, Secretary

SOUTH ATLANTIC

SOUTH CENTRAL PASTORAL CONFERENCE

Date: April 24-26, 1978, beginning with a 6:30 p.m. Communion service.

Place: Living Word, Mobile, Alabama.

Preacher: R. Busch; W. Fischer, alternate.

Agenda: Old Testament Study: J. Schroeder; Shall We Pray for the Gift of Tongues Today? S. Stone; An Overview of Millennialism: J. Guse; Sermon Critique; False Doctrines of the Antichrist Produced: J. Werner; Isagogical Study of Hosea: D. Tollefson; *The Formula of Concord*: W. Fischer; Prayer Fellowship: R. Bartelt; Whom Should We Bury? F. Adrian; Seminar for Military Work: District Special Ministries Board.

J. Schroeder, Secretary

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

CHICAGO CONFERENCE

Date: May 9, 1978; 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Place: Palos Ev. Lutheran Church, Palos Heights, Illinois; D. Dolan, host pastor.

Preacher: L. Hieber, O.T. Text (alternate: D. Thompson, N.T. Text).

Agenda: Exegesis of James 1: R. Schleicher; alternate. Exegesis of James 2: E. Meier, alternate. Abortion! What Should We Be Doing (continued): R. Mueller; Excommunication Versus Self-Exclusion: A. Siggelkow; The Right To Die Controversy: W. Meier, alternate.

R. W. Pasbrig, Secretary

WESTERN WISCONSIN

CENTRAL PASTORAL-TEACHER CONFERENCE

Date: April 24, 1978; 9:00 a.m.

Place: St. John's, Pardeeville, Wisconsin.

Agenda: Luther and Christian Education: Dr. E. Kiessling; Lack of Discipline — A Form of Child Abuse: G. Gentz.

Note: Please excuse to the host pastor.

P. Ziemer, Secretary

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

Date: April 25, 1978; 9:00 a.m.

Place: St. Paul's, Cataract, Wisconsin.

Preacher: H. Hoepfner; H. Klug, alternate.

Agenda: Exegesis of I Thessalonians 3: M. Herrman; Common Mistakes in Sermon Preparation and Delivery: J. Gerlach; The Old Testament Sacrifices and How They Pointed to Christ: F. Werner; The Role of the Pastor's Wife: O. Heier.

R. Kloehn, Secretary

DISTRICT TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

Date: April 27-28, 1978.

Place: St. Paul's Church and School, Menomonie, Wisconsin.

Agenda: Thursday, April 27

9:00 Worship Service: Pastor L. Zessin

9:30 Doctrine of the Angels: Pastor L. Zessin

10:45 Business Meeting

11:00 Report of the Board for Parish Education

11:15 Sectionals

1:15 Workshops:

No. 1 Promoting the Preschool Program: Mrs. R. Bauer, Mrs. G. Miller

No. 2 Reading Can and Should be Fun:

F. Wagner

No. 3 Scientific Thought:

M. Sponholz

No. 4 Unscriptural Extremes:

Pastor M. Bartling

3:15 Devotion: Pastor J. Willitz

Friday, April 28

9:00 Opening Devotion: Pastor H. Prahli

9:15 Promoting the Student-Teaching Program: Prof. H. Wessel

10:30 Sectionals

12:45 Workshops (Same as Thursday)

2:45 Business Meeting

3:15 Closing Service: Pastor L. Zessin

D. Nell, Program Chairman

DEDICATION WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Members of the Wisconsin Ev. Lutheran Synod are invited to attend a special dedication service to be conducted on Sunday, April 16, 1978, at 3:00 P.M. in the chapel of Wisconsin Lutheran College. The college is located at 8830 West Bluemound Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Visitors will have an opportunity to take a guided tour of the new campus.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS WISCONSIN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

The Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Board of Control requests from the voting constituency of the Synod nominations for a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. This is being done to fill the vacancy which will exist at the close of the 1977-78 school year when Prof. Gerald Hoenecke's announced retirement goes into effect. The man called will be asked to teach Homiletics and Old Testament. Nominations, accompanied with pertinent information, should be in the hands of the secretary no later than April 26, 1978.

WLS Board of Control
Pastor Paul A. Manthey, Secretary
8419 W. Melvina Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222

ANNIVERSARY BLOOMINGTON LUTHERAN SCHOOL

On Sunday, April 23, 1978, the members of Bloomington Lutheran Congregation, Bloomington, Minnesota, will celebrate the 25th anniversary of their Christian day school. There will be a potluck dinner at 12:30 and a special service at 2:30 p.m. All graduates and past students are invited to share the day with Bloomington Lutheran.

INSTALLATIONS

(Authorized by the District Presidents)

Pastors:

Hintz, Gerald C., as pastor of Our Savior, Clinton, Iowa, on February 12, 1978, by M. Dietz (WW).

Lillo, James H., as pastor of Trinity, Grafton, Nebraska, on February 12, 1978, by J. Plitzuweit, and as pastor of Grace, Geneva, Nebraska, on February 16, 1978, by J. Frank (NE).

Valleau, Dennis J., as pastor of St. John's, Allegan, Michigan, on February 19, 1978, by J. Hopi (Mich.).

ADDRESSES

(Submitted through the District Presidents)

Pastors:

Domson, Andrew R.
1405 Lincolnshire Rd. — RR 11
Oklahoma City, OK 73170

Ferch, George A.
560 11th St. NE
East Wenatchee, WA 98801

Lawrenz, Prof. John C.
323 Parker Rd. S.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

After June 15:
2711 Hardin St.
Saginaw, Michigan 48602

Lillo, James H.
1510 J Street
Geneva, NE
Phone: home: 402/759-3796
office: 402/759-3732

Schroeder, Loyal
745 Happy Hollow
Hot Springs, SD 57747

Valleau, Dennis J.
214 Western Ave.
Allegan, MI 49010
Phone: 616/673-6212

Teachers:

Engel, Willard
202 S. Alp
Bay City, MI 48706

Westphal, Steven
940 Evans St.
Neenah, WI 54956

CHOIR ROBES

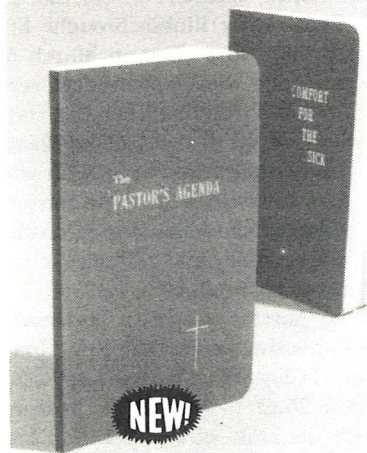
Thirty-nine (39) choir robes are available to a mission congregation for shipping charges. They are being offered by the choir of St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. If interested, contact Mr. Charles Boehme, 737 Polk, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin 53066, or call 414/567-5381.

THE PASTOR'S AGENDA

Prepared by
the WELS Commission on Worship

Recently published by *Northwestern*, this handy, pocket-sized book is the ideal companion to the pastor as he visits the shut-in, sick, and dying; as he conducts private communion, baptism, confirmation, wedding, burial, and worship services; as he opens various meetings with devotions. Flexible red kivar cover. 93 pages.

Number: 19 N 1901 Price: \$3.95



ORDER FROM:

Northwestern Publishing House
3624 W. North Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

Please add 10 per cent of the total dollar amount of the order — 50 cents minimum — to cover the cost of transportation and handling. Wisconsin residents are asked to add 4 per cent sales tax.

Comfort for the Sick, by B. P. Nommensen, a pocket companion to *The Pastor's Agenda*, is also available. It includes devotions, prayers, and Scripture readings for the sick at home, in the hospital, or in the nursing home. Flexible blue kivar cover. 115 pages.

Number: 06 N 0553 Price: \$3.50

NEW WELS CHURCHES

Names Requested

In recent months the Wisconsin Synod began work in the states and cities listed below. Please send all names of members who moved into the general area of these cities, as well as names of people who may be interested in a Wisconsin Synod mission, to:

WELS MEMBERSHIP CONSERVATION
3512 W. North Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53208

Names as well as pertinent information regarding members referred will be forwarded to the nearest pastor and/or mission board chairman.

Alabama	Montgomery
Alaska	Sitka/Ketchikan*
Arizona	Chandler
	Sierra Vista*
Arkansas	Little Rock
California	Modesto
	Placer County
	Santa Maria*
Connecticut	Trumbull*
Florida	Ft. Walton Beach*
	Lakeland*
	Sarasota
	Zephyrhills*
Georgia	Lawrenceville
Idaho	Pocatello
Illinois	Belleville
	Downers Grove
	Eltingham*
Kansas	Salina*
Indiana	Muncie*
Iowa	Clinton
Michigan	Big Rapids*
	Imlay City
Minnesota	Fairmont*
	Grand Rapids
	Northfield*
	Plymouth/Maple Grove*
Missouri	Joplin*
	S.E. Kansas City
Montana	Helena*
	Missoula*
Nebraska	Fremont*
	O'Neill*
Ohio	Ashland
	S.W. Cleveland*
	Dayton
	Lima
Pennsylvania	Harrisburg
Tennessee	Knoxville
Texas	Abilene*
	Midland/Odessa*
	Wichita Falls*
Washington	Moses Lake*
West Virginia	Beckley*
Wisconsin	Antigo
	Galesville
	Genesee/Wales*
	Holmen
	Plymouth
	Prairie du Chien*
	Rice Lake*
British Columbia	Vancouver*

*Denotes exploratory services.

NAMES WANTED

TORONTO, CANADA

Residents of Toronto and environs, who are interested in exploring the possibility of organizing a WELS mission in that area, are asked to contact Pastor Tom Potenhauer, 1279 Evans Blvd., Ottawa, Canada, K1H 7T8.

NEW YORK CITY

Sunday worship services are being held in Manhattan at 675 West End Avenue, Apartment No. 6A. The apartment is located between 92nd and 93rd Streets and is conveniently situated three blocks south of the 96th Street IRT Broadway-7th Avenue Subway stop. For time of service please contact locally Mr. John Bills (212) 865-4844 or send names to Pastor David Pagel, 218 E. Crescent Avenue, Ramsey, New Jersey 07446; phone (201) 825-3816.

FERGUS FALLS/BATTLE LAKE, MINN.

Please forward the names of WELS and ELS members who have moved into the Battle Lake and Fergus Falls area to Pastor Gary A. Griep, 715 Scandia, Alexandria, Minnesota 56308.

EXPLORATORY

HELENA, MONTANA

WELS exploratory services are being conducted in the Community Center of Leisure Village, 2901 Herrin Road, Helena, Montana, every Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Sunday school is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. Send names to or make contact in person with Mr. Carl Schwertfeger, 108 Ridgewood Lane, Helena, or Pastor John Engel, 808 Sacajawea Drive, Great Falls, Montana.

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Exploratory services are being conducted at the Courtney Club, 26525 Golden Valley Road, Saugus, California, at 8:30 a.m. References should be directed to Pastor Richard Yecke, 42520 N. 21 Street West, Lancaster, California 93534. This field comprises the communities of Saugus, Newhall, Valencia, and Canyon Country.

FT. WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA FLORIDA PANHANDLE

Worship services are conducted each Sunday at 4:00 p.m. (Sunday school at 3:00 p.m.) at the Kinder Care Center, North Street, off Race Track Road, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. This is the Eglin Airforce Base area. Names and information may be forwarded to Mr. Gerry Fisher, 8 Moroni Lane, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida 32548 (904/242-4054) or to Pastor Frederick S. Adrian, 91 Freeway Dr., Mobile, Alabama 36619 (205/661-1971)

JOPLIN, MISSOURI

Exploratory services are being conducted in Karen's Studio, 1910 Ohio Street, Joplin, Missouri 64801. Sunday school and Bible class begin at 3:30 p.m. and the worship service at 4:30 p.m. For information call 417/781-8759 or 816/884-5252; or write to Pastor W. T. Niermeier, P.O. Box 56, Harrisonville, Missouri 64701.

TIME AND PLACE

Visiting the Smokies?

Stop at Knoxville, Tennessee

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

Shepherd of the Hills Ev. Lutheran now holds worship services each Sunday at the Tennessee Motor Inn, 6200 Papermill Road, Knoxville, Tennessee. Worship is at 10:30 a.m., Sunday school and adult Bible study at 9:00 a.m. For information contact Pastor Scott Stone, 8540 Dresden, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 (615/693-7494).

LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA NORTHEAST ATLANTA

Sola Fide Ev. Lutheran now holds worship services each Sunday at the Kinder Care Center, Langley Road, off Hywy 29, Lawrenceville, Georgia. Worship is at 10:30 a.m., Sunday school and adult Bible study at 9:00 a.m. For information contact Pastor Larry Zahn, 3157 A. Ferrite Loop, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30245 or call 404/962-1894.

COMING TO ARKANSAS?

If so, please note our new place of worship. King of Kings Ev. Lutheran Church, Little Rock, is now worshipping at the Holiday Inn (South), located at Interstate 30, exit 65th Street. We worship every Sunday at 10:00 a.m., with Sunday school and adult class at 11:00 a.m. Names of prospects should be sent to: Pastor A. L. Schmeling, 5907 Chaucer Lane, Little Rock, Arkansas 72209; phone: 501/565-3600.

OFFER

An oak baptismal font is available to any mission congregation for the cost of transportation. Contact: Pastor James C. Kiecker, 303 S. Jefferson (Zilwaukee), Saginaw, Michigan 48604.

List of Nominees — MLS

The following men have been nominated to fill the impending vacancy at Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, Michigan, caused by the retirement of Prof. Martin R. Toepel. The candidate chosen should be qualified to teach in the field of Latin and English.

John F. Brug	West Newton, PA
Thomas B. Franzman	Citrus Heights, CA
Edward C. Fredrich III	Morenci, MI
Mark A. Goeglein	Maitland, FL
Ronald H. Gosdeck	Kenosha, WI
Robert J. Gurgel	Mitchell, SD
Keith R. Haag	Manitowoc, WI
Stephen Hintz	New Ulm, MN
Robert W. Kock	Tawas City, MI
Harlyn J. Kuschel	New Ulm, MN
Roderick G. Luebchow	St. Paul, MN
Robert P. Mueller	Owosso, MI
J. R. Petrie	Fond du Lac, WI
Edward D. Pinchoff	Ann Arbor, MI
James A. Schmidt	Morgan, MN
Lynn A. Schroeder	Saginaw, MI
Erhardt G. Schultz	Durand, MI
John C. Siefert	Midland, MI
Alan H. Siggelkow	Fort Wayne, IN
John F. Vogt	Reedsville, FL
Daniel D. Westendorf	Hopkins, MI
James J. Westendorf	Brookfield, WI
Walter W. Westphal	Longmont, CO
Philip E. Zarling	Columbus, NE

The Board of Control of Michigan Lutheran Seminary will meet on Tuesday, May 2, 1978, at 1:30 p.m. to call a man from this list. Correspondence regarding the nominees should be in the hands of the secretary no later than Monday, May 1, 1978.

MLS Board of Control
Mr. Milton Bugbee, Secretary,
206 South Alp
Bay City, MI 48706

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Treasurer's Report

PREBUDGET SUBSCRIPTION PERFORMANCE

Two months ended February 28, 1978

	Subscription Amount for 1978	2/12 of Annual Subscription	Subscription and Pension Offerings	Per Cent of Subscription
Arizona-California	\$ 451,704	\$ 75,284	\$ 83,264	110.6
Dakota-Montana	240,599	40,100	35,768	89.2
Michigan	1,296,136	216,023	184,947	85.6
Minnesota	1,372,260	228,710	262,652	114.8
Nebraska	268,565	44,761	46,844	104.7
Northern Wisconsin	1,467,813	244,635	239,958	98.1
Pacific Northwest	128,577	21,429	23,666	110.4
Southeastern Wisconsin	1,785,292	297,549	270,104	90.8
Western Wisconsin	1,688,501	281,417	281,842	100.2
South Atlantic	111,678	18,613	19,910	107.0
Total — 1978	\$8,811,125	\$1,468,521	\$1,448,955	98.7
Total — 1977	\$8,252,472	\$1,375,412	\$1,151,272	83.7

CURRENT BUDGETARY FUND

Statement of Income and Expenditures

Twelve months ended February 28, 1978 with comparative figures for 1977
Twelve months ended February 28

	1978	1977	Increase or Decrease*	
			Amount	Per Cent
Income				
Prebudget Subscription Offerings	\$8,445,255	\$7,820,375	\$624,880	8.0
Pension Plan Contributions	72,650	78,723	6,073*	7.7*
Gifts and Memorials	225,366	195,046	30,320	15.5
Bequests	100,626	73,814	26,812	36.3
Earnings from Fox Estate	63,738	50,461	13,277	26.3
Other Income	16,451	11,683	4,768	40.8
Transfers from Other Funds	125,699	95,330	30,369	31.9
Total Income	\$9,049,785	\$8,325,432	\$724,353	8.7
Expenditures				
Worker-Training — Expenses	\$5,315,788	\$4,765,296	\$550,492	11.6
Worker-Training — Income	2,254,974	2,074,312	180,662	8.7
Worker-Training — Net	\$3,060,814	\$2,690,984	\$369,830	13.7
Home Missions	1,715,685	1,543,495	172,190	11.1
World Missions	1,424,370	1,322,061	102,309	7.7
Benevolences	1,034,789	970,955	63,834	6.6
Administration and Services	800,022	706,583	93,439	13.2
Total Operations	\$8,035,680	\$7,234,078	\$801,602	11.1
Appropriations — Building Funds	235,831	200,000	35,831	17.9
Appropriations — CEF Program	657,808	566,101	91,707	16.2
Total Expenditures	\$8,929,319	\$8,000,179	\$929,140	11.6
Operating Gain	\$ 120,466	\$ 325,253		

Norris Koopmann, Treasurer & Controller
Ronald H. Meier, Assistant Treasurer
3512 W. 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:
April	May 5
May	June 7
June	July 7
July	August 7

CHAPLAIN E. C. RENZ
HOME ADDRESS
6501 Gau-Bischofsheim
Bahnhofstrasse 92
West Germany
Telephone: 06135-3249
MAILING ADDRESS
398-12-3568
Gen. Del.
APO NY 09185

CHAPLAIN C. E. KRUG
HOME ADDRESS
8524 Neunkirchen a. Br.
Goldwitzerstrasse 31
West Germany
Telephone: 09134-5716
MAILING ADDRESS
392-10-5816
Gen. Del.
APO NY 09066

EVANGELISM MATERIALS

The Religious Survey (revised edition) provides a detailed procedure for canvassing homes in urban and rural areas. \$1.00 per copy.

Let Us Pray (third revised edition) provides evangelism prayers for almost every occasion. \$0.60 per copy.

Order from **Evangelism Bookshop**, 3624 West North Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208. When ordering add 50 cents minimum handling charge or 10 per cent of the order.

MILWAUKEE FED. OF WELS CHURCHES CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP CAMP WILLERUP

Three one-week camp sessions for WELS boys and girls, ages 8-12, will again be sponsored by the Milwaukee Federation of WELS Churches. The dates are July 23-29, July 30-August 5, and August 6-12 — from 2:00 p.m. Sunday to 11:00 a.m. Saturday. The cost is \$45.00 per week, less if parents serve on the camp staff.

Needed: Volunteer staff, including pastors teachers, nurses, lifeguards (Red Cross certified), and counselors.

For camper and/or staff application forms and further information please contact the camp managers: Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Koss, 7117 W. Thurston Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53218; phone: (414) 461-3190.

THE SYNODICAL COUNCIL

The Synodical Council will meet at Parkside Lutheran Church, 4311 W. North Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, instead of at the Synod Administration Building.

The date remains the same: April 26-27, 1978, with the first session beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Oscar J. Naumann
President