

The Northwestern Lutheran

O A M E R I C A !

O America!

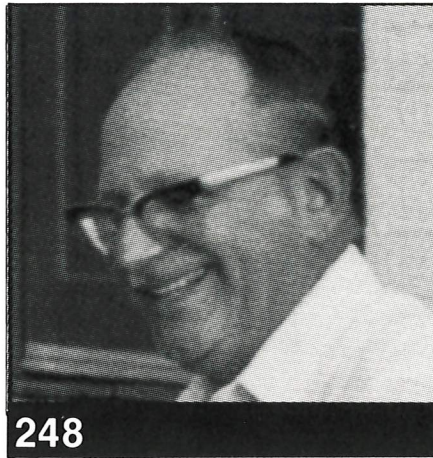
*Land of sweeping prairies,
majestic snowcapped mountains,
mighty rivers, fertile farmlands,
muscular cities.*

*Land of opportunity.
Land of freedom and justice,
where men stand tall
and women raise their heads in honor
and children flourish.
Sparkling golden land we love
and call our home.*

Turn to page 243



COVER



248

*May the Lord our God be with us
as he was with our fathers;
may he never leave
or forsake us. 1 Kings 8:57*

The Northwestern Lutheran

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O America! cries of women'

What's happened to you?
 You've grown old and sluggish and cold.
 You've become a dirty old man!
Pornography and crime eat away
 at the heart of your great cities.
Violence, smut and materialism enter your homes
 by television and rot them out from within.
The minds of your people are being brainwashed.
Love for the shallow, the cheap and the filthy
 is replacing love for goodness, truth and beauty.
Your rivers are polluted.

'Cries of children,

horror of incest

Endless agony

O America!
 Your families are being wrenched apart.
 Wife beating, child beating, incest,
 divorces, lack of love, adulterous intrigues
 are destroying your homes.
 How can any nation hope to stand
 while its very foundation — the family —
 crumbles?

O America!
 Have you lost all sense of morality?
 You have come to accept homosexuality
 as an "alternate lifestyle."
 Absolute values have all but disappeared.
 Instead you have your situation ethics
 where everything is "relative."
 "I'm number one" — that's the day's mentality.
 "If it feels good, do it" — that's today's morality.
 But your so-called sexual revolution
 has turned into a real nightmare
 of venereal disease and death by AIDS,
 hasn't it?

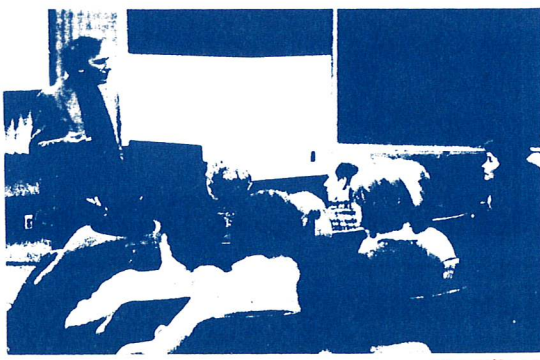


O America!
 Your universities are destroying your future leaders.
 They graduate with little
 or nothing to believe in.
 Your learned professors teach the young
 that they are only highly-evolved animals.
 Pepsi generation blue-jeaned children of the apes.
 Your campuses are homes
 for drunkenness and drugs.

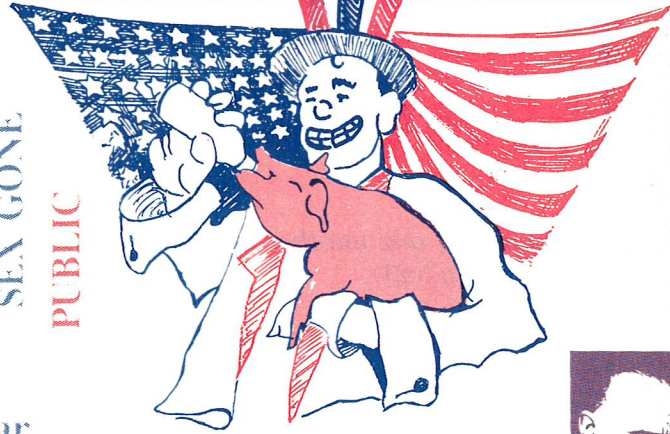


Cocaine use

AIDS



Hard talk:
 Pornography
 SEX GONE
 PUBLIC
 Money
 wins in
 drug war



Abortion issue

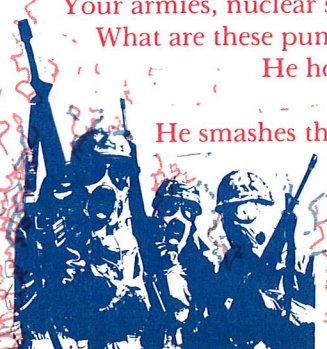


O America!
 You slaughter your priceless
 unborn children by the millions.
 Your cities' lonely sidewalks
 are crowded with the poor
 and the desolate and the desperate.
 Meanwhile the rich keep getting richer and
 the powerful more powerful.
 But who really cares?
 Everybody's too busy watching the World Series
 or another weary super duper bowl
 or selecting the next Miss America —
 ideal of young womanhood,
 the superficial beauty that you love so much.
 Or bowling in the plastic halls of modern culture.

O America!
 You sometimes claimed to be a Christian nation.
 Your Christian seminaries are full of theologians
 who don't even believe the Bible!
 Your churches are full of people
 who don't believe it either.
 And those who do don't live it like they should.
 Meanwhile evangelists saying,
 "Lord, Lord" rake in millions
 and drive around in big white limousines.
 No wonder your land
 is covered with cancerous cults.
 Where are the people to turn?
 to L. Ron Hubbard? or the Bhagwan?



O America!
 Do you actually think
 your atomic warheads will save you?
 Your armies, nuclear submarines, aircraft carriers.
 What are these puny weapons to the Almighty?
 He holds the nations in his hand.
 He raises them in mercy.
 He smashes them down in judgment
 like earthenware cups
 of iniquity overflowing.



Continued on back cover



Marriage and family under God

Blessing and problem solving

by Lyle J. Lindloff

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ (Ephesian 5:21).

Which key unlocks the door? To find the key that unlocks the door of Ephesians 5:21 we must go to the beginning of the chapter. The opening verse reads, "Be imitators of God." I enjoy listening to voice imitators. Children imitate their parents, a sports or music star. Imitating may include the hair style, clothes style, mannerisms and even philosophy of living.

Marriage and family under God: whom am I imitating? This is the prelude for the apostle's words to wives, husbands, parents and children. This is the lead into the words, "Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." The apostle adds, "Be very careful, then, how you live . . . because the days are evil." How well we know that the days are particularly evil when it comes to marriage and family.

Blessing

Do you want your marriage, your family to be God-blessed? Then you must submit. But who wants to submit? I want to be in authority. Be under authority, submit? That is not our natural inclination. Take the word obey out of the marriage vow. Women don't do that anymore. I don't have to listen to my wife, I'm in charge here. From now on, the 13-year-old announces, I will go where I want and do what I want. Stop! Stop! You are throwing away the blessing of God. You are creating a marriage and family under Satan. Remember, "Be imitators of God."

Submit, and receive God's blessing. The word is a powerful word, a military term that means, I subordinate myself, I am of lower rank. Here it is not used as the military uses it: do it or else. Here the word is used together with "reverence for Christ." Reverence is also a powerful word. It means fear, terror, a phobia. But when used together with Jesus Christ, it means an awe-inspiring fear, respect, honor. Honor Christ by submitting to one another in a Christlike way. In marriage and family be imitators of God.

Remember how Jesus Christ submitted himself "as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

This is the way God gives blessing to marriage and family. "Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord . . . Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church . . . Children, obey your parents in the Lord." It is true that unless the Lord builds marriage and family the builder's work is useless. To receive the blessing of God, submit in reverent, respectful honor of Christ.

Problem solving

With such Spirit-given conviction the Christian woman wouldn't want it any other way. She wants a husband, who with God's help, desires to fulfill his God-given position as head of the house. The Christian man has the desire to love his wife just as Christ loved the church. Such parents will spare no effort to "bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord." And such children, as they spiritually mature, will appreciate more and more the blessing they have received in obeying their parents "in the Lord."

And yet, because of sin, problems arise daily. How do we handle the problems? A simple suggestion is this. Ask these three questions. What did I do? Not, what did you do? When you have answered that, ask: Is it good or evil? Answer that on the basis of what God says in the Scripture. And finally ask, What can be done about it? And the answer is: Be imitators of God, submit out of reverence for Christ, as to the Lord, as Christ loved the church, obey in the Lord. Love as Jesus loves. Forgive as Jesus forgives.

Marriage and family under God. All the blessings and all the problem solving come from God. Each of us, according to our God-given position — wife, husband, parent, child — is to "submit to one another out of reverence for Christ." Today, to us your children

these marriage gifts renew: a home by you made happy; a love by you kept true. □



Lyle Lindloff is pastor of Calvary, Thiensville, Wisconsin.

The other side of the condom controversy



Joel Gerlach
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Santa Barbara,
California.

Should condoms be advertised on network TV? Should they be dispensed to students at school health clinics? Embattled health officials, alarmed at the rapid spread of the AIDS virus, say yes. It would be irresponsible not to do so, they say.

Surgeon General C. Everett Koop has warned that no AIDS cure is likely in this century. Until a cure is found, the wholesale distribution of condoms is essential to the fight against AIDS. The alternative is the possibility of an epidemic that threatens to decimate the nation and to exhaust health care funds and facilities. Death has already claimed almost 20,000 AIDS victims. The cost of caring for those suffering from the disease is staggering.

The argument is a compelling one. But it fails to reckon with another side of the question.

The health crisis posed by an AIDS epidemic is real and apparent to everyone. Less apparent is the moral crisis facing a society that condones promiscuity, or at least views it as the lesser of two evils. More than one nation in the past has seen its strength eroded (as did Sodom and Gomorrah) because of its blatant disregard for sexual ethics.

Conduct that is morally reprehensible always has consequences. Condoms seem to offer the opportunity to continue to indulge in adultery in the expectation of avoiding the consequences. Condoms may stave off AIDS. But they cannot prevent another equally serious social disease. That is the decay of the fabric of a healthy society.

Nonetheless, leading officials urge the advertising of condoms and their free distribution through public agencies. How does one do that without suggesting that to be sexually active outside marriage is acceptable behavior? How does one do that without encouraging immorality? As a nation, are we already so spiritually bankrupt that we cannot find alternatives? Are we saying that the decay of our moral and spiritual fiber is more tolerable than the physical debilitation suffered by those who place themselves at risk with their immoral behavior?

There is an alternative to the use of condoms to safeguard against the AIDS virus. That is to pay attention to what the natural law says about monogamy and fidelity. To do that is to contribute something to the righteousness that exalts a nation.

That's looking at things from a civil perspective. There's also a Christian perspective to this question. A person who has Christ in his heart does not need condoms in his pocket. No one will forfeit eternal life for having AIDS. But he will for disregarding God's will for his life. Paul declares unequivocally that the sexually immoral, adulterers and homosexual offenders will not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9).

All citizens, whether Christians or not, need to recognize that the spiritual consequences of immoral behavior are no less debilitating to a nation than the physical consequences.

Joel C. Gerlach

Joy and victory

Through encouragement

by James A. Aderman

The Holy Spirit did not bypass Paul when he distributed the spiritual gift of encouragement. The Philippian epistle is proof.

That's another reason this letter is well worth our study. The Lord has much to teach us here about the loving art of bolstering each other in our joy and victory through Jesus.

No doubt that was exactly what the Philippians needed. We've mentioned before how those believers were being oppressed by the unbelieving and intensely pro-Roman population of Philippi (1:27-30). Add to that the tempting teachings of false prophets (3:2-4). And for even more upheaval, mix in some internal bickerings (4:2-3). Any one of those problems, especially if it dragged on, had the potential of demoralizing that congregation.

The basis of the encouragement Paul had to offer rested squarely on the one who brings joy and victory: Jesus. The apostle's upbeat attitude toward living or dying, his satisfaction with life come what may, his love and concern for the Philippians, his fervent prayers, his power for meeting the challenges of each new day all sprang out of "the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus" (3:8). Paul knew he had "a righteousness. . . which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith" (3:9). With a God who had graciously clothed him in his Son's perfection, Paul knew he could not lose. All that was left was joy and victory — the joy and victory of which the harassed Philippians needed reminders.

There are a number of techniques the apostle uses to encourage the Philippian Christians. They are also techniques contemporary Christians can employ to encourage each other.

Paul openly expressed his Spirit-worked love for the Philippians (1:7,8; 4:1). He revealed his fervent prayer life on their behalf (1:3-6; 9-11). That love and concern certainly would have spurred on the Philippians.

The apostle empathized with the Philippians, stressing how he understood their situation because he had personally experienced the same kind of trials

they were going through (1:30). The message he conveys is, "My Savior helped me through this. He'll help you, as well."

Personal illustrations of joyous and victorious Christian living also were used to encourage the Philippians. "Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you" (3:17, also 4:9). The wondrous way God worked in the apostle's life is used as an example of what every Christian should expect (1:12-26). Both Timothy and Epaphroditus are held up as models of Christian commitment (2:19-30).

Paul complimented the Philippians for supplying some of his needs (4:10-19). Since their support was first a love offering to the Savior, the apostle assured them, "The gifts you sent . . . are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God" (4:18). Wouldn't that make those Christians even more eager to help in the future? He entrusted one member of the congregation with the tender task of offering his personal encouragement to remedy a bad situation (4:3). No doubt, with such a show of confidence in him, that "yokefellow" willingly intervened. Think also of the increased enthusiasm for ministry Timothy and Epaphroditus probably felt knowing that Paul had praised them so highly for their Savior-honoring work (2:19-30).

Every Christian needs reassurance and renewed optimism from time to time. "The surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus" provides that encouragement. We convey that knowledge as Paul did. Sharing God's words of love with our lips and lives brings into focus the good news of our righteousness through Jesus. More than that, it drives out discouragement and restores our sense of joy and victory in the risen and ruling Savior. □



James Aderman is pastor of Siloah, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The fields are white

by John A. Braun

World population is about 5 billion people. The Wisconsin Synod numbers nearly 500,000 people of which about 1100 are pastors. There are more bicycles in Peking, China than there are members of the synod. Only a little math reveals how big a task the Lord has given us. I think I know how the disciples felt when Jesus ascended. Jesus had told them that the fields were white. They were so few, and the world awaiting their message so big.

Things haven't changed at all, except that about 20 centuries have passed. After all this time the world is still filled with people who need to hear of Jesus. While we can easily understand the need for world missions, even our own country has not advanced beyond a need for the gospel. There simply is enough to keep pastors, teachers and lay people busy until the Lord returns. Each one has a part in sharing Christ with the world. Let's recognize each other as partners and get at it.

We all need to witness to our unchurched families and friends. At times it will be difficult and frustrating, but it won't get done if we only talk about it or think about doing it. We need to pray for our pastors and teachers as they make contacts in our cities and towns and assist them by living Christian lives that will not turn people away from the Christ we confess. Of course there are other ways of assisting. Do it! We are a part of the body of Christ — each one with a different talent. No one is useless. Do what you can to share Christ and follow the opportunities that the Lord gives to you.

When each of us has done all we can in our environs, we have only scratched the surface. If we live in Milwaukee or Oshkosh, what about the souls in Cincinnati or Tokyo? Or if we live in Lincoln, Nebraska, what about those who need Jesus in Oregon? Never say there is nothing you can do. Mission work goes on in those places too. We are partners who send pastors to other cities in order to proclaim Christ for us there.

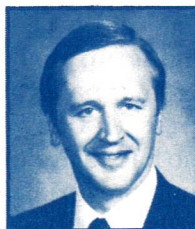
*When
each of us
has done all we
can in our environs,
we have only
scratched the
surface.*

We are partners who send missionaries out into the world — Brazil, Japan and more.

Our vision must be extended beyond our home congregations and the local problems. The truth is that our synod is opening no new missions in our country at this time. We struggle to support the pastors we have in foreign fields. Why? Has the world suddenly ceased to need Christ? Don't we have pastors to send? Are we in a depression so that money is scarce? Or is it something else? Why is it that we are not starting new missions and sending more pastors into the world with the message we treasure?

There are going to be some who resent such talk about money for missions. Some will say that all we ever want is more money. But the fields are so white. The financial resources of our country so great. The opportunities so enormous. We are all partners in Christ's work. And we have pastors ready to serve but who cannot be sent. There is no money! The Lord never promised doing his work would be free or easy. He said, "Go, make disciples."

The same Lord has sent us dedicated young men who are training to share Christ with the world. I have had some of them in my classes. They're bright, energetic and serious about sharing Christ. I believe the Lord will continue to work in the hearts of young men to choose the pastoral ministry. I am not afraid to send them out into the world. I am ashamed we cannot send more. □



John Braun teaches English at Northwestern College, Watertown, Wisconsin.

by Phil Koestler

Aw, Mom, do I hafta?” “When can I do it myself?” “Stop treating me like a baby!” All of us have heard these kinds of comments from kids, and probably most of us have used them with our own parents. Generally these statements are made by children between the ages of 2-22 to well-intentioned parents. But what about the situation where little Johnny is now “all grown up” but still is told what, where, when and how to do things by those same well-intentioned parents?

To resolve this dilemma let’s take a look at several different questions. When can adult children stop taking orders from their parents? What things will never (or should never) change between parents and children? How can parents and children help each other to “let go”?

Stop time

It would be best if this question about stop time would not need to be asked. The ideal would be that the parents and child both did their jobs so well that by the time the child reaches adulthood, he is fully prepared for the real world. The parents have already clearly and consistently taught the child Christian values and beliefs, decision-making skills and other skills for coping in life; and the child has been a willing, responsive, obedient student. As the child gained maturity, additional responsibilities were given by the parent and conscientiously accepted by the child. The child thus grew through a natural progression into adulthood and independence. Parents are then able to “let go” of the child in a gradual fashion, allowing the child to be increasingly responsible for himself. Rather idealistic? Agreed! But the goal nonetheless.

But what if things don’t go quite this way? The role parents play needs to change as the child gets older. If or when they “train up a child in the way he should go,” the promise is given to them, “and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6). The second half of the passage is a source of comfort to parents. Their diligent efforts in bringing up their children in a God-pleasing way is not all for naught (although it might seem to be so at present). I have seen many times the “prodigal son” who had early on chosen to reject his Christian upbringing for worldly and self-centered pleasures, only to come back to those

“Do I still hafta . . . ?”

basic Christian values and beliefs taught during his childhood. And if he doesn’t? Parents will be rewarded for their faithfulness, not for the results of their efforts.

Is there a right age to “let go”? No, not really. Civil law states the age of majority is 18, but this is a rather arbitrary cutoff age. It’s up to the parent to decide what is in the best interest of the young adult. Is it best to continue “changing diapers and preparing the bottle,” so to speak, or is it time to turn over the reins? Consider how many times you have attempted to teach your child a particular thing. Is he listening any longer? Does he set up his own curfew and choose his own friends regardless of what you say? Does he run his life independently of the family, rarely being involved with family members? Has he stopped, due to “outside activities,” contributing his fair share to the running of the household? It may be time for the child to begin facing life on his own and enroll in the “school of hard knocks.” Remember, too, that an overly-responsible parent will frequently end up with dependent, helpless or rebellious children who never learn how to cope with life by themselves.

The Fourth Commandment speaks to all to honor father and mother, but to children to “obey your parents in all things.” It is a simple fact of life that children grow up, become adults, and most leave their parents and set up their own households. At the point that they leave, the adult child does not “hafta do” what parents say, but a respectful “listening” would be an activity of wisdom.

No changes

While some changes definitely need to occur as the child gets older, some things should never change. Love between parent and child is to be ongoing. Caring for each other continues throughout life. This love and care may be demonstrated by being a listening friend during a difficult time, helping with a special project around the house, or providing care for an aging parent. We remember the example of Jesus on the cross, instructing one of his disciples to care for his mother, Mary. Another area for no change is the respect for each other’s thoughts and feelings. This means allowing the opportunity to express one’s feelings, beliefs and preferences — to be one’s self



without fear of ridicule. This does not mean that both sides will always agree on all the issues — mutual respect includes allowing for, and even rejoicing in, our differences.

Helping each other

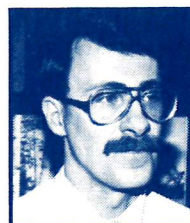
Now, what if the well-intentioned parents don't want to, or don't know how to, let go? The first step for the young adult is to talk with his parents about the situation. The manner in which the young adult approaches them is important. If the parents are approached in a critical, demeaning, demanding fashion, bitterness and hurt are sure to follow. Better for the young adult to demonstrate maturity and Christian love, appreciating that "letting go" is frequently difficult for parents. For many years they have worn the "hat" of nurturer and disciplinarian, and habits are difficult to change. The parents need reassurance that their child is not abandoning them or unappreciative of what they have done. The young adult can firmly, but gently, point out that it is time for him to be responsible for himself, and that this responsibility is now lifted from the parents' shoulders. Finally, the growing up and growing out child needs to be patient — time will be needed to work through the adjustment.

What about the child who won't let go — what if the young adult desires (or demands) mom and dad continue "changing diapers and preparing the bottle" for him? Frankly, it is time for the child to be responsible for himself and to face the issue of inde-

pendence. Parents need to sit down with the young adult and discuss the situation openly. Parents need to be firm about what they are and are not willing to do for the young adult.

This idea can be started earlier in life, for example, by not bailing him out by doing his paper route for him or helping him with his homework by giving him the answers. As he grows older, the parents may choose to no longer cover the expenses he might incur through reckless over-spending. Also, it may be time for the parents to charge him room and board. The young adult should play *the* significant role in planning his independence. A concrete plan, including a time-line, could be helpful. Certainly the parents can offer assistance to the young adult in accomplishing his independence, focusing on whose life it is and who needs to accept responsibility for it.

Finally, there may be special situations where the parents or young adults have tried to resolve these issues on their own in the above ways without much success. It may be helpful for the parents and child to discuss the problem with their pastor or a Christian counselor. Additional support and guidance during these difficult times can provide new insights and perspectives that can help the family grow even closer. □



Phil Koestler is area administrator/counselor for Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Service, Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Lutherans come to the Midwest

by Victor H. Prange

Help, in the name of Jesus, help!" The heart of missionary Friedrich Wyneken ached as he toured the wilds of Indiana. "How many regions I came upon in the dense forests . . . that were bereft of preaching. . . . Each year thousands on thousands of Germans immigrate; in the last two years between 80 and 100 thousand. In one week 5,000 landed in Philadelphia alone. All stream toward the West. . . . What will become of our brethren in 10 or 20 years if help does not come? To the disgrace of the German name, to the shame of the church, and to eternal reproach before the Lord, a German population that knows nothing of its God and Savior will inhabit the West. . . . I am now placing anew the need before the church and again plead in the name of Jesus: Help! Help at once! Help in Christian generosity!"

In Germany a pastor named Wilhelm Loehe read the small booklet which Wyneken had authored: "The Distress of the German Lutherans in North America." Loehe responded by initiating an effort which resulted in founding missionary societies and a mission magazine, gathering offerings and sending workers to the American Midwest. The Loehe missionaries were especially active in the areas around Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Frankenmuth, Michigan.

Wyneken had received his theological education in Germany and while serving as a tutor in the home of a pious, mission-minded pastor, made the resolve to immigrate to America. The Pennsylvania Ministerium, the synod founded by Muhlenburg, called Wyneken in the summer of 1838 to serve as a traveling missionary in the state of Indiana. In the early 1840s he visited Germany to stir up support for missions. There he met Loehe. Wilhelm Loehe was a student of the Lutheran Confessions. He opposed joint worship and communion with the Reformed churches, something which was tolerated in the Pennsylvania Ministerium and the General Synod in America. When Wyneken returned to America in 1843, he had become a confessional Lutheran.

The Loehe missionaries at first joined the Ohio Synod (organized in 1818 by pastors of the Pennsylvania Ministerium) and the old Michigan Synod. But by 1845 they realized that these synods were not totally committed to the teachings of the Lutheran Confessions; they continued to permit unionistic services with the Reformed. The Loehe missionaries along with

Wyneken longed for a confessionally Lutheran synod.

About this time a new German language magazine began to circulate named *Der Lutheraner* (The Lutheran). When a copy came into the hands of Wyneken he exclaimed: "Thank God, there are more Lutherans in America!" This magazine was edited by Pastor C. F. W. Walther (see NL May 15). Walther and the emigrants from Saxony who had settled in Missouri were staunch Lutheran confessors. Several meetings between these two groups and other interested pastors led in 1847 to the founding of the "German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States" (now the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod). Walther served as president the first three years; Wyneken was the synod president from 1850 to 1864.

German Lutheran synods were soon established in other states. In 1850 "The German Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of Wisconsin" (ancestor of today's WELS) was born near Milwaukee. It had ties with several German mission societies and eastern Lutheran synods. In 1854 the Iowa Synod came into existence; and in 1860 the new Michigan Synod and the Minnesota Synod were organized. The latter two are in the lineage of WELS.

Norwegians and Swedes also settled in the Midwest. The more pietistic of the Norwegians formed the Eielsen Synod (1846); the more confessional took the generic name Norwegian Synod (1853). Some Swedish immigrants joined with Germans to organize the Synod of Northern Illinois in 1851. In 1860 the Swedish members withdrew to form their own body which was called the Augustana Synod.

Generally these Midwestern synods were more confessional than were the Lutheran synods in the eastern states. They were wary of becoming "americanized" and stridently sought to maintain their European languages. The renewed appreciation for the Lutheran Confessions did have an effect on the eastern synods. This is something which we will look at in the next article in this series. □



Victor Prange is pastor of Peace, Janesville, Wisconsin.

A Christian perspective on public service

by William R. Wagner

Although as Christians God saves us by grace alone, and not through any of our own works, God encourages us to better the world we live in. "As we have therefore opportunity let us do good unto all men" (Galatians 6:10)

Positions in public service provide power to improve the quality of the day. The Christian's goal should not be the power itself, but rather the privilege to use it in such a way. Those who hold such positions must be ready to meet the responsibility and challenges this privilege presents.

Jesus noted that we are sent forth as sheep in the midst of wolves. He therefore instructs us to be wise as serpents, while at the same time harmless as doves (Matthew 10:16). Christians may find the wisdom and courage necessary for the task through faith. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7).

Daily disappointments and deteriorating values present a formidable challenge to today's public servants. Many spend their whole lives avoiding the challenge by merely talking about improving things — leaving a few others to improve those things by the way they live. Those few, willing to meet the challenge, must not allow the tragedy and turmoil, caused by current social problems, to tear apart our homeland. Indeed, "if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand" (Mark 3:25).

Perhaps we lay our expectations of continued justice and freedom too much upon government institutions. These are false expectations, for freedom and justice must first dwell in our hearts. As leaders, today's public servants must continue to recognize checks upon their freedom lest it be enjoyed by only a few of the most ruthless.

To preserve both the institutions of the church and the state, the public servant must not entangle the affairs of either with the other. Let us never be too sure we are right. Let us seek to understand the needs of the

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poor, the homeless and the oppressed, while weighing their interests alongside others without bias.

Reality dictates that the public servant must continue to deal with tragedy and daily disappointments. Yet these same leaders must provide our hope for brotherly love. Without this love, true justice and freedom cannot exist in our world. Therefore, where we see opportunity let us do good unto others.

Let us venture forth with courage and, "be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:21). Let us begin to make our decisions based upon their ethical implications. Finally, and above all, let us never lose hope. For if you "give instruction to a wise man, he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning" (Proverbs 9:9). As the distinguished jurist Learned Hand once stated:

Don't be cast down; for it is always dawn.
Day breaks forever, and above the eastern
horizon the sun is now about to peep. Full
light of day? No, perhaps not ever. But yet it
grows lighter, and the paths that were so
blind will, if one watches sharply enough,
become hourly plainer. We shall learn to
talk straighter. Yes, it is always dawn. □



William Wagner is a lawyer and serves on the staff of a United States Senate Committee in Washington, D.C. and is a member of St. John, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

"Will you forgive me?"

I am writing concerning an article written by Thomas Trapp entitled "Will you forgive me?" (April 15).

Lest our brothers and sisters be led astray, contrary to what the article said ("... each and every one of our sins are forgiven, including the sins we may label 'unforgivable.'"), there is an unforgivable sin — that is a sin against the Holy Ghost.

As we see in Matthew 12:31 and 32, "And so I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come."

Linda R. Latsch
Woodruff, Wisconsin

Pastor Thomas H. Trapp responds:

The Bible clearly speaks about the unforgivable sin against the Holy Ghost. The unforgivable "blasphemy against the Spirit" is a persistent, intentional, hardened rejection of God's word by one who knows it. The Pharisees were the example used in Matthew 12 as people in danger of such a sin.

However, the April 15th article ("Will you forgive me?") was not addressing the subject of pharisaical Christians who are on the edge of committing the "unforgivable sin." The article's objective was to assure the guilt-ridden Christian that "each and every one of our sins is forgiven, including sins we may label 'unforgivable'..." The spiritually struggling Christian may even label one of his sins as the "unforgivable sin against the Holy Ghost" but that person has not committed it. Such a fear is a sign of living faith. When someone commits the "unforgivable sin" that person is not concerned about God's judgment. A living Christian is concerned... and forgiven.

Sins are punished

I am writing in response to a statement by Pastor Thomas Trapp in the April 15 article, "Will you forgive me?" Midway through the article Pastor Trapp commented, "How God can overlook our godless actions, foul language and evil thoughts we will never understand." God does not overlook those sins or any other sins. He is a just God and punishes every sin. The amazing thing is that he punished his very own Son and not me. However, each and every sin is punished, not overlooked.

Erlyne Ernst
San Mateo, California

Creation vs. evolution

Pastor Frey is to be commended for his emphasis on the Christian approach to the creation vs. evolution matter as essentially one of faith (March 15).

Yet, this leaves a great deal unsaid. While faith will fill the emptiness of the heart, it may not take care of questions that come to the mind.

There appears to be a hesitancy among our teachers (including clergy) to follow the lead of our Lord in this regard by speaking to people's minds as well as hearts. In some cases the reluctance stems from a lack of information. In others it could be intellectual laziness. More surprising has been the philosophy apparently coming from our WELS training schools that the helpful information God has provided in various ways, paralleling and clarifying different aspects of the Genesis account, ought not be used. Somehow to deal to any significant extent with questions raised by the mind is thought to endanger the message going to the heart.

Jesus spoke to both heart and mind — with the emphasis on the one, but not to the exclusion of the other. It is this observer's belief that we should be doing likewise with our teaching of creationism.

Arnold E. Lemke
Excelsior, Minnesota

"Avoid every kind of evil"

I am writing in regard to the article concerning "gambling," written by the editor (April 1).

I, personally, am not for legalizing gambling, but I do wonder why gambling has been singled out as the "scheme to subvert Bible-based stewardship."

Are we to assume that there are *no* WELS members who own or operate bars, liquor marts or "grocery" stores, which handle filthy magazines or disgusting movie rentals? Should offerings from these members (from the profits of such businesses) be considered "Bible-based stewardship"? I think not!

If we are to take a stand against gambling, maybe we, as a church body, should take a "closer look" into our Bibles. The bars and liquor marts remain an equally "grievous burden," for which the alcoholics "among us pay a dreadful price!"

Might it not be better to quote from the Bible, 1 Thessalonians 5:22: "Avoid every kind of evil."

Susan D. Yeomans
Woodruff, Wisconsin

TNL in every home

There is a memorial to the August synod convention suggesting that a way be found to supply The Northwestern Lutheran to every home. It is suggested that it should be automatic that when an adult becomes a member he or she would receive this magazine as part of membership in WELS. We realize this is quite expensive but there is no better way to inform our lay people than through this medium.

There are many of us quite active in the synod's work, and even we need this information to keep us better informed. You would be amazed what PR this magazine would have in outreach, information, strengthening, etc. It's about time this is tried.

Louis A. Leitz
Lansing, Michigan

102 graduate from DMLC

In a special service on May 16, one hundred two graduates received bachelor of science in education degrees at Dr. Martin Luther College of New Ulm, Minn. The 1987 graduates are:

Alshouse, Linda Gurnee, IL
 Altergott, Kris Kenosha, WI
 Anderson Judith ... Lake Benton, MN
 Baganz, Peter Mt. Calvary, WI
 Ballard, Kevin Benton Harbor, MI
 Bauer, Elisabeth Two Rivers, WI
 Bauer, Karl New Ulm, MN
 Biedenbender, Steven ... Meno. Falls, WI
 Birkholz, Carol New Ulm, MN
 Birkholz, Gregg New Ulm, MN
 Bitter, Alan New Ulm, MN
 Blauert, Susanne Milwaukee, WI
 Bleichwehl, Judith Oshkosh, WI
 Bremer, Steven Gretna, NE
 Burmeister, Joel New Ulm, MN
 Carter, Susan East Jordan, MI
 Degner, Vonda Jefferson, WI
 Dolbey, Ruth Beloit, WI
 Dyrssen, Dale San Diego, CA
 Ebel, Patti Bay City, MI
 Fenske, Daniel Jackson, WI
 Frank, Janice South Haven, MI
 Fritz, Stephen St. Louis Park, MN
 Fryer, Laura Houston, TX
 Gerbing, Robyn Fond du Lac, WI
 Goldschmidt, Anne Northfield, MN
 Graf, Terrence St. Paul Park, MN
 Guenther, Amy Beaver Dam, WI

Heiderich, Nancy Manitowoc, WI
 Helwig, Carol Woodruff, WI
 Hepner, Karen Brookfield, WI
 Hirschmann, Annette .. Milwaukee, WI
 Hoewisch, Allison Hortonville, WI
 Hohler, Lincoln Newark, DE
 Janosek, Tanya .. Blantyre, Malawi, Africa
 Kammholz, Jodi Oshkosh, WI
 Keibel, Heidi Concord, CA
 Klatt, Ann Menomonie, WI
 Kriewall, Tracey Madison, WI
 Kroll, Constance Beloit, WI
 Krueger, Dale Manitowoc, WI
 Kruschel, Sarah Port Orange, FL
 Kuske, Linda Goodhue, MN
 Lierman, Cynthia Menomonie, WI
 Lindemann, Michelle .. New Ulm, MN
 Loeffler, Kristen Sebawaing, MI
 Maurice, Brian Hartford, WI
 Meihack, Anne New Ulm, MN
 Menk, Maita New Ulm, MN
 Meyer, John New Ulm, MN
 Moungey, Michelle DeForest, WI
 Mundstock, Robin Waukegan, IL
 Mundt, Sharon Kenosha, WI
 Nell, Christine ... Johnson Creek, WI
 Petermann, Marianne ... Appleton, WI
 Plath, Daniel Milwaukee, WI
 Pruess, Kathleen .. Menomonee Falls, WI
 Raabe, Michael Onalaska, WI
 Raddatz, James Danube, MN
 Radloff, Lynn Sun Prairie, WI
 Redlin, Kara Tucson, AZ
 Renner, Becki Madison, NE
 Ristow, Dawn Oshkosh, WI
 Rockhoff, Timothy ... Tawas City, MI
 Rogotzke, Kristie Sanborn, MN
 Roloff, Jeffrey New London, WI
 Rote, Alicia Lake Geneva, WI
 Ruch, Bonnie .. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
 Schaeuwe, Peter Yale, MI

Schlavensky, John Appleton, WI
 Schmick, Beth Markesan, WI
 Scholz, Kiersten Kiel, WI
 Schultz, Clara West Bend, WI
 Schulz, Thomas Saginaw, MI
 Schumacher, Laury ... Oconomowoc, WI
 Smith, Kristine Kenosha, WI
 Sonneberg, Jeffrey ... Manitowoc, WI
 Sordahl, Peter Beaver Dam, WI
 Spiegel, Connie Neenah, WI
 Spiegelberg, Cynthia Larsen, WI
 Starke, Cathleen Saginaw, MI
 Sternhagen, Beth Neenah, WI
 Strutz, Paul Neenah, WI
 Svehla, Sandra Waukegan, IL
 Timm, Christine Morgan Hill, CA
 Timm, Lyle Wood Lake, MN
 Tinkey, Cathy Dowagiac, MI
 Towne, Steven Saginaw, MI
 Uher, Alan Caledonia, WI
 von Stein, Brenda Jenera, OH
 Wagner, Scott Chicago, IL
 Wehausen, Cherie Manitowoc, WI
 Wilde, Annette New London, WI
 Willitz, Jane Spring Valley, WI
 Wordell, Karen .. Sheboygan Falls, WI
 Wurst, Faith Osceola, WI
 Yanz, Theresa New Ulm, MN
 Zabel, Tamara Delano, MN
 Zahn, Philip Downers Grove, IL
 Zeamer, Julie DePere, WI
 Zenker, Ruth Brownsville, WI
 Zibrowski, Craig Caledonia, MN

45 graduate from Northwestern

On May 20, forty-five graduates of Northwestern College of Watertown, Wis. received their bachelor of arts degrees. The following are members of the 1987 graduating class:

Aufdemberge, Mark Flagstaff, AZ
 Baumann, Jon Sutton, NE
 Bernthal, Thomas Lovelock, NV
 Bodjanac, Theodore Chicago, IL
 Ehlert, Leon Milwaukee, WI
 Ewings, Brian Jim Falls, WI
 Fleischmann, David .. Lake Geneva, WI
 Fritz, David Waukesha, WI
 Gartner, Mark Milwaukee, WI
 Gawel, Alfred Wilmington, DE
 Hanson, Virgil Waukesha, WI
 Henning, Timothy New Ulm, MN
 Keller, Brian ... Menomonee Falls, WI
 Kemitz, Timothy Eldorado, WI
 Kempf, Jay Bloomer, WI
 Koehler, Ronald Owasso, MI
 Kolander, Jonathan Montello, WI

Landvatter, Neil Oconomowoc, WI
 Lindemann, Michael ... Watertown, WI
 Luchterhand, Stephen ... Manitowoc, WI
 Mose, Paul St. Charles, MI
 Raddatz, Stephen New Ulm, MN
 Roekle, John Saginaw, MI
 Rosenberg, Mark Tecumseh, MI
 Schleg, Frederick Grayslake, IL
 Schmeichel, Duane Freeman, SD
 Schoch, Wayne Oakley, MI
 Schulz, James West Allis, WI
 Schwarz, Bryan Mt. Prospect, IL
 Steinbrenner, John .. Fond du Lac, WI
 Stellick, Oscar Watertown, WI
 Stelter, Ross Milwaukee, WI
 Tessmer, Paul Mukwonago, WI
 Tuttle, Richard Perry, GA
 Ungemach, Edward, III .. Kenosha, WI
 Vieths, John Rochester, MN
 Voss, Paul Libertyville, IL
 Wasser, Robert, Jr. Fontana, WI
 Weigand, Martin Milwaukee, WI
 Wessel, Keith New Ulm, MN
 Wierschke, David Green Bay, WI
 Winterstein, James Monroe, MI
 Wright, Brad Manistee, MI
 Zietlow, Thomas Anchorage, AK
 Zuberbier, Michael Milwaukee, WI

WITH THE LORD

Walter A. Diehl 1912 — 1987

Pastor Walter A. Diehl was born June 27, 1912 in Peshtigo, Wis. He died May 8, 1987 in Weslaco, Tex.

A 1934 seminary graduate, he served congregations in Elkhorn, Wis., Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa, Ariz., and Dallas and Weslaco, Tex. He served on the General Board for Home Missions from 1956 to 1982 and also served on district mission boards from 1952 until his death. He was instrumental in helping to establish a number of congregations in Texas.

In 1936 he married Irmgard Luetke, who preceded him in death. In 1958 he married Louise Strauss. He is survived by his wife; son, James (Judith); daughter, Mary Hess; sister, Margaret Gustafson; and one grandchild.

Funeral services were held May 10 at Abiding Savior, Weslaco, Tex., and on May 12 at First Lutheran, Lake Geneva, Wis.

Arizona-California District

Prince of Peace, Thousand Oaks, Calif., celebrated its 20th anniversary March 29 with a special service and fellowship dinner. The congregation's 168 communicants have been served by four pastors during the 20 years. Present pastor is Peter Berg. . . . **St. Paul, Honolulu, Hawaii** has assembled for worship in everything from hotels to schools, from their parsonage to their present "funeral home" location. After 17 years that's all about to change. Groundbreaking is scheduled for this fall and occupancy by fall 1988. Thought is also being given to the calling of an additional full-time worker in order to capitalize on the exciting possibilities and opportunities for ministry which permeate this island community. At present Jerome McWaters is the only full-time pastor in this isolated field. . . . **St. Peter, Clovis, Calif.**, is presently meeting in a school auditorium and anticipates building its own church in 1988.

— Phil Heyer

Dakota-Montana District

On May 9, the **Dakota-Montana Lutheran High School Association** held its annual meeting at Zion, Mobridge, SD. Earl Heidtke, administrator of Nebraska Ev. Lutheran High School, was guest speaker, discussing problems common to both Nebraska Lutheran and the D-MLHS Association, as well as stressing the importance of communication between an association and its constituents. Terry Kemmet of Tappen, ND was reelected board chairman. The Dakota-Montana Association currently numbers 18 congregations and 2500 communicants. . . . A **Parish Services Workshop** was held April 25 at St. Martin school, Watertown, SD. The workshop, designed to heighten lay people's desire and ability to

serve the Lord in our congregations, was sponsored by the district's Board for Parish Services. Seventy members from area congregations attended. . . . On November 9, 1986, **Zion of Mobridge, SD** dedicated its new addition to church and school, bringing to completion long-range plans that had been already made 30 years prior. Guest speaker for the special service was Pastor Wayne I. Schulz of Rapid City, SD. Zion numbers 270 communicants and is served by Pastor Peter Naumann. Principal of the 42-student school is Dale Anderson.

— Richard Kanzenbach

Michigan District

Appointments: Pastors Wayne Laitinen and Paul Naumann were appointed to the district's Constitution Committee replacing Pastors Harold Sauer and John Brenner, who have resigned from their positions on this committee after serving faithfully many years. . . . **Grace of Muskegon** observed the 25th anniversary of its Christian day school June 27-28. Former pastors, teachers and graduates were invited to the anniversary service and dinner on the 28th. Present school enrollment is 38. James Schneck, Kathy Burmeister and Helen Wright are the teachers. Pastor of the congregation is William Hein. . . . **Cross of Glory of Washington** celebrated groundbreaking for a special drainage project on April 26. The congregation's property has serious surface and underground water problems causing water in heating ducts, incredible humidity in the building, and basement walls to cave in. This mission is being helped with this \$70,000 project by a special loan from the synod. . . . On May 3, **St. John of Bay City** dedicated a new Christian day school and gymnasium. . . . The 25th anniversary of the ordination into the holy ministry of **Daniel Buske** was celebrated on May 17. He is pastor at

THE BIBLE IN 365 READINGS

Continuing our program of reading through the complete Bible in one year, we list the second month of readings beginning July 16 and ending August 15.

July	16	Genesis 47 / Psalm 105
	17	Gn 48-50 / Ps 121
	18	Exodus 1 — 4:17
	19	Ex 4:18 — 7:13
	20	Ex 7:14 — 9:35
	21	Ex 10 — 12:42
	22	Ex 12:43 — 15:21
	23	Ps 93, 78
	24	Ex 15:22 — 18:27
	25	Ex 19 — 21:36
	26	Ps 119:1-88
	27	Ps 119:89-176
	28	Ex 22 — 24:18
	29	Ex 25 / Ps 103
	30	Ex 26 — 27:21 / Ps 84
	31	Ex 28 / 2 John / 3 John
August	1	Ex 29 / Ps 51
	2	Ex 30 — 32:29
	3	Ex 32:30 — 35:29
	4	Ex 35:30 — 38:23
	5	Ex 38:24 — 40:38
	6	Ps 45, 2, 102 / Hebrews 1 — 2:18
	7	Ps 95, 110 / Heb 3 — 6:20
	8	Heb 7 — 10:29
	9	Heb 10:30 — 12:29
	10	Heb 13 / Leviticus 1 — 3:17
	11	Lv 4 — 6:30
	12	Lv 7 — 9:22
	13	Lv 9:23 — 12:8
	14	Lv 13 — 14:32
	15	Lv 14:33 — 16:34

Emanuel First, Lansing. . . . St. Mark of Flat Rock celebrated the 25th anniversary of the ordination of their pastor, **Edgar Herman**, on May 31. . . . The **Michigan District** was richly blessed by the Lord at the recent meetings of our synod's assignment committee. Three men teacher and eight women teacher candidates, four pastor candidates, ten vicars and two summer vicars were assigned to the district.

— Ed Schaeewe

DMLC call assignments

On May 13 and 14 the Conference of Presidents met at Dr. Martin Luther College in New Ulm, Minn. and assigned calls to the following graduates of this year's class or classes of previous years. Additional assignments will be made when the Conference of Presidents meets on July 10.

Anderson, Judith, Lake Benton, MN to St. John, Wrightstown, WI
Ballard, Keven, Benton Harbor, MI to St. Paul, North Mankato, MN
Bame, Cynthia, Benton Harbor, MI to St. Paul, Hopkins and St. Peter, Dorr, MI
Bauer, Elisabeth, Two Rivers, WI to Christ, Eagle River, WI
Bauer, Karl, New Ulm, MN to Trinity, Jenera, OH
Bieber, Bertha, Mobridge, SD to North Trinity, Milwaukee, WI
Biedenbender, Jonathon, Benton Harbor, MI to St. John, Pigeon, MI
Biedenbender, Steven, Menomonee Falls, WI to St. Peter, Sturgeon Bay, WI
Bitter, Alan, New Ulm, MN to Christ, Grand Island, NE
Blauert, Susanne, Milwaukee, WI to Faith, Fond du Lac, WI
Bremer, Steven, Gretna, NE to St. John, Neillsville, WI
Bunde, Steven, Willow Lake, SD to Gethsemane, Omaha, NE
Burmeister, Joel, New Ulm, MN to St. John, Burlington, WI
Curtis, James, Kalamazoo, MI to Bethlehem, Hortonville, WI
Delikat, Judith, St. Francis, WI to East Fort Lutheran High School, Whiteriver, AZ
Dohm, Allen, Eau Claire, MI to Huron Valley Lutheran High School, Westland, MI
Dorn, Jeffrey, New Ulm, MN to St. John, R. 1, La Crosse, WI
Eisenmann, Terri, Johnson Creek, WI to Pilgrim, Mesa, AZ
Fenske, Daniel, Jackson, WI to Peridot Lutheran, Peridot, AZ
Freudenwald, Kathryn, Caledonia, WI to St. Matthew, Janesville, WI
Fryer, Laura, Houston, TX to Bethel, Bay City, MI
Gauger, Laurie, Rockfield, WI to Shoreland Lutheran High School, Somers, WI
Graf, Terrence, St. Paul Park, MN to Mt. Lebanon, Milwaukee, WI
Guenter, Amy, Beaver Dam, WI to Trinity, Nicollet, MN
Heiderich, Nancy, Manitowoc, WI to St. Paul, Sodus, MI
Hepner, Karen, Brookfield, WI to St. John, Lewiston, MN
Hirschmann, Annette, Milwaukee, WI to St. Matthew, Niles, IL

Hoewisch, Allison, Hortonville, WI to St. Mark, Green Bay, WI
Hoppe, Carolyn, Victor, MT to Trinity, Jenera, OH
Janosek, Tanya, Blantyre, Malawi, Africa, to St. John, Manitowoc, WI
Kammholz, Jodi, Oshkosh, WI to Holy Trinity, Wyoming, MI
Kell, Daniel, Watertown, WI to Redemption, Milwaukee, WI
Kelm, Paul, Bloomer, WI to Nozomi Lutheran, Tsuchiura, Japan
Klatt, Ann, Menomonie, WI to Michigan Lutheran Seminary, Saginaw, MI
Kolander, David, Appleton, WI to Huron Valley Lutheran High School, Westland, MI
Kriewall, Tracey, Madison, WI to Trinity, Hoskins, NE
Kroll, Constance, Beloit, WI to Martin Luther Preparatory School, Prairie du Chien, WI
Krueger, Dale, Manitowoc, WI to Pilgrim, Minneapolis, MN
Kuske, Linda, Goodhue, MN to St. Paul, Round Lake, IL
Kuske, Peter, Grove City, OH to St. Paul, East Troy, WI
Levitt, Lillian, Lenexa, KS to Zion, Denver, CO
Lindemann, Michelle, New Ulm, MN to St. Paul, Stevensville, MI
Loeffler, Kristen, Sebawaing, MI to Grace, Duran, MI
Loersch, Lori, Howards Grove, WI to First German, Manitowoc, WI
Mammel, Julie, Onalaska, WI to St. Andrew, Milwaukee, WI
Mann, Carol, Waukesha, WI to Martin Luther Preparatory School, Prairie du Chien, WI
Menk, Maita, New Ulm, MN to St. Paul, Algoma, WI
Meyer, John, New Ulm, MN to St. John, Wood Lake, MN
Mundstock, Robin, Waukegan, IL to Divinity, St. Paul, MN
Mundt, Sharon, Kenosha, WI to Christ, Marshall, MN
Nell, Christine, Johnson Creek, WI to St. John, Wood Lake, MN
Noon, Edward, Green Bay, WI to Michigan Lutheran High School, St. Joseph, MI
Ohr, Mark, Greensburg, PA to St. Andrew, St. Paul Park, MN
Pahmeier, Frederick, Cleveland, WI to St. Paul, Ixonia, WI
Petermann, Marianne, Appleton, WI to Siloah, Milwaukee, WI
Petermann, Philip, St. Paul, MN to Nebraska Lutheran High School, Waco, NE
Radichel, Laurie, Prescott, AZ to Our Savior, Bylas, AZ
Radloff, Lynn, Sun Prairie, WI to St. John, Wauwatosa, WI
Radue, Craig, Neenah, WI to Woodlawn, West Allis, WI

Ristow, Dawn, Oshkosh, WI to Waucousta Lutheran, Campbellsport, WI
Rogotzke, Kristie, Sanborn, MN to Mt. Olive, Overland Park, KS
Ruch, Bonnie, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada to Mt. Lebanon, Milwaukee, WI
Schacht, Brent, S. St. Paul, MN to Calvary, Bellevue, WA
Schaewe, Peter, Yale, MI to Peace, Hartford, WI
Schlender, Duane, Watertown, WI to St. Paul, Onalaska, WI
Schmick, Beth, Markesan, WI to St. John, Two Rivers, WI
Schmidt, Brent, Watertown, WI to Our Savior, Pomona, CA
Schumacher, Laury, Oconomowoc, WI to St. Lucas, Kewaskum, WI
Smith, Kristine, Kenosha, WI to Beautiful Savior, Milwaukee, WI
Sonnenberg, Jeffrey, Manitowoc, WI to Peace, Reedsburg, WI
Sordahl, Peter, Beaver Dam, WI to Redeemer, Tucson, AZ
Speidel, Tamara, Menomonie, WI to Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls, SD
Spiegel, Connie, Neenah, WI to St. Paul, Riverside, CA
Spiegelberg, Cynthia, Larsen, WI to Zion, Stetsonville, WI
Stern, Philip, Waukesha, WI to Trinity, Waco, NE
Tahaney, Timothy, St. Joseph, MI to Emanuel-Redeemer, Yale, MI
Uher, Alan, Caledonia, WI to St. Martin, Watertown, SD
Ulrich, Mary, Burnsville, MN to King of Grace, Golden Valley, MN
von Stein, Brenda, Jenera, OH to Zion, Greenleaf, WI
Wurst, Faith, Osceola, WI to Trinity, El Paso TX
Yanz, Theresa, New Ulm, MN to King of Kings, Maitland, FL
Zabel, Tamara, Delano, MN to Zion, South Milwaukee, WI
Zachow, Laurie, Brown Deer, WI to Mt. Olive, Appleton, WI
Zahn, Philip, Downers Grove, IL to St. Paul, Columbus, OH
Zeamer, Gerald, Morrison, WI to Shepherd of the Valley, Westminster, CO
Zenker, Ruth, Brownsville, WI to Centennial, Milwaukee, WI

DISTRICT NEWS SCHEDULE

July: Arizona, California, Dakota-Montana, Michigan

August: Minnesota, Nebraska, North Atlantic

September 1: Northern Wisconsin, Pacific Northwest, South Atlantic

September 15: South Central, Southeastern Wisconsin, Western Wisconsin

If your district does not appear, it is because no news items were reported by your district reporter.

**THE 49TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE
WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD
August 3-7, 1987 / Northwestern College / Watertown, Wisconsin**

FLOOR COMMITTEES

No. 1 ELECTIONS

Rev. John Schmidt, Chairman
Rev. Dale Schlieve
Rev. Paul Schmeling
Rev. Stephen Ristow
Rev. Mark Schlenger
Teacher John Thurow
Teacher Timothy Schneider
Teacher Steven Strieter
Mr. Daniel Reich
Redeemer, Cedarburg, WI
Mr. Martin Koll
St. Peter, Theresa, WI
Mr. Mark Jastrow
Crown of Life, Hubertus, WI
Mr. H. Fredrick Pieper III
Immanuel, Campbellsport, WI
Mr. Erich Bruhn
Crown of Life, Marietta, Oh

No. 2 INTER-CHURCH RELATIONS

Rev. Thomas Pfothhauer, Chairman
Rev. Donald Fastenau
Rev. William Hein
Rev. Martin J. Lopahs
Rev. Paul Knickelbein
Rev. Elwood Fromm
Rev. Fred Fedke III
Teacher Carl Bartels
Teacher Walter Sebald
Teacher Dennis Schultz
Teacher Robert Stoltz
Teacher Willard Engel
Teacher Vincent Neumann
Teacher Kenneth Luedke
Teacher John Rittierodt
Mr. Herman Freese
St. Paul, Plymouth, NE
Mr. Walter Benck
English, Viroqua, WI
Mr. Martin Kufahl
St. Paul, Marshall, WI
Mr. Oliver Weissenborn
Pilgrim, Menomonee Falls, WI
Mr. Otto Bauer
Woodlawn, West Allis, WI
Mr. Frederick Ebeling
St. John, Mishicot, WI
Mr. Richard Steffenhagen
St. John, Frontenac, MN
Mr. Lothar Von Dagggenhausen
Grace, Flint, MI
Mr. Arnold Christianson
Holy Cross, Tucson, AZ

No. 3 MEMBERSHIP

Rev. Ralph Baur, Chairman
Rev. David Palmquist
Rev. Herbert Filter
Rev. Burgess Huehn
Rev. Lyle Schalow
Teacher Gunther Thoms
Teacher Kenneth Rahn
Mr. Edwin Schwoch
Salem, Lowell, WI
Mr. Carl Stefan
Peace, Wilmot, WI
Mr. George Nehls
Grace, Monico, WI
Mr. Wesley Steinborn
Grace, Le Sueur, MN
Mr. Robert Scherschel
Grace, Bayonet Point, FL

No. 4 CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

Rev. Richard Lauersdorf, Chairman
Rev. Mark Hallemeier
Rev. Wayne Laitinen
Rev. Warren Henrich
Rev. John Murphy
Rev. Steven Staude
Rev. H. Paul Bauer
Rev. Pieter Reid
Teacher Gerald Kastens
Teacher Richard Schlavensky
Teacher Jonathan Winkel
Teacher Walter Bock

Teacher Winfred Vathauer
Teacher John Eggert
Teacher Philp Glende
Teacher Mark Sprengeler
Mr. Jimmie Smith
Mt. Calvary, San Jose, CA
Dr. Carlton Kom
Trinity, Aberdeen, SD
Mr. Jerald Eickholt
St. Luke, Jackson, MI
Mr. Marvin Breitkreutz
St. Matthew, Renville, MN
Mr. George Groth
St. Paul, Batesland, SD
Dr. Carl Toepel
St. Paul, Sheboygan, WI
Mr. Karl Nikolai
Beautiful Savior, Summerville, SC
Mr. Russell Matthes
Zion, South Milwaukee, WI
Mr. Peter Henning
Trinity, Watertown, WI
Mr. Gregory Kruse
Peace, Janesville, WI
Mr. H. O. Hovda
Abiding Savior, Weslaco, TX
Mr. Donald Barg
Cross of Christ, Liverpool, NY

No. 5 WORKER TRAINING

Rev. Larry Ellenberger, Chairman
Rev. Reed Haakenson
Rev. Alvin Aichele
Rev. Paul Stuebs
Rev. John Chworowsky
Rev. Frederick Kogler
Rev. Paul Sullivan
Rev. John Janosek
Rev. Douglas Semenske
Rev. D. Craig Weber
Teacher Ronald Brown
Teacher Hartley Dus
Teacher Steven Lemke
Teacher David Farstad
Teacher Dennis Oldenburg
Mr. Gary Glaenger
Mt. Zion, Jacksonville, IL
Mr. Frank Italiano
Grace, LaCrosse, WI
Mr. Robert Luedke
Garden Homes, Milwaukee, WI
Mr. David Ruediger
St. Andrew, Elgin, IL
Mr. Lyle Plagenz
Zion, Kingston, WI
Mr. Harold Warning
Redeemer, Fond du Lac, WI
Mr. James Dyrud
Salem, Stillwater, MN
Mr. David A. Allar
St. Mark, Sterling Heights, MI
Mr. Melvin Vietor
St. Matthew, Stillwater, MN
Mr. Henry Engelbrecht
Shepherd of the Valley, Westminster, CO
Mr. Thomas Conzelmann
St. John, Frankenmuth, MI
Mr. Melvin Schmidt
St. John, Wrightstown, WI

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Rev. Dennis Lemke
Rev. Jerome Spaude
Rev. Dallas Miller
Rev. Frederick Mueller
Rev. Nathan Retzlaff
Rev. Ronald Lahm
Teacher John Jenswold
Teacher Robert Ring
Teacher James Boehm
Teacher Dennis Bleick
Teacher Jeff Inniger
Mr. Donald Kom
St. Paul, Sioux Falls, SD
Mr. August Klement
St. Luke, Saginaw, MI

Mr. Marvin Diersen
Zion, Eitzen, MN
Mr. Reinhold Hannemann, Jr.
Riverview, Appleton, WI
Mr. Edward Schmidt
Trinity, Mequon, WI
Mr. Richard Wentland
St. Matthew, Oconomowoc, WI
Mr. Gordon Marske
Messiah, Nampa, ID
Mr. David Wilson
Mt. Olive, Suamico, WI

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Rev. Edwin Fredrich, Chairman
Rev. Marc Schroeder
Rev. Chester Zuleger
Teacher Leroy Westphal
Teacher Robert Wolff
Teacher Philip Otto
Mr. Al Wiebeck
Prince of Peace, Howell, MI
Mr. Robert Luethy
Star of Bethlehem, New Berlin, WI
Mr. Don Sixel
Salem, Sturgeon Bay, WI

No. 8 PARISH SERVICES

Rev. Daniel Westendorf, Chairman
Rev. Joel Prange
Rev. Walter Oelhafen
Rev. Martin Petermann
Rev. Timothy Bauer
Rev. Reuel Schulz
Rev. Dale Zwieng
Rev. Robert Gerke
Rev. Paul Manthey
Rev. Ronald Ehlert
Teacher Franklin Zabell
Teacher Terry Treuden
Teacher Stephen Zanto
Teacher Terrance Greening
Teacher Mark Adickes
Teacher Paul Willems
Teacher David Brohn
Teacher Gary Bain
Mr. Fred Eisz
Prince of Peace, Yuma, AZ
Mr. Jeff Schlepp
Good Shepherd, Sioux Falls, SD
Mr. Edward Herman
Trinity, Morenci, MI
Mr. Bruce Pochardt
Zion, Tyler, MN
Mr. Ed Krafft
Shepherd of the Hills, Greeley, CO
Mr. William Zeitler
Trinity, Coleman, WI
Mr. Herman Nimmer
St. Paul, Winneconne, WI
Mr. W. N. Boysen
King of Kings, Maitland, FL
Mr. Sherman Duford
Trinity, Caledonia, WI
Mr. Ron Zank
St. John, Juneau, WI
Mr. Verne Otto
St. John, Montello, WI
Mr. Archie Handorf
St. Paul, Ridgeland, WI
Mr. Kenneth Krueger
Immanuel, Marshall, WI

No. 9 HOME MISSIONS

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Rev. Peter Prange
Rev. Luther Weindorf
Rev. Michael Hintz
Rev. Loren Lucht
Rev. David Kastenschmidt
Rev. Paul Lemke
Rev. Ronald Gosdeck
Rev. Gary Schroeder
Rev. Walter Henning
Teacher Dennis Gulczynski
Teacher William Hartwig
Teacher Gary L. Grandt

Teacher Steve Strassburg
 Teacher John Hardman
 Teacher Edward Becker
 Teacher David Voss
 Mr. Norbert Loeper
 Grace, Glendale, AZ
 Mr. David MacLeod
 St. Paul, Belleville, MI
 Mr. Bernard Beyl
 Zion, Osceola, WI
 Mr. Mel Uhlenbrauck
 St. Peter, Appleton, WI
 Mr. Eugene A. Stemmann
 Beautiful Savior, Corvallis, OR
 Mr. Robert Blanchette
 Christ, Big Bend, WI
 Mr. Len Smith
 Trinity, Waukesha, WI
 Mr. Leonard Behnke
 Peace, Sun Prairie, WI
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 Mr. B. R. Otto
 Good Shepherd, Holmen, WI
 Mr. Sonny Genys
 Immanuel, Sault Ste. Marie, MI
 Mr. Dennis Hanick
 King of Kings, Willoughby, OH

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 Rev. Arlyn Schmeling
 Rev. Paul Schweppe
 Rev. Scott Dummann
 Rev. Henry Juroff
 Rev. Dale Tollefson
 Rev. Frederick Archer
 Rev. Thomas Kraus
 Rev. Ulrik Larsen
 Rev. Lance Hoff
 Teacher John Schultz
 Teacher Frederick Meinel
 Teacher Paul Schulz
 Teacher Ames Anderson
 Teacher Donald Gosdeck
 Teacher Michael Maas
 Teacher Paul Ruege
 Mr. Richard Meske
 Mt. Olive, Monroe, WI
 Mr. J. Bryant Monk
 Grace, Indianapolis, IN
 Mr. Daniel Muellere
 Immanuel, Medford, WI
 Mr. Walter Pollex
 Bethlehem, Oshkosh, WI
 Mr. Frank Knutzen
 Trinity, Appleton, WI
 Mr. Bruce Hayden
 Grace, Newton, IA
 Mr. Gerhard Clasen
 St. Stephan, Fallbrook, CA
 Mr. Robert Lange
 Grace, St. Joseph, MI
 Mr. Edward Langowski
 Christ, Milwaukee, WI
 Mr. Craig Bergeson
 Gloria Dei, Memphis, TN
 Mr. Rudolf Lemke, Sr.
 St. Andrew, Medford, WI
 Mr. Del Winterfeld
 Holy Trinity, Kent, WA
 Mr. John Potter
 Cross of Christ, Kingman, AZ

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 Rev. Dennis Halvarson
 Rev. Richard Kanzenbach
 Rev. Harris Kaesmeyer
 Rev. Norval Kock
 Rev. Thomas Spiegelberg
 Rev. David Kriehn
 Rev. David Dolan
 Rev. Thomas Liesener
 Rev. David Sternhagen
 Rev. Thomas Schmidt
 Rev. Russel Kobs
 Teacher David Habeck
 Teacher Norman Stellick
 Teacher John Oldfield, Jr.
 Teacher Frederick Uttech
 Teacher Dean Wilde
 Teacher Jeffrey Korth
 Teacher Earl Brassow
 Mr. Richard Carl Dahlke
 St. Paul, Wonewoc, WI
 Mr. Lawrence Marquardt
 St. John, Libertyville, IL

Mr. Eric Sedberry
 Trinity, Temple, TX
 Mr. Frank Regilio
 Trinity, Englewood, FL
 Mr. Clair Kentopp
 Immanuel, Oshkosh, WI
 Mr. John Stedman
 Bethlehem, Manassas, VA
 Mr. Richard Struebing
 St. John, Rising City, NE
 Mr. Ed Sorgatz
 Salem, Loretto, MN
 Mr. Arnold Schultz
 Grace, Alma, MI
 Mr. James Weimer
 Salem, Circle, MT
 Mr. Eugene Hammerson
 Apostles, San Jose, CA

No. 12 RESOLUTIONS

Teacher Kenneth Kolander, Chairman
 Rev. Jerome Braun
 Teacher Roger Hermanson

No. 13 PARISH EDUCATION

Rev. Daniel Hennig, Chairman
 Rev. Iver Johnson
 Rev. Richard Werner
 Rev. Greg Stahlecker
 Rev. Larry Nast
 Rev. Thomas Valleskey
 Rev. Norman Barenz
 Rev. Martin Baur
 Teacher Roger Hinz
 Teacher Paul Nelson
 Teacher Steven Schultz
 Teacher Richard Everts
 Teacher Norman Tech
 Teacher Ronald Buelow
 Mr. John Covach
 Emanuel, Tawas City, MI
 Mr. Alvin Ziemann
 Our Savior, Sun City, AZ
 Mr. Melvin Johnson
 Mt. Olive, Palisade, MN
 Mr. Roger Belongia
 St. Mark, Green Bay, WI
 Mr. Kevin Gierach
 Calvary, Sheboygan, WI
 Mr. William Shoumaker
 Holy Cross, Oklahoma City, OK
 Mr. Wallace Henriksen
 St. John, Oak Creek, WI
 Mr. Bill Broring
 St. Luke, La Moille, MN
 Mr. Oliver Piepenburg
 St. Paul, Litchfield, MN
 Mr. James Romano
 Christ Redeemer, Trumbull, CT
 Mr. Jack Pratt
 Apostles of Christ, Wauwatosa, WI
 Mr. Edwin Schmeichel
 Prince of Peace, Yankton, SD

No. 14 MEDIA RELATIONS

Rev. Arthur Koepsell, Chairman
 Rev. James Schaefer
 Rev. Robert Baer
 Rev. Lyle Lindloff
 Teacher William Zeiger

No. 15 CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

Rev. Thomas Franzmann, Chairman
 Rev. Wayne Rouse
 Rev. Mark Falck
 Rev. Herman Winkel
 Rev. Michael Traudt
 Rev. Elmer Semenske
 Rev. Norman Pommeranz
 Rev. Charles Learman
 Rev. Marvin Otterstatter
 Rev. Curtis Holub
 Rev. Henry Lange
 Rev. Alvin Werre
 Teacher Richard Korth
 Teacher Craig Kitrow
 Teacher Gregory Hannemann
 Teacher Harold Runke
 Teacher Gary Becker
 Teacher Theodore Lau
 Teacher Michael Hein
 Teacher Fred Luehring
 Mr. John Watson
 St. John, Victorville, CA
 Mr. Lee Schnabel
 Redeemer, Pierre, SD

Mr. Richard Baxter
 St. Andrew, Toledo, OH
 Mr. Lloyd Pomerence
 Emanuel, St. Paul, MN
 Mr. Len Witzel
 Atonement, Baltimore, MD
 Mr. William Blackburn
 St. Paul, Broken Bow, NE
 Mr. Harry Laack
 St. Paul, Greenleaf, WI
 Mr. Carl Brassow
 Christ the Lord, Houston, TX
 Mr. Leslie Riley
 Bethesda, Portland, OR
 Mr. Armin Schwengel
 St. John, Newburg, WI
 Mr. Eugene Anderson
 Redemption, Milwaukee, WI
 Mr. Roger Eisenmann
 St. Paul, Lake Mills, WI
 Mr. Waldemar J. Loesch
 St. Paul, St. James, MN
 Mr. Ivan Ritscher
 Zion, Alma, WI

No. 16 STEERING

Rev. Carl Voss, Chairman
 Rev. Warren Widmann
 Rev. William Zell

No. 17 CONVENTION TRAVEL

Rev. Elroy Conradt, Chairman
 Rev. Robert Hellmann
 Rev. Kenneth Arndt

No. 18 SPIRITUAL RENEWAL AND OUTREACH

Rev. David Pagel, Chairman
 Rev. Larry Pontel
 Rev. Philip Krieger
 Rev. Robert W. Schlicht
 Rev. Norris Baumann
 Rev. Timothy A. Meier
 Rev. Daniel Hrobsky
 Rev. Douglas Weiser
 Rev. Richard Raabe, Jr.
 Rev. Harold Essmann
 Teacher Eldon Hirsch
 Teacher Harold Goede
 Teacher Glenn Raasch
 Teacher Larry Collyard
 Teacher Gary Carmichael
 Teacher Terrance Vasold
 Teacher Thomas Zarnstorff
 Teacher Roger Sievert
 Mr. Kurth Hoenecke
 Prince of Peace, Thousand Oaks, CA
 Mr. Marvin Schlomer
 St. Jacobi, Glenham, SD
 Mr. Richard Packard
 St. John, Battle Creek, MI
 Mr. Lester Unnasch
 St. John, Dakota, MN
 Mr. William Satterthwaite
 Mt. Olive, Lincoln, NE
 Mr. Harvey Becker
 St. John, Maribel, WI
 Mr. Jon Habermann
 Trinity, Neenah, WI
 Mr. Arthur Seidel
 Gloria Dei-Bethesda, Milwaukee, WI
 Mr. Donald Hahlbeck
 Centennial, Milwaukee, WI
 Mr. Karl Wenzel
 St. John, Pardeeville, WI
 Mr. Harlan Brown
 St. John, Hastings, MN
 Mr. Weldon Marotz, Sr.
 St. John, Stanton, NE

NOTICE

The next regular plenary session of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for August 3-7. Business to be acted on is to be submitted to the executive secretary of the board, with copies to be furnished to the chairman of the board, no later than ten days prior to the meeting.

E. Scharf, Secretary
 Board of Trustees

ONE ISSUE

There is one issue of The Northwestern Lutheran in July and in August. The next issue will be dated August, 1987 and will appear August 1.

NOTICES

The deadline for submitting items is five weeks before the date of issue

WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD CONVENTION

The forty-ninth biennial convention of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod will be held, God willing, August 3-7, 1987 at Northwestern College in Watertown, Wisconsin.

The opening communion service at St. John Lutheran Church will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 3. Northwestern College president Robert J. Voss will preach the sermon. The closing service will be held immediately after the last session on Friday, August 7. The preacher will be Pastor Walter Beckman, president of the North Atlantic District.

The opening session of the convention will be held immediately following the opening service. Delegates are asked to arrive early to register in the lobby of the college gymnasium either on Sunday or before the opening session.

The convention theme is "Equipping the Believers." Three essays will be presented; "Equipping the Believers — for Discipleship (Professor David Valleskey); — for Stewardship (Pastor Ronald Roth); — for Evangelism (Pastor Paul Kelm)."

Housing will be provided for all delegates and meals will be served in the college cafeteria. Each delegate will receive a letter from the synod secretary by May 31, certifying him as a delegate to the convention and informing him whether he is to serve on a floor committee. Detailed instructions regarding travel and housing will be mailed by the school to each delegate in the middle of June.

Mail sent to delegates during the convention should be addressed in care of Northwestern College, 1300 Western Ave., Watertown, WI 53094. Delegates may be reached by telephone at 414/261-4352.

David Worgull, Secretary
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

A grateful synod will take note of President Carl H. Mischke's 40th anniversary in the ministry on the eve of the biennial convention. Delegates and friends are invited to attend a 7:30 p.m. anniversary service at St. Mark, Watertown, on August 2. A reception will follow.

Those unable to attend, but wishing to send greetings, should address them to Vice President Donald F. Bitter, 307 South High St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In view of the impending retirement of Pastor Norman Berg from the position of executive secretary of the Board for Home Missions effective January 31, 1988, or at the discretion of the board, upon filling of the executive positions of the board, the Board for Home Missions requests the nomination of candidates for the positions of executive secretary and associate executive secretary. Because of the similar position description of the associate executive secretary as "sharing in all duties and responsibilities of the executive secretary" this call for candidates for both positions is proper and time-saving. Both of these positions call for an ordained pastor with administrative experience and skills, good "people" relationships, effective communication abilities, some financial acumen, mission vision and initiative, and above all a heart "full of faith" and love. Nominations are to be submitted to the undersigned by August 1, 1987.

Rev. Howard Kaiser, Secretary
Board for Home Missions
3051 N. 73rd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

MIMEO AVAILABLE

A Gestetner 460 mimeo is available for cost of shipping. Contact Pastor Thomas Hilliard, 2718 S. 26th St., La Crosse, WI 54601; 608/788-6262.

ESPECIALLY SINGLE

All WELS singles ages 21 to 98 (including those once married and now single) are invited to attend *Especially Single*, a weekend sponsored by Wisconsin Lutheran College and Wisconsin Lutheran Child and Family Services, September 11-13 at the Yahara Center in Madison, Wis. The weekend of spiritual growth and fun aimed at the Christian single will include the following topics: The joys of single life; Christian fellowship and the single Christian; and The modern Christian in the social scene.

For further information and to be placed on the mailing list write: WELS Singles 1987, c/o Jeff Scheibe, P.O. Box 26963, Wauwatosa, WI 53226 or call Joanne Halter at 414/353-5000 (8:00 to 5:00).

CONFERENCES

Western Wisconsin District, Central Pastor/Teacher/Delegate Conference, July 11 at St. Mark, Watertown. Agenda: Book of Reports and Memorials.

ANNIVERSARIES

Bison, South Dakota — Christ (50th); July 12, 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Noon meal will be served.

Kimberly, Wisconsin — Mt. Calvary (50th); September 20, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. (dinner and program to follow). For reservations: Mt. Calvary, 208 S. Pine, Kimberly, WI 54136.

CHANGES IN MINISTRY

PASTORS:

Brick, Delmar, from Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., to retirement.

Haar, Thomas W., from Huron Valley Lutheran High School, Westland, Mich., to Exploratory, Toronto, Ontario, Can.

Heyer, Philip J., from King of Kings, Garden Grove, Calif., to Peace, Osego, Mich.

Laude, Donald D., from Messiah, Wichita, Kans., to Faith, Russell/St. Mark, Salina, Kans.

Willitz, John D., from St. John and St. Matthew, Spring Valley, Wis., to St. Paul, Alexandria, Minn.

Wilmann, Thomas L., from Holy Redeemer, Port Huron, Mich., to St. John, Waterloo, Wis.

TEACHERS:

Beckmann, Lois, to Our Savior, Longmont, Colo.

Colantonio, Suzanne, to Jerusalem, Morton Grove, Ill.

Foelske, Wayne A., from Grace, Alma, Mich., to Bethany, Saginaw, Mich.

Fuhrmann, William L., from Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, Wis., to retirement.

Hoffmann, Gregory G., from St. Matthew, Janesville, Wis., to Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Fond du Lac, Wis.

Manthe, Ruth, from St. Matthew, Oconomowoc, Wis., to St. Peter, Helenville, Wis.

Neujahr, David J., from St. Martin, Watertown, S. Dak., to Emanuel, New London, Wis.

Noack, David W., from First, Elkhorn, Wis., to St. Mark, Eau Claire, Wis.

Nurnberger, Patricia, to Emanuel, Lansing, Mich.

Pleuss, MarySue A., from St. John, Wrightstown, Wis., to St. Martin, Watertown, S. Dak.

Ramstack, Joanna H., from Emanuel, Flint, Mich., to Grace, Alma, Mich.

Rausch, Ann, from inactive to Good Shepherd, Benton Harbor, Mich.

Rodmyre, Stephan L., from Trinity, Kaukauna, Wis., to Holy Trinity, Kent, Wash.

Sievert, Erich H., from Dr. Martin Luther College, New Ulm, Minn., to retirement.

ADDRESSES

PASTORS:

Berg, Norman W., 7311 W. Congress St., Apt. #4, Milwaukee, WI 53218; 414/464-0618

Enderle, Michael P., P.O. Box 425, Willow Lake, SD 57278; 605/625-3114

Johnston, Timothy L., 107 S. 7th St., Box 631, Hettinger, ND 58639

Koepsell, Markus O., 302 W. Pioneer St., Crandon, WI 54520

Pankow, James W., 3728 Navarre Ct., Lafayette, IN 47905

Wilde, Philip P., 107 E. McKay St., Saline, MI 48176

Ziebell, Raymond E., 8231 W. Herbert Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53218

JAPANESE GLEE HANDBELL CHOIR

The internationally acclaimed Japanese Glee Handbell Choir of Tokyo will perform July 28, 7:30 p.m. at Wisconsin Lutheran High School in Milwaukee. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$5.00 and may be purchased by writing: Kodama Concert, Wisconsin Lutheran College Music Dept., 8830 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226; 414/774-8620. Postage and handling is 50¢ for 1-6 tickets and \$1.00 for 7-plus.

A concert will also be held July 27 in Madison. For information call 608/838-6273.

Richard Lehmann, chairman of the music department at WLC, said the Japanese handbell choir, which has recorded for CBS, is comparable to the Vienna Boys' Choir.

TAPES AVAILABLE

The Northwestern College Touring Chorus has tapes available of its 1987 homecoming concert concluding its spring tour to the Southwest. The theme of the concert was "Sing Forth a Glad Song" and you may obtain a copy of the tape by sending \$6.25 to Northwestern College, Concert Tour, 1300 Western Ave., Watertown, WI 53094.

PARAMENTS

The following white and green paraments are available free to any congregation: Lectern bookmarks, altar frontals, pulpit hangings. Contact Pastor Dennis Strong, 6438 Hwy. D, Allenton, WI 53002; 414/629-5914.

SUMMER CAMP

The WELS Tree of Life Bible Camp, Inc., will conduct its annual summer camp July 26 through August 1 at the Sky Mountain Christian Camp in the High Sierras 60 miles east of Sacramento, CA and is open to all children 4th grade through this year's 12th grade graduates.

The camp is on an Alpine lake and offers canoeing, swimming, wind surfing, sailing, archery, hiking etc., and programs are separate for each age group.

For information contact Pastor Armin Keibel, Bethany Lutheran, 2771 Treat Blvd., Concord, CA 94518; 415/686-1818.

EVANGELISM CONVOCATION '87

"A Time to Grow" is the theme of an evangelism convocation to be held July 17-19 at Martin Luther Preparatory School, Prairie du Chien, Wis., sponsored by the Minnesota and Western Wisconsin Districts.

Keynote speaker at the Friday banquet will be Pastor Paul Kelm, executive secretary of evangelism. On Saturday 24 workshops on various aspects of evangelism will be presented by leading authorities in the field. All present will be taught a basic law-gospel presentation for sharing their faith. President Carl Mischke will be guest speaker at the Sunday morning communion service.

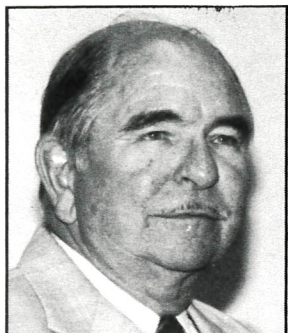
Two nights lodging, six meals and all educational materials will be provided. Early registration cost: \$35 single- \$60 married couple. After June 10: \$45-\$80. For further information or reservation forms contact Dr. Herbert Fleisher, 2508 Santa Maria Ct., Middleton, WI 53562; 608/831-6358.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Christian Educators for Special Education will present a special conference on August 13 featuring Dr. JoAnne Caldwell, associate professor of the reading/language arts department at Cardinal Stritch College. Emphasis will be given to a review of the reading process; its breakdown as it relates to the nonphonetic reader; and instruction strategies to consider implementing into the elementary and secondary school settings. Sessions are 9:00 to 3:30 (lunch included). Registration costs before August 1: Members, students and new DMLC grads, \$10.00; nonmembers, \$15.00; late registration, \$20.00. Send check made payable to CESE at 6098 N. 35th St., Milwaukee, WI 53209; 414/464-1494.

GLACIER PARK VACATIONERS

When visiting this beautiful park, call Craig and Linda Campana at 752-8258 for time and place of worship at Good Shepherd in Kalispell, Mont., and for transportation if needed. Looking forward to worshipping with you!



*The
Sampler
was the first
message of what
the shape of
the new hymnal
might
be.*

The first Sunday in June — Pentecost — had a special significance for many of us. That day concluded the first trial run of liturgy and hymns on the way to a new-revised hymnal for the congregations of the synod, still some years in the future. The test period, on the basis of a 60-page *Sampler*, had begun November 30, the First Sunday in Advent.

Few things have stirred the synod as much as the appearance of the *Sampler*. It was to be expected. The *Sampler* was the first message of what the shape of the new hymnal might be. It would for the first time in almost 50 years revise our way of worship (liturgy) and the hymns we sing, mostly by the introduction of new ones. There was such a sampling — 21 new hymns.

Not many could recall a similar time in the 40s. In 1941 *The Lutheran Hymnal* was introduced into our congregations. It was produced by the nine-member Intersynodical Committee on Hymnology and Liturgics of the Synodical Conference, of which my father was a member.

Recently I went through my father's correspondence from this stormy period. The letters, mostly from pastors, reflected emotions ranging from outrage to warm acceptance. They ran something like ten to one in favor of our old *Book of Hymns*. Most of the critical letters deplored the new "high church" liturgy, the new translations and the unnecessary cost to the congregations just emerging from the Great Depression.

Though the change from *The Lutheran Hymnal* to the *Sampler* was far less striking, the reaction was just as strong. No other issue has brought more letters to *The Northwestern Lutheran*: there were about 75, 90 percent of them critical. You have read a sampling.

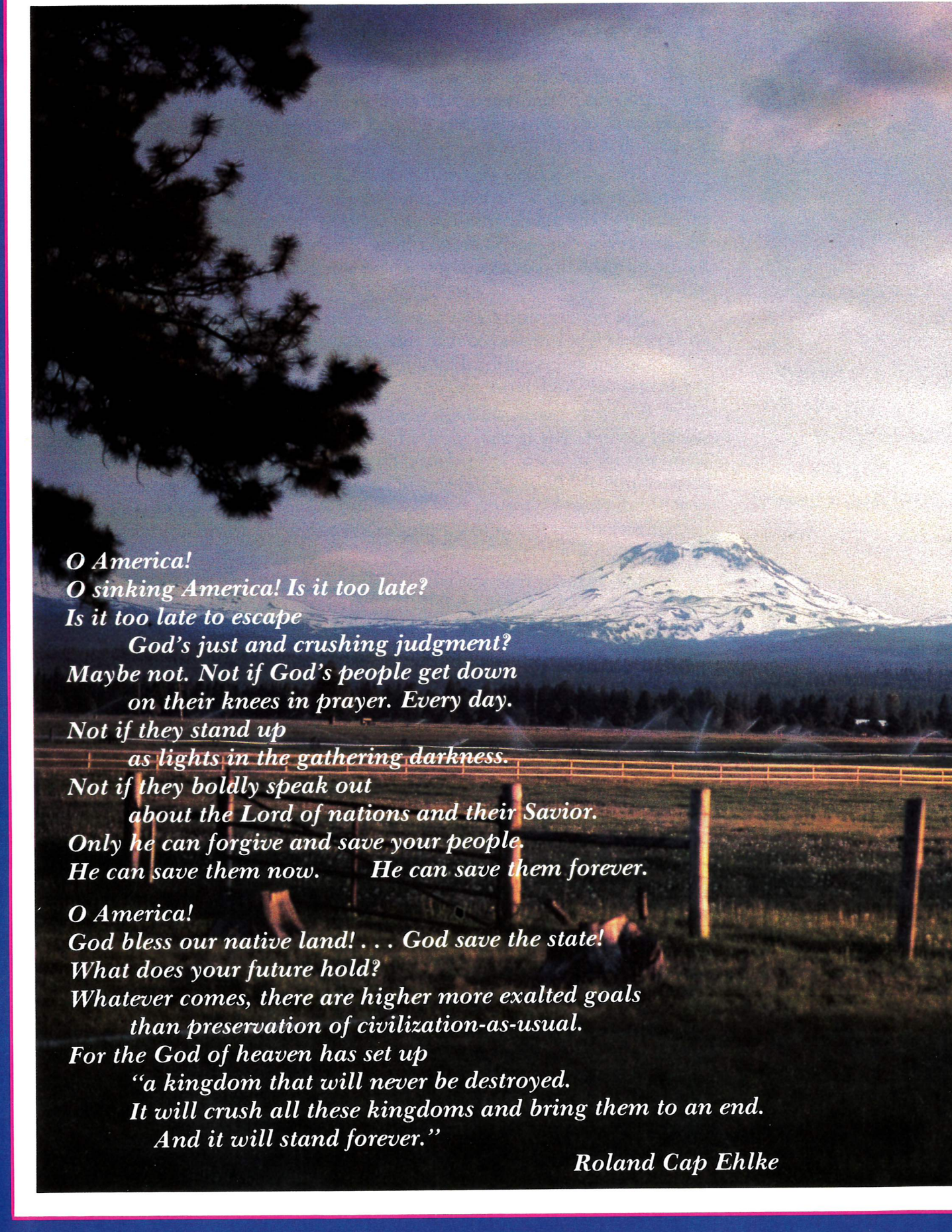
The most common complaint was the dropping of thee and thou in addressing God. That change was inevitable since 1979 when the synod convention directed "that for the sake of uniformity the publishing agencies of the synod choose the New International Version for their printed material." The NIV dropped thee and thou throughout.

Since that time a new catechism, Bible history, and Sunday school course have been produced, all using the NIV. All our VBS and Bible class materials use the NIV. The 38-volume *People's Bible*, a commentary on the entire Bible when completed, likewise uses the NIV. Children brought up on the NIV will find the old English pronouns odd and quaint. And if they are more reverent and respectful why are we so irreverent and disrespectful in our religion and Bible classes?

All of this was by way of introduction to the following announcement. We cannot print all the letters we have received about the *Sampler*. In the August issue we will print two pages of letters on the *Sampler*, and then put the issue behind us for the time being. If your letter is not printed, probably your point has been made in some other letter. But to all who took the time to write, thanks for your comments.

And one more thing. As is our policy in the letters column, we will not debate the 1979 resolution authorizing use of the NIV. That matter was debated for ten years before the synod acted. It deserves a rest.

James P. Schaefer



*O America!
O sinking America! Is it too late?
Is it too late to escape
 God's just and crushing judgment?
Maybe not. Not if God's people get down
 on their knees in prayer. Every day.
Not if they stand up
 as lights in the gathering darkness.
Not if they boldly speak out
 about the Lord of nations and their Savior.
Only he can forgive and save your people.
He can save them now. He can save them forever.*

*O America!
God bless our native land! . . . God save the state!
What does your future hold?
Whatever comes, there are higher more exalted goals
 than preservation of civilization-as-usual.
For the God of heaven has set up
 "a kingdom that will never be destroyed.
It will crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end.
And it will stand forever."*

Roland Cap Ehlke